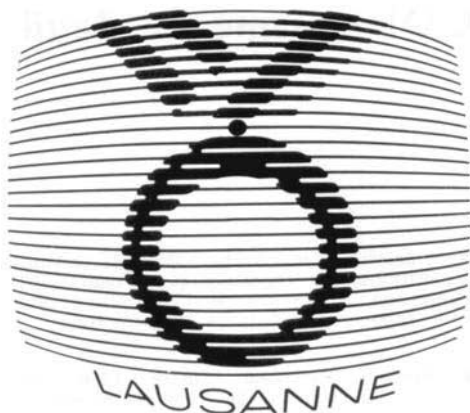


# The 1976 Golden Ring



Decided in its principle for some years, this pacific competition between television programmes on sport took place for the first time from 1st to 4th June 1976 in Lausanne. Organised by the city of Lausanne under the patronage of the *European Broadcasting Union* (EBU), the International Olympic Committee and the *Swiss Broadcasting Corporation* (SBC), “**The 1976 Golden Ring**” was entered by 21 programmes, whilst two others participated on the fringe of the contest.

For three days, almost 200 people, jury members or journalists, followed the projections in the studious atmosphere of the Palais de Beaulieu. On 4th June at 7 pm., the announcement of the results attracted a large number of interested spectators and it was in front of an attentive audience that Mr. Jean Pascal Delamuraz, Syndic of Lausanne and President of the Organising Committee, drew the conclusions of this first edition of “The Golden Ring” and expressed the wish that it would be followed by many others, at Lausanne of course! The future will tell.

Mr. Gaston Meyer (France), President of the press jury, then took the floor to declare the journalists’ verdict: honourable mention for the *Independent Television* (ITV, Great Britain) programme broadcasting the “*1976 Football League Cup Final*” at Wembley Stadium; prize of the press jury to the Belgian television programme “*Les bébés nageurs*” (Baby swimmers) for its originality and humanist character, showing how swimming can greatly help the acquisition of motivity and balanced psychicism.

Mr. Tomas Garcia (Spain), President of the international jury, next announced the decisions of the 23 jurors: mention to the *Independent Television* (ITV) programme, as from the press; “The Bronze Ring” to a Swedish television programme on “*The First Winter Games at Ornsköldsvik*”; “The Silver Ring” to the German network *Arbeitsgemeinschaft*

*der Öffentlich-Rechtlichen Rundfunk-Anstalten der Bundesrepublik Deutschland* (ARD) for its programme “*Icarus or the experience of gliding*”; on the new sport of hang gliding; finally, “The Golden Ring” to the *British Broadcasting Corporation* (BBC) for the very good programme “*The Runners*”, which tries to show by little touches the reasons why four British running champions, Brendan Foster, Ian Stewart, David Bedford and Ian Thompson, run and cause themselves pain.

The Syndic of Lausanne then called on Lord Killanin, President of the IOC, who had been keen to attend this ceremony and personally to award the 1976 IOC prize to Mr. Marcel Bezençon, former Director General of the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation, Honorary President of the European Broadcasting Union, promoter of Eurovision and above all spiritual father of “The Golden Ring”.

The prolonged applause which broke out at the announcement of this decision proved, as if it was necessary, that no one deserved this honour more than him.

The ceremony finished under the flashes of cameras and the hubbub of comments caused by the announcement of the results and in the hope, expressed everywhere, that this original competition would again be organised in 1977.

