

## NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS

---

by Jean-Louis MEURET

### ARCHERY

- \* *For archers, the No. 1 event of 1969 will be at Valley Forge in Pennsylvania (USA) from the 13th to the 24th August, 1969. To celebrate the 90th anniversary of the 90th anniversary of the foundation of the National Archery Association of the United States of America, the following meetings will be held, all within the space of twelve days :*
  - The XXVth World Archery Championships (13th to the 16th)
  - The 1st World Archery Field Championships (18th and 19th)
  - The XXVth Congress of the International Federation (11th and 20th)
  - 85th National Championships of the USA (22nd to the 24th)

### ATHLETICS

- \* Please note the new address of the International Amateur Athletic Federation :

I.A.A.F.  
162 Upper Richmond Road,  
London, S.W.15, England.

Telegraphic address: MARATHON, London, S.W.15.  
Telephone: 01.789.3853
  - \* *Two modifications to the regulations governing athletics meetings come into force on the 1st May: in pole-jumping, a jump will count provided the athlete passes over the bar, no matter in which direction the pole falls; for races longer than 800 m., the starter will simply say "on your marks" before firing his pistol, the order "ready" being done away with.*
- ATHENS: FROM THE 1896 GAMES TO THE IXth EUROPEAN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS. The 1969 European Athletics Championships will be held in *Karaïskatis Stadium in Athens*, where the cycle races at the first modern Olympic Games were held.

Entirely renovated, naturally, it will be like new as from next month with its tartan track, raised stand for the press and 35,000 seats, and completely ready in time for the *meeting due to take place from the 16th to the 21st September.*

An esplanade, officially opened on the day of the *Marathon*, will lead those taking part in this "pseudo-religious" event to the *Athens marble stadium*, the first contemporary Olympic stadium.

- \* *"Sadness and hope": Bikila ABEBE and Valery BRUMEL.* We refuse to believe that the Ethiopian ABEBE will not be able to run again as a result of the motor-car accident he had recently in his country. We express here our wishes that this popular champion, the only athlete ever to win the Olympic Marathon twice (in 1960 and 1964), may soon recover full use of his limbs. Our hopes are strengthened by the example of the unforgettable Russian high-jumper Valery BRUMEL, also seriously injured in an accident in 1966, jumping 2.05 m. a few weeks ago. *Olympism* has been called "*a school of courage*". Under cruel circumstances Valery BRUMEL has given striking proof of the truth of this statement.

#### BASKETBALL

- \* *Thirtieth anniversary of the death of the creator of basketball.* In 1891, Dr. James A. NAISMITH invented a new game for the university students at the YMCA college in Springfield (Massachusetts) of which he was in charge. Three years before his death, this game, known as BASKETBALL, became an Olympic sport and since 1936 has featured in the programme of all subsequent Games.
- \* FOR THE UNDER 10's: "*Mini-basketball allows children too to compare themselves with others*", states Dr. Pierre KRIEG, an eminent Swiss specialist in the field of sports medicine.

#### BOXING

- \* *BIGGEST EVENT IN RUMANIAN SPORTING LIFE:* the 18th European Boxing championships from the 31st May to the 8th June in Bucharest. The first meeting will take place at noon on the 31st May, the evening being reserved for the

opening ceremony and the second meeting. From the 1st to the 6th: two meetings a day, the 5th June: quarter-finals - the 6th June: semi-finals - the 8th June at 6 p.m. (Bucharest time) finals of the 11 categories: for the first time a European Light Flyweight title will be awarded (under 48 kg.).

## CYCLING

- \* *Mr. Michael JEKIEL, new secretary general of the International Cycling Union.* To replace Mr. René CHESAL, who has just resigned, the Board of Directors of ICU has appointed Mr. Michael JEKIEL, a Pole and up till then Vice-President of the Organization. It is planned to set up the offices of the general secretariate in Geneva.

