

OH, FOR THE LIFE OF AN ATHLETE!

By Claudie Blanc

What if, for once, the athletes were to spend their Olympic stay next to the competition grounds? And what if, for once, they were not shut away in a secure camp for the duration of the event and were able to make the most of the services and atmosphere of real Olympic villages?

The COJO wondered about these questions, unavoidable given the nature of the environment and the ten competition venues. As 1988 Super-G Olympic champion Franck Piccard said: "These will really be Games for the athletes, really sport-oriented." Perrine Pelen set out to make sure that would be the case. An Olympic medallist, now in charge of the villages, she knows exactly how to create a pleasant and comfortable stay for the athletes.

Two thousand of them are expected in February. Most of them will stay in Brides-Bains where 1,300 beds await their arrival. The skaters, jumpers, female skiers,

Nordic combined athletes and their companions will be able to take advantage of the usual services offered by a village well-equipped for this very unusual community with a post-office, banks, travel agencies, shops, a 24-hour polyclinic, a religious centre, NOCs' offices, etc. The new fitness centre, with of a gym, weights room, sauna, and other state-of-the-art facilities will be available, as well as a reading-room, a music and video-room with a video-library covering all the events. Catering services will be available round the clock. All the rooms, accommodating two athletes each, as well as all common rooms, will have a TV picking up the four ORTO channels with the international signal, enabling the most anxious ones to flip through channels if the other activities do not succeed in relaying them.

Most of these services and facilities will also be available at the other venues.

Cross-country skiers and biathlon athletes of both sexes will occupy the village annexe at Les Saisies which has 650 beds. Three hundred and fifty beds are reserved for the ice hockey teams in one of the new residences of the brand new resort of La Tania, situated between Méribel where the

La Commission des Athlètes du C.I.O.

The IOC Athletes' Commission

La Comisión de Atletas del COI

Комиссия спортсменов при МОК

العنوان - لجنة الرياضيين التابعة للجنة الأولمبية الدولية

Die Athletenkommission des IOC



Kiyoko KINO (JPN)
Athletics, Olympic champion and silver medals 1988, 1972
Кино КИКО (Япония)
كين كيكو (اليابان)



Britt PETTERSEN (NOR)
Cross-country skiing, Olympic champion 1984, bronze medals 1983, 1984
Бритт ПЕТТЕРСЕН (Норвегия)
بريت بيترسن (النرويج)



Peter TALLBERG (FIN)
Chairman
IOC Member in Finland
Fencing, participant 1960, 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976, 1980
Петр ТАЛБЕРГ (Финляндия)
بيرتر تالبرغ (الفياند)

Li NING (CHN)
Gymnastics, participant 1984, 1988
Olympic champion and silver medals 1984, 1988
Ли НИНГ (Китай)
لي نينغ (الصين)



Ken READ (CAN)
Alpine skiing, participant 1976, 1980
Кен РИД (Канада)
كين ريد (كندا)



Tomas GUSTAFSSON (SWE)
Speed skating, participant 1980
Olympic champion and silver medals 1984, 1988
Томас ГУСТАФССОН (Швеция)
توماس غوستافسون (السويد)



Vladimir TRETYAK (URS)
Ice hockey
Olympic champion 1972, 1976, 1984, silver medal 1980
Владимир ТРЕТЬЯК (СССР)
ولاديمير تريتيك (الاتحاد السوفياتي)



Edwin MOSES (USA)
Athletics
Olympic champion 1976, 1984, bronze medal 1988
Эдвин МОСОС (США)
ايدوين موسى (الولايات المتحدة)



Peter MONTGOMERY (AUS)
Water polo
participant 1972, 1976, 1980, 1984
Питер МОНТГОМЕРИ (Австралия)
بيتر مونتمونري (أستراليا)



Philippe BENOIST (FRA)
Fencing
Olympic champion 1980, 1988, silver medals 1984, 1988, bronze medals 1960, 1964
Филан БЕНУИСТ (Франция)
فيلان بينو (فرنسا)

S.A.S. Prince Albert de MONACO (MON)
Vice-Chairman
IOC Member in Monaco
Bobleigh, participant 1988
Его Светлость Принц Альберт де МОНАКО (Монако)
سوا آلبرج البرونو مونكو (موناكو)



Gilbert FELLI (ISR)
IOC Sport Director
Жильбер ФЕЛЛИ (Израиль)
جابر جلي (إسرائيل)



S.E. Monsieur Juan Antonio SAMBRANCH
President of the IOC
Его Превосходительство Господин Хуан Антонио САМБРАНЧ (Мексика)
سيدفة الرئيس جوان الطونجو سامبرانش



Sebastian COE (GBR)
Athletics, Olympic champion and silver medals 1980, 1984
Себастьян КОД (Великобритания)
سبستيان كو (المتحدة المتحدة)



Rafael González RODRÍGUEZ (MEX)
Athletics
participant 1976, 1980, 1984
Olympic champion and silver medal 1984
Рауль Гонзалес РОДРИГЕС (Мексика)
راؤل كونزالس (المكسيك)



Luis Alvarez CERVENA (ESP)
Equestrian sports, participant 1972, 1976, 1984, 1988
Луис Альварес СЕРВЕРА (Испания)
لويس الفارث سيرفا (إسبانيا)



Anita DEFRANTZ (USA)
Rowing, bronze medal 1976
Анита ДЕФРАНЦ (США)
انيدا ديفرانس (الولايات المتحدة)

matches are to be held, and Courchevel, reserved for practice sessions. The curling team headquarters will be located at La Grande Cordée, at the centre of Pralognan (120 beds). The freestylers, accommodated at the Tignes-Val-Claret Chalet Club (180 beds), will have a view of the three competition areas, while the speed skiers, occupying 150 beds in Les Arcs, will be able to fall asleep overlooking their own 1000m slope.

Visits to other villages are of course possible with the right accreditation and private transport will be available on request. All this will come to a close on 23rd February with a final banquet. No numbers need be worn by the athletes, only smiles...

C.B.

WELCOME TO THE ATHLETES' FAMILIES

On the basis of the experience gained in Calgary by the Rotary Club International, the sections of this club in the two Savoys and Isère have decided to take a leaf out of their Canadian friends' book and provide free accommodation and a reception service for the families of athletes participating in the Games.

Why have they taken this initiative? The reason is very simple. Several months before the Olympic Games begin, each International Federation carries out an initial selection among its best hopes with a view to intensive training. It is not until two weeks before the competitions begin, however, that the future participants are finally named. This presents a serious dilemma for the Finns, Germans and Japanese, for example, who have to find lodgings for their families in a very short space of time.



So what could be more natural than that the Rotary Club should organize on a voluntary basis the stays of these families for the duration of the Games. In Calgary, the final tally of this operation was not a little surprising: six thousand nights provided for a total of 1 200 families housed.

The regional sections of the Rotary Club (Annecy, Chambéry, Grenoble and Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne) are going to try and do the same through their programme "Let's welcome their families" (Accueillons leur famille, A.L.F.). At the head of a team of fifty people, Jean-Pierre Guérin and his Vice Chairman Jacques Chevalier have been beavering away, out of the limelight, the last ten months, in order to find 1 200 available rooms less than an hour away from the Olympic venues.

The Athletes' Commission has produced a booklet outlining its aims, responsibilities and activities within the IOC. This will be widely distributed during the Games. In addition, members will run an information bureau at Brides-les-Bains as well as in the other Olympic villages.