

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CARL SCHWENDE JUNIOR WORLD CUP

The Canadian Fencing Federation is pleased to announce that a new fencing World Cup will be taking place in Laval QC on the weekend of January 25-26, 2003. The Carl Schwende Junior World Cup was obtained by Canada when Cuba decided not to hold their Junior World Cup in early December. The Fédération Internationale d'Escrime (FIE) announced the awarding of the World Cup to Canada at a meeting of their Executive Committee in Lausanne Switzerland Sunday. The tournament should highlight over 300 of the best young fencers in all weapons from countries around the world.

The World Cup is named for longtime Canadian fencer and former Olympian, Carl Schwende. Although Swiss by birth, Carl is a longtime resident of Montreal and has been instrumental in presiding over the growth of fencing in Canada. He is currently a Membre d'Honneur with the FIE and has held various posts within that organization. Canada is honoured not only to be able to host this tournament which will be seeing some of the best young fencers in the world participating but to have it named after such a distinguished fencer with such a long and honourable career.

Canada is a hotbed of junior fencers, having produced some of the top Junior and Cadet fencers in the world over the last few years. The top ranked Junior Foil fencer in the world is a Canadian. Josh McGuire, a native of Hamilton, Ontario is a former Cadet World Champion and current World Junior bronze medalist. He is currently leading the world standings in that weapon and is expected to participate. The current Cadet World Champion in Epée, Jean-Pierre Séguin from Saskatoon, will be fencing as should be Olga Ovtchinnikova. Olga, who is another Ontario native, is the current World Cadet bronze medalist in Women's Sabre.

Not only will Junior and Cadet fencers from Canada be participating but it is expected that fencers from the United States, France, Italy, Germany and other European countries will also be participating.

Canada also hosts the Epée Internationale de Montréal during the month of March where some of the best men's individual and team Epée fencers gather to compete. For more information please contact:

Carol Malcolm-O'Grady
Executive Director
Canadian Fencing Federation

Telephone: 613-731-6149 ext *2404
E-mail: cff@fencing.ca