

INTERNATIONAL
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OLYMPIC HISTORIANS

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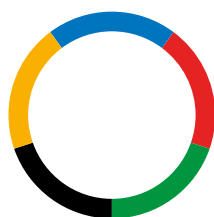
Harrassowitz

Paris 2024 - Le jour de Gloire est arrive

- “Champions of the World” Uruguay’s football class of ‘24
- The Joseph Conrad of English Swimming
- Olympics on the Seine
- Awarding Olympic Medals for Creativity
- Indigenous Olympians 1904-12

23RD IOC Session in Paris 1924
Pierre de Coubertin with the IOC
Members at the Palais du Louvre.

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INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC HISTORIANS

ORGANISATION RECOGNISED BY THE
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Editorial

When sport was still 'exhibited' — Paris 1900

by Christian Wacker



Paris is preparing for the Games of the XXXIII Olympiad in 2024. Once again, they will surely be superlative, the river Seine meandering through Paris will play a role, the programme will be innovative and cultural events will be diverse and heterogeneous. We, the Olympic historians, are also looking back at all these facets and in this issue we are focussing on the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris.

In 1900, when the Olympic movement was still in its infancy, sporting competitions were also held in Paris as part of the World Exhibition. These later became more widely known as the Second Olympic Games. For Pierre de Coubertin and his zeitgeist, it was only logical to organise the Olympic Games in conjunction with major international events in order to generate visibility. In the second half of the 19th century, World Expositions provided stages for internationalism. This was one of the reasons that Coubertin sought to be associated with these events, for they promoted civilisation, progress, technical development, and international cooperation. The philosophy of World Expositions anticipated Olympic ideals developed later, so it is not surprising that as early as 1851 a British newspaper had already coined the phrase, "Olympic Games of Industry". Napoleon III described the Second World Exposition in 1867 as "The Olympic Games of the Whole World". They were even held in exhibition grounds shaped like a stadium.

In the 19th century, sporting events had in any case, a strong exhibition character. Emphasis was placed on the demonstration of physical skills, extraordinary physical strength, and exceptional abilities as well as the excitement of a competition. In those days, such shows were still curiosities and attracted crowds of visitors; sport was 'exhibited'. This changed towards the turn of the century, when, with the foundation of the corresponding associations, national and international athletic competitions became popular and were no longer regarded as just the main attraction at a world exposition or fair. For this reason, the 1900 Olympic Games in Paris was unlikely to be successful, as

they were regarded as only one aspect of the major world event. The organisers of the World Exhibition in Paris in 1900, under whose direction all sports competitions were held, therefore saw no reason to bow to the demands and requirements of Coubertin. Even the name Olympic Games was not used in any official report. It appeared in only a few publications of the time. The competitions bore the official name *Concours Internationaux d'Exercices Physiques et de Sports* (International Competitions for Physical Exercises and Sports). Coubertin originally made plans to hold the Olympics as part of the fair and planned to organise the events, but the those in charge relegated him to a relatively minor



tion of the sporting events connected with the fair. Finally, Coubertin also realised that partnerships with World Expositions did not suit the purpose of the Olympic movement. "Unfortunately, the alliance we had concluded was more indissoluble than we had thought. On two other occasions, in 1904 and 1908 we were unable to sever our relations with exhibitions." Only a few nations sent an official delegation to Paris 1900. Many participants travelled as private individuals. Quite a few participants from abroad were present in Paris only by chance or because they lived there. That they took part in the sporting events was usually as a result of a 'spur of the moment' decision. The athletes who competed very often didn't represent their home countries, as they would in future Games, but their clubs or universities. Among these was Adolpho Christiano Klingelhofer who competed for the famous Racing Club de Paris. Because he was a member of this traditional French club, he was registered in the lists of participants as French, although he was in fact Brazilian.

References

1 The title appeared in the newspaper "The Spectator" quoted from Siegmund Loland, "Coubertin's Ideology of Olympism from the Perspective of the History of Ideas", *Olympika: The International Journal of Olympic Studies* 4, (1995): 59; Wolfgang Decker et. al. (Ed.), *100 Jahre Olympische Spiele* (Würzburg: Ergon, 1996), 80-81.

2 Marcia De Franceschi Neto-Wacker and Christian Wacker, *Brazil goes Olympic* (Doha: Aspire, 2011) 70-73.



A group of American athletes:
Robert GARRETT
Josiah MCCRACKEN
Ray EWRY
Irving BAXTER
Francis JARVIS
Alvin KRAENZLEIN
Richard SHELDON
Walter B. John TEWKSBURY
Maxwell W. Maxey LONG
John Joseph FLANAGAN

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Mumbai Memorandum – International Olympic Committee Session, Jio World Centre, Mumbai October 15th –17th 2023

by Philip Barker



The door has been opened towards an extension of International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach's term in office after proposals made at the IOC Session in Mumbai,

Mustapha Berraf of Algeria was the first to make a proposal.

"I suggest we make the necessary arrangements so that President Thomas Bach should be allowed to carry out an additional term of office which would allow the IOC to go through this period of torment with a President who has proved his mettle and allow the IOC to have a transition in a much more serene manner" Berraf said.

"In the Olympic Charter there is the possibility to extend the term of all members with the exception of the President so we ask on behalf of Africa that this part be corrected in the Olympic Charter," Djibouti's Aicha Garad added. The idea was endorsed by Camilo Pérez López Moreira of Paraguay and Luis Rafael Mejía Oviedo of the Dominican Republic. A modification to the Olympic Charter would be required in order for the change to be made.

"It is not an easy matter to change the Charter, It requires that proposed modification are included on our agenda that is circulated 30 days in advance of the meeting" said IOC Vice President John Coates.

He also advised members that there was a requirement for the IOC Executive Board to debate any modification and produced before it was set before the full membership. This was the first IOC Session to be held completely "in person" since January 2020 when they met in Lausanne before the COVID-19 pandemic. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi had joined members for the Opening Ceremony.

"India is an inspiring place to hold our IOC session, a country that combines a splendid history and a dynamic present with a vigorous confidence in the future," Bach said.

Bach reported the success of the Olympic Esports Series held earlier in the year. "The Olympic Esports Series generated more than 6 million views of live action over all channels, with 75 per cent of views from people aged 13–34. This was a promising start. But it is just that: a start. It is like in any sport: after the promising start, the real race still lies ahead.

I have asked our new IOC Esports Commission to study the creation of Olympic Esports Games."

During the working session members accepted the Executive Board's recommendation to include five additional sports on the 2028 Olympic programme. "LA is thrilled to propose a highly engaging and gender balanced sport programme," LA 28 Chief Executive John Harper told the session.

"The package of new sports we have proposed, reflects our city our brand and the world. Our objective is to align our proposal with innovation, striking the sweet spot delivering exciting American sports to the world and bringing unique sports to the USA, Every sport plays a distinctive role. They embody the very essence of LA28."

LA28 President Casey Wasserman prefaced his progress report with a call for peace, specifically in two areas of conflict.

"I am deeply concerned about the people of Ukraine, We must help them in their time of need, they face an unfathomable path without us." Wasserman said. "There are no words that can fully capture the devastation and shock over the massacre in Israel on October 7th, the world is still reeling from the largest loss of Jewish life since the holocaust.

"There is no justification for this organisation's taking of hostages and the slaughter of innocent lives. "I unequivocally stand in solidarity with Israel but let me be clear I also stand with the innocent civilians in Gaza who did not choose this war."

Brisbane 2032 President Andrew Liveris made his first "in person" presentation to an IOC Session. The traditional closing address was made by IOC Doyen Princess Nora of Liechtenstein. It was the first time a woman had done so.

"We are all impressed by the energy we could feel in this country a powerful young nation is storming onto the playing field of international sport," the Princess said. "The IOC has come quite a long way in gender equality. Many top athletes becoming role models, the IOC has come a long way to help the personal development of the athletes, it became quite clear that we probably are the best 'changemakers' for society we have a great possibility to serve society."

Source: Olympic Channel broadcast



International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach addresses the 2023 session in Mumbai

©IOC/Greg Martin



The IOC Session in Mumbai was the first full "in person" gathering of members since the pandemic

©IOC/Greg Martin

'Neutrals' at Paris 2024



The way has been cleared for athletes from Russia and Belarus to compete at Paris 2024 after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board introduced a designation of Individual Neutral Athletes (AINs) at their meeting in December.¹

Those who “have qualified through the existing qualification systems of the International Federations (IFs) on the field of play will be declared eligible to compete” an IOC statement said.^[1]

Those who take part will be required to comply with the regulations laid down last year.

“They will also have to sign the updated Conditions of Participation applicable for Paris 2024. This contains a commitment to respect the Olympic Charter, including “the peace mission of the Olympic Movement.”

They will also have to comply with the recommendations drawn up by the IOC in the wake of the invasion of Ukraine in 2022.^[2]

These conditions stipulate that “teams of athletes with a Russian or Belarusian passport will not be considered.”

“Athletes who actively support the war will not be eligible to be entered or to compete. Support personnel who actively support the war will not be entered.”

“Athletes who are contracted to the Russian or Belarusian military or national security agencies will not be eligible to be entered or to compete. Support personnel who are contracted to the Russian or Belarusian military or national security agencies will not be entered.”

100 years ago, the question of Russian participation at Paris 1924 was also raised.

Russian IOC member Prince Leon Ouroussoff had been appointed in 1910 during the time of the Tsar. He had relocated to Paris in the wake of the Russian Revolution but asked for recognition of an organisation that would allow Russian émigrés to participate in the 1924 Olympics and other sporting events.

The minutes of the 1923 IOC Session in Rome 1923 record, “in the present state of affairs the Olympic rules prevent Russian participation in the Games.”^[3] Russian athletes competed from 1952 as part of the

Soviet Union team alongside those from Belarus and Ukraine.

In the wake of sanctions imposed after revelations of doping irregularities at the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics, a commission led by former Swiss President Samuel Schmid launched an investigation and made a recommendation to the IOC Board.

“to take the appropriate measures that should be strong enough to effectively sanction the existence of a systemic manipulation of the anti-doping rules and system in Russia”^[4] IOC News December 5th 2017.

The IOC Executive Board suspended the Russian Olympic Committee (ROC) with immediate effect and created a new designation for use at the 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics

“To invite individual Russian athletes under strict conditions. These invited athletes will participate, be it in individual or team competitions, under the name “Olympic Athlete from Russia (OAR) They will compete with a uniform bearing this name and under the Olympic Flag. The Olympic Anthem will be played in any ceremony.”

Participants were forbidden to display the Russian flag or the emblem of the ROC.

The World Anti Doping Agency had imposed a ban of four years in 2019 but this was later reduced.

A Court of Arbitration for Sport Ruling in December 2020 said that the name Russia could not be used. Instead, Russian athletes competed at both the Tokyo Olympics and Beijing Winter Olympics.

“Athletes to be entered by and represent the “Russian Olympic Committee” and use “ROC” as the acronym.” the guidelines advised.

The emblem was to be used in protocol and in the event of any victory ceremonies was to be that of the ROC “Where necessary, the emblem should be amended to remove any wording or national symbols.”

An extract from Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto Number One was played at any victory ceremonies.

Endnotes

1 IOC Media bulletin December 8th, 2023.

1. IOC Media Release December 8th 2023
2. IOC Media Release March 23rd 2023
3. Minutes of IOC Session in Rome April 7th to 12th 1923
4. IOC News December 5th 2017.



At the Tokyo Olympics and Beijing Winter Olympics, Russians competed under the Russian Olympic Committee Flag

© ISDH

Champions of the World – When South American football became known to the World at Paris 1924

by Professor Héctor Horacio Henry*

Paris 1924 marked Uruguay's first Olympic appearance. It was crowned by a gold medal in football which transformed the sport. It was a triumph repeated in 1928.



The achievements of the team were a factor in FIFA deciding that the World Cup should be inaugurated in Montevideo in 1930.

From the late 18th century, what became the Uruguayan nation had recreational activities which often coincided with important national or religious occasions.

From the beginning of the 19th century, many foreign communities made their way to South America, attracted by the possibilities of finding a better life in a "promised land."

They brought with them their sport. Competitive sporting activities might therefore be said to have been "imported" into the country through the port of Montevideo, according to the tradition of each community.

Around 1840, a significant number of British merchants left Buenos Aires for Montevideo, as a response to Governor Juan Manuel Rosas' economic protectionism against the thriving British trade.¹

In Montevideo, this community soon came together for social events and sport.

In around 1848, they founded the Montevideo Victoria Cricket Club, the first sporting club established in Uruguay. It was short-lived, because of a civil war (Guerra Grande) that forced the suspension of sports activities.

On July 18, 1861, after peace had been achieved throughout the territory, the English community launched another socio-sporting institution, the Montevideo Cricket Club with cricket the predominant sport.

Later other communities added other sports.

The Swiss promoted shooting, the Italians and the French established rowing, athletics, tennis, soccer, swimming, golf and fencing, billiards was also introduced by the French, and the Basques brought in fronton ball, etc.²

Around 1890, came a true explosion in football, when the English community founded several clubs, backed by companies or schools within members

of that community. Among them were Albion and the Montevideo Railways Cricket Club (the base of today's famous Peñarol club), both established in 1891. Each had players of other nationalities alongside Uruguayan nationals.

At the beginning of the 20th century, Uruguay already had its own national organisation for football. The Uruguayan Football Association (AFU) was founded on March 31st, 1900.

A national League was begun and international matches against Argentina were established in 1902–3. In 1915, the Uruguayans prompted the founding of a South American Confederation (CONMEBOL).

The first continental Championship for the Copa America was held in 1916 and won by Uruguay.

In 1923 the competition was held in Montevideo.

The team asked the AFU for an undertaking that in the event of victory, they would support an entry to the Olympic tournament in Paris,

Uruguay won the tournament and the AFU honoured the undertaking.

For Uruguay to take part, it was necessary that a National Olympic Committee should exist and this was duly established on October 27th, 1923. In addition, there had been an IOC member in Uruguay since 1922, in the person of Dr. Francisco Ghigliani.

Baron Pierre de Coubertin had placed his trust in Ghigliani for his great work in the organization in Uruguay of Physical Education and Sports.³ With such a background, Ghigliani was appointed president of the first Comité Olímpico Uruguayo (COU).

Going to Paris was not easy. The administration of Uruguayan soccer at the time was divided between the great historical teams, Nacional and Peñarol. Nacional headed the Association, with Dr. Atilio Narancio as President (a) and Peñarol commanded the Federation, with Dr. Julio María Sosa, as president. There were no funds for the trip, and no precedent as South American teams had not hitherto played in Europe.

They found a merchant who paid for the tickets, with President Narancio's own house as a guarantee.

Between 1904 and 1923 a number of teams had visited South America. From England, Southampton, Nottingham Forest, Everton and Tottenham Hotspur made tours.

Some Scottish teams also made the trip and there



Fig. 1: The Uruguayan team pose for a photograph

© IOC

Fig. 2: The Uruguayan team display their flag to the crowd

© IOC

Fig. 3: A lap of honour from the new Olympic Champions /Author's collection

© IOC



had also been visits from Italian clubs Torino and Genoa. A team from the Basque country included legendary Spanish goalkeeper Ricardo Zamora, who had played for Spain at the 1920 Antwerp Olympics.⁴

The Match

On Monday, March 17th 1924, the first Olympic contingent from Uruguay sailed to Europe on the steamer "Desirade". The footballers (after boxing and fencing) arrived at the Spanish port of Vigo in Galicia.

From there, they travelled through Spain and France by second-class train.

As they continued their journey they played matches to help raise funds.

As luggage, each player carried a small cardboard suitcase, which contained their only shirt, shorts, socks and boots. After each match, players had to wash their own kit.

In the middle of the Atlantic, the delegation received a telegram which contained the authorisation to participate in the VIII Olympic Games, Olympic delegate Francisco Ghigliani (b) took responsibility for the registration, in spite of the existing political-sports clashes in Montevideo.⁵

Start of the Tour

The team were known as the "Albiceleste" because they wore sky blue shirts.

Meanwhile, the Uruguayan ambassador in Switzerland had made arrangements for the first match of the tour to be played against Celta Vigo on May 9th. In that first match on European soil, Uruguay won 3-0 and the impression made by its football (even with rain and a heavy pitch) was such that the journalist Manolo de Castro, sports editor of the Faro newspaper in Vio, wrote a headline that has become famous ". THROUGH THE FIELDS OF COYA, AN OLYMPIC BLAST PASSED."⁶

That impact of seeing a different type of football led de Castro to ask his bosses to allow him to cover the entire tour made by Uruguay including their Olympic participation in Paris. The Uruguayan team played nine matches in Spain and won them all.

On May 17th, they arrived in Paris and moved enthusiastically into the new "Olympic Village", highly promoted by the IOC for the 44 participating visiting delegations. This accommodation had originally been built in 1917-18 for American troops in the First World War, but it was not really designed for athletes.

The official report of 1924 of the Uruguayan soccer delegation to the VIII Olympic Games established: ".... They were located several hundred metres from the great Stade de Colombes and the impression we

received upon arrival could not have been more disappointing."⁷

This prompted the party to find their own accommodation and they found it in a castle, in a private forest owned by a lovely widow, Madame Mary Pain, who became the delegation's "godmother." The castle had been built in 1865 by Clebert and Adolphe Alphan, the latter had also designed the Bois de Boulogne and the Champs Elysées.⁸

The Competition

Both Rugby and Soccer teams reached an agreement with Coubertin and the Organizing Committee to participate in the Games under the control of said Federations, but within the laws stipulated by IOC, especially on amateurism and other standards stipulated by them .(c)

The rugby tournament took place first and was won by the United States.

Soccer had an initial registration record of 22 nations, which meant that half the competing nations in the entire Games were represented.

On May 25, six knockout elimination matches were held, leaving Yugoslavia, Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, Turkey and Spain, who came from a great performance in the previous Olympic Games ,Antwerp 1920.

Uruguay's opponents were Yugoslavia. So little was known about the Uruguayans that a Parisian newspaper confidently predicted a Yugoslav victory.

"...Too bad they came so far to leave so soon".

The result was Uruguay 7 Yugoslavia 0.

It was a result which defied the forecasts and the few spectators who attended discovered that the Uruguayans in their sky blue shirts played a different brand of football.

The majority the matches were played at the Racing Club de Paris Stadium, "Yvés de Manoïr", in the Colombes neighborhood (d).

This had been renovated.

Uruguay's second match was at the Stade Bergeyre. Uruguay beat the USA 3-0.

They returned to Colombes for their third match, this time against the host nation.

Uruguay won 5-1 and then defeated the Netherlands 2-1 in the semi final, overcoming a strong Dutch defence.

The final was held on June 9th at the Colombes Stadium, in front of 40,522 spectators. Marcel Stawick of France refereed the match. Uruguay defeated Switzerland 3-0 (e). This triumph was not only represented an a new level of technical excellence, but several myths were created that exist to this day.

In the Italian Sports daily "LA GAZZETA DELLO SPORT", Bruno Roghi, wrote "...Football's Olym-



MONTEVIDEO. — PARTIDO ENTRE URUGUAYOS Y SOUTHAMPTON. — 1904

Fig. A: Huge crowds watched European teams when they visited Uruguay before the first world war

© Football Leyes que Lo Rigen, Modo de Jugarlo - Carlos Sturzenegger - Montevideo 1911



Fig. B: A huge crowd gathered in the Spanish town of Vigo to welcome the Uruguayan players

© La Olimpiada de Paris 1924 - Asociacion Uruguaya de Futbol

Fig. C: The launch which carried the Uruguayan players ashore at the Spanish port of Vigo

© La Olimpiada de Paris 1924 - Asociacion Uruguaya de Futbol



Fig. D: The squad at the accommodation in Paris

© La Olimpiada de Paris 1924 - Asociacion Uruguaya de Futbol

pic triumph emigrates to America. This typically European sport has found its masters where it was almost unknown 10 years ago. The new world is a tremendous expropriator of the Old Continent. Switzerland, a nation that with great efforts of will had managed to close the path to the Americans, has been overwhelmed by the Uruguayans....the Uruguayans were not satisfied with just winning the final game in Paris, but they wanted to win it with style and pitch-perfect behaviour.... There is nothing left to do but take your hat off. The laurel crowns the forehead of the strongest.”⁹

“... Anyone knows that in a few years the Olympic football champions will not be black or yellow. Blacks are already distinguished as the phenomenal Andrade, one of the best Uruguayan players...” said a report in the Montevideo newspaper *El Dia*.¹⁰ Manolo de Castro from the Vigo newspaper *Faro*, who had witnessed the Uruguayan team’s arrival in Europe, had made good on his pledge to follow the Uruguayan team throughout.

“As soon as the match was over, the Uruguayans, possessed of immense jubilation, advanced towards the grandstand which offered resounding cheers...! What a triumphal parade, dear readers!

The South Americans marched in a group, followed in the same fashion by the Swiss. As the champions parade in front of the Marathon Tribune, with their right hands held high, the crowd goes wild with enthusiasm, waving flags, scarves and hats that fall among flowers, over the Olympic champions.

The spectacle is indescribable, moving... Uruguay were not only the favourites, but the spectators at the Olympics ostensibly declared that they were the Champions”.¹¹

This expression of the winners for the public that applauded them, made them go around the track of the stadium in gratitude, which generated the custom of the winners, called “The Olympic Tour” also known as a “lap of honour.”

As an addition, the Celta de Vigo club, the first to face Uruguay upon its arrival in Europe changed their shirts from red to light blue in homage to the Olympic winners, Celta Vigo wear light blue to this day.

Author’s Notes

(a)

Dr. Atilio Narancio is the only Uruguayan sports leader to have been honoured a full-length statue, in front of the Centenario Stadium in Montevideo, in recognition of all national sports and football in particular, and for his contribution to the Olympic achievements from 1924.

(b)

“...In the spring of 1924 the IOC held its session in Paris.”He remained as an IOC member while he was President of his country, Colonel Kentish for England, Baron Güell for Spain, Keane for Ireland, Prince Lubomirski for Poland and Dr. Ghigliani for Uruguay. The IOC had 54 members, belonging to forty-two countries.”Pierre de Coubertin- *Olympic Memoirs*” - Spanish version, page 486.

(c)

The success of the public in the two team competitions (rugby union and football), prompted Coubertin analysis of these Games: “...It seemed to me that the that the time had come to give to the international Federations, currently much more consolidated and aware of their connection to the Olympics, a more significant part in the technical organization of the games...” (Cited *Memoirs*, p.495)

(d)

Coubertin’s thought, after winning the VIII Olympic Games in Paris in 1924 and three years before the IX Games in Amsterdam, that under the control of a general commissioner, Eugene Manod, winner of the French architecture competition in 1911 thought “... the Games of the VIII Olympiad would be the most beautiful and perfect ones ever held until then”...”, but although aware of the bureaucratic problems of French politics, especially in the Paris City Hall, they found that since the special session of March 21, 1922, with a continuous series of objections to the plans and projects proposed by the organizers and the IOC. In April 1922 the French Olympic Committee seriously considered giving up its mission and making way for Los Angeles, which in 1923 would inaugurate the venue for future Olympic Games. In his *Memoirs* (Spanish version, p. 485), Coubertin expresses “...Finally the government took action on the matter...it finally began to move, albeit somewhat limping, and decided to build the stadium in Colombes! If I had commanded, none of the planned sites would have been built, since there was another in Paris that presented much greater advantages. In front of the Military School, on the Champ de Mars and the Eiffel Tower, where the Galerie de Machines of the 1889 Exhibition was located, later dismantled, leaving a wide esplanade free “...” in addition to the Military School, at that time it was, with its buildings, spaces, lodgings, almost deserted. What a great location for athletes could settle...”

(e)

The date June 9th has been declared “South American Football Day” by CONMEBOL (South American Football Confederation), in recognition of the first great international victory by players from the continent.

Endnotes

- * President of the Pierre de Coubertin Committee in Uruguay.
- 1 "THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS IN URUGUAY" – Prof. José Enrique Esperón, IUACJ, Uruguay.
 - 2 "ORIGINS OF SPORTS IN URUGUAY" – Prof. Héctor Horacio Henry, Class notes IUACJ, Uruguay.
 - 3 "ANALES DEL COMITÉ OLÍMPICO URUGUAYO" – COU, Uruguay.
 - 4 "ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF URUGUAYAN SOCCER" – General notes, Uruguay.
 - 5 "ANDRADE "THE BLACK KING OF PARIS" – Franklin Morales, Ed. End of the World.
 - 6 "THE LIGHTHOUSE OF VIGO" – Manuel de Castro, May 9th 1924, Vigo, Spain.
 - 7 "PARIS 1924" – AUF, Official Report of the Uruguayan Delegation, Uruguay.
 - 8 "LA MAÑANA" – Dr. Carlos Quijano – Notes June 1924, Montevideo, Uruguay.
 - 9 "LA GAZETTA DELLO SPORT" – Bruno Roghi, June 11th 1924, Genoa, Italy.
 - 10 "EL DÍA" – Lorenzo Batlle, June 11 1924, Montevideo, Uruguay.
 - 11 "THE LIGHTHOUSE OF VIGO" – Manuel de Castro, June 12th 1924, Vigo, Spain.

