



International Committee of Sports for the Deaf

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Message from the President

🇺🇸 - This article has 3 minutes and 59 seconds video clip and can be found at - www.youtube.com/watch?v=wiro6xNJ0P0

Hi- I want to take up this opportunity to talk about the upcoming extraordinary Congress which will be held in Bratislava, Slovakia.

The Congress theme is "Deaf Sports Reform for Our Better Future". We will vote on proposals relating to organizational structure changes. This is essential in continuing and preserving the image of our organization, its programs and services. This Congress will also show our deep commitment to upholding the spirit of Olympism. We must seek ways to change.

The Deaf Sports Reform materials have already been sent in early June. You now have an opportunity to review and offer feedback to ICSD by 1 August 2008. Then, the final draft of the deaf sports reform organizational structure will be distributed by 10 August 2008. I encourage you to send your comments either by e-mail or video through YouTube.

See you in Bratislava!

Dr. Donalda K. Ammons
President

Inside ICSD

Report from Vice President

Summer is here and it is really hot not only in weather but international sports activities too and ICSD sports calendar is growing longer with various regional sports too.

In May I attended the World Deaf Martial Arts Championships in Toulouse in France as an official ICSD observer. It is my first time as the official observer. Josef WILLMERDINGER, ICSD Sports Director was also present as the three technical directors are very new in their positions. They did an excellent job after taking into account that it is their first time. The championships included 3 different sports – Judo, Karate and Taekwondo. From there I learned a lot and found these sports very interesting and appealing. Sometimes I regret for not joining one of these sports when I was young and fit!



François Khalef (Karate), David Lanesman (Vice President), Jung-bae Park (Taekwondo), Josef Willmerdinger (Sports Director), and Damien Antoine (Judo)

I have been on one important programme which I believe it will be a real starting block for Africa Deaf Sports. Since reported in my last E-News report, seven countries have registered for the qualifying Football Tournaments for the 2009 Summer

Deaflympics. The Southern region tournament will be held between 13th and 16th August 2008 in Boksburg (near Johannesburg), and the Northwestern region- between 19th and 22nd August in Accra. The winner from each of two tournaments will be invited to participate in the 2009 Deaflympics. Participating nations in the Southern region are South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. For the Northwestern region, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon and Algeria are participating countries. John YUSUF, the CADS Secretary General, will be present in Ghana as my assistant and it will be a golden opportunity for us to work closely. I am sure he will be very useful for Africa Deaf Sports. ICSD is very appreciative of the hosts for accepting to host at such a short notice.

I strongly emphasize that the next qualifying football tournament for the 2013 Summer Deaflympics in Athens must be part of the Africa Nations Football Cup which will take place in either 2011 or 2012. So I will meet with some countries and discuss with them about hosting the next qualification round when I am in South Africa and Ghana in August.

David Lanesman
ICSD Vice President

Report from Sports Director

I attended the 13th World Deaf Martial Arts Championships in Toulouse, France, from 22nd – 26th May 2008. The Martial Arts Championships include Judo, Karate and Taekwondo.

These Championships belonged to the IMAFD (International Martial Art Federation of the Deaf) in former times. These Championships from 22nd – 26th May 2008 are the first games which are carried out by ICSD. Unfortunately, the IMAFD is currently unable to carry out the championships because only one member of IMAFD-President Francesco FARAONE, Italy, is actively involved with the IMAFD. It is possible that the IMAFD will no longer be active.

Our ICSD Technical Director, Damien ANTOINE, France, is responsible for Judo' ICSD TD Francois KHALEF, France, is responsible for Karate; and ICSD TD Jung-bae PARK, Korea, is in charge of Taekwondo.

The strong participation of 20 countries and over 144 Athletes is very positive. This is a new record. There were many good and interesting competitions and I think we can face the future with good championships.

I want to thank David LANESMAN, ICSD Vice-President, Isabelle MALAURIE, Ex-President of FSSF (Federation Sportive des Sourds de France- now disbanded) and the 3 ICSD TDs Damien ANTOINE, Francois KHALEF and Jung-bae PARK for their good cooperation.

There were many difficulties in reference to communication between the hearing Organizing Committee (OC) and the deaf people. Despite all problems, there was a good end with the athletes bringing home many positive achievements.

Shortly the Deaf Martial Arts Championships in Toulouse, I visited the 1st World Deaf Table Tennis Championships in Sofia, Bulgaria, from 31st May to 9th June 2008. The Technical Director of Table Tennis, Zsolt NYIRO, showed very good work. The large

number of participants in these Championships was a positive surprise because next year will be the Summer Deaflympics in Taiwan.

A total of 130 athletes from 22 countries attended. Altogether there were 17 men's and 10 women's teams. Due to the great achievements of all countries we can contently look forward to the future and look for additional success.



