



From the President

With less than half a year to go, the groundwork for the fifth World Games event in Lahti is firmly in hand and underway at full speed. The coming months will see tests at various sports venues and the beginning of accreditation procedures. Early in February, six months before the Opening Ceremony of the 1997 World Games, at the invitation of the organising committee, I travelled to Lahti for meetings with sponsors and national media. I can assure those of you who have not yet had the pleasure of visiting Lahti that it is a promising setting for the World Games, exciting yet compact, with most of the venues within walking distance. Of course much remains to be done both by the Games organisers and by International Federations: the coming months will be extremely busy for all involved. But I have every confidence that these efforts will make the 1997 World Games a great sporting event with good competition for the athletes and exciting performances for the spectators.

Sport can be a powerful positive force in the world, fostering mutual understanding, a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play. Let us make the World Games 1997 in Lahti such a force, as well as an unforgettable, enriching experience for all. I thank you sincerely for your efforts and ask you for your continuing support to make the Games the 1997 highlight that they can be.

Success to all!

Ron Froehlich
President

The Finnish President meeting the Lahti delegation, from left to right **Olavi Kyllönen**, **Peter Tallberg**, **Kari Salmi**, **Martti Ahtisaari**, **Reijo Mäki-Korvela**, **Väinö Pässilä**.



1997 World Games Lahti (FIN)

Finnish President

On January 9th Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari was briefed on preparations underway for the 1997 World Games in his country. The joint briefing team included representatives of Lahti Happening- President Reijo Mäki-Korvela and Vice President Väinö Pässilä- and of the Organising Committee- Chairman Kari Salmi, IOC Member Peter Tallberg and Project Manager Olavi Kyllönen. Also discussed with the President were the arrangements made by the Finnish government and the city of Lahti, initiated by Lahti Happenings Vice President Väinö Pässilä, to give work experience at the Lahti Games to some 800 unemployed youths, including Olympic swimmer Petteri Lehtinen, a Lahti resident. President Ahtisaari also accepted an official presentation of a set of fifth World Games Bronze, Silver and Gold medals.

Meetings with the media

On Friday, February 6th, precisely six months before the Opening Ceremony of the 1997 World Games, the Lahti Organising Committee made a presentation to local and national media. Local newspaper Etela-Suomen Sanomat included a full colour four page insert about the event with that day's edition distributed to approx. 65.000 households in and around Lahti. Host TV network YLE broadcast interviews with Chairman Kari Salmi and IWGA President Ron Froehlich as part of its TV1 Saturday Sportnews.

Another press conference was given later in February in the nearby Russian city of St Petersburg by representatives of the Lahti Organising Committee attended by some 40 sports writers from Russian newspapers and covered by two major TV channels.



Finnish President **Ahtisaari** presented with a set of medals by Lahti's Mayor **Salmi**.

International TV coverage

International TV contracts will bring to approximately 112 million the number of households around the world receiving TV coverage of the Lahti World Games. That coverage will be produced and broadcast throughout Finland by host television YLE. Trans World International (TWI), the firm selling the TV rights outside Finland, announced new contracts to transmit coverage to the Middle East (30 hours via ART satellite), to Peru (15 hours via Telecable), to South Africa (15 hours via Uplink Broadcasting) and to Singapore (15 hours via TV12). Previously announced were contracts with pan-European cable and satellite sports service Eurosport, Russian sports cable network NTV+ (30 hours each), South Korean cable network KBS (15 hours) and Australian cable tv Fox Sport (eight hours).

Modifications to the competition programme

The number of days for the Parachuting event have been reduced from five to three, e.g. Friday 8th - Sunday 10th August, with simultaneous competitions for Accuracy Landing, Formation Skydiving as well as Aerial Freestyle. Also the Artistic Roller Skating event will take less days, two instead of three, so only on Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th August.
(to be continued on [page 4](#))

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For the Calendar



World Games Qualifying Competitions

<i>Boule Lyonnaise (D)</i>	<i>24-25 May</i>	<i>Saluzzo (ITA)</i>	<i>Woman's Qualifying Tournament</i>
<i>Aerobics</i>	<i>31-01 May</i>	<i>Perth (AUS)</i>	<i>3rd World Championships</i>

From Federations

Casting

At the biannual General Assembly of the International Casting Federation (ICF), 9th February in The Hague (NED), Ruben Papenfuss from South Africa was elected as Board Member succeeding Canadian Peter Edwards. Thorgeir Gustavson from Norway was re-elected as Member of the Board. Ruben Papenfuss will also preside over a new Committee to examine Surf Casting activities. The 2000 Casting World Championships will be held in Stockholm (SWE). This year a European Cup event will start with eight tournaments in total, the first in Paris by the end of April and the last in Nürnberg (GER) 4th - 5th October.

