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**Cincinnati Sports Corporation in partnership with Queen City Gymnastics announces bid win to host the prestigious USA Men's Gymnastics Junior Olympics May 2009**

CINCINNATI (November 21, 2008) – Two local gymnasts named to the Men's Junior Olympics National team during this past Olympics will also compete in the JO Nationals this May at Duke Energy Center.

The Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation and Queen City Gymnastics worked together to successfully complete the bid process to WIN the USA Men's Gymnastics JO Nationals, May 6-10, 2009 at Duke Energy Center. The event will bring more than 750 athletes to Greater Cincinnati, representing some 3,300 room nights at local hotels resulting in approximately \$1 million in economic impact to the region.

The Men's Junior Olympic Nationals Championships is mandated by USA Gymnastics (national governing body of the sport) and will include three age divisions: Level 10 (16-18), Level 10 (14-15) and Level 9 (12-13 years).

"The JO Nationals event will have a substantial economic impact on our downtown core which will be felt by hotels, attractions, restaurants and retail. The bonus is that we are introducing Duke Energy Center to a new visitor stream in hopes to building repeat visitation in the future with this and/or similar events run by our United States Olympic Governing Bodies," said Leslie Spencer, Executive Director, Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation.

"We're thrilled to team up with the Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation to host this event. This opportunity will also provide our own nationally ranked athletes the ability to compete in their backyards as national contenders: Kevin Baker (nationally ranked 8<sup>th</sup>) and Jessie Himmelsbach (nationally ranked 10<sup>th</sup>) in the Level 9 all around competition; Kevin Baker also ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the hi-bar event final competition. Due to their showing at this year's national competition Kevin and Jessie may qualify to compete internationally", said Kirk TenEyck, LOC President.

*The Greater Cincinnati Sports Corporation 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. We have a 19-year history of event management that brings pride, visibility and positive economic impact to this region. From World Championships and National Championships to community-based programs designed to benefit our youth, we are making a difference in the quality of life for Greater Cincinnati.*

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Queen City's Men Gymnastics team

Row 3, Garret Miller, Kyle Baker, Joel Uptmor, John Kremer, Alex Gordon  
Row 2, Jessie Himmelsbach, Jermey Siegel, Kevin Baker, Austin Smith,  
Row 1, Walter Bowser, Fredric Showberger, Peter TenEyck and John Tanner