

## Winnipeg Charter

The Pan American Sports Organisation (PASO) was created in 1955 following the unquestionable need for co-operation and understanding among the National Olympic Committees of the Americas, as well as for the solution of pressing problems concerning the improvement of sports in this continent.

The PASO inspired by the Olympic Ideals, respects and demands respect for the basic principles of the Olympic Charter, reaffirming the necessity for the implementation of educational, philosophical and social aims in the best Olympic spirit.

The International Olympic Committee and the International Sports Federations recognized by it have extended their tacit recognition to the PASO, proving their lofty and legitimate interest in its harmonious development by entitling it to coordinate sports activities on the American Continent.

The National Olympic Committees of the Americas, fully aware of the necessity of such support, feel honoured at its so generous grant. As a result, the authority of the PASO has been enhanced. Proof of this is to be found in the resolutions adopted by the Congress of Sao Paulo (known as the "Sao Paulo Charter") and the Tokyo Declaration, fully approved by the Congress of Winnipeg.

The PASO is resolute to strictly observe Rule 24 of the IOC Regulations dealing with National Olympic Committees, its foremost issue being to achieve the educational aims pursued by sports activities. It endeavours to contribute to the improvement of American sports youth from a social point of view, to its moral formation in an atmosphere of universal fraternity based on trust, understanding, respect and close co-operation, for a world founded on wisdom and affection.

Other primary objectives are: to respect and demand its members to respect the IOC's authority; to implement principles of ethics in sport; to encourage mutual understanding among the National Olympic Committees of the Americas, as well as among these and the International

Sports Federations and other international sports bodies recognized by the IOC. Only in this way can it become an effective instrument for the promotion of fraternity, unity, physical, social and moral improvement of the peoples of the Americas.

In accordance with the above mentioned aims and in acknowledgment of the Sao Paulo Charter and of the Tokyo Declaration, the Congress of Winnipeg states:

1) The National Olympic Committees of the Americas recognize only the mandates of the IOC;

2) The IOC, as the prime promoter of the Olympic Ideal and Movement, is the only sports authority in the world empowered to accept, reject or inspect the National Olympic Committees;

3) The American National Olympic Committees regard the existing of future sports organisation on this continent, connected with the implementation of the Olympic Ideals and the development of the Olympic Movement, as their representatives, not as governmental bodies with a power detrimental to the legitimate authority of the National Olympic Committees. Thus, the PASO, as an institution representing the Western Hemisphere, functions as an auxiliary of the IOC, subordinated to Olympic standards and principles;

4) In connection with the safeguard of the Olympic Ideals and Movement, the National Olympic Committees act within their respective territories as dependent bodies of the IOC;

5) Regarding the Pan American Games and their sports-technical aspect, only the National Federations recognized by each National Olympic Committee will be entitled to membership in their respective International and Pan American Sports Federations;

6) The PASO will support and demand respect to the authority of the International Sports Federations with regard to the organisation and realisation of the Pan American Games' programme, as well as in any case at issue or controversy on a national level of a technical nature. The PASO requires that the International Federations reciprocate this attitude by supporting the authority of the American National Olympic Committees;

7) The authorization of the National Olympic Committees involved will be an indispensable requirement for the realization of any sports exchange in the American countries;

a) The National Olympic Committees will determine maximum periods for the settlement and approval of sports matches, and will impose sanctions on organizations or athletes under their jurisdiction who disregard their authority or travel on sports tours without their express permission;

b) If, for local disciplinary reasons, a National Olympic Committee prohibits a tour, the National Olympic Committees of the Americas will have to respect its decision;

8) The Executive Board of the PASO represents the Pan American Sports Organisation throughout the world;

9) The PASO bases its policy of international relations on the mutual support and respect to all the superior international bodies, and to each and every one of its affiliated members; on the union of all the National Olympic Committees of the Americas; on the "American" ideal; and on the establishment of an only front ready at any time to rise in defense of the interests of American sport.

The Winnipeg Charter goes into effect as of this date, following its adoption by the Executive Board of the PASO under the authority unanimously granted it, on July 22nd 1967, at the Congress of Delegates of the National Olympic Committees of America, held in Winnipeg during the Vth Pan American Games.

Mexico, D.F., October 22nd, 1968