

Around the National Olympic Committees

Colombia (COC)



● *Mr. Humberto Chica Pinzon*, President of the COC, was recently decorated with the medal of recognition of the Central American and Caribbean Sports Organisation for his 28 years of exemplary collaboration. Our congratulations are in order,

Cuba (COC)



● According to the statistics provided by *Mr. Manuel Gonzales Guerra*, President of the COC and IOC member, 804 athletes from 30 countries visited Cuba in 1978 to participate in sports competitions. There were also 1807 Cuban athletes who travelled to 51 countries, earning no fewer than 764 victories during their visits.

● *Included among the 1979 international events* to take place in Cuba are the following:

19th February-4th March: cycling, Tour of Cuba.

March: equestrian, Cuba Cup.

4th-14th March: shooting, anniversary of the national institute of physical and sports education.

8th-11th March: Ramon Fonst challenge tournament.

3rd-12th May: boxing, Cordova Cardin tournament.

4th-6th May: weightlifting, international tournament.

19th-20th May: athletics, M. Barrientos tournament.

1st-10th June: gymnastics, Moncada challenge tournament.

1st-20th June: basketball, Friendship Cups (M and W).

15th-18th June: judo, José R. Rodriguez tournament.

The United States of America (USOC)



● *George Haines*, a well-known American swimming coach is to lead the United States team at the 1980 Olympic Games. He will be assisted by Mark Schubert (Viejo Mission), Paul Bergen (University of Tennessee) and Don Gambrill (University of Texas). The qualifying events are to take place in June 1980 in Austin. Qualifying times will have to be attained in a large pool starting on 1st January. The standards are to be very demanding and correspond to the times of the 16th swimmer at the 1978 national championships in Woodlands, some examples of -which follow :

	Men	Women
100 m.	52.18	58.54
200 m.	1:54.21	2:05.56
100 m. backstroke	59.16	1:06.64
200 m. butterfly	2:04.49	2:16.94
400 m. medley	4:35.40	5:01.63

● *Jimmy Carnes*, a former athletics trainer at the University of Florida, who in September was named as head trainer for the United States Team at the Games of the XXIInd Olympiad, has been re-elected for a two-year term as President of the athletics committee of the Amateur Athletic Union.

● *Tracy Caulkins*, the young swimming star, has won the Sullivan Prize, the most prestigious trophy awarded to amateur athletes in the United States. The sixteen-year old native of Nashville is the youngest athlete to have received this honour, which was awarded for the first time in 1930. She obtained 2236 of the 2460 votes cast by the officials, coaches and journalists who took part in the balloting. Other nominees included Bill Rodgers (marathon), Kurt Thomas (gymnastics), Charles Tickner (figure skating), Eric Heiden (speed skating) and Edwin Moses (athletics).

France
(CNOSF)



- *The General Assembly of the CNOSF*, which met in Paris on 13th January 1979 sought the adoption of the following measures in particular :
 - quarterly meetings attended by the President of the CNOSF and the Presidents of the Olympic federations to be held until the Olympic Games in 1980 ;
 - the formation of a study group to draw up a Charter for the sports movement and determine the development of its structures ;
 - the establishment of a permanent link with parliamentary groups to provide them with precise and current information on the problems of French sport.

● *Professor Henri Lamendin*, Assistant Director at the Institute of Applied Health Research (biology department) at the University of Orleans, and the author of the article entitled "Sport and Nicotinism" ("Olympic Review", No. 132-133), informs us that on page 614 of that issue the following line had been omitted from his article : *"the risk of harmful effects on the heart by oral contraceptives is accentuated by tobacco"*.

- *The 2nd international symposium on sports medicine* organised by the newspaper "Quotidien du médecin" is to be held from 4th to 10th March in Font-Romeu, with Professor Fernand Plas presiding.

Japan
(JOC)



● *Mr. Yoshinori Suzuki* was ceremoniously presented the bronze medal of the Olympic Order by Mr. Masaji Kiyokawa, member of the IOC Executive Board, on 8th November during the executive meeting of the NOC. Mr. Suzuki, chairman of the emblem committee of the JOC and devotee of sport, becomes the third holder of the Olympic Order in Japan, following Mr. Ryotaro Azuma (silver medal in 1975 and Mr. Masaji Tabala (silver medal in 1977). The author of numerous works devoted to Olympism, an advisor for and then Director General of the Japanese athletics federation from 1950 to 1961, head of the Japanese Olympic delegation at the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome and Director of the Association of Japanese Amateur Sport from 1950 to 1972, Mr. Suzuki is considered among sport's most authoritative jurists.



In our photograph, Mr. Masaji Kiyokawa (centre-right) congratulates Mr. Yoshinori Suzuki. Among the dignitaries present were Prince Tsuneyoshi Takeda, IOC member, to the left of Mr. Kiyokawa ; Mr. Katsuji Shibata, President of the JOC, to the right of Mr. Kiyokawa and Mr. Masaji Tabata, honorary President of the JOC, at his side.