Russian Federation - 2008 World Deaf Football Women's Champions

From 2nd – 12th July 2008 the 1st World Deaf Football Championships took place in Patras ,Greece. 5 women's and 15 men's teams participated. Only the German, Russian and British team were able to send both women and men teams. Unfortunately, there were many difficulties resulting from the hearing Organizing Committee (OC) because they had not prepared their tasks, like transport and training plans which were very bad. It resulted in a lot of trouble and a mess. We were very taken aback by the OC's lack of preparation because in the last 10 years the Greek deaf people have organized over 6 huge events with excellent results. Many officials from all over the world can affirm this fact. I am very impressed with the deaf volunteers, the deaf and hearing interpreters and their enormous work. Their hard work and diligence deserve praise and respect. All of the teams deserve appreciation for the exciting and unforgettable games. The women of Russia won and deserved the world Championship

title against a strong German women's team. Despite the enormous heat, the women played well and played fair. Congratulations. In the end the men's teams from Germany and Turkey were in the final round. Until the very end there were suspenseful scenes and many beautiful goals with a final and dramatic penalty shootout. Finally a happy Germany won a well-deserved victory against the unhappy and strong Turkish men. I want to sum up briefly that the achievement in football from both the men and women (with exception of a few) were at a top level.

I have to say that there were many problems with the referees because often times they didn't referee neutral and impartial. In future we should be willing to employ the best and most experienced referees. Likewise we have to guarantee safety in the stadium for all athletes and fans.



Germany - 2008 World Deaf Football Men's Champions

A reminder to all Technical Directors who will carry out an inspection tour from 4th – 11th October 2008:
Please prepare yourself and know the

regulations exactly and correctly so that every sport and venue is evaluated at the most current level. If there are questions please contact us. It is important to eliminate all questions and uncertainties because we want to present the games in Taiwan without any problems.

Also a short word about Audiograms:

There continues to be problems with the audiograms. Every time I come to a World Championship like in Toulouse, Sofia, Patras, there are difficulties that are related to the audiogram. Please have a close look at the regulations. If you have any questions please ask our staff for information BEFORE the events, not on site when it is too late. It is extremely annoying and unfair for the athletes who travel long distances to the competitions and then to hear on site that they are not able to participate. This is because the Deaf Sport Federations handle the audiogram very late or because they are unaware or do not read the regulations of the audiogram. If there is no audiogram, the athlete cannot take part in the competitions. Therefore I ask all of you to study the regulations of audiogram exactly so that we can avoid unnecessary trouble in future.

Finally I wish all of you good luck and a nice and relaxing summertime.

Josef WILLMERDINGER
ICSD Sports Director

Inside Deaflympics

Vitality, 365! Countdown to Taipei 2009 Summer Deaflympics

In two months time, on 5 September, comes the 365-day countdown to the Taipei 2009 Summer Deaflympics. The Organizing Committee (hereafter "TDOC") takes pleasure to commemorate the milestone moment and share experiences in the spirit of international community with friends from around the world.

The most remarkable among all countdown celebrations is the Invitational Games for the Deaf. On the evening of 5 September, 337 hard of hearing and deaf sports friends, including athletes, coaches and team staff, will be in Taipei with us to officially announce the 365 days to the Summer Deaflympics in 2009. An adorable show presented by young performers of Children's Hearing Foundation and Taipei School of Hearing Impaired will kick off this sports fiesta at the opening ceremony. The 6-day event includes 5 competitions: football, table tennis, judo, karate and taekwondo; with 260 athletes are from Argentina, China, France, Greece, Hong Kong, Iran, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Turkey, and Uzbekistan.

As excited about the Invitational Games as TDOC are the students of 16 senior high schools. Student ambassador teams have been organized in these selected schools and assigned to each participating national teams. They will be cheering with athletes from the opening ceremony through every game. To prepare these young people to be the best "ambassadors", the seed college volunteers of sign language of the Taipei Municipal University of Education started a sign language learning program in May at

these high schools. In addition, 16 teachers will be appointed to serve as the attaches to national teams during the Invitational Games. They will be trained to accommodate individual needs, respond to emergencies, and exchange messages between TDOC and the teams. We hope the practice will succeed, for its purpose and the experience will lead us to host the most thoughtful Deaflympics in 2009.

Another public countdown celebration is the basketball match between the Chinese Taipei Deaflympics basketball team with the Taiwan Beer Team in October. Taiwan Beer Team is the two time champion (2007 & 2008) of the Super Basketball League in Taiwan. The supporting fans of Taiwan Beer Team alone would draw tremendous public interest and attention. When it is further sauced up with the fun that the game will be adopting deaf basketball rules, the event is predicted to be one of sports spotlights for the media.

TDOC's devotion for Deaflympics has no boundaries. We do not hesitate to reach beyond



Paul Heuston answer questions to volunteers

sports. Art Director Stan Lai is planning a promotional film telling life stories of hard of hearing and deaf of all fields, such as athletes, artists, and pop-art celebrities, etc. The film will give a close look into their every day lives, reveal the hardship they face, the determination they have, and the support

they receive from families, friends, and society. In addition to raising deaf awareness of the public, we expect to demonstrate the immense power within the silent minds through their persistence and struggles; and furthermore, aspire those who wrestle with life and plant hope in those who in despair.

