

Rumania and Olympism

*From Hellas has departed the myth of the ancient heros
and with good reason it has reached us from its own people...*

Georges Cosbuc - Rumanian poet - 1866-1918

RUMANIA

237,500 square kilometers,
20,800,000 inhabitants (on 1st January
1973).



RUMANIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (ROC)

Founded on 27th March 1914.

Recognised by the IOC on 19th May
1914.

President in office: General-Lieutenant
Marin Dragnea*.

Secretary General in office: Anghel
Vrabie*.

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* See biographical notes

Role of the ROC

As a priority, the Rumanian Olympic Committee undertakes to spread the Olympic movement and to propagate sport amongst the youth.

In addition to this, it takes upon itself, with the collaboration of the federations and other competent national organisations, the preparation, selection and participation of the best Rumanian athletes in the Olympic Games; it organises cultural and educational manifestations destined to impress upon everyone the spirit of loyalty, honesty and respect for the adversary and the public; it represents the Olympic movement of its country in its relations with the IOC, the NOCs, the COJOs and the various groups with Olympic interests.

The ROC is the promoter of Olympism among those who practise, sports administrators and public opinion, for the development and protection of Olympic ideas and amateur sport.

Creation

Although it was necessary to wait until 1914 for an NOC to appear officially in Rumania, this country's Olympic tradition goes back well before this date. Without dwelling too long on Antiquity, it seems to have been established that Greek cities on what is now Rumanian territory—Histria, Tomis (now Constantza), Callatis (Mangalia)—took part in the Games at Olympia; archeological excavations on this coast of the Black Sea certify that important athletic manifestations took place there.

Moreover, it is thought that the regional games known as "Pontics" were regularly organised there.

Closer to us, we should not forget Evaghelie Zappa¹ - 1800 - 1865 - as one of the most active promoters of the rebirth of the Olympic Games. His name is often left out, even by tracts devoted to Olympic history. Born in Greece, he lived in Rumania. He appeared in Olympic history more than thirty years before the memorable conference given at the Sorbonne by Pierre de Coubertin, and it is not only through words-inspired by the romanticism and the glory of ancient Greece that he made himself known, but also by facts because the trials of 1859 and 1870, called today "pre-Olympics", were the work of this man. He fought for the "restoration of the Olympic Games which must be celebrated every four years, according to the customs of our ancestors".

It is also fitting to mention the contribution made to the development of the Olympic movement in Rumania by a friend of Pierre de Coubertin, Prince George Bibesco*, the first member of the IOC for Rumania from 1899. Alas, his death in 1901 left his work unfinished.

Finally, let us note the initiative of Baron de Coubertin in founding the "Ligue d'Amitié franco-roumaine" to which belonged notable personalities of Rumanian cultural life, especially Georges A. Plagino*, who three years later was to be co-opted as a member of the IOC and until 1949 acted as a sports pioneer. As sport was experiencing a terrific acceleration and an increasing number of clubs were appearing, a Rumanian Olympic Committee was created on 27th March 1914 to ensure Rumanian participation in the Olympic Games. Very soon, the ROC



Prince G. Bibesco



Georges A. Plagino

took its place amongst those NOCs which were most interested in the Olympic ideal. It was only in 1924 that Rumania's participation in the Olympic Games was made possible.

In spite of tremendous efforts, the initial activities of the ROC constantly encountered the lack of material possibilities. After re-organisation in 1947, the ROC succeeded in strengthening itself and obtained brilliant results. Since that time, it has shown intense activity characterised by the dissemination of the Olympic ideals among the youth, through the preparation of Olympic candidates in response to world demand, through the large contributions to the development of Olympism and to the founding of a spirit of great co-operation between the IOC, the International Federations and the NOCs, through a substantial contribution to the definition of the Olympic concepts etc. Thanks to the expansion of physical education and sport, this country's sportsmen have earned for Rumania 71 Olympic medals in a large range of sports between 1952 and 1972.

¹ See article by Victor Banciulescu in *Olympic Review* 1963 no. 83.

IOC MEMBERS FOR RUMANIA

1. Prince George Bibesco * from 1899 until his death in 1901.
2. Georges A. Plagino * from 1908 until his death in 1949.
3. Alexandru Siperco * since 1955.



