

ARETE NEWSLETTER

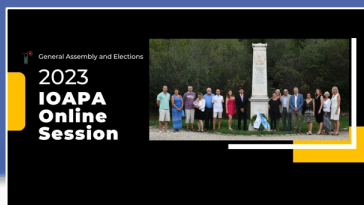
April 2023



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
ACADEMY
PARTICIPANTS
ASSOCIATION



HIGHLIGHTS



IOAPA ONLINE SESSION 13-16 April 2023 *IOAPA Executive Committee*

There are only a few days left to our Online IOAPA Session & Elections. If you've never been able to return to Olympia, THIS is your chance to rekindle friendships, network with like-minded people and be part of the legacy of the IOAPA using the magic of Zoom. Links to all the information... (p.5)

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TEAM CANADA IMPACT AGENDA *Canadian Olympic Committee*

The Canadian Olympic Committee's purpose is to transform Canada through the power of sport. This purpose is supported by the dual mission to lead the achievement of Team Canada's podium success and to advance the Olympic values across Canada. In 2022, the COC introduced... (p.7)

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LILLEHAMMER YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAMME *IOA Past Participants*

There was a reunion for IOAPA members from the 62nd IOA Young Participants in Norway this February 2023. The Lillehammer Young Leaders Programme 2023 took place at Lillehammer, Norway, from the 9th until the 12th of February and it was organized by... (p.9)

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EDITORIAL

Yarden Har Lev (ISR)



PAGE 3

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the April 2023 issue of the Arete Newsletter!

There are only a few days left to our Online IOAPA Session & Elections, which will take place on 13-16 April 2023. The IOAPA Executive Committee, in collaboration with IOAPA sub-committee members, put great effort into organizing a high-quality session, that besides its business parts includes some social and cultural content. You can find all the Information regarding the session on page 5.

In this edition, you will also find a variety of interesting articles regarding Olympic Education such as the **European Youth Olympic Ambassadors Program** by *Michal Cmelik (SVK)*, **Lesotho Olympic Values Education Program** by *Fako Masupha (LSO)*, **Lillehammer Young Leaders Programme** by a group of IOA Past Participants *Ennio Cornejo (PER)*, *Matt Myung-Sok Kwak (GER)*, *Mathea Saliba (MLT)*, *Gyda Winther (NOR)* and *Omar Zater (JOR)*. In addition, the *Canadian Olympic Committee* announces the **Team Canada Impact Agenda** and Head of Country Coordinators *Samantha Matavata (ZIM)* provides a **snapshot of the Country Coordinators' activity around the world**.

Since this is my last editorial as IOAPA Newsletter Editor, I will leave it for the next administration to announce the publication schedule for Arete in 2023-2025. However, I continue to encourage all of you to contribute and be part of this special publication that keeps us all informed about the valuable educational work of our IOAPA friends in the Olympic Movement.

In closing, I would like to especially acknowledge the IOA Dean and staff, IOAPA Executive Committee 2021-2023, IOAPA members and IOAPA partners for their co-operation in contributing valuable content during the last term. Also, I would also like to thank all readers of our Newsletter. I have had the pleasure of serving as an Editor for the past 6 years and furthermore the privilege of fulfilling my duties with joy, creativity and great satisfaction.

Enjoy your reading and see you soon in the IOAPA Session!

Yours in Olympism,

Yarden Har Lev

Arete Newsletter Editor

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Richard Koo (CAN)



PAGE 4

Dear IOAPA members and readers of Arete:

This is my last letter to you in Arete as President of IOAPA.

When I first came to office in 2015, we as an organisation sought to increase our members' connection to the IOA and to each other. In that time the world has gone through many challenges, crises, and conflicts. However, with those challenges came new opportunities to demonstrate how Olympism can serve as a guiding light in the world today. We also found new ways to interact and contribute to the work of the IOA, spreading its message to more people around the world even when we were forced apart.

IOAPA today now has a membership of over 1200, partnerships that span various national Olympic academies, initiatives that promote inclusivity and representation at our events, and multiple years of expertise in utilising virtual platforms to deliver the educational message of Olympism to the world. In short, despite our physical distance apart from each other, we as members of this great organisation are in fact closer to each other and the IOA than ever before. The upcoming 18th IOAPA Session both online and in-person in Olympia will be an opportunity for all of us to celebrate this community and our accomplishments. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at these events, to thank you one last time for giving me the opportunity to represent you over all these years.

