
Obituaries

CONSTANTIN ANDRIANOV

The life of **Constantin Andrianov**, IOC Member in the USSR, turned abruptly full circle on 27th January 1988, shortly before his seventy-eighth birthday and after a lifetime of service within the Olympic Movement.



This began in his native city of Moscow, where, an avid sportsman who practised football and ice-hockey, athletics and skiing, he proved his administrative skills at the head of various

sports organizations for young people, before rising to become President of the Moscow Sports Union. The intense demands of this post provided him with the necessary experience to set up and found, in 1951, the NOC of the Soviet Union. He was co-opted as the first IOC Member in the USSR the same year.

In addition to his work on the Solidarity, Programme and Congress Commissions. Mr. Andrianov concerned himself particularly with the question of the IOC's relationship with the NOCs. This he was uniquely qualified to do, presiding uninterruptedly over the Soviet NOC's development for thirty-four years after its creation. His dual role as IOC member and NOC President was mutually beneficial to both organizations : he was able to draw the infant NOC rapidly into the international sporting fold and also provide the IOC with invaluable knowledge of existing and developing sports structures in the Soviet Union and Socialist countries. His became a highly respected voice within the IOC, as an Executive Board member from 1962 to 1964, and Vice-President from 1966 to 1970.

After resigning as NOC President, he flung himself into work for the Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIInd Olympiad in Moscow in 1980. This was a fusion of his national and international sporting preoccupations. He took no little pride in what his country had to show to the world in terms of sporting devel-

opment, one which he had spearheaded and fostered for 30 long years.

A Moscow University history graduate, who published numerous books addressing sports-related questions, his work as a pioneer of the Olympic Movement in the Soviet Union and his valuable contribution to the IOC has assured him his place in the annals of Olympism.

ANTONIN HIML



Antonin Himl, who died suddenly on 25th January 1988, during an official visit to Peking, at the age of only fifty-five, was well-known to the international Olympic family as the Czechoslovakian NOC President and champion of Sport for All.

Born in 1933, Mr. Himl began work for the Czechoslovakian Youth Union as early as 1948. His personal experiences within this movement were to profoundly mark him: mass sport remained his special concern throughout his career in sports administration, in which he advanced with great rapidity to become a member of the Board of Czechoslovak Physical Culture in 1962 and, ten years later, President of both the Czechoslovak Physical Culture and of the NOC.

A social science graduate, he had a strong intellectual grasp of how to make sports organizations function efficiently. This, combined with his innate love of sport — he was a committed sportsman who practised football, basketball and ice-hockey at national level — gave him something of the sense of a man with a mission. He strove to involve the greatest number of people in the sports movement and to ensure it a respected, dynamic role in society. If he took great pleasure in the health of the national sports movement, at its most spectacularly visible in the five-yearly Spartakiads, he never forgot that it is diligent work at grass roots level which ensures the solidity of the entire sports pyramid. He constantly worked to improve the relationship between top class and mass sport, believing that each directly benefited the other.

The Czechoslovakian Sports Movement that had made such great leaps forward in the fifties proved a useful model for Mr. Himl's work as Vice-Chairman of the IOC Sport for All Commission. Loyal to it, he nonetheless possessed a broad overview of the role of sport in society, of its place in a wider world context. Member of the Federal Parliament, he encouraged the NOC to adopt a progressive, internationalist attitude, which IOC Members were fully able to appreciate during the successful 79th Session in Prague in 1977.

The NOC is about to hold the 2nd International Sport for All Conference, in Prague in May, which turns out to be an unforeseen, fitting tribute to the work of Mr. Himl, who had held this subject so dear to his heart. Those he leaves behind continue his work in full cognizance of the legacy he left them.

We have learnt of the death of **Prof. Georges Rioux** (FRA). A talented professor, with a doctorate in French from the Sorbonne, an eminent specialist in Coubertin research, Georges Rioux played a considerable part in the recent publication of the works of Pierre de Coubertin.