



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**AAU Karate Nationals to be held in Cincinnati over June 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>**

Cincinnati, Ohio- More than 4,000 participants and spectators from around the country are expected to attend the Amateur Athletic Union's 2013 National Karate Championships, from June 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013, at the Duke Energy Convention Center.

Tickets will be available at the Duke Energy Convention Center on June 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, for athletes, coaches/officials, clubs and spectators during registration hours. Tickets will be available at the door, from June 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> (competition days). A daily pass is \$15 and an all-event pass is \$40. Youth 5 and under are free. The competition starts at 8:00am each day. For a complete tournament schedule, please visit [www.aaukarate.org](http://www.aaukarate.org).

The event is estimated to bring 2,200 guest rooms to Cincinnati and an additional 2,000 spectators over the four day event for a minimum direct spending impact of nearly \$700,000. "On behalf of the Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation and the Cincinnati community, we are honored to host this prestigious national event in Cincinnati," said Leslie Spencer, Executive Director of the Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation. "This event win is not only a testament to the overall reputation of our

destination but also the strong athletic programs we are fortunate to have throughout the region".

Since 1972, the AAU Karate Program has annually conducted the AAU Karate National Championships. With over 2,000 athletes, this event has quickly become the most prestigious karate event in the United States for boys, girls, men, and women. Competitors range in age from five to senior adults, at all skill levels as well.

Founded in 1888, AAU is the largest not-for-profit, volunteer, multi-sport organization in the United States, dedicated solely to the promotion and development of amateur sports for both youths and adults. AAU offers programs in more than 35 sports. The AAU Junior Olympic Games, an event with more athletes than the Olympics, is held every four years. Whether it is individual or team, competition or personal fitness, enjoyment or education, AAU has a program for everyone. For more information, visit [www.aausports.org](http://www.aausports.org).

#### **About Greater Cincinnati Sports Corp**

The Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation (GCSC) strives to enrich the community through the acquisition of amateur and professional sporting events, by maximizing economic impact and promoting the Greater Cincinnati region as a premier sports destination. GCSC has a 23-year history of hosting more than 220 events that brings pride, visibility and positive economic impact to the region. From World and National Championships to community-based programs, GCSC is making a difference in the quality of life for Cincinnati USA. GCSC, as the region's only non-profit sports tourism and event management organization, represents the Cincinnati USA hospitality community and partners Cincinnati USA and Northern Kentucky Convention & Visitors Bureaus. For more information and a calendar of events, please visit [www.cincysports.org](http://www.cincysports.org)