I will have a few additional things to say throughout the course of the next couple of months prior to the end of my term in June 2023. However, I would like to take a moment now to thank Dean Kostas Georgiadis and his staff at the IOA for their collaboration as we sought to increase our members' contributions and connections to Olympia. Additional thanks to Vice President and founding member of IOAPA Laurel Brassey Iversen for believing in me and supporting my work in leading this association. And a final thanks to IOAPA Secretary Caroline Bujold, who has been part of this Olympic journey with me for the past 20 years and is the real force behind the success of IOAPA over these past 8 years.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Arete and thank you for your support during my time as president. It has been an honour of a lifetime to serve you the Olympic movement.

ευχαριστώ!

Richard Koo

IOAPA President

IOAPA ONLINE SESSION

13-16 April 2023

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IOAPA Executive Committee

Dear members,

There are only a few days left to our Online IOAPA Session & Elections. If you've never been able to return to Olympia, THIS is your chance to rekindle friendships, network with like-minded people and be part of the legacy of the IOAPA using the magic of Zoom.

Links to all the information available:

[Final Programme for the Online Session](#)

[Voting Procedures](#)

[List of candidates](#)

[IOAPA Statutes](#)

[IOAPA Membership](#)

[Important Notes](#)

- All programme timings are according to CEST (Central European Summer Time).
- You must be a registered participant of this session to vote in the election of the Executive Committee. Registrants will receive their username and password for voting purposes 24 hours prior to the Election.
- Arts programme will consist of Culinary and Dance Workshops.

We look forward to seeing you at the Session!



General Assembly and Elections

2023 IOAPA Online Session



EUROPEAN YOUTH OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

PAGE 6

Michal Cmelik (SVK)

The European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) allows young athletes to meet for the first time on the international forum with their peers from across the continent and educate themselves on Olympic values. Last January, the Italian region of Friuli Venezia Giulia hosted the 16th edition of the Winter festival, which I was honoured to attend as the Young Ambassador of our team Slovakia.

After a once-in-a-lifetime experience of being the Young Olympic Ambassador during the 62nd International Session for Young Olympic Ambassadors, I suddenly became curious about how to continue supporting the Olympic education in my home country – Slovakia, and still being a helpful force for our National Olympic Committee. However, the Olympic environment is bringing numerous exciting projects which need our attention. Therefore, I'm glad to introduce you to the program of the European Young Olympic Ambassadors (EYOA).

Each of the European National Olympic Committees has the opportunity to nominate their Young Ambassador who will travel with the delegation to the host country. Before the event, the Ambassadors prepare activities later delivered in the EYOA's base camp, which athletes visit daily. The activities were of different nature. These were interactive national games, quizzes, recordings of a podcast, challenges on social media channels, or workshops informing athletes about the seriousness of doping or manipulation in sports.

However, I was not the only IOAPA member present in Italy! It was great to work again in the same environment with my colleagues Yarden Har Lev from Israel and Yılmaz Songur from Türkiye. Jordan – as probably most of you call her ☺, was holding the position of coordinator of our cultural activities, which we were presenting during the festival. Together, we prepared the OLY-vision contest, inspired by the famous Eurovision Song Contest, the Cultural day - during which the participating athletes could try sweets from different European countries or many Kahoot! Quizzes, which were extremely popular with the participants (and also us – very competitive Young Ambassadors)!

I really have to say that the IOAPA family proved its high quality, and we, as a team delivered an excellent program for the athletes. I think that such an experience demonstrates that you can find IOAPA members around the globe. And most importantly, we are always here to help each other – as the true representative of the Olympic spirit.

TEAM CANADA IMPACT AGENDA

Canadian Olympic Committee

PAGE 7

The Canadian Olympic Committee's purpose is to transform Canada through the power of sport. This purpose is supported by the dual mission to lead the achievement of Team Canada's podium success and to advance the Olympic values across Canada.

In 2022, the COC introduced the Team Canada Impact Agenda, a framework to support its purpose and its commitment to making sport safe, inclusive, and barrier-free so more young people can play and stay in sport.

