



POLSCY OLIMPIJCZYCY XX WIEKU
[Polish Olympians of the 20th Century], by Bogdan Tuszyński, 2 Volumes, Wrocław: EUROPA, 2004, ISBN 83-7407-050-1 (hardback), PLN 149,-(ca. 38,-) reviewed by Thomas Zawadzki

Poland has been taking part at the Olympic Games since 1924 but until now it has been difficult to have a general historical record of Polish participants at the games.

Now this biographical dictionary of Polish Olympic athletes from 1924 to 2002 will become an essential companion for any Olympic historian and/or statistician.

Divided into two volumes (A-M and N-Ż) Bogdan Tuszyński offers correct spelling of the names, well researched dates, key biographical and competition details and wherever possible a picture. The key seems to be the listing of nearly

all clubs, training centres, etc. But most important are the notes on further reading. The alphabetical order of the articles makes the search for an athlete's data very easy. Furthermore indexes offer additional ways to search: athletes by sports, athletes by Olympic Games and athletes by ranking (1-3). Also included are the bibliographical indices which also list unpublished works and a list of Polish participants in the Olympic Art competitions 1912 to 1948.

Dr. Bogdan Tuszyński is a sports historian and publicist. During his long career as a journalist and author he received several awards. Among these two were awarded by the *Polish Olympic Committee* for literature as well as one for the competent support during the radio transmission of the Olympic Games in Montreal 1976 handed over by the Polish Radio Commission. He is the author of some 25 books on sport and Olympic history, historical development of sport journalism, and on biographical research in sport.

The clear structure, the exact language and the variety of information make the 1,100 pages a must for Olympic research.