Mr. Alexandru Siperco (on the right) and Mr. General-Lieutenant Dragnea (on the left) during the Olympic Congress in Varna.

Successive Presidents of the ROC

After the foundation of the ROC, the function of President was held for a long time by George Valentin Bibesco, known as a flyer (he possessed an international pilot's licence with the number 20) and by Georges A. Plagino. Among the ROC's leaders, let us mention: Professor Gheorghe Murgoci, an expert geologist; Professor Alexandru Tzigara-Samurcas; the writer Constantin Bacalbasa; Prince Ion Callimachi; the dramatist Carol Davilla and many other personalities. The ROC was represented at the Olympic Congresses in Lausanne (1921), Prague (1925) and Berlin (1930) by Dino Cesianu, for a long time Secretary of the ROC¹.

1947-1951 Ion Gheorghe Maurer.

1951-1953 Mihail Macavei*.

1953-1959 Alexandru Siperco*.

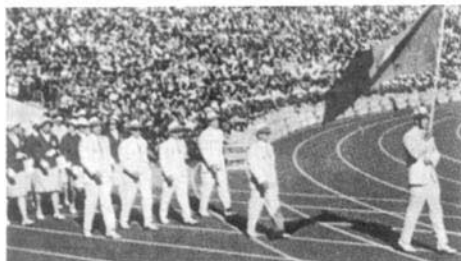
1959-1960 Manole Bodnaras.

1960-1966 Aurel Duma.

1966-1973 Anghel Alexe.

1973- General-Lieutenant Marin Dragnea*.

RUMANIA AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES



Tokyo 1964: the Rumanian delegation.

Date of first participation: 1924

It is a bobsleighter, in Chamonix, who will remain in history as the first Rumanian participant. He made the journey at his own expense, entered individually but was unable to compete. The same year in Paris, Rumania took part with 54 competitors in football, rugby, shooting and tennis. With the aim of collecting the funds necessary for this participation, a stamp was issued affixed to all the entrance tickets to the stadia. Because of little support for this measure, a public collection was made. In the "Tribuna Sportiva" of 2nd January 1924 could be read: "In spite of all its efforts the Rumanian Olympic Committee has obtained nothing from the government. Perhaps the next initiative will show better results."

¹ Messrs. O. Luchide, Paul Georgescu, Anghel Vrabie since 1963 assisted by Ion Paun succeeded to the general secretariat.



Rumanian représentation at the Olympic Games from 1924 to 1972 ¹

	Athletics	Rowing	Basketball	Boxing	Canoeing	Cycling	Equestrian Events	Fencing	Football	Gymnastics	Weightlifting
1924	0	0	●	0	●	0	0	0	22	0	0
1928	13(2)	10	●	0	●	0	0	13	0	0	0
1932	0	0	●	0	●	0	0	0	0	0	0
1936	5	0	0	4	0	0	8	9	0	8	0
1952	12(3)	9	0 ⁴	10	1	5	6	8	0 ⁴	16(8)	4
1956	5(2)	0	0	4	5	0	6	2(2)	0	7(7)	0
1960	9(4)	9	0	9	14(2)	6	8	17(6)	0	7(7)	2
1964	12(7)	7	0	9	15(3)	5	0	12(6)	20	13(7)	2
1968	11(8)	14		9	14(3)	¹	0	10(5)	0	0	0
1972	18(12)	10	0	11	15(3)	¹	0	20(5)	0	14(7)	2

¹ The figures in bracket represent the number of women included in the first figure.

² Demonstration sport.

● Not included on the programme.

³ Rumanian representatives in rugby (23) and tennis (3).

⁴ Rumanian teams took part in the preliminary rounds of basketball, football and water-polo without ever qualifying.



