

Minutes of the Conference of the Executive Board

*of the International Olympic Committee
with the delegates of the International Federations
Athens 1961 - Senate House - June 16th*

The Conference opens at 9.30 a.m.

List of presence: Annex N° 1.

Chairman: Mr. Avery Brundage, President of the International Olympic Committee.

Agenda: Annex N° 2.

Mr. Brundage extends a hearty welcome to the delegates of the International Federations and introduces each member of the Executive Board.

The *Chairman* likes to make the matter clear with regard to the Tokyo Games programme. Nothing has been decided officially up to the present time. No reduction is foreseen, the only thing the International Olympic Committee insists on is that the sports which are to figure on the programme be well controlled. *Mr. Pierre Ferri* (Fédération Internationale d'Escrime) states that his federation remains true to the principles of amateurism. He approves the principle that an athlete must have a profession or employment. On the other hand, he considers that the limit of 28 days for participating to the competitions is too short. He suggests six weeks, when the International Federation should be allowed to pay an indemnity for broken time to the athlete's employer. *Mr. Ferri* also thinks that a fencing master, who is thus a fencing professional, must be allowed to be an amateur in other

sports. This problem ought to be examined as well as the position of all coaches. The orator speaks in favour of the bursaries granted to athletes who dispose of small financial resources. He regrets the fact that so many amateurs turn professionals after the Games and thinks that their names should be crossed out the Roll of Honour of the Games. The sports, which are known to cause athletes to pass automatically to professionalism after the Games, should be eliminated.

Colonel Russell (Boxing) considers that there is no dishonour for an athlete to turn professional after the Games. One ought not to attach such importance to these cases.

Mr. Chesal (Cycling) objects to *Mr. Ferri* statements and approve those of *Colonel Russell*. It is not against the regulations to become professional after the Games, what is important is that the athlete is an amateur when he competes in the Games.

Mr. Barassi (Football) declares that the Fédération Internationale de Football Amateur has already fixed the rule of amateurism six years ago. Time is required for a rule to take effect and be applied. The Fédération Internationale de Football Amateur has proved its good will when accepting the Olympic principles. The responsibility incumbs also on the National Olympic Committees, some of which

failed to collaborate and help us in our task. The duties to guard and enforce the amateur status fall on them. The speaker goes on to say that the percentage of professional football players in the world varies between 0,2% and 2½%.

Mr. Brundage speaks in favour of a closer collaboration between the National Olympic Committees and the International Federations. This would help to overcome many difficulties and save many misunderstandings. It would be advisable to hold joint Conferences when both the National Olympic Committees and the International Federations would meet, he recommends this point to the International Federations in order to study the question.

Mr. Hodler (Skiing) approves of *Mr. Brundage's* ideas concerning the problem of amateurism. He would like the International Federations to discuss the matter with the Commission on amateurism which has been appointed by the International Olympic Committee.

Mr. Ahearne (Ice Hockey) is under the impression that we want to define a thing impossible to define. Amateurism is a state of mind. Any rule on amateurism is hard to enforce. Sanctions have been envisaged. In this case, they should be applied not on the athlete but on the national or international bodies concerned. The concept of amateurism is above or outside any rules. He mentions the case of a financial investment project in favour of the Tokyo Games and he thinks that this example set by Japan is unfortunate.

TOKYO PROGRAMME

Mr. Brundage proposes to accept the dates suggested by the Japanese Organizing Committee for the swimming events which should take place the first week, like in Rome, whereas the athletic events will take place during the second week of the Games. *Mr. Payne* (Athletics) mentions the fact that placing athletic events during the second week causes additional expenses since the athletes must remain seven more days in the place. He asks the International Olympic Committee to act with caution.

Mr. Ritter (Swimming) states that in the past, swimming events were always held in the course of the second week. If these take place on the first week it will affect the Fédération Internationale de Natation Amateur Treasury since that federation always organizes a gala after the Games for the benefit of its funds. He therefore asks for the swimming events to take place during the second week.