It is well understood that communication is



Susan Emerson teach international sign language to volunteers

vital to the success at the sports games for the hard of hearing and deaf. TDOC continues to strengthen the

services of international sign interpretation at the 2009 Deaflympics. Ms. Susan EMERSON, an Australian sign language interpreter, was invited to share her expertise on 7-18 April. 17 TDOC staff and 23 volunteers attended the sign language classes. Excitingly, her visit attracted media attention. The Public Television Services and other 8 major TV channels interviewed Ms. EMERSON and came to film the classes. It effectively raised national deaf awareness and promoted Deaflympics. This was followed by Mr. Paul HEUSTON's visit on 28 June - 4 July. Mr. Heuston is a sign language professional from Australia and has worked on many interpreting assignment. He served as



Volunteers gather together for ice breaking session

the interpreter to the former President of ICSD from 1999 to 2003. Mr. HEUSTON's class is meant to bring the international sign service of Taipei Deaflympics to a more advanced level; and, the students at the classroom are expected to become capable of teaching basic international signs to volunteers and staff. Therefore, instead of open registration, 15 attending volunteers and staff are selected from the group who has received Ms. EMERSON's instruction and passed the evaluation test.

Besides the ongoing tasks, TDOC currently has a priority mission -- ICSD's visit in October. President AMMONS and Executive Director GRANFORS will be arriving in Taipei on 4 October with a group of Executive Committee members and Technical Directors. They will spend a week with TDOC to conduct venue inspection and discuss the progress of 2009 Deaflympics. TDOC is committed to delivering a detailed report on every aspect.

The status of the venues is no doubt one of the most important purposes of ICSD's October trip. In order to have most of the venues ready for inspection, final site visit will be conducted at the first half of July before the contractors begin the construction, renovation and recondition. Every venue will be physically re-examined to ensure floor layout and facility allocation meet requirements. We hope the venues presented to ICSD in October will be close to perfection.

The TDOC look forward to the 365 countdown moment coming up in September and is fully geared up to host the Invitational Games for the Deaf. On the evening of 5 September, we will proudly announce to our hard of hearing and deaf sports friends that "Yes, We Are Ready!"

Message from Technical Director

Alpine Skiing

On 18 March, I flew from Munich to Istanbul, Turkey. Mr Yavuz TANYERI (hearing) met me and the next day we flew to Kars. We met the President of Kars, the President of Sarikamis and Mr. Aktas OTAY of the Turkish Federation of Sports Association. Later the press and a cameraman arrived to make a film and interview.

We stayed in a hotel in Sarakamis Toprak. Mr. TANYERI showed us several hotels and meeting rooms, and he showed me different courses. One course was not suitable and he showed me another course. The other course was good for giant slalom, slalom and Super G and downhill where you have to execute two passes. But there was no ski elevator. Mr. TANYERI said it was ok because he had letters of approval to send to various ministers in the government. A part of the forest must be demolished so a ski elevator can be installed. We will wait for approval. If the ministers do not approve, the course for Alpine Skiing will fail, and there are only facilities for snowboarding and cross country skiing. Dogan OZDEMIR (Executive Committee of ICSD) came on 20 March. I am grateful that he helped us translate. On 21 March I was with Mr. TANYERI to see a cross country route. The route is the best. It is the same competition length as Salt Lake City. However, Yavuz advises, because the track is approximately 2050 meters in altitude, sportsmen may have problems with breathing.

Yavuz has written the protocol in Turkish. I asked him to send an English translation to the ICSD office. On 22 March I flew back to Munich. I thank Dogan OZDEMIR for his full support.

Since that visit, Dogan OZDEMIR wrote to me that an environmental protection association went to court and to prevent the removal of trees in the ski lift course. Therefore the World Deaf Ski Championship 2009 in Turkey is canceled. I ask for new applicants for World Deaf Ski Championships 2010. Please send your application to ICSD Secretariat (info@ciss.org).

I also met with EDSO President Isabelle MALAURIE in Paris on 10 May. We discussed different topics related to the future of deaf skiing.

Mike SCHMAUSER
ICSD Technical Director - Alpine Skiing

Athletics

1st World Deaf Athletics Championships

The first World Championships in athletics is approaching very fast. In a two months time we will gather together in Izmir, Turkey for the first World Championships. The preliminary entries indicated that more than 400 athletes will come together in Izmir. I know very well from previous Summer Deaflympics that the final number will not be that many, but we will no doubt see a very large number of countries, athletes and officials in Izmir. The first final entries have been received already, and both are from two countries that had not sent in their preliminary entries! I hope that even more countries will do their best to send a team to Izmir. A program has been drawn up and can be found on the homepage of the [Organizing Committee](#). I must advise that minor changes will be made should the

number of entries for each event be more than expected. I hope that you all have made the reservations for travel and accommodation. Do not forget a visa for those countries who need an entry visa for Turkey. If you have not done so already, please contact the organizing committee today rather than tomorrow!

In my last article I wrote that the IAAF has adopted some new rules for athletics effective 1 January 2008. The ICSD is following the IAAF very closely and I urge you to get a copy of the new handbook to become familiar with the new rules. I refer to the previous [E-news](#) where I wrote about the age limits that have been introduced by IAAF recently.

Upcoming World Championships

On the ICSD website you will see that it is foreseen to have Cross Country World Championships in 2009 and 2013. No host country has been found so far. I ask interested countries to inform the ICSD Secretariat of their interest to host these World Championships. The 2nd World Deaf Athletics Championships will be held in 2012 and I also ask interested countries to inform the ICSD of their intention to host these championships. For both World Championships I am ready to discuss these while we are in Izmir. We could have an informal meeting to discuss which countries can be future hosts of the World Championships.

