

# Biographies of All IOC Members

Part XXXVI

By Marcia De Franceschi Neto-Wacker and Volker Kluge

## 493. | Rebecca Scott | Canada

Born: 1 August  
1974 in Vegreville,  
Alberta  
Elected:  
26 February 2006  
Resigned:  
23 February 2014  
Attendance:  
Present: 7, Absent: 2



The Canadian cross-country skier – Beckie to everyone – was elected to the IOC on the last day of the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin as an athlete representative for a term of eight years. She and Finnish ice hockey player Saku Koivu replaced Norwegian speed skater Ådne Søndrål and Koivu's teammate Jarri Kurri, who served four years on the IOC. In the elections in the Olympic Village, Scott received 449 votes out of a total of 2003.

The Alberta native, who competed for the first time as a seven-year-old, was able to look back on a long sporting career in which the great successes came only at the end. After her debut at the Junior World Championships in 1988, it was ten years before her first Olympic participation. That was in Nagano, where she did not distinguish herself. She finished 15<sup>th</sup> overall in the World Cup competitions of 1999/2000 and 2000/2001.

Beckie Scott's breakthrough came at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, where she finished third in the 5/5 km pursuit behind Russia's Olga Danilova and Larisa Lasutina. However, after they were disqualified for doping on the last day of the Games, she was awarded gold retrospectively. She thus became the first American woman to win a medal in Nordic skiing.

She achieved her greatest successes in her last winter season 2005/2006. She won four World Cup races. At the Winter Games in Turin, she won the silver medal in the team sprint with Sara Renner. Narrowly beaten, she finished second in the overall World Cup.

Beckie Scott became involved in social causes at an early age. She donated her prize money from the 2001 Continental Cup to an Afghanistan project. She visited West Africa with UNICEF in 2003 as part of their Girls' Education campaign. She is an active ambassador for the development organisation Right to Play, and was appointed co-chair of the Canadian advisory council. As a member of the World Anti-Doping Agency's Athlete Committee, she became an influential lobbyist. She also served on the board of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport, as a member of the Executive Committee of the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC), and as a board member of the Organising Committee of the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. At the IOC, she was a member of the Coordination Commission for the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi. (VK)



#### 494. | Saku Koivo | Finland

Finnish ice hockey legend Jarri Kurri, who was an athlete representative to the IOC from 2002 to 2006, was succeeded by his teammate Saku Koivu. The 31-year-old was runner-up in the 2006 elections to the IOC Athletes' Commission with 412 votes; this was linked to an IOC membership of eight years.

Koivu competed with the Finnish national team four times at the Winter Olympics – winning silver once (in 2006 after a 3–2 loss to Sweden in the final) and bronze three times (in 1994, 1998, and 2010). In 1995, he led Finland to its first World Championship title as team captain. He was twice runner-up in the World Championship with his team (1994 and 1999). He was selected three times (1994, 1995, and 1999) for the All-Star team. He was twice named best striker (1995, 1999) and once top scorer (1999).

Koivu began his ice hockey career with TPS Turku, with whom he won the Finnish championship in 1993 and 1995. In the summer of 1995, the centre moved to the Montréal Canadiens, where he was elected team captain in 1999, the first European player to do so. In the autumn of 2001, he was diagnosed with Burkitt's lymphoma. Following successful treatment, he was able to return to the Habs in the play-offs the following year. For his comeback, he was awarded the Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy, donated by the NHL Writers' Association, in memory of a Minnesota player who died in 1968 after an injury during a game. In the same year, Koivu established his own foundation dedicated to the fight against cancer.

