



International Committee of Sports for the Deaf

e-News

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Letter from the President

It is hard to believe that it has been nearly 7 months since the conclusion of the 2005 Summer Deaflympics in Melbourne. I continue to appreciate the positive results of the Games.

As your newly elected President, I led the first Executive Committee meeting held at the Bildungstätte für Gehörlose (Deaf Retreat Center) in Passugg, Switzerland from 7 to 11 May 2005. All, except for two regional representatives from Pan Am and Asia/Pacific, attended. Since the majority of the Executive Committee members were new, I decided that team-building activities would be of great benefit for the new Executive Committee members. Two Deaf trainers from Zürich, Ruedi Graf and Stanko Pavlica, were hired to lead us through the first one and half days with a pleasant assortment of activities.

Right after team-building activities, I led a Questions & Answers period about the structure of the EC. Some questions were:

- How is the board structured?
- Are there descriptions of the responsibilities of the board as a whole and of individual EC members?
- Who are the other commission members? Roles and responsibilities?
- Is there a system of checks and balances to prevent conflicts of interest between EC members and the organization?
- Does the organization have directors and officers liability coverage?
- How does the command chart between the EC and the Executive Director look like?

During the EC meeting, the members also received background materials on the organization, such as the 2004 annual report, the

most recent audited financial statement, the E-News, brochure, or other publications. After the conclusion of the meeting, the EC members felt more enthusiastic about contributing significantly. You can see 16-minute footage of the EC meeting at the bottom of this page.

For liability and security, the EC fully endorsed the concept of outsourcing bookkeeping responsibility to a local accountant in Frederick, where the DEAFLYMPICS office is located. Mr. Terrence Berrigan, a Deaf accountant, has been recently contracted on a limited and part-time basis.

To many of us, it may seem that thinking about the 2013 Summer Games may be way too early, but it is not! The EC must review the bidding proposals from interested candidates during its EC meeting in March 2006 in Salt Lake City. A site visit must be held in the summer of 2006 so that a complete evaluation report can be distributed to members prior to the 2007 Congress. I respectfully request that interested federations submit bids, directly to the Secretariat by **31 December 2005**.

Till later-

Donalda K. Ammons

View the 16-minute footage credited by [Focus-5](#) team.

Inside ICSD

New ICSD Sports Director Appointed



The ICSD Executive Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of Josef Willmerdinger of Germany as the ICSD Sports Director, effective immediately.

Josef's responsibilities and duties will include liaison with appropriate International Sports Federations, ICSD nation members and Technical Directors on technical issues.

Josef was a Deaflympian at the 1977 and 1981 Games as a football player for the German team. Since 1972 he held several roles for numerous different sports, either as a player, coach or a sports manager for football, volleyball, basketball, skiing, ice-hockey, athletics, fistball, gymnastics and youth sports representing Gehoerlosen-Sportverein Muenchen (GSV) and Gehoerlose Bergfreunde Muenchen e.V. (GBF)

At the national level for German Deaf Sports Federation (DGS)- Josef is currently a training consultant for elite sports since 2002 and holds training licenses in Coaching for Elite Sports "A" and Coaching for Sport Prevention. He has also conducted several sports seminars in Germany.

With his extensive knowledge and experience in summer and winter sports, we are excited to bring him on board as the ICSD Sports Director.

Mr. Josef Willmerdinger can be reached at willmerdinger@ciss.org

Report From Vice President David Lanesman

I was elected as the ICSD Vice President (VP) at the recent Congress which took place in conjunction with the 2005 Deaflympics Summer Games in Melbourne, Australia in January 2005. I was elected along with President Dr. Donald Ammons and Executive Committee members Dogan Ozdemir, Siv Fosshaug, and Yang Yang.

I knew it would not be an easy task to be the VP. However, I am committed to fulfilling this important role. We, the Executive Committee, have a clear message which is "We strive for a better DEAFLYMPICS".

The Executive Committee had its first meeting in Passugg, Switzerland this past May 2005. We were also joined by the new Sports Director Josef Willmerdinger, Executive Director Tiffany Granfors, and Regional Representatives Isabelle Malaurie and Peter Kalae.

We agreed that this meeting was very fruitful. We immediately discovered that we all have something in common - the best interest of DEAFLYMPICS! We will carry out decisions that were made.

As VP, I will chair the Finance and Marketing commission. The main objective of this commission is to improve our financial standing and to recruit more sponsorship for DEAFLYMPICS.

