

ARETE NEWSLETTER

FALL 2013 ISSUE



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Editorial

By: Vagelis Alexandrakis (GRE)



Dear Readers,
Welcome to the Fall Issue of the Arete Newsletter!

Several new developments have come about recently: Tokyo was selected as the host city of the 2020 Summer Olympics, Thomas Bach was elected as new IOC President and wrestling “won” its battle and remains in the Olympic programme. IOAPA welcomes and discusses these new developments.

Besides the IOC session and its decisions, the highlight of the past three months was no doubt the lighting of the torch. Once again a spectacular ceremony was held in Olympia which attracted the world-wide attention and sent out a message for peace. After the lighting, the flame travelled for 6 days around Greece and after its handover ceremony it was sent to Sochi. Read some inside information and first-hand experiences by two friends of ours who escorted the Olympic flame in its trip around Greece!

Although the lighting of the flame was the major event that took place in Olympia over the last months, we also look at some IOA sessions that were recently held in Olympia, like the postgraduate session, the session of the German Olympic Academy and the first edition of the ICMG Olympia seminar. Speaking about the IOA sessions, an interesting question is what IOA past participants do with the knowledge they have gained in Olympia. Read some good practices of three past IOA participants who acted as real Olympism ambassadors back in their countries.

Many Marathons have taken place recently around the world, including the Athens Classic Marathon. On this issue we get introduced to the idea of “corporate running” and we explore how the Lithuanian Presidency in the EU Council set up a team to reinforce EU values. Read, also, the experience of an IOAPA Member who was recently honoured by the Olympic Museum for having acted as volunteer in 6 editions of the Olympic Games.

Finally, find out about the most recent sport & Olympic-related news, upcoming events and job opportunities. Of course, if you would like to contribute to the Arete Newsletter, feel free to contact me and let me know about your ideas.

Enjoy your reading and season’s greetings!

Vagelis

Arete Newsletter Editor

President's message

By: Akhry Ameer (SRI)



It gives me great pleasure to pen my first message as IOAPA President on the Arete Newsletter.

Since we took office my team of almost 50-50 old and new is getting into the paces well with new ideas and planning work processes to implement some of the decisions reached at the IOAPA session this summer.

The major initiatives you will hear in the coming months are in the area of Internet communication channels and the country coordinator network. We are in the process of reviewing our Internet policy in terms of selecting and organizing the most preferred social media tools that best suits our needs and we have begun re-establishing contact with country coordinators and obtaining progress reports to review their activities before we take the next leap of development.

In other areas, this magazine itself has been receiving positive comments with many members reading it in its entirety. Although the committee is at hand to provide the leads and input, all credit must go to Vagelis, our editor who silently burns the midnight oil to make sure that we put out four editions a year.

On a different note, I am also glad to note that the youth of IOAPA are showing their 'colours' and taking on responsibilities in the larger sporting arena. The recent election of the ENGSO Youth committee saw four IOAPA members being (re)elected as members. Join me in extending our heartiest congratulations to them – Natasa Jankovic (SRB), Liis Kaibald (EST), Julien Buhajezuk (FRA) and Mikka Neuvonen (FIN).

As 2013 draws to a close, it is also time to shift our volunteerism to our homes, to help and spend time with family and friends. I take this opportunity to wish my extended family of IOAPA, the very best of the season and a prosperous 2014!

Akhry

IOAPA President

Buenos Aires: The 2013 Olympic capital!

By: Luis Henrique Rolim Silva (Brazil)



The recently awarded host city of the 2018 Youth Olympics, Buenos Aires had already in 2013 a unique opportunity to experience the 'Olympic Spirit'. The Argentinean capital was the stage of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board

meeting as well as the place of the 125th IOC Session. Both events took place from the 4th to the 10th of September at the sumptuous Hotel Hilton. The 'lords and ladies of the rings' announced Tokyo as the host city for the 2020 Olympic Games; wrestling continuity in the Olympic Programme; and the grand finale was the announcement of Thomas Bach as the new IOC president.

Oh yes, not less important was the election of nine new IOC members from different countries: Brazil, Ethiopia, Kenya, Netherlands, Philippines, Romania, Russia, Sweden and United States of America. I will not judge all these members but (as a Brazilian) I can say that Bernard Rajzman was a good choice for Brazil. Since he retired from the volleyball courts he is playing major roles in country's sport, especially at the National Olympic Committee and the National Olympic Academy. Then I have high hopes that he will form the Olympic Education in Brazil, specially looking at social-human development through sport instead of plans to form professional athletes.

Going back to Argentina, the famous *asado* surely substituted the sushi on the plates of the Japanese delegation. They were ecstatic when the (now former) president Jacques Rogge announced Tokyo as the host city for 2020 Olympics. Although people were calling the Tokyo bid as the 'radioactive bid' – because of the supposed leaking of radioactive material in the water of Fukushima – the IOC choice for 2020 can be seen as a 'safe one' if you look at the other candidate cities, Istanbul and Madrid.

The Turkish bid was the most expensive among the three (around \$19 billion) and the *madrileños* the cheapest one (around \$2 billion). We can say that the Turkish bid lost due to the political instability of the country and the region. Can you imagine if after being selected to host the 2020 Olympics, the Taksim square – place of violent protests this year – having another blast? How about the Syria situation? Perhaps this was the question in the heads of the IOC members, because I am quite sure that they do not want to be a stage-motto for protests – I believe they are already carefully looking at the 2016 Brazil Olympics after the chaos of the 2013 Confederations Cup.

The same could happen with the Spaniards. Placards from Brazil's protesters could be easily recycled due languages similarities. Ok, I can take out my sarcastic tone but sill: people in Spain are struggling against the economic crisis while in Japan the 2012 London Olympians were received in public streets with a carnival that even Brazilians could be jealous of. So for prevention and trust in the place which was already the first Asian city to host the Olympics in 1964, the IOC selected Tokyo for 2020.

And the wrestlers! They literally won the fight to stay in the Olympics!

With 49 votes pro-Wrestling, the sport will continue to be part of the Olympic Programme until 2024. Squash and Baseball will need to wait for another opportunity. Now the wrestling community has to win another battle: the audience battle. They promised to implement changes in the sport to become more attractive for the TV viewers. Can you guess what will change? I will not make a try. Anyway the worldwide emotional campaign around the 'ancient sport' convinced the IOC members.

Another point that will stay for a while in the top of the Olympic Movement is Mr. Thomas Bach. The German was elected the ninth president of the IOC and if there is something that he cannot complain, this is the time to implement his ideas. He will have eight years – or better, two Olympiads! He won the elections with 49 pro-votes in the second round, leaving behind Porto Rico representative Richard Carrion (29 votes).

For those who do not know, *Herr* Bach is not only a political winner in the Olympics. Wearing the West Germany colors in 1976 Montreal Olympics he won gold in the team foil event. Talking about team, I would like to see his 'new' team looking carefully for 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics. Their first challenge is not simple: they need to help the only authorized anti-doping laboratory in Rio – the *Ladetec* – to take back its license to realize anti-doping tests for FIFA World Cup 2014 and, of course, the next Summer Olympics.

Note: original posted at *Esporte Essencial* website on 13/09/2013: <http://www.esporteessencial.com.br/noticias/buenos-aires-uma-capital-olimpica-em-2013>

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Japan 2020 it is! Reflections and more

by: Soichiro Sano (Japan)

We had a great Olympic bid race with Doha, Baku, Madrid and Istanbul as most of you are aware. Fortunately, we become the host city of the 2020 Olympic Paralympic games. However, without competitive, high quality, mutually respectful race with all the applicant cities, we would never reach this far to become to hold the Olympic/Paralympic games. It was a fierce competition until the last minute. On behalf of all the alumni of the IOA from Japan, please allow us to honor all the cities participated in this mutual enhancing race.