## FENCING

- \* *The Agenda of the 50th Congress of F.I.E., due to take place on the 22nd and 23rd May, 1969, includes in particular:*

A motion proposing that *the world championships should be held only every other year*, the Olympic Games being considered as World Championships.

Another requiring the *wearing of a cuirass to be extended to all events*: foil, épée, sabre.

*A revision of the points system* submitted by Switzerland. "The present system possesses anomalies and even injustices. We noticed this once again at the Mexico Olympic Games. This system was designed for pure direct elimination, i.e. without *repêchages*; in this case it is perfect and fair. Now that *repêchages* have been introduced, it no longer corresponds at all to the performances of the fencers", explains the President of the Swiss Fencing Federation, Mr. Andre PFAFF.

## FOOTBALL

- \* "*Olympic Football Tournament 1968*" is the title of a booklet on the tournament at the Mexico Olympic Games. Published in English, this booklet is divided into two parts. One reproduces a detailed report prepared by the FIFA trainer, Mr. Dettmar CRAMER, at the request of the Committee of Technical Development and the Amateur Committee. The other gives the results of the preliminary and final matches.

The general secretariate of FIFA sells this 28-page booklet for S.Fr.1.50, plus airmail postage,

- \* *Perhaps a new system for the next Olympic Tournament.*  
In "FIFA NEWS" René COMTE urges the Amateur Committee of the Federation which is responsible for the organization of the Olympic tournament, to modify the system of this tournament. As you can see, his idea is not without interest:

*" . . . As in the past, the 16 finalists are divided into four groups of four teams. During the first round, each team plays against the other three teams in its group in accordance with the championship system. The two best teams in these four groups qualify for the second round. However, these eight teams are again divided into two groups, each team playing against the other three in its group. The winners of the two groups qualify for the final of the Olympic Football Tournament, while the two teams placed second are matched to decide on the 3rd and 4th place*

*In my opinion, this system of matches possesses several advantages:*

*The system would not change suddenly from championship matches to cup matches (except for the final).*

*Eight teams would be sure of playing at least six matches.*

*All teams would have time to rest between matches..."*

- \* *The first meeting of FIFA's Press Committee, which is now a standing committee was held in February under the presidency of Dr. BARDIGOTTA (Italy). Next meeting: the 11th or 12th January, 1970.*
- \* *17th to 20th May in Amsterdam: Commission on the Status of Players, Technical Development, the Amateur Committee, Finance Commission and Executive Board.*

## GYMNASTICS

- \* *11 Olympic titles in a hundred years* for Italian gymnastics. The Italian Gymnastics Federation was founded on the 17th March, 1869. Twenty years later, the 1st Federal competition was held. It was not until 1908 that gymnasts from the Peninsula took part in the Olympic Games for the first time. They met with immediate success, since Alberto BRAGLIA won the individual title which he kept four years later, while his friend Adolfo TUNESI came third and their team won the team event - clubs, parallel bars, and horse. After that Georgio ZAMPORI, Romeo NERI, individual Olympic champions in 1920 and 1932 respectively, Franco MARTINO first on the rings in 1924, Savino GUGLIELMETTI, first in the long horse vault in 1932, completed the wins in the team events in 1920 (European system) 1924 and 1932. This Italian team won a bronze medal before its own public in Rome in 1960. Of this team, Franco MENICHELLI was outstanding; up till Mexico he remained the model of the Latin gymnast, winning the gold medal for floor exercises in Tokyo. Italian gymnastics is an extremely hale and hearty centenarian.

## HANDBALL

- \* *16 teams in the Munich Olympic Tournament:* The first eight countries in the 1970 world championships will automatically qualify. The other teams will have to play qualifying matches. The tournament will take place as follows: four groups of four; the first two in each of these groups will take part in the semi-finals; the winners of the two pools will meet in the final; the two that come second will play against each other for the bronze medal.
- \* Other decisions reached by members of the Board and the Technical Committee of the International Handball Federation at their joint meeting in Basle on the 15th March:
- *Principle agreed on:* World Championships to be held every other year, even years for men and odd years for women.
  - *The 27 countries (record figure) entered for the 7th World Indoor Championships* (February the 26th to the 8th March, in France) *to be reduced to 16.* Automatically qualified: France, the first three of the last World Tournament (Czechoslovakia, Denmark, and Rumania), Japan and the United States or Canada. The other twenty

countries entered will have to qualify in the two-way matches scheduled for the 14th-15th November and the 29th-30th November, 1969.