Dance Sport



The International Dance Sport Federation (IDSF) has invited 1996 World Champions Latin, Ralf Müller and Olga Müller-Omeltschenko from Germany, to the first Dance Sport event at the World Games. Other invitees include Christopher Hawkings and Hazel Newbury (GBR), second at last year's World Championships Standard.

Korfball

The International Korfball Federation (IKF) has published 'The history of the IKF and the World Games', an information booklet on the international sport and its role within the World Games.

A korfball tradition was honoured in January as the national teams of Belgium and The Netherlands played their annual friendly match for the 38th time. The match in Groningen (NED) yielded a 20-12 victory for the Dutch who had lost to Belgium last year. In total Belgium has won 6 matches, The Netherlands now 28 matches, with only 4 draws.

Orienteering



Roller Skating



The Congress of the International Roller Skating Federation (FIRS), meeting in Mar del Plata (ARG) last December, accepted

Australian proposals to establish Roller In-Line Hockey as a fourth discipline and a Roller In-Line Hockey Commission as an International Committee within the FIRS on the same level as the Artistic Roller Skating, Rink Hockey and Speed Skating Commissions.

The selection of the Comité International de Course, Speed Skating, for the Lahti Women event includes Anne Titze from Germany and Italian Antonella Mauri who both already participated in the 1985 Karlsruhe and 1993 The Hague World Games. Belgian Hilde Goovaerts also competed in The Hague while the same applies to Arnaud Cicquel from France for the Men's competition.

The 1996 World Champions Free Artistic Roller Skating Antela Parcadia (ESP) and Edwin Guerva (COL) together with the following top five are qualified to compete in the 1997 World Games. With Dance this is also the case for the German couple Axel Haber en Swantje Gebauer and Patrick Venerucci and Beatrice Pallazzi Rossi from Italy for the Pairs event. Venerucci, then with partner Maura Ferri, finished first at the 1993 World Games. Finishing on third place at the last World Games Pairs event Flavio Fissolo and Gabriela Mugica from Italy took the silver at the World Championships, thus qualifying for Lahti. The silver medalist with the 1993 Men's Free competition, Jayson Sutcliffe from the USA and finishing sixth at the recent World Championships, is again selected while the bronze medalist with the Women the French Laure Bourguignon - on fifth place at the 1996 World event - is also invited to compete next August.

Squash



The World Squash Federation (WSF) appointed Howard Harding as Media Director.

Squash has been admitted to the Asian Games in Bangkok 1998. Earlier the sport was already included on the programme of the Commonwealth Games in Malaysia 1998, the World Master's Games in USA 1998 and the Panamerican Games in Winnipeg 1999.

Trampoline/Tumbling



IOF President **Sue Harvey** welcomed at the new headquarters by representatives of the Finnish Orienteering Federation



Ceremonies to open new International Orienteering Federation (IOF) headquarters in Helsinki (FIN) last January included the unveiling of a new logo, designed by Anna Jonback from Sweden.

The IOF Council announced celebrations to commemorate the Centenary of Orienteering: the first orienteering event was staged in Norway in 1897. The centenary celebrations will start at the August 1997 World Championships in Norway. Ski-Orienteering events will be part of the international Cultural Festival during the Nagano 18th Winter Olympic Games.



After two years of experience with Trampoline the International Trampoline Federation (FIT) launched the first World Cup series Tumbling. These competitions will start in Calgary (CAN) end of May, followed by Orlando (USA) in June, while the final will be in conjunction with that for the 3rd World Cup Trampoline in November in Dessau (GER). Also new on the agenda are the Indo Pacific Championships in Durban (RSA) in September.

Tug of War

The International Tug of War Federation (TWIF) accepted Chinese Taipei as its 26th full member. After their first participation in the Open Club Championships held at the 1996 World Championships in Slagharen (NED) two Men's teams from Chinese Taipei competed in the World Indoor Championships in Torbay (ENG).

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Nation-wide Representation

Since the previous issue of World Games News - December 1996 - the number of nations most likely to be represented at the 5th World Games in Lahti has increased to **85**.

