
Free opinion

allocate a certain amount to each candidate or cover their costs in some way to help them lead their campaign? Should the Ethics Commission, whose majority of members are Statesmen, consider the matter? You will agree with me that the IOC is a unique organization of its kind and that it is difficult to compare it with what is incomparable. All the better! That is what gives it its glory. The potential candidates have certainly defined their campaign policy and the way they are proceed. I am perhaps needlessly worrying about their lot! Yet I had to formulate the question, if only

to let those who give sermons know, that in this International Year of Volunteers, the candidates, who are Olympic volunteers, are not able to benefit, as politicians do, from financial support and that, in any case, the Olympic ethic – by which they abide – would not allow them.

Nevertheless, the voting will take place perfectly through an electronic voting system, after a conclusive rehearsal in Sydney. My colleague Thierry Sprunger, who has closely monitored the implementation of this system, will ensure that it runs smoothly. The President will certainly

appoint magistrates and lawyers to act as scrutineers. There will be no “chad” problem either, as was the case in Florida – because the IOC has known about Chad since 1964. And the result will be known immediately. The new IOC President will then take up office for a period of eight years, renewable only once for four years. The symbolic handing over of the keys to the IOC headquarters will take place on 20 July next in Lausanne and will mark the end of the Samaranch era, an era that will have been marked by the renewal and modernization of the Olympic Movement.

News

Senegal

The pioneer of Olympism in Senegal, Iba Mar Diop, Professor Emeritus and member of the IOC Medical Commission, was recently awarded the IOC Sport and Universality trophy by IOC vice-president Kéba Mbaye, who called it “a great distinction which goes to a great man. This is to reward the extraordinary career of an extraordinary man.” The ceremony took place at the Léopold Sédar Senghor stadium in Dakar, in

the presence of, among others, former Prime Minister Habib Thiam; Lamine Diack, IOC member and president of the International Amateur Athletics Federation; Françoise Zweifel, IOC Secretary General; Abdoulaye Seye Moreau, president of the International Basketball Federation; members of the board and management committee of the NOC; as well as numerous Senegalese athletes and champions.



(from l. to r.) Lamine Diack, Kéba Mbaye, Iba Mar Diop, Habib Thiam, Françoise Zweifel, Malik Sey and Tall Bouya Thiare.

Errata

In the special edition ‘Results of the Games of the XXVII Olympiad’, please note the following changes:

Football (page 42): for the women’s tournament, it should read ‘8-team tournament’ and not ‘16-team tournament’.

Weightlifting (page 48): in the ‘over 105kg’ category, Ashot Danielyan (Armenia) was disqualified (positive doping test); Andrei

Chermikin (Russian Federation) becomes bronze medallist in this category.