Mr. Ahearne (Ice Hockey) says that the Organizing Committee of the Games should consult the International Federations with regard to the technical installations. Those of Squaw Valley were for instance, far from being satisfactory. It incumbs only on the International Federations to appoint competent technical advisers on the subject of sport installations.

Mr. Brundage replies that the International Olympic Committee hands over all technical matters to the International Federations. He will recommend at the Session that the Organizing Committees of the Games defray all the expenses

of travelling and upkeep of the technical advisers sent by the International Federations, not only for fifteen days before the beginning of the Games but at the time that a city is attributed the Games, namely at the outset of the installations. *Mr. Keller* (Rowing) asks for the rowing events to be held during the first week. *Mr. Brundage* suggests that the delegates of every International Federation discuss these problems directly with the Japanese organizers who happen to be in Athens at the present moment. Moreover, this question had been forecast for discussion by the International Olympic Committee.

Colonel Russell (Boxing) speaks in favour of maintaining the national hymns and the national flags at the protocol ceremonies for the sake of tradition. *Mr. Brundage* replies that this item will be put on the Session order of the day.

Mr. Chesal (Cycling) thinks that an improved method should be adopted for the conveyance of judges, referees and officials at the Games. A sufficient number of cars should be put to their disposal. *Mr. Brundage* approves *Mr. Chesal's* view and takes this occasion to make an appeal in favour of the judicious choice of referees, judges and officials.

Mr. Massard (International Olympic Committee) proposes that there should be a day of rest after the Opening Ceremony in order to avoid too great a strain on some of the athletes who have to compete in the next days' events. This would allow all athletes to participate in the Opening Ceremony.

REGIONAL GAMES

Mr. Brundage gives a general survey of the Regional Games as they are in the world at the present time and which are placed under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee. *Mr. Pain* (Athletics) thinks that these Games become on the part of the International Federations. Moreover, he suggests that before granting its patronage, the International Olympic Committee make sure that no racial discrimination exists against a particular country belonging to that area. He cites the case when the International Amateur Athletics Federation had to refuse its consent for the organization of athletic events, precisely on those ground. There are too many Regional Games some of which have no sporting value and are not necessary. *Mr. Brundage* approves the declarations of *Mr. Pain* and says that there are some countries which participate sometimes in three Regional Games in the course of an Olympiad not counting the Olympic Games. It is too much. The *Chairman* recalls the fact of a custom which existed, by it a country participating in the Regional Games could not participate in other similar Games.

Mr. Libaud (Volley Ball) declares that the Games ought to be placed only on a geographical basis. In order to prevent a country participating in several of these Games, one could draw a time table prescribing that all these Games must take place at the same period. *Mr. Ritter* (Swimming) just heard that it is intended to organize Pan-Pacific Games at Honolulu.

LIMITING ENTRIES

Mr. Brundage mentions that the International Olympic Committee asks for the various sport events figuring at the Games to be well organized. Owing to abuses in the number of entries, the effect is disastrous and technically impossible to control. It incumbs therefore on the International Federations to exercise the utmost severity in the control of the entries before we encounter serious difficulties. He recalls the Bo Ekelund project which determines the number of athletes for each federation leaving the said international federations the care to organize themselves.

Mr. Ahearne (Ice Hockey) declares that conform to Rule 24, the National Olympic Committees are responsible for addressing the entries of competitors to the Games organizers. On this subject, the International Federations are not consulted and he thinks it is unfortunate that they may not intervene. He quotes a few cases in Ice Hockey, when the teams were not allowed to compete, because the National Olympic Committees of their country prevented them from doing so for no apparent reasons to us at any rate. With regard to this matter, *Mr. Brundage* recalls the fact that according to the Olympic Rules, the National Olympic Committees are chiefly composed of delegates of the national federations placed under the jurisdiction of the International Federations. These therefore can implement their control if they wish it.