The following provisional list shows the (abbreviated) name and the particular sport(s) - D within brackets stands for Demonstration programme:

Algeria (ALG)	Boule Lyonnaise (D)	Japan (JPN)	Artistic Roller Skating, Body Building, Bowling, Casting, Dance Sport, Karate, Parachuting, Powerlifting, Trampoline, Tug of War Indoor W(D), Tumbling
Argentina (ARG)	Artistic Roller Skating, Fistball, Powerlifting, Roller Hockey, Speed Roller Skating, Squash, Tumbling	Jordan (JOR)	Body Building
Australia (AUS)	Artistic Roller Skating, Body Building, Boule Lyonnaise(D), Bowling, Dance Sport, Karate, Korfball, Powerlifting, Speed Roller Skating, Squash, Trampoline, Water Ski	Kazakstan (KAZ)	Powerlifting, Tumbling
Austria (AUT)	Bowling, Casting, Dance Sport, Field Archery, Fistball, Ju-Jitsu, Military Pentathlon(D), Powerlifting	Korea (KOR)	Body Building, Bowling
Azerbaijan (AZE)	Sports Acrobatics	Latvia (LAT)	Trampoline
Bahrein (BAH)	Powerlifting	Lebanon (LIB)	Body Building
Barbados (BAR)	Body Building	Liechtenstein (LIE)	Body Building
Belarus (BLR)	Parachuting, Sports Acrobatics, Trampoline, Tumbling, Water Ski	Lithuania (LIT)	Body Building, Dance Sport
Belgium (BEL)	Body Building, Bowling, Field Archery, Korfball, Life Saving, Military Pentathlon(D), Powerlifting, Speed Roller Skating, Sports Acrobatics, Tumbling, Water Ski	Madagascar (MAD)	Pétanque
Brazil (BRA)	Artistic Roller Skating, Body Building, Bowling, Fistball, Ju-Jitsu, Military Pentathlon(D), Roller Hockey, Trampoline, Tumbling	Malaysia (MAS)	Body Building, Bowling
Bulgaria (BUL)	Powerlifting, Sports Acrobatics, Trampoline, Tumbling	Mexico (MEX)	Body Building, Bowling, Field Archery
Canada (CAN)	Body Building, Bowling, Casting, Dance Sport, Field Archery, Powerlifting, Squash, Trampoline, Tumbling, Water Ski	Moldova (MDA)	Tumbling
Chile (CHI)	Speed Roller Skating	Morocco (MAR)	Body Building, Pétanque
China (CHN)	Bowling, Fin Swimming, Military Pentathlon(D), Parachuting, Sports Acrobatics, Tumbling	Netherlands (NED)	Body Building, Casting, Field Archery, Ju-Jitsu, Korfball, Life Saving, Parachuting, Squash, Trampoline, Tug of War, Tug of War Indoor W(D), Water Ski
Colombia (COL)	Artistic Roller Skating, Bowling, Speed Roller Skating, Water Ski	New Zealand (NZL)	Body Building, Powerlifting, Squash, Trampoline, Water Ski
Costa Rica (CRC)	Bowling	Norway (NOR)	Body Building, Casting, Dance Sport, Field Archery, Floorball(D), Military Pentathlon(D), Pétanque, Powerlifting
Croatia (CRO)	Boule Lyonnaise(D)	Pakistan (PAK)	Body Building, Squash
Cuba (CUB)	Artistic Roller Skating	Philippines (PHI)	Body Building, Bowling
		Poland (POL)	Body Building, Casting, Dance Sport, Parachuting, Powerlifting, Sports Acrobatics, Trampoline, Tumbling
		Portugal (POR)	Artistic Roller Skating, Body Building, Korfball, Roller Hockey, Trampoline, Tumbling
		Puerto Rico (PUR)	Bowling

