

FROM THE PRESIDENT

President's E-Message



John M. Lovett, President

Here in Melbourne the day is getting longer and warmer, I think of my friends in the northern hemisphere whose day is getting shorter and colder. I also think of them getting ready for winter sports while we here are limbering up for summer sports!

In this issue of e-News, you will find a number of interesting articles as result of the "new" Management meeting in Bonn early in October.

The Management Committee, which compromised of myself, Donald Ammons (Secretary-General) and Ole Artmann (Treasurer) met over four days mainly to deal with day to day operational issues of the CISS, but also a number of major issues where members of the CISS Executive are now considering recommendations of the Management Committee.

CISS Administrator Tiffany Granfors was at the Management Committee meeting to provide administrative support.

CISS Home Office Relocates!

Please make the changes in your address books!
CISS Home Office recently relocated to a new site in Frederick, Maryland which is approximately 40 miles north of our former office in Silver Spring, Maryland. The new address is shown in **bold**:

E-mail: info@ciss.org

Website: www.ciss.org

Fax: 1.301.620.2990

**Address: 7310 Grove Road Suite #106
Frederick, MD 21704
USA**

An abbreviated report of the Management Committee is provided somewhere in this issue.

In the middle of the meeting, a fax was received from Mr. Gilbert Felli, the IOC Sport Director attaching a copy of an internal memorandum, which he sent to all National Olympic Committees on the matter of independence of the CISS and Deaf Sports. A copy is shown here in the e-News.

It was very pleasing that Hubert Wilhelm, Karl-Werner Broska and Winfried Wiencek of German Deaf Sports Federation came to Bonn to have lunch with us. The luncheon developed into an excellent opportunity for us all to get together and discuss many issues relating to CISS and Deaf Sports, and it was good to receive German viewpoints on these issues.



Enjoying lunch together in Bonn, Germany.

At end of our meeting, Colin Macdonald, the Sport Director joined the Management Committee to meet with the new IPC President, Mr. Philip Craven at the IPC Headquarters. The meeting with Mr. Craven and other members of IPC was very positive. A separate report is printed somewhere in this e-News.

All in all, I believed that it was a very successful week for the CISS – so many issues dealt with by the Management Committee and the meeting with the IPC President.

Wherever you are, in North or in South, allow me to wish you "Happy times!"

John M. Lovett, A.M.

NEWS FLASH

Reminder from International Olympic Committee (IOC) for all National Olympic Committees (NOC)

On 5 October 2002, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) issued and sent out an official reminder to all National Olympic Committees (NOCs) with a copy to International Paralympic Committee (IPC) about the international status of sport for the deaf.

It seems that there is still some confusion surrounding the international status of sport for the deaf.

The present note is a reminder that, on an international level, the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (CISS) is independent, and is not a part of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). This independence was sought and accepted by all the parties concerned (IOC, IPC and CISS) at the beginning

of 1996, taking into account the specific nature of this disability.

We should like this information to be passed on to everyone involved with disabled sport in your country, NOC, government or IF (international federations).

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Gilbert Felli
IOC Sports Director

CISS is very appreciative of IOC's everlasting support towards deaf sports and Deaflympics.
Thank you!

Yellow Card to Melbourne 2005

Bonn, Germany-At the CISS Management Committee meeting, the members held some grave concerns about Melbourne 2005 Organizing Committee's lack of progress and ability to fulfill its obligations in a timely manner.

Most of the problems faced by the organizing committee have been attributed to lack of committed funding from both federal and state governments of Australia.

Nevertheless, CISS felt it was necessary to issue a yellow card.

Very shortly after sending a strong message with a yellow card, CISS received a formal letter from Mr. Justin Madden, the Minister for Sport and Recreation of Victoria assuring that the state government of Victoria is currently reviewing the Deaf Sports Australia's final application for AUD \$4 million match grant. It is anticipated that a response regarding this will be made by late October 2002.

CISS has requested that by 31 October the Melbourne

2005 Organizing Committee must provide CISS with a final version of the Memorandum of Understanding and other materials pertinent to the operational aspect of the Games.

If the deadline is not met, the CISS Management Team will have to consider other viable options.

Drug Testing at EDSO Water Polo Championships

London, England- British Deaf Sports Council, the host, received logistical support from UK Sport to conduct drug testing during the EDSO Water Polo Championships in mid-September.

Six (6) athletes were randomly selected to furnish urine samples. The laboratory report indicated that all samples have been negative.

CISS is pleased with the results and wishes to announce that it is deeply committed to ethically fair and drug-free sport programs.

NEWS FLASH

Ice Hockey Drawing for 2003 Winter Deaflympics

Bonn, Germany- During the CISS Management Team meeting held at Hotel Kaiser Karl in Bonn, Germany 6-9 October, there was an official team drawing for ice hockey competition during the 2003 Winter Deaflympics which will take place in Sundsvall, Sweden from 1 to 8 March, 2003.

