



Mesto Michalovce
Viliam Zahorčák, primátor mesta

ACES EUROPE
President Gian F. Lupattelli
Rue de la Science 14B
1040 Bruxelles
Belgium

Michalovce, 10 July 2018

Letter of Intention

Dear Mr. President,

It is our honour to inform you that the Town of Michalovce is applying for the title of the European City of Sports for 2019. In this letter I would like to introduce our town of Michalovce - a town in the heart of Zemplín region, in the heart of Europe.

The town of Michalovce is the second largest municipality of the Košice Self-governing Region, second to Košice, which is a one-hour drive from Michalovce.

Michalovce stretches along the banks of the Laborec River under the picturesque Vihorlat Hills and impresses you with its cultural monuments, renovated town centre, as well as famous hospitality of our citizens. Traditional events organized in the town in every season - Spring Markets, Zemplín Fair and Festival, Homage to Town Day, or Christmas Markets help us to preserve the ancestral traditions and look for time and place for relaxation at the roots of folk traditions in today's hectic time.

Our town pays particular attention mainly to sports. Every year a considerable amount of money from our budget is spent to provide sporting activities and improve sports infrastructure. Only one fact, just to give you an example – there are 58 sports clubs and sports associations of 31 different kinds of sport, six of them - women's handball, football, floorball and judo, men's table tennis and football, play in the highest Slovak competitions and leagues. Even now, especially among the sporting public, Michalovce very often associates with a town of sport, which makes us particularly pleased.

We do not just talk about the fact that youth is at the centre of attention, but we also act in this way. We strongly support youth sports in the town, which reflects on working with youth in individual sports clubs in the town.



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The town gains visibility with such important clubs as Iuventa Michalovce, Michalovce Football Club MFK Zemplín, ŠK Zemplín Powerlifting, ŠK Zemplín Judo, Dukla Ice Hockey Club, Ice Hockey Youth Club, Floorball Club, Orca Swimming Club, Basketball Clubs 1st BK (men's club) and 1st BK-D (women's club), as well as clubs practising various martial arts.

Michalovce is known for the sporting competitions with domestic and foreign athletes' participation. These include the Podivorlatský Marathon, the Michalovce Half Marathon, the Michalovce Shield Run, the Michalovce One Hour Run, the Tomáš Jakubčo Memorial Trophy, the Basketball Championship of Juniors and Cadets of the V - 4 countries, the International Junior Football Tournament - Michalovce Cup, the Vladimír Seruga Memorial Trophy in Sailing, the Július Fryk Memorial Trophy in Chess, the International Men's Bridge Tournament, the International Students' Ice Hockey Tournament, and the International Grand Prix in Judo.

In the town, sports facilities have been built at four primary schools in the following housing estates: Housing Estate South - Primary school, Komenského Street - athletic track with tartan surface, Primary School, Okružná Street - two football fields with artificial grass and a beach volleyball court, Housing Estate West - Primary school, Švermu Street as well as Housing Estate East - Primary School, Krymská Street - a multipurpose playing field for basketball, handball, and football built at both schools. These sports facilities have been made available to the public in agreement with the school managements.

In the outskirts of the town, there are football fields that have been used for sporting events for the general public as well as for registered football clubs. Good conditions are provided in Topolianska Street and Močarianska Street, where changing rooms and sanitary facilities are built. Teen and adult teams are involved in regular football competitions at regional and district level. The football field in Močarianska Street is also used for equestrian competitions which already have their own tradition.

In accordance with the approved Concept of Sport Development in the Town of Michalovce, the municipality continues to organize traditional competitions in basketball, five-a-side football, and handball, as well as newly created one-time and repetitive municipal sports competitions in swimming, multisport, dodgeball, floorball, in-line skating, chess, speed badminton, handball, five-a-side football, gymnastics, table tennis, strength tetrathlon, foot tennis, and volleyball for primary and secondary schools. For the kindergartens, this year the town organized the 8th Annual League of Child Fitness Movement. The annual Olympics are the culmination of these competitions. This year, as part of the "Olympic Week", the 10th Annual Olympics of Seniors, the 17th Annual Olympics of Kindergartens and the 36th Olympiad of Primary Schools organized on the occasion of the International Children's Day took place. In the adult category, municipal competitions with long-term traditions were held in floorball, volleyball, futsal, soft tennis and one-off events in streetball and football in the category of over 50. In organizing these competitions, the municipality cooperated with the management of the relevant schools and sports clubs in Michalovce.