We also agreed that I will be the DEAFLYMPICS representative at the very first Confederation of African Deaf Sports (CADS) General Assembly which will take place in Accra, Ghana in November 2005. It will be my first task as the VP and I intend to successfully fulfill this

responsibility. We hope that the outcome of CADS General Assembly will push for a bigger and stronger Africa Deaf Sports! CADS must move in the same direction as the other regional confederations: European Deaf Sports Organization (EDSO), Asia Pacific Deaf Sports Confederation (APDSC), and Pan American Deaf Sports Federation (PANAMDES).

I hope you enjoy this edition of e-News and will want to pass it along to your friends who may not be aware of the existence of DEAFLYMPICS and its eNews. Your friends can subscribe to Enews by going to www.deaflympics.com and click Subscribe link at the bottom.

I will submit regular VP reports in upcoming eNews issues. HAPPY READING!

Report From Sports Director Josef Willmerdinger

The recent Deaflympic Summer Games in Melbourne signified the ultimate highlight in the history of deaf sports. Before Melbourne 2005, I had visited a multitude of Deaflympic Games and can only endorse the opinion that Melbourne 2005 was a sports event unlike any other. My congratulations to the organizers!

Elections for the new ICSD Executive Committee members were held at Congress that occurred prior to the 2005 Deaflympics Summer Games in January 2005. We can deem ourselves very lucky to have distinguished Deaf people such as our president, Dr. Donald Ammons, our vice-president, David Lanesman, and Board Members Siv Fosshaug, Yang Yang, and Dogan Ozdemir. They are all willing to do their utmost best for the success of DEAFLYMPICS.

I was appointed by Executive Committee in March 2005 to be the Sports Director for ICSD. I am delighted to be a part of this group and will do everything in my power to contribute to the

work of DEAFLYMPICS. I would like to cordially thank the German Deaf Sports Federation for its support and for giving me the opportunity to be a part of DEAFLYMPICS.

It is my desire that deaf sports federations from all over the world cooperate in the spirit of friendship and understanding towards our goal of strengthening DEAFLYMPICS, even if different positions should arise from time to time. We certainly can use every kind of help and support from you.

During my term as the Sports Director, I look forward to working closely with all Technical Directors in a positive way from now until 2009 in order to achieve our goals.

Please feel free to provide me with your honest opinion and suggestions for improvements. I welcome your support and feedback.

Josef Willmerdinger
Sports Director

Technical Directors for 2005 - 2009 Term

We are pleased to announce the Technical Directors for the 2005 - 2009 term. Their contact information can be found on this following [page](#).

Athletics: Barbara C. Søndergaard - DENMARK

Badminton: Martin Bogard - GREAT BRITAIN

Basketball: Kjell Gunnå - SWEDEN

Beach Volleyball: Alexander Romantsov - RUSSIA, Assistant: John Knetzger - UNITED STATES

Bowling: Ulf Hanson - SWEDEN

Cycling: Bobby Skedsmo - UNITED STATES

Handball: Mario Torcolini - ITALY

Orienteering: Marek Mir-Mackiewicz - DENMARK

Shooting: Mac Adam - AUSTRALIA

Swimming: Reed Gershwind - UNITED STATES

Table Tennis: Zsolt Nyiro - HUNGARY
Tennis: Guido Giovanetti - ITALY
Volleyball: Alexander Romantsov - RUSSIA,
Assistant: John Knetzger - UNITED STATES
Water Polo: Reed Gershwind - UNITED STATES
Wrestling: Mehmet Demir Bilgili - TURKEY

We will continue to announce more Technical Directors shortly after they confirm their positions.

ICSD Headquarters News

The headquarter Office is always busy everyday meeting the request of our 94 member countries as well as working with 2007, 2009, and 2011 Games Organizing Committees, World Championship hosts and many other individuals interested in the Deaf Sports world.

Our Executive Director, Tiffany Granfors, is fortunate to have two excellent staff members in the office assisting her with daily tasks.

Lisa Jacobs, her office assistant comes in 10 hours a week to assist with home office matters and keep up with the fast paced world we are faced with today.

Wayne Langbein, our Technical Operations manager, is responsible for all kinds of database programs (audiogram, archives, and photos - we have thousands of photographs that needs to be sorted), and our Deaflympics website. We are excited to have him on board to manage all kinds of databases to be sure that all of our documents, historical, and current information is stored and displayed properly on the web.

As our funds continue to grow we hope to continue to hire more staff members to continue to meet the needs and demands of the member countries and other customers so we can serve them well!

Games Database Project

Since the CISS archives are now in the hands of Gallaudet University, I am able to pursue my life-long dream of establishing a database of everyone who ever participated in the Games since their beginning in 1924.