Mr. Hubert Wilhelm, President, Karl-Werner Broksa, Vice President and Winfried Wiencek, a board member, all of German Deaf Sports Federation were invited to participate in the official drawing with Dr. Donald Ammons, CISS Secretary General in charge.

The official results of the drawing are:

Team #1 Germany	Team #4 Finland
Team #2 USA	Team #5 Russia
Team #3 Canada	Team #6 Sweden



Doing the honors of selecting the next team spot.



The Ice Hockey drawing results for the 2003 Winter Deaflympics in Sundsvall, Sweden is now complete.

News From Around the World

Official Notice from Italian Olympic Committee

13 September 2003- CISS received e-mail from legale@coni.it, representing the Legal Commission of the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) that on the 19th of June 2002, all committees within the **Italian Deaf Sports Federation (FISS)** had been dissolved. And that Dr. Sergei Melai, a member of CONI has been given the responsibility for the guardianship of FISS.

2 October 2003- CISS received an official letter by fax from Dr. Sergei Melai, of Italian Olympic Committee at Viale Tiziano, 70, 00196 Roma that the following individuals- **Renzo Corti (CISS Vice President, Carlo Colarossi (CISS TD-Shooting), Martin Fernando (TD- Volleyball), Mario Torcolini (TD- Handball)** would no longer be able to represent FISS within CISS and EDSO in any official capacity.

The CISS Executive Committee has agreed to accept the request of CONI to relinquish those four (4) individuals from their CISS duties, effective immediately.

New Zealand: Address and Executive Board

Deaf Sports Federation of New Zealand
PO Box 24030
EAST LINWOOD
CHRISTCHURCH
NEW ZEALAND
Fax +354 376 4426

Executive Board 2002-2006

Nicki Morrision - President
Janet Stokes - Secretary
Suzanne Hanson - Treasurer
Denise Godman - Exec Member
Sue Penman - Exec Member
Patrick Stokell - Exec Member

NEWS FLASH

News From Around the World

Change of Organization for Russian Deaf Sports

CISS received official notice by fax from the Russian Olympic Committee (ROC) that in light of IOC's official recognition of Deaflympics, a new organization and name for deaf sports in Russia was then established to replace the previous organization- Russian Deaf Sports Union (RDSU).

The new name is **Russian Committee for Deaf Sports (RCDS)** with Mr. Nikolay Klimov as President. The previous president of Russian Deaf Sports Union (RDSU), Valery Ruhledev, has become the 1st Vice-President.

The Russian Committee for Deaf Sports (RCDS) assumes full responsibility and rights to represent deaf sportspeople of Russia for all kinds of sports in

international competitions including Deaflympics.

The contact information for RCDS is:

**Russian Committee of Deaf Sports
21 block 2, STROMYNKA Str.
Moscow 107076
Russia**

Tel/Fax:

+7 095 269 44 63

+7 095 271 22 83

+7 095 269 04 69

E-mail: ekaterina67@mail.ru

CISS welcomes RCDS!

CISS IN THE NEWS

A Glimpse of the Deaflympics at Deutsches Sport & Olympia Museum

Donalda Ammons and Tiffany Granfors went to Köln after the conclusion of the Management Team Meeting and visited the Deutsches Sport & Olympia Museum. A very nice place! They had all kinds of historical pictures, films, and had some sporting equipments such as bobsled, bikes, race cars. Also this museum is interactive where children can see how far they can jump, how fast they can cycle, there was even a boxing ring!

The most impressive thing of all was that there was a long long wall full of time lines and in the 1981 timeline, there was a mention of the Deaflympics in Köln in 1981 and a photo of an official waving a starting flag for the athletics competition. They went further to explain that the flag is used as a starter for the deaf!



Dr. Donalda Ammons takes a moment for a snapshot at Deutsches Sport and Olympia Museum.

Kudos to Deutschland!

CISS IN THE NEWS

Report of Meeting with IPC President, Mr. Philip Craven

*John Lovett, President
Bonn, GER*

On 9th October 2002, the CISS delegation comprising of; John Lovett – CISS President, Donalda Ammons – CISS Secretary-General, Ole Artmann – CISS Treasurer, Colin Macdonald – CISS Sport Director, Tiffany Granfors – CISS Administrator and three interpreters – John Lee (BSL), Marcie Murphy (ASL) and Johanna Smerlov (DSL), went to Adenaueralle in Bonn where the IPC Headquarter is located.

We were met by a group of IPC senior officers; Philip Craven – President, Nabil Salem – Vice-President (Marketing & Promotions), and Xavier Gonzales – Chief Executive Officer.

The meeting opened with comments from Dr. Salem that CISS has refused to give membership to Egypt and some other countries like Tunisia. Donalda and I responded that we have corresponded with these two countries but received no formal applications from them.

The meeting then went on to discuss how the IPC and CISS could work together to provide better access and programs for deaf and disabled athletes, et cetera. Mr. Craven agreed to follow lead of IOC and write a letter to NPC recognising CISS as the sole international organisation responsible for deaf sports.