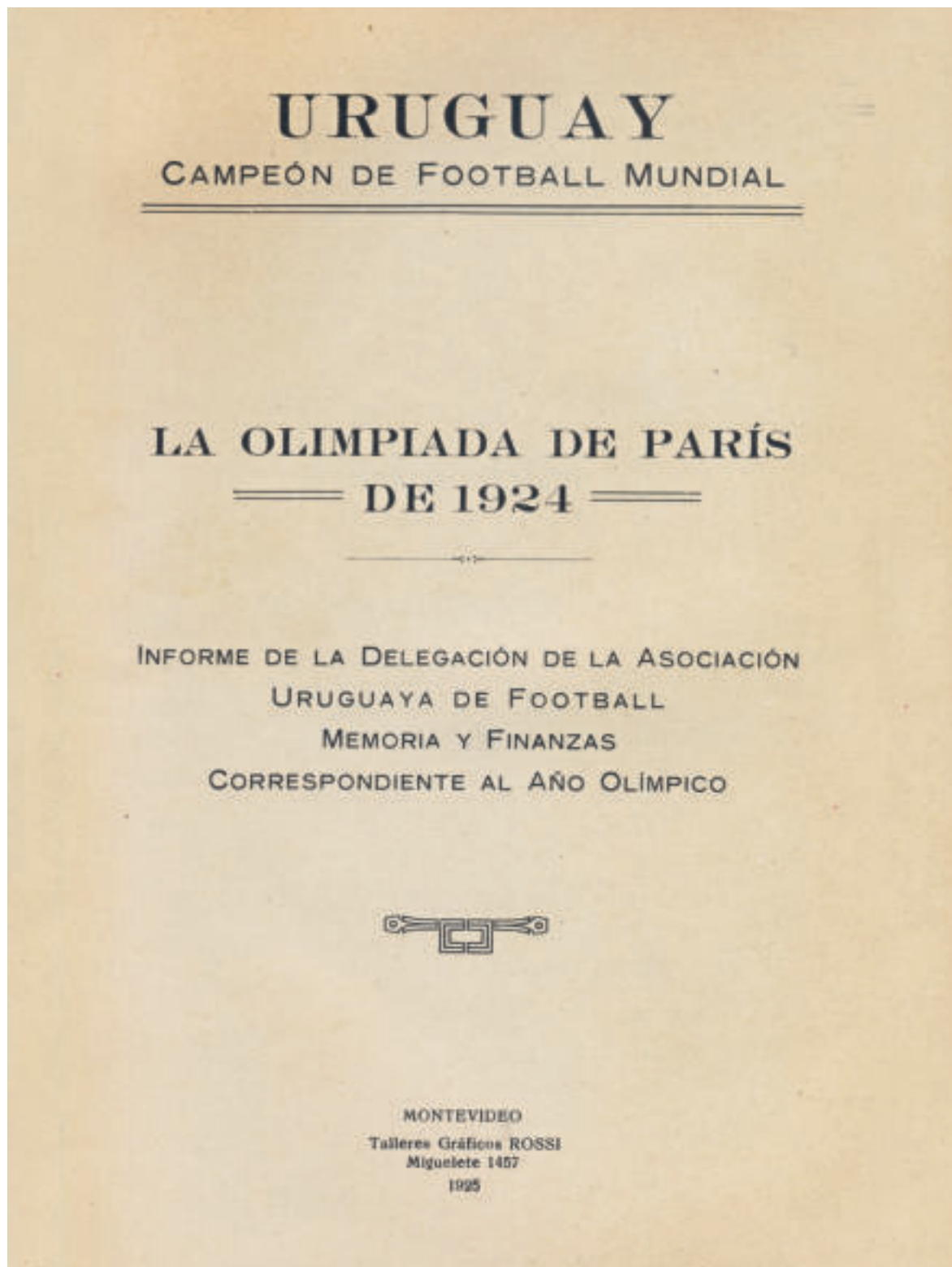


Fig. E: Cover of the official report produced by the Asociación Uruguaya de Fútbol

© La Olimpiada de Paris 1924 – Asociación Uruguaya de Fútbol

Awarding Olympic medals for creativity in the City of Art The Artistic Jury of 1924

By Dr Natalia Camps Y Wilant

In the summer of 2024, Paris is set to become the world's sporting capital when it hosts the Olympic Games for the third time.

Paris, is renowned as a city of art, with countless galleries and famous museums, including the Louvre, the Musée d'Orsay and the Picasso Museum.

It had previously staged the Games in both 1900 and 1924. During the first decades of the 20th century, not only physical endeavour, but also artistic creativity became important in the Olympic context.

Between 1912 and 1948, the Olympic program had a strong artistic element. Competitions were organised in painting, sculpture, architecture, literature and music with medals awarded to those judged to be the best.¹

This article traces the backgrounds of the jury members for the painting contests within the 1924 Olympic Art Competitions. The research findings provide information about their professional careers and gives evidence that speaks against the myth of the unknown participating artists and the poor quality of the submitted works.

The Olympic Art Competitions

Pierre de Coubertin had a passion for art. He was familiar with the art world in Paris and had been influenced and encouraged by his father's career as a successful fine art Salon painter, the most important artistic competition with a long artistic tradition.

He saw the artistic element on an equal footing with the sport in his educational concept, writing in his book *Notes sur l'éducation publique* that "the edu-

cational system must try to make art understood by all [...] [because the] education of the eyes, ears and the fingers is never wasted on anyone."²

In 1904 he mentioned art in an article entitled "L'Olympiade Romaine". He wrote how "In the high times of Olympia, the fine arts were combined harmoniously with the Olympic Games to create their glory. This is to become reality again."³

After convincing the members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) of the necessity and importance of having artistic competitions in the Olympic program during a "Consultative" Conference in 1906, the first Olympic Art Competitions took place in 1912.⁴

Artistic competitions were organised at every subsequent Games until 1948. In 1910, Coubertin gave a clear description of the procedure for "his" artistic competitions in the Olympic Review.

"The first thing was to revive them, and the second to chisel [refine] them [...] [with] five competitions in architecture, sculpture, painting, literature and music, intended to be part of each Olympiad in the same way as the athletic competitions. The subjects chosen—the only condition required—would be inspired by the sporting idea or directly related to sporting matters. The winning works could be – the decision of the judges intervening sufficiently in time – exposed, carried out or represented during the Games, as long as these are canvases, statues, symphonic poems, dramatic works. But, in any case, the winners of these competitions would participate with the winning athletes in the general distribution of the rewards."⁵

Over the decades, the National Olympic Committees (NOC) added their ideas, and sub-categories were included for some disciplines, attracting 1,738 male and female participants.⁶

At the 1950 IOC session in Copenhagen, the members considered what should happen at the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki.⁷ They resolved to have a simple exhibition instead of a competition, although the topic of artistic competitions was again brought up the following year at the Vienna IOC session.

In the end, there was only an exhibition of art, effectively marking the end of Olympic Art Competitions. The reasons, included time constraints, logistical difficulties, the poor quality of work submitted and



Fig. 1: Grand Palais in Paris during the Olympic Games in 1924, Site of the Art Competitions.

© Paris 1924 Official Report

the lack of an objective evaluation criteria.⁸ The question of who was responsible for judging artistic skills and making the awards also arises.

The jury members of the 1924 Olympic Art Competitions

“An international Jury composed of artistic and sportive personalities with a majority of Painters will pass on the works sent for the contest and will admit or reject those sent for the exhibition.”⁹

This is how the Official report by the French Olympic Committee described the members of the painting jury. It gave some general information. For the painting discipline of the 1924 Olympic Art Competitions, the jury had to evaluate 283 submissions, out of which they admitted 189 works from 23 nations to the competition.

Most of these were by French artists.¹⁰ The 1924 jury for painting listed 30 members.¹¹ Their backgrounds are explained in more detail below.

Jury President

Olivier Sainsère (1852–1923) is listed as the leader of the jury. As he had died on the 7th of September 1923, this must have been a posthumously promulgated appointment. Sainsère was a politician of the Third Republic and a member of several committees responsible for art institutions and exhibitions, such as the Louvre and the Salon d'Automne.

In addition, he was a respected art collector who owned many paintings, supported many Avant-garde artists of the early 20th century and had good connections to art gallery owners, particularly to Berthe Weill (1865 – 1951).¹² She is not as well known as her male colleagues Ambroise Vollard (1866–1939), Paul Rosenberg (1881–1959) and Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler (1884–1979).¹³

The noblemen

The Marquis, Marie Charles Jean Melchior de Polignac (1880–1950) was a member of the French Olympic committee and the IOC. Amongst his other tasks, he was responsible for organizing the Olympic Art Competitions. He became a member of the IOC executive board in 1921. For the 1924 Olympic Games, he was a member of the Organizing Committee and a member of each of the five arts juries in the Olympic Art Competitions. His brother, Charles, played in the French Polo team at the Games.

He was mentioned in an article published in the journal *Beaux-arts* on February 1st 1923.

“On the occasion of the 8th Olympiad, which will take place at the Colombes stadium from May 15 to July 27, art competitions will be organized where only unpublished works, inspired by the sporting idea, will be admitted. Medals will be awarded to



Fig. 2: Olga Helena Karolina Boznańska, Member of the Jury in 1924.

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Fig. 3: Painting of Maurice Denis.

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the three best entries in each category. The Arts Commission, chaired by the Marquis de Polignac, includes five juries. An exhibition will bring together works relating to sport.”¹⁴

The other jury member whose brother also played an active part in sporting competition was cavalry officer Jean Marie Marc Arnoult de Castellane (1868–1965). His brother was a fencing referee.

Comte Justinien Charles Xavier Clary Bretonneau (1860–1933), better known as Comte Clary was another jury member who was also a key presence on the Organising Committee. He was a member of the French Olympic Committee and IOC. A lawyer, he had taken part in shooting at the 1900 Olympics where he won bronze in the trap competition.

The diplomat

Jean Hippolyte Giradoux (1882–1944) wrote for *Le Matin* and taught at Harvard University after leaving the military. In 1924, he was the Director of the Ministry of Information and Press Service.

The journalist

Jacques de Saint Pastou (1886–1956) not only wrote for different journals but was fascinated by the Basque game pelota. He had been a co-founder of the French Federation of Basque Pelota in 1921. Like the Marquis de Polignac, he was a member of the 1924 organizing committee and succeeded in making pelota a demonstration sport in 1924.

The sports federation member

Albert Bourdariat (1880–1974) worked as an antiques dealer and decorator. In 1903, he co-founded the French Boxing Federation. In 1924, he also worked as a jury member for the boxing competitions. Like Comte Clary, he was a member of the French National Committee.

The art institution's employees

Arsène Alexandre (1859–1937) worked as a general inspector of museums and wrote for *L'Événement*, *L'Éclair* et *Le Figaro*. As an art collector, he was a friend of the painter Alfred Sisley (1839–1899).

Léonce Bénédite was Curator of the Louvre and later Director of the Musée du Luxembourg, (1859–1925). He was a friend of Auguste Rodin (1840–1917) and helped to build the Musée Rodin after the artist's death. In addition, he was responsible for the legacy of the work of the painter Gustave Caillebotte (1848–1894), who died at the age of 46.

The art historian

Georges Adolphe Salles (1889–1966) was not only known for his publications about the Louvre, where he worked as a curator, but also as a passionate art collector. He was also the grandson of the architect Gustave Eiffel (1832–1923) and met many of his grandfather's friends when they came to visit.

There were many names of well-known artists in their time on the list of jury members for the 1924 Olympic Art Competitions, among them also a female painter.

The female artist

Polish painter Olga Helena Karolina Boznańska (1870–1940) inherited her love for France from her French mother.¹⁵ In 1898, she moved from Krakow to Paris and had already forged impressive artistic career by that time. She had become a member and later president of the Society of Polish Artists.

She was a good friend of Sainsière. In 1912, she had represented France together with Claude Monet (1840–1926) and Auguste Renoir (1841–1919) at an international exhibition in Pittsburgh. In 1923, she was elected again as French representative, this time with Pierre Bonnard (1867–1947) and Maurice Denis (1870–1943).

The artists

After finishing his studies at the École des Beaux-Arts, Albert Besnard (1849–1934) exhibited at the Fine Art Salon. He was also an editorial member of the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* and created mural paintings for the Sorbonne.

The British painter Sir Frank Brangwyn (1870–1943) was also a participant in the Fine Art Salon, and the French State bought one of his paintings. He was also recognized in the US and cooperated in projects with the Mexican artist Diego Rivera (1886–1957) and the Spanish artist Josep Maria Sert i Badia (1876–1945). Maurice Denis (1870–1943) was a student at the famous Académie Julian who loved to travel to Italy.¹⁶ Further, around 1888, he was one of the founding members of the Nabis, whose members worked with different techniques and found new patterns of composing their works.

An academy friend of Denis's was Georges Desvallières (1861–1950), who founded the Salon d'Automne in 1903, an alternative artistic competition to the Fine Art Salon, and wrote regularly for the journal *Grand Revue*.¹⁷

A painter who loved sports and dancing motifs was André de Segonzac (1884–1974), was a painter who loved depicting sport and dancing motifs particularly during the 1920s when he created many boxing paintings.¹⁸ Although he was a member of the traditional École des Beaux-Arts, he was a regular participant in the Salon d'Automne. After serving as a member of the 1924 art competitions jury, he also did so in 1932 and 1948.

In 1916, the Japanese artist Tsuguharu-Léonard Foujita (1886–1968) became a permanent resident in Paris, acquiring French citizenship in the 1950s.¹⁹ Within a short time, he made friends among the artists' circles in Paris.

The American painter Walter Gay (1856–1937) lived in Paris since 1876. He was a student of Léon Bonnat (1833–1922) and a member of the Société National des Beaux-Arts and exhibited in the Fine Art Salon. In the late 19th century, he helped young American artists who came to Paris to find their ways and taught painting classes to them.

The painter Georges Henri Jean Guiffrey (1870–1952) received his education at the École du Louvre, where he later worked as a curator for the Louvre and

wrote the first inventory of the museum. He also worked abroad for the Fine Art Museum in Boston in the USA.

Russian-French artist Alexandre Jewgenjewitsch Jakowlew (1887–1937) studied at the Russian Art Academy in Saint. Petersburg. He moved to France in 1917, where he applied for French nationality. He became famous through the sketches drawn from the Sahara expedition made by the automobile company, Citroën, made in 1924/25.

As a student at the *École des Beaux-Arts*, Ernest Joseph Laurent (1859–1929) was among the leading painters of his time. One of his principal works was a mural for the *Salle des Autorités* in the auditorium of the Sorbonne. Pierre Cécile Puvis de Chavannes (1824–1898) also worked decorating its amphitheatre.

Sir John Lavery (1856–1941) was an Irish born student at the *Académie Julian* during the 1880s and a participant in the Fine Art Salon in Paris.²⁰ Although a jury member, he also participated in the Olympic Art Competitions in 1924 and the following 1928 and 1932 artistic contests. He was known for his landscapes and also had a favourite sports theme which was horse racing and jockey scenes.

Another jury member working in a museum environment was the Dutch painter Willem Martens (1856–1927). After finishing his studies at the *Rijks Akademie* in Amsterdam, he became Director of the *Rijksmuseum* in Den Haag. His connection to Paris is that he also took lessons with Léon Joseph Florentin Bonnat (1833–1922), a painter and art collector who taught at the *École des Beaux-Arts*.

The French painter Émile René Ménard (1862–1930) also got his artistic education from the *Académie Julian*. In 1906, he started to work at the *École des Hautes Études* at the Sorbonne and was an enthusiast of Greek antiquity.

Another foreign painter who moved to Paris in 1891 was James Wilson Morrice (1865–1924).²¹ He had grown up in the French-speaking city of Montreal and started a legal career.

He changed to art and learned at the *Académie Julian* after he arrived in Paris. He was a friend of Henri Émile Benoît Matisse (1869–1954), whom he met during his trip to Tangier around 1912/13. Morrice was also a member of the Royal Canadian Academy. The second painter from the American continent was John Singer Sargent (1856–1925), who came to Paris in 1874.²² He studied at the *École des Beaux-Arts* and was also a student of Charles Auguste Émile Durand (1837–1917), better known as Carolus-Duran, and of Bonnat. Sargent exhibited at the Fine Art Salon and was a member of the *Académie des Beaux-Arts*.



Fig. 4: Japanese artist Tsuguharu-Léonard Foujita

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Fig. 5: The art historian, Georges Adolphe Salles

© Dr Natalia Camps Y Wilant

Lucien Joseph Simon (1861–1945) was also a student at the *Académie Julian* and became a well-known portraitist of Parisian society.²³ He married the female artist Jeanne Dauchez (1869–1949), taught at the *Académie Calarossi* and became a member of the *Académie des Beaux-Arts*.²⁴

The Italian painter and sculptor Ettore Tito (1859–1941) studied at the Venetian Art Academy.

He became a professor there after his graduation. Although no connections to Paris could be traced, he was elected a jury member.

Édouard Jean Vuillard (1868–1940) was a painter connected to the *Académie Julian* and to the *Académie des Beaux-Arts*.²⁵ Further, he was a co-founder of the Nabis and very good friend of Denis. He also illustrated many issues of the journal *La Revue Blanche*.

The last member on the list is the Spanish painter Ignacio Zuloaga Zabalota (1870–1945).²⁶ He received his artistic education in Madrid but had his first group

exhibition in Paris with Denis and Vuillard in 1891. He also worked as an art and antiques dealer to improve his living conditions. In 1901, Zuloaga became a member of the Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts.

The jury members' artistic expertise

Every individual was connected in some way to the Parisian art world, and consequently, their careers and experiences contributed an outstanding level of artistic expertise to the jury of the 1924 Olympic Art Competitions. This finding reinforces Pierre Yves-Guillain who remarked that the jury was composed by "personalités éminentes pour contribuer au prestige du concours".²⁷ Their expertise ranged from a classical academy background to the Avant-garde experiments with new styles such as techniques, perspectives, etc.

As their short portraits demonstrate, they had an artistic education studying at the Académie Julian or the École des Beaux-Arts. Being more or less from the same generation, they knew each other and were part of the artistic community in Paris with its French and foreign artists. Individuals responsible for leading functions in international museums such as in the Netherlands or the US were also part of this network.

For the six of the group, who were IOC members, military officers, journalists or from the French States' press ministry, it is difficult to assess their knowledge of art and it can be assumed that they possessed little to no art-related expertise. However, these non-art-knowledgeable persons had another vital function. According to the official report, they formed the "Commission of arts and foreign relations" and were therefore members in each of the other remaining four juries of the Olympic Art Competitions. These "generalists", as the author likes to call them, were the noblemen Castellane, Clary and Polignac, the diplomat Giradoux, the journalist Pistou and the Salles, Eiffel's grandson.

It is also important to mention John Lavery's simultaneous roles as jury member and participant, at least for the 1924 Olympic Art Competitions. Although this situation must be considered as a conflict of interest, no action was taken. It is an excellent example that this jury member knew what he was evaluating because he practised it.

Connections to Pierre de Coubertin?

Some of the above-mentioned artists did have a connection to Pierre de Coubertin or at least to his written work. As a result of his family background, Coubertin had a lifelong interest in art. His sketches demonstrate the artistic skills that he had inherited from his father. Less known is that he also busied

himself with art-related publications. One example is the two-volume book *Les Grandes Époques de l'art Français*, in which he explains the development of art in France.²⁸ In the second volume, he mentioned, among other painters, Denis, Besnard, Simon and Vuillard – all members of the 1924 painting jury.²⁹

Looking at Pierre de Coubertin's correspondence, there is one person from the art world's network. This was Carolus Duran, a teacher of the American Singer Sargent, as mentioned. Interestingly, Carolus-Duran is also mentioned in the 1916 book.³⁰

Unfortunately, none of the other jury members corresponded with the Baron. Nevertheless, there are letters from the French architect Frantz Jourdain (1847–1935).³¹ He played an important role in the 1924 Olympic Art Competitions because he was the president of the architecture jury and had also sat on the jury of the first Olympic Art Competitions in 1912.

Conclusion

The findings confirmed that the painting jury of the 1924 Olympic Art Competitions had "artistic and sportive personalities". The biographical background research unveiled valuable additional information about the different members. For example, their noble backgrounds and their positions within state organisations. What is more important is that all artists were all members of the Parisian art world and, consequently, were members of an art network.

The jury members, being successful artists, represented all the tendencies that had been *en vogue* at that time, reaching from the old traditional art institutions to the modern innovative new groups that focused on new artistic expressions and techniques. The same can be said for the participating artists, although this was not the article's focus.

Therefore, the findings corroborate Guillain's statement that the artistic contest was an "apex (...) viewed around the world as an important artistic event".³² A thorough analysis of the international press is necessary to confirm this statement.

Critics still complain that artists like Pablo Picasso or Édouard Manet did not appear on the participants' list. The question of why they did not participate can still not be answered. We can assume that these artists were busy presenting their works at other art exhibitions either in the country or abroad, as we have seen with Boznańska. Further, it is crucial to take into account that, as a result of the damage and disturbance as a result of the second world war, the details of many artists and their work have been lost. This is a desideratum in art history research which affects Olympic history as the example of the Olympic Art Competitions demonstrates. Nevertheless, the findings make a contribution to debunk the

untruth that there was of a “lack of interest in the art competitions”, “no major artists participating”, and “a general poor quality of works”.³³ They take up the criticism of the historian Miles Osgood, complaining about overseeing the high quality of the artists involved in the Olympics, explaining that they were “true-world-champion artists ... with an international stature to rival Paavo Nurmi or Jesse Owens”.³⁴ Different aspects need deeper analysis in future research undertakings. First, the art world network and the connections between the individuals need more detail. For example, the gallery owners might contribute valuable insights. It is a fact that among the buyers in Weill’s art gallery was, next to Sainsère, also Jourdain, who is mentioned above as a correspondent to Pierre de Coubertin. Further, it would be interesting to other gallery owners and their connection to the Olympic artists. Vollard published the *L’Album des peintres-graveurs*, a summary of prints edited as a limited edition. This was an excellent promotional activity for his artists, among them Besnard, Maurice and Vuilliard – all members of the 1924 painting jury. Second, a biographical analysis is necessary for the participating painters; particularly, their works need further provenance research. As the guidelines stated: “All works submitted will be returned at the expense of the artists”.³⁵ Consequently, the whereabouts of many remain unknown. The topic of female artists, in this context and a female jury member should not be forgotten.³⁶ More research on the 1924 Olympic Art Competitions painting juries of the other Olympic Art Competitions is still needed but the members of the painting jury in 1924 at least may be seen as “true-world-champion artists”.

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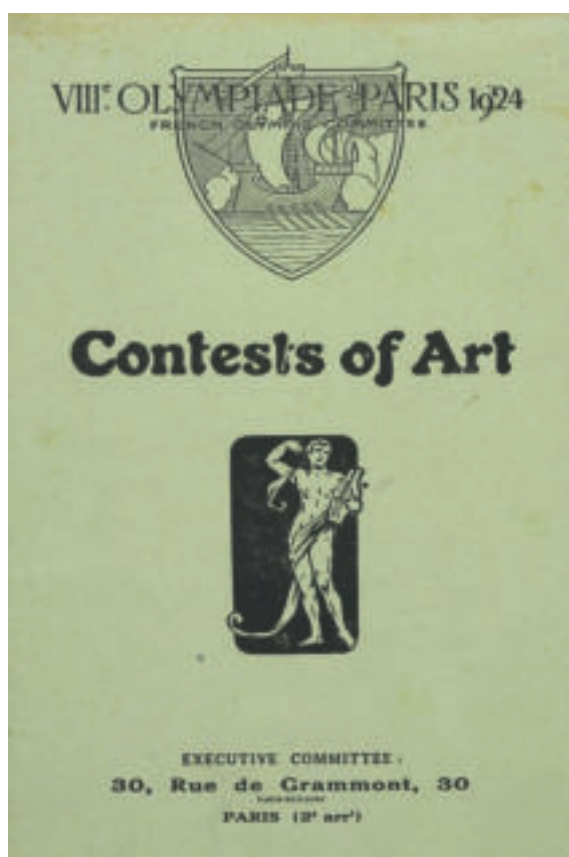


Fig. 6: Official Program for the Art Competitions in Paris 1924

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Fig. 7: Official Poster of the VIII Olympiad.

© 1924 IOC

VIII^e OLYMPIADE



• JEVX OLYMPIQVES •

○ PARIS 1924 ○

Identifying Great Britain's flag bearer at Paris 1924

By Philip Barker

A century ago at the last Olympics held in Paris, teams from 45 nations paraded at the Opening Ceremony held in the Stade de Colombes.

It was a much simpler event than that planned for Paris 2024 on the River Seine.

The teams were led in by South Africa because "Afrique du Sud" took alphabetical precedence in the language of the host nation.

It was the final time that this would happen as in 1928, Greece were granted the right to lead the parade in recognition of Games of antiquity and thereafter

the teams would follow in alphabetical order.

Newspaper reports give some details including the uniforms worn by each team but in most cases there is frustratingly little detail on the identity of those carrying the national flags.

The British team were accompanied by the pipers of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

For many years, the flag bearer was recorded in British Olympic Association (BOA) records as Philip Noel-Baker, a competitor in 1912 who had won silver on the track over 1500 metres at the Antwerp Games.

Noel-Baker was named as team captain for the 1924 Games in Paris so it is possible that this might

have been the source of the misunderstanding.

When the team entered the stadium, it might indeed have appeared to some observers that Noel-Baker was bearing the national flag.

In fact Noel-Baker was carrying the team name plate, a task which was then often assigned to a member of the team. (Nowadays the task is usually carried out by a volunteer provided by the Organising Committee)

However, newsreel footage exposes the 'Trompe l'Oeil' which caused the error in the records.

A closer examination of the next frame of the moving footage reveals that immediately behind Noel-Baker stood the flag bearer.

Descendants of Arthur Hunt, a member of the water polo team contacted the BOA Olympic archivists before the 2012 Games with evidence.

