

# NEWS RELEASE

Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau



## Rockford's BMX Tournament Named World's Best Sporting Event

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**October 24, 2011**

**ROCKFORD, IL** — The 2011 American Bicycle Association's (ABA) Midwest BMX Nationals competition, held in Rockford, was named best single amateur sporting event in the world by *SportsTravel*. The award was announced at the TEAMS '11 Conference and Expo, the leading sporting events trade show, which took place in Las Vegas on October 3-6.

RACVB nominated the BMX competition and worked with track operators Jake and Candy Karau to rally fans in an organized push through social media. The competition garnered enough online votes to beat out five other events including the NHPA World Horseshoe Tournament in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; 2010 USA Field Hockey National Hockey Festival in Phoenix Arizona, 2011; Jamfest Cheer Super Nationals in Indianapolis, Ind.; USA Wrestling Beat the Streets Gala in New York, N.Y.; and the 2011 Walleye Chop Hockey Tournament in Blaine, Minn.

"The SportsTravel Awards program is an opportunity for our readers to honor their peers for a job well done," said Timothy Schneider, publisher of *SportsTravel* magazine. "Our readers are the leaders of the sports event industry, and they really know what it takes to execute high quality athletic events. These awards reflect their expert evaluation of what makes events superior."

Midwest Nationals took place in Rockford on June 17-19 and brought together more than 1,200 professional and amateur racers to compete for national rankings on one of the best bicycle motocross tracks in the country. This was the 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive year the event was held in the Rockford Region. Nearly 5,000 racers and fans attend the competition, generating an estimated \$280,000 for area restaurants and businesses.

"There are nationals held all over the United States, and we're very excited that it was the Midwest Nationals here in Rockford that won this award," said Candy Karau. "Everyone involved works hard to ensure the success of this event and we thank our riders and parents for helping us achieve an event of this caliber."

*The Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau is a private, non-profit organization that champions efforts to promote and further develop the Rockford Region as an overnight visitor destination. RACVB generates positive economic impact for the community through investments in tourism marketing, sales, promotion and advocacy. [www.gorockford.com](http://www.gorockford.com)*

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### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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