Mr. Barassi (Football) thinks that the team sports are a valuable asset to the Games. In the case of football, in prevision of the Games in Rome, Fédération Internationale de Football Amateur had in hand 52 inscriptions. 18 months of preliminary heats were necessary before setting afoot and selecting finally an Olympic contingent limited to 16 teams.

Mr. Abe (Swimming) asks on behalf of Fédération Internationale de Natation Amateur to re-establish the number of entries from 2 to 3 as was the case before the Rome Games. In 1960, it was observed that there was a comparatively poor number of participants. He also asks for the adjunction of new swimming events, these have been submitted for the International Olympic Committee approval.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS' PROPOSITIONS

Mr. Brundage gives a synopsis of the proposals (annex No. 3) presented by the International Federations and declares that they will be submitted at the International Olympic Committee. Session next week. Various delegates are heard on the subject defending their point of views.

Concerning the inclusion of *ex-officio* members on the Committee of the International Olympic Committee, *Mr. Brundage* declares that the International Olympic Committee must remain an independent governing body. Its power is restricted by its Charter. Were the proposal tending to the nomination of *ex-officio* members from the National Olympic Committees and the International Federations accepted, it would convert the International Olympic Committee into a Senate composed of more than 200 members, this would be disastrous as it

would impede the work of the International Olympic Committee.

Mr. Brundage tells the assembly that the International Olympic Committee has received already the 50% of the television rights of Tokyo, half this sum is kept at the disposal of the Summer Games International Federations. Innsbruck has paid 25% of the television rights due, half this sum is kept at the disposal of the Winter Sports International Federations. The distribution of these grants will take place when the totality of the contractual sums are paid in by the organizers, and this according to a scheme which is being elaborated by the Marquess of Exeter, President of the International Amateur Athletics Federation.

Mr. Sarrasin (Equestrian Sports) asks, concerning Rule 37 that the number of the technical delegates be left to the appreciation of the International Federations. *Mr. Brundage* entirely agrees with this but adds that only two delegates can be receiving an indemnity from the Organizing Committee. All the other delegates chosen by the International Federations will have to pay for their own travelling and board expenses but their number is illimited.

Mr. Thæni (Gymnastics) intervenes in favour of restoring the text of Rule 34 concerning the replacing of an athlete in case of an accident. *Mr. Brundage* replies that this famous text has been cancelled before it ever became effective. *Mr. Thæni* agrees that this text be cancelled from Rule 34 but that a reserve be allowed in the gymnastics teams *en plus* of the official number of six athletes.

Mr. Brundage prefers this solution to the first and will submit it to the Session.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS (Annex No. 4)

Mr. Brundage states that these resolutions will be submitted to the International Olympic Committee. Session next week, and that he will support the following points on the recommendation of the Executive Board: 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6. As for item 5, it behaves the International Olympic Committee to take a decision on the matter. *Mr. Ahearne* (Ice Hockey) declares that his federation was not represented yesterday at the Conference of the International Federations, he therefore esteems that this Meeting was not regular. He demands that the television rights of the 1964 Winter Games be shared in equal proportions between the federations.

THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF INNSBRUCK

This was represented by Dr. Lugger and Dr. E. Fried and it is introduced. There is only one question from *Mr. Thofelt* (Union Internationale de Pentathlon moderne): Are you prepared to organize the Winter Modern Pentathlon at Innsbruck? *Mr. Fried* replied yes as far as the Winter Biathlon is concerned. The Austrian Delegation withdraws.

Mr. Larsson (Shooting) asks the International Olympic Committee to urge the Japanese Organizing Committee to invite a technical delegate of

every International Federation in order to visit the installations.

Mr. Chesal (Cycling) recommends the adoption of two new events which do not involve an increase number of athletes.

Mr. Libaud (Volley-Ball) proposes that each International Federation be received individually at the International Olympic Committee Session in order that each of them, in turn, may expose clearly its point of view and defend its arguments.

