
WORLD GAMES NEWS

Number 17 - July 1998



From the President



In the history of the World Games a tremendous breakthrough was achieved recently when the IOC President His Excellency Juan Antonio Samaranch encouraged the 197 National Olympic Committees to support and to participate in the World Games. The IOC President made this significant remark on the opening of the joint meeting of the IOC Executive Board and the Association of National Olympic Committees held in Seville (ESP) on 5th June. By reminding the NOC's that there were more sports apart from those on the Olympic programme His Excellency Juan Antonio Samaranch paved the way for all national organisations of the IWGA Member Federations to increase their prestige nation-wide and by doing so to make a great contribution to the further development of their sport. Another sign that the World Games are indeed to be considered a real part of the Olympic family is the confirmation that the IOC accepts to cover the cost of Doping Control at the World Games in Akita 2001.

The further collaboration between the IOC and the IWGA proves that nearly 20 years ago the founding fathers of the World Games had a genial look in the glass bowl called the future. In this respect I above all would like to put the spotlight on to the IWGA Honorary Founder President Dr Un Yong Kim who continues to act as our major ambassador. I take therefore the opportunity to express my sincere gratitude on behalf of the whole World Games family to Dr Kim for his magnificent support. "Thank you so much Dr Kim!"

In the meantime our friends of the Organising Committee of the 2001 World Games in Akita are working very hard to get everything in place for the preparations. During the April meeting with the Organising Committee it became clear that they like to have the fundamental organisation solidly based. In this respect it is fantastic that even before the final decision is taken about the composition of the programme a meeting is planned in Akita with the Technical Delegates to discuss the various aspects of each competition. Hopefully more can be told at our forthcoming Annual General Meeting in October in Monte Carlo.
Ron Froehlich, President

FROM AKITA

Meeting Co-ordination Group

On Friday 23rd April a formal meeting of the Co-ordination Group for the 2001 World Games took place in Akita City. Due to simultaneous translation the meeting went very smoothly and in a very good atmosphere. It became clear that the Akita Organising Committee was still in the process of finalising their master plan. With regards to the participating sports it was stated that for most of the sports adequate venues were available, for some even in abundance. However before coming to any final conclusions regarding the proposed composition of the sports programme a meeting of Technical Delegates is to be organised early July for hearing their specific comments to the facilities.

The next meeting of the Co-ordination Group will be held on the eve of the GAISF Congress, e.g. on Tuesday 13th October in Monte Carlo.

Contacts Akita Organising Committee

The Tokyo Bureau of the Akita Organising Committee had been closed down. Dr Yutaka Morohoshi will continue his involvement as Board Member of the Organising Committee for International Affairs from the Akita OC offices. He can be reached directly by e-mail morohosh@interlink.or.jp and/or by telephone/fax number +81 3 35334614.



The President of the Akita Organising Committee, Zenjiro Hayashi, addressing the meeting.

concept of the 6th World Games including an organisational chart. The organisers promised to produce a comprehensive area map containing all possible sports venues with details such as capacity, size, distance, etc. During their stay in Akita the IWGA Executives visited some of the sports facilities in the area.



Being no Member of the Co-ordination Group the IWGA Executive Committee Members Roland Hilfiker (left), Harald Vervaecke and Vice President Stoil Sotirov (at the right) visited various sports venues with Manager Competition and Facility Plan Tetsuo Watanabe (next to Hilfiker) as tour leader.

Contacts Akita Organising Committee

The Director General of the Tokyo Bureau of the Akita Organising Committee, Dr Yutaka Morohoshi can be reached by e-mail: morohosh@interlink.or.jp.

The offices of the Akita Organising Committee moved to Sanko Building 8F, 2-1-54 Sanno, Akita-city, Akita 010-0951, Japan. The numbers for telephone and fax are still the same.

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FROM AKITA continued



Parachuting in Akita

As part of the Opening Ceremony of a meeting of the All Japan High School Gymnastic Federation held in Akita early June parachutists gave a demonstration Accuracy Landing.



Symbol mark World Games 2001

On the occasion of the Japan Intra-Design Conference the Akita Organising Committee presented the symbol mark of World Games 2001. The design consists of the globe representing the concept of the World Games - globalisation -, the letter A being the initial letter of Akita and the letter W that of the World Games. The lay out is to represent the energy, excitement and pleasure in sports. The Akita Organising Committee hopes to have the official promotional poster ready on the occasion of the Summer Festival in Akita City next month.