	Handball	Hockey	Judo	Wrestling	Swimming	Modern Pentathlon	Shooting	Archery	Volleyball	Yachting	Total
1924	●	●	●	0	0	0	6	●	●	5	54 ³
1928	●	0	●	0	0	0	●	●	●	0	26(2)
1932	●	0	●	0	0	0	0	●	●	0	0
1936	20 ²	0	●	11	0	0	6	●	●	0	71
1952	●	0	●	7	1 ⁴	0	4	●	●	0	83(11)
1956	●	0	●	4	11(1)	4	4	●	●	0	52(12)
1960	●	0	●	7	12	0	9	●	●	0	109(19)
1964	●	0	0	11	10	0	9	●	22(10)	0	147(33)
1968	●	0	●	13	2(1)	0	13	●	0	0	87(17)
1972	16	0	0	20	17(3)	3	10	0	12	0	169(30)

Rumanian representation at the Winter Games from 1924 to 1972¹



	Biathlon (skiing & shooting)	Bobsleigh	Ice Hockey	Luge	Figure Skating	Skiing	Total	
1924	Not included in the programme	2	0	Not included in the programme	0	0	2	
1928		10	0		0	7	17	
1932		6	0		0	0	6	
1936		12	0		5(2)	9	26(2)	
1948		0	0		0	16	16	
1952		0	0		0	17	17	
1956		9	0		0	12(6)	21(6)	
1964		5	6		16	0	3	30
1968		5	6		17	0	1(1)	32(1)
1972	5	6	0	0	1	2	14	

¹ The figures in brackets represent the number of women included in the first figure.

“In the fight now being directed against the forces which are trying to curb the progress of the Olympic Games, the life and work of Pierre de Coubertin stand out as an example. For it is certain that if the creator of the modern Olympiads lived today, he would have placed himself beside those who work for the adaptation of the Olympic movement to the conditions of present-day society for the elimination of all discrimination, so that the truly international Games can be put to the use of peace and good understanding between peoples.”

Alexandru Siperco
RUMANIAN OLYMPIC BULLETIN
1963 - No. 23

Rumanian Olympic champions

Besides the 18 Olympic titles gained between 1952 and 1972, we would mention the first Olympic medal won in 1924 by the rugby team who came third. This sport was re-introduced into the programme for the Games on the initiative of the Rumanian leaders addressed to the IOC in 1919. In 1936 the rider Henry Rang and his horse Delfis came second in the show jumping.

Although the weather conditions in Rumania are not the most favourable to the development of winter sports, all the same Rumanian sportsmen participated in ten of the eleven Winter Games, urged on by the desire to contribute to a better knowledge of and to strengthen friendship with youth of other countries. At the Winter Games, the Rumanian representatives have gained only one Olympic medal, thanks to Ion Panturu and Nicolae Neagoe, third in two-man bob in Grenoble in 1968.



1952 - Iosif Sirbu



1968 - Lia Manoliu



1936 - Henri Rang



1960 and 1964 - Iolanda Balas

Titles obtained at the Olympic Games



Name	Christian Name	Sport	Event
Sîrbu	Iosif	Shooting	Full & small-bore rifle (lying position)
Linca	Nicolae	Boxing	67 kg
<i>Rotman</i>	<i>Leon</i>	Canoeing	C 1 1000 m
Rotman	Leon	Canoeing	C 1 10 000 m
Alexe	Dumitru	Canoeing	C 2 1000 m
Ismailciuc	Simion	Canoeing	C 2 1000 m
Petrescu	Stefan	Shooting	Speed silhouette target
Pîrvulescu	Dumitru	Greco-Roman Wrestling	52 kg
Dumitrescu	Ion	Shooting	Clay pidgeon
<i>Balas</i>	<i>Iolanda</i>	Athletics	Women's high jump

*The names in italics indicate that the champion in question will be mentioned later on.



1956 - Dimitru Alexe and Simion Ismailciuc

Year	Birth	Death	Notes
1952	21. 9.25	26.9.64	First Rumanian Olympic champion
1956	2. 1.29		1956 - Leon Rotman
1956	22. 7.34		3rd in 1960 in C 1
1956	22. 7.34		
1956	21. 3.35	17.5.71	
1956	13. 7.30		
1956	1. 7.31		1960 - Ion Dimitrescu
1960	14. 6.33		Participant in 4 O.G. (1952-1964); 3rd in 1964.
1960	18. 7.25		Participant in 4 O.G. (1960-1972).
1960	12.12.36		Holds the Rumanian record which she has improved 37 times since 1961.
			1956 - Nicolae Linca



* We would like to thank in advance all readers able to help us complete the above table and give us news of all the champions.