World Records

We already have received several applications for World Records and Junior World Records as well. The recognized records will be published on the ICSD [website](#). Unfortunately not all applications have been filled and signed by the referee and judges. I must ask everyone to be aware that the application should be filled and signed on site to save time.

See you all in Izmir!

Barbara C. SØNDERGAARD
ICSD Technical Director - Athletics

Football

1st World Deaf Football Championships

Earlier this month, the first World Deaf Football Championships were held in Patras, Greece. Almost every day the sun shone down to the players with the temperature rising up to 40 degrees (Celsius).

Women:

The Women competition was contested by England, Germany, Greece, Russia and South Africa. As it was a first time international level competition experience for Greece and South Africa, they fought as hard as they could in this competition. They vow to come back stronger in 2012 with the experience gained from this Championship.

In the semi finals, England found themselves 2-0 up against Russia with about 20 minutes to go only for Russia to fight back to 2-2 to take it to extra time. Svetlana Gagarina was the hero for Russia, scoring a hat trick to make it 4-2 for Russia.

In the final, despite the early kick off (09:00hrs), it was still around 38 degrees Celsius and both Germany and Russia both contested well to make it a hard fought final. The German Zeigler sisters were inspirational for Germany, especially Stephanie who was also at the World Deaf Futsal Championships winning the gold medal for Germany (and won the Golden Boot).



Natalia Mikhaylova of Russia who saved a penalty in the final

Natalia Mikhaylova of Russia saved a penalty for Russia with an excellent diving save. This inspired Russia to win the final in extra time with the only goal coming from Tatyana Bol'shakova.

Men:

The Men competition got off to a disappointing start with Malaysia withdrawing from the Championships with only three weeks to go. A late replacement was sought around the world but time was against us.

Group A: Greece, Germany, England
Group B: Ukraine, Ireland, Italy, Venezuela
Group C: Russia, Turkey, Australia, Thailand
Group D: Netherlands, France, China, United States

France, Germany, Ireland and Russia all made early impressions to be serious contenders to be crowned World Champions with impressive victories. I witnessed one of the most exciting matches in my life, between Thailand and Turkey. Thailand went 1-0 up in the 28th minute only to be reduced to 10 men, five minutes later, after a red card was shown for deliberate handball.

You would have thought that Thailand would have defended deeply to protect their slim lead until half time. Wrong! Turkey and Thailand continued to attack each other; Turkey after that all-important equaliser while Thailand hunted for that second killer goal

and the football to watch was a real delight for the neutral eyes.

In the second half, the same pattern continued with the fearless Thais still going for goal. Against the run of play, Turkey equalised and Thailand, having used all three of their substitutes, was reduced to nine men after one of their players was carried off to hospital with a serious injury.

Surely Thailand would now pack their defence and protect their precious point with about 25 minutes to go. Wrong again! Thailand continued to bomb Turkey's goal and Turkey looked dangerous on the counterattack. With minutes ticking away, the impossible happened with Turkey going 2-1 ahead. At this moment the fourth official signalled there would be five minutes injury time (in account of all six substitutes coming on and the serious injury that resulted in an ambulance coming on the pitch) and Turkey scored with the last kick of the match much to Thailand's disappointment. What a great advert for football that was. This kind of attitude continued throughout the Championships from most of the teams who wanted to bring goals, goals, goals to the Championships. And they did not fail.

Marc Christ scored two goals against England on his 20th birthday to record a 3-0 win for Germany. Ukraine beat Ireland 4-1 in their final group match but Ireland went through on having scored more goals. France, Germany and Turkey were the only teams that progressed to the quarter finals without defeat.

In the quarter finals, Germany defeated Russia 2-0, France overcame Ireland 2-1 after extra time and United States progressed to the semi finals on penalties against Italy. In the final quarter final between Greece and Turkey, the game was destined for penalties with the score at 1-1.

In the 117th minute, a Greek player, who had only come on the pitch as a substitute just a few minutes ago, took off his hearing aids and threw them to the substitutes bench. Obviously, it was a honest mistake coming on the pitch wearing hearing aids but it is still in the regulations (9.7) that “the use of hearing aids or external cochlear implant aids is strictly forbidden during the time of match. In case of offence, the match shall immediately be stopped and the offending team shall lose by 3-0.” So it was very unfortunate that Turkey was awarded the match 3-0 because both teams had played well and it was evenly balanced as to who would win.



Christian Currie of Australia makes an acrobatic save

In the semi finals, Germany went 2-0 up in the first five minutes of extra time only for France to equalise with a spirited fight back. A similar pattern happened in the penalty shoot out with Germany’s first two penalties being saved but just somehow, Thomas Hafner saved two penalties for Germany to bring it to 3-3 – sudden death! Germany won in the end on penalties 7-6 and it was a cruel blow to France who had played with passion, integrity and fairplay.

In the other semi finals, United States and Turkey contested a hard fought match with no goals coming in 120 minutes of play. Turkey kept their cool to win the penalty shootout 4-2.

The final was something else to remember. A close friend of mine said to me before the

final that he had witnessed several deaf international finals and always found them disappointing or an anti climax. He could not have been more wrong!