No full contemporaneous record of flag bearers appears to have been compiled.

"Our family has always been told that at the 1924 Paris Games my Grandfather, Arthur 'Mick' William Hunt, led the Great Britain team carrying the Union Flag" said Brian Hunt.¹

The family possessed a photograph of the Opening Ceremony on which was inscribed flag bearer.

His daughters Olive and Barbara recalled their mother telling them that their father had carried the



Fig. 1: A postcard shows the team outside the stadium

© IOC

Union Flag and that he had also laid a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier in a Ceremony attended by the British team, accompanied by the Prince of Wales .

Before the first world war, Hunt had been a noted swimmer.

In 1909 he won every title up to 440 yards at the Kent County Championships and also completed the freestyle double at 220 yards and 440 yards. He came close to selection for the 1912 Games in Stockholm.

He had also begun to represent Kent in water polo. He rose to inspector in the City of London Police a force distinct from the Metropolitan Police which polices the "Square Mile" the area of London known as the "City".

Hunt was active in organising swimming galas for Police sports associations.

At the time of the 1924 Olympics he was almost 38 years old but a member of the water polo team in what was his debut at the Games.

He had been chosen alongside Charlie Bugbee, another officer in the City of London Police.

Hunt later moved to Bridgwater in Somerset where he died in 1949.

The report of his funeral in the Bridgwater Mercury, the local newspaper for the area, also mentioned that he was the British flag bearer in 1924.

Endnotes

1 Correspondence with author October 8th 2008.



Fig. 2: A cigarette card by Hignett's cigarettes depicts the British team uniform

Author's collection



Fig. 3: The team joined the Prince of Wales for the laying of a wreath

Authors collection

Great Britain parade
before the tribune of honour
at the 1924 Opening Ceremony
in the Stade de Colombes

© 1924 IOC





A.N.
PARIS

The History of the River Seine in the Olympics

By David Wallechinsky

The Opening Ceremony for the 2024 Paris Olympics is set to be staged predominately on the River Seine. Athletes in each national team will travel six kilometers from east to west on their own craft. The river is also scheduled to host open water swimming, triathlon and Paralympic triathlon.

In two previous Paris Olympics, the Seine also played a significant part.



Paris 1900

At the 1900 Paris Games, seven swimming events were held in the River Seine at the Basins d'Asnières-Courbevoie between Pont de Courbevoie and Pont d'Asnières.

The competition included two unusual events, underwater swimming and a 200-metres obstacle race. In the former, entrants were awarded two points for each metre they swam and one point for each second they were able to stay underwater. In the obstacle race, competitors were required to climb over a pole, scramble over a row of boats and then swim *under* another row of boats. Australian Fred Lane had grown up around boats in Sydney's harbour and put his experience to good use. Rather than clamber over the middle of the boats, he crossed them at the stern. This allowed him to win by 1.6 seconds ahead of Otto Wahle of Austria. Lane also won the

unimpeded 200m freestyle. His time was more than ten seconds faster than his unofficial world record, which was not surprising since the race was swum downstream.

Four rowing events were also held on the Seine in 1900. The coxed fours had two finals because of a dispute about who should be allowed to compete. Both finals are now included in official medal totals. The coxed pairs final led to one of the great mysteries for Olympic historians. In the heats, the Dutch team of François Antoine Brandt and Roelof Klein was beaten by the French team of Lucien Martinet and René Waleff. The Dutch noted that the French used a boy as their coxswain, who weighed far less than their adult cox. So they picked a boy out of the crowd and taught him how to cox. They won the final by one metre. After the race, Brandt and Klein had their photo taken with the boy. It is presumed that he was French, but his name was not recorded. Despite extensive research by ISOH historians, his identity and age have never been proven. He is thought to be the youngest person to compete in the Olympics.

Paris 1924

At the 1924 Paris Olympics, six rowing events were held at the Bassin d'Argenteuil beside the River Seine. William Garrett Gilmore of the United States earned silver in the single sculls. "During the last



Fig. 1: Opening Ceremony at the River Seine.

© Paris 2024 Organizing Committee

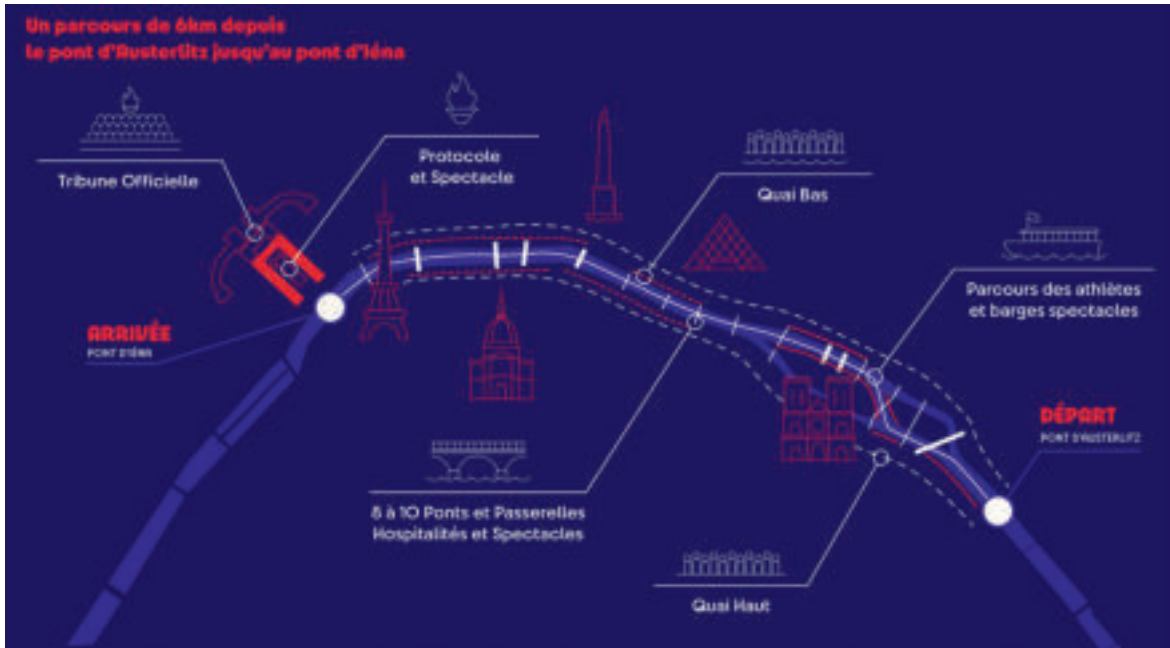


Fig. 2: A 6 km route from the Austerlitz bridge to the Léna bridge.

© Paris 2024 Organizing Committee

Fig. 3: Paris 1900, Swimming – The start of a race.

© 1900 IOC

Fig. 4: Paris 1900, Swimming – The pond in Asnières.

© 1900 IOC



200 metres, when the sun seemed to get hotter with every stroke and I was making a supreme effort to grasp victory, a kindly breeze swept across the Seine, carrying a strong but pleasant scent from a perfumery which was not within sight. It was truly so strong that it first gagged me, but in a moment I was rowing on as if in a flowing river of the perfume itself." Gilmore wrote.

Antonie Beijnen of the Netherlands won gold in the coxless pairs.

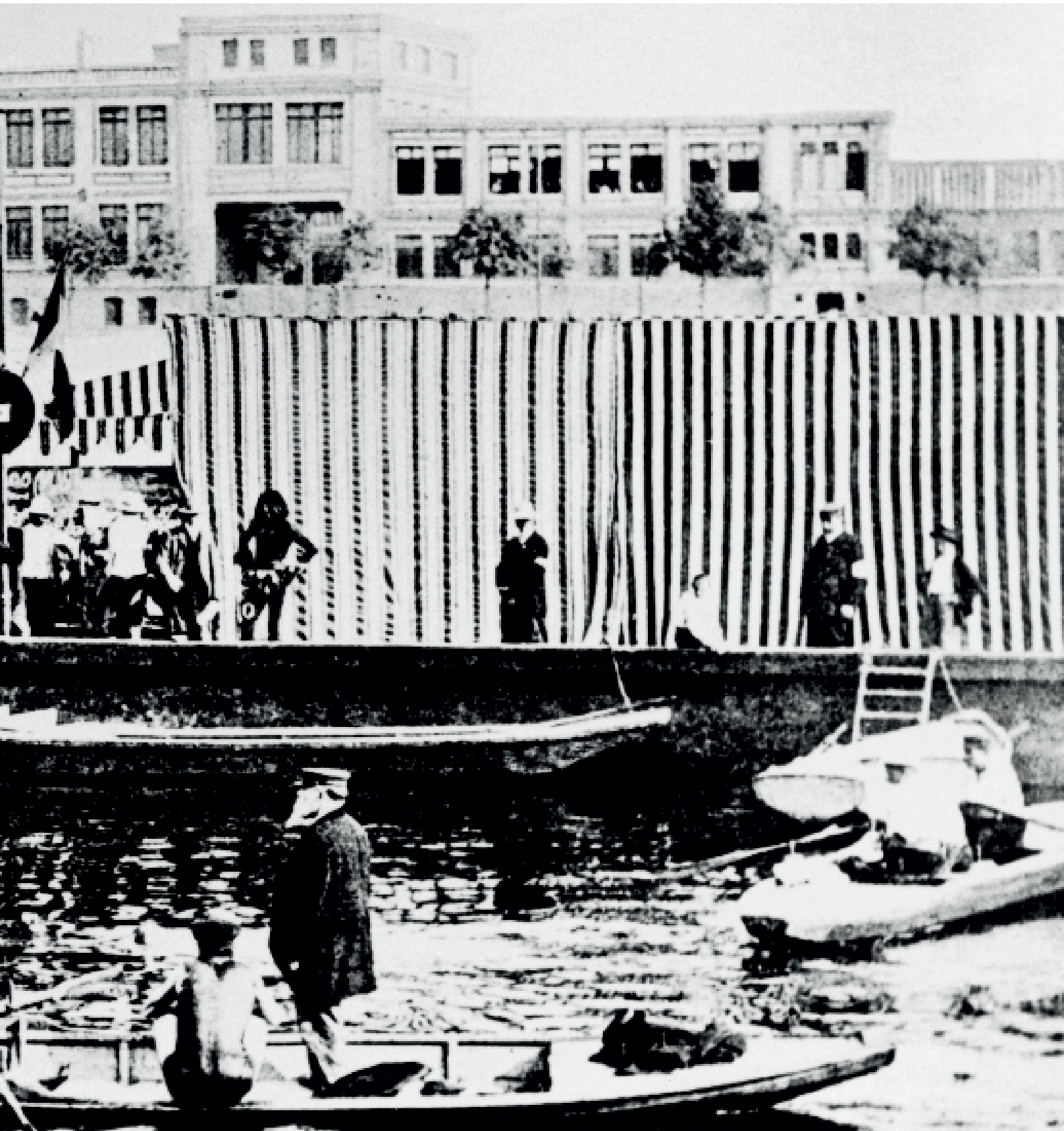
He played an exceptional role in the resistance to the Nazis during the Second World War. A wealthy man, he allowed staff of the Wehrmacht to live in his house. At the same time, he secretly hid stranded British soldiers in his attic and helped them escape. The eights in 1924 was contested by crews from ten nations. The U.S. eight from Yale University won the final easily by more than fifteen seconds. They included a gangly junior named Ben Spock, who, upon graduation, became a pediatrician. In 1945 he finis-



Fig. 5: Paris 1900, Swimming – The floating stand.

hed writing a book entitled *The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care*. The opening line read, "Trust yourself. You know more than you think you do." The book eventually sold more than 50 million copies and has been translated into at least 39 languages. He became internationally famous as "Dr. Spock, the baby expert." He kept in such good enough shape that, at the age of 83, he climbed over a fence at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and was arrested for protesting the launch of a Trident 2 missile.

Bill Havens was a member of the Yale team, but chose not to travel to Paris because his wife was expecting their first baby. That child, a boy named Frank, was born five days after the Closing Ceremony of the 1924 Olympics. Twenty-eight years later, the Havens family finally received an Olympic gold medal. Son Frank won the 10,000 m Canadian singles canoeing in Helsinki.



NEWS – Sharing, Tolerance and Respect A call for a truce at Paris 2024

by Philip Barker

The call to member nations of the United Nations (UN) to observe the Olympic Truce at Paris 2024 has been made in New York by International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach and Paris 2024 President Tony Estanguet.



A resolution entitled “Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal” was presented to UN delegates on November 21st, 2023.

“Sports appeal to tolerance and respect. Religious and cultural differences do not matter and diversity is often actually a strength, because the complementarity of athletes from different backgrounds makes a team better.” Estanguet told the assembly.

“In sport, being different is what makes the difference. The Games are the best embodiment of the power of sport because they spread its values of sharing, tolerance, and respect throughout the world.”

The resolution also endorsed the ambition to achieve gender parity at the Games.

This is why the athletes, the entire Olympic community, billions of people around the world – all of us are looking forward to the Olympic Games Paris 2024, which will truly be Olympic Games of a new era, more inclusive and more sustainable,” said Bach.

“They will be the first Olympic Games with full gender parity. The first Olympic Games inspired, planned and delivered in line with our Olympic Agenda reforms from start to finish.”

The resolution was adopted with 118 votes in favour and abstentions from Russia and Syria.

It called for the observance of the Olympic Truce from July 19th to September 15th, 2024,

The period is seven days before the Olympic Games begin and seven days after the Paralympics conclude.

Although the Truce is founded on the notion of “Ekecheiria” in ancient Greek mythology, a modern resolution has been undertaken for the last 30 years when the President of the UN General Assembly first made a solemn appeal for the observance of a truce during the Olympics.



Paris 2024 President Tony Estanguet and IOC President Thomas Bach made the call for an Olympic Truce at the United Nations

© IOC/Greg Martin



Sarajevo Marks its 40th Anniversary at the Heart of the City's Olympic Museum

by Markus Osterwalder

In 2024, the Olympic spirit will be in the air again, as a number of former host cities celebrate milestone anniversaries in both winter and summer. Sarajevo 1984 will be part of this jubilant celebration.



For the 40th anniversary of the XIV Olympic Winter Games, I was contacted by the Creative Director of the Olympic Museum, Mersel Bujak, to participate as a guest speaker in the celebrations which took place from late January into February. This event was also the occasion to launch a new Olympic library in Sarajevo.

Symbolically, my book "Olympic Games – The Design" was to be introduced as the inaugural work for this new library. The theme was "The Future of the Olympic Legacy," and the event was supported financially by the Swiss Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On January 29, the series began with my lecture on the history of Olympic design. The presentation covered the origins and founding of the Olympic movement in 1894, the invention of the Olympic rings by Pierre de Coubertin in 1913, the first logos and pictograms in Olympic history, the evolution of today's complex corporate designs, and, of course, the magnificent visual identity of Sarajevo 1984.

The Mayor of Sarajevo, Benjamina Karić, the Swiss Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Daniel Hunn, and the Director of the Olympic Museum of Sarajevo, Senka Ibrišimbegović, were present for this special occasion.

Additionally, many students from the Academy of Fine Arts of the University of Sarajevo, were also in attendance. Before the event, there was an opportunity for visitors to view both the existing exhibition and a new temporary display. The Olympic Museum of Sarajevo reopened on October 8, 2020, almost three decades after being destroyed during the war in Bosnia. This jewel of local architecture, originally built as a luxury villa in the early 20th century, pays homage to the memory of the Sarajevo 1984 Winter Olympic Games.

It is a fantastic small museum with great potential for future development. It is very well organised by a committed and enthusiastic young team and presents all the crucial milestones associated with these Winter Games of 1984. There exhibits contain intriguing memorabilia, including uniforms with the typical 80s look, the sport posters by Ismar Mujezinović, Vučko, the mascot of these games, the winners' medals designed by Nebojša Mitrić, and numerous nostalgic images of the competitions, providing a comprehensive overview of the XIV Olympic Winter Games. It is definitely worth a visit!

Various images from the permanent exhibition rooms on 2 floors

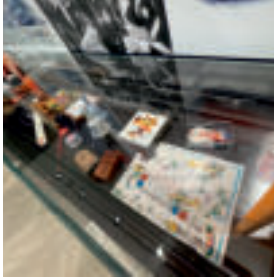
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Top left: The main facade of the Olympic Museum of the Vila Mandić built in the early 20th century.

© 2024 Markus Osterwalder



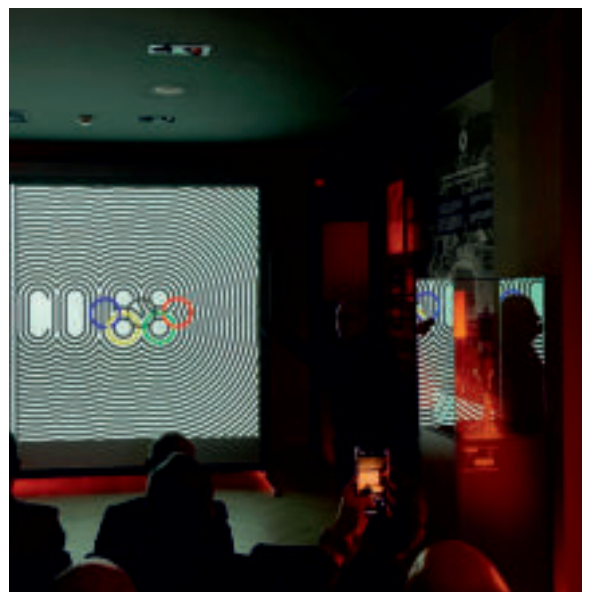
JUGOSLAVIJA





Welcome address by the Mayor of Sarajevo, Benjamina Karić and other impressions of the event including my speech.

© Archive Osterwalder



ISOH – digitization project

Securing the legacy of Sarajevo 1984 for the future.

by Markus Osterwalder

During my visit to Sarajevo, I was privileged to see two archives dedicated to the Winter Games from 1984. My aim was to assess the current status of available materials, identify missing items that required attention, and evaluate the condition of these documents. Initially, I visited the archive located in the former bombed and partially reconstructed "Koševo" Stadium Zetra (ZOI 84), and later, the Historical Archive of the city of Sarajevo.

A quick examination of the documents revealed that a significant portion of the archive is still unaccounted for. It is uncertain where these documents are located, and there remains the possibility that some were destroyed during the war. In collaboration with a team from the Olympic Museum in Sarajevo, I am preparing to address these challenges and locate the missing pieces of the puzzle.

As anticipated, numerous documents were stored away after the Games and before the war and left untouched. The climatic conditions are not optimal, which is why it is only a matter of time before this valuable material becomes unusable. The ISOH board has discussed this problem. We are committed taking every possible measure to preserve these important archives for future generations. Safeguarding and digitising the majority of these valuable documents will not only benefit Olympic historians but also contribute to the collective knowledge accessible to future generations.



View of the Zetra Olympic Stadium (ZOI 84) and storage of part of the Sarajevo 1984 archive

All ©2024 Archive Osterwalder

Entrance area of the stadium

Meeting with the person in charge of the Sarajevo Historical Archives



Bottom 2 pictures: Archive rooms inside the Zetra Olympic Stadium



ISOH member Miller awarded Coubertin Medal

Journalist David Miller has become the latest ISOH member awarded the International Olympic Committee's Pierre de Coubertin Medal in recognition of his efforts to promote the Olympic Movement.



The presentation was made by former IOC Vice President Sir Craig Reddie at a Ceremony held at the British Olympic Association headquarters in London.

"David Miller's contribution is absolutely unique and his work to highlight the history of the Games is absolutely fantastic", Sir Craig insisted. "I've known David for many years, it came through the joy of reading him, he was part of a wonderful era of Olympic journalism".

A gifted footballer who played for the famous amateur club Corinthian Casuals, Miller missed out on the 1956 Olympic squad after the size of the party was reduced for the long trip to Melbourne.

Miller first reported from the Tokyo Olympics in 1964 after an epic journey across Asia by the Trans Siberian Railway.

In a long career, he covered sport for the Daily Telegraph, the Daily Express and The Times and worked with double Olympic 1500m champion and London 2012 Chairman Sebastian Coe on his autobiographical volumes "Running Free" and "Born to Run". Miller also wrote "Olympic Revolution", a biography of long serving IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch and chronicled the politics of the Olympic movement, covering unsuccessful British Olympic bids by Birmingham and Manchester before the ultimate success of London with their candidacy for 2012. In the meantime his official history of the Olympics and the IOC, produced for the 2004 Games as "Athens to Athens" was updated and revised for each subsequent Games.

"David Miller's contribution is absolutely unique and his work to highlight the history of the Games is absolutely fantastic", Sir Craig added.

IOC President Thomas Bach paid tribute in a special message.

"Your writing ultimately served a higher purpose than to simply inform people of the latest scores and results", IOC President Thomas Bach said in a



special message of tribute.

"With your expert knowledge of the Olympic Movement, you always instinctively grasped the central idea of the Olympic mission: to unite the entire world in peaceful competition."

Last year the medal was presented to American writer George Hirthler, another ISOH member and keen student of the works of de Coubertin.



David Miller (left) receives
the Coubertin Medal from
IOC Honorary Member
Sir Craig Reedie

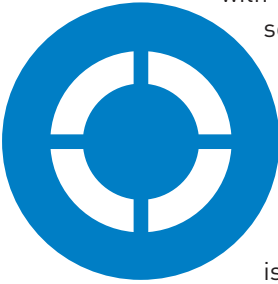
©British Olympic Association



William Henry – The Joseph Conrad of English swimming: An integrated “son of Poland”

by Gherardo Bonini

The life of William Henry, English swimming champion and International Swimming Hall of Fame member, may be said to have striking parallels with another Polish born Englishman, Josef Korzeniowski, the novelist who became universally known as Joseph Conrad.



Henry demonstrated a seamless integration into British society, although he maintained an openness to internationality and a spirit of non isolationism.

As a swimmer, he did not quite attain the very top level, yet he did exert a considerable influence on his sport, one that has been somewhat overlooked.

Henry was born in London on June 28th, 1859, the son of Joseph and Elizia Nawrocki who were Polish immigrants.

He was baptized in the Anglican Church of Saint Mary Magdalen on May 3rd, 1861.¹ He spent part of his youth in Russia, then returned to England, where his father worked in the leather industry.²

The young William trained as an upholsterer. By 1881, he was living with his mother in another household which included a well-known dentist Francois and another Polish subject named Hankwoski³. William’s younger brother John Nawrocki (1861–1947) became an associate in the Francois’ dental practice⁴, and like William, joined the *Zephyr Swimming Club* in 1878.

He married Elizabeth Spencer, who was six years older, on March 24th 1883.

On December 13th, 1884, the couple had a child named Harding Francis.

It is probable that the son’s first name is a tribute to Mrs. Harding, Elizabeth’s aunt⁵, with whom William had established a strong bond.

In 1891, William Henry was effectively head of the family. They lived in Clarendon Square in London, where his elder sister Elisa also resided. She was presumably from her father’s previous marriage as there were only two years between her and William’s mother, who died in 1903⁶.

When Mrs. Harding died in 1896, she left William what was then the substantial sum of £20,000 pounds⁷.

From the time he began competing, he was mentioned as William Henry, but it was only from 1896 that he officially became known by that name. It is perhaps because Nawrocki had proved difficult for those in Britain to pronounce⁸.

In the 1911 census, Henry declared that his job was Secretary of the Royal Life Saving Society, which suggests that he lived on this income^{9,10}.

His Career before the foundation of the Life Saving Society

Henry became a specialist in handicap short races in the meetings that *Zephyr* organized very fre-



Fig . 1: William Henry seen in swimming costume

© Royal Life Saving Society

quently, up to thirty times during the year. Later, he assumed the role of handicapper, the one who calculated and raffled off the distances of the handicaps¹¹. The Zephyr was based at the Fitzroy Baths. From the early years, like other swimmers, Henry alternated in the functions of timekeeper, starter, and competition judge, and from 1881, he participated with increasing frequency in the meetings of the English swimming federation.

Between 1884 and 1886, there was disagreement over on the amateur status of Tom Cairns, the reigning Swimming Association of Great Britain (SAGB) champion over 220 yards.

Cairns worked as a pool attendant and was therefore was considered by some to be a professional.

This set SAGB in opposition to the Amateur Swimming Union (ASU), which was led by the influential Otter Swimming Club.

Henry was personally embroiled as the ASU denied him access to an Otter meeting.

He was accused of being a professional because he had swum against Cairns.

Henry also reacted to this on his own account, but at the beginning of 1885, the Zephyr rejoined the SAGB.

Henry then worked at with the organisation on the question of disqualifications, until the end of the dispute and the birth in March 1886 of the united Amateur Swimming Association (ASA)¹².

In the English Championships, Henry had made his debut in the long distance race in 1881 when he finished sixth. In 1883, Henry took third place in the 500 yards, and in 1884 and 1886, he was fourth in the 100 yards.

Henry also won other important competitions in this period, including the Clayton Challenge Cup in 1882, the Leicester Gold Watch in 1885¹³, and the Davenport Cup in 1885. At that time, considerable importance was given to the fact of being able to take part in such Cup events because they were composed of three partial wins. The Davenport Cup was similar to a biathlon, between a fast race (80 yards) and plunging¹⁴. He also won the London 150 yards Championship in 1885.

Passionate about water polo, on 2 August 1886, Henry was certainly part of an All England team that defeated the Leander Club of Birmingham¹⁵. The match took place in Southsea, offshore, and the teams consisted of nine players on each side. In the indoor baths, the number of players was smaller and the rules of rugby and football influenced the practice. Henry contributed, at the federal level, to the standardization and to the centralization of the sport¹⁶.