Koivu played for the Montréal Canadiens between 1995 and 2009, only returning to his hometown club in Turku during the lockout that lasted several months and resulted in the cancellation of the entire 2004–05 NHL season. After his NHL contract expired, he decided to play another five seasons with the Anaheim Ducks. During his career, he played 158 games in the Finnish SM League and 1,124 in the NHL. Koivu then returned to Finland. In 2017, he was inducted into the IIHF Hall of Fame. (VK)



Born: 23 November  
1974 in Turku  
Elected:  
26 February 2006  
Resigned:  
23 February 2014  
Attendance:  
Present: 3, Absent: 6

#### 495. | Andrés Carlos Botero Phillipsbourne | Colombia

Andrés Botero studied at Stanford University in California and graduated as a mechanical engineer in 1969. During this time he met his wife, with whom he set up a company in Medellín to produce fibreglass boats. He is also considered a pioneer in Colombia for the construction of ultralight aircraft.

Botero has always been involved in the world of sport, both as an athlete and in the administrative sphere. As athlete, he was Colombian Water Ski Champion (1961–1971) for ten consecutive years. He was South American Champion in the slalom and jump categories. Between 1965 and 1971 he participated in the World Water Ski Championships three times and was World Champion in Tahiti in 1971. At the 1972 Olympic Games, where water skiing was part of the programme as a demonstration sport, he came 12<sup>th</sup> in the slalom on Passader Lake near Kiel.

As an administrator in South America, he was president of the Colombian Water Ski Federation (1972–1973), president of the Pan American Water Ski Confederation (1980–1991), and president of the Colombian Olympic Committee (1997–2009). He also served as chairman for the Bolivarian Games (2005), Central American and Caribbean Games (2006), as well as the South American Games (2010).



Born: 23 December  
1945 in Medellín  
Elected: 7 July 2007  
Resigned:  
31 December 2015  
Attendance:  
Present: 8, Absent: 1

From 1991 to 2001, he was president of the International Water Ski Federation and became emeritus president in 2001. From 1993 to 1994 he was president of the Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federation (ARISF).

In January 2012, Botero was appointed Colombia's Sports Minister. The priority of his administration was the bid of the city of Medellin to host the Summer Youth Olympics 2018. In February 2013, the IOC confirmed Medellin as one of the finalist cities. However, on 4 July 2013, Medellin was defeated by the city of Buenos Aires. In 2016, four months before the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, he stepped down from the position. He was president of the football club Atlético Nacional from 2017 to 2018.

Andrés Botero was able to link his professional life to sport by becoming a professional boat designer. For his dedication to Colombian sports, in 2013 he received the prestigious El Colombiano Exemplar, one of the country's most important awards. He was a member of IOC from 2007 until he reached the age limit of 70 in 2015. He served on several committees, in particular the Marketing Committee, serving as a member from 2008 to 2014. (MNV)

#### 496. | Patrick Baumann | Switzerland

Born: 5 August 1967  
in Basel  
Died: 14 October  
2018 in Buenos Aires  
Elected: 7 July 2007  
(until his death)  
Attendance:  
Present: 15,  
Absent: 0



After graduating from high school in Sanremo in 1987, Patrick Baumann studied law in Lausanne. Later, he also obtained a master's degree in Sports Management (MEMOS) from the University of Lyon (1996) and a MBA from the Graduate School of Business at the University of Chicago (2001).

After working briefly for the Police des étrangers (immigration police) and the Société de Banque Suisse respectively, in 1994 Baumann was hired by the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) as a lawyer and became its deputy secretary general a year later. His passion for basketball – as a player, referee, instructor, and graduate coach – determined the course of his life. In 2002, he was appointed to succeed Borislav Stanković (1925–2020; *JOH* 1/2016, p. 71), who had been in charge of FIBA since 1976.

From then on, Baumann played an outstanding role in the development of FIBA. He radically changed the governance structure, built a modern headquarters in Mies, north of Geneva, and secured the inclusion of 3×3 basketball, an urban discipline, in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games programme. He was responsible for introducing a new competition system and was instrumental in the process of ONE FIBA, the merger of all regional offices into one group of companies.

Elected to the IOC in 2007 by a narrow majority of 47–37, the linguistically gifted Swiss (he spoke five languages) won over his colleagues with his tireless work. Baumann was a member of the Evaluation Commissions for the Olympic Games 2008 (as an IF representative) and 2020. He was a member of the Coordination Commission for 2012. In 2009, he was appointed to the International Advisory Board of the World Academy of Sport and in 2010 to the International Council of Arbitration for Sport (ICAS). He served as a member of the Executive Committee and the Foundation Board of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and was a member of the Council of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) from 2011 onward. In 2016, he was elected president of the Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF), which changed its name to SportAccord in 2017.