1968 - *Ivan Patzaichin (and 1972)
and Serghei Covaliov*

Name	Christian Name	Sport	Event
Balas	Iolanda	Athletics	Women's high jump
Penes	Mihaela	Athletics	Women's javelin
Manoliu	Lia	Athletics	Women's discus
Viscopoleanu	Viorica	Athletics	Women's long jump
<i>Patzaichin</i>	<i>Ivan</i>	Canoeing	C 2 1000 m
Covaliov	Serghei	Canoeing	C 2 1000 m
Drîmba	Ion	Fencing	Foils
Patzaichin	Ivan	Canoeing	C 1 1000 m
Berceanu	Gheorghe	Greco-Roman Wrestling	48 kg
Martinescu	Nicolae	Greco-Roman Wrestling	100 kg



1968 - Michaela Penes



1972 - Gheorghe Berceanu

Year	Birth	Death	Notes
1964	12.12.36		World record holder from 1956-1971. Married her coach Ioan Söter, himself 6th in the 1952 O.G.
1964	22. 7.47		Olympic champion at 17, and came 2nd in 1968.
1968	25. 4.32		Participant in 6 O.G. (1952-1972). 3rd in 1960 and 1964.
1968	8. 8.39		1968 - Viorica Viscopoleanu
1968	26.11.49		
1968	14.10.44		2nd in C 2 in 1972.
1968	18. 3.42		
1972	26.11.49		
1972	28.12.49		1972 - Nicolae Martinescu
1972	24. 2.40		3rd in 1968 (97 kg).



● ORGANISATION OF GAMES

Up until the present, no Rumanian city has had the honour of organising the Olympic Games. However, the Capital of the country, Bucarest, and other Rumanian cities have hosted World and European Championships, World University Games and world festivals for youth and students.

We should also not forget the frequent organisation in Rumania of the Balkan Games, created in 1929 on the Rumanian instigation. These meetings between Balkan sportsmen take place every year and separately for each sports event.

PRESENT ORGANISATION OF THE ROC

● Composition

The ROC is made up of 35 to 75 members, elected from amongst outstanding personalities in Rumanian sport, including the IOC member for Rumania (ex officio), the representatives of national sports federations affiliated to the IFs recognised by the IOC (they make up the voting majority), those of national sports organisations interested in amateur sport, those of the main sports clubs, the personalities of Rumanian scientific and cultural life, and former elite sports representatives.

● **The General Assembly** constitutes the supreme management body and brings together all the ROC members. It is convened in ordinary session at least once a year and in special session when considered necessary.

● The Board

Between the General Assemblies, the Board of 5 to 11 members manages the work of the ROC. It consists of the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary General and his assistant, as well as those members elected by the General Assembly for four years. It meets at least four times a year. It

can set up commissions responsible for studying and proposing solutions to various ROC problems.

● Members of the present Board

PT: General-Lieutenant Marin Dragnea,*
VPTs: Mr. Alexandru SiPerco,* IOC member, Mrs. Lia Manoliu*, Mr. Ion Tulpan*, Mr. Emil Ghibu*, Mr. Miron Olteanu*
SG: Mr. Anghel Vrabie *,
Assistant SG: Mr. Ion Paun*.



Mrs. Lia Manoliu



Mr. Ion Tulpan



Mr. Emil Ghibu



Mr. Miron Olteanu

● Financing of the ROC

The funds necessary to the work of the ROC come from yearly subscriptions, charges levied on sports events and donations.

- **Federations affiliated to the ROC**

Olympics Sports...

	Year of Creation	Members in	
		1967	1973
Athletics	1924	16 219	46 591
Rowing and yachting	1919	1 698	2 642
Basketball	1930	11 345	24 396
Boxing	1930	2726	8 610
Cycling	1912	550	1 515
Equestrian and modern pentathlon	1931	212	502
Fencing	1920	1 253	3 490
Football	1930	58726	134 985
Gymnastics	1906	7 803	13 083
Weightlifting	1930	859	2697
Handball	1936	22 392	60 260
Ice hockey	1924	1 054	2 811
Judo	1968	—	4 826
Canoeing	1950	1 095	4 226
Wrestling	1930	3 284	11 090
Swimming	1930	3 740	9 633
Skating	1922	525	1 834
Skiing, bob- sleigh, biathlon and luge	1924	2 218	7 607
Shooting and archery	1906	1 322	2 964
Volleyball	1930	18 254	35 337

... and 12 other federations:

Aeronautics, chess, model craft, motor-cycling, oina (national sport similar to baseball), skittles, ham radio, rugby, tennis, table tennis, tourism, mountain climbing and sports medicine.

