

## Members Forum

On 24 January 1999, ISOH member David Meschi wrote to the editor as follows:

My enclosed opinion is an idea of mine to expand the scope of the Journal to include current opinions on vital issues facing the Olympic Movement today. With the vast knowledge which the members of our Society have, we might offer a positive influence to a movement we all love and respect.

Even though my submission to the Members' Forum does not meet the intent of seeking assistance for research from other members of ISOH, my purpose is to solicit the opinions of other members when important issues about our Olympic Movement have made the headlines throughout the world.

What is your opinion?

I have been a member of ISOH since 1994, and this is the first time I have written to the Journal.

I have been a student of the Olympic Movement for the past 13 years and continue to increase my knowledge as my Olympic library grows. Even though I have yet to submit any material to the Journal, I have strong feelings about the recent Olympic bribery scandal.

Off all the various groups involved in the world of sport, the IOC must claim the highest ethical role, a role based on honesty, intelligence, and the love of sport. The IOC must avoid the arrogance that money can provide, and which separates itself from the athletes.

Since the IOC is the heart of the Olympic Movement and the athletes the heart of the Games, it would seem only natural that the Committee would want to stay with the athletes in the Olympic Village during the celebration of the Games, and be able to travel with the athletes during the Games.

As Anita DeFrantz stated in an article in the Olympic Message (No.33-1992), "When I think of my experience in sport I think of a number of races which were special. But when I think of my experiences in the Olympic Games, the very first image that comes to my mind is the Olympic Village. A place where respect and confidence is shared by all."

As for gifts, there is absolutely no reason why the IOC should allow its members to accept them. The highest ethical ground can only be claimed when the IOC states to the world that this practice is no longer acceptable.

Allowing and expecting gifts is degrading to the Movement and to the people who have the responsibility to protect it for the generations to come. Other sport organisations might allow these practices, but the IOC should be different; it is unique in this world, and we all set ourselves apart from the professional sports world by our character and belief in Olympism.

David Meschi.

6TH ISHPES CONGRESS - BUDAPEST, HUNGARY  
July 14 - 19, 1999.

The Organizing Committee from the Hungarian University of Physical Education, in the person of ISOH member Dr. Katalin Szikora, requested the editor to mention the upcoming congress in this issue of the Journal.

The theme of the Congress is: SPORT AND POLITICS. In all cultures and historical periods politics has influenced society and the lives of individuals. It has also had a strong influence on sport and physical education. And sport has had at the same time an influence

on big' politics.

The Congress will deal with international, national, regional and local aspects of sport and politics.

The Congress languages are English, German and French.

The Congress Venue is the Hungarian University of Physical Education in Budapest.

For such events, the university provides the site and facilities for both professional and social programs.

The aula (seating 400 chairs) will be the venue of all plenary sessions and ceremonies. Four lecture rooms with a capacity of 80 persons and a number of smaller classrooms are also available for different sections.

The Registration Fee will be:

ISHPES Members: 240 USDollars.

ISHPES Members from Eastern European Countries: 205 USDollars.

Non Members: 265 USDollars.

Non Members from Eastern European Countries: 230 USDollars.

Accompanying Person: 90 USDollars.

The Registration Fee includes participation in the sessions, coffee breaks, the abstract book, proceedings (1 copy), use of sport facilities, sightseeing and social programs.

Further information, for instance about Accommodation, can be obtained from the Organizers:

Dr. Katalin Szikora and Mr. Ladislav Petrovic.

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H-1123 Budapest  
Hungary

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ISOH member Gennadi Maritchev from Latvia wrote to the editor on 26 February 1999, as follows:

Dear ISOH-Members:

The firm "Demarko Sport Publishing" has started the creation of a many-volume OLYMPIC ENCY-

CLOPAEDIA. For the first time in the history of the Olympic Movement, we want to summarize all information collected in these years in one issue. And we are really trying to perform the work in the most complete way possible.

The Olympic Charter, all Olympic Congresses and Sessions of the I.O.C., full technical results, data of more than one hundred thousand Olympians, biographies of all the members of the International Olympic Committee, the history of Olympic building, an Olympic Bibliography and many other data will be mentioned in this set of volumes.

It is obvious that the realization of such a project would be impossible without forming an 'international team of specialists' working together in the direction of Olympic research. Similar attempts were already made in different countries, but to no avail.

We already sent personal invitations to participate in this project to a number of ISOH members. And, to our satisfaction, we have not received any refusal so far.

Now, we invite all members of the Society of Olympic Historians to participate in the creation of this Olympic Encyclopaedia!

In spite of the already large volume of collected information, we are very much interested in any data, including the biographies of Olympic sportsmen (dates of birth and death, height, weight, etc.), presidents of national Olympic Committees and rare Olympic photographs.

For additional information about the structure of the Olympic Encyclopaedia, its general parameters, the expected time of publishing, please contact me at the address: Demarko Sport Publishing, LV-1021 RIGA, Postbox 147, Latvia.

At the same time, we can inform you that our publishing house still has at its disposal a small number of unsold books: WHO IS WHO AT THE SUMMER OLYMPICS 1896-1992 (four volumes with 2237 pages). You may purchase these at a special price.

We hope for your support for this, our project, and for your help in our research.

Sincerely,

Gennadi Maritchev, director.