

Innsbruck 1976

On November 15th 1972, following a referendum, Denver (USA) gave up the organisation of the XIIth Winter Olympic Games, which were to have taken place there in 1976. (See Olympic Review Nos. 62/63.)

On February 5th 1973, after a short competition between the five candidate cities, the IOC attributed the Winter Games to the Austrian city of Innsbruck and to the Austrian NOC.

According to the rules of the IOC, the "Oesterreichisches Olympisches Komitee" delegated its powers to an Organising Committee, presided by Dr. Fred Sinowatz.

We thought it would be interesting to introduce our readers at great length to the people who will have the arduous task of organising an event as important as the Winter Olympic Games at Innsbruck, in the short space of time of three years.

Here then are the principle members of the Organising Committee:



President

Dr. Fred Sinowatz. Minister of National Education and Fine Arts since 1971, he is by nature of his position, responsible for the sporting activities of Austria.

Elected President of the Organising Committee for the XIIth Winter Games at Innsbruck 1976, he has set himself the task of coordinating the work of the Games, and putting the powers at his disposal into effect to ensure the success of the Games. His work will be eased by the fact that he himself is an active sportsman.

There is no doubt that he will work perceptively and enthusiastically in order to achieve his aims.



Vice-President

Dr. Alois Luggner. Born on July 11th 1912 in Brixen, South Tyrol, this alert and dynamic man is already well known to those who are interested in Olympism; he was Vice-President of the Organising Committee of the IXth Winter Games at Innsbruck in 1964. Possessing a doctorate in law and political science, he embarked on an active political career in 1945. He was member of the government of the state of Tyrol from 1947 to 1949, and as well as being Member of the National Parliament, he has been President of the Tyrol Parliament since 1965. He was elected Mayor of the city of Innsbruck in 1956. Under his leadership, this city has developed into a modern metropolis which is constantly expanding.

As is well known, the IXth Winter Games held in Innsbruck in 1964, were an example of perfect organisation due to Dr. Lugger.

His experience in the field of local government has made Dr. Lugger one of the most well-known and respected figures in the movement of European “communes”. From 1968 to 1970, he was President of the European Communes Conference, and at present he is Vice-President of the European Cities Council. He is honorary member of the Austrian NOC and possesses important Austrian, German, French and English decorations.

As Innsbruck has again been selected to be host city of the XIIth Winter Olympic Games, Dr. Lugger can pride himself in being the only Mayor in the world to have brought the Olympic Games twice to his city.

When the Organising Committee was formed, Dr. Lugger was naturally chosen as Vice-President.

Let us wish him as great a success in 1976 as at the Games of 1964.



Secretary General

Dr. Karl Heinz Klee. Born in Innsbruck on June 9th 1930 and was educated there. Graduating from the University of Innsbruck in 1953 as doctor of law and an English interpreter, he passed from the position of practising skier to that of ski-ing administrator. Sporting administrator of the Austrian Ski Association since 1955, he has occupied numerous important positions as sports administrator, both on a regional scale (Tyrol) and nationally or internationally. For the IXth Winter Games at Innsbruck in 1964, he was a member of the Organising Committee, as the Olympic attaché with the Norwegian National Olympic Committee. In 1968, it was as head of the Austrian Alpine Ski-ing Team that he attended the Xth Winter Games at Grenoble. That same year he became Vice-President of the Austrian NOC.

He was again administrator at the World Ski Championships at gröden and Visocky Tatri in 1970 and at the XIth Winter Games in 1972 at Sapporo.

Immediately after Sapporo, he resigned as President of the Austrian Ski-ing Association and of the Austrian Ski Pool, both of which positions he had occupied respectively since 1966 and 1971. At the same time, he took leave of absence from his activities as Vice-President of the Austrian NOC. In November 1972, the Austrian Federal Republic awarded him the gold medal of merit.

In March 1973, he accepted the post of Secretary General of the Organising Committee of the XIth Winter Games at Innsbruck 1976.

His task in this important position will certainly be eased by his knowledge and experience gained in the many important organisations of which he is or has been a member.



Assistant Secretary General

Franz Wieser. 55 years old, this native of Innsbruck was an active footballer and skier before becoming a sports administrator. From 1947 to 1955, he was President of the Winter Sports Association in Innsbruck, and in 1950, was elected member of the administration committee of the Tyrolean Sports Council and the Federal Council of Austrian Sport.

From 1962 to 1964 he was a member of the administration committee of the Tyrolean Ski-ing Association, about which he published an historical work "50 years of the Tyrolean Ski-ing Association".

Having become an official at the World Alpine Ski-ing Championships in 1958 at Bad-Gastein, and the Kandahar races at St. Anton and Arlberg, he worked for the committee for the alpine competition races at the 1964 Winter Games at Innsbruck. But it was as a journalist that he attended the Xth Winter Games at Grenoble in 1968.

In addition, he has been administrator of many alpine ski-ing competitions, and head of the Organising Committee of the Ski-Jumping Competitions at Berg-Isel from 1949 to 1960.

He is thus amply qualified to assist Dr. Klee in his difficult task.

Chief press officer

Bertl Neumann, whose biographical account will be published in our next *Olympic Review*.