Obviously, the process of organizing Tokyo 2020 is already started. In November this year, related executives from the IOC are scheduled to visit Tokyo for the meetings in order for us to confirm the implementation plan of the games. Actions we have tried to bring attentions for the games has already launched to make this game to be remembered and to be worthwhile for the eternity. We sincerely and strongly believe that the 2020 would restore Tohoku the north east area of Japan where suffered by the Tsunami in

March 11, 2011. We look forward to showing the revived beautiful scenery and the people, especially children who are bearers of Japan's future with a brilliant smile of Tohoku area where countless people from all over the globe supported.



We might have to have a different perspective of the "Olympic" as the alumni of the IOA sessions. Because we are the ones who might be able to develop the Olympic Movement to expand so that we can make the movement more visible and valuable for the general crowd in the world. We humbly would like to make this expansion of the movement happen in Tokyo with all the Olympic friends associated with the experience we had from the Tsunami. We will be more than happy to support the

IOAPA members when they visit Tokyo for the games. Let's build, organize and share the wonderful games together for the next 7years as the human race !!

Sochi Olympics : Lighting Ceremony & Torch Relay

By: Kostas vasileiou (GRE) & Tolis Matsarides (GRE)

The Lighting of the torch....unique value, unforgettable experience...

It all started on 22 September 2013 with the arrival of the team which included the Priestesses and the High Priestess in Ancient Olympia.

Exhausting, time-consuming, persistent rehearsals, yet so magical. Every morning, day and night, the choreographer and the girls and boys of the team, supported by the personnel of the Hellenic Olympic Committee did their very best for just one moment. But what a moment! A unique, holy and indescribable moment indeed. One and only target: May Apollo send his rays and, along with them, a message of peace, solidarity and friendship among states and individuals.

And as the days were flying by, we reached the day of the official rehearsal. Everything was ready. Everybody at his/her place, lots of spectators and the stress at its highest. And everything went well. Some small mistakes were handled instantly. Besides, this is the *raison d'être* of the last rehearsal. The test was successful. And now, it's time for the following day, the greatest day!

Sunday 29 September it is: A new day is rising. Many spectators have flocked to Olympia and many VIPs, including the newly elected President of the IOC, Mr. Bach, other Members of the IOC, and many other invitees and journalists. And the ceremony starts. After the official addresses, the Olympic Anthem, the Greek and the Russian Anthems, it's time for a new innovation: a good number of children from the local elementary schools form with their bodies the Olympic circles.

The time of the lighting is getting closer. Some meters away from the stadium, the first priestesses appear and head to the temple of Hera, where traditionally the flame is lit. The high-priestess, Ino Menegaki, asks the God of Sun and Light to send his rays for the city of Sochi. And he is generous, once again. Some seconds were enough and the torch was lit.

Immediately after, the high-priestess heads towards the Ancient stadium to pass the flame to the first torch bearer. At the same time, wonderful dances are performed by skilled and well-trained boys and girls dressed in traditional ancient-Greek outfits.



The high priestess comes down the hill, a white dove is released to the blue sky of Olympia and the first torch bearer is all-set to receive the flame. The Greek ski champion Giannis Antoniou, receives the flame and, holding the torch with the one hand and an olive branch with the other, starts running towards the monument of Pierre de Coubertin within the IOA premises.

And the torch relay begins.....It will cross the biggest part of Greece and will be handed over 6 days later to Sochi.....Good luck Sochi, the spirit of Olympia is coming to you!



And the torch's trip from Olympia to Sochi....

So, after Olympia, the torch started its trip around Greece. The first stop for the flame was the historical city of Elis, the place where in the ancient times, athletes used to gather before the Olympics and spend two months training. The most competent ones were selected to head to Olympia and take part in the Olympic Games. After crossing numerous cities of Peloponnese, where it was welcomed with festivities, the flame stayed overnight in the historic city of Kalavrita.

The second day started early in the morning. The flame reached the city of Patras, which welcomed the torch with a ceremony at the port. The flame crossed the famous Rio–Antirio bridge, before reaching the beautiful city of Karpenisi. In its path the flame remained in numerous small ceremonies where plenty of young students participated.

The following day the flame crossed a series of cities, including the city of Argonauts (Volos), Larisa (which welcomed the torch with a spectacular ceremony in its ancient theater) and stayed overnight in the city of Katerini just below Olympus, the mountain of the Gods. A beautiful ceremony was organized in the central square of the city with the participation of traditional bands and lots of people asking questions about the winter Olympics and the city of Sochi.



Third day and first stop is the second largest Greek city, the bride of Thermaikos, as called by the representative of the Organizing Committee of the Russian city. The flame crossed the city center of Thessaloniki and the ceremony was held at the newly renovated harbor, and was attended by many officials. After Thessaloniki the flame visited Yannitsa, Naoussa and Edessa and finally reached the beautiful city of Florina.

The flame in Giannitsa

Florina welcomes the flame



Early next morning the flame found itself in Kastoria, Grevena, Ioannina, Delphi, Meteora and ended up in Athens and the sacred rock of the Acropolis. It spent the night there, illuminating Parthenon. What a unique spectacle! Photos of this attraction overwhelmed the social media.



Kastoria



Delphi

In the following morning, the flame was led to the new Museum of Acropolis, where it spent one hour, in order for the tourists and locals to view it and make photos. Afterwards, the torch crossed the central streets of Athens, with the participation of leading Athenian personalities, international guests and local citizens.

The flame later reached the Panathenaic Stadium, where it was welcomed by the President of the Hellenic Republic, Karolos Papoulias, the President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, Mr. Spyros Kapralos, the IOA President, Mr. Isidoros Kouvelos, as well as the representative of the Sochi Organising Committee, Mr. Vladimir Maestrenko.



the handover ceremony in Athens

After a beautiful ceremony which comprised the dance of the priestesses, the lighting of the altar and the playing of the national anthems, the flame was handed over to the Russian embassy. It later flew to Russia.

All in all, the whole process received the most positive feedback. It was in conformity with the Olympic spirit, it kept the appropriate tone, and it fully respected and highlighted the Greek Olympic heritage.

Good luck to Sochi!



Kostas in Thessaloniki



Tolis in the Russian Embassy



Tolis and Kostas in Olympia

The 20th postgraduate seminar on Olympic studies: What happens in Olympia, CANNOT stay in Olympia!

by: Renata Chuda (Poland)



Opening Ceremony

A worldwide scientific phenomenon took its place between 1st and 29th September 2013 for the round 20th time in the history of the International Olympic Academy. We, 22 people from 18 countries, had a chance to share our Olympic experience and what was the primary goal of this event – to gain more knowledge about all the issues connected with the widely understood notion of the Olympic Games during 20th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students.

Our 4-week-long adventure in Ancient Olympia was brimful of fascinating lectures, hard work, absorbing group discussions, sport activities and, I am sure that in no lesser degree, incredible fun together. The venue of the Academy and our day-to-day routine helped us to develop certain learning-prone environment which allowed us to appreciate in greater deal all the lectures and visits to Olympia's museums and the archaeological site.



The group in the Ancient stadium

This year's main topic of the seminar was: 'The Olympic Games and the Olympic Movement: Past, Present and Future – An Analysis from the Historical, Philosophical and Social Perspectives' with a special emphasis on 'The Legacy of the Olympic Games: Infrastructure, Art, Quality of Life and Economical Parameters'. Thanks to such an extensive approach to the subject we had a chance to widen our view on the matter.