FROM THE IWGA

The first meeting of the Executive Committee as elected during last year's Annual General Meeting, took place on Saturday 24th April in Akita (JPN). In order to split the workload the various tasks were divided between the Members of the Committee.

At great length the basic elements for the composition of the sports programme were discussed. However, it had been decided to give this delicate matter more consideration before making decisions. Besides the information available should need more clarification. It is hoped that more can be decided at the next meeting of the Executive Committee scheduled for Wednesday 14th October in Monte Carlo prior to the 1998 General Meeting the following day.

FROM THE ORGANIZATIONS

IOC

In his opening speech of the joint meeting of the IOC Executive Board and the Association of National Olympic Committees, held on 5th June in Seville (ESP), HE Juan Antonio Samaranch reminded the 197 NOC's present that there were many sports not on the Olympic programme with which the Olympic Movement nevertheless had - as stated in the IOC Highlights - "excellent relations". He encouraged the NOC's to support these recognised federations and to participate in the World Games. The IOC already showed their commitment to the World Games by agreeing to cover the costs of the Doping Control at the 6th World Games in 2001 in Akita (JPN).

ARISF

The annual meeting of the Association of Recognised International Sports Federations (ARISF) took place on 25th April in Sydney (AUS) with IOC President HE Juan Antonio Samaranch together with ARISF' Founding President Dr Un Yong Kim and IOC Executive Member Kevan Gosper present. In view of a change of the ARISF' Statutes Susie Simcock, President of Squash, was elected as Vice President. Next year's meeting will be held in Lausanne on 18th March.

GAISF

The theme of this year's Congress of the General Association of International Sports Federation (GAISF) is "Sport & Education". The conference, in the Meridien Beach Plaza Hotel in Monte Carlo (MON), will start on Thursday 15th October with the sessions "School & University" and "Training Course for the Sports Officials". The following day the subjects are "Education & Health" and "Media Contribution for Education". Following the Congress the GAISF's General Assembly will take place on Saturday 17th October.

FROM THE FEDERATIONS

Aeronautics

Before the end of the year the headquarter of the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) is to move from Paris to Lausanne.

The 2001 World Air Games will take place in Spain on 10 sites centred on Seville in Andalucia while the Opening Ceremony will be held in Seville and the Closing Ceremony at the new motor racing circuit in Jerez de la Frontera. On the programme for the event are Hot Air Ballooning, Gliding, Parachuting, Aeromodelling, Aerobatics (Powered and Gliding), Microlights, Helicopters, Rally/Precision Flying, Hang Gliding, Paragliding and Amateur Built and Solar Powered Aircraft. The budget for the 2nd World Air Games runs to several million dollars.

Archery

In co-operation with the IOC and other International Federations the Fédération Internationale de Tir à l'Arc (FITA) adopted a system to uniquely identify athletes around the world for use for competition results as well as for the World Ranking List. The new system will assist computer centres of the multi-sport event organisers and the media to use the same programme or routines, which deal with the athlete data.

Billiards

The third General Assembly of the World Confederation of Billiard Sports (WCBS) will be held on Friday December 4 in Bangkok. The meeting is to coincide with the XIII Asian Games to be held in the capital of Thailand from 6th till 19th December in which the Billiard Sports is to participate for the first time. It is expected that many national associations accredited by the WCBS Divisional Members will attend the General Assembly and at the same time witness the ongoing Asian Games in which over 10.000 athletes will participate from more than 40 Asian countries.

Body Building

In conjunction with the 52nd World Amateur Men's Championships the International Federation of Bodybuilders (IFBB) will hold their annual Congress in Izmir (TUR). The competitions are scheduled for 13th - 15th November in the Atatürk Sport Center, while the congress will be held on Sunday 15th November. Recently the IFBB produced a revised Doping Control Policy & Anti-Doping Program, Standard Operating Procedures, to provide direction to national federations as well as to assist organising committees of Body Building events.

Bowling

Under the auspices of the Fédération Internationale des Quilleurs (FIQ) in April 1999 a \$1 million tournament for Men and Women, Amateurs as well as Professionals, called the Brunswick FIQ Dubai Grand Slam, will be held in Dubai, the capital of the United Arab Emirates. Winners of the Amateur and Professional Divisions will bowl for the top prize of \$250,000. It is the richest Bowling tournament in history.

Steve James of the United States has been elected Deputy General Secretary of Federation Internationale des Quilleurs (FIQ) succeeding Hazel McLeary of Canada. James retains his position as FIQ Communications Director.



