

The IOC Press Commission in Moscow

The IOC Press Commission held a two-day meeting on 14th and 15th April in Moscow, the host city for the 1980 Olympic Games, which was chaired by its President, Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch (ESP), 1st Vice-President of the IOC. For the first time, radio and photographers were represented on the Commission by Mr. Eric Walter (SUI) and Mr. Albert Riethausen (GER) who had recently been invited to become members.

Mr. Vladislav Shevchenko, the Moscow Organising Committee's representative on the Press Commission and head of the Committee's Department of Public Relations, welcomed the members to Moscow and requested them to study the facilities planned for the press at the 1980 Games and to give their observations.

The Commission visited the different sites already constructed and those in the planning stages—the main press centre, Lenin Stadium, the University (where the press will be accommodated), Dynamo Complex, etc.

After studying a detailed agenda, the Commission made certain recommendations which will be submitted for approval by the IOC Executive Board to the IOC Session in Prague next June. The most important of these were as follows:

1. Nine months before the Games, NOCs to tell the Organising Committee the number of journalists requesting accreditation; six months beforehand, their names and those of their substitutes to be supplied.
2. Agency and pool photographers to be included in the quota of 400 accreditations for photographers in general.
3. New definitions of categories of media representatives, with new quotas for each category, were agreed upon which would be valid for the 1984 Olympic Games (see below).

4. Each NOC to be requested to appoint a press attaché, or to ask the professional sports journalists' association of its country to nominate a syndic. When not possible, the Organising Committee to ask the national press representatives of each country to elect one of them responsible for the distribution of the special tickets.
5. Administrative formalities to enter the Olympic village not to be required.
6. A meeting of the Press Commission to be scheduled one week before the opening of the Games to review last minute problems.

The next meeting of the IOC Press Commission has been arranged during the world sprint speed skating championships in Lake Placid, on 18th and 19th February 1978.

Definition of categories

1. Agency journalist or photographer

Person engaged on a contractual basis by a news agency as a reporter, editor, photographer or photo editor, to obtain, treat or report news items intended for the press.

2. Agency staff

Person engaged by a news agency to carry out all tasks other than mentioned in paragraph one.

3. Journalist - daily press and magazine

Person engaged on a contractual basis by a daily newspaper or periodical to

write articles constituting the paper's content.

4. Commentator

Person engaged on a contractual basis by a radio or television organisation to describe or report an event orally, or to make live or recorded interviews for broadcasting by this organisation.

5. Crews of filmed or televised news

Team composed of one to four persons (cameraman, soundman, lighting technician, producer) employed or engaged by a filmed or televised news agency, whose role is to supply filmed or televised news organisations with the news material they require.

6. Auxiliary personnel

Person not belonging to the press, but whose presence is essential on the ground or in the stands for the work of television: cablemen, machinists, soundmen, assistants, messenger boys.

7. Support staff

Person not belonging to the press, but whose existence is essential to its work: secretaries, chauffeurs, messengers, electricians, machinists, etc. His presence is necessary in certain places — press centres, offices reserved for the press, studios, laboratories, etc. — but not in the stands or on the competition sites.

8. Photographer

Person whose profession is to take photographs intended for use by the press or various publications.

9. Freelance reporter

A bona fide journalist collaborating freely with the newspaper or newspapers of his choice, to which he supplies articles.

Identification letters and quotas for each category

		<i>O.G.</i>	<i>W.G.</i>
1. <i>Agency journalists</i>			
— five recognised international agencies	EI	150	100
— other press agencies	EA	200	70
2. <i>Agency staff</i>	EAT	250	130
3. <i>Journalists - daily press and magazine</i>	EE	2,400	900
4. <i>Commentators</i>	EC	800	300
5. <i>Crews of filmed or televised news</i>	EF	100	50
6. <i>Auxiliary personnel</i>	ES	1,500	1,200
7. <i>Support staff</i>	ET	1,900	1,500
8. <i>Photographers (including agency and pool photographers)</i>	EP	400	200
9. <i>Freelance reporters</i>	EE	100	50
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		7,800	4,500