

# Hong Kong and Olympism

*"The passage of the Olympic torch is a most significant event in the century-old history of amateur sport in Hong Kong.*

*The Federation invites the people of Hong Kong to join with local sports organisations in celebrating the occasion.*

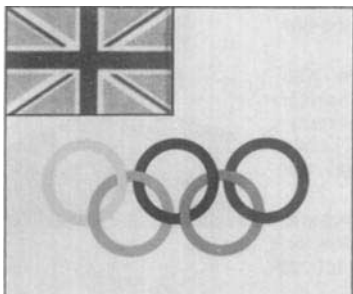
*And while the flame is burning let all those who are of Hong Kong keep vigil, as one in spirit with our sportsmen, in common testimony of our belief in the brotherhood of man."*

Arnaldo de O. Sales  
Hong Kong, 26th May 1964

## HONG KONG

400 square miles.

4,500,000 inhabitants.



## AMATEUR SPORTS FEDERATION AND OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF HONG KONG (HKOC)

Founded in 1950.

Recognised by the IOC in 1951.

*President in office:* Arnaldo de Oliveira Sales\*.

*Secretary General in office:* Omar Ramju Sadick\*.

*Address:* 908 Prince's Building, Hong Kong.

*Telephone:* 239607.

*Cable:* Olymfed Hong Kong.

\* See biographical notes.

## Role of the HKOC

The Hong Kong NOC is responsible for participation by the community's sportsmen in the Olympic Games. It seeks to co-ordinate the common interests of all the territory's sports organisations, and supports sports development activities.

In this thriving and fascinating community comprising four million inhabitants of various races, the Olympic Committee's role is enriched from an interesting point of view: it serves the excellent cause of uniting all strata of the population and encouraging better understanding through amateur sport in a more significant and important manner than anywhere else in the world.

## Origin and development

It was not until 1950 that the Amateur Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong were founded. However, the history of amateur sport in Hong Kong goes back to the start of British rule in 1841. Indeed, the first Hong Kong sports club, the Victoria Recreation Club, was founded in 1849, but it is believed that it existed previously. It introduced the practice of many sports until separate associations were subsequently formed.

The end of the 19th century saw the increase in favour of many sports and the creation of various organisations to pro-



mote their interests. The cities of this part of the world used to stage competitions between themselves, and some of these friendly matches still take place today between Hong Kong and cities of neighbouring countries. In 1934, Hong Kong took part in the British Empire Games in London.

The need to bring together all the sports authorities in order to benefit their common interests led to the formation of the Amateur Sports Feder-

ation soon after liberation. Since then, the federation has steadily grown, thanks particularly to the perseverance of Arnaldo de Oliveira Sales\* who, since the age of 30, firstly as Honorary Secretary General, instilled with Olympic culture, has not ceased to ensure the creation and development of the Olympic movement in this land and, as a city councillor, to build numerous sports structures and lay out many playing fields.

### Successive Presidents of the HKOC



*A. de O. Sales,  
President*



*O. R. Sadick,  
Secretary General*

1950-1953: Sir Arthur Morse.

1953-1967: Kwok Chan.

Since 1967: Arnaldo de O. Sales\*.

To date, no IOC member has been elected for Hong Kong.

### HONG KONG AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES

*1968 - Mexico.*



- **Date of first participation: 1952.**

Although since then a delegation from Hong Kong has attended all Olympiad celebrations, none has participated in the Winter Games as such sports are not practised in Hong Kong which is located in the sub-tropics.

# Representation of Hong Kong at the Olympic Games from 1952 to 1976<sup>1</sup>

	Athletics	Rowing	Basketball	Boxing	Canoeing	Cycling	Equestrian Events	Fencing	Football	Gymnastics	Weightlifting
1952											
1956											
1960											
1964	4(1)			2		4					
1968											
1972								2			
1976					7	6		5			

## PRESENT ORGANISATION OF THE HKOC

- *Composition*

The HKOC assembles delegates of all the national amateur sports associations.

- *The Council* is made up of a President, Vice-President, Secretary General, Treasurer and a representative of each member association, meeting every two months when plans are discussed and reports of activities are submitted by all representatives.

- *The General Assembly*, composed of all the NOC members, is convened every year. It controls the NOC's activities and holds elections every two years.





	Handball	Hockey	Judo	Wrestling	Swimming	Modern Pentathlon	Shooting	Archery	Volleyball	Yachting	Total
1952	●		●		4(2)			●	●		4(2)
1956	●		●		2			●	●		2
1960	●		●		1		3	●	●		4
1964	●	17			3(1)		5	●		4	39(2)
1968	●		●		3		3	●		5	11
1972			1		2		1			5	11
1976			2		5(3)		7				32(3)

<sup>1</sup> The figures in brackets represent the number of women included in the first figure.

x Sport included in the programme but in which no event was contested.