Curaçao (CUR)	Karate	Romania (ROM)	Casting
Cyprus (CYP)	Body Building	Russia (RUS)	Body Building, Dance Sport, Fin Swimming, Karate, Military Pentathlon(D), Parachuting, Powerlifting, Sports Acrobatics, Trampoline, Tumbling
Czech Republic (CZE)	Casting, Field Archery, Parachuting, Powerlifting, Trampoline	Scotland (SCO)	Squash, Trampoline
Denmark (DEN)	Bowling, Dance Sport, Field Archery, Ju-Jitsu, Military Pentathlon(D), Parachuting, Powerlifting, Squash, Trampoline	Singapore (SIN)	Body Building, Bowling
Egypt (EGY)	Body Building, Squash	Slovakia (SVK)	Body Building, Casting, Dance Sport, Karate, Trampoline
England (ENG)	Bowling, Dance Sport, Squash, Tug of War, Tug of War Indoor W(D)	Slovenia (SLO)	Boule Lyonnaise(D), Dance Sport, Field Archery, Ju-Jitsu, Parachuting
El Salvador (ESA)	Bowling	South Africa (RSA)	Body Building, Casting, Dance Sport, Life Saving, Parachuting, Squash, Tumbling, Water Ski
Estonia (EST)	Casting, Dance Sport	Spain (ESP)	Artistic Roller Skating, Body Building, Ju-Jitsu, Karate, Life Saving, Pétanque, Roller Hockey, Speed Roller Skating, Squash, Water Ski
Finland (FIN)	Body Building, Bowling, Casting, Dance Sport, Field Archery, Fin Swimming, Floorball(D), Life Saving, Military Pentathlon(D), Parachuting, Pétanque, Powerlifting, Roller Hockey, Speed Roller Skating, Squash, Water Ski	Sweden (SWE)	Body Building, Bowling, Casting, Field Archery, Floorball(D), Ju-Jitsu, Karate, Life Saving, Military Pentathlon(D), Powerlifting, Squash, Trampoline, Tug of War, Tug of War Indoor W(D), Water Ski
France (FRA)	Artistic Roller Skating, Body Building, Boule Lyonnaise (D), Bowling, Casting, Fin Swimming, Ju-Jitsu, Karate, Life Saving, Parachuting, Pétanque, Powerlifting, Speed Roller Skating, Squash, Trampoline, Tumbling, Water Ski	Switzerland (SUI)	Body Building, Casting, Dance Sport, Fistball, Floorball(D), Parachuting, Trampoline, Tug of War, Water Ski
Germany (GER)	Artistic Roller Skating, Body Building, Bowling, Casting, Dance Sport, Field Archery, Fin Swimming, Fistball, Ju-Jitsu, Korfball, Life Saving, Parachuting, Pétanque, Powerlifting, Speed Roller Skating, Squash, Trampoline, Tug of War, Water Ski	Syria (SYR)	Body Building, Military Pentathlon (D)
Georgia (GEO)	Trampoline	Taipei (TPE)	Bowling, Dance Sport, Korfball, Powerlifting
Great Britain (GBR)	Artistic Roller Skating, Field Archery, Karate, Powerlifting, Speed Roller Skating, Sports Acrobatics, Trampoline, Tumbling, Water Ski	Thailand (THA)	Pétanque
Greece (GRE)	Karate, Water Ski	Trinidad and Tobago (TRI)	Body Building
Guatemala (GUA)	Bowling	Tunisia (TUN)	Pétanque
Hong Kong (HKG)	Squash	Turkey (TUR)	Body Building, Karate
Hungary (HUN)	Body Building, Field Archery, Fin Swimming, Sports Acrobatics	Ukraine (UKR)	Body Building, Powerlifting, Sports Acrobatics, Trampoline, Tumbling
India (IND)	Powerlifting	United Arab Emirates (UAE)	Body Building
Indonesia (INA)	Powerlifting	United States (USA)	Artistic Roller Skating, Body Building, Bowling, Casting, Dance Sport, Karate, Parachuting, Powerlifting, Speed Roller Skating, Squash, Trampoline, Tug of War Indoor W(D), Tumbling, Water Ski, WeightliftingW
Iraq (IRG)	Body Building	Uzbekistan (UZB)	Trampoline
Iran (IRI)	Karate	Venezuela (VEN)	Bowling
Ireland (IRE)	Body Building, Squash, Tug of War	Wales (WAL)	Squash.
Israel (ISL)	Powerlifting		
Italy (ITA)	Artistic Roller Skating, Body Building, Boule Lyonnaise (D), Dance Sport, Field Archery, Fin Swimming, Fistball, Ju-Jitsu, Life Saving, Parachuting, Pétanque, Roller Hockey, Speed Roller Skating, Water Ski		

WORLD GAMES NEWS

is an official publication of the International world Games Association. Its purpose is to make the sports of the Member Federation better known to the media and the public. Therefore, reprinting or otherwise copying all of its contents is not only permitted but is heartily encouraged. Quoting "WORLD GAMES NEWS" as a source will be appreciated.

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The **INTERNATIONAL WORLD GAMES ASSOCIATION (IWGA)**, is a "recognised organisation" of the IOC and an Associate Member of the General Assembly of International Sports Federations (GAISF).