Baumann was re-elected to the IOC in 2015 but died unexpectedly of a heart attack during the Summer Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires. The Olympic flag at the IOC headquarters in Lausanne and Buenos Aires was flown at half-mast for three days. (VK)

#### 497. | HRH Princess Haya bint Al Hussein | United Arab Emirates

Princess Haya bint Al Hussein of Jordan was the first Arab woman to participate internationally in equestrian competitions, winning the bronze medal at the Pan-Arab Equestrian Games in Damascus, Syria in 1992. In 1993 she received the title of Jordanian Athlete of the Year. In 2000 she participated in the Sydney Summer Olympics in show jumping. On this occasion she was also Jordan country's flag bearer at the opening ceremony.

In 2006, the princess was elected president of the International Federation for Equestrian Sports (FIE) and was re-elected in 2010. In 2014, she resigned her candidacy to avoid conflict of interest issues following the accusation of doping violations by her then husband. Since 2011, she has been patron of the International Federation of Gentleman and Lady Riders (Fegentri).

In addition to her dedication to sport, Princess Haya also engages in various charity projects. In 2003, she founded Tkiyet Um Ali, the first food aid NGO in the Arab world, in her mother's memory. She was the first Arab woman to become Goodwill Ambassador for the World Food Programme (2005–2007).

In 2007, she was appointed Messenger of Peace by the then UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon. In 2012, she was appointed to serve as the World Organisation for Animal Health's first Goodwill Ambassador. In September 2014, she was made Officer of National Order of Honour, France's highest distinction. She was awarded the 2015 Hunger Hero Award by UN World Food Programme in Davos.

Princess Haya is the daughter of the late King Hussein of Jordan and half-sister to King Abdullah II. She was educated in a British private school and graduated from St Hilda's College, Oxford, with a degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics. From 2004 to 2019 she was married to the ruler of Dubai, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

Princess Haya became a member of the IOC in 2007. In 2010, she was appointed to the International Relations Committee having also served on the Athletes' Commission and Olympic Education Commission. Currently she is a member of the Honorary Board of the International Paralympic Committee. (MNV)



Born: 3 May 1974 in Amman, Jordan  
Elected: 7 July 2007  
Resigned: 14 December 2014  
Attendance:  
Present: 7, Absent: 2

#### 498. | Rita Sri Wahyusih Subowo | Indonesia

Rita Subowa studied at Kristen Indonesia University from 1965 to 1970 and earned a master's degree in Economics. During her studies she played on the University basketball team. Her interest in volleyball was aroused much later when she became an official of the National Volleyball Federation of Indonesia (PBVSI). In 1988, she was named vice-president, then president in 2000, a position she held until 2005.

Subowa became deputy chair of the National Sports Committee of Indonesia (KONI), which was founded in 1966 under President Sukarno as a superordinate sports organisation and at the same time performed the tasks of a National Olympic Committee. Since this status contradicted the Olympic Charter, the government had to enact a law in 2005 that restored the independence of the Indonesian Olympic Committee (KOI). For a transitional period, Subowa acted both as general chairman of the KONI and as president of the KOI, to which she was elected in 2007.

Subowo became a key figure in the Olympic Movement in Asia. She has been a member of the Olympic Council of Asia's Executive Board since 2006



Born: 27 July 1948 in Yogyakarta, Central Java  
Elected: 7 July 2007  
Resigned: 1 November 2015  
Attendance:  
Present: 10, Absent: 0

and was named an honorary life vice-president. In 2002, she was elected executive vice-president of the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) and member of the FIVB Board of Administration. She led many multiple initiatives on the development and promotion of volleyball and beach volleyball in Indonesia and Asia. After serving as executive vice-president of the Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC), in 2020 Subowa became the first woman to be unanimously elected as AVC president.

