



PRESS RELEASE

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CHAMPIONSHIP TICKETS NOW ON SALE *TD Banknorth Garden prepares for more sellout crowds*

In anticipation of the same unrivaled fan enthusiasm that has tested the TD Banknorth Garden's capacity for the past seven years, the Hockey East Association is pleased to announce that tickets to the 2006 Hockey East Championship Tournament are now on sale. Championship tickets can be purchased through Ticketmaster and at the TD Banknorth Garden box office. Ticketmaster can be reached online at Ticketmaster.com or by calling (617) 931-2000.

The tournament semifinal games will take place on Friday, March 17th, and are scheduled to face off at 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. The ticket prices of \$15/\$25* per seat in the balcony or \$34 per seat in the loge include admission to both semifinal games.

Winners of the semifinals will advance to the title game at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 18th, to determine the winner of the 2006 Lamoriello Trophy. Ticket prices will again be \$15/\$25* for balcony seats and \$34 for loge. For both events, a \$5 discount* on balcony seats will be available to groups of 15 or more people and to students with a valid ID from any Hockey East member institution.

Last year's tournament marked the first time ever that the entire weekend event was sold out, following several seasons of single-night sellouts and near-capacity weekend crowds. The league highly recommends that fans purchase their tickets in advance to avoid disappointment. Advance ticket sales have steadily increased ever year with growing demand, particularly in December, when many individuals use the opportunity to purchase them as Christmas gifts for appreciative fans.

"We're thrilled that our casual fans as well as our most loyal fans have become increasingly enthusiastic about our culminating event," said Hockey East Commissioner Joe Bertagna. "We believe that is a direct result of the brand of hockey we bring to the Garden, and the quality of the overall experience that the Garden provides to its spectators."

Boston College won its sixth Hockey East championship in 2005, defeating 2003 champ UNH 3-1 in the final after ousting 2004 champ Maine, 2-1, in a double overtime semifinal. A record crowd of 35,130 was in attendance for the two-night classic.

The Hockey East Association is a 10-team, Division-I college hockey conference, with offices based in Wakefield, Mass. Founded in 1983, the league has won four NCAA championships in the past 13 years. The league also sponsors an eight-team women's league which began play in 2002-03.

** Under 2006 pricing, all loge seats are \$34. Balcony seats have a two-tiered pricing structure, with the first six rows priced at \$25 and all other balcony seats priced at \$15. Students may apply their \$5 discount to all balcony seats while groups (15 or more) may only apply their discounts to the \$15 tickets. Discounted seats must be purchased at the TD Banknorth Garden, or at the participating schools' ticket offices once those schools have been determined. There are no discounts for loge seats, there are no "double-discounts", and there are no discounts available through Ticketmaster.*

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