
THE FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE NATATION AMATEUR COMMEMORATES ITS FIFTIETH YEAR OF EXISTENCE

In its Bulletin N° 22 of last October, we hear that the Amateur International Swimming Federation (F.I.N.A.) celebrated its fiftieth Anniversary in 1958. Although somewhat belated, we are anxious to send our

congratulations and our best wishes to F.I.N.A. for its future. We associate ourselves heartily in the jubilee of the F.I.N.A., one great Olympic sport.

*

As we are writing about F.I.N.A., let us mention that this Federation has acceded to the International Olympic Committee's request (at any rate partially) for a reduction in the number of athletes taking part in the Olympic Games. This number has shown a steady increase at every Olympiad. Thus, in Swimming, the number of entries per country and per event will be reduced from three to two. The International Olympic Committee was very pleased to hear of the decision of the F.I.N.A. The latter regards favourably the principle of reduction of the number of athletes on a basis of a fixed percentage, but this percentage must be determined for each sport every four years. This decision could well be adopted by the International Olympic Committee who will study this proposal put forward by its Swedish member, Mr. Bo Ekelund, and is published in our Bulletin N° 63. The Fédération Internationale de Natation Amateur is correct in its opinion that certain sports are in full expansion while others are diminishing. To cite only one example, let us take the case of swimming, diving, and water-polo, the number of competitors who participated in these events in the last Games (not including the Melbourne Games), were as follows :

The excessive number of officials who have been present at the Olympic Swimming competitions has been the subject of comment by the International Olympic Committee. When informed of this. Fédération Internationale de Natation Amateur did not agree and considered the criticism unjustified. We do not share the latter's opinion. We are therefore, quoting the number of officials proposed by Fédération Internationale de Natation Amateur for the next Games and the number suggested by the Organizing Committee of Rome which was finally accepted by Fédération Internationale de Natation Amateur, and seems to us to be amply sufficient.

	<i>Final Number</i>	
	<i>Pro by</i>	<i>chosen</i>
	<i>F.I.N.A.</i>	<i>by Rome</i>
Chronometrors	64	40
Judges at the Finish	40	30
Judges at Turning	16	12
Judges of Water-polo	10	10
Judges of Diving Contests	12	12
Miscellaneous Officials	18	18
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	160	122