

Editorial Preface

Welcome to my first issue editing the Bulletin. I am pleased to be able to take the reins from Braham Dabscheck, who has guided the Bulletin over the last eight years. He has done a fantastic job, and I hope to be able to maintain the standard that he has set. With this change at the helm, it is timely to remind people of the purpose of the Bulletin. The Bulletin is designed as a secondary outlet for ASSH members to contribute short articles, thought pieces, works in progress, material for comment, controversial topics, notices of forthcoming events, recent theses in the field and book/conference reviews. In fact, it is a plethora of materials, voices and information to keep members up to date with the practice of sports history in this country. The Bulletin survives on contributions and I encourage all members from academics to local sports historians to students and others interested in this field to submit their work for publication.

It is also a good time to expand the Bulletin to include a few new sections. After the sporting year that has been 1999, it seems appropriate to update and revamp the Bulletin so that sports historians in the future can reflect back on the twentieth century and muse upon sport and its role in 1990s Australia. Specifically, I am looking for challenging pieces that deal with new theoretical perspectives and how these might be applied to the study of sports history, book reviews that reflect on some of the benchmark publications of the 1980s and 1990s and I am specifically encouraging emerging scholars and students to contribute their work in progress for comment, so that the Bulletin can become a forum that generates lively debate.

So, we turn now to the current issue. We are pleased to present the winner of the 1998 ASSH Student Essay Prize, Whitney Brown, with her piece 'Societal Values, Olympic Values: Technology and the Environment in the 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games', and an article on amateurism in New Zealand by Geoff Vincent, presented at the ASSH conference in Queenstown earlier this year. Of course, there is the usual range of announcements and notices in this issue as well as information on ASSH seminars and forthcoming conferences. Enjoy!

Tara Magdalinski
Editor