It was proposed that a new Memorandum of Understanding be developed and signed by both IPC and
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Grabbing a group photo opportunity in front of the IPC building.



President Lovett signs the guest book.

CISS IN THE NEWS

IPC Meeting

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CISS to replace an Agreement that lapsed following withdrawal of CISS from membership of the IPC in 1995. The Memorandum will focus on cooperation between these two organisations.

The concept of regular and on-going meeting of Presidents of IPC and CISS was discussed and it was agreed to include representatives from other

organisations such as Special Olympics International and IOC. The IPC was not in favour of the idea of IOC Disability in Sport Commission developed by Eli Wolff of Northeastern University.

The meeting concluded with a short and informal tour of the IPC Headquarter.



Presidents Lovett and Craven at work.



CISS and IPC officials pose together.

Report of Management Committee Meeting

*John Lovett, President
Bonn, GER
6-9 October 2002*

Firstly, it should be noted that this Report is a brief summary of the Management Committee meeting, as many recommendations have been made and now are being considered by the CISS Executive.

In a later issue, a second summary of the Management Committee meeting with more details will be printed.

Membership of General Association of International Sports Federation: CISS' application for membership of GAISF will be tabled for formal approval at the Annual General Meeting of the GAISF at Colorado Springs at end of October. Mr. Jerald

Jordan has accepted our request to represent CISS at this Meeting.

Trademark: Steps will be taken to register logo and names of the CISS and Deaflympics to protect their values.

Sponsorship: Draft booklet for potential sponsors has been prepared and comments from professional marketing people were received and noted for final drafting of the booklet.

Promotions: Information booth set up by CISS at Deaf Way II attracted a good number of enquiries, and it was agreed to continue with this form of promotion, and to look at feasibility of obtaining a mobile display booth.

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CISS IN THE NEWS

Management Committee Meeting *CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE*

Re-location of CISS Secretariat: The CISS has relocated its office to Frederick for a number of reasons and the move was successfully organised, and the new office is proving to be a positive addition to the deaf & hearing community.

CISS members: It was proposed that all CISS members must every 10 years obtain certificate of recognition from their National Olympic Committee.

There are number of enquiries from countries regarding membership of the CISS, some of them are under control of disabled sports, et cetera.

It was noted that CONI (Italian National Olympic Committee) has taken over management of the FISS and “suspended” membership of its representatives to the international bodies. In accordance, it was agreed to declare the position of CISS Vice-President vacant pending formal discussion at the next Congress. Similarly, the services of three Italian Technical Directors of CISS have been severed, and actions are taken to replace them.

A letter will be written to Professor Sergei Melai of CONI raising a number of issues, such as FISS/COL's debits to a number of countries and individual, publication of final Result Book and incorrect Diplomas, etc.

Regional Confederations of Deaf Sports: Report of the Regional Confederations Seminar held in Melbourne, AUS last April was read and number of recommendations were noted and will be followed up.

International Deaf Sport Federations: It was pleasing to note that World Deaf Golf Federation has applied for associate membership of the CISS. Basketball, Martial Arts and Rugby were discussed and action list has been developed to follow up these Federations.

Motions for CISS Congress, Sundsvall: A number of motions to amend CISS Constitution, Regulations for Deaflympic Games and Deaf World Championships were received and forwarded to the CISS Executive with Management Committee's recommendations.

Deaflympic Summer Games 2005: The Federal Government has agreed to make a large financial grant on a condition that the Victorian Government matches this amount. The Melbourne Deaflympic Games Organising Committee is currently negotiating with this Government. It was agreed that a “yellow card” be issued against the Melbourne Deaflympic Games Organising Committee for failing to meet regulations of the Deaflympic Games such as (i) failure to determine dates of the Games; (ii) lack of clear evidence regarding membership of the Organising Committee organisational chart; (iii) lack of complete technical and organisational reports to the CISS; (iv) failure to submit a draft poster for CISS Executive's approval; and failure to announce recommended time schedule for site inspection by CISS members.

Deaflympic Winter Games 2007: A formal bidding document has not been received from France, and Donaldal will follow up and arrange for a site inspection early in December, with Colin Macdonald, CISS Sports Director.

Deaflympic Summer Games 2009: A formal bidding document has been received from Taipei, and an extension of time has been granted to Athens for its bid – 31st October 2002. John Lovett will visit both cities end of November/beginning of December for site inspections.

It was agreed that in future, CISS would contact and encourage various Visitors and Convention Bureaus to liaise with respective National Deaf Sports Associations to promote their respective city's bid for Deaflympic Games.

International Olympic Committee: A number of activities were formulated to strengthen CISS'ties with

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CISS IN THE NEWS

Biography on Martin Bogard, Badminton Technical Director



Martin Bogard

Martin Bogard is CISS's newly appointed Badminton Technical Director.

