

## Olympism

**IOC member Richard Pound [and a lifetime ISOH member]** received the Gold Medallion Award of the International Swimming Hall of Fame at a ceremony held on Saturday 11 May in Fort Lauderdale (USA).

This award is given annually to a former competitive swimmer for his or her involvement in the field of science, art, business, education or politics. Previous recipients include former US President Ronald Reagan and IOC member João Havelange. [Olympic Highlights, May 13, 2002]

South Korean (short-track) speed skater Lee Kyun Chun and Egyptian swimmer Rania Amr Elwani were recently appointed to **the IOC Athletes' Commission** by the IOC President.

These nominations ensure a fair representation of women and the different continents. Lee Kyung Chun was a candidate at the elections of the XIX Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City in 2002 and Rania Amr Elwani at the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney in 2000.

The IOC Athletes' Commission is now composed of 19 members, of whom 11 are male and eight female. Eleven are from Europe, three from America, two from Africa and Asia and one from Oceania. [Olympic Highlights, April 8, 2002]

**IOC members Susie O'Neill, Kevan Gosper and John Coates** led a sports delegation to attend the independence celebrations in East Timor.

On behalf of the IOC, they presented medals and trophies to athletes competing in the Independence Celebrations Festival of Sport, which featured athletics, boxing, basketball, football and volleyball.

The awards ceremony took place at the Gymnasium Matahari Terbit, which has recently been refurbished using funds provided by the IOC.

As Australian Olympic Committee President, John Coates pledged to support the NOC of East Timor once this is recognised.

He promised medical and administration assistance and help for East Timorese athletes to take part in the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens, in 2004, announcing his intention to ask the Athens Organising Committee to house the East Timorese team next to the Australian delegation in the Olympic Village. [Olympic Highlights, May 20, 2002]

The IOC confirmed this week that eight cities have applied to become candidates to host the XXI Olympic Winter Games in 2010. The cities are: **Vancouver (Canada), Sarajevo (Bosnia-Herzegovina), Jaca (Spain), Salzburg (Austria), Pyeongchang (Korea), Harbin (People's Republic of China), Bern (Switzerland) and Andorre-la-Vieille (Andorra)**. The order of the applicants was determined by drawing lots. The eight cities answered the questionnaire sent to them last December before the IOC deadline of midnight on 31 May. The eight questionnaires will be studied by a working group composed of members of the IOC administration and external advisers who, on the basis of the 11 criteria defined, will analyse the capacity of each city to organise and stage high level international multi-sports events. The working group will present the findings of their study to the IOC Executive Board meeting on 28 and 29 August in Lausanne, and the Board will draw up the list of official candidate cities. The host city will be selected and announced at the 115th IOC Session in July 2003 in Prague. [Olympic Highlights, June 4, 2002]

## Obituaries

The IOC was saddened to learn of the recent death of **the Comte Jean de Beaumont**, IOC member from 1951 to 1990 and then honorary member.

A great sportsman, Jean de Beaumont

practised, among other sports, football, athletics, horse-riding, sailing and shooting, a sport in which he became the World Champion. He also participated in the Games of the VIII Olympiad in Paris in 1924.

President of the French National Olympic Committee from 1967 to 1971 and Honorary President of the Sports Academy, the Comte de Beaumont was also a member of the IOC Executive Board from 1968 to 1974 and from 1976 to 1980, IOC Vice-President from 1970 to 1974, and Chairman of the Finance Commission from 1972 to 1988.

In 1961, he proposed to the IOC Executive Board to create an aid committee for countries on the point of achieving independence, particularly in Africa and Asia. The Executive Board approved this proposition by creating the Committee for International Olympic Aid, of which the Comte de Beaumont was appointed Chairman. In 1968, this Committee became an IOC Commission, later renamed the "Olympic Solidarity Commission".

The IOC President emphasised the importance of the Comte de Beaumont's contribution to the development of Olympism. [Olympic Highlights, June 17, 2002]

## International Sports Federations

**The International Fencing Federation (FIE)** decided to introduce women's individual sabre for the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens in 2004 at its extraordinary congress in Antalya (Turkey) on 7 April. The women's team foil and the men's sabre team on the other hand, will not be part of the programme. Thus, the number of individual competitions increases from five to six, while the number of team competitions is reduced to four. [Olympic Highlights, April 8, 2002]

**The International Volleyball Federation (FIVB)** has announced several decisions taken by its Board of Administration:

New qualification rules for the Olympic beach volleyball event will come into force for the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens in 2004. These rules are aimed at attaining

representation of all the continents. In addition, each country will have the right to enter a maximum of two men's and two women's teams.

