

# Games of the XVIth Olympiad, Melbourne 1956

## Some informations

*Patronage.* The Private Secretary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has informed the Governor General of Australia, Field Marshall Sir William Slim, that Her Majesty has graciously consented to accept the High Patronage of the Olympic Games which are to be held in Melbourne in 1956.

*Number of officials.* According to a decision made at the Session of Athens the number

of officials are to be limited. It was observed that numerous abuses took place on the occasion of the Helsinki Games. More than 900 athletes who were present did not set foot on either track or grass in the stadia. They were there in the capacity of tourists surrounded by superfluous "officials". In future the allotment of the numbers of officials will be as follows :

Participants	Officials	But not more officials than :
10 or less	30%	3
11 to 25	27½%	7
26 to 60	25%	14

Participants	Officials	But not more officials than :
61 to 100	22 ½ %	20
101 to 150	20 %	27
151 to 200	18 %	33
201 to 300	16 %	45
301 or more	15 %	

Very small teams will be permitted three officials, but never more than the number of competitors.

Grooms, boatmen, masseurs are not considered as officials. Judges, referees, timekeepers, umpires etc. appointed by the International Federations are not included.

The organizing committee has been given instructions by the I.O.C. to enforce this rule with all strictness and to refuse all official recognition of numbers exceeding this quota. Access to the olympic village will be denied to them and they will not receive a free pass. They will be looked upon as ordinary tourists.

*The Olympic Village.* This village will be composed of 780 houses built of brick and concrete. They will provide accommodation for 6,000 persons, more than enough for the number of competitors expected. Provision has been made for the most up to date installations and the teams will be housed in national groups.

*Accommodation of visitors.* The Government Tourist Office is fully confident that the question of housing the visitors does not offer any difficulties. There are 550 hotels of various sizes in Melbourne, two or three are in the course of construction, and the construction of a further hotel of 600 rooms is projected. In spite of this it is expected that the number of-rooms may prove insufficient and the organizing committee will have to arrange for the provision of very comfortable lodgings in private houses.

*Press, etc.* According to a decision made at the last Session of the I.O.C. it has been agreed to fix a maximum number in accordance with the quota cited below, in order to prevent the repetition of the abuses observed at the Games of Helsinki.

Press (agencies and newspapers) : Maximum of 1,000 persons.

Cinema, radio and television : Maximum of 150 persons.

Photographers and newsreel cameramen : Maximum of 150 persons.

A portion of the quota of the press representatives limited to the figures quoted above will be allocated to each participating nation through the intermediary of its national olympic committee,

*Reservation of seats.* The sale of tickets will only commence in the course of April 1955. Agencies designated by the national olympic committee will undertake the reservation of seats for visitors from overseas. Further particulars, as well as the entrance fee, will be announced later. A proportional number of seats will be reserved in every stadium for applications made from abroad.

It is expected that approximately 2,000,000 to 2,250,000 entrance tickets will be printed.

*Time Recording.* All the apparatus for chronometring and for judging by photo-finish to be used in the Games in 1956 are to be supplied by the Swiss OMEGA WATCH Co. and the Race Finish Recording Co., Ltd. of London Amongst these apparatus it is worth mentioning the "Racend OMEGA Timer", a high precision instrument which measures without any risk of error up to approximately one hundredth of a second. The films are developed, printed, and enlarged within 90 seconds. To grasp the significance of this process of race recording at the Olympic Games, one must bear in mind that at Helsinki 441 race recording devices and precision chronographs were in-use.

*The Olympic Flame.* The flame will be lighted at Olympia and will leave Athens in an aircraft of Quantas bound for Darwin, from whence it will be conveyed to the north of Queensland, probably to Cairns Here will begin one of the longest journeys ever known in Olympic history (4,104 Km) for the transport of the flame carried by athletes to the Olympic stadium, where it will arrive in time for the opening of the Games. In the aircraft, the flame will be transported by means of a miner's safety lamp, presented by Mr Muller, President of the Olympic Committee of the Saar.

*Bulletin of the Games.* The organizing committee of the Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne publishes a bulletin which appears regularly. The third number has just been published and we shall collect all the striking features relative to these games from it for the benefit of our readers.

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## EQUESTRIAN GAMES OF THE XVIIth OLYMPIAD - STOCKHOLM 1956.

Patron of the Games : H. M. King Gustaf VI Adolf.

President of the Organising Comm. : H. R.H. Prince Bertil.

President of the Executive Comm. : Count Gustaf-Fredrik von Rosen.

General Secretary : Major Robert Selfelt.