Bogard is profoundly deaf and attended Burwood Park School for the deaf in Surrey, England. He began playing badminton seriously at a hearing college near the school when he was a 16 year-old student. This was

how he discovered his love for this sport. When he left the college he immediately joined the best hearing badminton club with so many high-standard players near where he used to live in Ilford, Essex. At that time, Bogard wondered why there was no badminton in the Deaflympics (formerly World Games for the Deaf) it was finally formed several years later in 1985 in Los Angeles.

Bogard's achievements/honors were as following:

World Games 1985 Los Angeles, USA - 1 Gold + 2 Silvers

1989 Christchurch, New Zealand - 1 Silver + 1 Bronze

1993 Sofia, Bulgaria - 1 Bronze

1997 Copenhagen, Denmark - 1 Silver + 1 Bronze

2001 Rome, Italy- Fourth place

European 1990 Manchester, England - 2 Gold + 1 Silver + 1 Bronze

1994 Copenhagen, Denmark - 2 Gold + 1 Silver

1998 Haarlem, Holland - 1 Gold + 1 Silver + 1 Bronze

2002 Basle, Switzerland (6 to 12 October) TBA

Bogard played for Essex County veteran over 40 years category and reached the national final twice. He has also been involved in coaching some deaf and hearing players. Now he has decided to retire after 27 years since he first played internationally in Copenhagen when he was 19 years old!

Martin Bogard, Welcome!

Management Committee Meeting

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the IOC, such on-going meeting with senior IOC officers.

Mr Felli's e-mail to NOC regarding IOC's recognition of CISS' autonomy and independence was very encouraging.

Mr. Felli is to be invited to Congress at Sundsvall to discuss proposal from some members that CISS be re-named International Deaflympic Committee, etc.

International Paralympic Committee: A meeting is to be held with the new IPC President Mr. Philip Craven on 9th October.

CISS Archives: There were some difficulties in gaining access to CISS documents now that FISS is no longer a tenant at the building where the documents are

stored. Donalda is to liaise with President of ENS, proprietor of the building in an effort to obtain access for Terry Giansanti to pack and arrange for dispatch of CISS documents to Gallaudet University for archival work.

CISS 2001: A Review: The publication contained many errors especially in list of medal winners, performances, and in world records, etc. These errors were mostly carried from previous publications. A researcher was hired to go through these details and contact CISS members to assist in correction of these details. A list of corrections will be printed and inserted in remaining copies of the publication.

CISS Flags: 30 small and 3 large CISS flags have been delivered to CISS Office and it was decided to order 100 small CISS flags and issue one flag to each to CISS members.

ARTICLE

ACL tears linked to women's running style

*From Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's JSOnline
InteliHealth
June 07, 1999*

Baltimore - A puzzle for doctors: Why do female athletes tear their anterior cruciate ligaments more often than male athletes? ACL tears, which can end a promising athletic career and usually require surgical repair, occur during sudden stops and turns, or during an awkward landing, such as when a basketball player jumps up and lands on another player's foot. Women athletes are three to four times more likely than men to tear this ligament.

A new study, which was presented at the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons in California in early February, videotaped athletes. Researchers saw that women run differently than men, and as result, they rely more on the quadriceps muscles in the front of the knee, rather than the hamstrings in back. Men run in a more crouched position, while women's knees and hips are straighter.

Edward G. McFarland, M.D., director of the Division of Sports Medicine and Shoulder Surgery for the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, explains in this InteliHealth interview why this difference in posture might be the answer to the puzzle.

InteliHealth: Do you find this explanation plausible?

Dr. McFarland: I think it's probably right; women don't run the same as men in many sports. Women tend to run more upright than men when they run. Two recent studies show that women do indeed have different body mechanics than men when they run. They don't have as much flexion in the knee when they do cutting maneuvers, and they put more stress on the inside of the knee when changing direction. One of these studies was on recreational athletes so it may not extrapolate to highly-trained female athletes.

IH: Is there anything structurally different in female knees?

Dr. McFarland: That's controversial, but I don't think that it will prove to be a major factor. There is not much one can do about one's bone structure.

IH: So why the greater numbers of ACL tears in women?

Dr. McFarland: There are three factors: One, it's probably the way they run; two, it's the way they use muscles around the knee when running; and three, there may be some inherent laxity or loosening of the knee which is different than in men. Some people suggest the ACL is more likely to tear at certain times of the menstrual cycle, which may relate to the hormonal milieu, but those studies aren't conclusive. Exercises that increase muscle tone around the knee might prove helpful.

IH: Can you change the way women run - or at least young girls?

Dr. McFarland: I think so. If you look at women's basketball now versus 20 years ago, the women used to run in a much more upright posture. I think women's sports have changed in terms of their athleticism. Their techniques are approaching that of men. There will always be some differences due to physiology, but women also have made great gains.

IH: If women use their quadriceps more than the hamstrings, why would that make a difference?