At the Lambeth Baths, on 26 September 1887, Hen-

ry was again fourth in the 100 metres and on 10 October 2nd in the 220 yards. In 1887 and 1888, he finished third in plunging, while in 1888 placed 4th in the 100 yards and mile, and 5th in the long distance race.

In 1888, Henry played a very active role on the managing front. After having worked patiently in the various committees, Henry helped to approve the launch of the 1st English water polo championship on 3rd January 1888, for which he worked to refine rules on which the various counties would agree¹⁷. In this achievement, he had help from Archibald Sinclair (1866–1922) a member of the Cygnus Swimming Club, less gifted than Henry as a swimmer, but also enthusiastic about water polo, as a player, referee, and administrator¹⁸.

Henry formed friendships with the swimmers of the Portsmouth Swimming Club.

In 1888, the Ipswich Swimming Club had obtained authorization to organize the English 440 yards salt-water championships, which Portsmouth had organized since 1884.

Henry successfully lobbied for the competition's return to Portsmouth as early as 1889. The contest was described as a World Championship, complete with such words engraved in the winner Cup¹⁹.

At the ASA meeting of April 7th, Henry was the driving force behind the motion that allowed provincial clubs to vote at general assemblies, usually in London, by proxy²⁰.

As a member of the Zephyr water polo team, Henry did not enjoy good fortune in the English water polo championship, but on 18 February 18th, 1889 he led the ad-hoc Committee to agree with the Central Counties and the Scottish Federation for a further refinement of the rules of the game²¹. In a meeting on May 27th, a Committee chaired by Sinclair formally constituted the London Water Polo League, the Londoner Championship²².

On 17 August 1889, in Southsea, Henry finally managed to win the English (and world) 440 yards salt-water title on August 17th, 1889,

He recorded a time of 6 minutes and 4 seconds, a record for the course.²³

In 1889, Henry again placed fourth in the 100 yards championship, third in plunging and fourth in the long distance event.

On September 18th, inter-county water polo matches were inaugurated. The competition was another initiative championed by Henry. In a match refereed by Sinclair, Middlesex, led by Henry, defeated Surrey 5–0²⁴.

The year 1890 proved a highly successful one for Henry. On July 26th, he played as halfback at the Kensington Baths in London for England in the first



Fig. 2, top right: Life saving instruction on dry land

© Royal Life Saving Society

Fig. 3, top left: Illustration from the Royal Life Saving Society handbook for 1901

© Royal Life Saving Society



Fig. 4, right: William Henry at Sunbury camp

© Royal Life Saving Society

Fig. 5, left: An illustration of life saving technique

© Royal Life Saving Society



Fig. 6: A practical session in life saving at the water's edge

© Royal Life Saving Society



international water polo match, though they lost 4–2 to Scotland²⁵.

Henry continued to enjoy success in swimming. He finished third in both salt-water and plunging championships and on August 16th, won his second English title, the long-distance race, just over five miles, on the Thames²⁶.

On October 6th, at the Kensington Baths, Henry finished runner up in the 220 yards championship.

Then in the final of the London Water Polo League, he led Zephyr but they lost 6–3 to Nautilus²⁷.

Sinclair and Henry met informally on January 3rd 1891 and then on February 7th came a significant meeting in which both men were key figures in establishing the Life Saving Society (LSS).

This was an association which aimed to spread rescue and resuscitation techniques and help prevent death by drowning.

It supported the humanitarian effort of the centennial Royal Humane Society²⁸.

In previous years, Henry had performed with increasing frequency in rehearsing the fundamental aspects of “scientific” swimming. This set of skill tests and virtuosity of swimming, designed to convey familiarity with the water and to promote the learning of swimming with social purpose, was in the past a privilege of professionals, as evidenced by the great James Finney who had won a “scientific” swimming championship on December 17th 1884²⁹.

The terminology of the time fluctuated in the definitions of ornamental, fancy and scientific swimming. There seems minimal difference between a programme of ornamental swimming of 1869 and coded “scientific” swimming by Henry and Sinclair in 1893. The swimmers illustrated the styles, then imitated natural movement of animals (dog, torpedo and porpoise), feigned drowning, floated and swam without the use of their limbs³⁰. The fundamental teaching was the acquisition of absolute mastery or a science for movements in the water.

The historian Love has declared the profound and exact unknowability of Henry’s motives³¹. Henry was an enthusiast and perhaps he saw the possibility of establishing a scientific swimming competition, with the characteristics of continuity.

The Life Saving Society galas

After the founding of the LSS, Henry devoted a lot of energy to the diffusion of lifesaving, for which, in addition to exhibiting scientific swimming, lifesaving and resuscitation techniques, he also lectured and wrote for the press. On the competitive side, after a long apprenticeship, he had reached the English swimming elite at the age of 31. His time

for intensive training became less, and in 1891, he had to retire from long distance championship swimming. However, he obtained yet another fourth place in the 100 yards championship and in 1893, he was again third in the plunging event.

On October 8th, 1892, he captained England as a half back and led them to a 4–0 victory over Scotland³².

Almost a year later on September 30th 1893, he starred for the South of England, in a match against the North in preparation for another meeting with Scotland, but was not selected for the international match itself³³.

The LLS joined ASA and Henry became involved in governance. In 1897, he briefly became President of the Southern Counties³⁴.

In 1892, the LSS was able to launch the first British team lifesaving championship, won on October 6th by a squad from Nottingham³⁵.

This British attitude, not only English, characterized the LSS, becoming a cornerstone of inter-British swimming diplomacy. This was noted by William Grenfell, the future Lord Desborough who was another important friend to Henry.

Grenfell became acting Chairman of the LSS.³⁶ The LSS grew in membership throughout the Kingdom until the Great war³⁷.

Henry was by now well integrated into influential British society, adhering perfectly to the ideal image of the gentleman. In 1893, the Duke of York, (the future King George V) became President of the LSS³⁸.

The LSS swimming gala, with which competitive rescue was associated, the exhibition of scientific swimming, often by Henry himself, with an important ASA competition, became a central event on the British scene.

In 1893, Henry and Sinclair edited a work on *Swimming* which was serialised in *Badminton Magazine* and later published in book form. It was a very detailed manual covering the various aspects of the sport, which originally devoted a large part to lifesaving. From 1894 to 1916, the book had several reissues and reprints.

In 1894, the Bath Club was born, supported and frequented by numerous figures of the aristocracy and the upper class. Grenfell became its president and Henry found further support in the association. He also joined Ranelagh Harriers and the Amateur Swimming Club³⁹.

The feverish initiative Henry had introduced at the LSS annual gala on July 13th 1895 at West India Docks was the national artistic Diving Championship⁴⁰. It was a direct gesture to the ASA which seemed to ignore the discipline

On May 13th, 1896, the Bath Club organized the Plunging Challenge Shield and the scientific Swimming Championships. Henry was the first winner of both. The Plunging Competition adapted the Australian rule that allowed the athlete one and a half minutes (British rule one minute) to complete the exercise and Henry claimed the world record with a distance of 67 feet 9 inches⁴¹. In the successive contests of plunging, Henry stood second in 1897 and won in 1898, while triumphing in the scientific swimming events in 1899, 1900 and 1901, to earn permanent possession of the cup⁴².



Fig . 7: William Henry at the White City Stadium which incorporated a swimming pool.

© Author's archive

Henry's sense of innovation and love for versatility in the water prompted the LSS to establish two other British Championships in backstroke and breaststroke although these were not yet considered official.

They were so rarely contested that no federation had yet established official championships in these events. We are reminded that on April 9th, 1887, Henry had competed in an unusual medley race, including the front crawl, breaststroke, backstroke and underwater⁴³.

Yet in 1896, no British swimmer had participated in the Athens Olympics.

On 19 July, Henry competed as in individual at an international event held in the River Main at Frankfurt. He won the 100 metres with a time of 1.16.1/5, ahead of Gert Friboes, a swimmer representing Borussia Berlin. Friboes was also a good speed skater on ice during the winter.

Henry was coming towards the end of his career yet that performance was on the levels of his ascending phase. In still water, on January 12th, 1886, at

the Fitzroy Baths he swam 108 yards (98.75 metres) in 1.15.3/5.

In Frankfurt, Henry also competed in the 400 metres against the highly rated Arnold Töpfer, but once in the lead, he was forced to retire because of cramp. The victory in the 100 metres was reported in England as a "European" Championship.

The official bulletin of the German federation describes it simply as an ordinary International race. The European Championship, always unofficial, but in line with a tradition inaugurated in 1889, was held in Vienna on August 2nd and was won by Olympic champion Alfred Hajos⁴⁴.

Probably, since Henry did not speak German, there may have been a linguistic misunderstanding in some informal conversations. In 1897, Henry was still sincerely convinced that he had won the European title.

Henry had now become a perfect sporting event administrator and his extraordinary organizational capacity was unanimously recognized by associations and the press. In conducting the Diamond Jubilee, he received compliments from the Royal family for the event and his exhibition⁴⁵.

Henry did not lack an internationalist vision of sport. As a result of his friendships, visits to England by continental swimmers increased. Swedish divers Otto Hagborg and Charles Mauritzzi began introducing Swedish figures in his galas⁴⁶.

The internationalist vision ran parallel to the Imperial one. In August 1897 he led a tour to Brussels by a squad which included Crawshaw and Hunt from Britain but also two Australians Hellings and Cavill⁴⁷. He may well have financed part of the cost himself. Leading a LSS team, Henry undertook a tour of Sweden in the summer of 1898, in which he competed in the 100 metres, placing second behind compatriot Klaffenberger⁴⁸.

In the same year, proving to be perfectly fitting to the classic figure of the English gentleman, he won the first Referee Children's Dinner Fund billiard tournament⁴⁹.

In 1899, he made sure the LSS annual gala become even more important, hosting an ASA Championship, the three National Championships established by LSS, as well as performances by his friends the Swedish divers and a lifesaving exhibition⁵⁰.

"World" Life Saving Champion

Henry must have owed his undying fame to his performances at the Paris Exposition of 1900 although Britain did not send an officially constituted team to the Olympics. Thanks to his economic prosperity, Henry found a way to compete in World lifesaving contests in July.

Then in August he joined the British team, authorized by ASA, for Olympic swimming competitions. In the boat rescue competition, the Glasgow Humane Society achieved great success. The crew led by George Geddes II, supported by Aitken and Meiklejohn, won the keelboat contest, clearly ahead of a crew from the Rhône.⁵¹

In the proper lifesaving tests which were attended by more than 100 contestants, Henry placed second behind Gidot in the 300 metres race held on July 22nd, and first in the 200 metres held the following day.

For these, he wore a very comfortable white flannel shirt which made it easier for him to complete the tests. None of his competitors did so. He had become World lifesaving champion and perhaps no one deserved this title more than him⁵².

In mid-August, as he had in 1897 in Belgium, he led a selection to Paris under the flag of the LSS, this also included the Australian swimmer Fred Lane. In the water polo tournament, the British team won and Henry played as goalie.

Individually finished sixth in the 200m hurdles, but was not able to start in the 4000m final, for which he had qualified⁵³.

The Tour of Central Europe

Given the ASA's disinterest in diving, Henry, supported by his Swedish friends began to promote the Diving Club in May 1901.

In the autumn of that year, this became the Amateur Diving Association (ADA)⁵⁴.

In 1901, the LSS scheduled a tour in Italy of Italy for the international team.

Henry was supposed to lead the group but was unable to do so, Instead, triple Olympic gold medalist John Jarvis was the captain, performing, much appreciated, in the lifesaving techniques as Henry should have done⁵⁵.

In August 1902, Henry led the LSS team in a tour of Germany and Austria. The visit had a great impact, both for the competitive confrontation between the best English swimmer, Jarvis, and the best continentals, and for the cultural implications. The German federation's bulletin *Der Schwimmer*, published in German, with a few modifications, the account of the visit that Henry had published in *The Sportsman*⁵⁶.

Jarvis won the Emperor's Trophy both in Austria and in Germany, in Bremen, where he became European champion over 1500 metres. Henry played an active role with performances of lifesaving techniques and aquatic figures, as well as his plunging. In Bremen, he won, reaching 19 metres, and in Vienna he was defeated by the Hungarian Karoly Römer. Römer swam 18.92 behind the 18.06 of the

old English champion, who still won a 100 metres for veterans race in Bremen in a time of 1.44.

The LSS team played several water polo matches. The German clubs adopted rules a little different from the English ones, and some controversies stirred the German swimming world, while a Viennese reporter interviewed Henry on the differences between the rules of the two countries⁵⁷.

In a match against a team from Vienna, largely drawn from members of the Wiener Athletiksport Club (WAC), Henry injured his eye and was forced to leave the water.



Fig .8: Lord Desborough (William Grenfell) the British Olympic Association Chairman and leader of the Organising Committee for the 1908 Olympics

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Although the Viennese player Adalbert Marconi was offered to replace Henry, the LSS were already trailing 8-0 and were well beaten so the match was abandoned.

The LSS made a stop in Frankfurt which helped German swimming world were excellent.

"We were told at home that in Germany there was great animosity against the English. Nothing of the kind was observed, and we are convinced that such an opinion can only exist in the minds of those who only England know and never go away to judge for themselves⁵⁸", Henry said.

This confirmed his non-insular disposition and his diplomatic skill in paving the way to a friendly sporting relationship. The same could not be said in Vienna, did not happen with the Viennese coun-

terparts. Perhaps this was due to another linguistic misunderstanding.

Henry believed that Eugen Wolff, the German swimmer who was President of the Erste Wiener Amateur Schwimmclub (EWASC), of the Austrian federation. It caused the cancellation of the expected WAC water polo tour in England. The complaints of the WAC found space on the pages of *Allgemeine Sport Zeitung*⁵⁹.

In 1902, swimming events helped celebrated the Coronation of Edward VII.



Fig. 9: Annie Allardyce depicted in the *Illustrated Dramatic and Sporting News*

Authors collection

The King and Queen Alexandra attended the event organized in Dunrobin on 6 September by the LSS and sent compliments to Henry and his friends. In addition, they were in favour of establishing a King's Cup including lifesaving⁶⁰.

King's Cup and the Olympics

Unfortunately, the exponential growth of the LSS did not find unanimous consensus within ASA. What was the LSS and what was its role within the federation? It could not be considered a simple club, since other associations had become its members. Furthermore, the LSS was explicitly linked to other international associations.

Trouble erupted when swimmer Annie Allardyce submitted entry to the English 100 yards Championships, presenting herself as an LSS member. The ASA Southern Counties refused the entry and the LSS appealed. In the debate that followed at governing body, a motion presented by Henry Benjamin stressed that LSS had to pay a fee which reflected its true size, in practice three times the amount actually paid. Henry quibbled about what the abstract

concept of association was, but despite his skill, the LSS was defeated. At that point, Henry preferred to step back and the LSS left ASA⁶¹.

In May 1903, ASA re-welcomed the LSS with a special statute⁶². The relations between the two bodies became amicable once again. Henry attended ASA meetings again.

If the brief disagreement with ASA could have resulted in a serious loss of prestige, Henry and LSS received enormous support by the Royal patronage in the nascent King's Cup, a grand event implicitly in response to the two Emperor Trophies.

It was first held as a team swimming event, but from 1904 assumed another character. The swimmers entered the water dressed and completed a first competitive part, to then produce, in the final distance, 50 or 100 yards, in the reproduction of rescue of motionless people for the occasion.

The English King, therefore not only had success as a competitive event but from a moral and social point of view.

It continued until 1913 although it was not staged in 1910 in the wake of the death of Edward VII.

The new King was George V.

He had been the first President of the LSS and continued to lend his support, turning the entitlement into King's Cup Edward VII. At the end of 1904, the association was granted Royal patronage. Thereafter it became known as the Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS)⁶³.

Thanks to this prestige, ASA was often associated with the great gala centred on the King's Cup by organizing an English Championship. When in 1903 ASA inaugurated the event for backstroke and breaststroke, RLSS ceased immediately the 1906 dispute regarding its backstroke event and that of breaststroke, while it handed over to ADA in 1920 graceful diving contest⁶⁴.

Although his own competitive level was declining, Henry was still able to deal other Continental swimmers, and more often, he raced in the veterans class, as in 1903, when he participated with no luck in the 100 metres in the World swimming championship organised in Paris by the USFSA and by *L'Auto*⁶⁵.

In 1905 in Stockholm, as well as winning a competition in the 600 metres freestyle, he won a World lifesaving championship that seemed tailored for him by his Swedish friends⁶⁶.

In the same year, the British Olympic Association (BOA) was created⁶⁷.

The founding Chairman Lord Desborough wanted Henry to serve on the council as one of the swimming delegates, alongside Henry Benjamin, former ASA President.

The two men had not always agreed in the past, but there was now a mutual respect⁶⁸.

It should be remembered that Lord Desborough was also President of the Thames Conservancy, the association for the protection and safeguarding of work activities on the Thames and, thanks to this support, the RLSS was able to instruct the staff of the docks⁶⁹.

For the first time in British Olympic history, the BOA decided to set up and finance an official team for the 1906 Athens Games.

For swimming, there were initially four places, which appeared to be assigned to Jarvis, Henry Taylor and Rob Derbyshire and the diver, Melville Clark. Henry asked if he could participate in the 'expedition' at his own expense. He was made team manager, with responsibility for the team's accommodation⁷⁰. Obviously, his expenses also benefited the other members of the swimming expedition which eventually included additional representatives.

By the time of the 1906 Games in Athens, Henry was almost 47.

Even so, he swam the first leg of the 4 x 250 metres relay as Britain took bronze.

Henry also served on the nautical jury. The differences between jurors' evaluation in diving were consistent⁷¹. According to the testimony of the Hungarian jury member Alfred Brüll, Henry made use of his 25 years of experience in British swimming. He observed that the start in Athens took place without the dive-off allowed in England.

He obtained the introduction of dividers for each racing lane.

He registered a protest because the programme had initially scheduled the 400 metres freestyle race and the 4 x 250 metres relay only two hours apart. This was supported by Brüll and the American Matthew Halpin, but opposed by other countries. The bad weather conditions then forced to postpone the relay race⁷². Apparently, no lifesaving event did take place⁷³.

In 1906, on their way back from Athens the American Charlie Daniels and the Australian Cecil Healy travelled through England. They swam against the British stars Taylor and Jarvis in events staged by the ASA. They attended the RLSS gala and became friends with Henry, whose personal prestige was enormous. Healy joined Henry in a scientific swimming exhibition. The previous year the Australian swimming federation had entrusted Henry with the sum raised at home for the extraordinary tour of the talented Barney Kieran, who died tragically at the end of the year. At the time of the funeral, the swimmer's mother fondly remembered Henry's kindness and help to her son⁷⁴.

Later, Henry visited the Continent. In Paris on August 5th, in Paris he won the 200 metres for veterans, a success repeated in Hamburg on August 12th, where he held formal talks with the representatives of Germany and Hungary to explore the possibility of founding an international federation. In 1908, the Federation International de Natation (FINA) was duly founded in London⁷⁵. This testifies to Henry's spirit of service and the ongoing collaboration between ASA and RLSS.

At the end of 1907, Lord Desborough appointed



Fig. 10: A certificate presented to William Henry by the New South Wales Amateur Swimming Association

© Royal Life Saving Society

Henry as Director of the refurbishment and management of the London Stadium to host the Olympics⁷⁶. Henry was proud of the improvement and expansion of the dressing rooms and urinals of the Stadium, as well as the condition of the stadium's field of play.⁷⁷

The *Sporting Life*, which reported on the rapid progress of the work, concluded that he was 'the right man in the right place'⁷⁸.

He collaborated in the drafting of the Olympic swimming regulations and in the selection of the British team⁷⁹. Based on the placement of his seat in the grandstand of the London Olympic Stadium, *Allgemeine Sport Zeitung* identified him as the third most important man

in British sports management, after Lord Desborough and the Reverend Robert de Courcy Laffan who was Secretary of the BOA.⁸⁰ Henry's supervision of swimming competitions was fundamental. He had the idea of having a demountable tower set up to allow diving competitions beside the basin built in the

William Henry was buried at Highgate Cemetery in London

© David Browne Commonwealth Royal Life Saving Society



stadium for swimming competitions. Finally, the dive-off was permitted and British swimmers found a familiar plant. Also on this occasion, his network of acquaintances, developed by the establishment of LSS centres throughout Great Britain, accelerated the matter since he delegated the Sheffield section to contact the *Newton & Chambers Company* that took care of the installation of the tower⁸¹. However, as the big event and the British trials for athletics, cycling and swimming approached, there were complaints. Henry initially resigned, then returned to work as secretary of the Steering Committee, chaired of course, by Lord Desborough⁸². He maintained friendly contacts, not least because he was the executive with the greatest number of international connections. In the midst of the controversy relating to the disqualification of US athletes in the 400 metres Daniels kept in friendly contact with him and did not do anything to add to the tension.

Henry's later years and legacy

After the London Olympics, Henry's career declined. He directed the King's Cup diligently, and lost no opportunity to arrange for demonstrations, illustrative conferences and publicity through the press. From 1909 to 1913, Henry held an honorary position within the BOA⁸³, undertaking two famous tours in Canada in 1909 and in South Africa in 1913⁸⁴. On this last trip he was accompanied by the Swedish Olympic diving champion and great lifesaver, Hjalmar Johansson⁸⁵, reflecting the valuable

common spirit of cooperation among members of international lifesaving.

Acknowledging that Henry was deeply faithful to the imperial values of Great Britain, Lord Desborough appointed him Commissioner for sporting events at the Festival of Empire in the summer of 1911. This was an event staged as part of the celebrations for the Coronation of George V.

Henry was sent to New Zealand, Australia, Canada and South Africa⁸⁶. The competitions of the Festival of Empire were similar in scope to those of the King's Cup, Henry was obviously involved and took part in the moments of conviviality and celebration. In 1914, he threw his efforts into giving new life to the *Swimming Magazine*.

In the postwar years, in a changed political and social context, the King's Cup no longer took place.

Henry died in London on 20 March 1928.

He had devotedly led the RLSS to ever-greater penetration into British society. He succeeded in creating a new cultural perception: the swimmer, champion or not, was a lifesaver.

In the 1930s, prizes and trophies with his name were often created, yet perhaps the most important homage was paid in 1985 when the Commonwealth lifesavers decided to restore his memorable initiative, the King's Cup Edward VII⁸⁷.

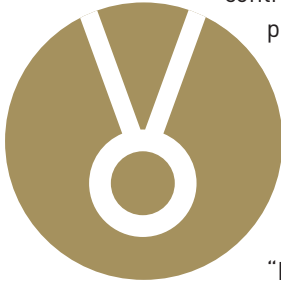
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NEWS – Capralos receives medal from Krakow

European Olympic Committees (EOC) President Spyros Capralos has been presented with the City of Krakow's Honoris Gratia Medal in recognition of his contribution to the staging of the 2023 European Games.



"I have always felt welcomed in this city as a true citizen and have experienced the warmth, hospitality and enthusiasm of its citizens throughout the duration of the Games, from its preparation to its completion", said Capralos.

"I would like to express my sincere congratulations to all those who contributed to the great success of the Krakow-Malopolska 2023 European Games which was a springboard for a country aspiring to host future Olympic Games". The award is given to individuals who have made outstanding contribution to the city of Krakow. It was presented during the Athletes' Forum and Assembly hosted by the European Olympic Committees (EOC) and the Italian National Olympic Committee.



European Olympic Committees President Spyros Capralos was honoured by Krakow after the successful staging of the 2023 European Games

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by Professor Stephan Wassong, IPCC President

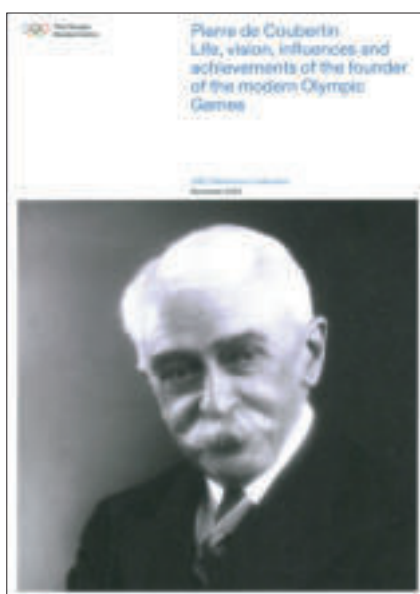
A new concise and accessible guide to Pierre de Coubertin is now available on the Olympic Studies Centre (OSC) website.

"Pierre de Coubertin – Life, Vision, Influences and Achievements of the Founder of the Modern Olympic Games" is a reference document edited by International Pierre de Coubertin Committee (IPCC) President Stephan Wassong and Gilles Lecocq from the French Pierre de Coubertin Committee (CFPC) has been online in French and English since November 25th.

Without a doubt, Coubertin's life as a private individual, educator, historian, journalist, politician, author, founder of the Olympic Movement, sports official and IOC President has been a well-researched field. The IOC Olympic World Library lists more than 842 publications in its catalogue. The academic literature focuses on specific topics which all have great value. However, they quite often concentrate on only one or two aspects of Coubertin's initiatives and ideas. Although these are available, a concise source of knowledge on Coubertin has however not been easily accessible for the broader public until now.

This IPCC and OSC hope that this gap will be addressed by this reference document.

[Pierre de Coubertin: life, vision, influences and achievements of the founder of the modern Olympic Games / The Olympic Studies Centre – Olympic World Library](#)



[Pierre de Coubertin: vie, vision, influences et réalisation du fondateur des Jeux Olympiques modernes / Le Centre d'Etudes Olympiques – Olympic World Library \(olympics.com\)](#)

All facets of Coubertin's life and work have been analysed in short and concise entries. 40 authors from the IPCC and the CFPC have contributed 61 entries. These are between 500 and 1000 words depending on the complexity of the topic. To stimulate further reading and also to avoid counter any personal preferences or bias from the contributors, selected references are listed at the end of each entry. The 61 articles form seven main sections to provide a multi-layered profile of Coubertin.

