



## **Latvian Table Hockey Federation receives certificate of recognized sport federation.**

Information prepared by Intars Žubeckis.

After approval by National Sport Council, The Office of Sport of the Ministry of Education and Science presented certificate of recognized sport federation Nr. 088 to Latvian Table Hockey Federation.

Latvian Table Hockey Federation (LTHF) has rights to manage and coordinate work of table hockey in Latvia, to form Latvian national teams for participation in international tournaments, as well as represent country in International Table Hockey Federation (ITHF).

LTHF is founded (officially registered as nongovernmental organization) in 2000. Since that time many tournaments have been organized on regular basis (Championships of Latvia and Riga, international tournaments “Riga Open” (Rīgas Kauss), which now is included in World Table Hockey Tour (WTHT) as one of Big Six tournaments, as well as stages of Latvian Cup, where stages take place in different towns in Latvia. Also tournaments for pupils are organized every year.

### **Facts about table hockey in Latvia.**

- **previous season** (2004/2005) there were 9 Latvian ranking tournaments (Riga Open, Championship of Riga, Championship of Latvia and 6 stages of Latvian Cup).

134 players from all over Latvia and also 27 players from Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia and Belarus played in those tournaments.

- **this** (2005/2006) **season** there are planned 8 Latvian ranking tournaments (Riga Open, Championship of Riga, Championship of Latvia and 5 stages of Latvian Cup).

After 6 tournaments there are 131 players from all over Latvia and also 33 players from Estonia, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Norway and Denmark played in those tournaments.

ITHF World Rank contain information about (as it stands Apr.13, 2006) **574** players from Latvia out of **5061** players in total.

**Edgars Caics** is number **11 in open category**, and also number **3 in junior category**. **Andra Ozola** is number **13 in ladies category**, but **Jānis Ķīrsis** – **15th in veteran category**.

More information:

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[www.galdahokejs.lv](http://www.galdahokejs.lv);

International Table Hockey Federation – [www.ithf.info](http://www.ithf.info);

The Office of Sport – [www.lsp.lv](http://www.lsp.lv)