Dr. McFarland: We don't know exactly how or why these ligaments tear with sudden decelerating pivots. If the knee is not guarded correctly, it shifts. There have been people who have suggested you can train the muscles to contract when you cut. But I don't see how - that would have to be an instantaneous, unconscious reaction. Recently there was an article in the Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine about a study of women in the NCAA. They looked at women's and men's soccer

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IOC President Marks 30th Anniversary of Munich Tragedy

05 September 2002
IOC Press Release
www.olympic.org

To mark the 30th anniversary of the tragedy at the Games of the XX Olympiad in 1972, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) President, Dr Jacques Rogge, will tomorrow (6 September 2002) lead an IOC delegation to a ceremony of commemoration in Munich.

Accompanied by IOC Members Walther Tröger, President of the National Olympic Committee for Germany, Alex Gilady (ISR), and Roland Baar (GER), Dr Rogge, who participated in the sailing events at the 1972 Olympic Games, will attend the ceremony starting at 11 a.m. (0900 hours GMT).

The commemoration, involving German authorities

and the Israeli Ambassador to Germany, plus other dignitaries, will take place at the Fürstenfeldbruck Airport, where ten of the victims lost their lives. Commenting on the 30th anniversary of the Munich tragedy, Dr Rogge said: "The IOC will never forget this event which was the most tragic incident to have happened in the history of the Olympic Games. We will always remember it and ensure that the memory of our colleagues and friends who passed away is maintained."

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Broadcast quality video footage of a ten minute interview with the IOC President talking about the Munich tragedy is available. Please contact the European Broadcasting Union at +41-22-717 29 00 for circuit booking

First International Athletes' Forum Concludes Two Days of Constructive Discussions

Official IOC press release
www.olympic.org
22 October 2002

A two-day meeting of world class international athletes, gathered at the initiative of the IOC Athletes' Commission, has concluded in Lausanne, with full support for the fight against doping and a recognition of the role that athletes can play in educating young people at the top of the list of conclusions.

Led by Olympic gold medallist, six-times pole vault world champion and recently elected IOC Athletes' Commission Chairman Sergey Bubka, this first International Athletes' Forum gathered together Athletes' Commissions of International Federations (IFs) and Continental NOC Associations, thus strengthening links between the sports bodies and establishing a communication network between athletes. IFs which do not have an Athletes'

Commission were also given the opportunity to send an athletes' representative, and there was a total of 56 participants from 30 out of the 35 Olympic International Federations and all five Continental NOC Associations.

On conclusion of the discussions on doping, the participants agreed on the need for athletes to assume total responsibility for the intake of any substance that could result in a positive doping test; encouraged sports authorities to provide proper documentation for asthmatic conditions and testing prior to competition; and endorsed the position of not allowing the use of oxygen tents. On discussion about the way athletes manage their career once they retire from competition, it was acknowledged that athletes had an important role to play in educating young people and that this would give them the chance to contribute to the promotion of the sport that launched their careers. This

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IOC NEWS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

*World-wide weekly highlights of the Olympic Movement
From www.olympic.org
Week of 23 September 2002*

IOC ACTIVITIES

The IOC President's week began on Sunday in Lausanne (Switzerland) where he gave a speech at the opening of the World Sports Forum. This was followed by a series of meetings on Monday and Tuesday with:

- the Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary General on Sport for Development of Peace, Adolf Ogi;
- IOC members Thomas Bach, Gerhard Heiberg and Patrick Hickey;
- the President of the Swiss National Olympic Committee (NOC), Walter Kägi, and a delegation from the NOC - also attending this meeting were IOC members Marc Hodler and Denis Oswald;
- International Softball Federation (ISF) President Don

Porter;
- Olympic Aid President Johann Olav Koss.

The IOC President then devoted two whole days to a meeting of the TV and Internet Rights Commission, of which he is the Chairman. IOC members Thomas Bach, Richard Carrión, Ottavio Cinquanta, Gerhard Heiberg and Un Yong Kim were also present.

In this meeting, four different major American broadcasters presented their ideas regarding the broadcasting of the Olympic Games. Meetings with broadcasters from other countries are also planned for the near future.

In addition, the IOC President met several media representatives, including a delegation of journalists representing seven European football magazines.

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Article: ACL tears

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and basketball. The study found no difference in the ACL rate no matter what level the athletes were playing at. Although women had more tears than men, the rates were the same for Division I, II, and III. That would infer that skill is not involved as a factor in these injuries. It's hard to say what is skilled and unskilled. This study needs to be repeated for high school and higher caliber athletes to have more meaning.

IH: Is there an age-related component to these injuries?

Dr. McFarland: ACLs occur in people when they're active; so it's usually between 15 and 25. With skiers you can see them at any age group.

IH: I have an 11-year-old girl who plays basketball and soccer and lacrosse. Is there anything I can do?