Germany went ahead early with a Kadir Tatar goal in the 4th minute. Turkey and Germany both performed well throughout the first half, which brought an equaliser just before half time with a goal from Huseyin Er. In the second half, Germany quickly scored again to make it 2-1, thanks to Daniel Jaglar only for Huseyin’s twin brother Hasan Er to make it 2-2 before the final whistle.



Nervous Germany at the semi final penalty shoot out

In extra time, the pace continued to be fast and the passing was technically exceptional. Turkey won a penalty in the first half extra time and Huseyin Er coolly converted to put Turkey ahead for the first time in the final. Germany pressed on for the equaliser and came close a couple of times. In the final minute, Germany won a free kick, 30 yards away from Turkey’s goal. Apart from Edris Saighani who was about to take the free kick, all the German players including their goalkeeper Hafner was in the Turkey’s penalty area.

Saighani unleashed an unforgettable screamer to bury the ball in the top right hand corner to take the final to penalties with the very last kick of the match. Germany converted all five of their penalties (5-3) to become World Champions.

Men

GOLD - Germany
 SILVER - Turkey
 BRONZE - France
 4th - United States
 5th - Greece
 6th - Ireland
 7th - Russia
 8th - Italy
 9th - Ukraine
 10th - Thailand
 11th - England
 12th - Netherlands
 13th - Australia
 14th - China
 15th - Venezuela

Women

GOLD - Russia
 SILVER - Germany
 BRONZE - England
 4th - South Africa

The whole Championship was a huge success for all 20 teams involved. The only disappointment that arose was the Organising Committee who did not prepare properly for the Championships that caused a lot of chaos and unwanted stress on the countries involved.

My biggest gratitude goes to Mr. Josef Willmerdinger, the ICSD Sports Director and my good friend for his support and tireless work in working together to ensure the Championship was a success on and off the field. Without Josef's invaluable contribution and support, it would have been hard to imagine how some of the issues that arose during the Championship would have ever got resolved.

I also thank Dr. Donalda Ammons, our ICSD President, for her support and invaluable advice/feedback, which I shall take on board in making changes for the 2009 Summer Deaflympics Football Tournament and 2012 World Deaf Football Championships.

A special thank you goes to Mr. Theodore Staroyiannis, the OC Vice-President A', for his tireless work sorting the chaos at the

beginning of the Championships. Theodore was always around whenever needed and helped a lot of people with his patience and clarification of the issues.

I also would like to thank Mr. Athanasios Chiohalis, the OC Technical Director who worked tirelessly and also learnt a lot about the deaf community during his hands-on experience of the Championships.

I will never forget Roxanna, Dionysia, Sofia and Maria who were the interpreters for the Championships and they all went beyond their duty, in assisting with other problems and going to hospital with several players. A big thank you to the four lovely ladies.

Last but not least, a big thank you to Eleni Rinisti and her team of volunteers who did a fantastic job throughout the Championships. They all worked tirelessly and suffered a few incidents from the frustrated players and staff when things went wrong due to the OC's ineffectiveness and yet continued to work without complaint until the very last minute. They were a real credit to the Championships.

Next stop: Summer Deaflympics Football Championships, Taipei, September 2009.

Yours in football

Christof NIKLAUS
 ICSD Technical Director - Football

Handball

I am writing to tell you about the best handball player that I have ever seen. He is an Italian, and his name is Michael FERRACUTI. He has played 6 games with the Italian national handball team (FIGH). Many people admire him greatly. I have

been involved in Handball in the Deaflympics 10 times since 1969, and also involved in EDSO.



Michele Ferracuti, competed in the Deaflympics 5 times

FERRACUTI has been the best player of all time. He has competed in 5 Deaflympics – 1969, 1973, 1977, 1981, and 1985 – in which he has won 1 bronze medal in 1969 and one silver medal in 1981.

With kindest regards.

Mario TORCOLINI
ICSD Technical Director - Handball

Shooting

Hello again. I hope that you all are enjoying the warmer weather up at the Northern Hemisphere while we are freezing down at the Southern Hemisphere.

Congratulations to those who have broken the World Deaf Records on Shooting. We would like to encourage you all to keep breaking the World Deaf Records which is a remarkable effort by the Deaf Shooters.

We have noticed that there are more and more World Deaf Championships which are getting bigger and bigger every year. Perhaps it would be great if we had a World Deaf Shooting Championships for ourselves. It would be a wonderful thing if

we, the deaf shooting events competitors, could be involved at least one World Deaf Shooting Championships before the 2013 Summer Deaflympics. Is there anyone willing to host the Shooting Events? If so, I would be more than happy to assist and support this important event before the 2013 Summer Deaflympics in Athens. We would also like to see Shotgun Events to take part in the World Deaf Shooting Events which would lead us to establish Shotgun events for next Summer Deaflympics in Athens 2013. We need to know how many Shotgun competitors are out there in many different countries.

There will be a separate shooting competition for men and women for the first time at Summer Deaflympics in Taipei which should be very exciting for those all who are involved in shooting competitions.

Please feel free to [contact](#) me at any time.

