

# THE NEW RULE 26

*In Edition No. 42 of the Olympic Review, we informed you that one of the most important points on the Agenda of the Executive Board, which met in Lausanne on 13th and 14th March, was the drafting of the new Rule 26. This text, unanimously approved by the Executive Board, was put to the Members of the International Olympic Committee by means of a mail vote. On April 5th, it was released from the Secretariat of the International Olympic Committee that the new Rule 26 had been approved by an absolute majority, without any negative votes and it came immediately into force. We are therefore publishing it on the following pages.*

- I. To be eligible for participation in the Olympic Games, a competitor must observe the traditional Olympic Spirit and ethic and have always participated in sport as an avocation without having received any remuneration for his participation.

His livelihood must not be derived from or be dependent upon income from sport and he must be engaged in a basic occupation to provide for his present and future.

He must not be, or have been, a professional, semi-professional or so-called "non-amateur" in any sport. He must not have coached, taught or trained sports competitors for personal gain. Physical education teachers who instruct beginners are eligible.

II. A competitor must observe and abide by the Rules of the International Federation that controls the sport in which he participates, even if these Rules should be stricter than those imposed by the International Olympic Committee.

He must comply with his Federation's directives and those issued by the International Olympic Committee.\*

III. A competitor is permitted to accept:

1. Assistance via his National Olympic Committee or National Sports Federation during the recognised periods for training and participation in competitions including the Olympic Games. Such assistance shall include only: lodging in training, food, transport, sports equipment and installations, coaching, medical care, as well as pocket money to cover incidental expenses within the limits agreed by his respective International Sports Federation or by his National Olympic Committee.

The recognised period for full time training, where agreed by the International Federations or National Olympic Committees, must not normally exceed an aggregate of 30 days and in no case exceed 60 in one calendar year.

2. Insurance coverage in respect of accidents or illness in connection with training or competition.
3. Scholarships granted in accordance with academic and technical standards, dependent upon the fulfillment of scholastic obligations and not on athletic prowess.
4. Prizes won in competition within the limits of the Rules established by the respective International Federations and approved by the I.O.C.
5. The I.O.C. is opposed to payment for broken time, except that compensation in deserving cases may be authorised by National Olympic Committees or International Federations to cover only the loss of salary or wages resulting from the competitor's absence from work on account of participation in the Olympic Games and important international sports meetings approved by the International Federations. Under no circumstances may payment made under this provision exceed the sum which the competitor would have earned in his occupation over the same period.

IV. It is intended to eliminate those who are interested in sport for financial reasons and to confine the Olympic Games to those eligible according to this rule and a Committee will be established to consult and co-operate with International Federations and National Olympic Committees in its enforcement.

V. Eligibility Code - As regards pages 44-48 of the English version of the I.O.C. Rules 1971, the following is suggested:

All to be deleted except:

Women's participation - will be amended following the advice of the Medical Commission of the I.O.C. and included in Rule 27 on participation of women.

Doping - to be included following advice of Medical Commission in main rules.

Penalties in case of fraud - to remain unaltered.

Non-amateurs and semi-professionals - as at present for pseudo-amateurs.

\* NOTE: *The International Olympic Committee's directives are:*

a/ *He must not have directly or indirectly allowed his name, his photograph or his sports performance to be used individually for advertising purposes.*

b/ *He may not write or sign any publication or allow any to be signed on his behalf, nor may he appear on radio or television during the Olympic Games in which he is participating without the permission of his chef de mission.*

c/ *Advertising resulting from any equipment contracts by National Federations shall be strictly controlled by the International Federations, and copies of such contracts shall be lodged with and approved by the International Olympic Committee.*