Thus far I have entered over 5,000 names, starting with the Paris Games in 1924. Currently I am completing entries for the 1977 Bucharest Games.

The project has two stages. In this first stage, the names are obtained from the official entry forms and that information: Name, birth date, sport and event, is entered into the database. In the second stage, after all names have been entered, we will return to the archives and attempt to obtain results data and add that.

The second stage will be a very large and difficult job as our goal is to include everyone, not just those finishing first, second or third.

When the job is complete (in a few years), it will be possible for one to type in a name and the database will instantly tell you what Games, sports and events that person participated in and how he or she finished.

For the present time, you can observe the work as it progresses by going to www.deaflympics.com then clicking on the Games tab. When that opens, click on any Deaflympics Summer Games (up to 1977 now), then click on Participants and click on the country you are interested in and you will see a list of all participants from that country, with their birth year.

Please inform us of any mis-spellings or any errors that you may notice. You may contact us at tech@deaflympics.com. We want the data to be perfect!

Jerald M. Jordan

WIDEX Marathon Team makes a contribution towards the 2009 DEAFLYMPICS at the 2005 Berlin Marathon

WIDEX makes a donation towards the 2009 DEAFLYMPICS by challenging a group of 34 runners at the 2005 Berlin Marathon. [Read more](#) about this creative sponsorship effort!

View Deaflympics TV on DeafNation Website

Visit www.deafnation.com/deaflympics to view recent Deaflympic Games in Melbourne, Australia 2005 on web TV! DeafNation also features variety of Deaflympics stories and interviews on their specific Deaflympics TV channel. Check it out!

Photos from recent Deaflympic Games on Sale

Visit www.2005deaflympics.com to purchase top quality photos from recent Deaflympic Games in Melbourne, Australia 2005.

DVD or Video Sales of Deaflympic Games Highlights

Visit www.2005deaflympics.com to purchase your copy of the DVD or Video of the recent Deaflympic Games in Melbourne, Australia 2005.

2007 Deaflympic Winter Games Update

Greetings fellow members of the DEAFLYMPICS family,

The 2007 Deaflympics Organizing Committee has been very busy this year. With all the support we now have, the 2007 Deaflympic Winter Games should become one of the very best ever staged! I want to share with you what our committee has accomplished so far:

- The 2007 Deaflympics headquarters hotel will be Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City, an 880 room hotel which also was used for the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. We have a great deal with the hotel, which includes unlimited gourmet buffet breakfasts and dinners. Little America Hotel will be an "Olympic Village" where athletes can meet, relax, and socialize. Teams staying at Little America Hotel will be provided with free bus transportation to the competition venues and ceremonies. More information on Little America Hotel and the costs, which include meals, is available in our website, www.2007Deaflympics.com.
- The Opening Ceremony and Closing Ceremony will be at the 2002 Olympic Cauldron Park, 5 minutes from Little America Hotel. This will be a gala event with lighting of the Deaflympic flame on the 2002 Olympics cauldron.
- The alpine skiing and snowboarding competition will be at Park City Mountain Resort, and most of the competition events will be held on the same courses used during the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. Park City is a 25 minute ride from Little America Hotel.
- The Nordic skiing competition will be at Soldier Hollow Nordic Center, and will use the same courses used in the 2002 Olympics. Soldier Hollow is a 45 minute drive from Little America Hotel.

- The ice hockey and curling competition will be at Steiner's Ice Arena in Salt Lake City, which is a 5 minute ride from Little America Hotel.
- Several entertaining arts and culture events will be held in Salt Lake City during the Deaflympics week; art shows, International Deaf Club, International Deaf Coffeehouse, Deaf theatre, and more. All arts and culture events will be held either in Little America Hotel or within a short walk of the hotel.
- After the Closing Ceremony, there will be a gala closing banquet followed with a closing party at the Salt Lake City Convention Center, a few blocks from Little America Hotel.

Little America Hotel is now accepting room reservations from both teams and fans, and room reservations may be booked through www.2007Deaflympics.com. Because Little America Hotel is in the center of most 2007 Deaflympics activities and will provide teams staying at the hotel with free transportation to competition venues, I strongly encourage teams to make their reservations at Little America Hotel as soon as they can, before the hotel releases rooms not reserved to Deaflympic Games fans and other visitors to Salt Lake City.

I look forward to seeing you all in Salt Lake City USA February 1-10, 2007!

Dwight Benedict, Chairperson
2007 Deaflympic Winter Games Organizing Committee

Sorenson Media Donates \$250,000 to 2007 Deaflympic Winter Games

James Lee Sorenson, CEO of Sorenson Media, presented Dwight Benedict, chair of the 2007 Deaflympic Winter Games Organizing Committee, with a check for \$250,000.