The Team Canada Impact Agenda focuses around three pillars:

1. **Podium:** Relentlessly pursue a safe, inclusive, and barrier-free sport system
2. **Play:** Inspire more young Canadians to play and stay in sport
3. **Planet:** Take a leadership position to preserve our sporting environments

The COC is already activating against this framework. The recent announcement of the Team Canada Olympic Day Grant demonstrates support of the Play Pillar.

In celebration of Olympic Day, the COC launched the Team Canada Olympic Day Grant for Canadian schools with the goal of empowering students to play and stay in sport.

Sport brings communities together, teaches us leadership and fair play, and fuels our health and well-being. But often there are barriers that mean that young Canadians either “can’t” or “won’t” participate in sport. We believe the COC plays a role in ensuring access and a quality experience in sport at all levels.

The Team Canada Olympic Day Grant provides funding to increase access to sport in schools while also giving athletes the opportunity to inspire students through their stories. A total of 5 grants of \$5,000 are available for Canadian schools across the country to help students play and stay in sport. Successful schools will also receive a 90-minute Team Canada athlete speaking engagement to inspire students to participate in sport and develop the skills to thrive and succeed in their daily lives.

Team Canada will be sharing these celebrations on social media on June 23 in celebration of Olympic Day. To follow along, visit Team Canada on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#).

To learn more about the Team Canada Impact Agenda visit: <https://olympic.ca/impact-agenda/>

LESOTHO OLYMPIC VALUES EDUCATION PROGRAM

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Fako Masupha (LSO)

The Lesotho Olympic Academy under the auspice of Lesotho National Olympic Committee in an attempt to fulfil its strategic objective “Promote Olympism “is currently implementing a nation-wide project sponsored by Olympic solidarity on Olympic Values Education Program for High Schools. The project started off in February 2022 (Phase I) with intense training of High School Teachers on OVEP Tool Kit 2.0 and the establishment of 160 Olympic Clubs. The second Phase (Phase II) started off in January 2023 where all 160 clubs were provided with sports equipment that included soccer balls, volleyballs, netballs, tennis balls, skipping ropes, whistles, tool kit and school sign boards. Since the commencement of the project, the Lesotho Olympic Academy has been making visits at all schools to support and ensure smooth implementation of OVEP. It is of paramount importance to highlight that this is a stepping stone towards the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between Lesotho Government and Lesotho National Olympic Committee to include OVEP in the national Education curriculum for schools.

The project is anchored by the Lesotho National Olympic Committee’s Programs Coordinator Mr Fako MASUPHA who is a prominent member of the Lesotho Olympic Committee and an IOAPA Country’s Coordinator. The project has registered over 3000 students in Olympic Clubs in the 10 districts of the country. There are more activities (national sports debate, national sports festival) that the Lesotho Olympic Academy is intending to implement as a way to advance Olympic Education in Lesotho.



LILLEHAMMER YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAMME

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IOA Past Participants

There was a reunion for IOAPA members from the 62nd IOA Young Participants in Norway this February 2023. The Lillehammer Young Leaders Programme 2023 took place at Lillehammer, Norway, from the 9th until the 12th of February and it was organized by Lillehammer Olympic Legacy Sport Centre (LOLSC).

Ennio Cornejo (Peru), Matt Myung-Sok Kwak (Germany), Mathea Saliba (Malta), Gyda Winther (Norway) and Omar Zater (Jordan) met again after their 62nd IOA Young Ambassadors session in 2022. We met at this young leaders program, along with 36 participants from 14 nations.

The theme of this year's program was "Fair Play", in which they discussed different topics within fair play such as antidoping, gender equality, ethnicity, and equal rights to enjoy sports, racism, discrimination and rules and regulations in different sports. There were lecturers from the Youth Olympic Games 2016, in Lillehammer, Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Committee and Confederation of Sports, The United Nations Association of Norway, Gausdal High School and Google Norway. The leaders also visited the Lillehammer Olympic Museum.

Social activities were also held to get to know the Olympic City: Lillehammer. The participants tried curling, went to the ski jumping arena, where they walked the 936 steps up the top, and tried sledging. "Bring the Culture" was also a great part of the program, where all the participants shared some snacks, entertainment, pins, and shared knowledge of their country. Ennio was king of this event, and brought gifts for all the participants to have – by lottery!

It was a great weekend for all the participants, but especially for the IOA participants. We managed to reunite, share news and highlights as well as continue to live the Olympic values together.