During the first week, As. Prof. Ioanna Karamanou (GRE), Prof. Dr Paul Christesen (USA) and Dr Christian Wacker (GER) showed us the real meaning of the relationship between the antiquity and sport hidden behind the topic: 'The Ancient Olympic Games and their Philosophy'. We analysed the issues of Pan-Hellenic culture, ideology and politics as well as wom-

en's role in sport and literature with its sporting elements. The topic of democratisation of sport was also touched on.

During the second week, Prof. Dr Konstantinos Georgiadis (GRE) and Prof. Dr Wojciech Lipoński (POL) portrayed the notion of 'The modern Olympic Movement, the revival of the Olympic Games and the history of the Modern Games'. We were given a chance to discuss the rejuvenation of Ancient ideas of games and its implementation onto the modern grounds together with its side-effects. We could also deepen our knowledge in the field of ethics and the language of sport.

The group in Acropolis



Our last but one week was dedicated to 'Olympic Education and socio-political aspects of the modern Olympic Games (media and communication, management, organisation and marketing)'. Prof. Dr Katia Rubio (BRA), Prof. Dr Stephen Wassong (GER) and As. Prof. Małgorzata Bronikowska (POL) acquainted us with the notions of hero myth, Olympic pedagogy, Olympic norms and values and of course, doping.

The last week of our stay in Olympia was marked by 'The ethical and philosophical issues of Olympism as well as the athletes' rights in the modern Olympic Movement'. Prof. Dr Gabriela Tymowski (CAN) as the only lecturer of that week, touched on the latest issues connected with sport, namely performance enhancement, doping, children and human rights as well as ability and disability of athletes and technology in sport.

A month-long stay in Ancient Olympia had also another overtone for us, the participants. We become aware of the cultural and social differences that did not separate us, but on the contrary, they allowed us to unite in the greatest possible way. During post-lecture discussions we were able to express our opinions and compare them with others' and thanks to that we also learned how to deal with different views, respect them and sometimes adopt them and start using them as our own. The seminar taught us how to use our open-mindedness, willingness to find compromise and acceptance of differences in favour of better understanding of others. I am sure that thanks to the IOA seminar we also became more mature not only in terms of our humanity, but we also became fully fledged scientifically.



On the ferry to Zakynthos

The 20th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students meant not only studying and discussing. We also spent a lot of time together simply having fun. We did it in various ways. One of them was by organising Social Evenings. We were familiarised with cultures of our co-participants. Polish, Asian, Brazilian-Argentinian-Spanish and Ukrainian-Russian evenings took place during the seminar allowing us to get to know each other better, together with our national habits, beliefs and stereotypes characteristic to our respec-

tive countries. Moreover, we had a chance to spend time resting on Greek beaches as well. First, we sunbathed on Kourouta Beach and then we discovered the beauty of Zakynthos Island. We also used the advantage of having Alfeios River and Mount Kronos near to our whereabouts. The view from the hill top on the excavations was amazing and for sure sweetened our effort of climbing on it, whereas the walk to the river and extremely refreshing water helped us to forget about our educational duties. Also quite frequent visits to nearby Ancient Olympia appeared helpful in getting away from our every day obligations. We spent the evenings together too, either in front of our rooms or in the canteen chatting, playing table tennis, surfing the net or even playing the guitar, singing and dancing! The description of our stay in Academy could not be considered full without mentioning our going out to Zorbas. Dancing, socialising and enjoying our company till the early hours in the morning were not rare phenomena. The most important moments of our 'Olympic' life were immortalised by one of our friends ('Grace' Sin-Yuan Hsu (TWN)) in form of a few films documenting our time spent and enjoyed together.



Closing ceremony

As you can all see, being in Greece, in Ancient Olympia, in the International Olympic Academy is not exclusively about studying. It's about meeting people, cultures and exchanging professional and life experience. It's about having common interest – sport in its highest form, meaning – the Olympism.

This whole adventure would not of course be possible without support on the side of IOA's Dean Konstantinos Georgiadis (GRE) and our two wonderful coordinators: Tatiana Rudkovskaya (UKR) and Trikalos Panagiwtis (GRE).

The best way to summarise the 20th International Seminar on Olympic Studies for Postgraduate Students is to quote one of the participants – Krystian Michalak (POL). During our stay, a really short, but at the same time self explanatory and meaningful slogan was created: 'One team – one dream'. It reminds us every day that we are responsible for promoting the idea of Olympism, Olympic Games and their legacies across our own countries, among our societies, students or even friends, because 'Together we can change the world'[®] (the title of a song created for the closing ceremony by: Neilton Junior (BRA) & Krystian Michalak (POL)).



The 1st ICMG Olympia Seminar

By: Panos Trikaliotis (GRE)

The International Olympia Academy in cooperation with the International Committee of the Mediterranean Games organized the 1st “ICMG Olympia Seminar”, which took place in the premises of the International Olympic Academy, in Ancient Olympia, between 2–5 October 2013. Historical, political, economical, organizational and social aspects of the Mediterranean Games were presented by the lecturers to the 33 athletes/participants, from 18 different countries, who shared their experiences of the Mediterranean Games.



The President of the International Olympic Academy and Secretary General of the ICMG, Mr Isidoros Kouvelos, and the President of the International Committee of the Mediterranean Games, Mr Amar Addadi, opened the works of the seminar in the Opening Ceremony. The topic of the first lecture, presented by Mr Amar Addadi from Algeria, was “The Mediterranean Games: Genesis, Evolution and perspectives” followed by two very interesting lectures on “The Olympic Values: Fair Play and Mediterranean Games” by Mr Marwan El Maghur from Libya and “The Value that the Mediterranean Games offer to the athletes” by Mr Davide Tizzano from Italy. Mrs Nour El Karful from Syria presented “The development of female participation in the Olympic Movement”, while Mrs Ljiljana Subic from Croatia elaborated on “The program of the Mediterranean Games–Reforms and technical improvements”. The last two lectures were given by Mr Tullio Paratore, on behalf of Mr Slaheddine Bouthina, on “The Games in the Southern Mediterranean” and Mr Dionyssis Gangas who analyzed the “International Politics and Olympic Games”. After two days of extensive discussions and multiple arguments there were produced some interesting conclusions for future improvements regarding the delivery and the legacy of the MG.

The seminar ended up with attending the handover of the Olympic Flame from the President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee to the President of the Sochi 2014 Organizing Committee. The enthusiasm and interest of the participants made the 1st ICMG Olympia Seminar a very promising forum for discussion and analysis, through which the athletes will have the chance to express their concerns and problems to the Executive Committee of the MG. The next ICMG Olympia Seminar is planned to take place in late September 2014.



A Success Story for 15 Years: VIII Olympic Seminar on Sports Science of the German Olympic Academy

By: Tobias Bürger (Germany)

In 1998, at that time yet under the direction of the German Olympic Committee, a group of German students embarked for the first time on a journey to Olympia/Greece in order to carry out a “Hochschulkurs” (university course) just off the scene of the Ancient Olympic Games. 15 years later, this measure, meanwhile well-established as “Olympia Seminar on Sport Science of the German Olympic Academy” and unique in Germany, is still enjoying great popularity.



And so, more than 70 participants from ten university sports institutes forgathered for the 8th time at the International Olympic Academy (IOA) in Greece from 31st August until 8th September 2013.

The event was characterized in the proven way by thematically widespread lecture series on tendencies and development of the Olympic movement and a range of seminars prepared in advance at the universities and conducted on the spot by the students. Yet the fruitful discussions following the presentations attest to the high quality of the students' commitments. The same applies for the “social evening”, traditionally on the final day of the Olympic seminar, creatively organized by the students, enhanced with different cultural performances.

