

Sierra Leone and Olympism

SIERRA LEONE

72,323 sq. km.

Approx. 3,100,000 inhabitants.



SIERRA LEONE OLYMPIC AND OVERSEAS GAMES COMMITTEE (SLOOGC)

Recognised by the IOC in 1964.

President in office: Thomas F. Hope *.

Secretary General in office: Edmund B. Wallace-Johnson *.

Address: c/o the National Sports Council of Sierra Leone, P. O. Box 1181, Tower Hill, Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Telephone: 23 952.

Telex: –

Telegrams: Sports, Freetown.

* See biographical notes.

Role of the SLOOGC

- To make known the aims of the Olympic Movement, the Commonwealth Games and the African Games, and to protect them.
- To maintain a good image of national sport and place it beyond the reach of all commercial, racial, religious, political and tribal interference.
- To arrange national participation in the Olympic Games and in the Regional Games sponsored by the IOC.

Creation

Mr. Thomas F. Hope *, founder and President since the creation of the SLOOGC, approached the IOC on 26th July 1963 with a view to obtaining the recognition of an NOC for Sierra Leone. Members of the national athletics, boxing and football federations joined forces to create this NOC by the end of 1963 and adopted the Statutes on 14th January 1964, just in time to enable it to obtain the recognition of the IOC at the session in Innsbruck in 1964.



Successive Presidents of the SLOOGC

Since 1964 : Thomas F. Hope *.

SIERRA LEONE AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES

- **Date of first participation** : 1968.

2 athletes made up Sierra Leone's first Olympic delegation to Mexico in 1968.

The SLOOGC did not take part in the Olympic Games in 1972 and 1976.

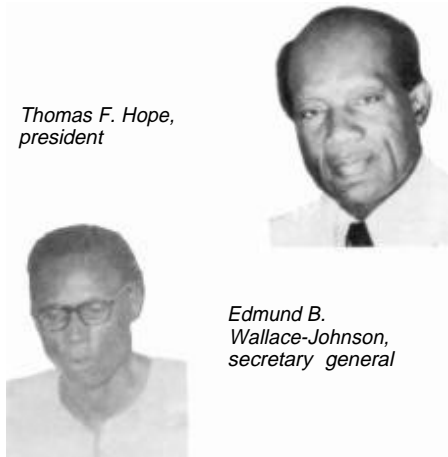
In 1980, in Moscow, the SLOOGC's delegation was made up of 12 athletes (including 2 women) and 2 boxers.



1968 - The delegation from Sierra Leone in Mexico.

* See biographical notes.

PRESENT ORGANISATION OF THE SLOOGC



Thomas F. Hope,
president

Edmund B.
Wallace-Johnson,
secretary general

- **Composition of the present Executive Board**

PT: Thomas F. Hope* ; *SG:* Edmund B. Wallace-Johnson* ; *VPT:* Sam. L. Sesay.

- *The patron of the Committee* is none other than the Head of State.
- *The Executive Board* comprises a president, a vice-president, the secretary general and 2 members.

- **Financing of the SLOOGC**

The National Sports Council, a State organisation, subsidises the work of the NOC.

- **Affiliated federations**

	Creation	IF Affiliation
Athletics	1952	1957
Basketball	-	-
Boxing	1952	1957
Football	1923	1960
Volleyball	1972	-

There are tennis, table-tennis and cricket federations.



"Olympic Solidarity" athletics course in Sierra Leone.

- **Sport at school**

5 to 10 years old : 1 hour per day.

11 to 16 years old : 1 hour per day.

17 to 21 years old : 7 to 10 hours per week.

- **State aid for the sports movement**

Less than 1% of the country's budget is set aside for sport; these funds are used mainly for covering the administrative costs incurred by the Sports Council. Subsidies, often small, are granted to the various national sports organisations.

- **Other governing sports bodies**

The national associations governing basketball, boxing, cycling, football, swimming, volleyball, tennis, table-tennis and cricket.

- **Sports which draw the biggest crowds**

Football, athletics and cricket.

- **Sports experiencing the greatest development**

Basketball, swimming and volleyball.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Thomas Frederick Hope

President of the Sierra Leone Olympic and Overseas Games Committee since 1963.

He has been President since 1958 of the National Athletics Association ; in this capacity he was responsible for the creation of the SLOOGC in 1963.

A civil engineer, he was a manager of various companies and in particular, until his retirement in 1976, of the Guman Valley Water Company. He was President of the Sierra Leone Chamber of Commerce as well as of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce of West Africa.

Edmund Benjamin Wallace-Johnson

Secretary General of the SLOOGC.

A member of the national football team (1949) and athletics team (1950), with a degree in social sciences, and fully qualified in journalism, physical education, physiotherapy and dietetics, he was appointed Head of the National Sports Council.

The author of several books, he is also the founder of the National Association of Football Referees and the Sports Writers Association.

