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Detroit Metro Sports Commission, Michigan AAU Receive Salutes

The Detroit Metro Sports Commission (DMSC) and Michigan Association of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) have been recognized for excellence in hosting and serving outstanding events and programs.

The DMSC received the United States AAU Community Sports & Recreation Organization of the Year award earlier this month at the AAU's 117th annual convention in Stamford, CT. AAU committee members who made the selection hailed the DMSC for its efforts in promoting and conducting events on the local, regional and national level, notably the 2003 AAU Junior Olympic Games that drew more than 12,000 athletes to the Detroit area.

“This is a tribute not only to the DMSC, but to the Michigan AAU and the many other individuals and organizations who have worked so hard to make our organization successful in hosting and promoting sports and athletic events in our community,” said Dave Beachnau, executive director of the DMSC, who added that the 2005 national AAU convention will be held in Detroit.

The Michigan AAU earned kudos of its own by leading the nation with the largest number of participants in its programs. The Michigan Association has 26,618 athletes in 2004, an increase of more than 3,000 from the previous year, when Michigan ranked second in the nation.

“We have a terrific association with dedicated athletes, coaches and volunteers,” said Cindi Trombly, president of the Michigan AAU. “We continue to grow each year. In fact, we have received the AAU Pace Award in previous years for being the association that registers one-half of one percent of its state's population.”

The Michigan Association of the Amateur Athletic Union, which has been active since 1923, is dedicated exclusively to the promotion and development of amateur sports and physical fitness programs. It has programs in baseball, boys and girls basketball, golf, gymnastics, jump rope, karate, taekwondo, track and field, trampoline/tumbling, volleyball, wrestling and in-line hockey. For information, call 586.774.3779.