THE ROC AND OLYMPISM

- **Olympic Awards obtained**



Iolanda Balas

Mohammed Taher Trophy - attributed in 1963 to the athlete Iolanda Balas, world record holder and double Olympic high jump champion, for her amazing career in sport and as a teacher of physical education.

- **Olympic Day**

Every year since 1972, the ROC has organised an Olympic week, with the help of the national sports federations and organisations (see Olympic Review, no. 72-73, page 548).

- **Protection of the Olympic emblems**

This is provided for in the ROC regulations in the following terms: "The Rumanian Olympic Committee alone is authorised to use the Olympic flag and emblem, as well as the words "Olympic" and "Olympiad" in its work dealing with the Olympic Games and the Olympic movement in general. It makes sure that they are not used for commercial purposes." Since 1967, the Olympic flag and emblem have been protected by the law no. 28/1967 on trade marks, art. 17, letters d) and e), which stipulates the protection, amongst others, of flags, emblems and badges.



The Rumanian delegation at the IOA in 1970 (from right to left): Victor Banciulescu, Elena Sima, S. Noran, H. Ionescu and N. Postolache.

● International Olympic Academy

Since 1966, the ROC has been sending regularly between three and five participants to the yearly sessions of the International Olympic Academy. In general, the delegations are made up of students, physical education teachers, journalists and Olympic champions. Since 1968, Alexandru Siperco*, IOC member for Rumania and member of the IOC Commission for the International Olympic Academy, has been giving lectures there. The Olympic champions, Iolanda Balas-Söter (1969) and Lia Manoliu* (1973), and the sports journalist Victor Banciulescu (1970) have also given lectures at the IOA.

● Publications of the ROC

The ROC has distributed quarterly a bilingual bulletin in French and English since 1956. The recent January 1974 edition carries the no.63. We would point out that the first sports publication to appear in Rumania was the bulletin of the shooting society, published around 1869 in Bucarest, and that the first sports newspaper (SPORTUL) appeared in 1880; today's daily sports paper bears the same name.



Prize-winning photograph of Ion Mihaica at a competition organised in Grenoble in 1968 on the occasion of the Olympic Games.

RUMANIAN OLYMPIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

Constantin Kiritescu:

- *Olympia antica si olimpismul modern* (ancient Olympia and modern Olympism), Bucarest 1936, (theoretical comparison of the ancient and modern Games)
- *Palestrica*, Bucarest 1943, new edition in 1964, (history of physical education through the ages in all countries)

Radu Urziceanu and Tudor Vornicu:

- *Cu sportivii romani la Melbourne* (with the Rumanian sportsmen in Melbourne), Bucarest 1958, (report on the 1956 Olympic Games)
- *jocurile Olimpice de la Roma* (the Rome Olympic Games), Bucarest 1961, (report on the 1960 Olympic Games)

Victor Banciulescu:

- *Jocurile Olimpice de-a lungul veacurilor* (the Olympic Games through the centuries), Bucarest 1964, (first Rumanian history of the ancient and modern Games, with the prize list of all the Olympic champions from 1896 to 1960)
- *Sport si legenda* (sport and legend), Bucarest 1968, new edition in 1973, (sport as told through the great world epic poetry)
- *Mexico 68, breviar olimpic*, Bucarest 1968, (small Olympic encyclopaedia and the Olympic code presented for the first time in Rumanian)
- *Olimpiadele alba* (the white Olympics), Bucarest 1973, (history of the Winter Games, for the first time in Rumanian)

Ilie Goga and Romeo Vilara:

- *Tokio, olimpiada recordurilor* (Tokyo, the record-breaking Olympiad), Bucarest 1965, (report on the 1964 Olympic Games)

