



**Mr. Bert Isatitsch,  
President of the Fédération Internationale  
de Luge de Course**

"The sport of luge was born in the Alpine countries of Europe. This sport is certainly regarded as the oldest and has been practised in these regions by thousands upon thousands of amateurs in winter.

After the Second World War, luge was re-constructed by Austria. International relations were developed and races were organised, which placed the athletic accent at the centre of attention. As a result, a large International Federation could be created—the FIL. Today 24 countries belong to it with more than 50,000 amateurs.

Already in 1957 the IOC recognised the importance of this winter sport and granted Olympic qualification. Consequently, luge celebrated its successful début at the IXth Winter Games in 1964 in Innsbruck.

Luge athletes throughout the world are pleased that the XIIth Winter Games in 1976 will once again be held in Innsbruck. The Games will be held with new important aspects for retaining this winter sport in the Olympic programme. Athletes will again demonstrate their bonds to the Olympic idea as true amateurs.

I would like to take this opportunity of offering my cordial greetings of welcome to all athletes and officials participating in the XIIth Winter Games, the Olympic city of Innsbruck, and finally to the world-wide Olympic family. I hope that the 1976 Olympic luge competitions may serve as a landmark for the survival of the Winter Games."

B. I.  
13th November 1975

**Site of events:** Combined circuit at Igls

Dates	Men	Women
<i>One-seater:</i>	4th February - 19.00 h. 5th February - 9.00 h.	6th February - 9.00 h. 7th February - 9.00 h.
<i>Two-seater:</i>	10th February - 9.00 h.	