IWGA is an association of independent international Sports Federations (all affiliated to GAISF) whose sports are not (yet) on the programme of the Olympic Games.

To provide these lesser known sports with the media exposure and popularity they require for their further development, the IWGA and its Member Federations organize every four years a multi-sports event called WORLD GAMES.

The following International Sports Federations (in alphabetical order of their sports' names) are affiliated to the IWGA:

FIA (Aikido), IFBB (Bodybuilding), FIQ (Bowling), ICF (Casting), IDSF (Dance Sport), CMSA (Fin Swimming), IFV (Fistball), WFDF (Flying Disc), IJF (Ju-Jitsu), FMK (Karate), IKF (Korfball), ILS (Life Saving), IFNA (Netball), IOF (Orienteering), FAI (Parachuting), FIPV (Pelota Vasca), IPF (Powerlifting), IRF (Racquetball), FIRS (Roller Skating), FIAS (Sombo), IFSA (Sports Acrobatics), CMSB (Sports Boules), WSF (Squash), ISA (Surfing), WTF (Taekwondo), FIT (Trampoline), TWIF (Tug of War), IWSF (Water Ski).

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1997 World Games Lahti (FIN)

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World Games promotion at Travel Fair

Recent efforts in Helsinki to raise awareness of the the 1997 World Games included a booth at the Matka '97 travel fair attended by some 65,000 people. The booth included a very popular korfbal post and many stood in line to test their skills with ball and basket.



Lahti booth at the Matka '97 travel fair in Helsinki with korfbal post in the centre.

Visa Requirements

A visa will be required to enter Finland by any person travelling to the 1997 World Games on a passport issued by one of the following countries: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Bulgaria, People's Republic of China, Chinese Taipei, Cuba, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Madagascar, Moldova, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan or Venezuela. As the paperwork for such travel documents can be time consuming, application should be made early.

From the IWGA

Meeting Executive Committee / Co-ordination Group

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held in Lahti (FIN) on Saturday May 3rd 1997. A meeting of the Co-ordination Group (with representatives of the Executive Committee and of the Lahti Organising Committee) will take place on the same day.

Nominating Committee

To prepare the elections for the Executive Committee, at the 1997 AGM in Duisburg, a Nominating Committee has been installed composed of:

- Rudolf Baumann (IDSF)
- Achille Ferrero (CMAS)
- Edward Frerichs (ICF)
- Mrs Sue Harvey (IOF)
- Mrs Pat Taylor (IFNA)

Nominations should be submitted before 15th April.

From the current Executive Committee all will go for re-election apart from Treasurer Ben Van Waeyenbergh, Vice President Roger Tessman and Member Karl Heinz Kerll.

Meeting with Technical Delegates

The Organising Committee will next meet Technical Delegates on Wednesday 23 April. Apart from regular updates on technical issues, the agenda will include test competitions scheduled for the 3rd of May and procedures for accreditation, transport, accommodation, security, result systems and prize giving ceremonies. The Committee will take the opportunity at this meeting to welcome Reijo Vartia as new Technical Delegate for Life Saving and Hannu Rintanen for Water Ski.

World Games Decorations Plan

The Organising Committee has prepared a detailed plan to decorate the City of Lahti for the World Games. Under the plan, the colours of the World Games as well as the official logo and symbols will appear throughout the city. From July 21st on, the flags of the International Federations involved will be hoisted in front of the World Games Centre near Kisapuisto park and the Urheilutalo sports hall. The flags of the nations represented are to be raised at the Sports Centre, the venue for the Opening and Closing ceremony and the competitions of Faustball and Military Pentathlon.



Computer impression of Lahti decorated as planned.

2001 World Games Akita (JPN)

The Organising Committee for the 2001 World Games in Akita will be officially formed on May 30th 1997. For the time being the Bidding Committee, now called Preparation Committee, is in charge.

By Bullet Train travelling from Tokyo to Akita only takes four hours.



While there are still four years to go before the Akita World Games 2001, IWGA President Ron Froehlich will be a guest of honour at 22 March festivities to mark the opening of the Bullet Train (Shinkansen)

connection between Tokyo and Akita.

The first Japanese Bullet Train, the line between Tokyo and Osaka, opened ten days before the opening of the Tokyo Olympic Games in 1964. The Shinkansen has proven extremely very popular because of its high speed, short trip time, good ride and superb on-time operation.