B. Elias, with illustrations by Matty:

- *Miniaturi JO*, Bucarest 1968, (anecdotal history of the ancient and modern Olympic Games)

Ilie Goga and Emanuel Valeriu:

- *Olimpiada mexicana*, Bucarest 1969, (report on the 1968 Olympic Games)

Ilie Goga:

- *Olimpiadele, Atena 1896 - Munchen 1972*, Bucarest 1972, (collection of Olympic reports)

Ilie Goga and Victor Banciulescu:

- *Jocurile Olimpice, Munchen 1972*, Bucarest 1973, (report on the 1972 Olympic Games)

Constantin Tudose

- *Dictionar sportiv poliglot*, Bucarest 1973, (sports terminology in Rumanian, French, English, Russian, German, Spanish and Italian) (see Olympic Review no.74, page 86)
- *Terminologia educatiei fizice si sportului*, Bucarest 1973, (work in six languages-Rumanian, French, Spanish, German, English and Russian, prepared by the Rumanian Commission of Terminology)

THE RUMANIANS AND THE IFs

Rumanian sports representatives are increasingly taking on important roles in international sports administration. 73 Rumanians are elected to the management bodies and technical commissions of 39 International Federations and international sports organisations.

SPORT IN RUMANIA

Other leading sports organisations

1. The National Council for Physical Education and Sport of the Rumanian Socialist Republic (CNEPS)

"Physical education and sport in the Rumanian Socialist Republic constitute activities of national interest" (Law no.29 on the development of physical and sports education, passed by the National Assembly of the Rumanian Socialist Republic on 28th December 1967).

Physical education and sport contribute to the preservation and improvement of health, the increase of physical and intellectual capability, the good use of spare-time, as well as to the harmonious development, both physically and morally, of the population. The State gives its support to the development of physical education and sport in order to achieve these ends. As a central specialist organisation with wide representation, the National Council for Physical Education and Sport (CNEPS) is responsible for the coordination and unified management of these activities. In businesses and institutions, the job of initiating sports activity for the masses falls on the *unions*, who are responsible in collaboration with the National Council, for the development of high performance sport in businesses and institutions.

In schools, colleges of higher education and in the country, sports activity for the masses is organised by the *Union of Communist Youth*, with the support of the CNEPS.

The National Council for the Organisation of Pioneers organises the mass sports activity of pupils up to 14 years of age in primary schools.

The Ministry for Education organises physical education at all levels, according to the teaching programme, and

supports mass sports activity by school and university youth, in collaboration with the CNEPS. This Ministry is responsible for the development of high performance sport in schools and colleges of higher education.

The Ministry for National Defence and the *Ministry of the Interior* are responsible for the mass sports activity of servicemen; in collaboration with the CNEPS, they ensure the development of high performance sport in clubs and sports associations under their authority.

The Ministry of Health, the National Union of Agricultural Producers' Cooperatives, the Central Union of Handicraft Cooperatives, the Committee for Local Administration Problems, the centres of local Government, the Ministry for Tourism, as well as other State organisms and organisations of public interest, also take part in the realisation of the objectives for the development of physical education and sport.

The basic tasks of those organisms and organisations governing the field of physical education and sport consist of attracting the large number of workers and above all young people to practise systematically physical exercises and sport, to develop continually mass sports, to cultivate talent and improve sports performances.

In order to analyse the whole of physical and sports education and to decide on the necessary measures for consistent progress, national meetings on the sports movement are organised.

The national conferences are set up by specialist leaders, sportsmen, members of the National Council and local Councils for physical education and sport, delegates from federations, clubs and sports associations, representatives of organisms and organisations responsible for physical education and sport.

The CNEPS is made up of members elected by the National Conference for the sports movement and of members representing State agencies and central organisations of public interest, being competent in the field of physical education and sport, nominated by their controlling organisations. It meets from time to time to debate on the way in which the tasks established by the national conference for the general expansion of physical education and sport are performed. It elects from amongst its members the Executive Board of the Council, the President, first Vice-President, Vice-Presidents, secretaries and members.

The local councils for physical education and sport work from within the territorial administrative centres. These councils act under the management of the CNEPS. They are specialist organisations of public interest which fulfil at a departmental level the functions of the National Council.

