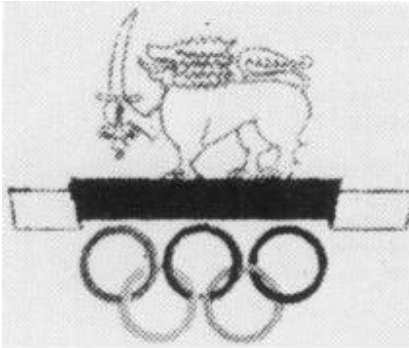


# Sri Lanka and Olympism

## REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA

65,610 sq. km.

13,500,000 inhabitants (approx.).



## NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OF SRI LANKA (NOC SL)

Founded 5th April 1937.

Recognised by the IOC in 1937.

President in office : Ranjith Weerasena \*.

*Secretary General in office* : Lieutenant-Colonel Charles S. Fernando \*.

Address : 368, Galle Road, Colombo 3.

*Telephone* : 32 632.

## Role of the NOCSL

- To make it possible to achieve the aims of the Olympic Movement.
- To be responsible for the participation of Sri Lanka in the Olympic Games, the Commonwealth Games, the Asian Games and various other international sports meetings.

## Creation and development

The Committee was founded on 5th April 1937 by delegates from controlling bodies for athletics, boxing and swimming in Sri Lanka. The first meeting was held on 30th April at which the first (Office) Bearers were elected (see photo-

Their first aim was to arrange the participation of Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) at the British Empire Games which were to be held in Sydney the following year.

Then the Committee started to prepare its participation in the 1940 Olympic Games, which unfortunately had to be cancelled owing to the war. Its first participation therefore did not take place until 1948.



*Ranjith Weerasena during the XIth Olympic Congress.*

## Successive Presidents of the NOCSL **SRI LANKA AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES**

1937-1939 : V. R. Schockman.

1939-1945 : Activities suspended owing to the war.

1945-1947 : John Pearsons.

1947-1957 : Donald Obeyesekera (died in 1957).

1957-1981 : Rear Admiral G. R. M. de Mel.

1961-1962 : Eric Labrooy.

1962-1973 : V. A. Sugathadasa (died in 1973).

1973-1974 : Justice A. Vythialingam.

1974-1977 : P. Julian Gero.

1977-1980 : Dunstan de Alwis.

Since 1980 : Ranjith Weerasena\*.

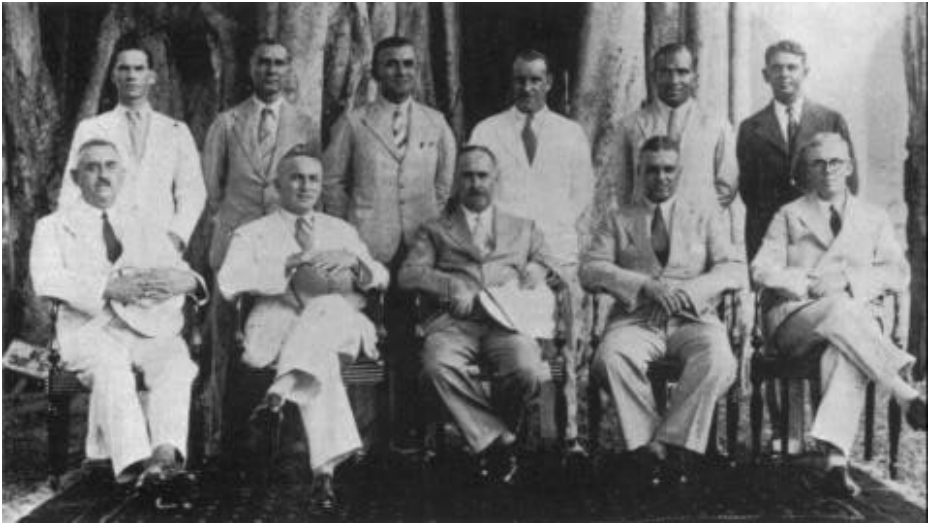
### ● Date of first participation : 1948.

Since that time, sportsmen from Sri Lanka have participated in all Olympic, Commonwealth and Asian Games.

The NOCSL has so far not entered an athlete for the Winter Games.