1. Pierre de Coubertin's Life – Early Education Stimuli and Initiatives
2. Founding the Olympic Movement
3. Pierre de Coubertin's IOC Presidency (1896 – 1925)
4. Pierre de Coubertin Vision and Support for the Olympic Movement after his Presidency (1925 – 1937)
5. Promoting Education, Physical education, Sport and Physical Activity through and beyond the Olympic Movement
6. Political orientation, his Interests and Writings
7. Coubertin Places of Memories.

With the editing and publishing of the Reference Document a significant contribution has been made to analyse the relevance of Coubertin's ideas and initiatives. even for today's Olympic Movement and the fields of education and physical education. The publication has already received impressive public attention in the run-up of the Olympic Games Paris 2024. But even beyond Paris the Reference Document historical and educational purposes in future editions of the Olympic Games and Olympic Winter Games.



Organisers of the 2026 Mediterranean Games in Taranto have switched dates in order to avoid a clash with the FIFA World Cup.

The Games to be held in Taranto are now set to open on 21 August 2026 and will close on 3 September 2026.

“Thanks to this change, the Mediterranean Games will not coincide with other major international sporting events, notably the 2026 FIFA World Cup ensuring that high-level athletes can participate in the biggest event of the Mediterranean basin,” a statement from

the International Mediterranean Games Committee (ICMG) said.

Many believed that spectator numbers at the 2018 Games in the Spanish port city Tarragona had been affected by a clash with the 2018 FIFA World Cup.

“The future of the Mediterranean Games, which

way they should be going, but also the concurrency with other big events in world sport, these are the things that we have to analyse.” Tarragona 2018 Executive Director Victor Sanchez said at the time.

“The fact of having the Games at the same time as the World Cup was something that had been discussed, but the people who are interested in these kinds of Games are not the same as the spectators for the World Cup.”

Attendances at some events were noticeably sparse. In earlier years, the Mediterranean Games, inaugurated in 1951, had taken place in the year preceding the World Cup but the Tarragona Games were postponed for a year from 2017 which meant that they coincided with the tournament.

The problem did not arise with the 2022 Games in Oran because the FIFA World Cup was held in Qatar and the matches were played in November and December.

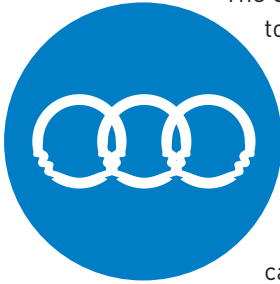


Fig. 1: Attendances were poor at the 2018 Mediterranean Games in Tarragona which clashed with the FIFA World Cup

© Philip Barker



Details from Bill Mallon and OlyMADMen

John Devitt (AUS)

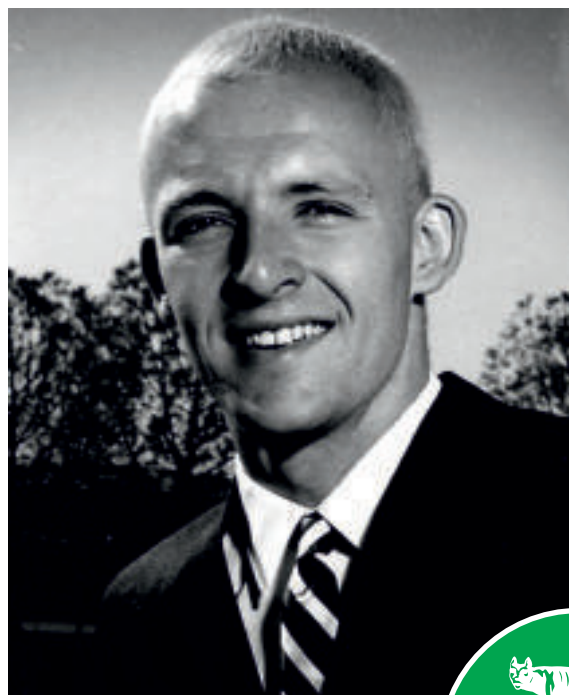
* 4 February 1937 in Granville, New South Wales (AUS)

† 17 August 2023 in Sydney, New South Wales (AUS).

Lance Larson (USA)

* 3 July 1940 in Monterey Park, California

† 19 January 2024 Orange County, California (USA)



Swimmers John Devitt and Lance Larson who have died within a few months of one another, were central figures in a dramatic finish to the men's 100 metres freestyle final at the 1960 Rome Olympics. It was a race which came to be seen as the most controversial of all time. The pre Games favourite was American Jeff Farrell but when he was forced to undergo an emergency appendectomy only six days before, Devitt was installed amongst the favourites alongside compatriot, reigning Olympic champion and compatriot Jon Henricks and Brazilian Manuel dos Santos.

Larson, a butterfly specialist was considered an outsider but he recorded the fastest times in the heats and semi-finals.

In the final, dos Santos led at 50 metres after a fast start, with Devitt and Larson equal second. Dos Santos faded after the turn and Devitt came through to lead. Larson also closed, but more slowly, catching Devitt again at about 80 metres. It appeared to most observers that Larson barely out-touched Devitt, although the result was very close. The 1960

Olympics were held in the days prior to automatic timing so the final standings were decided by finish judges who relied on their eyes and did not use replays. There were three first-place judges and three second-place judges. Of the three first-place judges, they were split, 2-1, favouring Devitt. The three second-place judges also gave the verdict to Devitt for second, by 2-1. Therefore, the six judges were split, 3-3, in terms of who won. There were three official timers in 1960 for each lane and swimmer, all timing by hand. All three timers for Devitt, in lane three, gave him 55.2 seconds. The three timers for lane four had Larson in 55.0, 55.1, and 55.1 seconds. Therefore, timing seemed to favour Larson, as did backup unofficial electronic timing. After a long delay, chief judge, Henry Runströmer of Sweden cast the deciding vote and declared Devitt the winner. He ruled that Larson would be given the time of 55.2 seconds. However, the rules at that time did not provide for the chief judge to have a vote nor did it



The dramatic finish to the men's
100m freestyle at the Rome
Olympics

© 1960 IOC



give him the right to break ties. There were numerous protests by the American team shortly after the final and even years after the Olympics.

Larson described the decisions as a bad deal.

The results were never changed, but as a result of the controversy the International Swimming Federation (FINA) decided that automatic timing was essential to avoid such problems in the future. Since the 1968 Olympics, all international swim races have been timed electronically.

Larson did win gold as he swam the butterfly leg of the 4x100m individual medley relay.

Devitt also won 4x200m freestyle relay bronze at the 1960 Olympics.

He had first competed internationally at the 1956 Olympics, where he lost a closely fought battle against a fellow countryman Henricks in the 100 freestyle and settled for silver. Devitt also won gold in the 4x200 free relay in a world record time of 8:23.6. Between the Olympics, Devitt competed at the 1958 British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Cardiff, where he won gold in 110 yd freestyle, 4x220 yd freestyle relay, and medley relay at the 1958 British Empire and Commonwealth Games. Devitt had also

twice set 100 m freestyle world records, clocking 55.2 on January 19th, 1957 and then 54.6 nine days later. He was part of an Australian 4x100m freestyle relay team that set a world record of 3:46.3 in 1958 and 4x100m medley relay teams that set two world records of 4:14.2 and 4:10.4 in the summer of 1958. He retired after the 1960 Olympics and began working for Speedo, an Australian manufacturer of swimwear and swim-related accessories. He rose from a salesman to become the European manager, and later international manager. He was also an editor of the magazine International Swimming in that era, and in 1979 combined with his Olympic team mate Terry Gathercole to start their own aquatic equipment firm. In the 1980s, Devitt was a member of the Australian NOC executive board. He was involved in Sydney's winning bid for the 2000 Olympics, and was the Australian team manager for the 2006 Commonwealth Games. He was inducted to the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1979 and Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1986 (OM).

Larson had been the first schoolboy swimmer to break 50 seconds in the 100-yard freestyle in his days at El Monte High School in California. At the University of Southern California, he developed into a superb all-round swimmer and was the first man to break one minute for the 100m butterfly. He won AAU titles in the freestyle, butterfly and Individual medley, and set five world and 12 U.S. records. He was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame as an "Honor Swimmer" in 1980.

He continued to swim at Masters level.

Away from the pool, he forged a career in dentistry. He served with the United States Navy Dental Corps and, later, in 1979, he began his own dental practice in Orange County which he continued until his retirement in 2014.

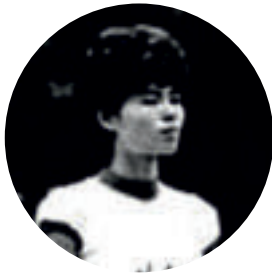


Gold medallist John Devitt is flanked by bronze medallist Manoel Dos Santos of Brazil and Lance Larson of the United States

© 1960 IOC



AC = Andrey Chilikin, BM = Bill Mallon, CM = Connor Mah, DT = David Tarbotton, GM = George Masin, HE = Hilary Evans, IM = Ian Morrison, JH = Jeroen Heijmans, JM = Jason Moulton, OM = OlyMADMen, PT = Paul Tchir, RL = Rudolf Laky, RR = Ralf Regnitter, RS = Ralph Schlüter, SB = Sven Buren, TK = Taavi Kalju, WR = Wolf Reinhardt



Emiko Miyamoto (JPN)

* 10 May 1937 in Wakayama, Wakayama (JPN),

† 7 December 2023 in Takahagi, Ibaraki (JPN).

Emiko Miyamoto was a member Japanese gold medal winning women's volleyball squad at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. She had previously won silver at the 1960 World Championships in Brazil and then gold two years later in the Soviet Union, a tournament at which she won the Most Valuable Player and was acclaimed as the "world's best attacker". Domestically, she played with Nichibo Kaizuka. In March 1965, after she retired from playing, she married a former Tokyo Olympic basketball training coach, and lived in Hitachi City, Ibaraki Prefecture for many years, giving lectures and coaching on volleyball mainly in the prefecture. Miyamoto died from sepsis in Takahagi, on December 7, 2023, at the age of 86. (WR).



Yasuhiro Noguchi (JPN)

* 25 April 1946,

† 29 November 2023.

Yasuhiro Noguchi was an integral member of the Japanese squad which won men's volleyball gold at the 1972 Munich Olympics. In 1967, he also won World Championship gold. Domestically, he played with Matsushita Electric. Noguchi died from kidney failure on November 29, 2023, at the age of 77. (WR)



Sante Gaiardoni (ITA)

* 29 June 1939 in Villafranca di Verona, Verona (ITA),

† 29 November 2023 in Rozzano, Milano (ITA).

Sante Gaiardoni made his name as a 21-year-old at the 1960 Rome Olympics. He won track cycling gold medals in the sprint and 1,000 metres time trial. That same year he was also World Sprint Champion in Leipzig. This followed silver medals in 1958 and 1959, on both occasions, behind teammate Valentino Gasparella. Between 1958 and 1960, Gaiardoni won three Italian tandem titles, twice with Giacomo Zanetti and once with Sergio Bianchetto. Gaiardoni's only success on the road as an amateur came in the 1959 Milano-Busseto race. Gaiardoni turned professional in 1961 and won many track races in Italy and across Europe, despite the presence of Antonio Maspes, one of the biggest track stars of the day. Gaiardoni won only one professional world title. In 1963 he took the sprint crown at Rocourt in Belgium, ahead of Maspes. The previous year Maspes had beaten him into second place. Gaiardoni won further silver in 1965 and 1970 and also bronze in 1966 and 1969.

Earlier, Gaiardoni ended Maspes run of five consecutive national sprint titles by taking gold in 1964. Gaiardoni married singer Elsa Quarta, and he ran un-

successfully for mayor in Milan. in 2006. In 2010, He wrote *Quando la rabbia si trasforma in vittoria*, with journalist Francesco Lodi. It told the story Gaiardini's life from his childhood up to the Rome Olympics (OM).

Arthur Parkin (NZL)

* 15 February 1952 in Whangarei, Northland (NZL),

† 14 November 2023 in Auckland, Auckland (NZL).

Arthur Parkin won hockey gold for New Zealand at the 1976 Montreal Olympics. He also played at the Games in 1972 and 1984.

His hockey exploits were overshadowed by his imprisonment for indecent assault on young girls. In 2018, he was sentenced to 20 months in prison for the offences which were said to have taken place between 1975 and 1983. (WR).



Kraft Schepke (GER)

* 3 March 1934 in Kaliningrad, Kaliningrad (RUS),

† 12 November 2023 in Kiel, Schleswig-Holstein (GER).

Born in Königsberg, Prussia (now Kaliningrad, Russia), Kraft Schepke and his younger brother Frank Schepke took up rowing while studying at the University of Kiel. As members of the university's rowing club ATV Ditmarsia Kiel, the Schepke brothers and Karl-Heinz Hopp from Ditmarsia combined with six members of Ratzeburger Ruderclub to form the winning eight at the 1959 German Championships. The same crew represented Germany at the 1959 European Championships, where they also won gold. The next year, Ditmarsia and Ratzeburger Ruderclub again joined forces to win their second German title and were selected to represent Germany at the 1960 Rome Olympics, where they were once again victorious. In 1960, Ditmarsia crews, including the Schepke brothers also won the coxed and coxless fours titles at the German championships. The crew was elected West German Team of the Year both in 1959 and 1960, and was awarded the Silver Bay Leaf in both years. In 1961, the Ditmarsia crew repeated their coxed fours success at the German championships and won the 1961 European title. The Schepke brothers retired from the sport after the 1961 season and Kraft Schepke later worked with the State Sports Federation of Lower Saxony (Landessportbund Niedersachsen) in Hannover (WR).



Dimitrie Popescu (ROU)

* 10 September 1961 in Straja, Suceava (ROU),

† 11 November 2023 in Bușteni, Prahova (ROU) (WR).

Dimitrie Popescu was a Romanian rower. He competed in various events at the 1984, 1988, 1992 and 1996 Olympics and won a gold, two silver and a bronze medal. He won the same set of medals at the world championships in 1985–1996. After retiring from competition he worked as a coach for CSA Steaua (WR).



John Sayre (USA)

* 1 April 1936 in Tacoma, Washington (USA),

† 9 November 2023.

At the 1959 Pan-American Games, the Lake Washington Rowing Club Club four comprising Sayre, Ted Nash, Rusty Wailes, and Jay Hall easily won gold. At the 1960 Rome Olympics, Sayre was in almost the same boat, with Dan Ayrault replacing Hall, and the result was the same – they beat an Italian crew by almost three seconds to win. Sayre had been a graduate of the University of Washington, class of 1958. He was a member of the Washington crew that beat the Soviet National Team in Moscow, in 1958, shortly after the Soviets, racing as Leningrad Trud Club, had bested the Huskies at the Henley Royal Regatta, the University of Washington's first trip to that event. Sayre later worked in several fields. He became the cast director for "Up with People," and then was with



the Jacques Cousteau Society, Pace Magazine, and the US Department of the Interior. He was also interested in salmon conservancy and help found several organizations which worked with Northwest tribes and federal agencies to help with the preservation of various local species. Sayre was inducted into the University of Washington Hall of Fame in 1984 (PT).



Walter Davis (USA)

* 9 September 1954 in Pineville, North Carolina (USA),
† 2 November 2023 in Charlotte, North Carolina (USA).

Walter Davis played high school basketball in South Mecklenburg, NC, so the choice of the University of North Carolina (UNC) was a natural one for him. Davis starred in all four years at UNC, never averaging less than 14 points in any season, despite head coach Dean Smith's "team" approach to basketball. Davis also played under Smith at the 1976 Olympics and was one of the primary reasons why the United States regained the Olympic basketball gold medal. In 1977 Davis was drafted first by the Phoenix Suns and easily made the transition into the NBA. He was voted Rookie of the Year in 1978 and named to the All-Rookie team. With 24.2 points, six rebounds, and four assists per game, he was also voted second-team All-NBA, a feat he achieved again in 1979. Davis had a very solid NBA career, playing until 1992, mostly with Phoenix, but finishing his career with four years in Denver, and a brief stint with the Portland Trail Blazers. In five years, he averaged over 20 points per game, and finished with a career scoring average of 18.9 ppg. He played in six All-Star games. His nephew, Hubert Davis, later followed him as a player at UNC and in the NBA, and eventually became the head coach at UNC in 2021 (BM).



Oleg Protopopov (URS)

* 16 July 1932 in St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg (RUS),
† 31 October 2023 in Interlaken, Bern (SUI).

The husband-and-wife team of Lyudmila Belousova and Oleg Protopopov were the first pairs skaters from Soviet Russia to achieve international acclaim. They provided the stimulus which ultimately led to many successes by future Soviet pairs skaters. Protopopov first skated pairs with Margarita Bogoyavlenskaya and won bronze at the Soviet Championships in 1953 and 1954 with her. He began skating with Lyudmila Belousova in 1954 and the couple married in 1957. They won bronze (1955) and four silvers (1957–59, 1961) behind Nina and Stanislav Zhuk, before winning six titles (1962–64, 1966–68) at the Soviet Championships. After three silver medals at both the World and European Championships in 1962–64, behind the German pair of Marika Kilius and Hans-Jürgen Bäumler, they upset them to win the gold medal at the Winter Olympics Innsbruck in 1964, and did so again in 1968 at Grenoble. In addition to their two Olympic gold they also won World and European Championships four times (1965–68). After finishing second at the Soviet and European Championships and third at the World Championships in 1969, each time losing to Irina Rodnina and Aleksey Ulanov, the Soviet skating authorities "eased" them out of competition, claiming they were too old to continue at the top level of international skating. They won their last medals (bronze) at the Soviet Championships in 1972, before finally retiring from competition. In 1979 they defected to Switzerland and settled in Grindelwald, obtaining Swiss citizenship in 1995, although they had a second home at Lake Placid in the United States. They later spent many years skating in professional ice shows (BM).

Vladimir Markelov (URS)

* 24 October 1957 in Chelyabinsk, Chelyabinsk (RUS),
† 30 October 2023.

During his career Soviet gymnast Vladimir Markelov won titles at the European Championships, World Championships, and the Olympics. At domestic level level Markelov was USSR Championships (1976, 1980), and was also Absolute Champion of the USSR (1977, 1978). He competed at his first Olympics in 1976 in Montréal, where he took silver in the team all-round competition. 1977 proved a very successful year for Markelov, as he won gold in the rings and the individual all-round at the European Championships in Vilnius. At the Summer Universiade in Sofia he won gold in the team competition and the vault, and silver in the all-round, horizontal bar, and rings. At the 1980 Moscow Olympics Markelov was part of the Soviet team that went one better than their performance at the Montréal Games with gold. He retired from gymnastics following the Games and became an international judge. He was made an Honoured Master of Sports of the USSR. (TK).



Viktor Mamatov (URS)

* 21 July 1937 in Belovo, Kemerovo (RUS),
† 27 October 2023 in Moskva (Moscow), Moskva (RUS).

Biathlete Viktor Mamatov made his first international appearance at the 1967 World Championships, where he won gold 20 km race and was second as a member of the Soviet relay team. At the 1968 Winter Olympics Games he carried the Soviet flag. Then he placed seventh in the 20 km and won gold in relay. The following year Mamatov was again a member of the World Championship gold medal winning Soviet relay team and he also won gold in the relay at the 1970 World Championships. In addition, he also won individual bronze in the 20 km. Mamatov made his last appearance at the World Championships in 1971, where he was sixth in 20 km and won his third consecutive gold medal in the relay. Mamatov made his last international appearance at the 1972 Olympics. He was seventh at 20 km and won his second Olympic gold in relay. Domestically Mamatov's only two Soviet titles came in 1968, in the 20 km and relay. After finishing his competitive career, Mamatov worked as head coach of the Soviet Union national biathlon team from 1973–76. From 1976–81 he was a director at his alma mater, Novosibirsk Technical School of Physical Culture (now Novosibirsk College of Physical Culture) and then from 1981–85, was again head coach of the Soviet national biathlon team. From 1985–87 Mamatov worked as an official with Soviet Committee for Physical Culture and Sports and from 1989–92 he was the last president of the Soviet Union Biathlon Federation. From 1993–98 Mamatov worked as vice-president of the Russian Biathlon Federation and he was a member of the Russian Olympic Committee from 1994–2002. He was also manager of the Russian Olympic biathlon teams in 1998 and 2002 (TK).



Anfisa Reztsova (URS)

* 16 December 1964 in Yakimets, Vladimir (RUS),
† 19 October 2023 in Dolgoprudny, Moskva Oblast (RUS).

Anfisa Reztsova is one of the few competitors to enjoy success in both cross-country skiing and biathlon. Reztsova started as a cross-country skier and won her first international competition in 1985 with gold in the relay at the World Championships. She repeated her relay victory at the 1987 World Championships. She also won silver at the 1986–87 World Cup. In 1988 she won Olympic silver and 1988 Winter Olympics and won additional silvers in the 5 km and 20 km at the 1987 World Championships. She won individual silver over 20km and was part of the Soviet team which took gold in the relay. In 1989 Reztsova switched to biathlon and competed at the 1992 and 1994 Winter Olympics, where she won a gold in the relay in 1992 and 1994 and bronze in the 1992 7½ km event. At the



World Biathlon Championships, Reztsova was less successful, her only medal came in the team event in 1992, but she won the Biathlon World Cup two years in a row, 1991–92 and 1992–93. After struggling in biathlon in the mid-1990s, she switched back to cross-country skiing in 1998. She won her third relay title at the 1999 World Cross-Country Championships, was fourth in the pursuit, and retired from competition after the 1999 World Championships. Reztsova later admitted to the Russian ski magazine *Ski Sport* that she had used performance enhancing drugs, including blood doping, during the 1998–99 season (TK).



Oļegs Antropovs (URS)

* 5 November 1947 in Noviy, Chimkent, Ongutsik Qazaqstan (KAZ),
† 15 October 2023 in Rīga, Rīga (LAT).

Born in the Kazakh SSR, Oļegs Antropovs was a Latvian volleyball player who represented the Soviet Union. In club volleyball, he played for Burevestnik Alma-Ata from 1965 to 1971 and then for Elektrotehnika Rīga until 1978. He was a member of the Soviet Under-20s team which won the the European Championship in 1966. Two years later Antropovs played in four matches as the Soviets won Olympic gold in Mexico City. After the Olympics he won bronze at the 1969 Volleyball World Cup in East Germany and played in the side which finished sixth at the 1970 Volleyball World Championship in Bulgaria. After his playing career Antropovs turned to coaching, helping Radiotekhnika Rīga to win the 1983/84 Soviet championships. By the end of the decade he was the senior coach of the USSR youth team, and they became the European champions in 1988 and World champions a year later. Antropovs also coached domestic teams in Qatar, Latvia, Croatia, and Slovakia, before becoming the head coach of the Russian team in 1998. His final spell of coaching spanned from 1999 to 2008 with JT Thunders in Hiroshima, Japan (TK).



Burdie Haldorson (USA)

* 12 January 1934 in Austin, Minnesota (USA),
† 13 October 2023 in Colorado Springs, Colorado (USA).

Burdette Haldorson was one of the first American players to win two Olympic gold medals in basketball. Haldorson attended the University of Colorado, making the All-Conference side twice. He was nominated for the All-American in his senior year. He also led the Big Eight in scoring in his last two years. Besides his Olympic successes Haldorson also won Pan American Games gold in 1959. Haldorson never played professional basketball but instead joined up with the Phillips teams and played AAU ball. He was four times AAU All-American and after retirement from the court, settled into an executive position with Phillips which he held for 15 years. After leaving Phillips he set up his own business as a franchise holder in a Dallas based oil company (BM).



Terry Dischinger (USA)

* 21 November 1940 in Terre Haute, Indiana (USA),
† 9 October 2023 in Lake Oswego, Oregon (USA).

Terry Dischinger was one of the stars of the great 1960 United States Olympic gold medal winning basketball team. He joined the side after his sophomore year at Purdue where it was obvious he was going to be a great player. He stood 6 foot seven inches (2.00 metres) tall.

In both his junior and senior years, he was selected for the All-America and then was drafted in the second round by the Chicago Zephyrs. Dischinger graduated from Purdue with a degree in chemical engineering. He immediately produced as a professional, averaging 25.5 points and becoming the third of four consecutive NBA Rookies of the Year to come from the 1960 Olympic team. Dischinger had two more excellent years, averaging 21 and 18 points, but then was then

called up for two year's military service in the army. He was never the same player again although he remained in the NBA for six more years, averaging around 10 points per game. In his last few years, Dischinger attended dental school at the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry in the off-season, and even did a two-game stint as player-coach of the Pistons in 1971. He ended his career with the Portland Trail Blazers. After sub-specialising at the Oregon Health and Science University, he practiced orthodontics for over 30 years in Lake Oswego, Oregon. He had several patents to his name and lectured frequently to teach younger orthodontists. Dischinger was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 1989. Dischinger's 1960 US Olympic team was inducted into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in 2010. In 2019, he was elected into the College Basketball Hall of Fame, and he is also a member of the Purdue Athletics Hall of Fame and the National Federation of High Schools Hall of Fame (OM).

Agneta Andersson (SWE)

* 25 April 1961 in Karlskoga, Örebro (SWE),

† 8 October 2023 in Örebro, Örebro (SWE).

With seven medals, including three golds, Sweden's Agneta Andersson was one of the most successful female canoeists in Olympic history.