2. The 31 Rumanian Sports Federations are the national organisms with a social and voluntary format, affiliated to the respective International Federations. The Federations are organised and work on the basis of suitable regulations.

3. The 105 clubs and 9,682 sports associations are the voluntary organisations where the activity for the masses in the field of physical education and sport is displayed; some high performance sections are also able to operate in the sports associations. The sports clubs are the voluntary organisations comprising above all performance activities.

Sports associations and clubs are organised in businesses, institutions, teaching centres, military establishments, cooperatives, parishes and towns, and are managed by councils elected in

assemblies made up of members of these organisations.

They function on the basis of regulations, plans and appropriate budgets.

THE FORMATION OF SPORTS LEADERS

The leaders necessary for the activity of physical and sports education are trained mainly by the State:

- The Institute of Physical Education and Sport—length of study: four years—trains physical education teachers and sports coaches;
- The Physical Education Faculties (11)—length of study: three years—train physical education teachers;
- The higher school of specialisation for coaches—length of study: two years—trains coaches.

In Rumania at the present time there are 8,563 physical education teachers and 7,073 coaches.

In all the secondary schools and the great majority of other educational institutions, physical education classes are taken by qualified personnel.

30,255 voluntary instructors work in the clubs and sports associations.

24,260 Rumanian referees are qualified for all branches of sport. Since 1962 a National Centre for Sports Medicine has been in existence and since 1967 a Centre for Scientific Research and Technical Data has been operating in the field of physical education and sport.

SPORT AT SCHOOL

School forms the main factor in the process of formation and preparation of a healthy youth. The managers of

schools and colleges of higher education, the didactic leaders fight for school to fulfil the role fallen to it in the system of physical education and sport, attaching great priority to the promotion of gymnastics, athletics, hiking and swimming. The physical education programmes are drawn up in such a manner as to ensure an adequate content for preparation by pupils and students; most of the activities take place out of doors. The education plan for pre-scholastic groups comprises daily games and physical exercises suited to the age of the children.

The standards of physical education by age classification are set for pupils and students. On the basis of programmes solely for mass sports activities, championships and inter-class competitions, inter-schools, inter-study years, inter-faculties, cross-country, walks, tours, as well as many other forms of sports activity with a great following are organised regularly out of class and at the end of the week, in school and student camps.

Steps have been taken by the Ministry for Education so that after the school year 1973-1974 school sports groups can prepare, at the level of elite sport, especially gifted elements for various sports disciplines.

The school physical education programme is as follows:

Classes I-IV (3 hours per week); Classes V-XII (2 hours and 1 hour of sports activities outside the classroom); special classes (1 hour per day); training colleges (2 hours per week).

At university, the 1st and 2nd year students have 2 compulsory hours of physical education per week, but their participation in sports activities organised for their benefit is optional.

In Rumania, we count:

108 sports schools (with activity outside school courses).



The Dynamo stadium in Bucarest.

27 secondary schools with classes of physical education.

126 primary schools with physical education classes.

SPORTS INSTALLATIONS IN RUMANIA

According to the most recent statistics, we enumerate:

- 46 Sports palaces
- 4,210 Stadia
- Swimming pools:
 - 225 open air
 - 25 indoor
- 67 Sailing centres
- 1,331 Gymnasia
- 848 Athletics grounds
- 1,062 Tennis courts
- 78 Ski runs
- 11 Skating rinks
- 46 Shooting ranges
- 11,237 Volleyball, handball or basketball pitches

- **SPORTS WHICH DRAW THE BIGGEST CROWDS**

Football, boxing, handball, volleyball, basketball, ice hockey, rugby, tennis, cycling, skiing.

- **SPORTS EXPERIENCING THE GREATEST DEVELOPMENTS**

Athletics, football, handball, wrestling, volleyball, tennis, canoeing, gymnastics.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Prince George BIBESCO

IOC member for Rumania from 1899 till his death in 1901. A writer, the French Institute admitted him to its ranks. A philanthropist, it was above all the civilising aspect of sport which captivated and attracted him to the rebirth of Olympism. Absent from Paris in 1894, it was only in 1899 that as one of Coubertin's friends he became an IOC member. A premature death prevented him from carrying out to the full the work which he held so dear.