An IOC Member since 2007, she served on the Sport and Environment, Sport for All, and the Women and Sports commissions. With the election of Erick Thohir as chairman of the Indonesian Olympic Committee on 1 November 2015, Subowa's IOC membership ended. She did not stand for president again, having served a maximum term in office. (VK)

#### 499. | Sergey Bubka | Ukraine

**Born:**

4 December 1963

in Voroshilograd

Elected: 7 August

2008

Attendance:

Present: 17, Absent: 1

Executive Board

Member no. 77

Elected: 27 July 2012

– 4 August 2016

Second term:

4 August 2016 –

17 July 2020



First elected to the IOC Athletes' Commission in 1996, the 1988 Olympic champion, six-time world champion, and 35-time world record holder in the pole vault, Sergey Bubka, was among the ten athlete representatives co-opted to the IOC in 1999 (see *JOH 3/2018*, p. 71). One year later, during the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, Bubka was again elected to the IOC Athletes' Commission.

As decided in the IOC 2000 reforms, eight commissioners were elected to the IOC by the 111<sup>th</sup> Session on 30 September 2000 – the four commissioners with the most votes were elected for eight years, while the other four were elected for four years. Bubka, who received the most votes with 1,506, then applied for the seat on the IOC Executive Board reserved for an active athlete. He won the election against Canadian Charmaine Crooks and Norwegian Olav Koss. In 2004, he was re-elected at the 116<sup>th</sup> Session.

Bubka was a member of the Ukrainian Parliament for four years from 2002 and worked as an advisor to the Prime Minister on youth and sports issues. In 2005, he became president of the NOC of Ukraine and, in 2007, vice-president of the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF, now World Athletics).

After his mandate in the IOC expired (he had been a member of the Evaluation and Coordination Commissions for the Olympic Games in Beijing, among others), he stood as a personal member in 2008. After the Dutchman Hein Verbruggen (*JOH 1/2021*, p. 69), Bubka was the second to be elected to the IOC with a new number on the protocol list. His re-election for another eight years followed in 2016.

Bubka founded a sports club in his name in 1990, and was an ambassador for UNESCO and the World Health Organisation (WHO). Together with his brother, he runs a bakery business, and also has interests in petrol stations, grocery shops, and real estate management companies. (VK)

## 500. | Dr. Uğur Erdener | Turkey

Dr Uğur Erdener is a renowned ophthalmologist of Turkish nationality. He graduated from medical school in 1977 and completed his residency in Ophthalmology at Hacettepe University Medical School, where he worked as a physician and Professor of Ophthalmology.

He was also a triple jump athlete, a basketball player, and a basketball coach. He was crowned Turkey's Sportsman of the Year four times. He has received several awards in the field of medicine and sport.

In 2000, he became managing director and CEO of Hacettepe University Hospital. In 2007, he was appointed rector of the University and remained in charge until 2011.

His commitment to sports administration is admirable, in particular within the World Archery Federation (formerly International Archery Federation) for which he was an executive board member from 1995 to 1999, 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president, and president (since 2005). Since 2011 he has also been president of the Turkish Olympic Committee.

Due to his background as physician he was a representative of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations on the Foundation Board of WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) between 2013 and 2016. Since 2015, he has been the IOC representative on the WADA's Executive Committee Foundation Board.

Between 2014 and 2015 he was chair of the IOC Medical Commission and since 2015 has been chair of Medical and Scientific Commission. Since 2017, he has been part of the IOC Coordination Commission for Paris 2024. (MNW)



Born: 25 June 1950  
in Trabzon  
Elected:  
7 August 2008

Attendance:  
Present: 18,  
Absent: 0

EC Member no. 94  
Elected: 7 February  
2014 – 4 August 2016  
Second term:  
Appointed 4<sup>th</sup> Vice-  
President 4 August  
2016  
Appointed 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-  
President  
16 September 2017  
Appointed 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-  
President 9 October  
2018  
Appointed 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-  
President 26 June  
2019 – 17 July 2020