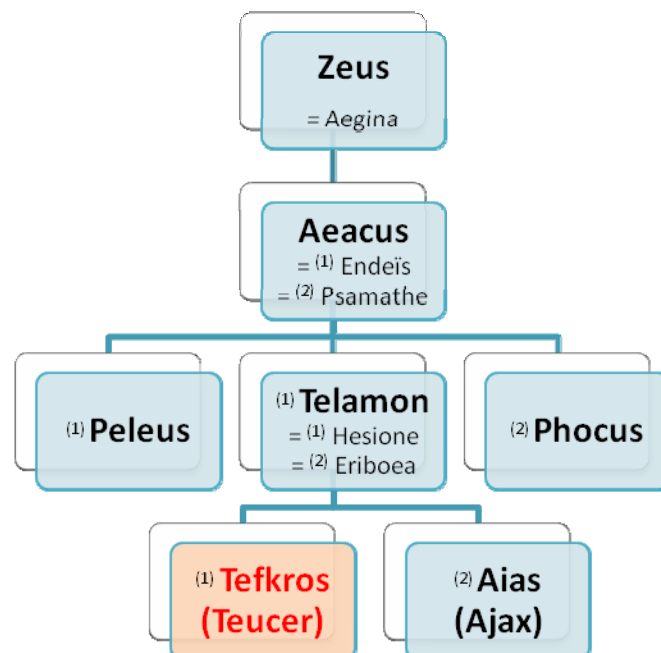


14.05.2008 BACKGROUND INFO FOR TEFKROS, THE MASCOT



Tefkros (Greek: Τεύκρος), also known as Teucer in English, was the son of Telamon, king of Salamis, by his wife Hesione, and half-brother to the hero of the Trojan War, Ajax. The ancient Kingdom of Salamis was located on the Saronic Gulf island of the same name, near Athens. Tefkros was an excellent archer and highly regarded by Agamemnon, the King of Mycenae. Upon his return from Troy, Tefkros was refused entrance to Salamis by his father, who accused him of having failed to avenge the death of Ajax. Thus, Tefkros sought refuge in Cyprus with a handful of faithful followers. As soon as he settled down, he founded a city (about 1175 BC) and built a temple to Zeus, whose ruins can be seen. Tefkros gave this new town the name of his childhood home, Salamis. Salamis of Cyprus, located four miles to the north of modern-day Famagusta, emerged into one of the most important ancient cities of Cyprus and flourished under King Evagoras (a descendant of Tefkros), before falling to the Romans in 306 BC.

FAMILY TREE OF TEFKROS ACCORDING TO GREEK MYTHOLOGY



The Mascot of the XIII Games of the Small States of Europe CYPRUS 2009, a white dove representing peace and carrying the torch of the GSSE, and named Tefkros, is the brainchild of Pericles Christoforides, who also designed the official logo of the Games.