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1952 to 2002

# ISMWSF NEWS No. 5

September/December 2003

*CELEBRATING MORE  
THAN 50 YEARS OF  
INTERNATIONAL  
WHEELCHAIR SPORT*

## *MISSION STATEMENT*

*To foster and encourage the development and self-determination of athletes in wheelchair sport internationally from grass roots to elite level in a spirit of "friendship, unity and sportsmanship".*

## SEASON'S GREETINGS



ISMWSF sends Seasons Greetings to all its Member Nations, Committees and Friends the world over. May the year 2004 prove to be a happy and prosperous one for you all.

# ISMWSF and ISOD AMALGAMATION FINALISED



## MEDIA RELEASE

The amalgamation of the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation (ISMWSF) and the International Sports Organisation for the Disabled (ISOD) received unanimous endorsement at a Joint General Assembly of Nations held in Christchurch, New Zealand on the occasion of the World Games.

Arising out of traditional values as founders of the Paralympic Games and the International Paralympic Committee, the new organisation will continue to service the international needs of wheelchair, amputee and les autres athletes from grass roots through to elite within a combined operation.

The new banner ISMWSF-ISOD will be used within the disability sports community, with a new logo and brand name to be developed for promotional and marketing activities. The new organisation will commence operations January 1 2004, with plans already formulated for Youth Games in a 4 year cycle to add to established programmes and services for member nations and the complementary activities performed in support of the IPC.

A seamless transfer of operations, heralding a vibrant new era in sport for persons with a physical disability at international level, will be managed from the Headquarters of the new organisation, which nations will be pleased to note remains at Stoke Mandeville for at least two years. Plans for operational expansion through regional sub-Secretariats have been welcomed as an innovative breakthrough to meet the increasing demand, particularly from isolated and culturally diverse countries, for more comprehensive and effective delivery of services and programmes.

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*ISMWSF extends its grateful thanks to:*

- ***Our supporters in Iran: His Royal Highness Prince Fahd Abdel Aziz, President Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation, Dr Mohammad Saleh Gazdar, Secretary General Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation and Mr Mohsen Mehr Alizadeh, I.R. Iran Vice President and Head of I.R. Iran Physical Education Organisation.***
- ***UK Sports Council***
- ***DHL International Couriers***

***for the support and assistance they have given to facilitate our work on behalf of wheelchair athletes worldwide.***

## World Wheelchair Games 2003 and the ISOD World Athletics

Christchurch, New Zealand - October 25—November 1st

The beautiful city of Christchurch, in New Zealand played host to this year's Games and set the scene for intense competition in 10 different sports.



**Opening Parade**

An opening parade through central Christchurch marked the start of the Games and with over 850 participants representing more than 40 different countries, including a 120 strong contingent from China, it was an impressive sight to greet the flag-waving locals.

The welcoming atmosphere coupled with the concerted efforts of the local team of organisers provided the stage for all the athletes, and this year's Games programme brought an extra edge for many competitors aiming for a place at next year's Paralympic Games in Athens

right opportunity in pre-paralympic year with many athletes being classified and working towards paralympic qualification. It has been a magnificent spectacle of sport for us all to enjoy, and we have been privileged to share the moment with the President of IPC as well as representatives from the Athens Organising Committee (ATHOC) amongst the many supporters and fans to witness what the athletes have achieved in their chosen sport.

Athletes in track and field awarded us with a showcase of strength and skill with 15 new world records being set at the QEII Stadium, and a total of 132 A & B standards being achieved across the sport, placing these athletes in a strong position to be picked to represent their country at elite level in further international and paralympic competition.

Archery, Powerlifting, Swimming, Table Tennis and Fencing competitions were also strongly contested by athletes striving to achieve personal bests and paralympic recognition. It was a common statement from these athletes that the Games had provided them with just the opportunity they needed. For spectators, there was the chance to enjoy the wide variety in display of skills and share the athletes' passions and emotions; from the forceful drive of the powerlifter, through the electric flash of the épée, the energetic execution of the table tennis smash, the smooth yet powerful movement of swimmers focused on the finishing line, and the lightening thud of the archer's bow reaching target to the final reward of ranking points and the ultimate goal of the winners podium and taking home medals.

