

## **Mexico Session IOC Rejects Campaign Visits and Expulsion of Sports**

The *International Olympic Committee* overwhelmingly upheld a ban on member visits to bidding cities, and prepared to vote on a proposal to drop baseball, softball and modern pentathlon from the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

IOC president Jacques ROGGE called the vote on the visits Thursday even though there was no formal proposal to end the ban on such trips by IOC members - a restriction enacted after the scandal over gifts to Olympic officials during Salt Lake City's successful campaign for the 2002 Winter Games.

Several IOC members expressed resentment of the ban. But when ROGGE called for the vote, only six of the 114 IOC members in the room raised their hands.

The final day of the IOC meetings, the committee was to rule on the Olympic fate of baseball, softball and modern pentathlon.

A commission suggested in August that the three sports be eliminated from the 2008 games in Beijing, suggesting that they lack global appeal or added high costs to host cities.

The IOC voted Friday to delay a decision until after the 2004 Athens Olympics. That sharply reduces the chances the sports would be expelled, in part because it would mean complicated changes for Beijing organizers, athletes and Olympic sponsors.

## **IOC approves changes to three day equestrian event**

A reduced format for the three-day equestrian event was approved Tuesday by the International Olympic Committee executive board.

The federation suggested the change because it was 'deeply concerned' by a report from an IOC commission recommending that three-day events be dropped completely from the Olympics starting with the 2008 Beijing Games.

Under the reduced format, the dressage and jumping disciplines will be maintained, but the steeplechase, road and track elements of the cross-country discipline will be eliminated.

Only the cross-country obstacle course will be kept in place.

IOC spokeswoman Giselle Davies said the changes would reduce by half the number of acres required for the three-day eventing course. The overall length of the course also will be cut from the current 15.6 miles to 3.1 miles. The number of officials needed will be reduced by 70 percent.

## **The IOC announced the composition of the Evaluation Commission for the XXI Olympic Winter Games in 2010:**

Chairman: Gerhard HEIBERG (NOR)

Director: Gilbert FELLI (SUI)

Members:

IOC representatives:

Chiharu IGAYA (JAP)

Peter TALLBERG (FIN)

The Prince of ORANGE (NED)

Representatives of

International Sports Federations:

Oskar FISCHER (SUI)

Roy SINCLAIR (GBR)

Representatives of National

Olympic Committees:

Tsunekazu TAKEDA (JAP)

José Luis MARCO (ARG)

Athletes' representative:

Pernilla WIBERG (SWE)

Experts:

Olav MYRHOLT (NOR-environment)

Grant THOMAS (USA-organisation)

Rémy CHARMETANT (FRA-organisation)

Rick LUDWIG (USA-finance)

Representative of the International Paralympic Committee:

Rita van DRIEL (NED)

This Commission has the twofold task of analysing the Files submitted by the three Candidate Cities - Vancouver (CAN), Salzburg (AUT) and Pyeongchang (KOR) - by January 2003, and then inspecting each city, before publishing a report in May 2003. The Commission will visit Pyeongchang from 14 to 17 February 2003, Vancouver from 2 to 5



March 2003 and Salzburg from 13 to 16 March 2003.

[Olympic Highlights, October 21, 2002]

*Samsung* has renewed its worldwide Olympic partnership until the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing in 2008, also covering the XX Olympic Winter Games in Turin in 2006. Participating in the sixth generation of *The Olympic Partner* (TOP) programme, *Samsung* is the seventh partner to renew its Olympic agreement for the next quadrennium. The corporation joins global Olympic partners *Coca-Cola*, *Kodak*, *John Hancock*, *SchlumbergerSema*, *Swatch* and *Panasonic*.

[Olympic Highlights, October 21, 2002]

### Olympic Museum

On Tuesday 22 October, a bronze statue of Emil ZATOPEK took its place in the in the *Olympic Museum* park.

The statue of the long-distance runner one of the greatest in Olympic history, by the sculptor

Jaroslav BROZ, was a gift from the Czech NOC. Dana ZATOPKOVA, the athlete's widow, and Jacques ROGGE, IOC President, unveiled the statue together, applauded by a large Czech delegation which included the sculptor himself; NOC President Milan JIRASEK; Minister of Youth and Sports Petra BUZKOVA; as well as Jan ZELEZNY, Olympic javelin champion in 1992, 1996 and 2000. The Canton of Vaud and the City of Lausanne were represented by Jacqueline MAURER-MAYOR and Olivier FRANÇAIS .

Emil ZATOPEK, who died in 2000 at the age of 78, was one of the greatest runners in history. He won Olympic gold in the 10,000m and silver in the 5,000m in 1948 in London. Four years later, in Helsinki, he won the 5,000m, defended his 10,000m title and won a third medal in the marathon, thus making a hat trick, unequalled in Olympic history.

[Olympic Highlights, October 21, 2002]

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