Mr. Barassi (Football) observes that, according to the statements made by Mr. Brundage, the International Olympic Committee can eliminate from the Programme of the Games professional sports. He recommends to the International Olympic Committee not to take too swift a decision and not to cause an injustice by using forcible measures. One should not eliminate a sport without hearing the incriminated International Federation.

TOKYO DELEGATION

This is composed of Dr. Azuma, Mr. Hatta and Mr. Abe and it is introduced. *Mr. Coquereau* (Canoeing) raises a strong protest against the declaration of the Tokyo organizers concerning the suppression of canoeing in the Games of 1964. In Munich in 1955, the Japanese promised to have twenty olympic sports on the Programme. He refuses to admit that now Tokyo goes back on its formal promises. He asks that canoeing be restored on the programme and that the adjunction of a new sport as Judo does not bear prejudice to old Olympic sports. Canoeing presents no technical difficulty since the same installations as those used for rowing are required.

Mr. Ritter (Swimming) would like that every International Federation forbids its affiliated members to meet non-affiliated national federations. Regarding this matter, he mentions certain cases which occurred within his own federation.

Mr. Scott (Yachting) asks that the dates for the Tokyo Games do not fall in August or September. *Mr. Brundage* replies that the organizers propose the month of October. This point will be decided next week by the International Olympic Committee.

Mr. Hodler (Skiing) thanks President Brundage for having been so understanding concerning the wishes and claims proffered by the International Federations. *Mr. Brundage* announces that the next Conference will take place in 1963. On his request, the International Federations reply that one day sitting is sufficient and that the place to hold the Conference should be somewhere in Europe, also that it would be undesirable to hold these Conferences jointly with the National Olympic Committees.

The President: *Avery Brundage.* The Chancellor: *Otto Mayer.*

Annex N° 1

See List of presence of the Executive Board and the International Federations on page 17.

Annex N° 2

AGENDA

1. Welcome by President Avery Brundage.
- 2) Objectives of Olympic Movement (Circular Letter No. 179).
- 3) Review Games of the XVII Olympiad and VIII Olympic Winter Games and possibilities of improvement.
- 4) General Discussion Regional Games.
- 5) Judging at Olympic Games (Circular Letter No. 171).
6. Limitation of Entries (Circular Letter No. 172).
- 7) Closer relations with National Olympic Committees.
- 8) Proposals and questions raised by various Federations (the list will be given in Athens).
- 9) General Discussion Games of XVIII Olympiad and IX Olympic Winter Games.

Annex N° 3

PROPOSAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS

1. *Amateur International Boxing Association*
 - a) Technical questions such as the number of Referees and Judges required and the accommodation and transport of officials, at the Olympic Games, are matters which should be decided by the International Federations concerned, and not by the Organizing Committee.
 - b) Amateur International Boxing Association entirely endorses the opinion expressed by the President of the International Olympic Committee in his circular letter No. 171 of November 17th 1960, that it was doubtful if Judges and other officials are accorded to the high standing, the attention and the respect which they merit and propose that in future this should be brought to the notice of all Organizing Committees.
 - c) That the International Olympic Committee should be reconstituted so as to include the Presidents of all International Federations recognized by the International Olympic Committee as *ex-officio* members.
 - d) Consideration of the method of distributing the amount to be paid by the Organizers of Olympic Games to the International Federations.
2. *International Volley-Ball Federation*
 - a) To set up, the list of sports shall be brought on the programme of the Games, at least *four* years in advance.
 - b) To study the opportunity to constitute legally a 'Confederation of Olympic Federations.
 - c) *Women Volley-Ball* events in the Games.
3. *International Fencing Federation*
 - a) Indemnity to be paid by the Organizing Committees of the Games to the International Federations in compensation of the special expenses of those Federations on the occasion of the Olympic Games while they cannot hold their World Championship.

