

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL



First of all, I want to inform our members that the quadrennial meeting of our Society, as usual to be held in conjunction with the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004, is planned for Sunday morning, August 15, 2004 at 10:30 am. The premises where the meeting will take place have yet to be decided, but we will inform you as soon as a decision has been taken.

In my last Message, I already informed you about the meeting on September 2, 2002, with IOC

President Rogge.

Early March, 2003, IOC President Rogge informed ISOH President Bill Mallon that our suggestion to have the 1906 Intermediate Games recognized as official Olympic Games, was not accepted by the Executive Board of the IOC.

Of course, the Executive Committee of ISOH regrets the decision, as we feel that our arguments were historically correct and that they are still valid. However, the decision has been taken and ISOH has to accept that fact.

On other items of the agenda of that meeting with the IOC President, we can report that he recently confirmed the composition of the 24

commissions and working groups of the IOC, whose role is to guide the IOC and Olympic Games Organising Committees.

In the Commission for Culture and Olympic Education two members of the ISOH Executive Committee were re-appointed: Dr. Karl Lennartz and Dr. Kostas Georgiadis.

The Executive Committee of ISOH decided to make proposals for new additions to the ISOH Constitution, as follows:

Since we have received signals that it would be worthwhile to include more students in our work, the Executive Committee will propose a change in Article Five of the Constitution to include:

d. Student Member. A "Student Member" is defined as a person enrolled at a recognized educational institution as a full-time student.

In the past, ISOH was also approached by several historians from underdeveloped countries who requested to be allowed to join the Society, but who also indicated that they could not pay the annual subscription dues. The Executive Committee allowed for some time the inclusion of several "complimentary members", but recently decided that it was necessary to have a ruling for that purpose in the Constitution. Therefore, a new proposal has been made to decide which persons will receive this "complimentary membership" and to give the

Executive Committee official recognition as follows:

e. Complimentary Member. A "Complimentary Member" is defined as a person who in the opinion of the Executive Committee should have the annual dues waived for reason of financial hardship. The Committee shall review all such memberships annually and a majority vote shall be sufficient.

The allowance of such complimentary membership will depend on two factors: (1) the desire to expand the ISOH membership and reach, and (2) the costs to ISOH of "servicing" such members with publications, etc.

The Executive Committee will only pass proposals about Olympic historians from underdeveloped countries. Each case to be decided on an individual basis by the Executive Committee after a proposal received from any member of ISOH who comes forward with such a proposal.

In the past four months and since the mailing of the ISOH Directory 2003 to all members, ISOH received applications for membership from eleven new members, and two Patron Members, while three members decided to resign. The personal notes can be found in this issue of the Journal, under ISOH MEMBER INFORMATION.

Anthony Th. Bijkerk