She had made her Olympic debut in 1980 but in 1984, she won gold in both K-1 and K-2 and silver in the K-4. She did not win a medal in 1988 Olympics but in 1992 she took silver in K-2 and bronze in K-4.

Then in 1996, she brought her career to a close with gold in K-2 and bronze in the K-4. Andersson was less successful at the World Championships Andersson won 11 medals in an international career which had begun in in terms of titles, claiming only the 1993 K-2 gold, but she won 11 medals at the Worlds in an international career that began in 1979. In 1988, she had been her country's flagbearer at the Opening Ceremony. In 1996 she received the Svenska Dagbladet gold medal together with her partner Susanne Gundarsson (WR).

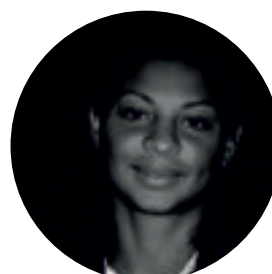


Walewska Oliveira (BRA)

* 1 October 1979 in Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais (BRA),

† 21 September 2023 in São Paulo, São Paulo (BRA).

Walewska Moreira de Oliveira, simply known as Walewska, was a Brazilian volleyball player who competed at three consecutive Olympic Games, winning medals at two of them. Walewska began her career with Minas in 1997 before playing with several other teams in Brazil. In 2004, she moved to Europe to play for clubs in Italy, Spain, and Russia. In 2011 she returned to Brazil, playing for six different teams from 2011 to 2022. Walewska had achieved her first international success at the 1999 Pan American Games in Winnipeg when Brazil won gold. The following year she won bronze at the 2000 Sydney Olympics after a tight contest against the United States. At the Athens Olympics Brazil were fourth, just missing out on a medal. The gold medal finally came in 2008 at the Beijing Games. Walewska also won a silver at the 2006 World Championships in Japan, and silver medals at the World Cup in 2003 and 2007, also in Japan. In September 2023 Walewska was found dead after a fall from the 17th floor of the building where she lived in São Paulo. She was only 43 (JM).



Nikki McCray (USA)

* 17 December 1971 in Collierville, Tennessee (USA),

† 7 July 2023.

Nikki McCray was a point guard who played college basketball at the University of Tennessee, helping them win the 1991 NCAA title. She was a shut-down defender who helped the USA win gold medals at the 1996 and 2000 Olympics. She also won World Championship gold in 1998. McCray played professionally after



college, in both the WNBA and the ABL. She played from 1996–2006 with several different teams, and was named ABL MVP in 1997, and played in the WNBA All-Star Game in 1999–2001. After her playing career she went into coaching, first as an assistant at the University of South Carolina from 2008–17. In 2017, she became the head coach at Old Dominion University, a position she held for three seasons before becoming head coach at Mississippi State University. McCray was also known for her community service. She was chosen in 2000 by President Bill Clinton to be a member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. In 1999 she was chosen by the Library of Congress to be the keynote speaker for the Women's History Month address (BM).



Ruth Fuchs (GDR)

* 14 December 1946 in Egel'n, Sachsen-Anhalt (GER),
† 20 September 2023 in Jena, Thüringen (GER).

Ruth Fuchs was the best female javelin thrower of the 1970s and was voted by Track & Field News as female Athlete of the Decade for the 1970s. After being ranked second in the world in 1970–71, she led the rankings for every year from 1973–79, followed by being ranked third in 1980. She set six world records with the javelin and was the first female javelin thrower to better 60 metres (1970). In addition to her Olympic gold medals, Fuchs was European Champion in both 1974 and 1978. Ruth Fuchs later earned a doctoral degree and was Vice President of the Track & Field Association of East Germany from 1984–1990. After the reunification of Germany she became a Member of Parliament for the left-wing party PDS – Die Linke in 1990 and 1992–2002, as well as a Member of Parliament from Thuringia in 2004. She was married to the middle distance runner Ulrich Fuchs, but they divorced and she later married her former coach Karl Hellmann. Fuchs admitted using steroids during her career, as part of the official East German sports programme (WR).



Tom Courtney (USA)

* 17 August 1933 in Newark, New Jersey (USA),
† 22 August 2023 in Naples, Florida (USA).

Tom Courtney was a worthy successor to Mal Whitfield for both speed and consistency. He won the NCAA 880yards in 1955 and the AAU Championships in 1957 and 1958. Courtney was also the top 400 metres man in the world in 1956 and won the AAU in 45.6. In 1957 he lowered the world 880y record to 1:46.8 and the following year he ran within one tenth of a second of the world 800 m record. He won the 1956 Final Trials in a new American record of 1:46.4 and then went on to set an Olympic record of 1:47.7 to win the Melbourne final. Courtney won a second Olympic gold with a 45.7 anchor leg in the 4×400 metres relay. He was also a notable indoor performer and in 1957 he tied Whitfield's world record of 1:09.5 for 600y and set three world records for the 880y on a flat indoor track. Courtney later earned an MBA from Harvard and worked in investment banking in New York, Boston, and Pittsburgh (BM).



Anatoly Sass (URS)

* 22 December 1935 in Moskva (Moscow),
Moskva (RUS), † 31 August 2023.

Anatoly Sass was a Russian rower who represented the Soviet Union in international competitions, winning single sculls silver at the 1965 European Rowing Championships in Duisburg, West Germany. Sass competed at his first Games in 1964 in Tokyo, finishing in seventh place in the coxless fours. Four years later he won gold at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics in the double sculls with compatriot Aleksandr Timoshinin. Sass also won two national titles, the first in the singles sculls in 1967, followed by double sculls a year later (JM).

THE OLYMPICS THAT NEVER HAPPENED

ADAM BERG

THE OLYMPICS THAT NEVER HAPPENED:
DENVER '76 AND THE POLITICS OF GROWTH
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS PRESS 2023

\$US 40 342 PAGES,
ISBN 9781477326459

REVIEWED BY ROBERT K. BARNEY



Adam Berg's *The Olympics That Never Happened* joins Sandra Collins' notable work on the Tokyo Games of 1940 as arguably the two most scholarly works yet produced the Olympics which never happened. With Japan in 1940 it was a cataclysmic world war that brought about the cancellation but the circumstances surrounding Denver's inclusion in what Some might refer to as "Lost Weekends" in Olympic history came under different circumstances.

In Denver's case, it was purely local politics that forced the 1976 Games to be returned to the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

They were ultimately reassigned them to Innsbruck, Austria, where they had previously been staged in February 1964, and where many of the necessary facilities remained in place.

Berg's *Olympics That Never Happened* is an enlargement of his doctoral dissertation.

This had been researched, written and defended in 2020 at Penn State University under the supervision of Professor Mark Dyreson.

The "story outline" of Denver's award of the Games in May 1970, and the city's return of them scarcely two and a half years later (November 1972), is well-

known in general terms.

The details of the entire episode, beyond the "general" has been little known or understood to this day. Berg's work has addressed that historical short-coming. Springing from an examination of research material surveyed in some three dozen public archives and collections of private papers, complemented by a bevy of legal sources, oral histories and interviews, magazines and newspapers, and yes, even a foray into website data, Berg has presented us with a history unlikely to be rivalled by any subsequent work on the subject.

Berg casts his analysis squarely on the forces of urban growth championed by Denver's political leaders, moneyed elite, and others who stood best to gain financially from an Olympic hosting event. They were opposed by a matrix of grassroots special interest groups in the form of minority ethnic factions, environmental activists, public citizen tax money overseers, and a small cadre of governmental figures residing on the "left," or democratic side of the political spectrum. With intricate, indeed painstaking rigour, Berg shapes analysis and arguments into three distinct parts that explore the positions and efforts of each competing faction, ultimately resulting in a statewide ballot referendum and an eventual victory for public citizen activism.

Part I, labelled *The Bidders*, offers the reader four chapters to digest. These comprise "The Origins of Olympic Dreams," "Growth Crusaders," "Faking an Olympic City," and "A Mass Soft Sell." The content of the 50 pages devoted to this theme examines the vision and dedicated efforts of those most likely to gain from bringing Olympic Games to Denver, in effect, those in charge of selling the prospect to the public. These were the members of the Denver Olympic Committee (DOC), city- and state-elected and appointed leaders from the governor's office, and followers of Denver's Mayor. The portrait painted by Berg of such factions is one smeared with brushstrokes conveying personal vested interests, disingenuousness, even outright prevarication.¹

Part II covers *The Opponents*. It presents four chapters dealing with the various activist antagonists aligned against *The Bidders*.

The chapters are titled "Post-Civil Rights Advocacy in the City", "Middle-Class Environmentalists in

the Foothills”, “A Liberal Tax Revolt and the Public Relations Battle”, and “Direct Democracy for Middle America”. Here, we learn how aggressively pursued agendas against hosting the Games were carried out by various vested-interest activist groups. Chief among such contingents were Denver’s foremost ethnic/racial groups and residents living in the foothills of the Rockies. They were concerned about the environment when their bucolic property circumstances were threatened by proposed Olympic Games infrastructure for cross-country skiing. There were also a number public interest groups who challenged the veracity of the DOC’s claims surrounding the great Olympic festival’s overall projected expenses against revenue production. To my mind, Berg uses an old American West movie theme to frame the contesting parties, in effect, a “Black Hat vs. White Hat” perspective pitting the “The Bidders” as felonious culprits of a misdemeanor against “The Opponents” as champions of public interest in oversight and accountability. Amongst The Opponents, one particular name stands out in Berg’s commendable examination. Furthermore, he might rightfully be defined as an Opponent inside the community of Bidders. That person was Richard Lamm. In the early 1970s Lamm was a junior Representative in the Colorado State Legislature. A Denver resident, Lamm described himself as “an Olympic Critic.” As the powers favouring public aid in support of bidding for and hosting the Games organised and extolled their messages, particularly political forces in the higher elements of both the City of Denver and State of Colorado administration, Lamm became a strident voice against the entire project, claiming that a vast difference existed between The Bidders’ claims for “income over expense” and negligible impact on the environment. Instead, Lamm predicted disastrous consequences for the public purse and Denver’s/Colorado’s pristine environmental surrounds. And, neither was Lamm shy in voicing his convictions in the highest chamber of those beseeched to vote funds to The Bidders to aid their cause, the United States Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation. Appearing before the Senate Subcommittee on June 9th, 1972 as an “at odds member” of a delegation of Coloradans that included Governor John Love and Denver Mayor William McNichols, Lamm detailed public dissent against the Olympic project, lambasting the DOC’s unrealistic financial expectations, decrying the sorry state of Denver’s municipal budget, and underscoring the dangerous consequences for the physical environment, consequently leading Colorado to disaster. One wonders how Lamm’s fellow del-

egation members received these remarks. We get no clue of what must have been some handwringing wincing and raising of eyebrows.

Part III, headlined The Fate and Legacy of Denver ’76, closes Berg’s investigation with three chapters which cover “The DOC’s Credibility and the Rhetoric of Olympism,” “The Event Coalition and the Rights of Citizenship,” and “The Momentum of the Moment.” An eight page Epilogue concludes the work. In essence, Berg’s Part III material is similar to a table-top bearing a set of general conclusions, supported securely by table legs characterised in this sense by the individual collection of impressive evidential material presented in Parts I and II. Therein, the story in general celebrates the eventual victory of The Opponents over The Bidders, an achievement, in Berg’s words, resulting in a condition through which “a coalition of liberal organizers, prudent yet progressive politicians, middle-class environmentalists, and Brown and Black Denverites defeated the DOC and its associates [as they lived through and died with Denver 76” (p. 183). There is one disappointing dimension to Berg’s book. He falls short at the very end when offering his final thoughts on the crux of his book against the future of the Olympic Games. In his final section, “Epilogue,” he touches briefly on Denver’s attempts to revisit the prospect of hosting Olympic Winter Games. He finishes this discussion by noting the case of a Denver campaign aimed at gaining USOC endorsement as the American candidate to bid for the Olympic Winter Games of 2030.

Berg correctly notes activist-organised arousal against the initiative. In the end this group proved highly successful in passing into city election law that any future plan by Denver to bid for and organise Olympic Games, involving any measure of public funding, must first be subject to approval through a public referendum.

However he fails to note the critical overtones of that public law with respect to the future of the Olympic Games worldwide. For, if that “permanent” public measure passed in Denver in 2016 were to be noted and emulated by prospective Olympic host cities of both Winter and Summer Games worldwide, placing at the whim of public debate and confidence what has always been a major revenue source in the budgetary scheme of any Olympic festival, what might the outcome be if the public vote is “no?” Of course, one specific thought is that the Games, if they are to continue in the aura and magnificence that they represent at the present time, they would necessarily have to depend on much enlarged private funding, especially in dollar returns from forms of commercial enterprise, phenomena scarcely revered by

many who are so attached to the Olympic Movement and its Games. Ponder that! In view of Berg's carefully constructed and executed message, the events of late described above, present in the public domain some five years before the publishing of *The Olympics That Never Happened*, appears to me to have made a perfect bookend for putting a punctuation mark on an otherwise highly meritorious work. The University of Texas Press should be complimented on its production of Berg's book, perpetuating the established fact that sport scholarship published by university presses rank as the gold standard in assessing a book's academic merit. Hats off to the external scrutineers/reviewers and the copy editor. There were very few mis steps or typographical errors.

However, a passage dealing with Denver's quest to bid for the 1956 Olympic Winter Games states "in the spring of 1949, the governor, Colorado's two United States senators, various mayors, and numerous local chambers of commerce sent telegrams to International Olympic Committee President Avery Brundage" (p. 21). In 1949 Brundage was of course, still only IOC Vice-President, not President. He was often perceived as the defacto leader largely because of his authoritative style of public relations communication. In addition, one of the major works on American western economic history, cited strongly by Berg, written by the distinguished historian Gerald Nash, is listed in the bibliography as Gerald N. Nash, the publisher listed as the University of Indiana Press (1985) when in fact it was published by the University Nebraska in 1990. The author should read Gerald D. (for David) Nash. This is particularly important for me because Gerald David Nash (God rest his soul) was an esteemed graduate professor, my mentor, and inspiration for becoming an historian.

Even so, Berg's work on this subject, long and belaboured, stands among those of first rank in the lexicon of serious scholarship getting to the crux of Olympic history. As the subject of hosting Olympic Games enters an increasingly problematic era, Berg's book may well provide would be "Bidders" with lessons on what not to do, and, as well, their "Opponents" with inspiration of what to do.

Endnotes

¹ In 2015, the prestigious English daily, *The Guardian*, in an article recounting the tragedies associated with Denver's failed attempt to host the Olympic Winter Games in 1976, quoted the then Lieutenant Governor of Colorado, John Vanderhood, as saying: "We lied a lot," in order to secure the bid. See Jack Moore, "When Denver rejected the Olympics in favor of the environment and economics," *The Guardian*, 7 April 2015. As cited in Endnote 4, in Robert K. Barney, "The Politics of Bidding for the Olympic Games: the Case of the 'Let Denver Vote Yes' Initiative," *Olympika: The international Journal of Olympic Studies*, Vol. XXVIII, 2019, 64.

HARRY EDWARD

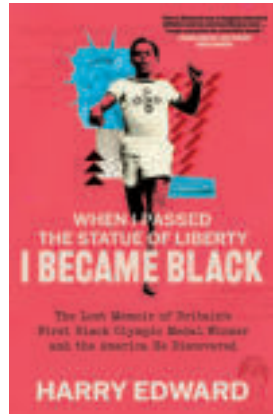
EDITED BY NEIL DUNCANSON

ISBN 9780300270976

UNIVERSITY OF YALE PRESS 2023 £18.99 294 PAGES

ISBN 9780300270976

REVIEWED BY PHILIP BARKER



The memoirs of Olympic athlete Harry Edwards have been finally published some 50 years after they were written.

That this remarkable volume is now available to a wider audience is largely thanks to the efforts of ISOH member Neil Duncanson, an acclaimed documentary filmmaker.

He had been researching an updated and expanded version of "The Fastest Men on Earth", his chronicle of the Olympic 100m champions.

Duncanson had been trying to find more information on the other medallists when he came across the manuscript by Edward in an archive. He describes it as a 'lost memoir' and soon realised its potential and importance.

This is more than can be said for one literary agent in New York in the 1970s. The individual in question wrote a rejection letter to Edward.

"You've led an interesting life but I'm afraid that the book doesn't seem to me very interesting.

"Perhaps this is due to so much of the book dealing with events in the past and also a great deal of detail which doesn't at this time seem very important."

Edward was born in Berlin in April 1898, to parents who had come from the Caribbean in search of work.

As a young man he had already demonstrated his prowess in athletics and might even have competed in the 1916 Olympics which were to have been staged in Berlin had not war intervened. Edward had raced in the original Berlin Olympic Stadium built for the purpose.

He was interned as an alien in the camp at Ruhleben on the outskirts of city.

Edward was 'repatriated' to after the war and resumed his athletic career with Polytechnic Harriers in London.

He was chosen to compete for Great Britain at the Antwerp Games and returned with bronze in both 100m and 200m.

His life after athletics when he emigrated to the United States, offers fascinating detail of a remarkable individual who was an influential figure in the development of the Theater of Harlem.

Here he worked alongside such distinguished figures as Orson Welles and John Houseman.

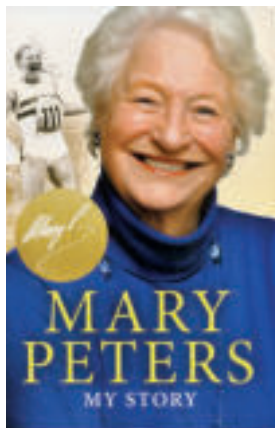
After the Second World War, Edward worked for United Nations relief agencies in Greece, Korea and Vietnam and even returned to Germany.

The text has been sensitively edited by Duncanson who has also made use of photographs from the archives which adorn this superb volume. This includes some fascinating informal images from the 1920 Olympics. Some of these may well not have been viewed since they were taken a century ago.

LADY MARY PETERS

MARY PETERS MY STORY
BLACKSTAFF PRESS, NEWTONARDS,
£16.99 PAGES 224
ISBN 9781780733753

REVIEWED BY PHILIP BARKER



Mary Peters, Olympic pentathlon gold in 1972, has issued a new autobiography which continues the story of her life beyond the track.

It is not just the story of an official but of a fierce campaigner and standard bearer for sport.

Those of a certain generation will be aware that her life story first appeared in 1974 as "Mary P" written with the help of Ian Wooldridge, a highly respected

British sportswriter.

The new volume makes use of the original text which describes her career as an athlete.

This was because "it so accurately reflected how I felt in the aftermath of Munich," Peters explains.

The Olympic pentathlon in 1972 was not decided until the 200 metres, the fifth and last event.

Peters had been up against two Germans, Heidi Rosendahl of the West and Berglinde Pollak from the East. Respected athletics journalist Mel Watman and Mary's coach Buster McShane had calculated what was required.

"He didn't confuse me with figures and decimal points, it simply had to be the fastest I'd ever run", Peters wrote.

BBC Television commentator Ron Pickering came to the same conclusion. "Cm'on Mary you need the run of your life," he roared.

As she finished the race in fourth, Pickering asked "is it enough?"

At length, the scoreboard confirmed the truth. It was, her life would never be the same again.

"I leaned over the edge to let anyone see and touch the medal that Northern Ireland had brought away from the Olympics. It wasn't mine, it was ours", she said of one occasion.

Peters had been born in Liverpool but had grown up in Belfast.

She was first chosen for the 1958 Commonwealth Games in Cardiff as a 19 year old.

The book charts her three Olympics selections and her successes at the Commonwealth Games.

There are also more sinister moments when she received death threats.

There was also the tragic loss of coach McShane in a car crash.

At the time of her Olympic victory Peters had called for a new track to be built in Belfast.

"If the Olympic victory gave me any privilege to value above all others it was the opportunity to draw attention to the abysmal standards of athletics facilities in my hometown,"

How it was achieved is detailed in the book which has been updated with the help of Belfast Journalist Jim Gracey. The growth of the Mary Peters Trust is an important part.

The new material contains includes Moscow 1980 and Los Angeles 1984, her two Olympics as athletics team manager which she describes as "like herding kittens".

In 2012, she was one of the great names invited to nominate a young athlete as one of the final Torch-lighters.

She chose Katie Kirk, one of the 4000 young people her Trust had helped.

As a former Lord Lieutenant of Belfast and a knight of the Garter, she was also invited to process through Westminster Abbey at the Coronation of King Charles III.

It is no accident that the cover of the book is decorated with tributes from sports personalities

“An unparalleled influence in sport in Northern Ireland,” Dame Kelly Holmes insisted.

In his foreword, Lord Coe concludes “Mary is royalty in Northern Ireland.”

There are many who will agree.

Many more will enjoy this volume which contains some remarkable photographs from her life. In the vast majority there is a familiar beaming smile.

DIE SPORTLICH HEITEREN UND POLITISCH GESCHEITERTEN OLYMPISCHEN SPIELE MÜNCHEN '72. ZUM GEDENKEN AN WALTER TRÖGER

DETLEF KUHLMANN / HARALD PIEPER / ULRICH SCHULZE FORSTHÖVEL (ED.)

ARETE-VERLAG, HILDESHEIM, 2023, IN GERMAN

22.00 EUR 210 PAGES,

EUR ISBN 978-3-96423-112-3

REVIEWED BY ALBERT MEHL



When have so many greats of German sports journalism and members of the Association of German Sports Journalists (VPS) been brought together in one publication? The Munich 1972 Olympics have inspired Walter Mirwald, Christoph Fischer, Bianka Schreiber-Rietig, Steffen Haffner, Günter Deister, Holger Kühner, Anno Hecker to combine with other illustrious names from almost all areas of organised sport. The contribution of Walther Tröger, who was the mayor of the Olympic Village was also very important. The title may appear a little unwieldy, but the 54 authors have dealt with both topics in a readable, informative and empathetic fashion.

A year on from the 50th anniversary of the last Games under the sign of the five rings on German

soil, this volume offers several new perspectives. Part one of the work also deals with Tröger’s work in the Olympic Village, especially in the hours of the Palestinian attack on Israeli Olympic participants on September 5th. It was an event which turned cheerful Games into a tragic event overnight.

Above all, this volume is about the impact this major sporting event has made to the present day. For example, Holger Preuß sheds light on the subsequent use of sports facilities (“a model for success”, he concludes. Thomas Weber and Elisabeth Keilmann examine the beginning of Olympic pastoral care, Andreas Klages sees the Games as a source of inspiration for German sport and Manfred Lämmer reviews the development of German-Israeli relations, despite or perhaps because of the assassination attempt.

The twelve contributions in Part one alone are a valuable read, whilst other contributions of various lengths in memory of Walter Tröger round off the book. The three editors reveal that they initially wanted to publish the book not just about, but in conjunction with a major sports administrator of the 20th century. There had been discussions, but the idea was made impossible by Tröger’s death on December 30th, 2020 at the age of 91. A wide variety of authors such as figure skating star Marika Kilius (“The sports companion of my life”), Frankfurt’s former mayor Petra Roth (“Counsellor and friend of the sports city of Frankfurt”), sports journalist Evi Simeoni (“A pragmatic networker”) or his former secretary Ruth Keszegh (“Many years my boss”) and others such as sports philosopher Hans Lenk (“A shared Olympic-nostalgic smile”), basketball official Ingo Weiss (“What would Walther say?”), stamp collector Thomas Lippert (“The philatelist Walther Tröger”) and Olympic walking champion Peter Frenkel (“And Walther Tröger will be there after all”) shed light on the most diverse facets of one of the most important people German sport has ever produced. They have created a literary monument worthy of him.

Film Review: “The Boys in the Boat”

THE BOYS IN THE BOAT

RUNNING TIME 3 HOURS
METRO GOLDWYN MAYER
DIRECTED BY GEORGE
CLOONEY

REVIEWED BY MYLES
GARCIA



How many bodies does it take to win an Olympic gold medal in the Men’s eight’s in Rowing?

Wrong if you said eight, correct if you said nine, for the coxswain (cox) should not be forgotten.

And how many camera angles and other means can be used to make the spirit of rowing endlessly fascinating and captivating to watch on screen, even though you know who will win?

The answer is a myriad of camera angles accompanied by an exceptional musical score.

And this is precisely what this film, directed by George Clooney achieved.

“The Boys in the Boat” brings to life the unlikely story of a truly amateur junior Varsity Men’s rowing crew of 1936 from the University of Washington who outshone the senior “A” crew and then went on to gold medal glory at the Berlin Olympics.

I’ve always liked rowing or at least watching it. It is something I look forward to at the Olympics. I especially enjoy the eights because there is just something so beyond expression in watching the majestic symmetry of eight bodies pulling as one.

I had many reservations before seeing this film. Early on, I failed to see how they could make this story relevant in today’s polyglot world when the heroes were average white young American men from the 1930s. They would then test their mettle against other similar crews from the Ivy League

universities, then against Germany, Italy, Britain, France, Hungary in Berlin. Rowing was (and still is) a very “first world” sport.

The film is based on Daniel James Brown’s 2013 best seller. It was well written, but I didn’t think it was a stroke of genius. Brown had stumbled on the story of Joe Rantz (and the team) because they happened to be neighbours in later years in Washington State. At its heart, it’s a “hard luck and pluck” story. Yet I wondered, would the American story (accidentally come upon) be more compelling than, say, the equivalent of rival crews from Germany or Italy? Why should the story of Joe Rantz matter more than the others?

My doubts were unfounded for the film does not wallow in the “down-on-your-luck” back story of Rantz and the crew. They’ve also thrown in two female roles and also diversified the ethnic story of the Games by including a moment with Jesse Owens who dominated those Games, and eclipsed the rowers who were then little known.