- \* *The Oslo Cup welcomes the young.* Last year 485 teams took part in the Oslo Cup organized for the last four years by the Baekkelagets Sportklub. They came mainly from Norway, but also from Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, Germany, France and Czechoslovakia. For 1969, entries may still be sent to the following address: Oslo Cup, Postal Box No.29, Mangled, Oslo.

#### HOCKEY

- \* Note the change of address:

International Hockey Federation (I.H.F.)  
55, boulevard du Regent - Brussels 1  
Telegraphic address: ASSHOCKEY  
Telephone: 02/12.68.01

#### JUDO

- \* *The Managing Committee of the I.F. at Vidy.* This Committee met in Lausanne from the 14th to the 17th March. It is confirmed that the world championships will be held in Mexico between the 16th and the 25th October, 1969. The Youngest, undoubtedly, of the Presidents of I.F.s, and certainly the gayest and one of the most dynamic, enjoyed visiting the Olympic headquarters at Vidy with his colleagues. They seemed to regret that they could not spend more time in the Olympic library. We thank them for their visit.

#### SAILING

- \* *Definition of a team representing a country:*  
*"A representative national group competing in a closed international event requiring a selection. The selection is made specifically for the event in question."*

This is how the French Technical Yachting Committee defines the French Team.

- \* *Mr. Robert J. BOND, first national sailing coach in Great Britain.* From June, his work will consist in co-ordinating the efforts of coaching organizations, promoting a standardized training scheme and organizing courses and lectures in co-operation with the clubs recognized by the Royal Yachting Association.

### SHOOTING

- \* *An underground range for the 1972 Olympic Games.* The Executive Board of the International Shooting Union considers that this solution would allow all competitors to enjoy identical conditions; constant temperature, equal light, absence of wind.
- \* *No doubt about the popularity of competitive shooting in Switzerland.* In 1968 the clubs organized no fewer than 723 matches.

### SKIING

- \* *From 154 to 165 metres: A SERIES OF WORLD RECORDS.* In less than 50 hours, the world ski-jumping record was raised to 156 then 160 m, by the Norwegian Bjoem WIRCOLA, to 164 m. by the Czech Jiri RASKA, the 1968 Olympic champion and finally to 165 m. by the young East German Manfred WOLF, aged 20. These records were all broken during the international Ski-Jumping Competition at Planica. Is some of the glory to be attributed to the new platform, the highest in the world ?

### SWIMMING

- \* *Mr. Jaime OSTOS, President of F.I.N.A.,* has confirmed that the first world championships will be taking place at the beginning of September 1971. He recently visited the towns that have sent in their application to be considered as candidates: Geneva, Rome, Florence, Barcelona, Madrid and San Juan de Porto Rico. The decision will be made in October 1969 by the Congress of the Federation.
- \* *Can a 25 m. crawl be harmful to a child's organism ?* Officials at a club in Liege (Belgium) are reported to be proposing to their national federation the introduction of new races for children between the ages of 8 and 10. An

argument seems to have arisen between those who uphold the idea that swimming, a natural sport, can be practised at a very early age, and those who retort that one should avoid "baby championitis". What is the opinion of doctors, sports educationalists and coaches ?

\* *1st world record in 1969: the Russian Nicolaf PANKIN swam the 200 m. breast-stroke in 2'26"5.*

We would like to thank the heads of Federations who have been kind enough to send us information describing their activities. This section of our Newsletter is theirs. Its sole purpose is to make a modest contribution to publicizing the problems and progress of each of the different types of sport and in this way to encourage their development.

J.L.M.