We will recommend joining programs like this, as it is a great experience and one gets to learn a lot. Great young leaders continue to develop knowledge which they can grow in their own country, to promote sport and Olympism. Of course, we also had the pleasure to meet each other again and re-live Olympia memories.

Until next time!

Ennio, Matt, Mathea, Gyda and Omar.



IOAPA COUNTRY COORDINATORS

Samantha Matavata (ZIM)

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Since stepping into the big shoes Mr Stavros Stavrou (CYP) left for me to fill in, the journey has not been anything short of adventurous. To date we have 48 countries represented by 51 Coordinators. Most Coordinators assumed their roles as of June 2022 after going through the application process. Since assuming their roles, they have worked tirelessly to spread the Olympic Movement within their countries. A tremendous amount of effort has been put into projects, reaching out to old and new participants as well as engaging NOCs/NOAs in their current endeavors. The subcommittee has stood as a pillar of strength and guidance where need be in decision making as well as effective strategic tools. Within the short period of time and with contingency to time zones as well as schedules we have managed to organize 3 zoom discussions solely for the country coordinators to share ideas and projects so as to help and grow. Where representatives were unable to attend a virtual meeting, they have taken the initiative to write a detailed report on their current missions. The reports I have compiled will be presented in the upcoming IOAPA General meeting.

Mr Xavier Jeannin (FRA) has also stepped in to promote communication among IOAPA members, Country Coordinators as well IOA participants. Not only has this increased an understanding of what IOAPA stands for but has ignited a need to be a part of the amazing family and mostly has brought the light for other members to have the will to serve as Coordinators.

As we started our term with the Country Coordinators, we chose a more effective approach as to aide them into getting their feet grounded in their outreach programs. We as the subcommittee decided to divide the countries amongst the subcommittee to better guide and assist were need as a more effective and efficient tool which should be more sustainable not only for the current EC but for the future ones as the number grows.

We look forward to growing the IOAPA as we display the Olympic Movement and Olympism through outreach programs being exerted by the country coordinators within their regions stronger together.

As we stand together through Olympism, we also stand together in solidarity with our Olympic family in regions affected by tragedy, natural disaster and war. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all those affected.

Samantha Matavata

Head of Country Coordinators

ARETE Editorial Board

BENEFITS OF IOAPA MEMBERSHIP?

Besides having the opportunity to keep in touch with other members, attend our Reunion at the Olympics and take part in our bi-annual Session in Olympia, as a member you also get exclusive access to the following (to get access, login our website):

- ✓ [List of members](#)
- ✓ Monthly emails with news on sport related opportunities
- ✓ Helpful links for [jobs](#) and [research](#)

KNOW A PAST PARTICIPANT WISHING TO BECOME A MEMBER?

Please refer them to [IOAPA MEMBERSHIP](#) and they will be able to register and pay online directly!

DO YOU HAVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR IOAPA MEMBERS?

You have access to great perks and you are able to share: sporting event tickets, cultural event tickets, sport promotions, special museum exhibits, etc.?

Send us the details at info@ioapa.org or post the information on our [Facebook group](#) (members only).

FEEL FREE TO JOIN US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

You can find us on

[Facebook](#) , [Twitter](#) , [Instagram](#) & [LinkedIn](#)

PROMOTE YOUR IOAPA ACTIVITY

We are continuously looking for news from our members. Are you working on a sport or Olympic education project that could be of interest to others? Does your country have a National Academy and you're taking part? Are you travelling and meeting IOAPA members or want to host IOA friends in your city? Do you have a great Olympic/Paralympic story? Did you meet the love of your life in Olympia? You're hosting a mini IOAPA reunion? **WE WANT TO KNOW!** Send us the details with a couple pictures/videos at info@ioapa.org and we may just publish them.

CONTRIBUTE TO ARETE NEWSLETTER!

Do you organize a special program towards Paris 2024?

Do you manage an interesting project on Olympic Education in your country?

Do you work on an Olympism-related dissertation or paper?

SHARE with us your experiences and contribute to the ARETE NEWSLETTER!

For any ideas, do not hesitate to send an email to info@ioapa.org.



IOA PARTICIPANTS WEDDING:

Maximilian Rief (Germany) and Floriane Poncet (France)- got married in Austria on February 4th, 2023 almost 5 years after they met in Ancient Olympia at the IOA 58th Young Participants session (in 2018). Congratulations!

