



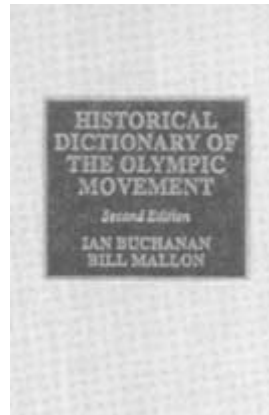
SYDNEY 2000 – The Figures, The Results, The Athletes, by Gennadi Maritchev; published by Demarko Sport Publishing, LV-1014, Riga, Anna Sakses Street 6, 1. Riga, LATVIA, with the assistance of

the Latvian Olympic Committee. ISBN 9984-9156-8-9, 467 pages, in English. Price: US\$65.00, inclusive mailing. Reviewed by Tony Bijkerk.

Gennadi Maritchev published this book two years after the Closing Ceremony of the Sydney Olympics, and he obviously used the time to check, and recheck each item..His use of Wolf Lyberg's statistics for the IOC is remarkable, even though in his book Maritchev's fact findings regularly differ from Lyberg's. But in those cases he always mention the differences between his and Lyberg's findings. A rather unusual but most generous gesture to ISOH's doyen. As stated in the title of the book, one can find detailed information on the Games of the XXVIIth Olympiad, Sydney 2000, including full results of every event, and the personal details [short biographies] of each Olympic athlete, with a special list with the athletes which were entered, but did not start at the end of the book

As usual for a specialist like myself, I checked the details of the Dutch athletes and to be honest, I found a few missing details. For example: throughout his book Maritchev limited himself to only one or two Christian names for each person, where many of my fellow countrymen and women have three, four or sometimes even five Christian names. Maybe he decided to leave them out to save space, but in that case, you can not claim to be complete in your statistics!

However, Maritchev clearly shows us how an Olympic Games can and should be recorded.



Historical Dictionary of the Olympic Movement, Second Edition; by Ian Buchanan and Bill Mallon. Lanham, MD and London: The Scarecrow Press, 2001. ISBN 0-8108-4054-5. 366 pages, in English. Price: US\$ Reviewed by

John Findling and Kimberly Pelle.

The first edition of this book, published in 1995, was a well-organized and useful reference work on the Olympic movement. We are pleased to note that the second edition, published in time for the recent Salt Lake City Winter Games, is even better. Buchanan and Mallon have made a number of significant changes in the book that enhance its readability and usefulness for students of Olympic history.

Readers will notice first a vast improvement in font and page design, which work to make the book a more pleasant reading experience. The new edition has a larger type font and a more attractive page layout. The chapter headings and subheadings are more prominent, and the various tables and lists in the many appendices are easier to follow. The organization of the book remains the same, but the bibliography, now placed after the appendices is more accessible. The picture section has been dropped; no great loss, because while there were some interesting photographs, they added little to the usefulness of the book. Most importantly, the authors have done a meticulous job of updating the information through the completed Olympics of 1996, 1998, and 2000, and the forthcoming Games of 2002 and 2006.

The book begins with a straightforward time line of Olympic history, from the ancient Games through the present, followed by brief essays on each of the Summer and Winter Games since 1896. While short, these essays are packed with important information regarding such matters as the site selection, the number of participants, and some of the distinctive features of each of the Games.

The main body of the dictionary, as in the first edition, is an alphabeticized series of entries occupying about 280 pages (as opposed to 180 pages in the first edition). These entries include one for each country that has been recognized by the International Olympic Committee, with information about its years of participation in the Games, medals won, and the like. There are also entries for various Olympic-related agencies and committees, including international sport federations, IOC committees, and each of the sports that is currently (or has ever been) part of the Games program. In addition, there are many biographical sketches of Olympic champions-not every medal winner, but those who have won more medals in their event than anyone else, or whose Olympic career has been truly exceptional. There are entries on less well known aspects of Olympism, such as the origins of the Olympic Hymn, the Olympic Creed, and even something called the Olympic Collectors Commission. Finally, these are a number of subject entries that students will find very useful on such things as doping, the Olympic bribery scandal, gender verification, and television, among others.

For the second edition, the authors have dropped five entries (or combined them with others) and added more than 120 others, many of which relate to Olympic games and developments since the first edition was published in 1995.

Often, a second edition is little more than a reprinting of the first edition, dressed up with a new introduction, but reflecting little other additional work on the part of the author or authors. Happily, this is not the case with the Historical Dictionary of the Olympic Movement. Buchanan and Mallon have clearly put forth a good deal of time and effort to make their dictionary even better than the fine work their first edition was. Libraries and individuals who bought the first edition will want to upgrade their collections by purchasing this edition.

OLYMPIC HAPPENINGS II – Cultural Events During the First Modern Olympic Games in 1896, written and published by Thanassis Tarassouleas, 10, Stadiou Street, ATHENS 10564, GREECE; printed by Alexandros Marsoukis S.A. in Athens; 91 pages, in

Greek and English. Reviewed by Tony Bijkerk.

ISOH Member Athanassis Tarassouleas is continuing a series which he started a couple of years ago and in which he informs his readers of recent discoveries which he made during his studies of the minutes of the meeting of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, which organised the Games of the First Olympiad, Athens 1896. Mr. Tarassouleas is the happy owner of a complete set of these minutes in which he found much very important historical information.

In the newly published book [summer 2002], he gives a report of the many cultural events which took place before and during the first Olympic Games in Athens in 1896. Music has always played an important role in Greece and it is shown in the chapter which he dedicated to Musical Events, of which there were many! Of particular interest I found the fact that most of the philharmonic societies must have had a military nature, as they all wore military uniforms. No less than 30 philharmonic orchestras were invited to come to Athens, but only 18 agreed to come and most received a stipend from the Organizing Committee for their efforts. The author describes when and where most of these orchestras played and what kind of music they used for the performances. Of course, special attention has been given to the performance of the Olympic Hymn, composed by Spyros Samaras of Corfu, with lyrics by the Greek national poet Costis Palamas. Many of our members will remember from the descriptions in early reports on the Athens Games that the performance of this hymn had to be repeated in the Olympic Stadium because of its high success with the spectators, who begged for the repeat!

In other chapters Mr. Tarassouleas writes about the theaters and the programmes they brought, about the performers [actors and actresses]; the decorations with which the city of Athens [and other Greek cities] presented themselves, most of it concerned lighting of the cities and decoration with flags. Other chapters discuss publications, stamps, poetry, architecture, painting [design of the diploma and medals]; sculpture; lectures, torchlight procession and finally the receptions and