Dr. McFarland: There are enough studies that show the higher rate of knee ligament injuries in women is real

- the question is how do you do anything about it? I personally think as women's athleticism increases over time, the gap is going to close. Others suggest it's the hormonal difference or some inherent laxity that predisposes women to injury. Another option is to avoid sports that put the ACL at risk.

IH: Do braces help prevent ACL tears?

Dr. McFarland: The answer is no. Not even the braces used by football players are necessary in most cases - and are controversial, by the way. They protect the medial ligament but not the anterior cruciate ligament. Bracing is not currently recommended for prophylaxis or to prevent knee injuries in non-contact sports. Probably the only thing to do for prevention is stay in shape, and have players do quadriceps and hamstring strengthening as part of their fitness program.

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IOC Highlights: Week of September 23

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Congratulations to IOC member Anita DeFrantz, who has received the Billie Jean King Pioneer Award from the New England Women's Fund, a body which seeks to promote the role of women through sport.

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS ISSUES

Brought together in the framework of a World Mayors Summit in Athens (Greece), mayors and representatives of 40 cities across the world signed a "declaration of Olympic Solidarity" on 20 September, with a view to creating an "Olympic Cities Union".

The Olympic host cities of Paris, Moscow, Stockholm, Sarajevo, Athens and Beijing were among the signatories, which included about 30 non-Olympic cities.

In this text, the cities confirmed their support for the creation of an Olympic Cities Union.

The IOC was represented by members Nikos Filaretos and Lambis Nikolaou as well as its Director General, François Carrard, who said that this was a major initiative and underlined the key role of the cities for the Olympic Movement.

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS

The International Equestrian Federation (FEI): Aachen (Germany) will organise the 2006 World Equestrian Games. Kentucky (USA) was the unlucky other candidate, but has been encouraged to continue hosting quality major international events. "It was an extremely difficult decision as both venues presented outstanding bids and have such a rich equestrian heritage" said FEI President the Infanta Doña Pilar de Borbón after the vote.

The International Association Football Federation (FIFA): Afghanistan will celebrate its return to the international football stage at the 12th Asian Games in Busan (Korea).

This comeback has been made possible thanks to USD

First International Athletes' Forum

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idea was implemented on Sunday afternoon when young promising athletes from local sports clubs were given the opportunity to meet the athletes attending the Forum during a Q&A session.

Commenting on the outcome of the Forum, Sergey Bubka said: "I am very pleased with the conclusions of this Forum. For the first time, athletes were given the opportunity to get across their messages and clearly express the need for them to be more involved in the decision-making process of sporting organisations. We are looking forward to reviewing the progress of these constructive discussions at the next forum."

40,000 of financial assistance from FIFA.

This means that Afghanistan, which qualified following Mongolia's withdrawal, will play its first international match since 1984.

Furthermore, FIFA has donated USD 200,000 to East Timor's national association for future development programmes, and USD 100,000 to Palestine's national association to purchase equipment for clubs.

The International Federation of Associated Wrestling Styles (FILA) has elected a new President: Switzerland's Raphaël Martinetti succeeds Yugoslavian Milan Ercegan, who has been elected Honorary Life President.

The International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) held its 28th World Congress from 21 to 23 September in Buenos Aires. Some 220 delegates were present, representing 217 national federations.

Attending the Congress's opening ceremony were the Argentine Secretary of State for Sport and Tourism, Daniel Scioli; Argentine Justice Minister Juan José Alvarez; Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary General on Sport for Development of Peace, Adolf Ogi; the President of the Argentine NOC,

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IOC Highlights: Week of September 23

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Antonio Rodríguez; as well as the Mayor of Buenos Aires, Anibal Ibarra.

With an overwhelming majority, the delegates present re-elected Mexican Rubén Acosta Hernandez, President of the Federation since 1984. As the only candidate, he received 162 votes out of the 177 cast. After his election, he said that this new four-year mandate would be the last, calling upon younger generations to take up their responsibilities.

The Congress approved the introduction of a new competition based on a height limit (1.85m for men and 1.75m for women). According to statistics presented by the Chairwoman of the FIVB Medical Commission, Annie Peytavin, 97% of the world's population is under this limit. Success therefore seems certain for these new competitions, which should open the doors of elite-level volleyball to a large number of athletes.

The men's 2002 World Championships, organised in six Argentine cities, will begin on Saturday.

The International Tennis Federation (ITF): Defending champions France will this year meet Russia to compete for the legendary silver bowl that is the Davis Cup. In the semi-finals, France beat the US team, while Russia saw off Argentina.

The draw for the 2003 edition of the Davis Cup will take place on 3 October in London (England).

ATHENS 2004

Last week IOC Sports Director Gilbert Felli went to Athens to meet representatives of the Organising Committee for the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad (ATHOC).

He was "particularly satisfied" with the work completed in construction and development of sports venues.

With respect to accommodation, he felt that important

progress had been made.

He nevertheless emphasised that, in order to meet the deadlines, ATHOC needed to remain alert and maintain their pace of work.