Italy
(CONI)



**The 10th anniversary
of the Youth Games,**

by Mario Pescante,
Secretary General
of the CONI.

Instituted in the same year as the Olympic Games in Mexico City, these Games, a project initiated by the CONI, are intended for young people throughout Italy from 6 to 18 years of age.

The organisation of these Games was initially entrusted to sports associations and communities. Since 1974, the responsibility has been assumed jointly by the CONI and the Ministry of National Education which, through physical education teachers, has to a great extent, integrated the Italian schools, the result of which has been a progressively increasing number of participants, with three million bodies currently involved.

The Youth Games are staged at various levels : school, community, provincial, cantonal and national. The organisation at each level involves the formation of special commissions composed of representatives from local authorities, the schools, the CONI, the sports federations and bodies concerned with the promotion of sport and the trade unions.

The Winter Youth Games involve winter competition sports (Alpine and Nordic skiing, luge and ski jumping) and ice sports (figure and speed skating, ice hockey). The national phase, which provides a fitting climax for all these events, takes place in the first two weeks of March.

The cross-country Youth Games are completed by their national phase in the first half of April.

The Summer Youth Games comprise the following sports : stadium games, baseball, football, canoeing, boating, cycling, fencing, gymnastics, field hockey, swimming, water polo, diving, basketball, handball, volleyball, rollerskating (artistic and racing), modern pentathlon (with an introductory programme limited to cross-country and swimming), rugby, tennis, table tennis, archery and yachting.



The conclusion of the Summer Games is marked by a great national event held in the first two weeks of June, with the participation of 5,000 young people for all the sports, selected in the course of the previously mentioned phases.

In addition to the events listed above, the Youth Games are being developed in younger elementary school classes with a special programme which includes simple gymnastics routines and a team sport known as "quattroporte".

These Games are the occasion for celebrating Olympic day, at the local level during the various stages of the event, or at the national level with the fundamental elements of Olympic ceremony being shown to the country's young people, including the raising of the flag, the playing of the national anthem, the lighting of the Games' flame and the reciting of the "promise" whose contents coincide with the Olympic oath.

The CONI takes out insurance against all accidents for those taking part in the Games who hold a "participant's card", the only document necessary in order to compete.

M. P.

Nicaragua
(CON)



● Colonel Rafael Adonis Porras (48 years old) has been the driving force behind sport in Nicaragua since his election to the presidency of the NOC in 1968. He has reorganised and developed all sports in the country and ensured the participation of athletes in

all Regional Games held in this area of the world as well as in the Olympic Games since that time. He has also set up excellent relations with the government to promote national sport.

A famous footballer in his youth and currently President of the national volleyball federation, Colonel Adonis is busy organising the 3rd Central American Games to be held in 1981, attributed to the capital of the country, Managua.

● An agreement has been signed, on the occasion of the visit to Warsaw by Mr. Bo Bengston, Secretary General of the Swedish Olympic Committee, between Sweden and Poland with respect to an exchange of sports teams and bilateral sports training.

● We have learned from Mr. Wlodzimierz Strzeczewski of Interpress, the national news agency, that in accordance with a recent decision issued by Mr. Marian Renke, President of the NOC and the Central Committee for Physical Culture and Sports, Polish sportsmen will not be allowed to change club colours during the period of 22nd January 1979 to 15th August 1980. This decision, designed to ensure optimal conditions in the concentration of preparations for the 1980 Olympic Games, will apply to the Olympic team, international class sportsmen, the first division leagues in volleyball, basketball, handball and hockey, and to the first and second division leagues in football.

Poland
(COP)



● The 60th anniversary of the COP was celebrated at the end of the year by a ceremonial meeting presided over by Mr. Marian Renke, President of the NOC and the Central Committee for Physical Culture and Sports, and attended by the IOC member, Mr. Wlodzimierz Reczek, members of the COP and its regional centres, Olympic champions and national sports federation members.

Both Mr. Reczek and Mr. Renke praised highly the work of the COP for its influence and promotion of sport in Poland over the last 60 years. Mr. Reczek emphasised that the NOC's devoted efforts to disseminate the ideals of Olympism have met with great success.

● Mr. Marion Renke has signed an agreement with Algerian and Tunisian sports authorities under which the knowledge and expertise of Polish coaches and trainers are to be made available during a series of planned bilateral sports events.

El Salvador
(COES)



● Mrs. Gina de Rodriguez, has been elected new Secretary General of the NOC at the November meeting of the Executive Board for the next four years and thus replaces don Gustavo Farrar. Details of Mrs. Rodriguez's career will be outlined in an upcoming edition of our review.

Surinam
(SOC)

● New board of the "Surinaams Olympisch Comité" elected on 29th December 1978 : PT : Prof. Dr. B.F.J. Oostburg ; SG : L. Moi Thuk Shung ; T: H. Brand Flu ; Ms : L. Silos, Ir. E. Tjon Kie Sim.