During the Nagano Winter Olympic Games, the Japanese bowling community organised a special bowling tournament for IOC leaders and their family. Among the participants was the IOC President HE Juan Antonio Samaranch.



DanceSport

The General Meeting of the International DanceSport Federation (IDSF), on 14th June in Lausanne, elected Rudi Baumann from Switzerland as President. Previously Rudi Baumann acted as Treasurer and the IDSF' GAISF and IWGA Delegate. Lukas Hinder (SUI) was elected as Treasurer. Besides these two the Presidium now consists of Peter Pover (USA) as Vice President, Rudi Hubert (GER) as Secretary General, Heinz Speaker (GER) as Sports Director and from the Members Mrs Rita Thomas (ENG), Jim Frazer (CAN), Antero Koponen (FIN), Tony Tilenni (AUS) Milan Tomasovic (SVK), Keiji Ukai (JPN). German Werner J. Braun will continue his activities as the IDSF Press Commissioner.

The new IDSF President (fifth from left) with his team.

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FROM THE FEDERATIONS

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Fistball

In conjunction with the European Men's Championship of the International Fistball Federation (IFV), to be held 17th - 19th July in Oldenburg (GER), the Executive Committee will meet to discuss possible affiliation of Fistball organisations in Japan and in the U.S.A.

The 2nd World Women's Fistball Championships will have eight teams participating coming from Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Czech Republic, Germany, Switzerland and Uruguay. The competitions will be held from 2nd to 5th of September in the Austrian cities Villach and Linz.

Gymnastics

At its 71st Congress of the Federation Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG), held in Vilamoura (POR) in May, the integration of Trampoline and Sports Acrobatics from 1st January 1999 were overwhelmingly accepted by 90% of the votes. All new disciplines must be self financed and no more places from Gymnastics will be given for a possible integration of new disciplines in the Olympic Programme. The total quota of 304 athletes for the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney will be divided over Artistic Gymnastics (98 Men and 98 Women), Rhythm Sports Gymnastics (84 Women) and Trampoline (12 Men and 12 Women). To decide the necessary modifications of the FIG Statutes an extraordinary General Assembly will be held in 1999 (possible in Tianjing, Osaka or Göteborg). The 6th Sports Aerobics World Championships of 2000 have been awarded to the Swiss Federation. The host cities could be Geneva, Crans Montana or Montreux.



This marvellously situated and constantly full stadium on the Copacabana was an excellent spot for Beach Handball.

Handball

On the beach of Copacabana near Rio de Janeiro (BRA) the International Handball Federation (IHF) held the first Pan-American Beach Handball Championship earlier this year. In the final the team of the host country beat their opponents from Cuba. The bronze medal was secured by Argentina in front of the USA, Uruguay and Canada.

Ju-Jitsu

At an extraordinary Congress in Malaga (ESP) the International Ju-Jitsu Federation accepted the new name of Ju-Jitsu International Federation with as new abbreviation JJIF. To encourage the participation of lightweight athletes two (one for Men and one for Women) more weight categories have been introduced. The categories are now for Women -55kg, -62kg, -70kg and +70kg while for the Men these are -61kg, -69kg, -77kg, -85kg, -94kg and +94kg.

Karate

On May 7th the Secretary General of the Federation Internationale de Karate (FMK) Dr Takaichi Mano passed away. Until the FMK Congress next October, in Rio de Janeiro (BRA), George Yerolimpos - former Vice President and Chairman of the Public Relations Committee - will act as Secretary General. Therefore the FMK Secretariat Office is transferred to Greece: 149 Vizantiou Street, 14235 Athens, tel. +30 1 2727565, fax +30 1 2727563, e-mail karate@ath.forthnet.gr.

At the forthcoming FMK Congress not only elections will be held for the position of Secretary General but also for the Presidency as Jacques Delcourt, being FMK's President for 35 years, is not going for re-election.

Korfball

In future the European Club Champions Tournaments, European Cup, will have the finals played on a Saturday instead of Sunday. This following the fact that two times in a row the Dutch national Club Champion PKC declined participation due to religious reasons, e.g. not playing on Sundays. The first time this new rule will come into action is in January 1999 when the event will take place in Prague, Czech Republic.

G-Korfball (Korfball for mentally handicapped people) has been accepted as a demonstration sport at the Special Olympics in 2000 in Groningen (NED), in which twelve countries will participate.