The film is a technical triumph in both storytelling and period detail. In the inter-collegiate race in Poughkeepsie which was to determine which crew would go on to Berlin, they recreated the train that ran along the shores of the Hudson. This carried spectators in tiers, following the race over that two-mile course. Most of the exterior and water scenes were shot in England. A stretch of water in Surrey filled in for Lake Washington, the Hudson river and the Grenau regatta course in Berlin. Special mention must go to film composer Alexander Desplat for a consistently stirring and inventive score, which made each rowing scene seem fresh and novel.

While I wouldn’t rank it up there with *Breaking Away* or *Chariots of Fire*, as it is quite predictable, it still embodies the Olympic spirit very well. As the world looks forward to Paris 2024 and Los Angeles 2028, it is dispiriting to know that the rowing events of 2028 will be competed on a shortened course of only 1500m in Long Beach, unless some other solution is found. Quel dommage.



“All for One (and one for all)” – The Four Olympic Musketeers

by Sunil Sabharwal, Secretary General, CIPF

Taking a leaf out of Alexandre Dumas’ classic piece, we are excited to announce a collaborative event being planned during the Paris Olympics. Recognized organizations are an important fabric of the Olympic Community, tackling, or should we say “*dueling*” different aspects of the Games and its diverse stakeholders. In a first of a kind gathering (as far as we can recall) four time-tested organizations, Panathlon International (founded in 1921), the Pierre de Coubertin Committee (1931), the International Fair Play Committee (“CIPF”, 1963), and the International Society of Olympic Historians (“ISOH”, 1984) plan to gather and debate how they are stronger, “together”. While it is hard to forecast the full breadth of ideas that may emerge from such a sequence of “parries and ripostes”, one could imagine how wide-ranging they could be. Recommend a joint research or educational projects on ethics / fair play? Or share advocacy efforts to promote Olympic val-

ues & social responsibility? Study potential impacts of new initiatives such as e-sports, and their potential impact on Olympic legacy. Or study the potential return of “long-forgotten” Olympic sports, such as “tug-of-war”, the simplest team event that one could ever imagine, and its potential messaging and unifying power...

If all goes according to plan a joint declaration will be the final “*touché*”.

Those interested in receiving an invitation should contact any one of the 4 organizations with which they have an affiliation. Capacity is extremely limited, and attendees will need to bear their own expenses and make their own travel arrangements.



The ‘real boys in the boat’
a scene from the actual
1936 Olympic regatta

© 1936 IOC / H. KUTSCHERA

By Philip Barker



The announcement that Cricket is to return to the Olympic programme for the 2028 Games in Los Angeles would surely have gladdened the heart of Pierre de Coubertin because it was one of the first sports that he learned about in his youth.

By the middle of the 18th century Cricket was already an organised sport.

The Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) was founded in 1787 and to this day, retains responsibility for the laws.

It became established in the “Public” schools in England, fee paying institutions where sport became an important aspect of life.

It was mentioned on a number of occasions in Tom Brown’s Schooldays, a story by Thomas Hughes in which the main character was Tom Brown, a fictional pupil at Rugby School in the English Midlands.

The book included a description of a cricket match. “Football and cricket, now one comes to think of it, are such much better games than fives or hare and hounds, or any others where the object is to come in first or to win for oneself, and not that one’s side may win”, Tom Brown says in the book.

The book was serialised and published in France where the young Coubertin was one of many who read it.

Later his visits to Rugby and other English “Public” schools were pivotal in his understanding of the English way of sport.

At Rugby, he is said to have meditated in the school chapel and expressed his admiration for Dr Thomas Arnold, who had been Headmaster until his death in 1842.

Rugby was a school where both rugby union and cricket enjoyed a great tradition.

Coubertin also visited Eton, both institutions where cricket was well established.

In 1889, he wrote about English education in France and detailed the programme on offer at the Ecole Monge in Paris.

“On one of the great lawns in the woods, some pupils are even playing cricket, if you please.”

In 1894, Coubertin drew up a list of eminent individuals to support his ideas to revive the Olympics. The respected French historian Jean Durry dis-

covered a document that revealed the personalities Coubertin hoped to recruit as members of his IOC. Among them names was Colonel George Robert Canning Harris, better known as Lord Harris, a grandee of the MCC.

Ultimately, Harris was never called upon.

But Coubertin would seem to have been enthusiastic about cricket’s position in the Olympic firmament.

A few months after the meeting at the Sorbonne which had formally agreed to revive the Games, an official bulletin was produced to publicise the intended programme for the first Olympics of the Modern Era to be held in Athens.

In November 1894, Coubertin addressed the Parnassus Society in Athens.

“Cricket would take place on the plain,” Coubertin informed them.

Yet when the Games took place in 1896, cricket was not played.

The sport was however included at the 1900 Games in Paris.

It was originally planned that there would be a four team tournament. Teams from Belgium and the Netherlands were originally to have taken part but both withdrew.

A team from the South West of England, drawn from Blundell’s School in Devon and Castle Cary Cricket Club in Somerset travelled over to Paris to represent Britain.

There they met the Standard Athletic Club comprised mostly of British expatriates some of whom had originally worked on the construction of the Eiffel Tower.

The British team won a 12 a side match in which both sides batted twice by 158 runs.

Both teams wore the traditional white clothing and the match was played on the infield of the Velodrome de Vincennes.

Reports of the match do not mention whether Coubertin attended but he did watch cricket in an four years later and at Lord’s Cricket Ground.

In 1904, the IOC held their Session in London for the first time. At the time, the British Olympic Association had not yet been formally established.

There were however already IOC members in Britain. The Reverend Robert De Courcy Laffan and Sir Howard Vincent set about seeking assistance from



Fig. 1: The Velodrome de Vincennes in Paris was the venue when cricket was played at the 1900 Olympics in Paris.

© Philip Barker



Fig. 2: The pavilion at Lord's Cricket Ground where Coubertin and his fellow IOC members were entertained to watch play in the Middlesex versus South Africa match.

© Barker archive



Fig. 3: The grounds of the Villa Borghesi are now used for equestrian sport on a regular basis.

© Philip Barker



Fig. 4: When the 1908 Olympics were originally awarded to Rome, Coubertin hoped that cricket would take place at the Villa Borghesi.

© La Vie Au Grand Air

other sporting officials.

These included Football Association President Lord Kinnaird, a man who also had close connections with the Marylebone Cricket Club.

Kinnaird sent a message to an MCC committee meeting asking that the club would be "glad to see a deputation of the St Louis exhibition of about 12 in number in the pavilion."

Although the memorandum does not mention the IOC or the Olympics by name, the Games were to take place in St Louis in 1904 so it is easy to see why Kinnaird used the term.

Amongst those charged with making arrangements for the visit to Lord's were two eminent cricketing personalities.

Lord Darnley was previously known as the Hon Ivo Bligh. In 1883, he had been presented with a small terracotta urn. Known as "The Ashes, this became symbolic of test cricket between Australia and En-

gland. Charles Burgess Fry was a dual international at football and cricket who had equalled the world record for the long jump.

The programme for the IOC Session published in the newspapers mistakenly reported that the IOC were to visit a match between MCC and South Africa as one of their excursions.

In fact, they witnessed some of the play in the match between Middlesex and the South Africans. Middlesex are a county cricket club which is a tenant at Lord's.

Coubertin and his wife Marie stayed at the Hans Crescent Hotel in London's Knightsbridge, A fellow guest was the Italian IOC member Count Eugenio Brunetta D'Usseaux.

The session was also to decide which city was to host the 1908 Games and the The Italians were about to propose that Rome be selected as host city "I wanted Rome because there alone, after its ex-

cursion to utilitarian America, would Olympism be able to don the sumptuous toga with which I had wanted to clothe it from the beginning”, Coubertin said. When the decision was made, a telegram was sent informing the Italian King.

He then drew up a what he described as “A Project Financier” in which he included provision.

“I thought I would assist the organisers of the celebration now eagerly anticipated by the entire world by drafting this memorandum to resolve the problem how can we arrange the 1908 Games to be celebrated under conditions which are both as advantageous as possible for the city and as satisfactory as possible for the Olympic institution”, Coubertin explained.

“There is no reason to expect many teams to enter for the football or the cricket, four or five matches in all is the most that need to be expected”, Coubertin forecast.

I think 2000 francs will be enough for football and the cricket.

“I think it will be easy to find a venue for the games at the Villa Borghese, otherwise they can take place along with the polo at the new hippodrome.

It is not necessary to draw up special rules for the Olympic Games, we recommend the Marylebone Cricket Club.”

Coubertin’s plans proved in vain because in 1906, Rome withdrew from hosting, ostensibly as a result of the disaster when Vesuvius erupted although financial problems behind the scenes had dogged organisers from the outset.

Although the 1908 Games were held in London, a place where cricket was widely played, organisers rejected the sport.

“The main principle laid down for 1908 was that no competition should be sanctioned which was not practised by several different nations,” the official report stated.

“Baseball and cricket were rejected from the British Olympic programme, because the practice of these games was too restricted in character for the purposes of an international competition.

Although Coubertin had tried to include cricket, his speeches and articles reveal a realism.

“Cricket has practically no appeal for those who are not British”, Coubertin wrote in 1909.

Coubertin was also familiar with the other sports which were chosen for addition to LA28.

“At least so far it seems that you must be American to have a taste for baseball, Lacrosse is almost exclusively a Canadian game.”

Flag football is not thought to have been introduced until the 1940s but Coubertin had witnessed its “parent sport”, gridiron football.



Fig. 5: Lord’s was the setting for archery in 2012. It is one of only three test cricket grounds to stage Olympic events.

The others are the Melbourne Cricket Ground (1956 and 2000) and the Woolongabba in Brisbane (2000).

© Philip Barker



Fig. 6: The Japan Cricket Association believe that the inclusion of cricket will help them increase participation.

© Philip Barker

On Thanksgiving Day 1893, he accompanied William Milligan Sloane to watch Princetown beat Yale.

“American football rules seemed to the English player devoid of common sense.”

His trips to the United States also gave him the chance to observe baseball which has been restored to the programme for 2028.

“Baseball is extremely simple in terms of its rules but it is quite difficult to play,”

In the build up to the 1900 Games in Paris, Coubertin wrote about the inclusion of baseball at the Games.

“If the American residents in France succeeded in form a baseball team to play another team from America, this contest will receive the patronage and support of the Committee of the Exposition which might give a prize,” Coubertin suggested.

Although squash was not an Olympic sport, Coubertin certainly knew about other racquet sports such as jeu de paume which had taken shape in Paris.

In fact competitions in jeu de paume were included at the 1908 Olympics in London held at Queen’s Club in the Baron’s Court area of West London.

Indigenous Athletes at the Olympics 1904–12

By James Ring Adams*



The eight years from the St. Louis Olympics of 1904, to the Stockholm Games of 1912, could be said to encompass both the worst and one of the all-time best in terms of the experience of indigenous American competitors. Stockholm represented the peak of performance for first nation peoples at the Olympics, and not just because of the celebrated triumphs of Jim Thorpe in the decathlon and pentathlon.

Later there came fascinating stories of men such as ice hockey player Taffy Abel, who won silver at the 1924 Chamonix Winter Olympics¹, Ellison “Tarzan” Brown, who raced in the 1936 Berlin Olympic marathon, but withdrew after 30 kilometres², and Billy Mills, who won 10,000 metres gold at the 1964 Tokyo Games (A list of notable competitors can be found on page 76).³

This paper concentrates on a limited story arc when there was a remarkable surge in Olympics success from people drawn from Indigenous groups.

So although Indigenous sports established their own championships, these will not be considered here⁴ nor is there scope for the interesting topic of Indigenous representation in the Opening Ceremonies or the passage through the native lands of Indigenous torch-bearers in the Torch Relay.

We will consider conditions which made this performance surge possible but which seem to be lacking today. At the same time ways of thinking which are deeply repugnant today will be encountered. If sometimes I might seem too indignant or strident, I can tell you that many of my colleagues will feel that I’m not indignant enough.

Any good narrative needs a villain. We have several, two of whom were senior figures in the past history of my own employer, the Smithsonian Institution. They were proponents of a deeply racist pseudo-science.

The main villain was the dominant personality in the early American Olympic movement and still known as a major figure in amateur athletics. James E. Sullivan, an Irish-American sports writer, editor and sporting goods promoter. He was a founder of the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU). The “Sullivan Award,” presented annually to the outstanding United States athlete of the year was named in his

honour. He was American commissioner for the Olympics of 1904, 1906, 1908 and 1912. He was also the principal organizer of the notorious St. Louis Olympics of 1904. He bears primary blame for the most shameful, blatantly racist events of the 1904 games, the so-called “Anthropology Days”.

St. Louis 1904: the Side-Show Olympics

The 1904 Games were an adjunct to one of the great international expositions of the time, just as the 1900 Games in Paris had been. In 1904, however, the Olympics were virtually swallowed up by the greater spectacle of the Louisiana Purchase International Exposition, still celebrated in movies and song.

(The American purchase of the Louisiana territory from France actually took place in 1803, but the plans for the St. Louis Centennial were so ambitious they ran a year behind schedule.)

The setting was tailor-made to celebrate indigenous Americans. St. Louis and its French merchant houses were the hub for trade with the tribes of the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountains. Less remembered, it was the site of the greatest pre-European urban centre north of Mexico. The site now called Cahokia housed a greater population in 1200 AD than London or Paris at the same time. The Mississippian culture left behind many tells (small hills covering remains of ancient human habitation) that early European settlers called St. Louis “Mound City”, until the structures were razed for paving materials.

Ignoring this archaeological past, the World’s Fair was designed to show the progress of humanity from “savagery” to American-style civilization. The Fair’s director of ethnology, William John “WJ” McGee, devoted himself to assembling a “human zoo” ranging from Patagonian giants to African pygmies. He had previously been chief ethnologist for the American Bureau of Ethnology, since incorporated into the Smithsonian.⁵ The Fair included a Philippines Reservation with 1200 Igorot tribesmen, imported to show off the latest acquisition of the new American Empire.

The Fair took special pride in demonstrating the “civilizing” of the American Indian. The displays of tribal villages led up to an Indian boarding school.



Fig. 1: Frank Pierce in the 1904 Marathon

Courtesy of Cumberland County Historical Society, Carlisle, PA

The Fort Shaw school which was transplanted in its entirety to the fairgrounds for an entire semester. Girls from the school formed a basketball team which played and beat all-comers. In retrospect they have been described as the first women's world basketball champions.

(One of their most ardent fans was the great Apache warrior widely known as Geronimo, who was on display at the Fair under a United States Army guard.) The edifying display of the assimilationist, and now deeply controversial, Indian boarding school system sat uneasily with the more sensational displays of "savage" Indians on the midway, the "Pike". Officials in charge of the school objected to the "barbarous features" of the concession granted to the Cummins Wild West Indian Congress modeled on Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West reenactments.⁶

The Indian presence had some positive impact on the Olympics themselves.

Lacrosse, an Iroquois national game, was included as part of the sporting programme. An Iroquois

club from Brantford, Ontario, represented the Six Nations Reserve in Canada. The team finished third of the three entrants. It was still enough for the Haudenosaunee Confederacy to claim the bronze for itself as a sovereign nation.

The Haudenosaunee successfully participated at the 2022 World Games in Birmingham and could well make a case for participation of such a team in the lacrosse sixes, which are to be included at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

Native participation was however beset by a dark under-current among the Olympic organizers, a fascination with human experimentation on behalf of often racist pseudo-science.

As Nancy J Parezo has recounted in detail, the Exposition worked hand in hand with the emerging field of anthropology and its adjunct anthropometry, devoted to measuring the differences among human groups. WJ McGee used his position as the Fair's director of anthropology to advance his elaborate theory of anthropogeny, claiming to show hu-



Fig. 2: Frank Mount Pleasant finished sixth in both triple jump and long jump at the 1908 Olympics in London

Courtesy of Cumberland County Historical Society, Carlisle, PA

man evolution by comparing different racial groups and concluding that (northern) European-American culture was its culmination.⁷

Ales Hrdlicka, another leading physical anthropologist of the day and a member of the Smithsonian, travelled to St. Louis to harvest specimens from deceased subjects of the Philippine Reservation for his "Racial Brain Collection"⁸. Even so, it was James Sullivan, along with WJ McGee, who pushed this tendency to its most repugnant expression.

The Strange, Bizarre Disastrous Games

The first sign of trouble came in the first major event, the marathon. It started pleasantly enough, with Frank Pierce of the Seneca tribe leading the pack in the first lap around the stadium track.

Then, the 90-degree heat and dust cloud stirred up by the escort cars soon took their toll. There is a remarkable mid-race photo of the eventual winner Tom Hicks, being supported by his handlers. During the race they twice fed him a concoction of raw eggs, brandy and strychnine. Compounding the ordeal, race organisers had provided only one or two watering stations. This, Sullivan said later, was his own decision, as an experiment to see the effects of "deliberate dehydration.

This penchant for human experimentation produced the most notorious episode of these games,

the so-called "Anthropology Days." Sullivan, who was director of Physical Culture for the Exposition, set out to test, or disprove, the statement that Indigenous peoples were "natural athletes."

"We have for years been led to believe," he wrote, "that the average savage (sic) was fleet of foot, strong of limb, accurate with the bow and arrow and expert in throwing the stone."⁹

He recruited contestants from the "human zoo" assembled by McGee and arranged two days of competition in both Euro-American track and field and what he thought were indigenous sports. He also invited "scientific observers."¹⁰

The results were what might be expected from untrained, often bewildered contestants chosen more or less at random. Sullivan wrote that the best times achieved on the track were such that "almost any winner of a schoolboy event could eclipse at will." He did admit that some of the competitors weren't that interested: "with the pygmies, however, it is only fair to state that they entered into the spirit of this competition for fun and only became interested in the pole climbing and their mud fight."¹¹

This sorry record does include one surprising name, W. Dietz "of the Sioux tribe." This, confirms his biographer Tom Benjey, was William "Lone Star" Dietz, who went on to play football for the Carlisle Indian Industrial School. Dietz also coached college and professional teams. His team from Eastern Washington State won the first revival of the Rose Bowl, when Pasadena brought it back after a decade of replacing it with chariot races.

He also led the Boston Redskins. He was apparently responsible for its controversial name, introduced before the club moved to Washington, D.C. The trouble is that Dietz appears to have been an imposter. An investigator alleged a decade ago that he was a non-Indian who, for whatever reason assumed the identity of a Lakota named 'Lone Star'.¹² Oblivious to these inconvenient details, Sullivan claimed the experiments had been a success, "that scientific men will refer to for many years to come. Lecturers and authors will in the future please omit all reference to the natural athletic ability of the savage, unless they can substantiate their alleged feats."¹³

Others were not as impressed. Pierre de Coubertin, for one, was horrified by what he described in his Olympic Memoirs as "an outrageous charade."

For indigenous athletes, the task in years ahead was also to refute the bad impression of the Anthropology Days and to show they could compete successfully in the authentic Olympic arena. The refutation of Sullivan began toward the end of the Fair, when a crowd of 12,000 paid to watch an exhibition football

game between the Carlisle Indian Industrial School and Haskell Institute, two powerhouses of the Indigenous community, (Bemus Pierce, older brother of marathoner Franklin, was assistant coach for Carlisle.) The name of Carlisle was soon to be even more closely linked with the Olympics.

Carlisle Comes to the Fore: London 1908

The Carlisle Institute, which had been established in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, was a social experiment in assimilation, launched by the U.S. Army in 1879. It was founded by Richard Henry Pratt, a captain in the Tenth Cavalry. Pratt had earlier introduced educational programmes at a prisoner of war camp for Indian captives from the Red River war. His curriculum of English-language instruction in trades became the model for an extensive system of “off-reservation” boarding schools. This is now a highly criticised scheme. Many if not most of its unwilling recruits suffered extreme dislocation and in some places, there was also appalling abuse. The system is often charged with “cultural genocide.” But a look at the later years of Carlisle gives a different, more nuanced picture.

Students petitioned Superintendent Pratt to allow a football team. (Initially he had opposed it as too “brutalizing”) As a result Carlisle athletics became nationally famous. The football team played and beat some of the best collegiate teams. Considering that the Indian Wars had ended less than a generation earlier, Carlisle won surprising support from the Euro-American crowds. Revenues from the tour were substantial making Carlisle one of the first collegiate sports teams to become widely known. Its track and field programme came close behind, especially since its most famous football coach, Glenn Scobie “Pops” Warner, coached both. Although there were no athletes from Carlisle at the 1906 Games in Athens, the 1908 London Games did prove a showcase for its talent. Two Carlisle students qualified for the U.S. team. One was Frank Mount Pleasant (Tuscarora), quarterback of the football team, who finished 6th in both long jump and triple jump. Mount Pleasant was a pioneer of the forward passing game in football as Warner and his students exploited the speed and mobility introduced by President Theodore Roosevelt’s reform of the rules. The second was Lewis (or Louis) Tewanima, a slight, emaciated Hopi who was the school’s long-distance running super-star. Tewanima’s village on Arizona’s Second Mesa had refused to send its children to a government school, and Tewanima had been taken to Carlisle as a virtual “prisoner of war.” Tewanima was already deeply imbued with the Hopi running tradition; he and his friends used



Fig. 3: Mount Pleasant was also a talented college footballer and later coached the sport.

Courtesy of Cumberland County Historical Society, Carlisle, PA

to run from their village to the railroad tracks near Winslow to watch trains go by, a distance by road of 120 miles, (although Tewanima admitted they knew a short-cut.) Tewanima finished a respectable ninth in the Marathon, ahead of the great Canadian First Nation runner Tom Longboat.

It’s not clear to what extent Carlisle provided travel support to its Olympians. They sailed with the rest of the American team on the S.S. Philadelphia. Tewanima appears in some group photos in London under the wing of New York’s Irish American Athletic



Fig. 4: Tsökahovi (Lewis) Tewanima displays the spoils of an illustrious career

Courtesy of Cumberland County Historical Society, Carlisle, PA

Club. (The group also included John Baxter Taylor Junior., the first African-American to win an Olympic gold medal.) The entire American team was given a gala reception on its return to New York, including the presentation of individual gold medals worth a total of \$3,100. The Carlisle students at this point were escorted by school faculty member Claude Stauffer, its Musical Instructor and marching band director.¹⁴

The Carlisle student newspaper report doesn't make clear whether Stauffer made the trip to London or merely attended the New York parade, but his role as chaperone to the student athletes is less

surprising considering that the marching band was a major school profit centre, after the football team. One study concluded that Stauffer "seemed to run the school in a triumvirate with Coach Warner and Superintendent Friedman."¹⁵

Stockholm Glory: 1912

By the time of the Stockholm Olympics, Carlisle had become well aware of the promotional value of the Olympics.

The events in Stockholm were dubbed "sunshine Olympics". They were stand-alone and elaborately produced. A purpose built stadium and facilities



Fig. 5: Tewanima poses with his medals and trophies in a studio shot

Courtesy of Cumberland County Historical Society, Carlisle, PA

were provided and there was nothing to divert the spotlight. The Swedish organisers set the standard for the future. The Games also proved a high point for Indigenous participation. By this time, Mount Pleasant had left Carlisle for Dickinson College, one of the small but prestigious mid-western liberal-arts colleges which was nearby, but his hopes for another Olympics were upset by injury. The indestructible Tewanima was still on hand, with four further years of experience competing in running shoes. Coach Warner had a new prospect, football star Jim Thorpe, whom he had originally recruited for athletics. Thorpe had been thinking of leaving Car-

lisle, but Warner lured him back, it is said, by dangling the prospect of a place in the Olympic team. Other Indigenous stars also sailed on the SS Finland, chartered by the American Olympic Committee (AOC) to take the team to Stockholm. Andrew Sockalexis (Penobscot) was an early favourite for the marathon. Duke Paoa Kahanamoku, the great swimmer and surfer, was on the last leg of his painfully long journey from Hawaii. Separately, Canada also sent its two dominant long-distance runners, Alexander Wuttunee Decoteau (Red Pheasant Indian Reserve Cree) and Joe Benjamin Keeper (Norway House Cree Nation).

All the Indigenous entries finished in the top ten of their events. Despite leg cramps, Decoteau finished ninth in the 5,000 metres. Keeper was fourth in the 10,000m, the best finish yet by a Canadian. Sockalexis finished fourth in the Marathon and later said he held back too long. Kahanamoku established the strong Hawaiian presence in swimming, with gold and a world record in the 100m freestyle and silver in the 200m freestyle relay. On the track, Tewanima came into his own with an impressive silver in the 10,000m. It proved the best American performance at the distance for the next half century.

There was little doubt about the star performer. Thorpe made his name as the world's best all-around athlete, with gold in decathlon and pentathlon. His record will never be equaled, because the pentathlon has been long discontinued as an Olympic event.

The results impressed even Sullivan, who had also been a passenger on the SS Finland. Forgetting his earlier dismissal of savage athletic prowess, he praised Thorpe and Tewanima in his coverage for Spalding's "Red Cover" Series of athletic handbooks. Most of Sullivan's discussion of the decathlon and pentathlon aimed to refute a European opinion that American athletes were too specialized to do well in all-around events. He argued that his countrymen could "perform meritoriously" outside of their own specialties.

He also wrote, perhaps in an unconscious foreshadowing of the coming scandal "what athlete is not an adept at our national game of baseball?"