A significant part of the Olympic seminar is furthermore a “pre- and post-tour” to selected world-famous archaeological sites in Greece, like Epidauros, Korinthos, Mycenae, Nemea, and Delphi. An expert guidance by Emanuel Hübner (University of Münster), Dr. Ansgar Molzberger (German Sports University Cologne) as well as Dr. Andreas Höfer, former Director of the German Olympic Academy (DOA), brought the participants into close contact with the culture of Ancient Greece.



Valuable contributions were also provided by our guests, namely Felix Lechner, IOA Master Programme “Olympic Studies, Olympic Education, Organization and Management of Olympic Events” student as well as Henrik Stehlik, trampolining double world champion of 2003 and Olympic bronze medal winner 2004 in Athens. He provided interesting and informative insights into the “dual career” of a successful top athlete and prospective political scientist on the occasion of a panel discussion

The seminar was led by DOA vice chairperson Professor Dr. Helmut Altenberger, Dr. Andreas Höfer and Head of Department Tobias Knoch. Additionally, the DOA was represented in Olympia by the advisors Anna Papadopoulos and Tobias Bürger.

The organizing team wishes to thank the participating universities of Augsburg, Heidelberg, Kaiserslautern, Cologne, Leipzig, Ludwigsburg, Mainz, Regensburg, Riedlingen and Schwäbisch Gmünd and hope that we will be able to welcome them again at future Olympic seminars. We see the positive feedback from both, the students and the professors, as confirmation and at the same time motivation for upcoming events.

See you in 2015!

Photo credits: DOA



Revival of the Junior Olympians Club

By: Ayana Baisden (VIN)

Taking the Olympic Spirit from Ancient Olympia to the hearts of Young People in my country was not an easy task. However, after being a participant at the International Olympic Academy's Youth Session in 2012, I was certain that it could be done. On my return home I bought many tokens from the airport in London. These items were especially for the club I intended to start as soon as I got home to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Meeting with members of my National Olympic Committee I was able to find people who were interested in starting similar clubs at the schools at which they worked.



As fate would have it, I was once again invited to Ancient Olympia in 2013. This time I got to see behind the scenes at the youth session contributing as a coordinator. This was a great opportunity since I had been working on the foundation part of the Olympic Club for students. The Saint Vincent Grammar School where I teach and coach, has been in existence since 1809 and is a little over 100 years old. The students were exposed to many clubs over the years. There were many attempts in the recent past to have an afternoon dedicated to clubs (1–3pm) each week. There were clubs such as: The Language Club, The Hiking Club, The Science Club and The Fishing Club. The club day/ afternoon became extinct after a short run due to the interference caused to regular scheduled academic classes.

In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines there are many athletes and coaches but few students allow their dreams to roam to the Olympics and the possibility of an Olympic experience. With just over 750 students at my school and five other schools showing interest in starting clubs like ours, we launched a pilot study to test the viability of having a Junior Olympians Club. While studying the history of my NOA, I came across a club for children 5–15 years old called the Junior Olympians. They met on Saturdays and took part in activities to educate them on Olympism. In 2012 I was able to run at the Revival of the Nemean Games in Greece and while brainstorming a name for the club I thought it would be a good idea to keep the name Junior Olympians, in an effort to honor those who tried before me to teach the values of the Olympics to young people of this our beautiful little island.

In September of this year (2013), I decided to start meeting with the students twice per week. On Tuesdays at 12:30 during the midday break for lunch we would meet for the theory/ historical aspects of the club and on Thursday afternoons after school at 3:05pm we would meet for the practical aspect of the club's activities (Sporting Activities). Thus far the Junior Olympians Club has been growing in numbers each week as students share their experiences with others. On Tuesdays we manage to fit into a classroom which seats 30 students and on Thursdays we have between twenty to thirty students at a time.

Although the school has limited space for sporting activities the club members are able to access the lawn tennis, volleyball, cricket, football and play areas in the main city (Kingstown) which are all within walking distance. During the first meeting on Tuesdays, we have lively question and answer quiz sessions on the history of the Olympics past and discussions about those in the near future. The practical sessions on Thursdays have provided us with many fun-filled afternoons of football, cricket and even an afternoon at the pool for a swim class during our Mid-Term Independence holiday break.

These sessions have been fruitful in identifying young talent in the areas of football, cricket and swimming. Students are not just learning about the Olympics but they are also able to get exposed to various sports that they may not have been able to try, whether for lack of skill or money. The games are always friendly matches where the people are selected as deemed fair by all involved. Thus far, one of our Junior Olympian members has already been identified as a natural at swimming and has already begun training with the Amateur Swimming Association on Saturdays. There is nothing more fascinating than watching these young people embracing their Olympic dreams as they push their bodies, minds and spirits Faster, Higher, Stronger... "Citius, Altius, Fortius".



Junior Olympians at their first swim class with Coach Kyle

Life after Olympia 2012

By: Stephanie Duval (Seychelles)



Upon returning home from the IOA in 2012 I was buzzing with a bazillion ideas, so many things were going through my head as to what I could do with regards to the National Olympic Academy of Seychelles (NOAS). The first thing I did I submitted my report to the NOAS; subsequently it was passed on to the Seychelles Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association of Seychelles. My report contained many suggestions including educating the local population on Olympism.

In July the same year I was fortunate to follow the Advance Sports Management course from the Olympic Solidarity of which I had the chance to work on a project I had in mind. The project was entitled Marketing Strategies of the NOAS. I included different ways of doing so and perhaps the highlight of my project is my plan to include Olympic Education in the syllabus of the Seychelles' state schools, iterating the training of educators first hand and revolutionizing the training of Physical Education educators.

For some time now physical education educators have not been receiving high standard training which makes it hard for them to teach. I suggested having the educators do Physical Education A'levels of which it will provide them with the ground basis to take on more advance training such as degrees in the respective field. The Physical Education A' Levels was recommended because according to my research there is a unit which covers specifically 'The Olympic Games, as a global perspective.' Hence that would be a small step in having them learn about Olympism which is in some way incorporated in the subject.

Realistically the project will take a long time to happen as there are lots of components to take into account and work on. A time frame of 10 years has been put down. But there is hope, after countless phone calls and emails NOAS members have been finally given a date to meet with the Ministry of Education Officials to propose the project. The values of Olympism are the very same values that the Ministry manifests. For now fingers are crossed and hoping for a positive response.

I also participated in the sessions that NOAS organized of which I shared my experience at the IOA, and the new things I had learnt. My trip to ancient Olympia made me become more involved and more interested in the local Olympic Academy's work. Ever since I came back, I have been helping with the spreading of the message of Olympism at home, where we hold talks with physical education teachers, athletes, coaches and young people.

My experience at the 52nd youth session in Olympia will forever stay with me; I describe it as the best time of my life EVER. The knowledge acquired has unquestionably help me to grow into a wiser individual, Social Evening thought me how to appreciate and respect different cultures, Discussions and Lectures were just amazing, categorically my favorite part of the whole trip. All the people met and the beautiful friendships forge was just magic, thanks to the internet we are constantly in contact. And of course, ZORBASSS, How can I EVER forget??? Absolutely wonderfully Super Fun!!!! Arguably Coubertin is probably the most interesting human being to have walked the earth. 'Vivre Coubertin.' To my IOA family; thank you for the greatest experience of my life and you are all welcome to my beautiful islands, Seychelles!!





Olympism in Education: A Pilot Project initiated in DIET Dar-yaganj in India

by: Neeraj Kumar Mehra (IND) & Yoshita Panchal (IND)

RESPECT, FRIENDSHIP & EXCELLENCE, these three words are benchmarks of Olympic values which makes a common man a special one. A person having these traits experiences a third level heaven and a truth of life and so is the duty of a teacher to make students feel this worth living life.