- b) Each Federation should reduce the number of their participants in the Games.
4. *Equestrian International Federation*
- a) Reject Mr. Bo Ekelund's proposal regarding the limitation of participants in certain sports at the Olympic Games.
- b) Here follows several technical proposals which will be discussed at the Session after having discussed them with the Equestrian International Federation at the meeting with the Executive Board.
5. *International Gymnastics Federation*
- a) To reinstate in Art. 34 of the Rules the sentence deleted in Munich in 1959 regarding the substitution of a competitor who was injured or taken ill within the 14 day entry deadline.
- b) The International Gymnastics Federation refutes the accusation that the responsible members of the Executive Committee of gymnastics, who were present in Melbourne, misused their privileges.
- c) The International Gymnastics Federation request that the International Federations be granted greater authority and influence in their sport by the International Olympic Committee, especially concerning their competitive programmes and the basis for the awarding and distribution of the recompenses.
6. *International Union of Cyclism*
- a) To maintain on the Olympic programme 100 Km. Team race on road as well as the individual road race.
- b) Adjunction on the programme of an Individual Pursuit race of 4 Km., while the Team Pursuit race would remain on the programme.
7. *International Union of Modern Pentathlon*
- To re-instate Biathlon in the Olympic Winter Games programme.
8. *International Amateur Athletics Federation*
- Addition to the athletic programme of 400 metres: WOMEN; Pentathlon: WOMEN
9. *International Amateur Swimming Federation*
- a) To change Men's Backstroke distance from 100 m. to 200 m.
- b) To restore the number of entries for individual events to the previous 3 instead of 2.
- c) To agree with additional events:
Individual Medled 400 m. men and women.
Freestyle, 200 m., for men and women.
4 × 100 m. Freestyle relay for men only (the teams to be restricted to swimmers already entered in other events).
10. *International Weight-Lifting Federation*
- a) That the president of the International Weight-Lifting Federation be allowed to present the medals to the Olympic winners immediately after the contest, if no International Olympic Committee officer is present to do so.
- b) That press facilities be granted to specialist reporters, who wish to report for one sport only. Our sport is generally reported in specialist magazines and rarely in national newspapers.
- c) Addition of two bodyweight categories, viz: Flyweight at 51 Kg.
Heavyweight at 110 Kg.
11. *International Handball Federation*
- To adopt Handball in the 1964 Tokyo Games. After previous elimination events, the tournament would be held with 6 to 10 teams.
12. *International Sledge Federation*
- a) That this sport should be brought on the programme of the 1964 Winter Games.
- b) Approval of individual events for ladies.
- c) For Men's events: 4 entries for each participating country (without substitutes)
2 teams for each country (without substitutes)
a team consisting in 2 competitors.
For Ladies events: 3 competitors for each country.
(These proposals are approved by the Innsbruck Organizing Committee.)

Annex N° 4

To the President of the International Olympic Committee

Sir,

The following *Resolutions* were passed unanimously at a Meeting held in Athens on 15th June 1961 at which 22 International Federations were represented.

- I. All Technical questions (including those of the Jury) relating to a Sport, should be left to the International Federations, but if consultations are necessary, they should approach the International Olympic Committee or the Organizing Committee of the Games.
- II. The International Federations leave the question of the distribution of the sum paid by the Tokyo Games to the Marquess of Exeter and the Executive Committee of the International Olympic Committee.
- III. When a Sport has been accepted for an Olympiad by the International Olympic Committee and the Organizing Committee, it shall not be excluded subsequently.
- IV. Once a Sport has been accepted, no change in its programme shall be approved without the Consent of the International Federation concerned.
- V. The International Olympic Committee Members are requested to reconsider the Olympic Article 30, with a view to retaining in each Olympiad when practicable, all sports now recognized as Olympic Sports.
(Note: This last resolution was passed by a Majority of 21 - 1.)
- VI. The International Olympic Committee Members are requested to remind Organizing Committees that the requirements of International Federations on Technical questions must be observed.

Rudyard Russell
Convener of the Meeting.