Emil GHIBU

Vice-President of the Rumanian Olympic Committee since 1959. Born on 15th January 1922; Doctor of Teaching Sciences. For many years he was Vice-President of the Committee for Physical Culture and Sport at the Council of Ministers and the Union of Physical Culture and Sport. He is presently the Secretary of the National Council for Physical Education and Sport. He has practised skiing, boxing and athletics with success, and was "chef de mission" at the Olympic Games in Innsbruck, Tokyo and Munich. Author of many books on methodology and on the history of sport.

Mrs. Lia MANOLIU

Vice-President of the Rumanian Olympic Committee after an exceptional



M. Mihail Macavei

career as an Olympic participant in discus throwing: in 1952 she came 6th; in Melbourne she came 9th, and twice won a bronze medal, in 1960 and 1964. At last, in Mexico, an Olympic title rewarded her perseverance and talent. Meanwhile, she also brilliantly completed higher scientific studies (diploma of the Electrotechnical Faculty) at the same time as devoting attention to sports administration. She has been a member of the ROC since 1951.

General Lieutenant Marin DRAGNEA

President of the Rumanian Olympic Committee since 1973. Born on 30th May 1923. He has practised swimming and riding. Even in his youth he contributed an important part to the development of physical education and sport, which he continues to lead with foresight, as member of the Executive Board of the National Council for the United Socialist Front, first Vice-President of the National Council for Physical Education and Sport, and member of the National Council for Rumanian Radio and Television.

Mihail MACAVEI

President of the Rumanian NOC from 1951 to 1953. Former Rumanian ambassador in London, Doctor of Economic Sciences; President of the Institute for Cultural Relations Abroad.

Miron OLTEANU

Vice-President of the Rumanian Olympic Committee. Born on 2nd August 1923; Bachelor of Political and Econo-



M. Ion Paun

mic Sciences. President of the Rumanian Wrestling Federation for five years. He has been part of the management of the Rumanian sports movement since 1959. At the present time, he is Secretary of the National Council for Physical Education and Sport.

Ion PAUN

Assistant Secretary General of the Rumanian Olympic Committee since 1963. Born on 16th October 1922. In his youth he practised athletics, swimming and football. Graduate in international relations. Head of the department of international affairs in the National Council for Physical Education and Sport.

Georges A. PLAGINO

IOC member for Rumania from 1908 to 1949. Son-in-law to the Rumanian minister in France, his presence in Paris enabled him to give strong support to Pierre de Coubertin. He will remain one of the pioneers of sport in his country which he encouraged as President of the Union of Rumanian Sports Federations. He died in 1949.

Alexandru SIPERCO

IOC member for Rumania since 1955. Born on 5th November 1920; Bachelor of Arts, and diploma of the University of Social Sciences. At an early age, he became interested in athletics, weight-

sportsman as well as a talented organiser, he was elected Secretary of the Central Committee for the organisation



M. Anghel Vrabie

of popular sport in 1948, and the following year Vice-President of the Committee for Physical Culture and Sport, a position which he held until 1957. Member of the ROC, he became President from 1953 to 1959 and remained on the Executive Board as Vice-President. At an international level, having been Vice-President of the International Volleyball Federation, he was called to the IOC in 1955. Since then, he has not stopped working on various commissions, such as the International Olympic Academy, Eligibility, Publications. Writer and editor, he has written many novels, plays and film scripts, and a study on "sport and youth".

Ion TULPAN

Vice-President of the Rumanian Olympic Committee since 1959. Born on 14th March 1926; Bachelor of Economic Sciences. Assistant to the Minister of Finance for 20 years and at present first Vice-President of the National Bank of the Rumanian Socialist Republic. He has also presided over the Rumanian Basketball Federation since 1962.

Anghel VRABIE

Secretary General of the Rumanian Olympic Committee since 1963. Born on 26th December 1930 in Bucarest; graduate in physical education. National trainer for many years and Secretary General of the Rumanian Ski Federation. President of this Federation from 1962 to 1967. Member of the management of the Rumanian Olympic Committee delegation to five Olympic Games.