As a teacher the main objective is to bring a behavioral change in the students to build an inspiring insight. A teacher has to perform multiple tasks, along with the teaching they have to make students learn sports, work experience & art education related activities. Furthermore, the most important task is to make students a better human. The best way to render these services is to fuse various dimensions and then presenting the combined output in the form of an overall developed personality. In this way, students will be able to explore in multi dimensions and will enjoy doing something which is unique and different.

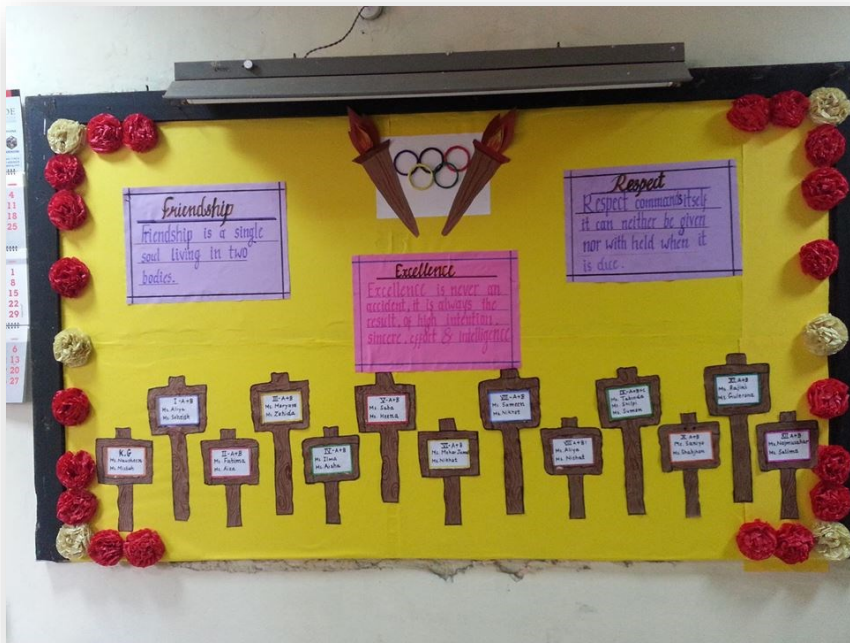
Here, a true load of work is on the shoulders of teachers because they are the one who have to plan out things according to cognitive level as well as interests of students. One cannot present a lecture on good habits or on similar topics in 2nd or 3rd standard. This way the whole show will go flop. Children are like birds who want to fly free here and there and see things from all perspective. One cannot tame them in a cage like classroom and give lectures like stale bread.

To win over the traditional situation something innovative has to be done and this work can be done none other than by a teacher.

“To win over the world, you need to be different and unique.”

The above mentioned quote if once thought seriously can change the whole world. But here a question arises that how to be different and unique from others? Now, this is the time when we have to think out of ropes and chains of traditional teaching pattern. First of all build up your confidence. After boosting it try to take an initiative and be a captain.

From years science is taught in science period, English in an English period and so on. Now question yourself, can't we teach different subjects by combining their concepts? The answer will be yes, we can, even we are doing this but we have not recognized it. To realize this situation some examples are stated below through which we can get our answer in a practical form.



As you can see in the bulletin board teacher's names and their classes are written in a sequenced form below the values of Olympics. Here, posts of teachers are not written which is promoting a very powerful message that all teachers and classes are equal in nature. This sense of equality plays very important role to change the negative thinking of people. If there is no equality, many evils peep out the narrow minded people. So, in this way a mere bulletin board is trying to influence

people without uttering a single word.

In the same manner a duster was made having one Olympic value embroidered on that. Here, the purpose of making such a duster is to awake the minds of students regarding the concerned values. On using that duster this is definite that students will ask about the purpose of writing that value on it and from this point an influencing conversation can come into a picture between students and teacher. Once they will start practicing that value in their lives, another value will come up on that duster and this time students will also participate in making phase. So, this is how an activity of art education is leading to prosper values in the lives of students.

Now, one can see that how important it is to provide something new to the students out of their daily routine to make the future of the world worth living. Values are indispensable part of one's life and without these there is no point of doing anything. As a teacher, it is their moral duty to think over the need of this concerned topic and work towards the well being of others.



"Future is in the hands of students and lives of students are in the hands of teachers. So, prosper the seedlings of values in the lives of students and feel the change."

Running with the Lithuanian Presidency-An introduction to corporate running

by: Valdemaras Juozaitis (Lithuania)



I guess no one will be surprised by telling that running is a healthy and inclusive activity (an avid reader of this Magazine must for sure agree with this statement). This Article however shows another aspect of it. It invites readers to join or organize a corporate running team. Yes, not running just by yourself in your everyday tracks, trails, marathons or other running event. No! Let us think bigger. Let us organize into a larger group. And yes! Let us have a major cause.

You may ask about the aim of organizing a running team. Answer to this question would be short and simple – to have fun while also changing something (even just a little bit) around us. Changing for better. And it is not as hard as it sounds. Three steps to take on – get an idea to run for, organize a team and enjoy a running event.

Here is a good example of doing exactly that. On the 6th of October, the Lithuanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union team ran in the 10th Brussels marathon. A team of 135, including Lithuanians and their friends gathered in a starting line waiting for the Marathon's start. The "Run with Lithuanian Presidency" team included 57 men and 78 women with the eldest runner of 69 (!) years of age. 22 of them were children, ranging in age from 3.5 (!) to 12.

There were various distances to run. Yet, the day was not about the distance. Presidency's team members ran or the times they had showed.

First, it was a joyful event by itself. Lots of smiley and happy people in and around the Marathon had created a brilliant atmosphere that sunny and warm autumn day. There were many par-

ticipants who ran after a long time (lots of them for the first time after they finished their schools). And after the run numerous participants promised themselves to keep running for their health and steadily advancing distances. As a result, it is extremely joyful that running with the Lithuanian Presidency was the first step of their come-back to an active lifestyle. Who knows, maybe some of them will run a full marathon in a year or so?

Second, because it reminded the European (one could say universal as well) values – each member striving for excellence in order to contribute to the best outcome. And what an outcome it was! European Commissioner Algirdas Semeta who was a patron of the team and gave a start for all the runners was delighted to see that so many people got together to support the Lithuania's Presidency cause. He was not alone in rejoicing the event – Lithuanian Ambassador Arunas Vinciunas, Deputy who finished the distance of 4 km joined the Commissioner by adding: "I am extremely happy to see such enthusiastic people who came this Sunday to support our team. If we counted the distance which was stormed by the Presidency runners today we would get more than 800 kilometers. Indeed, with such a spirit we will certainly complete the Presidency successfully."

Third, and above all there was a good cause – all the runners donated some money for charity. Lithuanian Presidency team was running to raise money for a Lithuanian charity foundation "Algojimas" which helps children with disabilities. During the donation campaign more than 1200 EUR was collected to help children and their families, while influencing public opinion about disability. All participants ran to help make another small step towards successful integration of disabled children and their families within society.



EU2013.LT

Yes, I invite you to do something alike. I invite you to organize a running team or to join one in a running event. Experience the joy and beauty of the event with crowds of people cheering in and along the running course. I invite you to help a charity and provide some help to someone who really needs it. Also, remind your colleagues and friends that regardless of their shape or age everyone can do it as well. And it does not matter if they run fast or slow – they have to remember that they will have a great satisfaction after the run. Therefore, run a distance, help a charity, boast afterwards.



Volunteers in the Olympic Museum in Lausanne - Switzerland

By: Carlo Farrugia (Malta)

The journey of a volunteer starts with the application to the organising committee, about 18 months before the actual games take place. This is only the first small step in the long journey which will open new possibilities and horizons.



