

Trinidad and Tobago and Olympism

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

4,660 sq. km.

1 200 000 inhabitants (approximately in 1978).



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION (TTOA)

Founded in 1946.

Recognised by the IOC in 1946.

Recognised in its present form in 1962.

Chairman in office : Knolly Henderson *.

Secretary General in office : Alexander B. Chapman *.

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* See biographical notes

Role of the TTOA

- To ensure that Trinidad and Tobago is suitably represented at both the Olympic Games and Regional Games.
- To assist athletes in their preparations for these Games by providing financial sustenance to affiliated members in appropriate instances.
- To arouse and maintain the interest of the people of Trinidad and Tobago in Olympic and Regional Games and to obtain their support for the participation of the nation's athletes in these events.

Creation and history

The TTOA first came into being as a working committee in 1946, when it was felt that Trinidad and Tobago, a British colony at the time, should take part in Regional Games with the long-term aim of participating in the quadrennial Olympic celebrations. This original committee, made up of four member-federations (athletics, cycling, football and weightlifting), was extended provisional recognition by the IOC in 1946, a development which enabled that colony to send a delegation to compete at the Central American and Caribbean Games held that year in Baranquilla, Colombia. Formal Olympic affiliation was granted in 1946 during the IOC Session in London.

Composition of the first TTOA (1946)

Ch : Sir Lennox O'Reilly; **Ms**: Messrs George Dickson, Roland Gill, John Imrie, Errol Knowles, Dr. Roderick Merceno, Messrs Laurie Rogers and Oscar Walker.



1979 - Knolly Henserson at San Juan de Porto Rico.

The TTOA was disbanded in 1958 following the formation of the West Indies Federation and the creation of a corresponding NOC, the West Indies Association, with headquarters in Kingston, Jamaica. With the dissolution of the political union in 1962, the TTOA requested that its own Olympic Committee be re-recognised by the IOC. Recognition was granted and the newly independent nation's athletes were able to take part in the 1962 Central American and Caribbean Games in Jamaica.

Successive Chairmen of the TTOA

1946-1948 : Sir Lennox O'Reilly.

1948-1952 : Mr. John Imrie.

1953-1962 : Sir Courtenay Hannays.

1962-1964 : Dr. Horace Gillette.

Since 1964 : Mr. Knolly Henderson *.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES



1976 - Montreal : the Trinidad and Tobago delegation.

Representation of Trinidad and Tobago at the Olympic Games from 1948 to 1980¹

	Athletics	Rowing	Basketball	Boxing	Canoeing	Cycling	Equestrian Events	Fencing	Football	Gymnastics	Weightlifting
1948	3					1					1
1952											2
1956	3					1					2
1960											
1964	6					3					2
1968	8					7					1
1972	11(1)					6					
1976	9					2					
1980											

	Handball	Hockey	Judo	Wrestling	Swimming	Modern Pentathlon	Shooting	Archery	Volleyball	Yachting	Total
1948	●		●					●	●		5
1952	●		●					●	●		2
1956	●		●					●	●		6
1960	●		●					●	●		-
1964	●							●		2	13
1968	●		●		1		2	●			19
1972					1					2	20(1)
1976							1				12
1980											

¹ 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.

² Demonstration sport.

* In 1960, one cyclist and one athlete represented Trinidad and Tobago within the West Indies delegation.

● Not included on the programme.



*1976 - Montreal:
Hasely Crawford,
Olympic 100 m
champion.*

- **Date of first participation : 1948.**

Delegations from Trinidad and Tobago have attended each subsequent Olympic gathering with the exception of 1960 when two of the nation's athletes competed in the cycling and athletics events as part of the contingent representing the West Indies Federation.

To date, Trinidad and Tobago has not been represented at the Winter Games.

- **The Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Champions**

Trinidad and Tobago earned its first Olympic gold medal at the Games of the XXIst Olympiad in Montreal, by virtue of Hasely Crawford's spirited performance of 10.06 in the 100 m. athletics event.

A number of other national athletes have distinguished themselves by laying claim to silver and bronze medals at the Olympic Games. Rodney Wilkes was Trinidad and Tobago's first medallist, having won a silver at the Games of the

XVth Olympiad in London as a competitor in the featherweight class of the weightlifting events. He added a bronze medal to his credit in the same event four years later in Helsinki. Another Trinidadian weightlifter, Lennox Kilgour, captured the bronze medal in the middle-heavyweight category at the Games in Helsinki. Three medals were won by Trinidad and Tobago in athletics at the 1984 Games in Tokyo : Edwin Roberts earned a bronze in the 200 m. event, Wendell Mottley's second place finish in the 400 metres was rewarded with a silver medal and the combined efforts of Wendell Mottley, Edwin Skinner, Kent Bernard and Edwin Roberts yielded a bronze medal in the 4 x 400 m. relay.

- **Organisation of the Games**

No application to organise the Olympic Games or Regional Games has yet been received from a city in Trinidad and Tobago.



*1964 - Tokyo :
Wendell Mottley,
second in the
400 m.*



1968 - Mexico : the President of the TTOA, his assistants and the national delegation for the Olympic Games.