### ● Olympic Medal winners

The athlete Duncan White came second in the 400 m hurdles in 1948. He was 30 years old.



*Left to right (standing): Messrs A. Van Langenberg, A.B. Henricus, S.P. Foenander, C.A.B. Starling, D.G. Obeyese and W.H.D. Perera, Hon, Secretary and Treasurer. (Sitting): Col. P.J. Parsons Sir John Tarbat, vice-patron, Sir Andrew caldecott, Patron, Dr. V. R. Schokman, President, M.L. Mc D. Robinson, vice President.*

## The representation of Sri Lanka at the Olympic Games from 1948 to 1980

	Athletics	Rowing	Basketball	Boxing	Canoeing	Cycling	Equestrian Events	Fencing	Football	Gymnastics	Weightlifting
1948	3			4							
1952	1			3							
1956	1			2							
1960	1			2		1					
1964	1			2							
1968	1			1							
1972	3										
1976	6										
1980											5

	Handball	Hockey	Judo	Wrestling	Swimming	Modern Pentathlon	Shooting	Archery	Volleyball	Yachting	Total
1948	●		●					●	●		7
1952	●		●		2			●	●		6
1956	●		●					●	●		3
1960	●		●		1			●	●		5
1964	●			1			2	●			6
1968	●		●					●		1	3
1972							1				4
1976											6
1980											5

● Not included on the programme.

## PRESENT ORGANISATION OF THE NOCSL

● *The present Statutes* were adopted in 1937 and modified in 1955, 1972, 1975 and 1979.

### ● *Composition*

The NOCSL, composed of 2 representatives of each affiliated National Sports Association, meets monthly.

● *The Executive Committee* is composed of the President, two Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and the Secretary General.

### ● *Financing of the NOCSL*

A Government subsidy, the subscriptions of members and private donations constitute the Association's main financial resources.

## ● Federations affiliated to the NOCSL

	Date of affiliation		No. of Members 1978
	IF	NOC	
Athletics	1936	1937	12,000
Rowing	1966	1968	180
Basketball	1959	1970	700
Boxing	1947	1937	400
Cycling	1962	1960	2,150
Football	1952	1954	16,000
Hockey	1948	1960	1,200
Judo	-	-	600
Wrestling	1938	1946	4,800
Swimming	1952	1937	2,800
Shooting	1960	1960	400
Volleyball	1955	1960	8,000
Yachting	1966	1968	200
Badminton	1967	1968	2,100
Tennis	1968	1968	1,700
Table tennis	1967	1968	2,000



*The delegation from Sri Lanka at the Asian Games in 1978.*



*During the celebration of an Olympic Day, the Secretary General of the NOC Lt. Col. C.S. Fernando (centre), Mr. Satchithaden (left) and the former Secretary General of the NOC, Mr. R. M. Wickremeisinha came 1st, 2nd and 3rd in a 10,000 road race organised for the overforties.*

## THE NOCSL AND OLYMPISM

### ● Olympic day

Its celebration was considered in 1970; only a road cycling race was held.

### ● Protection of the Olympic emblems

The Government authorities have been approached.

### ● The International Olympic Academy

Here too, in spite of the wishes of the President of the Committee, financial difficulties have always prevented delegations being sent to Olympia, until 1981.

## SPORT IN SRI LANKA

### ● Main Sports Governing body

The Ministry of Sport which controls sport by the Sports Act of 1975.

### ● State aid for the sports movement

The State subsidises sports activities.

### ● Sports installations

There is a shortage of installations. In Colombo however, there is a stadium of semi-international standard, the Sugathadasa stadium.

### ● Sports which draw the biggest crowds

Football and cricket.

### ● Sports experiencing the biggest development

Athletics, football, cricket.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

### Ranjith Weerasena

President of the NOCSL since 1980.

Born 1941 A one-time national champion and record holder in the discus throw. he later turned his talents towards sports administration in his country and he is also the President of the Sri Lankan Amateur Athletic Association.

### Lieutenant-Colonel Charles S. Fernando

Secretary General of the NOCSL since 1980

Born 1933. Vice President of both the national Amateur Athletic Association and the national Soccer Referees Association and himself is a FIFA soccer referee His sports career included being a national coloursman in athletics, soccer and rugby