Sullivan enthused about Thorpe. "What a shock it was when James Thorpe, that wonderful all-around athlete from the Carlisle Indian School, demolished all theories and calculations. His performances were marvelous." But Sullivan saved his most effusive prose for Tewanima's "remarkable exhibition of grit and persistency," who "stuck to his work in a true Indian fashion. All Americans can feel proud of the wonderful race that Tewanima ran against the best in the world."¹⁶

The Savage Athlete's Success

What produced this turn-around in the fortunes of the "savage" athlete? There were obvious differences from the Anthropology Days: the contestants trained, understood the rules and actually wanted to be in the Olympics.

Indigenous athletes followed three main avenues to the Games, some of them inter-mingling but all converging on Stockholm. The first, so prominent for Tewanima, was the Indigenous tradition of sacramental running, especially important in the arid Southwest.

Hopi writer and curator Susan Secakuku explained this in an article written for the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) Olympic exhibit in 2012 "It is believed that the strength and endurance put forth by us as human people through running will be witnessed by the cloud people, who will return their support for all living things by providing life-giving moisture. ...Simply running every day is your individual means to help bring the clouds, which will bring the rain.

"If a Hopi witnesses someone running, you thank them for thinking of the earth and of your survival on it."¹⁷

Second was support from local athletic and running clubs, and, as in the case of the Hawaiians, the beach clubs, the Hui Nalu.

Support from the Hui Nalu was crucial. The group put on dances and ball games and solicited funds from island businesses for the Olympic swimmers. Some scholars now see the Hui Nalu as a focus of native Hawaiian resistance to Euro-American usurpers. First started in 1905 and formally organized in 1911, it was backed by members of the deposed Hawaiian royal family, although it also had *haole* supporters. The white elite dominated Outrigger Canoe Club, athletic rivals of the Hui Nalu, also provided its far greater resources to supporting Indigenous Olympians and inducted Duke Kahanamoku as a member in 1917.¹⁸

The third source of success in the Olympics was the institutional backing of the Indian boarding schools, first and foremost due to the athletic ambitions of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School. Carlisle originally hoped to send a three-man team, but Mount Pleasant was unable to compete again because of injury. It did commit the full resources of its athletic programme Football and athletics coach Warner sailed to Stockholm with his athletes on the SS Finland. According to Thorpe's biographer Robert Wheeler, the Carlisle Athletic Association stepped in to fill a gap threatened by the reluctance of the Sullivan-dominated American Olympic Committee to pay the way for Indigenous athletes. Even so, Thorpe and his roommate Abel Kiviat were assigned to steerage rather than first class cabins for the voyage.¹⁹

The school participated fully in celebrating the return of its athletes, following their Fifth Avenue parade in New York with its own procession for Thorpe and Tewanima in a horse-drawn carriage.

Coda: The Carlisle Tragedy

The glory that Carlisle showered on Thorpe and Tewanima quickly dissipated early in the following year in the infamous controversy over Thorpe's am-



Fig. 6: Tewanima flanked by Jim Thorpe (left) and Scobie „Pops” Warner.

Courtesy of Cumberland County Historical Society, Carlisle, PA



Fig. 7: Jim Thorpe with admirers.

Courtesy of Cumberland County Historical Society, Carlisle, PA

ateur standing. The scandal, enflamed in good part by James Sullivan, flared in mid-January, 1913, when the national press spread a report that Thorpe had been paid to play minor-league baseball two summers before he qualified for the Olympic team, during a break in his Carlisle enrollment. The New York Tribune interviewed Sullivan and found that he had already planned an official response, even before investigating the case. “If Thorpe is found

guilty,” he said, “the trophies will have to be returned and his records erased from the books.” At Carlisle, Warner drafted a letter for Thorpe to copy, apologizing for the transgression.

Warner took back the medals and trophies awarded for Thorpe’s victories and sent them to Sullivan, who packaged them for shipment to Stockholm. Sullivan was in such haste to return them that he ignored a message which indicated that the Swed-

ish Olympic organizers didn't want them back. The rules for the 1912 Games set a 30-day time limit for challenges to results, a deadline long since passed. (They also required a 20 kronor deposit. There is no record that Sullivan ever paid this.)

The shabby treatment of Thorpe was so redolent of hypocrisy and scapegoating that it aroused widespread sympathy for the athlete and possibly enhanced his value when he did turn professional with a vengeance in future years. Suspicions persist that Warner, and even Sullivan, were aware before the Stockholm Games that Thorpe had played for money during the summers.

It was something that many other college athletes had done. (Possibly some subconscious thought had prompted Sullivan's remark, quoted above, about the American amateur athletes' skill at baseball.) Thorpe shrugged off the affair, never speaking of it, and retained warm feelings towards Carlisle. (He later said his days at the school were the happiest of his life.)

But his fellow students were furious at his betrayal by school officials. Thorpe's roommate, team-mate and best friend was Gus Welch, a member of the Ojibwe people from Wisconsin. Welch was also President of the student body and a model of the sophisticated Indian activist then emerging from Carlisle. He organized a petition signed by more than 200 students calling for an investigation of the school administration. It prompted a detailed government audit and a week of on-site Congressional hearings. Both Supervisor Moses Friedman and Band Director Claude Stauffer lost their positions, and Warner left for calmer waters. By 1918, the demoralized school was closed and its campus was used by the U. S. Army as a military hospital.²⁰

The aftermath of the Thorpe affair greatly limited indigenous access to the Olympics. Its rigid and disingenuous "ideal" of amateurism placed severe limits on the resources available to competitors from lower-income communities. (This class bias, in fact, was explicit in the rules drawn up by the British to define amateur status. These excluded tradesmen and the working class sportsmen.) This impact was already evident in 1912 when the great swimmer and surfer George Freeth, mentor of Kahanamoku, was ruled ineligible for the Olympic team because he worked professionally as a lifeguard.

The demise of Carlisle amid adverse scrutiny of its athletic programme greatly reduced the institutional support provided by the Indian boarding schools. The Haskell Institute of Lawrence, Kansas, eventually filled some of the gaps. It produced decathlete Wilson "Buster" Charles (Oneida) who finished fourth at the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics. Billy Mills

(Oglala Lakota), began his path to 10,000m gold at the 1964 Olympics from Haskell. Along the way, he skirted the amateur issue, as did athletes from so many other countries, by training and competing as part of his military service.

The one Olympic route that remained relatively unimpeded was the support provided by athletic clubs, and in particular the Hawaiian beach clubs. Duke Kahanamoku his indigenous countrymen who continued to win medals through to the 1930s.

Outside of Hawaii, this dearth of achievement inspired attempts to improve participation from Indigenous groups. In the case of freestyle skier Suzy Chaffee, co-founder of the Native American Olympic Team Foundation, the effort went hand in hand with sharp criticism of the exclusionary effect of Olympic rules on amateur status which were then prevalent.

The same shift in attitude sustained a parallel effort to reverse the shabby treatment of Jim Thorpe. Shortly before the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, the IOC agreed to restore Thorpe's medals to his family. The practicalities were complicated by their disappearance from the Nordic museums where they had been lodged. New medals were struck from the original moulds, located by fans of Thorpe, and they have since been proudly displayed by the National Museum of the American Indian – Smithsonian in Washington, D. C., and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Museum in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

A Sea-Change in Stereotypes

Some attitudes toward Indigenous people have changed markedly since the period of our narrative. In fact the changes were already underway from 1904 to 1912, and the appreciative spirit of the Stockholm Olympics contrasts sharply with the condescension of the Anthropology Days. Pseudo-scientific attempts at human experimentation have been largely discredited, as well as, perhaps, romantic rhetoric about the noble savage as "natural athlete." What remains is a focus on the infrastructure necessary to sustain athletic preparation for the Olympics. It must be said that, for what, with some brilliant exceptions, are still the most impoverished and least healthy segments of the U. S. population, this infrastructure is still grossly inadequate.

Endnotes

* James Ring Adams is Senior Historian National Museum of the American Indian – Smithsonian.

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On support for Olympic participation of Duke Kahanamoku: "It is with pride that the Outrigger Club can claim to have helped its rivals [the Hui Nalu] finance his first great trip abroad, and it was only because the Hui Nalu never became financially a strong body that Duke Kahanamoku finally came to the Outrigger Club and swam for that organization at the Olympiads."

I am indebted to my colleague Halena Kapuni-Reynolds for these references.

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Native North Americans at the Olympics 1904–2022

Franklyn Pierce (Seneca) **Athletics**

1904: Men's marathon – did not finish

Peter Deer (Mohawk) Canada **Athletics**

1904: Men's 1500 metres 6th

Iroquois Lacrosse Club, Brantford, Ontario, Canada
Lacrosse

(The team Roster used unidentifiable pseudonyms)

1904: Men (Haudenosaunee) – BRONZE

Frank Mount Pleasant (Tuscarora) **Athletics**

1908: Men's triple jump – 6th
long jump – 6th

Tom Longboat (Onondaga) **Athletics**

1908: Men's marathon – did not finish

Jim Thorpe (Sac and Fox) **Athletics**

1912: Men's pentathlon – GOLD
decathlon – GOLD
long jump – 7th

Tsokahovi Lewis (or Louis) Tewanima (Hopi)
Athletics

1908: Men's marathon – 9th
1912: marathon – 16th
10,000 metres – SILVER

Andrew Sockalexis (Penobscot) **Athletics**

1912: Marathon – 4th

Alexander Wuttunee Decoteau (Red Pheasant Indian
Reserve Cree) Canada – **Athletics**

1912: Athletics (5000 m 9th)

Joe Benjamin Keeper (Norway House Cree/ Metis)
Canada – **Athletics**

1912: Men's 5000 m eliminated in heat
10,000 m – 4th

Duke Paoa Kahanamoku (Native Hawaiian) **Swimming**

1912: Men's 100m freestyle – GOLD
4x200m freestyle relay – SILVER
1920: 100m freestyle – GOLD
4x200m freestyle relay – GOLD
1924: (100-m freestyle) – SILVER
1932: Water Polo – BRONZE

Samuel Kahanamoku (Native Hawaiian) **Swimming**

1924: Men's 100-m freestyle – BRONZE

Warren Kealoha (Native Hawaiian) **Swimming**

1920: Men's 100m backstroke – GOLD
1924: 100m backstroke – GOLD

Pua Kealoha (Native Hawaiian) **Swimming**

1920: Men's 100m freestyle – SILVER
4x200-m freestyle relay – GOLD

Maiola Kalili (Native Hawaiian) **Swimming**

1932: 4x200m freestyle relay – SILVER

Manuella Kalili (Native Hawaiian) **Swimming**

1932: 4x200-metres freestyle relay – SILVER
100-metres freestyle – 4th

Clarence John "Taffy" Abel (Ojibwe) **Ice Hockey**

1924: – SILVER

Aurelio Tarrazas (Tarahumara) Mexico – **Athletics**

1928: Men's Marathon

Jose Torres (Tarahumara) Mexico – **Athletics**

1928: Men's Marathon 35th

Wilson "Buster" Charles (Oneida) – **Athletics**

1932: Men's Decathlon – 4th

Ellison Myers "Tarzan" Brown (Narragansett)
Athletics

1936: Men's Marathon

Jess Bernard "Cab" Renik (Chickasaw) **Basketball**

1948: – Men's GOLD

William Melvin "Bill" Smith, Jr. (Native Hawaiian)
Swimming

1948: Men's 400-metres freestyle – GOLD
800-metres freestyle relay – GOLD

William Winston "Billy" Kidd (Abenaki) **Alpine Skiing**

1964: Men's Slalom – SILVER
Giant Slalom (Downhill) – 8th
1968: Giant slalom (Downhill) – 5th

William Mervin “Billy” Mills (Oglala Lakota)

1964: (10,000 metres) – GOLD

Pedro “Pete” Velasco (Native Hawaiian) **Volleyball**

1964:

1968: Team captain

Ben Nighthorse Campbell (Northern Cheyenne) **Judo**

1964: Open – 6th

Sharon Firth (Gwich'in) Canada **Cross Country Skiing**

1972: Women's 5km – 26th

10km – 24th

3x5km relay – 10th

1976: 5km – 29th

10km – 28th

4x5km relay – 7th

1980: 5km – 35th

1984: 5km – 29th

10 km – 29th

20km – 21st

Shirley Firth (Gwich'in) Canada – **Cross Country Skiing**

1972: Women's 5km – 35th

3x5km relay – 10th

1976: 5km – 27th

10km – 29th

4x5km relay – 7th

1980: 5km – 28th

10km – 24th

4x5 km relay – 8th

1984: 5km – 28th

10km – 22nd

20km – 25th

Roseanne Allen (Gwich'in) Canada **Cross Country Skiing**

1972: Women's 5km – 40th

3x5 km relay – 10th

Henry Boucha (Ojibwe) **Ice Hockey**

1972: – SILVER

Daniel V Foster (Western Band Cherokee)

1972 Men's Handball – selected for team but broke foot and forced to withdraw

1976 – coach

Alwyn Morris (Kahnawake Mohawk) Canada **Canoeing**

1984: 500m kayak doubles BRONZE

1000 m kayak doubles – GOLD

Greg Louganis (Samoan heritage) **Diving**

1976: Men's Platform – SILVER

Men's Springboard – 6th

1984: Men's Platform – GOLD

Men's Springboard – GOLD

1988: Men's Platform – GOLD

Men's Springboard – GOLD

Angela Chalmers (Dakota) Canada **Athletics**

1988: Women's 3000m – 14th

1500m – heats

1992: 3000m – BRONZE

1500m – heats

Todd Riech (Flathead & Kootenai) **Athletics**

1996: Javelin – 17th

Chris Becerra (Omaha) **Para athletics**

1996: 800m wheelchair – BRONZE

Waneek Horn-Miller (Kahnawake Mohawk) Canada **Water Polo**

2000: women's – 5th

Theoron Wallace Fleury (Metis, Cree) Canada**Ice Hockey**

1998: 4th

2002: Ice hockey – GOLD

Gayle Hatch (Delaware)

2004: Weightlifting, Head coach

Naomi Lang (Karuk) **Ice Dancing**

2006: 11th

Caroline Darbyshire-McRory (Metis) Canada **Curling**

2010: Women's – SILVER

Monica Pinette (Metis) Canada **Modern Pentathlon**

2004: women's – 13th

2008: 26th

Callan Chythlook-Sifsof (Yupik) **Snowboarding**

2010: women's snowboard cross – 21st

Caroline Calvé (Algonquin) Canada **Snowboarding**

2010: Women's parallel giant slalom – 20th

2014: parallel giant slalom – 6th

Parallel slalom – women 26th

Tumuaialii “Tumua” Anae (Pacific Islander)**Water Polo**

2012: Women's squad member – GOLD

1863 – 2024

Paris to Paris – an Olympic Timeline

1863

Coubertin was born on New Years Day at 20, Rue Oudinot, a street in the seventh arrondissement of Paris.



1892

At the Union des Sociétés Française de Sport athlétiques (USFSA) Coubertin made the closing address on 25th November.

“I hope that you will help me as you have helped me thus far and I shall be able to continue and realise, on a basis appropriate to the conditions of modern life, this grandiose and beneficent work, the re-establishment of the Olympic Games.” Coubertin told delegates.

1894

Coubertin organised a Congress at the Sorbonne which took place from June 16th to June 24th. It explored such themes as the definition of an amateur and also “Of the possibility of reviving the Olympic Games. Under what conditions could they be revived?”

As part of the festivities, the composer Gabriel Faure set to music the newly discovered Hymn to Apollo. “Hellenism infiltrated into the whole vast hall. From this moment, the Congress was destined to succeed. I knew that now, whether consciously or not, no one would vote against the revival of the Olympic Games”, Coubertin declared.

Dimetrios Vikelas, a Greek who lived in Paris, attended the congress as the representative of Greek sporting organisations. He called for Athens to host the first Modern Olympics.

“Athens was selected to the accompaniment of wild applause”, Coubertin recorded.

It was agreed that Paris should host the second Olympic Games in 1900.

1900

The Olympic Games were staged in Paris but as part of a great exposition. Sports competitions ran from May 14th to October 28th.

1239 competitors from 21 countries took part in 95 events which have now been accepted as of Olympic status. Many other competitions also took place.

1906

An Olympic Congress was held from May 23rd to May 26th. This was described as “advisory”,

Held at the Comedie Francaise and Touring Club in Paris, its main subject was the integration of artistic contests in the Olympic Games.

It was resolved to introduce these, but this did not happen until Stockholm 1912.

1914

An IOC Session and Congress was held in Paris. Celebrations were held to mark the 20th anniversary of the foundation of the IOC. The gathering was notable for the festivities held.

It was the first IOC function at which the Olympic Flag was displayed.

Delegates were told about preparations for the 1916 Olympics which had been scheduled for Berlin but were ultimately never celebrated because of the war.

1921

At the IOC Session, Coubertin persuaded his fellow IOC members to grant Paris the right to host the 1924 Olympics. At the same time Amsterdam was installed for the 1928 Games.

“No one will deny that he is entitled to ask that a special gesture should be made in favour of his native city, Paris.”

Coubertin described the manoeuvre as “a masterly coup d’etat.”

1924

An experimental Winter Sports Week was held in Chamonix from January 24th to February 5th. 312 athletes from 19 nations took part in 17 medal events.

1924

Olympic Games held in Paris, competition began on May 4th, although the official Opening Ceremony was not held until July 5th at Stade Colombes. 3257 athletes from 45 nations took part in the Games They were the last with Coubertin as IOC President. The 30th anniversary of the IOC was commemorated with a series of events.

1955

The IOC Session was attended by 62 of the 69 members. This was the highest attendance at an Olympic meeting up to that time.

“At all the Meetings held in Paris, the delegates displayed great activity and the work accomplished will, no doubt, bring excellent results.” an IOC Report said.

Rome was chosen to host the 1960 Olympics. The city defeated Lausanne by 35 votes to 24 in the third round of voting. Tokyo, Brussels, Mexico City, Detroit and Budapest had previously been eliminated.

Squaw Valley defeated Innsbruck 32–30 in the second round of voting for the 1960 Winter Olympics. St Moritz and Garmisch Partenkirchen were the other candidates.

The session had opened at the Sorbonne with the playing of the Olympic Hymn composed by Michel Spisak, a Polish composer resident in Paris. The work was the winner of a contest organised by Prince Pierre of Monaco which attracted 387 entries.

“I believe in all conscience that musically our hymn is of very high quality,” said Prince Pierre of Monaco. The work was “unanimously adopted as the official Olympic Hymn.”

1967

The Olympic Flame passed through Paris on its way to Grenoble for the 1968 Winter Olympics. 1960 Olympic downhill skiing champion Jean Vuarnet received the Torch at Orly Airport on December 19th. It was also carried by 1956 marathon gold medallist Alain Mimoun.

1986

Paris was one of six cities which presented bids for the 1992 Olympics at the IOC Session held at the Palais de Beaulieu in Lausanne.

In the vote taken on October 17th, Barcelona polled 47 votes to defeat Paris 23, Brisbane 10 and Belgrade 5 in the third round of voting. Amsterdam and Birmingham had previously been eliminated.

Earlier, Albertville had polled 51 votes to defeat Sofia 25 and Falun 9 in the race for the Winter Olympics.

There had also been bids from Berchtesgaden, Anchorage, Cortina d’Ampezzo and Lillehammer.

1991 The Flame was flown to Paris by Concorde on December 15th to begin the domestic portion of the Olympic Torch Relay for the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville. On December 28th the Flame visited Mirville in Normandy, a chateau where Coubertin had spent time during his childhood.



Fig. 1: A plaque at Rue Oudinot to commemorate the birthplace of Pierre de Coubertin.

©Philip Barker



Fig. 2: The sporting activities at Rugby School were an important inspiration for Coubertin.

©Philip Barker



Fig. 3: Coubertin visited the chapel at Rugby School.

©Philip Barker



Fig. 4: Paris mounted an unsuccessful bid for the 1992 Olympics.

© Paris 1992 bid

1994

On June 23rd, The IOC Executive Board gathered in the Octave Gréard Room at the Sorbonne for a “Sol-lemn Commemoration” This had been one of the rooms where meetings had taken place in 1894. IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch was joined by his predecessor Lord Killanin, IOCExecutive Board Members, French IOC members Maurice Herzog, Philippe Chatrier and Honorary Member Comte Jean De Beaumont. The Coubertin family was represented by Geoffroy de Navacelle.

“If Baron de Coubertin was here he would measure how far we had come.”

Herzog told a gathering which included many distinguished French Olympic gold medallists, among them Micheline Ostermeyer, ColetteBesson, Alain Mimoun, Guy Drut and Philippe Riboud.

“France has always played a leading role in the creation of International Sports Federations, and remains an active partner”, Samaranch said.

The Centennial Congress held at the Palais de Bercy Paris was held as part of the ‘International Year of Sport and the Olympic ideal’ from August 29th to September 3rd. There were around 3,500 participants.

Commemorative events included a Torch Relay from the Eiffel Tower, a re-enactment of the 1892 French Rugby Union Cup Final refereed by Coubertin and a boat race featuring crews from Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

“The great success of the Centennial Olympic Congress, the Congress of Unity, is very good news for the Olympic Movement,” said IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch as he closed the Congress. The Congress was followed by an IOC Session.

1997

Lille tabled a bid for the 2004 Games but did not advance beyond the Applicant City phase. It will host handball as part of the Paris 2024 Games.

2001

Paris was a candidate to host the 2008 Olympics. At the IOC Session in Moscow, Beijing was chosen as host city with 56 votes ahead of Toronto with 22. Paris received 18 votes and Istanbul 9. Osaka had been eliminated in the first round.

2004

The Olympic Flame visited Paris on June 25th as part of the international Torch Relay for Athens 2004. It was carried on a zip wire from the Eiffel Tower by 1997 World 400m hurdles champion Stephae.

2005

Paris was one of the candidate cities for the 2012 Olympics.

At the IOC Session in Singapore, Moscow, New York and Madrid were eliminated. In the final round of voting, Paris polled 50 votes but were defeated by London with 54.

2008

The passage of the Olympic Flame through Paris on April 7th as part of the Beijing “Journey of Harmony” was disrupted by demonstrations against Chinese government policy in Tibet. The scheduled route was changed and eventually curtailed after continued protests.

2017

At the IOC Session in Lima, IOC announced that Paris would host the 2024 and Los Angeles 2028. Both cities had initially tabled bids for the 2024 Games. In 1921 a similar dual award had been made by the IOC for the 1924 Games to Paris and 1928 to Amsterdam.

2021

Celebration staged at the Trocadero in Paris to coincide with the formal handover of the Ceremonial Olympic Flag in Tokyo on August 8th.

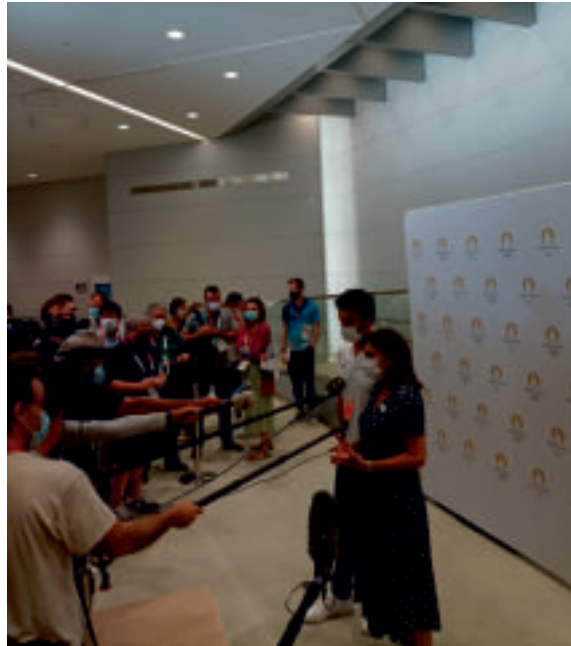


Fig. 5, top left: The distinguished French historian Jean Durry examined a document at the Olympic Studies Centre which detailed plans for the Olympics to be revived in 1900 with Games in Paris.

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Fig. 6, top right: Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo and Paris 2024 President Tony Estanguet observe COVID precautions when facing the press in Tokyo.

© Philip Barker



Fig. 7, left: The Olympic Torch for Paris 2022 was designed by Mathieu Lehanneur and will be carried across France and to French overseas territories before the Opening Ceremony on July 26th.

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Fig. 8, right: The Hotel de Ville in Paris as decorations were dismantled after the result of the host city election for 2012 became known.

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Fig. 9, right: The Paris 2024 Games logo seen flying from the Eiffel Tower in an artists impression.

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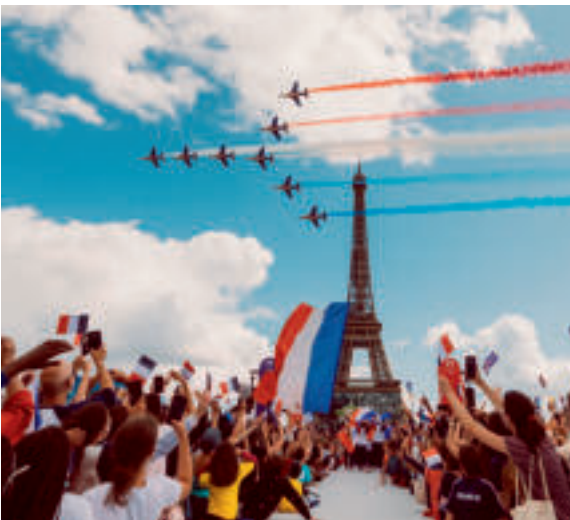


Fig. 10, bottom left: The Patrouille de France Aerobatics team celebrate the handover to Paris on the final day of the Tokyo Olympics.

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Fig. 11, bottom right: The Opening Ceremony for Paris 2024 is set to be held on the River Seine.

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