Life Saving

The International Life Saving Federation (ILS) took the initiative to have the first World Aquatic Games in August 2002 at the Gold Coast near Brisbane, Queensland in Australia. With the date already confirmed reaction to participate came from Motonautism (UIM), Subaquatics (CMAS), Water Ski (IWSF), Surfing (ISA), Rowing (FISA) and Canoe (FIC). Also in Australia, but in the year 2000 and during the Olympic Games in Sydney a demonstration will be held at Bondi Beach of Life Saving competitions.

Orienteering

The XIX Congress of the International Orienteering Federation (IOF), 7th-12th July in Sintra (POR), will have not only one but two General Assemblies. Prior to the annual meeting an Extraordinary General Assembly is organised to deal with amendments to the IOF Statutes regarding voting procedures at the General Assembly. On the agenda of the annual meeting are proposals to have World Championships Mountain Bike Orienteering every second year from 2002 onwards and to organise World Championship in Trail Orienteering every second year from 1999 onwards. For the nine seats available at the IOF Council 12 candidates have been nominated among which are the present Council Members.

Obituary Klaus Bartnitzke



On 26th June Klaus Bartnitzke died at the age of 67 years, after illness and an operation in hospital. With him we have lost a great, extraordinary and engaging personality dedicated to Life Saving. With his activities on every level he considered what he could contribute more important than what he "got out of it". He was one of the great engines of Life Saving. He started his work on national level in the board of the DLRG. At a very early time he was the person who saw the real situation within the world. In Life Saving there were two international bodies, the FIS and the WLS. After very hard work and long discussions he achieved his ultimate goal: the merger of the two world federations into one, the International Life Saving Federation (ILS). In the ILS Europe plays a significant role (ILSE) and it is the core of the former FIS.

Klaus Bartnitzke was Vice President of DLRG (1980-1983), Vice President and President of FIS Public Relations Commission (1965-1985), President of FIS (1985-1994), Member of the Founding Committee of ILS (1993-1994), Honorary President of ILS (1994), Founding and Honorary President of ILSE (1997). IWGA and the World Games family suffered a great loss when he died.

Karl-Heinz Kerll
Hon. Member of the IWGA

Pelota Vasca

The 1998 General Assembly of the Federacion Internacional de Pelota Vasca (FIPV) will be held in Mexico City next October in conjunction with the XIII World Championships, including all disciplines recognised by the FIPV.

The VII World Championship of Professional Cesta Punta (Jai Alai) will take place in Barcelona (ESP), 18th - 27th September.

The 1998 Pan-American Games of Pelota Vasca, held in Caracas (VEN) last March, gave an all-over victory to Cuba while Mexico finished second followed by Argentina. Other participants came from Venezuela, U.S.A., Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador and Canada.

Racquetball

The IX World Championships of the International Racquetball Federation (IRF) 10th - 18th July in Cochabamba will be the first-ever world championships of any sport held in Bolivia. Over 40 countries and 300 players will participate. Eight-time defending World Team Champion USA will bring its best to battle world powers Canada, Mexico, Bolivia, Japan, Netherlands, Australia and many others. In conjunction with the World Championships the IRF Congress will be held.

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FROM THE FEDERATIONS

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Roller Skating

During the World Speed Championships in Pamplona (ESP) the Federation Internationale de Roller Skating (FIRS) will have their Congress on Wednesday 2nd September.

The U.S.A. finished first at the 4th World Roller In-Line Hockey Championships held in Winnipeg (CAN) in June. Austria and the Czech Republic won the other medals. Next year the event will be held in Spain while in 2000 Brazil will be the host country.

Rugby

The Council of the International Rugby Board (IRB) will at their forthcoming interim meeting in October consider the expansion of the Pacific Rim Championships for Sevens, founded in 1996 by Canada, Japan, Hong Kong and the USA. It is proposed to include also Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa. Furthermore there are plans for a World Sevens Grand Prix Series which could eventually involve up to 10 tournaments each year. If this becomes reality, it will add Sevens to the growing portfolio of key IRB world Rugby competitions joining the flagship Rugby World Cup, Rugby World Cup Sevens and the Women's Rugby World Cup. Another item for discussion next October is the host country for the 2001 Rugby World Cup Sevens. Bidding cities are Tokyo, Lisbon, Buenos Aires, Barcelona, Toronto and Dublin.

New Zealand became the winner of the first official IRB Women's Rugby World Cup, held in Amsterdam (NED) in May defeating the U.S.A. while England finished third by defeating Canada. Teams from 16 countries participated.

From July Stephen Baines becomes the new IRB Chief Executive Officer. Prior to his appointment as the first Chief Executive of the English Hockey Association in 1997, he spent 11 years in a similar role with the Men's Hockey Association. Baines was also for six years Executive Director of the Canadian Rugby Union.

