

AN EXAMPLE WORTH FOLLOWING

We publish below the text of a Circular-Letter sent by the C. O. N. I. to all its organizations.

Rome, October 16th, 1953.

To the Presidents of the National Sport Federations and to all the organizations subservient to the I. N. O. C.

The General Secretarial office of the Winter Olympic Games.

Use of the Olympic Symbols.

The Presidency of the I. O. C. has intimated to the C. O. N. I. that it has found that on several occasions, in Italy, associations having no connection whatever with the Olympic Movement have been using the Olympic Rings when holding sport demonstrations of a professional character.

On account of the recurrence of these offences, the juridic Advisory Council of the C. O. N. I. sees itself obliged to remind the National Sport Federations of the necessity to use the Olympic Symbols with utmost care and discretion and to avoid at all costs to have these symbols reproduced and printed on posters, regulations and material of propaganda put out for the use of spectacular shows of a professional character.

The juridic Advisory Council of the C. O. N. I. insists upon the fact that the Olympic Emblem is protected by law and that its use is reserved exclusively for the C. O. N. I. The latter concedes its use to

the Sport Federations and their affiliates, not so much as the symbol of the said Federations but as a proof of their affiliation to the C. O. N. I.

In view of this, no Associations, sport Clubs or even less third parties that do not come under the jurisdiction of the C. O. N. I. are authorized to use the Olympic Rings. That is why the C. O. N. I. has been forced to intervene in several instances and has done so successfully in the majority of cases brought to its knowledge.

However, even if the use of the Olympic Rings is justified on account of the amateur character of a sport manifestation, the National Sport Federations must use the emblems with discretion in order to emphasize the full import of the latter thus never permitting them to become commonplace.

It is quite unnecessary to use the Olympic Rings on stamps or posters with the object of justifying the exemption of the official stamp. One only needs to mention "C. O. N. I.", law of February 16th, 1942, No. 426.

We wish to take this matter up strongly with the National Sport Federations and we beg them to ensure the strict observance of these recommendations in order to save the C. O. N. I. from incurring justified reprimands which might tend to affect the excellent relationship entertained up to now between the C. O. N. I. and the I. O. C.

Signed: *Giulio Onesti*
President of the C. O. N. I.