

OLYMPIC NEWS

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- The IOC Ethics Commission, which was established following membership approval at the 108th IOC Session, has now been appointed with the following membership: Chairman: Judge Kéba Mbaye (Senegal); members: Robert Badinter (France), Howard H. Baker (USA), Charmaine Crooks (Canada), Javier Pérez de Cuellar (Peru), Kurt Furgler (Switzerland), Kevan Gosper (Australia) and Chiharu Igaya (Japan).
- The Ethics Commission has been established to provide advice and guidance on how the IOC operates, in accordance with the best practices of international business and government. (Olympic Highlights, Number 362, 9 April 1999).
- IOC Vice President Richard Pound and IOC marketing director Michael Payne met with senior sponsor and broadcast officials in New York this week to brief them on the key steps taken by the IOC Session last month, and the IOC's plans going forward. Overall, the partners were encouraged by the IOC's resolve to address the issues at hand and reconfirmed their support for the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in 2000 in Sydney. (Olympic Highlights, Number 361, 2 April 1999).
- Franklin Servan-Schreiber has been appointed as IOC Director of Communications. (Olympic Highlights, Number 362, 9 April 1999).
- On Tuesday (May 4th), the IOC President officially unsealed the Olympic archives of Lord Killanin, IOC President from 1972 to 1980, who died last month. Lord Killanin bequeathed some 14 boxes of correspondence and photographs relating to his tenure to the Olympic Studies Centre, on condition that they be opened only after his death. The ceremony was attended by the Irish NOC vice president Louis Kilcoyne and journalist John Rodda, long-time friend of Lord Killanin. (The Week's Olympic News, Number 366, 7 May 1999).
- The Working Group on Doping in Sport met on 8th June in Lausanne. Representatives of numerous member-organizations were present to discuss the

creation of the International Anti-Doping Agency and study detailed aspects of the project. A draft set of statutes and a mission statement will be prepared for the next working group meeting, scheduled for 6th July 1999. After the meeting, the IOC director general François Carrard noted that "Work is continuing in the very positive and constructive atmosphere which have characterised these meetings from the start." (Olympic Highlights, Number 371, 11 June 1999).

- Louis Guirandou-N'Diaye, a member of the IOC since 1969 has died at the age of 76. The IOC President paid tribute, saying: "The Olympic Movement has lost a good friend in Louis Guirandou-N'Diaye. He was a force in the world of judo and a champion of sport in Côte d'Ivoire." The Olympic flag was flown at half-mast in honour of his memory.
- Louis Guirandou-N'Diaye had a long career in the IOC. He held a number of posts within the organization, including being a member of the IOC Executive Board (1978-1984), first vice-president of the IOC (1980-1984), chairman and later vice-chairman of the Commission on New Sources of Financing (1983-1988). He was equally chief of protocol since 1985 and a member of the Olympic Solidarity Commission since 1988. (The Week's Olympic News, Number 371, 11 June 1999).

109th IOC SESSION

- The 109th Session of the IOC in Seoul selected the city of Turin to host the XX Olympic Winter Games in 2006.

The selection process for these Olympic Games was made according to the exceptional procedure approved by the 108th IOC Session in Lausanne. From the six candidate cities: (Helsinki, Klagenfurt, Poprad-Tatry, Sion, Turin and Zakopane) the two finalists cities - Sion and Turin were selected by the selection college constituted as follows: the IOC President (chairman); the IOC Doyen Joao Havelange; eight IOC members as elected by the Session: Fernando Limo Bello, Valeri Borzov, Willi

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Kaltschmitt, Toni Khouri, Jean-Claude Killy, Gunilla Lindberg, Shengrong Lu and Sam Ramsamy; the Chairman of the Evaluation Commission Chiharu Igaya, Josef Fendt as representative of the winter sport IFs appointed by the Association of the International Winter Sports Federations (AIWF), Feliciano Mayoral as NOC representative appointed by the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) and Prince Albert de Monaco, Tomas Gustafson and Vladimir Smirnov as representatives for the athletes.