Mac ADAM
ICSD Technical Director - Shooting

Snowboard

Summer, Sun, Snowboarding - The Season of the Camper



Gravity Park

Days are longer, temperatures rise, and the seeds of flowers sprout all over. Now is the time for the maniacs to do snowboarding. It

is time for the Summer Camp, as long as the glaciers have not disappeared. Summer time is the glacial period. In the eternal ice we see the freestylers in the newly shaped parks trying to improve their style and learn new tricks. This, of course, offers a chance for a nice barbecue and a chill in the sun. Will you still prefer snow to sand and waves?

Starting from Norway to the North American hemisphere, summer comes again after the long bitter winter. Making its way to the Southern hemisphere, such as in New Zealand, the Summer Camp offers an opportunity to learn new tricks and practice style in snowboard. But the future looks bleak. The global temperature rises steadily, triggering the attack on the glacier. The reduction of carbon dioxide emissions does not appear to be in sight. In some fifty years, the eternal ice in the Alps will finally disappear, according to the forecasts of the climate experts. But there is still enough time for surfing on the mountains. Be careful about your personal carbon dioxide amount and let yourself enjoy a car ride occasionally, soaking in the sights of the elegant summer glacier.



Snowboarder catch big air

I wish you much success and fun in the summer camp on the glacier with the hot summer days.

Marco GALMARINI

ICSD Technical Director – Snowboard

Table Tennis

By now we are finished with our 1st World Deaf Table Tennis Championships that went well in Sofia, Bulgaria, with 130 athletes from 27 Countries. Thanks to the Bulgarian Deaf Sports Federation for hosting this event.



Top 3 podium finisher for men's team event in Sofia, Bulgaria

As a matter of curiosity, the eldest of the athletes in this competition was Mr HSIA, Jaw-hua (age of 60) from Chinese Taipei who won a gold medal in teams' competition.

The Whiz kid, Eva JURKOVA, from Slovakia (age of 13), met her match in the women's single when the Chinese SHI, Ce (Deaflympics and World Champion), defeated her. Miss Jurkova appears to have a bright future in table tennis!

The Women's singles ranked among the best. There were 4 Chinese and 4 Japanese athletes making point-blank transparency, showing the strength of their region.

The most successful athlete among the women was SHI, Ce (CHN), with 3 gold and 1 silver medal.

The most successful athlete among the men was WEN, Chih-hsuan (TPE) with 2 gold and 1 silver medal.

Out of a total of 27 countries, only 5 gathered medals. Gold medals went to China (4) and Chinese Taipei (2). From Europe only Ukraine qualified. See the data as shown below.

Place	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1.	China	4	2	1
2.	Chinese Taipei	2	1	0
3.	Ukraine	1	2	1
4.	Germany	0	1	3
5.	Japan	0	1	2

Results:

Event	Women	Men
Team	1. China 2. Japan 3. Ukraine	1. Chinese Taipei 2. Germany 3. China
Singles	1. SHI, Ce (CHN) 2. LIN, Huan (CHN) 3. UEDA, Moe (JPN)	1. WEN, Chih-Hsuan (TPE) 2. ZAKLADNYI, Gennadii (UKR) 3. MECHAU, Mark (GER)
Doubles	1. JIANG/HUANG (CHN) 2. SHI/LIN (CHN) 3. KOHAMA/UEDA (JPN)	1. ZAKLADNYI/GNATYUK (UKR) 2. WEN/YANG (TPE) 3. MECHAU/BÄHR (GER)
Mixed	1. WANG/SHI (CHN)	
Doubles	2. ZAKLADNYI/VASYLYEVA (UKR) 3. MECHAU/HEIN (GER)	

The next World Deaf Table Tennis Championships are due in 2012. Host candidates are mostly welcome. Please download Deaf World Championships [application form](#) and send as soon as possible to ICSD Secretariat.

Greetings,

Zsolt NYIRO
ICSD Technical Director - Table Tennis

Table Tennis

The Turkish Deaf Sport Federation has applied for the Dresse & Maere Tennis Cups 2011, to take place from 18th until 25th of June 2011 in Izmir. This application was the only one for hosting the next Dresse & Maere Tennis Cups. I have contacted with the Turkish Deaf Sport Federation for an inspection visit from 27th until 29th of June 2008.



Kemal Lale, Ipek Atatekin, Dogan Özdemir, Tobias Burz, Hamdi Buyukaltintas

After the invitation by the Turkish Deaf Sport Federation I was picked up at the Airport of Izmir at 27th of June by Dogan Özdemir (Official representative of the Turkish Deaf Sport Federation), Ertugrul BURSA (Official of the Institute for Deaf in sport and social of Izmir) and Ipek ATATEKIN (Interpreter) with warm welcome. The next day (Saturday) was the inspection day. From the hotel in Izmir we had a 20 minutes drive by car to the Karsiyaka Tennis Center. Karsiyaka is the suburb of Izmir.

The Tennis Center was built in 2004 and consists of 11 tennis outdoor courts. One of the courts called COURT 1 has 1000 seats, a Tennis Arena with 6000 seats and 4 indoor

courts. All these courts have the same surface which are approved by the ITF (International Tennis Federation). Mr. Kemal LALE, Manager of Karsiyaka town sport division and Mr. Hamdi BUYUKALTINTAS, Izmir City Tennis representative showed us the whole Tennis Center, the buildings and all the rooms.