Sombo

It might be that the International Sombo Federation (FIAS) being out of the picture due to internal problems will be reinstated as full member of GAISF at this year's GAISF General Assembly next October in Monte Carlo. The new FIAS President is Mikhail Tikhomirov from Russia and the new Secretary General is Pranchiskus Eigminas from Lithuania. The latter's address is Kedru 6, 2009 Vilnius, Lithuania, tel +3702 263869 and fax +3702 263926.

Sports Acrobatics

At the General Assembly in Minsk (BLR), 27th-28th October, the Member Federations of the Federation Internationale de Sports Acrobatics have to ratify the agreement for merger with Gymnastics which means dissolution of the organisation by 31st December 1998. Within the FIG a new Technical Committee for Sports Acrobatics will be established. In the new framework World Championships will be held every year, except in the year of the World Games, for Mixed Pairs, Women's and Men's Pairs, Men's Pairs, Women's and Men's Groups and for Teams.

Squash

The 28th Annual General Meeting and Conference of the World Squash Federation (WSF) will be held in Stuttgart (GER) 6th - 8th November. One of the items on the Agenda is biennial elections for the WSF Management Committee, e.g. the President and three Vice Presidents. The meetings are organised in conjunction with the World Women's Championships for which already a record of 23 nations have signed up.

Due to the economic turmoil in Asia the prestigious and long-established Malaysian Women's Open Squash Championship, scheduled for the end of August, had been cancelled. Malaysian Squash now concentrates on the first appearance of the sport in the Commonwealth Games to be held in September in Kuala Lumpur. A total of 26 nations are sending more than 130 players to compete in singles and doubles.

Surfing

On October 24th the biennial General Meeting of the International Surfing Association (ISA) will take place in Costa da Caparica (POR). On the Agenda elections for the Board and the formal affiliation of Namibia and the Philippines. The meeting is organised in conjunction with the 1998 World Surfing Championships. Divided over four disciplines - Surfing, Bodyboarding, Kneeboarding and Longboarding - about 600 participants from about 40 countries are expected to participate. Last April the ISA created a Women's Surfing Committee with Sharon Powers (USA) in the chair. Main objective of the Committee is to increase the number of female surfers and the number of women in the (inter)national administration.

Taekwondo

The Executive Council of the World Taekwondo Federation (WTF), meeting on the occasion of the World Cup 1998 in Sindelfingen (GER), selected Croatia as the host country for the qualification tournament (16 Women and 16 Men) for the 2000 Olympic Games. The event will be held in Zagreb from July 1 to 4, 1999.

Trampoline

The Congress of the Fédération Internationale de Trampoline (FIT), next October in Sydney, has to finally to accept the merger with Gymnastics which means dissolution of the organisation by 31st December 1998. Within the FIG a new Technical Committee for Trampoline (Trampoline, Tumbling and Double Mini-Trampoline) will be established. In the new framework the Women's and Men's Individual Trampoline event (12 Women and 12 Men) will be included in the programme of the Olympic Games, to start in 2001 in Sydney. World Championships will be held in the uneven years. Besides there will be Trampoline and Tumbling World Cup Series with a final every two years in the even years. The three disciplines can participate in the World Games except Individual Trampoline.

Tug of War

The 1999 Congress of the Tug of War International Federation (TWIF) will be held in Namibia during the Oceanic Championships in July. At this year's Congress, in Rochester Minnesota (USA) in April, decisions were taken to amend the rules for Tug of War competitions in such a way that the sport becomes more media and spectator friendly while maintaining a high standard and always keeping the athletes' best interest in mind. The main objectives were to shorten the time for competition, make the sport more exciting and maintain a given time schedule. The changes will come into effect at the 1998 World Championships in Rochester next September.

The 5th World Indoor Championships, 25th - 28th February 1999, will be hosted in Carlow, Republic of Ireland, approx. 90 km south west of Dublin.

Water Ski



The IOC President together with the top
Water Ski competitors

As part of the efforts to be included in the Olympic programme the International Water Ski Federation (IWSF) organised early June a special Water Ski demonstration for the IOC President and delegates attending the meeting of the IOC Executive Board and the Association of National Olympic Committees in Seville (ESP). During a two hours performance 13 athletes, among which were seven with World Champion titles, from 11 countries showed their skills with Slalom, Tricks, Wakeboard and Jump. The spectacular actions gave an exciting impression of the fascinating aspects of Water Ski.