CSD Listed as Major Sponsor of the 2007 Deaflympic Winter Games

Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc. (CSD) of Sioux Falls, South Dakota has signed on as a Gold Medal Partner Sponsor of the 16th Deaflympic Winter Games, held in Salt Lake City, Utah February 1-10, 2007.

Deaf Sports In Brief

DEAFLYMPICS to recognise Junior World Records

After recommendation from many countries taking part in the Deaflympic Games in Melbourne Mr. Josef Willmerdinger, Sports Director, at the May 2005 Executive Board meeting accepted the proposal from Barbara Søndergaard, Athletics Technical Director, to start recognising Junior World Records effective from January 1, 2005.

A number of records were set during the Games and a few applications have already been received. A few details need to be clarified before we publish the list of new Junior World Records. Please check the DEAFLYMPICS homepage regularly to locate the list.

DEAFLYMPICS will follow the IAAF Rules regarding Junior World Records. We especially want to draw your attention to the weights of implements which will be used by Men's Shot put (6kg), Discus (1.75 kg), and Hammer (6kg). There is no difference for Women's events. The qualified age for juniors is up to 19 years of age on 31 December of the year (for 2005 athletes born in 1986 or later) may apply for Junior World Records and a World Record if it also qualifies.

It is decided that the first and best result obtained from January 1, 2005, will be recognised as a Junior World Record provided the IAAF rules are followed with regard to a properly filled application accompanied with a programme, full result and for electrical timing a photo finish (a copy is acceptable).

It is the season for athletics competitions on the Northern Hemisphere and we encourage all juniors to try to set a Junior World Record now!

Have a productive time during the 2005 season!

Barbara Søndergaard
TD, athletics

Report from the DIBF

The Deaf International Basketball Federation (DIBF), held a meeting at the 2005 Deaflympic Games in Melbourne. There were representatives from twelve countries in attendance. The meeting started with a power-point presentation moderated by the Vice-President Lyndon Borrow of Australia. The presentation covered various activities operated by the DIBF in the recent past such as assistance with the arrangement of the first World Championships held in 2002 at Athens, Greece. Other activities operated with the DIBF's help included Deaf basketball coaching clinics/development seminars held at Beijing, China (2002), Buenos Aires, Argentina (2003), Lagos, Nigeria (2003), Kiev, Ukraine (2004), cooperative efforts between the DIBF and the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) and more.

After the power-point presentation, President Jussi Raisio of Finland took over the proceedings and the meeting shifted towards discussion about planned events in the near future, and the status of DIBF amongst Deaf Sports Federations. The main thread of the discussion revolved around the fact that many Deaf Sports Federations are unaware about the DIBF, its activities, and its authority regarding Deaf Basketball around the world. This is an issue which must be remedied through cooperative efforts between the DIBF and the DEAFLYMPICS Administration.

After the discussion was brought to a close, the particulars of the second DIBF World Championships to be held in 2007 at

Guangzhou, China were presented by the Chinese delegation and well received with appreciation by the member-nations in attendance. Letters of Invitation to participate in the 2007 World Championships in Guangzhou, China were recently sent out through e-mail and mail to 55 Deaflympic member countries, which have a basketball program.

On the agenda was the DIBF budget with accounts for the years 2002-2004. The budget was analyzed and discussed. The FIBA had been supporting the DIBA with \$12,500 USD per year for DIBF's Deaf basketball development events, Deaf coaching clinics, and other events pertaining to Deaf basketball around the world. Unfortunately funding will be cut, in light of this issue the DIBF is asking for support in the form of membership fees of \$75 USD. More details about this issue were also included in the World Championships Invitations.

The DIBF is now accepting applications for the rights to host Regional Championships during 2008 and applications for the rights to host the second DIBF World Championships in 2011. The DIBF asks that any countries interested in hosting any of those events to please send their applications in as soon as possible.

Recently, the DIBF assisted in arranging for the first International Deaf Youth Basketball Camp held at Vilnius, Lithuania. Click [here](#) for more information on FIBA's website about the International Deaf Youth Basketball Camp.

In case of more information and/or questions please do not hesitate to visit www.dibf.org or send e-mail to secretary_general@dibf.org.

Best regards,
The DIBF Central Board

Secretary General Kjell Gunnå

WDGF Rules for the 2006 World Deaf Golf Championships

WDGF would like to share Rules and Regulations for those who are interested in participating in 2006 World Deaf Golf Championships which will be held at Edmonton, Canada.

WDGF's bylaws are shown below:

Appendix 01: WDGF Rules for the World Deaf Golf Championships.