OLYMPIC MUSEUM

The Olympic Museum hosted the 4th World Sport Forum from 22 to 24 September to allow interested parties to discuss the pressing issues of sport today.

Amongst the participants were sports sponsorship pioneer Mark McCormack, Chairman of IMG; Lewis Katz, co-owner of the New York Yankees (baseball) and owner of the New Jersey Nets (basketball) and New Jersey Devils (ice hockey) professional teams; Uri Savir, Chairman of the Peres Center for Peace and former negotiator of the Oslo peace accords; Bertrand Piccard, balloonist, psychiatrist and first person to fly around the world in a balloon; and Adolf Ogi, Special Advisor of the United Nations Secretary General on Sport for Development and Peace, as well as many other illustrious captains of industry, sports administrators (represented by presidents of International Federations), sports ministers and opinion leaders involved in and sports.

IOC President Jacques Rogge was present at the opening ceremony, in which he gave a speech to those attending.

Michael Nobel, Chairman of the Nobel Family Society, presented this year's World Sports Forum Award to Olympic Aid, represented by its President, Johann Olav Koss, quadruple Olympic gold medallist.

The fifth edition of the MEMOS (Executive Masters in Sports Organisations Management) has just been launched. From 15 to 21 September, the 30 participants, mostly from the Olympic Family, met in Lausanne for the first part of this Masters, which is devoted to strategic management and sport governance. The three other modules will take place in Brussels, San Marino and again in Lausanne, the Olympic Capital, where the final projects will be

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EVENTS

USA Sandbags Beach Volleyball Competition on Belgian Coast Bruning-Majorino Dominates in First International Beach Doubles Event

By John Knetzger

Zeebrugge, Belgium – The American duo of Michael Bruning and Scott Majorino raised the international bar to a higher level of play with a solid display of beach volleyball in Southern California style. Except for a stubborn German piece of driftwood, they picked off every opponent with the precision and power of a beachcombing machine on their way to a first place (14-1) finish in a two-day tournament on July 26-27.

Zeebrugge, a seaport town on the North Sea, extended a chilly 60-degree welcome to nine men's and four women's national teams with a sun-less sky and strong winds in excess of 20-25 miles an hour from the southwest. The weather conditions on the first day of the 9-team round robin were not ideal for beach volleyball, but Bruning-Majorino deftly worked the winds and protected every lead they got to an 8-0 first-place standing at the end of the day. The difficult winds made serve-receive almost impossible; whenever Bruning-Majorino put the ball in the opponents' court, the opponents rarely made three successive and accurate contacts to return the ball.

After USA sided out to start its first match around noon against Austria's Bernhard Kurzmann and Robert Gravog, Majorino opened with five straight aces to a 6-0 lead, and USA defeated the Austrians with a final score of 21-7. The next match against Switzerland's Tino Staub and Bernhard Achermann was an astounding 21-5 rout in Americans' favor, with every single one of the opponent's points attributed to USA's self-inflicted errors.

The red-white-blue momentum pushed the German duo of Norbert Rudnick and Deimel aside with a 21-8 score, but the next opponent, the Belgians' 2001 Deaflympians Kristof De Weerd and Luc Snellings, proved to be a bit more challenging. In a post game comment, Majorino said, "this match was more challenging so far and we were under pressure because



The Americans and Belgians grab a photo opportunity in Zeebrugge.

Photo Credit: International Deaf Volleyball tournament hosts, Belgium

both players were good servers." However, the Americans dug in, never losing a lead from start to finish and came away with a 21-12 victory. The closest the Belgians could get to the Americans was 4 points behind at 8-12. The other two Belgian teams of Danny De Weerd-Tom Hessens and Pascal Stappers-Bart Dumelie were unable to do any better, giving USA a 21-9 and 21-10 victory, respectively.

The final two opponents of the day added resistance to Bruning-Majorino's reach for 21 points. The Germans Andreas Müller and Stefan Schäfer held the

Americans to an 8-8 tie midway through the late afternoon match. USA broke free with a 16-11 lead and put a side-out strategy into action on its way to a 21-15 win. The last of the three German teams, Matthias Bork and Christian Schumann, did not have any better luck, giving the Americans a 21-13 victory.

Final team placements in the round robin sent the top 4 teams to a pool of its own and the bottom 5 teams into another pool. First-seeded USA opened the next morning with a tentative 6-6 start but rolled to a 21-12 victory over second-seeded De Weerd-Snellings. The weather was quite the opposite of the day before as the beach warmed up to the mid-70's, with gentle southwesterly winds and lots of sun bringing plenty of people out for kite-flying and swimming.

Bruning predicted the opponents' level of play would improve as most of them were Deaflympic indoor volleyball players and accustomed to the indoor's neutral climate. He added, "the sands here are somewhat more compact than the soft sands of Southern California, but our experiences prepared us for this." Facing next against third-seeded Bork-Schumann, Majorino was not his true self and uncharacteristically fell into a slump. Schumann made big plays with several stuff blocks, putting the Germans

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Beach Volleyball Competition

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ahead. USA clawed back but was handed its only defeat of the tournament, an 18-21 loss. "I (expletive) that game up!" fumed Majorino. He cranked up his competitiveness and determination with two blocks, two aces and countless digs in an impressive fast start to a 21-9 wake-up call over Müller-Schäfer.