The plenary session elected Turin with a final vote of 53 to 36 votes for Sion. (Olympic Highlights, Number 372, 19 June 1999).

- In his opening speech the IOC President said:

"We are here once again in Seoul, a city of which we have very good memories for its having hosted the Games of the XXIV Olympiad in 1988 and for having always welcomed the Olympic Movement with traditional Korean hospitality.

... We have admitted to the errors committed and accepted our responsibilities. It was thus that the Ethics Commission and the IOC 2000 Commission, which are composed of representatives of the athletes, the International Olympic Committee, the International Federations, the National Olympic Committees as well as outside personalities, were set up and began their respective tasks.

... We say "yes" to the reforms necessary to consolidate the Olympic Movement, without renouncing our convictions.

... 'Yes' to reforms which underscore Olympism as it is defined in the Olympic Charter.

'Yes' to reforms, without destroying the heritage of our founder Pierre de Coubertin.

'Yes' to reforms which will enable athletes to play a prominent role in the Olympic Movement.

... 'Yes' to reforms which lead to a greater association of the International Federations and the National Olympic Committees with the leadership of the Olympic Movement.

... 'Yes' to reforms which will give greater importance to Olympic Education, the culture of peace and the well-being of humankind, Olympic Solidarity and sport for all.

... 'Yes' to reforms which include the role of women at all levels of the Olympic Movement.

... 'Yes' to transparent, thorough and effective administrative reforms.

... 'Yes' to reforms which protect the universality, importance and prestige of the Olympic Games, as well as the independence of our organization.

But we say 'No' to hasty reforms to please our critics.

... 'No' to reforms which defend the interests of some at the expense of others.

... 'No' to reforms based on personal and conflicting interests.

Nevertheless, the IOC's activities have not diminished. The working group set up following last February's world conference on doping in sport has also held two meetings in Lausanne. The ways and means of creating an anti-doping agency are a topic of intense reflection. The IOC, International Federations and National Olympic Committees alike are prepared to act so that the agency will be operational before the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney. Governments are welcomed to join our efforts, which involve the 38 International Federations and 200 National Olympic Committees.

... My concern today is to bring the IOC 2000 Commission's work to a successful conclusion and to ensure that the proposals for reform are implemented in the best interest of the Olympic Movement.

... My concern is to leave to my successor, at the end of my term in 2001, an institution which is over 100 years old, solid and beyond reproach."

(The Week's Olympic News, Number 372, 19 June 1999).

- Following recommendations put by the investigative panel charged with studying allegations of misconduct by IOC member Philip Coles, the Executive Board took the unanimous decision to: maintain the most severe warning previously issued to Mr. Coles; to add a reprimand to this warning for serious negligence and to propose that the IOC President not appoint Mr. Coles as a member of any IOC commission or working group for a period of two years. In coming to this decision, the Executive

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Board considered that taking part or being aware of the compilation of notes on fellow IOC members did not in itself constitute a sanctionable offense. Not taking all the necessary precautions however to avoid the disclosure of such notes demonstrated serious negligence. (The Week's Olympic News, Number 372, 19 June 1999).

- As part of a commitment to openness, the Executive Board decided that all IOC Session proceedings would be open to the media, via close-circuit television as of the 109th IOC Session. (The Week's Olympic News, Number 372, 19 June 1999).
- The following decisions were taken by the 109th IOC Session:
 - to conduct random doping controls at the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney. These controls will be performed under the IOC's authority. The IOC Medical Commission will establish the details of how these controls will be implemented when it meets in Sydney in October.
 - To refrain, on an experimental basis, from performing gender tests at the 2000 Games in Sydney. The IOC will nonetheless reserve the right to conduct such tests, if necessary.
 - Kevan Gosper was elected as vice president.
 - Zhenliang He was elected to the Executive Board, replacing Pal Schmitt.
 - Pal Schmitt was elected as chief of protocol.
 - Joseph Blatter, FIFA President, was elected as ex officio IOC member.

(The Week's Olympic News, Number 372, 19 June 1999).

