



For Immediate Release

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DuPage County Welcomes Back World's Largest AAA Hockey Tournament

Oak Brook, IL– The [DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau](#) (CVB) is pleased to welcome the [Bauer International Invite](#), the world's largest AAA hockey tournament, back to DuPage County. This year's tournament will take place November 5-8, 2009.

The greater Chicagoland area will host 384 teams of boys, with nearly 8,500 players and coaches, and an anticipated 20,000 families and spectators attending this annual event. The tournament is divided into teams by age, with players born between 1993 and 2000. It includes teams from 26 states, as well as Canada, Russia, Slovenia and the Ukraine.

The Bauer Invite kicks off at Seven Bridges Ice Arena in Woodridge with a unique demonstration program that is open to the public from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.

"Very few initiatives are able to promote the game of hockey in such a positive way," according to Kevin Mann, Tournament President. "To take part in such a highly competitive and fun event provides an invaluable experience for young people of different geographical areas."

"We are extremely proud to have the DuPage CVB as one of our main sponsors again this year for this wonderful hockey showcase," Mann continued. "Many of these young players may well go on to compete in the NHL and Olympics, and tournaments such as this can only help to develop and encourage hockey talent for the future."

With a diverse selection of world-class dining, shopping, entertainment and accommodations, the DuPage County area is the perfect setting for this exciting event. The Bauer Invite is expected to generate close to 18,000 room nights for area hotels.

"The event has proved very successful in the past and we expect it to be no different this year," stated Lisa Landers, CMP, Director of Sales for the DuPage CVB. "This tournament demonstrates that DuPage is a premier location to host world-class sporting events that benefit the community and local economy."

For more information about the tournament, visit the Bauer International Invite web site, www.invitebauer.com. To learn more about DuPage County, go to www.discoverdupage.com.

About DuPage County and the DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau

DuPage County is the second most populous county in Illinois after Cook County, which borders it to the north and east. Together, the two counties account for half of the state's population. One of the nation's wealthiest counties, DuPage is rich in many types of commerce and is second only to Cook in tourism revenue. With its well-developed highway and mass transit system, DuPage offers easy access to O'Hare and Midway Airports, the City of Chicago, and the greater Chicago metropolitan area.

Established through the efforts of a coalition of DuPage area hotel executives and business representatives in 1987, the DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau was formally certified in 1989 by the State of Illinois as the official agency to promote the county's multi-billion dollar tourism industry and market DuPage County as a destination for business and leisure travelers in order to enhance the economic development of the county.

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