

Olympism

The athletes take stock

At its last meeting at the end of March, the IOC Athletes' Commission, chaired by IOC member in Finland Peter Tallberg, considered the following main items of discussion:

- Presentation of a report by the Commission's representatives within the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), Peter Tallberg, Johann Olav Koss, Robert Ctvrtlik and Manuela Di Centa, on the WADA Board meeting. The following subjects were highlighted on this occasion:
 - athlete representation on the working committees established by the Agency;

- the out-of-competition testing procedures before and during the Olympic Games in Sydney; I the creation of an anti-doping passport with the unanimous support and approval of the Commission, which will be submitting concrete proposals in this regard to the WADA Executive Committee.
- The activities of the Commission members during the Olympic Games in Sydney were defined. The members will take advantage of this opportunity to meet with athletes competing in the Games so that their views can be better known.

- The working groups of the Commission, which recently visited Sydney and Salt Lake City, presented a report on the preparations underway for these Games.
- The members were informed about the new procedure for electing the host city of the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in 2008 and, as provided in the Olympic Charter, selected a Commission representative for the initial candidature acceptance phase. Mr Robert Ctvrtlik was chosen to perform this role.
- The commission once again stressed the need for the IFs, NOCs and OCOGs to create athletes' commissions and have an athlete representative on their executive committees.
- The development of relations between the IOC and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), whose president attended this Athletes' Commission meeting, was discussed, together with the important role which the athletes play in this closer cooperation.
- The commission enthusiastically agreed to take part in the Olympic Museum's Museum 2000 project, part of which involves the creation of a Hall of Fame by 2001.



Athletes Commission. (Front row, from l. to r.) David McCrae, Tomas Gustafson, Yaping Deng, Mikako Sugiura, Manuela Di Centa, Peter Tallberg, Charmaine Crooks, Albert de Monaco, Sergei Bubka, Kipjoge Keino. (Background, from l. to r.) Roland Baar, Vladimir Smirnov, Philippe Riboud, Johann Olav Koss, Robert Ctvrtlik and Alexander Popov.



WOA Executive Committee. (from l. to r.) El Hadj Amadou Dia Ba, Liston D. Bochette, Elizabeth Ferris, Pál Schmitt, Irena Szewinska, Herb Elliott and William A. Toomey

In addition, a first-ever joint meeting with the World Olympians' Association (WOA) was held, demonstrating the wish to develop closer cooperation with the association. It was agreed that representatives of the commission would attend WOA meetings, and vice-versa. This was the last official meeting of the IOC Athletes' Commission in its present form, as eight new members will be elected during the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney. The next Commission meeting will take place in December 2000.