I was very lucky to be chosen to attend the Young Participants Session in Olympia, way back in 1995, and this experience injected a whole new concept related to the Olympic spirit and what it really meant. Then I became a member of the IOAPA and later was elected in the Executive Committee, thereby increasing my exposure to olympism. When the IOAPA was involved in the Torch Relay for Sydney 2000 Summer Olympic Games and was granted permission, by the IOA, to select a few volunteers from its members to run with the Olympic Torch I knew that this was a golden opportunity to discover more about the Olympics and their fascinating meaning. Therefore I put my name to volunteer to run with the Olympic Torch and I consider myself as being extremely lucky to have been selected and to be able to run with the Olympic torch, together with other IOAPA members, and I can assure you that the feeling is awesome. I truly enjoyed this experience and it enticed me to continue with my Olympic volunteer experience and to apply again to volunteer in other Olympic Games. Luck was on my side and I was chosen again as a volunteer in the Athens 2004 Summer Olympics and this was followed by further volunteer experiences at the Torino 2006 Winter Olympics, Singapore 2010 Youth Summer Olympics, London 2012 Summer Olympics and the London 2012 Paralympics.

Each and every volunteering experience is different and unique. Each volunteer has to go through the selection process, make arrangements for the flights, find accommodation in the Olympic city, make the necessary arrangements to get to terms with the city's logistics, respect the working schedules, learn about your duties and so many other different aspects. But most importantly a volunteer must be ready to give his/her time and energy to the success of the Games. The IOC President Jacques Rogge has repeatedly stated that the Olympic Games can never be successful unless there is a dedicated volunteer workforce that provides support to the Games, voluntarily and passionately. Being a volunteer is not simply giving your time and energy to the Games but it is the manner in which this is delivered that makes all the difference. In return the volunteer will leave the Games and the host city with a fantastic feeling of having given all his/her energy and passion together with some wonderful memorable experiences.



The IOC is refurbishing its Museum in Lausanne and this will now include a section dedicated to the volunteers, which are deemed as being the determining factor to the success of any Olympic Games event. What an honour for all those tens of thousands of volunteers from all around the world who dedicate so much freely and passionately. This new volunteer area within the IOC Museum will have a multimedia interactive screen where visitors will be able to read and get to know

what it means to be a volunteer by reading about the experiences of volunteers who have already been through this wonderful and unique experience. The official opening of the IOC Museum is scheduled for December 2013.

After having participated as a volunteer in six Olympic Games I feel extremely honoured to have been chosen as one of only ten volunteers, from around the world, who will feature in this multimedia screen at the IOC Museum. This proves that being a volunteer and contributing to the success of the Olympic Games also leads to other completely unexpected rewards. This is something I never expected and which makes me feel extremely proud of being a volunteer.

I am planning to continue giving my time and energy in future Olympic Games and I encourage all the IOAPA members to join and become a volunteer, since it is not only about what you can give to the Games but what you will actually take back with you when you return home. Try out this once in a lifetime experience and I can assure you that you will never regret it but that you will savour every minute of being a volunteer. I feel that the volunteer experience is an extension of all that we learn and absorb during our short time in Olympia. We as IOAPA members know what the Olympic spirit is all about and we try and meet as often as possible in Olympia, in other countries or during the Olympic Games where the IOAPA Executive Committee organises small reunions for its members.

So what are you waiting for? Start with your plans to be a volunteer. Take the plunge, try it out and you will never regret of being a volunteer.

IOAPA NEWS!

IOAPA signs the Brighton Declaration

At its most recent gathering in Olympia, Greece, the International Olympic Academy Participants' Association (IOAPA) signed an agreement to formally adopt the Brighton Declaration on Women and Sport.



The declaration was signed by newly elected IOAPA President Akhry Ameer (Sri Lanka) and was witnessed by IOAPA Secretary, Sandy Stathopoulou (Greece) and IOAPA Research Coordinator, Cameron Myler (USA). IOAPA regards the signing of the Brighton Declaration as an important step in demonstrating its commitment to developing the role and representation of women in sport at all levels. By signing, IOAPA confirms, on behalf of its members, the important role that women play in the growth of sport on a global scale – both as athletes and executives in sports organizations. IOAPA also affirms that it will work towards the implementation of the ten principles embodied in the Brighton Declaration, which include leadership in sport, domestic and international cooperation, developing participation, as well as education, training and development.



IWG

International
Working Group on
Women and Sport

President Ameer commented on the parallels between the objectives of the Brighton Declaration and the purpose of IOAPA: "*IOAPA's mission is to foster an international and multicultural Olympic fellowship of IOA past participants, providing tools and resources to facilitate Olympic education and support Olympism worldwide. The Brighton Declaration is fully consistent with the Olympic Charter's mandate to 'encourage and support the promotion of women in sport at all levels and in all structures with a view to implementing the principle of equality of men and women,' and we recognize it as an important step forward in the promotion of women's sport.*"

IOAPA NEWS!

IOAPA is honored to be one of the many international sports organizations that has become a signatory, and is committed to developing and executing an implementation plan which reflects full and practical fulfillment of the principles included in the Brighton Declaration.



IOAPA NEWS—Country Coordinators' network!

IOAPA reviews its Country Coordinators' network and calls for new Country Coordinators!

One of the most significant goals of IOAPA is to keep past IOA participants connected and to achieve this we rely heavily on each one of our Members. It is our duty to create a network of IOAPA past participants, maintain it, welcome new IOAPA members, be active in disseminating Olympic Ideals and implementing local IOAPA projects and various activities.

IOAPA Executive Board strongly believes, that an active network of IOAPA members depends on the work and motivation of Country Coordinators. Over the years, the number of IOAPA Country Coordinators has been increasing steadily. Of course, the requirements have now increased. IOAPA Country Coordinators are required to organize events, seminars, workshops and other activities related to Olympic Education, cooperate with National Olympic Academies, National Olympic Committees and other organizations and in general maintain an active network of past IOA participants in their countries.

In order to activate IOAPA worldwide activities over the period of 2013 – 2015, IOAPA Executive Board is determined to update and reinforce the IOAPA Country Coordinators' network. To do so, IOAPA Country Coordinators are kindly requested to prepare an action plan for the years 2013 – 2015 and present annual reports on their activities and also share their experience with IOAPA members through the Arete Newsletter.

As the Country Coordinator's role is crucial within the structure of IOAPA, we urge all current Country Coordinators to contact Vita Balsyte, IOAPA Country Coordinator, at vita@ioapa.org **by 31st December 2013** regarding your plans and ideas for activities in the capacity of the IOAPA representatives in your country.

At the same time, we do encourage all IOAPA Members who believe in the values of Olympism and see value in keeping an active network of past IOA participants in their countries, to contact Vita and apply for this position in their countries. If you are interested, send an email to Vita and share your plans and ideas.

We would be delighted to welcome you in our IOAPA Country Coordinators' network!

IOAPA NEWS!

New IOAPA Members

IOAPA would like to welcome on board all new IOAPA Members.

See below a list of the latest past IOA participants who recently joined IOAPA.

