
MINUTES
*of the Meeting of the Executive Board and Delegates
of the National Olympic Committees*

(Taking part in the Asian Games)

Tokyo — Imperial Hotel

Friday, MAY 16, 1958, at 2.30 p.m.

List of presence : See the French text.

President Brundage welcomed the representatives of the National Olympic Committees, assembled in Tokyo on the occasion of the 3rd Asiatic Games. He made a brief review of the problems facing the National Olympic Committees and invited them to discuss the difficulties they are encountering in their work.

Mr. A. de O. Sales, Hong-Kong, expressed the desire that Asian countries be better represented in the International Olympic Committee, that the International Olympic Committee should support them financial help or by letting an Asian city stage the Games. Regarding the protection of Olympic terms, they wished to have from the Chancellery drafts or samples of rules in order to take necessary steps in their respective countries. The *President* replied by outlining the history of the Olympic Movement which began in Europe. Therefore, the headquarters of the International Olympic Committee are in Europe, as well as those of most of the International Federations. The Renovator of the Games, Baron de Coubertin, wished the Olympic

Organization to be free from any financial considerations and this is the reason why each Olympic Committee should be self-supporting. Every member of the International Olympic Committee must bear his own expenses, which makes it very difficult to recruit new members. Until now, most of the National Olympic Committees preferred to organize the Games in Europe because of the central locations which reduced the expense. After the war the Olympic Movement has developed so tremendously that the International Olympic Committee chose Melbourne for the 1956 Olympic Games and held its 1958 Session in Tokyo. This city has just presented its invitation to stage the 1964 Games. This invitation will be examined on the basis of the extraordinary development in Asian sports.

Mr. Zafar Ali, Pakistan expressed the view that more consideration should be given to the wishes of the National Olympic Committees when electing new International Olympic Committee members. The *President* replied that this had not always been done in the past, but it will be done in the future.

H.H. Raja Yadavindra Singh, India, declared that the National Olympic Committees were in a

difficult position when a National Federation did not agree with the National Olympic Committee. There should be a rule in order to meet such situations.

India is studying the question of the protection of the Olympic emblems.

As to the tables of points, representative of the National Olympic Committees should point out that the existing system is ridiculous ; they should educate the press.

The President replied by explaining the incidents during the Ice-Hockey tournament in the Winter Games of 1948 (St. Moritz). A dispute arose concerning the U.S. team, which was a member of the International Federation but was suspected of professionalism. *Mr. Brundage* formed a true amateur team but the International Federation insisted on its rights to be represented in the Games. Since then we have a rule which puts an end to such abuse and no one may enter the Games without the authorization of the National Olympic Committee. Everything would be perfect if we could obtain the support of the International Federations.

Lastly, a sportsman can be a member of the Government if he is primarily a sportsman and not a politician he is eligible for Olympic Committee membership.

The Maharaja of Patiala insisted that the International Federations should take into account the opinion of the National Olympic Committees when difficulties arose in a country, in order to follow Olympic principles. *The President* answered that the Olympic Movement was making progress but it was essential that there be close and intimate co-operation between all International Federations, the National Olympic Committees and the International Olympic Committee.

Mr. Sardar Mohd Faruq Siraj, Afghanistan requested the election of new Asian members from countries which are not represented. At present 40 countries are not represented on the International Olympic Committee, whereas others have 2 or 3 members. If new members are to be elected, it would be better to take candidates from unrepresented countries.

The President replied that this was being done more and more. Olympic Rules have been changed and provide for only one member per country, with the exception of a few big countries.

Mr. Gunsun Hoh, China (Formosa) explained the sports organizations in his country, where the Amateur Athletic Sports Federation acts as the National Olympic Committee. When the Olympic programme will be reduced, one should be careful

not to eliminate sports like volley-ball, which are widely practised in Asia.

The President explained that the reduction of the programme had become necessary, because of the enormous costs of the Games which will limit the choice of the host city to very big cities only. Volley-ball was included in the list of Olympic sports at the Sofia Session.

Mr. Fumio Takashima, Japan introduced *Mr. Abe*, Swimming Federation. It was decided at Sofia that, after the Rome Games, either breast or butterfly would remain in the programme ; which one would it be ? The Fédération Internationale de Natation Amateur would also like to have a relay-event. *Mr. Abe* requested the International Olympic Committee to consider these questions favourably.

The President answered that the International Olympic Committee was actually studying the subject of relay-event. As to butterfly, it is only an improved form of the breaststroke. Therefore only one was to remain.

Mr. L.V. Kiang, China (Formosa) expressed the desire that the International Olympic Committee should personally inspect unrepresented countries instead of relying on reports.

Mr. Brundage answered that this was not always feasible, as International Olympic Committee's members have their own business to attend to and have very little time. On the other hand, they pay for their own travelling expenses. However! whenever they are travelling, they always get into touch with the local organizations of the countries they are visiting.

Mr. Sang Beck Lee, Korea, said that in Korea a law has been promulgated for the protection of Olympic emblems.

The President thanked the delegates for their helpful co-operation.

Mr. Luan Sukhum Nayapradit, Vice-President of the Thailand National Olympic Committee and the *Maharaja of Patiala* whole-heartedly thanked the International Olympic Committee and President Brundage for giving them the opportunity of expressing their opinion on the difficulties encountered by their organizations.

Meeting adjourned at 5.00 p.m.

The President :
AVERY BRUNDAGE

The Secretary :
L. ZANCHI.