Who can play?

The Tournament is open to all deaf and hard of hearing male and female golfers. The hearing loss must be at least 55 decibels in the better ear, without the use of hearing aid/implant.

Audiogram

A copy of an audiogram is required to enter the competition. Those who have previously supplied an approved audiogram do not need to submit a copy again. It is not allowed to wear hearing aids during the tournament.

Men's Tournament

Men's golfers must have an official handicap of 15 or lower, and up to ten golfers from each country are allowed to enter.

Ladies Tournament

Ladies golfers must have an official handicap of 24 or lower, and up to five golfers from each country are allowed to enter.

Seniors Tournament

To play in the seniors' tournament, the golfer must be of an age of 50 years or older (be born 1954 or earlier). Senior golfers must have an official handicap of 18 or lower, three golfers from each country are allowed to enter. If a golfer enters the Seniors' tournament, he may not enter for the Men's Tournament.

Member's card

It is required to be a member of an official Golf Club, and a copy of the member's card (or similar) must be sent together with the entry form.

Approval

Because the 5th WDGC are sanctioned both by the World Deaf Golf Federation and by the CISS, all the entries to the WDGC must be approved and signed by the President of the National Deaf Golf Association or by the National Deaf Sports Association.

IOC In Brief

SportAccord - GAISF Assembly - Berlin, Germany - April 18 to 20, 2005

The time we spent in Berlin was very interesting and productive for Tiffany and me. On April 18th and 19th we attended the SportAccord conference workshops and on April 20th the GAISF general assembly. Tiffany and I attended as delegate representatives for the Deaflympics since our organization is a member of GAISF, therefore it was necessary to attend the GAISF Assembly representing our organization.

SportAccord is a big international sports conference bringing more than 100 international sports federations every year. There are three major groups of key players; **GAISF** (General Association of International Sports Federations), **ASOIF** (Association of Summer Olympic International Federations), and **AIOWF** (Association of the International Olympic Winter Sports Federations) also there are many other people attending the conference such as sponsors, architects, sports lawyers, broadcasters and other specialists to discuss the key issues facing the sports industry. The conference includes open conference sessions, workshops, seminars, scheduled networking opportunities and exhibition booths. It was at the same time the IOC held their Executive Board meeting.

Tiffany and I received a lot of information about different subjects including the following issues:

"The development of sport",
"The broadcasting of sport events",
"Sport and education",
"Sport and media",
"Sport equipment and safety",
"Sport and television" and
"Sport and volunteers".

Thanks to Tiffany, I got to meet and network with some new people within the sports world.

There were a lot of interesting stands in the exhibition area:

1. The five candidate cities London, Madrid, Moscow, New York and Paris applying for the Olympic Games in 2012. Tiffany and I are of the same opinion that the presentation of Paris was the best and we think that Paris will make it. Let's wait and see whether we are right or not. (Editor's note: London was just selected on 6 July 2005)
2. WADA (World Anti Doping Association). They are the main contribution to the anti-doping policy and efforts in the sports world. We must work together with WADA.
3. The representation of : IEC in Sports, contemporary groups, GL events, Jack Morton Public Events, firstwave Sports, AON, FIBA, icon Look, AGFIS GAISF Magazine, sport business, sportcal.com, sportcentric, sport cities venues, sportsmedia, SPORT Strategies, sportandtechnology, United Nations Sport 2005 (www.un.org/sport2005) etc.
4. For further information about SportAccord please have a look at the website www.sportaccord.com.

The next GAISF Assembly will take place in Seoul, South Korea, from April 3rd – April 7th, 2006.

All things considered I was very impressed by the whole SportAccord event. It is indeed very important for us to continue attending these kinds of events. It allows us to be always be up

to date within the world of Sports. The GAISF members are very supportive towards the Deaflympics.

I thank the Deaflympics organization for having given me the opportunity to take part in the GAISF conference as one of the delegates representing the Deaflympics.

Josef Willmerdinger
Sport Director



Josef Willmerdinger and Tiffany Granfors at 2005 SportAccord - GAISF in Berlin, Germany.



One of 2005 SportAccord - GAISF workshop in session.



2005 SportAccord - GAISF booth. Here, WADA and two of the candidate host cities (Moscow and London) for 2012 Games of the XXX Olympiad.



2005 SportAccord - GAISF General Assembly meeting.

Results of the vote: London 2012

The city of London has been elected host city for the Games of the XXX Olympiad in 2012.

Singapore 2005: London elected as the host city for the Games of the XXX Olympiad

The host city for the Games of the XXX Olympiad will be London.