The FIVB has also committed to ensure that at least two women form part of its Board of Administration. It has therefore adapted its electoral system as a consequence. [Olympic Highlights, April 8, 2002]

**The International Cycling Union (UCI)** unveiled its World Cycling Centre (WCC) in Aigle (Switzerland) on Sunday 14 April.

Numerous personalities from the worlds of sport and politics were there for the occasion, including UCI President Hein Verbruggen, IOC President Jacques Rogge, IOC Honorary President for Life Juan Antonio Samaranch, Federal Councillor Samuel Schmid, former Federal Councillor Adolf Ogi, Vaud State Councillor Claude Ruey and cyclists Fredy Kbler, Ercole Baldini, Eddy Merckx, Felice Gimondi and Francesco Moser.

The WCC has been created with the aim of providing the cycling world with comprehensive, multi-functional and modern facilities. Now completed, it includes:

- The UCI's administrative headquarters;
- An indoor velodrome with a 200m wooden track;
- outside sports facilities;
- a training centre for all the cycling disciplines, namely road, track, MTB, cyclo-cross, BMX, trial and indoor;
- an audiovisual documentation centre;
- multi-functional facilities for other sports.

The creation of such a centre would not have been possible without the commitment of an entire region. The total cost of the WCC is almost 26 million Swiss francs, of which 75% has been paid by the various partners, i.e. the UCI, the Swiss Confederation, the cantons of Vaud and Valais, the city of Lausanne, the Sport-Toto lotteries of Vaud and Valais, the Swiss National Olympic Committee and the IOC. Several towns in the region have also contributed, while Aigle has provided the land for the centre free of charge for 30 years, renewable for three periods of 15 years. [Olympic Highlights, April 15, 2002]



On 29 May, the **International Rowing Federation (FISA)** announced the qualification system for the 2004 Olympic Games regatta in Athens. A total of 550 athletes (358 men and 192 women) will qualify to row in the 14 events raced at the Games. [Olympic Highlights, June 4, 2002]

**The President of the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF), René Fasel** announced on 2 July that the “Victoria Skating Rink” site in Montreal is now officially recognised as the birthplace of ice hockey. Based on a report by the Society for International Hockey Research (SIHR), René Fasel explained that the hockey match held on 3 March 1875 at “Victoria Skating Rink” was considered as the first match meeting the Federation’s criteria. René Fasel said that it was considerable luck for hockey to be able to precisely identify the birthplace of the sport. A commemorative plaque will be displayed at the “Victoria Skating Rink”. [Olympic Highlights, July 2, 2002]

## **2002 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES BREAKS NEW RECORDS**

*Unprecedented Marketing Success Outlined in ‘Marketing Matters’*

*LAUSANNE, Switzerland (17 June 2002) -* The International Olympic Committee (IOC) today confirmed the outstanding marketing success of the XIX Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, with record breaking results in broadcasting, licensing, internet and sponsorship.

Statistics in all marketing-related areas demonstrate that new standards have been set. The figures, outlined in detail in the IOC’s ‘Marketing Matters’ newsletter, which can be found on *the IOC web site*, show:

*Most successful Olympic broadcast in Winter Games history*

- 2.1 billion viewers in 160 countries and territories
- 13.1 billion viewer hours
- Coverage double that of the 1998 Nagano Games
- Leap in prime-time and live coverage

*Salt Lake sold more available tickets than any other Olympic Games*

- More than 1.525 million tickets were sold, representing 95% of the available tickets

*Olympic sponsorship programme generated more revenue from fewer sponsors*

- Salt Lake 2002 Games local sponsorship programme generated a total of US\$876 million from 61 local sponsors

*Licensing*

- Generated US\$500million in gross retail sales [International Olympic Committee Press Release]

## **Olympic Museum & Olympic Study Centre**

Scholarship winner of the 2002 Postgraduate Researchers’ Grants Programme, César Torres, PhD student at New York University [and an ISOH member], was hosted at the Olympic Studies Centre during the month of June. He spent considerable time consulting the files in the IOC’s historical archives in order to find information for his research subject: Latin America- 1920 “Olympic Explosion” causes and consequences. [Olympic Highlights, June 24, 2002]