- During the 109th IOC Session in Seoul, the IOC Executive Board announced the definitive recognition of:
 - The World Karate Federation (FMK);
 - The International Chess Federation (FIDE);
 - The World Bridge Federation (WBF).

This brings the total number of Recognised Federations to 30, seven being provisional.

The Tug of War International Federation (TWIF) and the International Wushu Federation (IWUF) received provisional recognition as International Recognised Federations.

(Olympic Highlights, Number 373, 25 June 1999).

SARAJEVO

- The Zetra sports arena in Sarajevo, destroyed during the country's civil war, was reopened on May 28 by the IOC President. He was accompanied by IOC member and ISU president Ottavio Cincuenta; the president of the NOC of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bogic Bogicevic; NOC secretary general Sejdalija Mustafic; Mayor of Sarjevo Beriz Belkic; vice president of the Sarajevo Organizing Committee for the 1984 Olympic Winter Games Aziz Hadzihasanovic; the Deputy Mayor of Barcelona Albert Batlle; and IOC director of NOC relations Pere Miró.
- The reconstruction of the Zetra stadium was made possible by financing from: the IOC, the European Union, the canton of Sarajevo and The Sport Humanitarian Group, with support from the governments of Norway and The Netherlands, the city of Barcelona, the Spanish government and the ISU.

(Olympic Highlights, Number 369, 28 May 1999).

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS

- The International Swimming Federation (FINA) has set the qualification criteria for a new event in the programme of the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney: : synchronized diving. Participants in the men's and women's 3m and 10m events will be the top seven-ranked teams at the 12th FINA Diving World Cup, to be held in Sydney from 25th to 19th January 2000, plus an Australian team, representing the host nation. (Olympic Highlights, Number 366, 7 May 1999).

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- The International Volleyball Federation, (FIVB), led by Rubén Acosta, has announced its qualifying process for the Games of the XXVII Olympiad Sydney in 2000.
 - The top three teams at the 1999 world volleyball championships in Japan will automatically go forward, along with an Australian team representing the host nation. The women's event will take place from 2nd to 16th November, followed by the men's world championships from 18th November to 2nd December.
 - Joining them will be the winners of the qualifying world tournaments taking place in June (women's) and July (men's). In total 92 teams have registered with the FIVB to become one of the 12 men's or 12 women's teams eligible for entry to the Games of the XXVII Olympiad Sydney in 2000.
 - The FIVB has announced that, after only two African teams entered for the world championships in 1995, it is actively supporting the participation of African teams in this year's competitions through aid programmes for nine women's teams. (Olympic Highlights, Number 367, 14 May 1999).
- Following the 27th European women's basketball championships in Poland, the following teams have qualified to compete in the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney 2000: USA, as world champions; Australia, as host nation; Brazil, Canada and Cuba, from the Americas; Korea, from Asia; France, Poland, Russian and Slovakia, from Europe. The remaining two teams, representing Africa and Oceania, await the outcome of future tournaments this Autumn. (Olympic Highlights, Number 371, 11 June 1999).

NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

- Swiss gymnast Georges Mieze, who won eight Olympic medals in four Olympic Games, has died in Lugano at the age of 95. Georges Mieze won four gold medals, three silver and one bronze at the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris, the 1928 Games in Amsterdam, the 1932 Games in Los Angeles and the 1936 Games in Berlin. (The Week's Olympic News, Number 364, 23 April 1999).
- Elizabeth Robinson Schwartz, the first female Olympic champion in athletics, has died at the age of 87. Winning the gold medal for the 100 metres at the Games of the IXth Olympiad 1928 in Amsterdam, also gave the athlete the world record, at the time of 12.2 seconds. (The Week's Olympic News, Number 369, 28 May 1999).
- Brazilian long-jump Olympic medallist at the Games of the XXI and XXII Olympiads in Montreal (1976) and Moscow (1980), Joao Carlos de Oliveira has died at the age of 45. (The Week's Olympic News, Number 370, 4 June 1999).

NEXT ISSUE

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Deadline for letters

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Please forward all submissions and letters to:

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Note: All submissions must be supplied in electronic format with accompanying hard copy.