

THE WORLD GAMES FORUM

The International World Games Association Quarterly
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To Our Friends At The National Olympic Committees!

On behalf of 26 International Federations – full Members of our Association, and with sports on the Official Program of The World Games 2005 – I am pleased to inform you that the qualification of the athletes for our games is nearly completed. Ever since 2003, and particularly over the past few months, championships were staged around the globe for the purpose of determining the best individuals and teams in these sports. The top athletes were appropriately honored for their brilliant achievements: titles and medals in their respective sport's premier international competitions have been awarded to them.

Their other reward – the berth in The World Games to which they are now entitled – they get to relish when they join fellow athletes from their country to form a multi-sport delegation to 2005 Duisburg. The opportunity of competing alongside thousands of other exceptional athletes from different sports, of taking part in a true celebration of Olympism, and of representing their country in this exceptional sporting contest, are more than added perks to those who have excelled in the qualifying.

The world's best in 30+ sports gather in 2005 Duisburg. The World Games are the pinnacle in their careers. And your NOC can make their experience an even better one! In the coming weeks – once the qualification of all athletes is concluded – you will get the list of your nation's qualifiers from IWGA Headquarters. Your NOC providing your athletes with sanction and support will be much appreciated. Assisting them to enter as a nationally representative multi-sport delegation under your auspices can mark the difference for 3,000 top athletes from 100 different nations! Thank you!

Ron Froehlich
IWGA President



THE QUEST FOR GOLD

Amra Shabana (EGY) – who also appears on the cover of this issue – could become the next World Games Champion in squash. He is Egypt's #1 and ranks fifth in the world. One of his countrymen, Ahmed Barada, won gold at The World Games 1997 Lahti by defeating Ireland's Derek Ryan in the men's final. Squash will again be on the program in 2005 Duisburg. And Egypt's players – highly ranked men and women on the professional circuits – are always serious contenders.

Squash is one of five sports currently under review by the International Olympic Committee for a possible inclusion into the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. Prior to that, top athletes in another three of these sports will join Shabana in their quest for gold in 2005 Duisburg. In karate, roller sports, rugby!



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