Based on point differential with Bork-Schumann in the top 4-team pool play, the Americans were again seeded first when the 2-of-3 match playoffs commenced. Fourth-seeded De Weerd-Snellings were battling fatigue as the day worn on, and USA's better-conditioned duo took advantage of their decline with a 2-0 (21-6, 21-16) victory. Bruning and Majorino both committed several mental errors in the second set as excitement from the easy first set win got in the way, but in a typical and steady side-out fashion, they prevailed. Müller-Schäfer defeated Bork-Schumann in a 3-set match and came to face the unstoppable Bruning-Majorino in the finals. Müller's "sky ball" serves in the sun proved difficult for Majorino to pass. After a USA timeout, Bruning turned the tables on Müller by passing his "sky balls" so that he could attack off Majorino's consistent sets. The Germans' serving plan was thus rendered ineffective. USA took the first set 21-16 and played its true California form in front of many beachgoers to take the second set, 21-11, for the championship title.

Bruning, 32, a resident of San Diego, Calif., struggled with infected tonsils since early May and had a tonsillectomy three weeks prior to the Belgium event. Despite losing about 20 pounds on his 6-5 frame, a much leaner Bruning was consistent and provided leadership throughout the tournament. He is currently ranked 19th in Men's top AAA division in California Beach Volleyball Association (CBVA) and has competed in several Association of Volleyball Professionals qualifiers. When asked about his future in volleyball, the 3-time indoor Deaflympic Bruning answered, "my knees could not handle the rigors of indoor volleyball anymore, so I decided to commit to beach volleyball as the sands are much more forgiving."

A former rugby player with a top-ranked national club, Majorino, 35, returned to beach volleyball in 1998 after a rugby injury and won the 2001 Avalon Bay Beach Volleyball League Championships. Also a resident of San Diego, he was not aware of sports organized exclusively for the deaf and hard of hearing and did not know any sign language. Bruning spotted the tanned and well-built 6-1 Majorino wearing hearing aids in both ears in a beach volleyball competition late last year and introduced himself. They started training as partners at South Mission Beach and played in several CBVA and West Coast Volleyball events, which certainly paid off with a convincing win at Zeebrugge.

IOC Highlights: Week of September 23

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presented in June 2003. On the occasion of this first week in Lausanne, the Museum hosted the 2001/2002 participants for the diploma presentation ceremony.

The Olympic Museum today (Friday) plays host to the 150 participants of the VII International Congress of the European Sports History Committee, for a session entirely devoted to Olympism. A presentation of the Olympic Studies Centre and a visit of the Olympic Museum's exhibitions are planned. Organised by the Université de Franche-Comté (France), in partnership with Lausanne University, this meeting of sports historians is taking place from 26 to 29 September in Besançon and Lausanne.

On Saturday 21 September, the second Lausanne Museum Night took place. The idea: a "Museum Night maxicard", costing 10 francs, giving its holder access to the city's 21 museums between 2 p.m. and 1 a.m. the next day. Five thousand cards were printed and there were 6,000 requests. There was a total of 25,000 museum visits, including 1,500 to the Olympic Museum.

To liven up this Night, the Olympic Museum organised demonstrations in the framework of the "New Materials for Success" exhibition in collaboration with students from the EPFL (Lausanne Federal Polytechnic School). The Library and the Education Service also organised events.

EVENTS

Results: Youth PanAmerican Games for the Deaf

This summer the Youth PanAm Games for the Deaf was hosted in Barquisimeto, Venezuela from 17 to 24 August. It was a memorable week of competition and friendship for the deaf youth of the Americas.

The results can be viewed at:
www.ciss.org/enews/ypareresults02.html



Exploding out of the starting blocks in the girls' 100 meter dash.



Arms raised in victory!



Celebrating together the successful performance in their event.

Results: 6th EDSO Water Polo Championships

The 6th European Deaf Sports Organization Water Polo Championships was hosted during 16-20 September in Sheffield, England. The results of the Water Polo Championships can be viewed at:

<http://www.ciss.org/enews/6thedsowp.html>

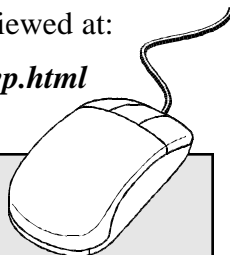
Results: International Beach Doubles Volleyball

The results of the 1st International Beach Doubles Volleyball event can be found at:

<http://www.ciss.org/enews/zebrugge02.html>

Upcoming Events

To view further upcoming events, check out Calenderlive at CISS' Events page at <http://www.ciss.org/events.html>



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