

# Olympic Games

## Countdown to the Salt Lake 2002 Paralympic Winter Games

One year from now, Salt Lake City will host the world's finest athletes with a disability as they compete in the VIII Paralympic Winter Games. On 7 March 2002, the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games of 2002 (SLOC) will welcome the world for the second time as the cauldron is lit in Rice Eccles Olympic Stadium.

SLOC expects that Paralympic teams from 40 nations will compete in the Salt Lake Paralympic Games. The 2002 Paralympic Winter Games are noteworthy for the fact that they will continue the spirit of competition and camaraderie of the Olympic Winter Games. SLOC is the first organizing committee to integrate preparations at all levels for both the Olympic and Paralympic Games. This concerted effort will insure that both events leave a lasting legacy on the history of the Winter Games.

The Paralympic Village, located on the



University of Utah campus will be the hub of residential life for the 1,100 visiting Paralympians, coaches and team officials from 1 March until 19 March 2002. In addition to new housing units, the 70-acre Paralympic Village will offer its residents a full host of goods and services, including 24-hour dining, entertainment and recreation activities, world wide web centre, packaging and mailing services, dry cleaning, a bank, post office, store and newsstand, salon, coffeehouse, photo shop and florist. Most bedrooms are approximately 160

square feet in size and one-third are wheelchair accessible. All bedrooms are equipped with quality furnishings, decorated with artwork crafted by Utah schoolchildren, and provided with daily housekeeping services. The heart and soul of the Team 2002 workforce - the volunteers - have been signing up in droves, demonstrating an overwhelming support of the Games and the athletes who embody the Paralympic ideals and spirit. The 2002 Paralympic Winter Games will require the assistance of approximately 6,000 volunteers.

Alongside the elite athletic competition of the Paralympic Games, is the Cultural Olympiad, which includes more than 60 performances and major exhibitions. Under the direction of Xavier Gonzalez, SLOC's managing director of Paralympics, the VIII Paralympic Winter Games will be a memorable event not only for the athletic triumph and competition, but for the spirit of human achievement and celebration of the mountain environment.

## Olympic Quiz \*

### The IOC and its nations

#### Questions

1. How many nations currently have NOCs recognized by the IOC?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Which organization has more member nations/NOCs - the IOC or the United Nations?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Which nations have NOCs that are members of the IOC but not of the United Nations?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which nations are members of the United Nations but do not have a NOC recognized by the IOC?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How many independent nations in the world are not members of the IOC? What are those nations?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. The IOC uses three-letter abbreviations to help identify their member NOCs, but some of these have changed with time. Name five that have changed.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Name five nations that once had IOC-recognized NOCs but are no longer recognized.  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Which nation that does not have an NOC recognized by the IOC, is affiliated with the most International sport Federations?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Which of the following nations, which have since changed their names, competed in the Olympic Games under these names: British Honduras, Ceylon, and the Gold Coast?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. The following nations have since changed their names and have now competed in the Olympic Games. Did any of them compete in the Olympics under these names: Belgian Congo, British Guiana, and Serbia?  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*Compiled by Bill Mallon, president of the International Society of Olympic Historians (ISOH).

# Olympic Quiz

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### Answers

1. There are currently 199 NOCs. Afghanistan, which has been recognized by the IOC, would make it 200 but it is currently suspended. Athletes from East Timor competed at the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney as Independent Olympic Athletes (IOA), but the nation does not yet have a NOC recognized by the IOC.
2. As of 2000, there were only 189 Member States of the United Nations - 10 less than the number of recognized NOCs.
3. Fourteen as follows: American Samoa, Aruba, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Chinese Taipei, Cook Islands, Guam, Hong Kong China, Netherlands Antilles, Palestine, Puerto Rico, Switzerland, and the US Virgin Islands. With the exception of Chinese Taipei and Switzerland, the others are not independent nations.
4. Afghanistan, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, and Tuvalu.
5. Five, as follows: Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, Vatican City, and Western Sahara (the precise legal status of Western Sahara is highly disputed).
6. This has happened numerous times but here are some examples: Saudi Arabia (formerly SAU, now KSA); Islamic Republic of Iran (formerly IRN, now IRI); Kazakhstan (formerly KZK, now KAZ); Belarus (formerly BLS, now BLR); The Netherlands (formerly HOL, now NED); Bosnia and Herzegovina (formerly BSH, now BIH); Lithuania (formerly LIT, now LTU); Papua New Guinea (formerly NGU, now PNG); and Tonga (formerly TON, now TGA).
7. This has also happened numerous times, but here are some of the nations: Serbia, German Democratic Republic, Federal Republic of Germany, Yemen Arab Republic, Yemen Democratic Republic, the Saar, USSR, Malaya, Czechoslovakia, and so on.
8. Macau, formerly a Special Territory of Portugal but since 1999 a Special Administrative Region of China, is affiliated with 17 International Sports Federations, which is more than many NOCs. As of late 2000, Macau has affiliation with the following sporting federations: aquatics (swimming, diving, water polo), archery, athletics (track and field), badminton, basketball, boxing, canoe and kayaking, cycling, football (soccer), handball, hockey (field), judo, shooting, table tennis, triathlon, volleyball, and weightlifting.
9. British Honduras competed at the Olympic Games in 1968, 1972, and 1976. The nation became Belize on 21 September 1981 and has since competed under that name in 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996, and 2000. Ceylon competed at the Olympic Games consecutively from 1948 to 1968 under that name. It became Sri Lanka on 22 May 1972, and competed at the Olympics in 1972, and continuously since 1980. The Gold Coast competed at the 1952 Olympic Games. The nation became independent on 6 March 1957 and changed its name to Ghana. It has since competed at the Olympic Games from 1960 to 1972, and 1984 to 2000.
10. British Guiana became Guyana on 26 May 1966, but as British Guiana the nation competed at the Olympic Games of 1948, 1952, 1956, 1960, and 1964. Serbia competed as an independent nation at the 1912 Olympics, prior to the formation of the Kingdom Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes on 4 December 1918, which later became Yugoslavia. Originally the Belgian Congo, this nation declared independence on 30 June 1960 and was renamed the Democratic Republic of Congo. The name was changed to Zaire on 27 October 1971, but was changed back to the Democratic Republic of Congo in May 1997. The nation never competed at the Olympic Games as the Belgian Congo.

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