

# Circular-letter sent by the International Amateur Athletic Federation to its affiliated members

2nd September, 1963.

## ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Council of the International Athletic Amateur Federation is concerned that it still receives complaints from certain member countries having outstanding athletes that some of these are approached by athletic coaches employed by colleges in other countries, offering scholarships, obviously not based on the scholastic ability of the athlete concerned.

The Council deplors this malpractice and points out too that, under the international Olympic Committee rules, such individuals are eligible to compete in the Olympic Games.

While the International Athletic Amateur Federation in no way wishes to restrict the freedom of action on the part of individuals, it must be clearly understood that the acceptance of an athletic scholarship, as opposed to a normal scholarship awarded on the grounds of scholastic ability, must

render the athlete ineligible to compete under International Athletic Amateur Federation rules and member countries are reminded that the rules of the International Athletic Amateur Federation enable them to exercise control in as much as under Rule 9, paragraph 5 :-

'No athlete or club may take part in an athletic meeting in a foreign country without the written approval of his governing body, and no member of the Federation shall allow any foreign athlete to enter any competition without such permit certifying that he is an amateur *and permitted to compete in the country concerned.*'

If a country feels that its athletes are being approached & regularly then they have the option under the rule to preclude the exploitation of the athlete by a university or college by withholding sanction to compete in that particular country.

Yours sincerely,

*D. T. P. Pain*  
Hon. Secretary-Treasurer.