- Renata CHUDA (POLAND) – postgraduate session 2013
- Sophy CHAN (CANADA) – postgraduate session 2013
- Aleksandra CUPRIKA (LATVIA) – postgraduate session 2013
- Agata GLAPA (POLAND) – postgraduate session 2013
- Yaroslavna PUHACH (UKRAINE) – postgraduate session 2013
- Tatiana RUDKOVSKAYA (UKRAINE) – postgraduate session 2012 & 2013 (coordinator)
- Rebecca WARDEL (New Zealand) – YP session 2012
- Sayaka HORI (Japan) – YP session 2013
- Marketa DOBESOVA (Czech Republic) – YP session 2013
- Joana VIÄES (Portugal) – YP session 2013
- Marely Reina FLORES MARTINEZ (Mexico) – YP session 2013
- Ameera AL-SAAD (Qatar) – YP session 2013
- Omnia FAKHRY (Egypt) – YP session 2013
- Lamis GHAZY (Egypt) – YP session 2013
- Janelle DENNY (Barbados) – YP session 2013
- Mads ANDREASSEN (Norway) – YP session 2012
- Julien TAURINES, (France) – YP session 2013
- Anne-Flore ANGOT (France) – YP session 2013
- Larissa BARNES (Antigua) – YP session 2013
- Na'ama AGMON LICHT (Israel) – YP session 2013
- Jakub HOLICKY (Czech Republic), YP 2013
- Christian ALFS (Germany), postgraduate session 2011
- Ivana PRANJIC (Serbia), YP session 2013
- Julie JAMES, YP session 1987
- Simon ELAD (Israel), YP session 2013

Join us in Olympism

Have you participated in one of the IOA sessions?? Then , why not join us and stay connected with more than 1000 past IOA participants.

Visit our website and register now as an IOAPA Member!

<http://www.ioapa.org/organization/membership.html>

We look forward to welcoming you on board!

125th IOC session—the three major decisions

The city: Tokyo 2020 it is!

After years of immensely hard labour and a great deal of work on communication by the three candidate cities, in the end the IOC has awarded the XXXII Olympiad in 2020 to Tokyo over fellow Candidate Cities Istanbul and Madrid, after two rounds of voting during the 125th IOC Session in Buenos Aires.

Tokyo, which also bid for the 2016 Olympic Games and hosted the 1964 Games, received 60 votes to Istanbul's 36 in the final round, with Madrid having been eliminated in the first round after losing a tie-break with Istanbul.

The sport: wrestling back to the Olympics

The delegates from the International Wrestling Federation (FILA) and wrestlers in Buenos Aires to defend their sport at the 125th IOC Session were overwhelmed with joy at the news that the IOC Members chose to reinstate their sport in the programme for the 2020 and 2024 Olympic Games at the expense of the other two sports in the running, baseball/softball and squash.

The President

German sports leader Thomas Bach today became the ninth President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), following two rounds of votes at the 125th IOC Session in Buenos Aires, Argentina, which saw him prevail over fellow presidential candidates Sergey Bubka (Ukraine), Richard Carrion (Puerto Rico), Ser Miang Ng (Singapore), Denis Oswald (Switzerland) and Ching-kuo Wu (Chinese Taipei).

A former IOC vice-president and President of the German Olympic Committee (DOSB), Bach, was indeed the favourite to win the presidential campaign. An Olympic medallist in fencing at Montreal 1976, he became an IOC member in 1991 ahead of joining its Executive Board in 1996 and becoming vice-president in 2000.

A few hours after electing Thomas Bach new IOC President, the 125th IOC Session reconvened to nominate Jacques Rogge as IOC Honorary President.

The IOAPA warmly thanks Dr. Rogge for all his services and wishes Mr. Bach best of luck and all the success!

UN ADOPTS SOCHI 2014 OLYMPIC TRUCE Resolution

The 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly adopted on 7 November a resolution urging all member states to observe the Olympic Truce during the XXII Olympic Winter Games and XI Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia, beginning next February.

The resolution, entitled "Sport for Peace and Development: Building a Peaceful and Better World through Sport and the Olympic Ideal", was formally submitted to the General Assembly on behalf of the Olympic Movement and the Russian Federation by Dmitry Chernyshenko, President and CEO of the Sochi 2014 Organising Committee.

IOC President Thomas Bach, who attended the UN assembly together with IOC Permanent Observer Mario Pescante, IOC member and EOC Honorary President, outlined his vision of how sport and politics can work together to build a better and more peaceful world. He then called on those in the audience to take back a message to their countries: "In the mutual interest of both sport and politics, please help to protect and strengthen the autonomy of sport." Buenos Aires to host the 2018 Summer YOG

IOC's World Conference on Sport and the Environment

The 10th edition of the IOC's World Conference on Sport and the Environment officially took place in Sochi, Russia, with more than 500 delegates from over 50 countries attending. IOC President Thomas Bach attended the opening ceremony together with the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, Dmitry Kozak, the President of the Russian Olympic Committee, Alexander Zhukov and other officials.

On that occasion, the five continental winners of the 3rd IOC Sport and Environment Awards were announced and lauded for their outstanding initiatives in the field of environment and sustainable sport, as follows:

Africa: Kenya Rowing and Canoe Association (Tudor Water Sports Marina), Kenya

Americas: Clean Air Champions (CAC), Canada

Asia: Sport and Environment Commission, National Olympic Committee of Iran (Tochal Mountain Park), Iran

Europe: Sport and Environment Commission, National Olympic Committee of Serbia (Ada Ciganlija Lake), Serbia

Oceania: Sustainable Coastlines and Papua New Guinea Olympic Committee Inc (Go Green: Love Your Coast), Papua New Guinea

News! 2022 Winter Olympics!

Munich citizens vote against bid for 2022 Winter Olympics

Although Munich would have been a favourite if it finally run for hosting the 2022 Winter Olympics, there will be no bid, as the majority of the citizens of Munich voted against this idea. Munich, which had bidden unsuccessfully for the 2018 Winter Olympics, lost once again the chance to become the first city ever that would have hosted both editions—summer and winter—of the Olympics.

Candidate-cities for the 2022 Winter Olympics & Selection Process

The following cities have submitted a bid

- Almaty, Kazakhstan
- Beijing, China
- Lviv, Ukraine
- Oslo, Norway
- Kraków, Poland
- Stockholm, Sweden

The bidding calendar:

- 4–6 December 2013 – Applicant city seminar at the IOC headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland
- 7–23 February 2014 – Olympic Winter Games Observer Programme
- 14 March 2014 – Submission of the application file
- 8–9 July 2014 – Selection of candidate cities by the IOC Executive Board
- January 2015 – Submission of candidature files and guarantees
- February – March 2015 – IOC Evaluation Commission visits
- May–June 2015 – Evaluation Commission report
- May–June 2015 – Candidate City briefing to IOC members
- 31 July 2015 – Host city election at the 127th IOC Session in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

News—International Sport Organisations!

SportAccord and ANOC sign a partnership agreement

On 4 November 2013 the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) and SportAccord (union for both Olympic and non-Olympic international sports federations and organisers of international sporting events) signed a partnership agreement in Lausanne. This partnership aims at connecting International Sports Federations and National Olympic Committees, also in partnership with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), in order to develop a global sports movement which respects the Olympic Charter and the ideals of International Sports Federations (IFs). SportAccord and ANOC will closely collaborate and coordinate actions to benefit sport and society.

General Assembly of the European Olympic Committees (EOC) held in Rome

The General Assembly of the European Olympic Committees took place in Rome on 22–23 November. Annual reports of EOC Commissions, reports on IOC and EOC events and games and approval of financial reports and budget were on the agenda. Furthermore, the elections of a new Executive Committee for years 2013–2017 took place. Patrick Hickey from Ireland was elected to continue as President, as well as Raffaele Pagnozzi from Italy as Secretary General and Cypriot Kikis Lazarides as Treasurer. New Vice-President of the EOC is Janez Kocijancic from Slovenia. Other members of the EOC Executive Committee are Hasan Arat (Turkey), Alejandro Blanco (Spain), Spyros Capralos (Greece), Frantisek Chmelar (Slovakia), Sebastian Coe (Great Britain), Alexander Kozlovsky (Russia), Andrzej Krasnicki (Poland), Zlatko Matesa (Croatia), Niels Nygaard (Denmark), Marc Theisen (Luxembourg), Michael Vesper (Germany) and Efraim Zinger (Israel).