View at the Tennis Center with the courts and the building from the frontside of the Arena

Every court is separated with walking spaces and places for spectators. The buildings have all the needed rooms: Rooms for the representatives of the federations, rooms for the tournament director, rooms for the staff, referee, umpires, press rooms, meeting rooms, recreation rooms for tennis players. These rooms have internet connection. There are doctor / physiotherapeutic room, shower rooms, rest rooms, a waiting room for doping control and a doping control room. The restaurant has a terrace with a view to the courts.

After the inspection we had a very good discussion with questions and answers

between the representatives and me. Mr. LALE and Mr. BUYUKALTINTAS were able to answer all my questions.



Bird view at the Tennis Center


This Tennis Center fulfills all requirements for hosting the Dresse & Maere Tennis Cups 2011 which can take part from 18th until 25th of June 2011. Therefore, I propose the ICSD Executive Committee give the Turkish Deaf Sport Federation the permission to host the Dresse & Maere Tennis Cups 2011 in Izmir / Turkey.

Best regards

Tobias BURZ
ICSD Technical Director - Tennis

Deaf Sports Events

World Deaf Goff Championships – Update

(<http://www.deaflympics.com/news/enews/pdf/2008WC-Golf5.pdf>)  is updated information on the upcoming 2008 World Deaf Golf Championships in Perth, Australia.

Deaf Sports In Brief

Tribute to the late Mr. Clifford Kofi Asare



From the Ghana Deaf Sports Federation -
Mr. Jonathan Amuah, President

It is with deep sadness that I inform you that Clifford Kofi ASARE has left us, to whom we were so much attached. His sharp intelligence and his kindness made him a pleasant companion to all. The deaf community of Ghana was shocked to hear of the death of our beloved brother on Thursday, 7th May 2008 at the Korle Bu Hospital.

I met the late Clifford Kofi ASARE While at Sekdeaf in 2000, when he told me his images of sports and discussed with me about the deaf sports activity. He started to develop deaf sports, including a volleyball team, throughout the country. He was a trainer for the Deaf Volleyball Team in 2001. In recognition of his relentless and tireless contributions to help build the sports association, the members decided to elect him as the National Coach of the Ghana Deaf Volleyball Association in 2004.

He worked with the Ghana Deaf Sports Federation (GDSF) to assist deaf players in

the region and as a result, 42 deaf players were recorded in 2004. In 2006, he became the Technical Assistant of the GDSF.

He has promoted deaf sports activity in the deaf community. He contributed to the success of the Black Wonders. That team beat the Nigerian Deaf Football Team by 5 – 0 goals in the second leg in May 2004 in Accra under his supervision. The team won an aggregate of seven to two goals at the Accra sports Stadium which qualified them to represent Ghana in the Melbourne 2005 Summer Deaflympics in Australia. The Ministry of Youth and Sports had to cancel the volleyball team to participate in the Summer Deaflympics in Melbourne due to inadequate funds. He did not participate in the Summer Deaflympics.

In 2007, he was selected by the International Committee of Sports of the Deaf (ICSD) as the Assistant Technical Director for ICSD Volleyball Technical. He was accompanied by the President of GDSF to meet with the National Sports Council for recognition of his work with the Ghana Deaf Volleyball Association. He was active, tireless, harmonious, unselfish and hardworking. He has always played an active role and rendered his unselfish support to the federation.

We have lost a wonderful friend Kofi. May his soul rest in peace.

Paul Sweeney (1944-2008)

Paul Sweeney, a former Deaflympian, participated in the 1975 Winter Games in Lake Placid as a speedskater.

Paul John Sweeney, a 1967 Gallaudet alumnus, died of pancreatic cancer at his home in Laurel, Maryland on Tuesday, July 15. Mr. Sweeney was the husband of Laura Sweeney, an academic/career advisor in the Office of Academic Advising.

Mr. Sweeney was a chemist with the Maryland Department of Agriculture for 37 years.

He is survived by his wife, Laura; two sons, Kerry (Suzie), and Michael; two stepsons, Tracy Bergan and Stefan Bergan; a granddaughter, Isabella; a sister, Mary Lou; and a brother, Myles.

A memorial service for Mr. Sweeney was held on Saturday, July 19, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Pius X Catholic Church, 14720 Annapolis Road, Bowie, Maryland.

Cards of condolence may be mailed to the family at 3513 Rippling Way, Laurel, MD 20724, USA. Flowers should be sent to Mr. Kerry Sweeney, 12101 Tawny Lane, Bowie, MD 20715. Memorial contributions may be made to Camp Mark Seven, 144 Mohawk Hotel Road, Old Forge, NY 13420 USA, or to the American Cancer Society.



IOC In Brief

Beijing Olympics to set new standard for anti-doping efforts

IOC Press Release - 02 July 2008

More tests — Tougher testing regime — New eligibility requirements

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) emphasised today that the anti-doping effort at the Beijing Summer Games will be more extensive than ever. More than 4,500 tests will be administered — 25 percent more than were conducted in the 2004 Games in Athens and 90 percent more than the number of tests in Sydney in 2000.

