Björn Borg

The E-Commerce Excellence Continues

Björn Borg ("Björn Borg", the Company" or the Group) is a wellestablished and renowned company with a rich history spanning decades, earning its place as a favored brand among a broad consumer base. Nevertheless, the predominant association of Björn Borg with underwear presents a compelling challenge: to transition consumer perception from an underwear brand to a sports fashion brand. This strategic shift, central to the Company's vision since 2014, has already yielded noteworthy progress, driven by amplified investments in social media and successful launches of new sport collections. Analyst Group foresees an attractive growth trajectory on the horizon, which promises improved margins. The forecasted EBIT for 2024 stands at SEK 127m (118), and by applying a forward EV/EBIT multiple of 10.7x (10.5), this presents a potential value of SEK 54.1 (47.8) per share in a Base scenario.

Strong Momentum in The Company's Own E-Commerce

The Q4-report served as a testament to the current macro environment, marked by a reduced purchasing power, with net sales falling short on our estimates (SEK 197.6m v.s. expected SEK 204.6m). It is evident that Björn Borg's distributors are grappling with heightening inventory levels and diminishing household spending, resulting in decreased purchases and sales to customers. However, on a positive note, own E-commerce showcased great momentum and posed a robust 46% Y-Y increase, exceeding our estimates with a wide margin. Consequently, online sales grew to a 47% share in Q4-23, and 41% for FY2023, which surpassed our projections. Analyst Group views this development positively as it indicates that the Company's investments in marketing and online strategies have yielded stronger brand recognition and online market penetration than predicted.

Strong Surge in Operating Profit and Increased Dividend

The operating profit soared by an impressive 126% to SEK 20.2m in Q4-23 compared to the corresponding figure last year, surpassing our projections. The strong increase Y-Y in the operating result was driven by a stronger-than-expected gross margin of 56.8%, fueled by improvements in the channel mix. Given the Company's strong balance sheet, Björn Borg announced alongside the Q4-report the Board's proposal to increase dividends to SEK 3.00 for fiscal year 2024, marking a 50% increase from last year. The proposed dividend for 2024 exceeded our estimates of SEK 2.30, underscoring the Company's confidence in its financial position going forward.

Revised Valuation Range

Despite facing challenges such as inflation, rising interest rates, and geopolitical uncertainties, all of which inevitably impact household consumption, Analyst Group argue that Björn Borg has demonstrated resilience and adeptly navigated these hurdles. The Q4 report serves as the latest testament to this, highlighted by the stronger-than-expected operating result. The strong momentum in own E-commerce is a driving force to that outcome, hence, Analyst Group has revised the profitability projections upwards, as we e.g. anticipate a stronger development within the online channels going forward, which boosts the bottom line. The combination of a stronger expected EBIT for 2024 and a multiple expansion among peers, has resulted in a new valuation range.

VALUATION RANGE Base Bull Bear **SEK 37.3** SEK 54.1 SEK 63.7 **KEY INFORMATION** Share Price (2024-02-27) 52.0 Shares Outstanding 25.148.384 1,307.7 Market Cap (SEKm) Net cash(-)/debt(+) (SEKm) 16.2¹ Enterprise Value (SEKm) 1.323.9 Nasdag Stockholm List Quarterly Report 1 2024 2024-05-16 SHARE PRICE DEVELOPMENT Björn Borg (Indexed) OMXSPI (Indexed) 160 140 120 100 80 60 يھ[.] بي nails 1111-23 okip nov.23 Vec. 23 180.²² ar.??? junit23 ນີ 20 3119 18. <u>ب</u>ي

Owners (Source: Holdings, 2023-12-27)					
Nordnet Pensionsförsäkring					12.2%
Martin Bjäringer					9.9%
Mats Nilsson					6.5%
Thomas Eklund					5.5%
Lazard Frères Gestion					5.2%
Forecast (SEKm)	2021A	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E
Net Sales Growth	8.9%	8.7%	4.4%	4.8%	6.7%
Net Sales	768	835	872	914	975
COGS	-411	-401	-407	-431	-450
Gross Profit	444	450	491	507	544
Gross Margin	54.2%	50.8%	54.0%	55.5%	55.8%
OPEX	-305	-342	-357	-350	-371
EBITDA	139	108	134	157	174
EBITDA-margin	18.1%	12.9%	15.3%	17.2%	17.8%
EBIT	104	73	101	127	143
EBIT Margin	13.5%	8.8%	11.5%	13.9%	14.7%
EV/S	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4
EV/EBITDA	9.5	12.3	9.9	8.4	7.6
EV/EBIT	12.8	18.1	13.2	10.4	9.2

¹ Debt + Leasing Liabilities excl Deferred Tax Liabilities.

Disclaimer

These analyses, documents and any other information originating from AG Equity Research AB (Henceforth "AG) are created for information purposes only, for general dissipation and are not intended to be advisory. The information in the analysis is based on sources, data and persons which AG believes to be reliable. AG can never guarantee the accuracy of the information. The forward-looking information found in this analysis are based on assumptions about the future, and are therefore uncertain by nature and using information found in the analysis should therefore be done with care. Furthermore, AG can never guarantee that the projections and forward-looking statements will be fulfilled to any extent. This means that any investment decisions based on information from AG, any employee or person related to AG are to be regarded to be made independently by the investor. These analyses, documents and any other information derived from AG is intended to be one of several tools involved in investment decisions regarding all forms of investments regardless of the type of investment involved. Investors are urged to supplement with additional relevant data and information, as well as consulting a financial adviser prior to any investment decision. AG disclaims all liability for any loss or damage of any kind that may be based on the use of analyzes, documents and any other information derived from AG.

Conflicts of Interest and impartiality

To ensure AG's independence, AG has established compliance rules for analysts. In addition, all analysts have signed an agreement in which they are required to report any and all conflicts of interest. These terms have been designed to ensure that COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2016/958 of 9 March 2016, supplementing Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to regulatory technical standards for the technical arrangements for objective presentation of investment recommendations or other information recommending or suggesting an investment strategy and for disclosure of particular interests or indications of conflicts of interest. Compliance policy: https://analystgroup.se/interna-regler-ansvarsbegransning/ (Swedish)

Other

This analysis is a task analysis. This means Analyst Group has received payment for doing the analysis. The Principal, **Björn Borg AB** (furthermore" the Company") has had no opportunity to influence the parts where Analyst Group has had opinions about the Company's future valuation or anything that could constitute an objective assessment.

The parts that the Company has been able to influence are the parts that are purely factual and objective.

The analyst does not own shares in the Company.

This analysis is copyright protected by law © AG Equity Research AB (2014-2024). Sharing, dissemination or equivalent action to a third party is permitted provided that the analysis is shared unchanged.