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Cincinnati USA to Host 2014 NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship Midwest Regional

Cincinnati will host the 2014 NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship Midwest Regional in partnership with Miami University. The competition will take place at U.S. Bank Arena March 28 – 29, 2014.

"On behalf of the Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation and the Cincinnati community, we are honored to host this prestigious collegiate event in Cincinnati," said Mike Moeddel, Chair of the Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation Board of Trustees. "It underscores the status of Cincinnati's high-quality sports offerings and the first-class appeal of the destination as a whole."

More than 750 room nights have been contracted for NCAA participants and officials for the two-day event. The event will also attract thousands of spectators to U.S. Bank Arena, home to the East Coast Hockey League's Cincinnati Cyclones. The arena (then called Riverfront Coliseum) hosted the 1996 NCAA Division I Men's Hockey Frozen Four and has played host to multiple NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament regionals and the 1997 NCAA Women's Basketball Final Four.

"We are delighted that the NCAA has chosen U.S. Bank Arena to host the 2014 NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship Midwest Regional" said U.S. Bank Arena Vice President & General Manager Kristin Ropp. "We look forward to partnering with Miami University and the Greater Cincinnati Sports

Corp in bringing this showcase event to the city. Being hockey people, we look to promote and extend the sport on every level."

The Cincinnati USA Convention & Visitors Bureau has partnered with the Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation for nearly ten years to bring high-profile amateur sports events to the region.

"High-profile events like the NCAA continue to build Cincinnati's reputation as a city that can successfully host and execute national events," said Dan Lincoln, president and CEO of the Cincinnati USA CVB. "This win is not only a testament to the overall reputation of the destination but also the strong collegiate athletic programs we are fortunate to have throughout the region. And, Miami's prestigious hockey program is no exception."

Miami's hockey team has qualified for seven straight NCAA Tournaments, the third-longest active streak in the nation, and 10 NCAA Tournaments in program history, while twice making the NCAA's Frozen Four. The RedHawks are currently No. 4 in the country.

"Miami is very honored and excited to be hosting the 2014 NCAA Men's Ice Hockey Midwest Regional. Hockey is something the Miami community is very passionate about and we look forward to showcasing that spirit and enthusiasm at the regional in Cincinnati," Miami University Interim Director of Athletics Steve Snyder said. "In conjunction with U.S. Bank Arena and the Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation, we plan on providing the student-athletes, coaches and fans the best possible experience and would like to thank the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Committee for providing us the opportunity to do so."

The other three NCAA ice hockey regionals in 2014 will take place March 28-30. The other regional locations are St. Paul, Minn., Bridgeport, Conn. And Worcester, Mass. The winner of each regional advances to the 2014 Frozen Four, which was awarded to the city of Philadelphia's Wells Fargo Center.

This site announcement is one of 73 made by NCAA on November 1. Representing 18 sports, this is the largest single announcement of sites ever done by the NCAA. Click here for more information.

<http://www.ncaa.com/news/ncaa/article/2012-11-01/dozens-championship-sites-selected-2013-14-2014-15-academic-years>

About Cincinnati USA CVB

The Cincinnati USA Convention & Visitors Bureau is an aggressive sales, marketing and service organization whose primary responsibility is to positively impact Hamilton County's and the City of Cincinnati's economy through convention, trade show and visitor expenditures. The travel and tourism industry traditionally has been a \$3.4 billion industry in Cincinnati USA, employing 81,000 people in a variety of fields and, historically, bringing five million visitors to the region annually. To learn more about Cincinnati USA, visit CincyUSA.com.

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

About U.S. Bank Arena

U.S. Bank Arena is a multi-function, 17,500-seat arena on the riverbanks of the majestic Ohio River in the heart of Cincinnati USA. The largest arena in Southern Ohio and Northern Kentucky, U.S. Bank Arena opened in 1975 and currently is home to the 2008 and 2010 ECHL Kelly Cup Champion Cincinnati Cyclones. In addition to hockey, the venue is the most active in the region, hosting a wide variety of high profile concerts, family shows and sporting events.