"At the International Olympic Committee, we are at the forefront of the effort to eradicate doping," said IOC President Jacques Rogge. "Most athletes compete honestly and fairly," said Rogge. "They treasure the Olympic experience. We owe it to these athletes — who train so hard — to ensure the Games are as free of prohibited drugs as possible."

During the period of 27 July through 24 August, the IOC, in cooperation with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and Beijing Organising Committee of the Olympic Games (BOCOG), will test the competitors at any time and at any place. In a change of policy, athletes will be tested whether they are at an Olympic venue, the Olympic Village or a far-away training facility. All controls will be coordinated under the IOC, while WADA will conduct pre-competition controls during the Olympic period on Olympic athletes not in Olympic venues and BOCOG will conduct controls at the Olympic venues.

In a briefing with journalists, the Chairman of the IOC Medical Commission, Arne Ljungqvist,

said the ability to detect doping is improving. "While it is to our advantage to not release all the details, enhanced testing will be administered in Beijing," said Professor Ljungqvist. "You can expect continued efforts to detect human growth hormone (HGH) and EPO."

The IOC has been engaged in the fight against doping for almost 50 years. The IOC began a list of banned substances following the 1960 Olympics in Rome, established the IOC Medical Commission and in 1999, founded WADA.

This year, those caught using a prohibited substance will face increased penalties. An athlete who tests positive will be denied the right to participate in the next Olympic Games. This ban will extend to those caught breaking the doping rules from 1 July 2008 and forward.

Level of Preparations for Beijing 2008 Have Set a Gold Standard for Future Games

IOC Press Release - 08 July 2008

Exactly one month out from the start of the 2008 Olympic Games, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) today gave its assessment from the Chinese capital on how the organisers are faring.

At the close of a two-day meeting between the IOC and the Beijing Olympic Games Organising Committee (BOCOG), Hein Verbruggen, Chairman of the IOC's Coordination Commission for Beijing 2008, heading up this week's visiting 12-person IOC delegation said, "Here in the Chinese capital you can now really sense the excitement and

anticipation. The city feels ready; it looks ready, with the stunning venues all completed. The quality of preparation, the readiness of the venues and the attention to operational detail for these Games have set a gold standard for the future. What our hosts have achieved is exceptional. For the Games to be an overriding success – and the IOC has an underlying confidence this will unquestionably be the case - the organisers need now to deliver the services pledged for, and therefore expected by, the various stakeholders who have begun to arrive for the Games. A very small number of open issues remain – such as some matters with broadcasters and our need to see how temporary measures in the city will make an impact on air quality. But across the board, for the number of areas we went through this week with BOCOG, we are satisfied. When athletes, sports officials, spectators and media arrive in this city over the coming weeks, I have no doubt they will be impressed when they see things with their own eyes; and they will be touched by the warmth of the welcome the Chinese people will show them."

Verbruggen joined the Beijing hosts earlier today to officially inaugurate the International Broadcast Centre (IBC) and Main Press Centre (MPC), which are now operational and have begun welcoming media from around the world. With an unprecedented interest in these Olympic Games, the IBC and MPC are the biggest built for any Games. Over 20,000 accredited media personnel will call these venues home over the coming weeks. As Verbruggen explained, "These magnificent buildings (IBC and MPC) are perhaps two of the most important venues of the Games. Because it is from here that the stories of Beijing 2008 will be told; stories of sporting spectacles, victories and defeats, stories of friendships forged between athletes from different nations who are brought together by these Games, and stories of how China and its people got to be better known and understood

through the spotlight, which this amazing event - the Olympic Games - will shine."

Some 20 areas of operations were covered between the IOC and BOCOG on Monday and Tuesday including: sport, venues, Olympic Green, media, ceremonies, technology and ticketing. Organisers gave an update on the clean-up operation taking place in Qingdao which has suffered from an invasion of algae. "We feel for the organisers," said Verbruggen. "They really didn't need this on top of all the other work they have, but they demonstrated to us today they will manage to remove the algae in time."

IOC Statement

IOC Press Release - 24 July 2008

Despite the best efforts of the International Olympic Committee, it seems very unlikely that any Iraqi athlete will compete at the Beijing Olympic Games.

The IOC would like to see Iraq's athletes in Beijing, and is disappointed they have been so ill-served by their own government's actions. The deadline for taking up places for Beijing for all sports except athletics has now passed and as a result we must now reallocate a number of Iraq's qualified or invited quota places.

The IOC's executive board temporarily suspended the Iraqi National Olympic Committee on 4th June 2008, after the Iraqi Government dismissed the legitimate NOC and installed a new committee, chaired by its own Minister of Sport, which the IOC does not recognise.

The Olympic Charter forbids political interference in the Olympic Movement. Rule 28(9) of the Charter provides for the suspension of an NOC in the event that: "any

governmental body...causes the activity of the NOC...to be hampered."

The Iraqi government was invited to come to Lausanne to discuss possible remedies, but did not positively respond to the IOC's invitation.

Over the last five years, the IOC and the wider Olympic family have provided funding and training opportunities to support the Iraqi NOC and more than 50 Iraqi athletes and coaches. The Iraqi government's actions have destroyed this progress.

The IOC will continue to search for ways to help Iraqi athletes and support the role of sports in a safe and peaceful Iraq.