On 23 November the participants were received by Pope Francis at a private audience held in the Vatican's Sala. In the frescoed Renaissance hall, Pope Francis greeted the leaders of the Olympic Family of Europe and called upon them to promote human and religious values at all and every level, values that are fundamental to a just and equitable society, and combine the educational role of the Church and sport so as to teach athletes the moral values these two institutions share.

News and opportunities!

Olympic Summit held in Lausanne

Responding to an invitation from IOC President Thomas Bach, on Sunday, 3 November, the senior representatives of the Olympic Movement's key stakeholders met last Sunday at the IOC headquarters in Lausanne for the 2nd Olympic Movement Coordination Meeting.

The meeting formed part of the on-going open dialogue and consultations that the IOC is looking to increase with its main stakeholders on the main topics of interest and concern to the Olympic Movement.

On this occasion, the subjects addressed included the fight against doping, the fight against match-fixing and illegal betting, the sports calendar and autonomy and good governance in the Olympic Movement.

The Hellenic Olympic Academy and the International Olympic Truce Center join forces to promote respect for diversity

In Ancient Olympia, the eve of the Lighting of the Olympic Flame for the Winter Olympic Games in Sochi, the President of the HOA, Mr. Isidoros Kouvelos and the Director of the International Olympic Truce Centre, Mr. Constantinos Filis signed a cooperation protocol for the instruction manual "Respect for Diversity".

The agreement seeks to create a culture of peace and tolerance among all people and especially young people in Greece. Executives of the HOA will present and teach the manual in schools within the Greek territory. The project will be first piloted in five schools in the country.

UK Olympic Legacy

Tourism spending in the UK increased 23 per cent year on year from July 2012 to July 2013, according to the latest International Passenger Survey for the country. Overseas visitors spent 2,52 billion pounds in July 2013, exceeding the previous monthly record of 2, 43 billion pounds, set in August 2012 during the Olympics.

Qatart Olympic & Sport Museum to address the power of football as a tool for social change

The Qatar Olympic & Sports Museum and the National Football Museum (Manchester) joined forces to organize the greatest ever international exhibition of football: The ***We Speak Football*** exhibition.

The exhibition was an immersive, audio-visual rich and interactive experience celebrating players, coaches and fans. The visitors had the chance to travel back to the origin of the game, relive the history of the World Cup, meet stars and fans, and trace the emotions and the diversity which make this sport the beautiful game we all know. The audience was further engaged with a section dedicated to the local football cultures. Finally, visitors also got the opportunity to test their football skills, take a penalty, or lead their team to become the champion in the latest video games.

An additional attraction was a series of activities including talks about the sociocultural aspects of the game as well as events engaging the local community in actively playing football. The exhibition will travel around the globe for the next nine years, with its first stop in Brazil 2014 and its final show in Doha in 2022.

For more information visit: www.wespeakfootball.org



News and opportunities!

U.S. Olympic Committee Adds Sexual Orientation To Anti-Discrimination Rules

Months ahead of the Winter Olympics in Russia, where controversy surrounds a law that targets homosexuality, the U.S. Olympic Committee adds protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation to its policies.

"The fact that we do not think it is our role to advocate for a change in the Russian law does not mean that we support the law, and we do not," USOC CEO Scott Blackmun said.

The organization's board adopted the measure after its chairman, Larry Probst, said he would support adding sexual orientation to the International Olympic Committee's nondiscrimination policies.

"Americans are among Olympic athletes who've expressed outrage about the law," NPR's Howard Berkes reports for our Newscast unit. "The International Olympic Committee has warned athletes that engaging in political protest during the Olympics violates the Olympic Charter. The USOC is pushing the international Olympic body to also ban discrimination based on sexual orientation."

Source: nor.org, 13 Oct 2013

The International Centre Nizami Ganjavi New Sponsor of the IOA

In recognition of the work done by the IOA in recent years together with the need for financial support of this work, the President of the Cultural Foundation Nizami Ganjavi International Centre of Azerbaijan, Nazim Ibrahimovic decided to become one of the IOA's sponsors for the next four years, by signing a contract. The IOA and its President Isidoros Kouvelos will promote the work of this Foundation in every possible way.

Visit the IOA website for more info: www.ioa.org.gr

News and opportunities!

IOC launches Advanced Olympic Grant Programme

The main objective of this IOC OSC grant programme is to promote advanced research with a humanities or social sciences perspective by established researchers in priority fields of research identified annually by the IOC.

For the 2014/2015 edition, the priority fields of research are as follows:

1. Bid and host cities – Key factors to ensure that staging the Olympic Games will remain attractive and feasible for many cities and countries in the whole world.
2. The Olympic Games as a unique platform for spreading the Olympic values worldwide – Roles and responsibilities of the Olympic Movement stakeholders and society's perception.
3. The engagement of the host city and country's governing bodies and population to ensure the success of the Olympic Games and a sustainable positive legacy.
4. The link between art, culture and the Olympic Games – Ways of improvement.
5. The impact on local young people and their perception of the Youth Olympic Games in their host cities.
6. Elite athletes – The role of the entourage (parents, coaches, agents, etc.) in the athlete's dual (sport and education) career.
7. Sports development global strategies – Positioning, role and responsibilities of the Olympic Movement stakeholders and collaboration opportunities with other organisations.
8. Governance of sports organisations – Future challenges for the Olympic Movement.
9. The use of technology in high-level sport – Ethical and sporting considerations.

News and opportunities!

10. Sport for development strategies in developing and emerging nations 11. The opportunities and challenges of establishing effective policies to empower girls and women in and through sport

11. The opportunities and challenges of establishing effective policies to empower girls and women in and through sport.

12. Young people and their relationship with physical activity, sport and Olympism (perception, interest, participation and engagement).

13. The positive ethical, as well as behavioural, values that are reinforced through sport, both at the grassroots and elite levels of sports practice in different cultures.

14. Promoting and protecting the physical and psychological health of the elite athletes – Risk factors and prevention strategies from the human and social sciences perspective.

15. Doping in sport – Attitudes among amateur and professional athletes and in society.

All university professors, lecturers and research fellows who have completed their doctorate or equivalent terminal degree (including masters, depending on the field), and who currently hold an academic/research appointment covering the period of the grant (from submission of the application to delivery of the final report) are eligible to apply.

Application files, and any related correspondence, should be sent to the OSC by email before 10 February 2014. The complete explanatory document (including the full list of priority fields of research) and the application form are available on the OSC website: <http://www.olympic.org/news/advanced-olympic-research-grant-programme-2014-2015/213228>

Job Opportunities

Join the IOAPA LinkedIn Group to keep up to date with the latest job opportunities, call for papers, conferences and other announcement!!! Also, please send any information you'd like to share with the group to Cameron Myler, IOAPA Research Officer, at cameron@ioapa.org.

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=101892&mostPopular=&trk=tyah>

Also, stay current with new job and internship opportunities in the sports world, please visit the following websites regularly:

- <http://registration.olympic.org/en/jobs>
- <http://www.globalsportsjobs.com/>
- <http://www.sportsrecruitment.com/>
- <http://www.sportanddev.org/en/newsnviews/jobs/>

Contribute to ARETE NewsLetter!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! !

Is anything interesting related to sport happening in your country? Has something exciting happened in your life that you would like to share with your IOAPA friends? Did you take part in any relevant conference or event? Would you like to reflect on a recent sport-related development?

All you need to do is contact Vagelis, the Arete NewsLetter Editor at vagelis@ioapa.org and discuss your ideas with him!