PRESENT ORGANISATION OF THE TTOA

- *The present statutes* were adopted on 29th June 1973, with a number of amendments approved on 28th June 1974.
 - *Composition*
Membership on the TTOA consists of one delegate from each affiliated body, a number of members-at-large (persons prominent in the academic and business fields or in community affairs), as well as honorary members (persons deemed to have rendered distinguished service to the Olympic movement).
 - *The annual general meeting* is responsible for approving the NOC's operations and financial reports, and at four-year intervals for selecting the officers of the Association.
 - *The Executive*, consisting of the Chairman, the immediate past Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary General, the assistant Secretary General, the Treasurer, the NOC's two trustees and three members of the Council (body responsible for overseeing expenditure, selecting representative teams and appointing various committees), performs the daily tasks related to the administration of the Association.
- An amendment to the Constitution to provide for the mandatory inclusion in the Executive of any IOC member resident in Trinidad and Tobago is to be tabled at the next annual general meeting.

- **Present members of the Executive Board**

PT : Mr. Knolly Henderson * ; *VPT* : Mr. David de la Rosa ; *SG* : Mr. Alexander Chapman * ; *Asst SG* : Commander Mervyn Williams ; *T* : Mr. Lloyd Agard ; *Trustees* : Messrs. Victor Bruce and Gerry Gomez ; *Ms* : Messrs John Alleyne, Brigadier Joffre Serrette ; *Ms-at-large* : Messrs Hasley Crawford (gold medallist in the 100 m. event at the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal), Roger Gibbon (5th place in cycling—Kilometre time trial) at the 1968 Games—and Wendell Mottley (double medallist in 1964 in Tokyo).

- **Federations affiliated to the TTOA**

Federation	Date IF affiliation	Members 1979
Athletics	1937	3000
Basketball	1958	1000
Boxing	1951	98
Cycling	1971	170
Football	1964	2900
Hockey	1964	500
Wrestling	before 1962	—
Swimming	1942	198
Shooting	1966	250 198
Volleyball	1964	
Weightlifting	1946	30
Yachting	1962	500

- **Financing of the TTOA**

The TTOA derives its income principally from members' annual fees, government grants to pay athletes' travel expenses and proceeds from monthly bingo games.

THE TTOA AND OLYMPISM

- **Protection of the Olympic emblems**

Under the terms of the TTOA's constitution, only the NOC is entitled to use the Olympic symbols.

- **International Olympic Academy**

To date, the IOA's Sessions have been attended by only two delegates from Trinidad and Tobago, Messrs Raphael Hosein and Kelvin Roberts, both of whom were present at Olympia in 1975.

SPORT IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

- **Other sports governing bodies**

The National Sports Foundation advises the government on all matters related to the development of sport, particularly the granting of subsidies to various sports organisations.

- **State aid for the sports movement**

Assistance is provided primarily in the form of grants to cover the costs of athletes' journeys abroad and transport for doctors and coaches to and from training courses overseas.



*Alexander Chapman,
Secretary General of
the TTOA.*

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

• Training of sports leaders

Three persons have attended courses in Sports Administration organised under the aegis of the IOC Olympic Solidarity ; five doctors have attended courses in sports medicine and numerous coaches and trainers have participated in Olympic and Pan-American Solidarity courses.

• Sports which draw the biggest crowds

Basketball, football, cricket, netball.

• Sport experiencing the greatest development

Basketball.

• Percentage of practising sportsmen

Approximately 15 % of the nation's population is actively involved in sport.

• Sports installations

— open air swimming pools (50 m.)	1
— covered swimming pools (50 m.)	None
— other swimming pools	6
— sports centres	4
— gymnasia	2

Knolly Henderson

Chairman of the TTOA since 1964.

Born in November 1917 and a chartered secretary by profession, he competed actively in a number of sports, among them football, boxing, cricket, lawn tennis and swimming. In addition to serving as President of his NOC, Mr. Henderson has made other contributions to sports administration in Trinidad and Tobago, notably in his capacity as President of the government-appointed National Sports Council for the period 1971-1974. He occupied a number of other important posts, serving as Vice-President of the Commonwealth Games Federation from 1970 to 1974, executive member of both the Pan-American and Central American and Caribbean Sports Organisations, Vice-President of the lawn tennis association from 1956 to 1965, tournament director of the International Tennis Tournament in the Caribbean circuit from 1962 to 1965 and selector for the David Cup during the same period. He has also had the distinction of serving as Chef de Mission for the nation's Olympic delegations on a number of occasions.

Alexander Chapman

Secretary General of the TTOA since 1963.

Born in January 1927, Mr. Chapman is a civil servant in the Auditor General's department. In terms of sport, his prime interest was weightlifting. In addition to competing in the lightweight class, he held the position of secretary of the Trinidad Weightlifting Association from 1949 to 1960 and served as well as first secretary of the shortlived West Indies Weightlifting Federation. A class 1 international weightlifting referee, he has officiated at both Olympic and Regional Games. For twenty-five years of service to his sport in Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Chapman was awarded a gold medal by the International Weightlifting Federation. In his capacity as general manager Chef de Mission of the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic delegation, he has attended the Games of the Olympiad on several Occasions. Mr. Chapman first served as a delegate of the then Amateur Physical Culture Association on the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Association in the year 1954. Prior to his election as Secretary General in the year 1963, he served as Treasurer of the Association.