<sup>2</sup> Demonstration Sport.

● Not included on the programme.

## ● Members of the present Council

*PT:* Arnaldo de O. Sales\*; *VPT:* Ma Man Fai; *SG:* Omar R. Sadick\*; *Asst. S:* Lai Yu Wing; *T:* J.S. Lee; *Asst. T:* Y. Y. Fung.

## ● Financing of the HKOC

The Committee receives its funds from annual subscriptions, dividends on investments, private donations; the government contributes financially on a dollar-for-dollar basis to the expenses incurred by participation in the Olympic or Regional Games. Expenses are nominal as office and administration services are provided privately without charge.

## Federations affiliated to the HKOC

18 Olympic federations...

Athletics	Hockey
Basketball	Judo
Boxing	Volleyball
Fencing	Shooting
Gymnastics	Yachting
Swimming	Handball
Weightlifting	Archery
Cycling	Canoeing
Football	Equestrian

...and the following founder clubs and other sports associations: Victoria Recreation Club, South China Athletic Association, YMCA, badminton, lawn bowls, tennis, miniature football, softball, table tennis, karatedo, kendo, baseball, rugby football, school sports, martial arts, and physically disabled.

## THE HKOC AND OLYMPISM



1964 - The Olympic flame in Hong Kong.

- **Olympic Day**

Since 1958, all Hong Kong school-children have participated every year in the Festival of Sport which is organised by the NOC and lasts nearly a fortnight. Almost 70,000 of the 4½ million inhabitants attend the various competitions which assemble in all more than 6,000 competitors. Let us add that the HKOC leaders do not let any occasion slip by of spreading the Olympic idea. For instance, in 1964 the passage of the Olympic flame on its way to Tokyo gave rise to a moving welcome ceremony, following which the City Council decided to bestow the name of "Olympic Avenue" on the new road leading to the airport.

- **Protection of the Olympic emblems**

The Olympic emblems do not benefit from legal protection, although for the last 20 years the NOC has constantly appealed to the government.

- **Publications of the HKOC**

Whenever the need arises, the HKOC publishes brochures on specific subjects, but no publications appear on a regular basis as there is ample press, radio and television coverage of local and overseas sports, as well as many weekly and monthly magazines.

## SPORT IN HONG KONG

### ● Other sports governing bodies

All Hong Kong sports authorities belong to the NOC, with the exception of golf, cricket and motor sports (see table above).

### ● State aid for the sports movement

The government subsidises the NOC on overseas competitions and sports associations for various activities, thus enabling them to develop their international relations. There is a Sport and Recreation Service which covers all 17 districts and conducts classes, clinics and competitions on an increasingly wide-ranging basis.

### ● Sport at school

Physical exercise forms an integral part of all school timetables. There is also a Hong Kong Schools' Sports Council which organises many competitions and other activities.

### ● Sports installations

Over the last 20 years, these have increased to:

- 8 athletics grounds
- 4 sports halls
- 27 swimming pools
- 171 sports pitches
- 433 sports courts

### ● Sports which draw the biggest crowds

Football, table tennis, basketball, swimming.

### ● Sports experiencing the greatest development

Football, basketball.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

### Arnaldo de Oliveira Sales

President of the NOC.

Born in 1920 at Canton, from an early age he was attracted to practise sport—rather we should say many sports: athletics, cricket, hockey, football, fencing, rowing, badminton and lastly swimming, which he continues to practise.

Chairman of the Urban City Council of Hong Kong and a member of many civic and other organisations, he is one of Hong Kong's notable figures. Head of a successful commercial business, he has been devoted to both the administration of his city and of sport. Founder of the Hong Kong NOC, he has been its mainspring since 1950. At international level, his reputation was quickly recognised as Executive Board member, then Vice-President and Life Honorary Vice-President of the Asian Games Federation, Board member of the Fédération Internationale de Natation Amateur (swimming) of which he used to be a Vice-President, NOC delegate and spokesman at the Xth Olympic Congress in Varna, Honorary Vice-President of the Asian Games Federation. He is also connected with many clubs and associations, and has been especially active in cultural affairs through the City Hall, the Festival of Hong Kong, the Arts Festival, the Arts Centre and the Festival of Asian Arts.

### Omar Ramju Sadick

Secretary General of the NOC.

Born in 1914 in Hong Kong, practised sport at school, becoming champion shot in 1951 and lawn bowls rinks champion in 1956. He is Chairman of the Hong Kong Rifle Association, President of the Asian Shooting Confederation and Council member of the Union Internationale de Tir (shooting), Asian Games Federation and Commonwealth Games Federation.