Encompassed within the unique format of the World Wheelchair Games, the ideals of sports promotion and development were not forgotten. From the training of umpires and referees through to training and accreditation of classifiers, international sports experts have spent a busy 8 days. A demonstration of Badminton by a team of women players from the Netherlands was warmly appreciated by locals and participating nations alike and heralds the way for the growth of the sport on



**Closing Ceremony**

the international scene. A completely new and totally integrated competition format for Lawn Bowls is opening the door to World Bowls Board (WBB) recognition and the Cue Sports competition once again welcomed support and promotion from the World Pool Association (WPA). In Wheelchair Rugby, where nations had expressed a desire for an international development competition, we were treated to thrilling matches, which echoed totally the aggressive and combative nature of the sport. It was a fitting tribute that New Zealand, as the host nation, came through as the clear winners of the wheelchair rugby tournament.

And, although of course there had to be both winners and losers, the chance to compete in a multi-sport Games situation on the run up to the Paralympic Games had to be a plus, especially for small islands like Mauritius and Samoa whose chance to compete on the international scene on such occasions is limited.

It can be truly said that the World Wheelchair Games have once again hit the mark and the traditional motto of "friendship, unity and sportsmanship" echoes around the world.



**ISMWSF President, Paul DePace opening the Games**

## World Wheelchair Games 2003 and the ISOD World Athletics cont.....

### ATHLETICS



The World Games in Christchurch, was the first time that an athletics competition involving both wheelchair and amputee athletes under the banner of ISMWSF and ISOD has taken place, and gave a fitting introduction to the Joint General Assembly agenda of amalgamation.

450 events were scheduled over a 4 day period with an entry of 181 athletes from 31 countries, and competition taking place at the QEII Stadium in Christchurch. The events concluded on the last day with the Marathon.

Competition was of a very high standard in both track and field events, with excellent individual performances resulting in a spectacular 15 world records being broken by competing athletes, along with 132 minimum qualifying standards for the Paralympic Games Athens 2004 being achieved.

Standards set were as follows:



| STANDARDS SET IN TRACK         | STANDARDS SET IN FIELD          |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2 A standards for men T40-46   | 3 A standards for men F40-46    |
| 5 B standards for men T40-46   | 8 B standards for men F40-46    |
| 1 A standard for women T40-46  | 24 A standards for men F51-58   |
| 3 B standards for women T40-46 | 15 B standards for men F51-58   |
| 18 A standards for men T51-54  | 2 A standards for women F32     |
| 24 B standards for men T51-54  | 10 A standards for women F40-46 |
| 3 B standards for women T51-54 | 10 A standards for women F51-58 |
|                                | 4 B standards for women F51-58  |

### CUE SPORTS

As there was only 12 players entered for competition, it was decided that an 8-Ball and 9-Ball event would take place. The 9-ball event was also a World Championship competition.

Two groups of 6 players were drawn to compete in the 8-Ball competition in what turned out to be very exciting games. The first group consisted of competitors from the USA, Chinese Taipei, Japan, Australia, Germany and Sweden, and the second group, which was an open group, from the USA, Chinese Taipei, two from Australia, and two from Japan. The latter group included the only woman player in the tournament, Maki Midorikawa from Japan.

Following exciting first rounds, four competitors from each group made it to the quarter finals, with Henrik Larsson from Sweden not losing a match.

The final was an exciting competition between Henrik Larsson and Chu Shou-Wei which could have gone either way, but Henrik Larsson won the sixth rack by raising his game with tactical play and cutting off opportunities for his opponent to fight back, resulting in a 5-3 win.

A new draw was made for the 9-Ball competition. Following exciting rounds, the semi finals were fought between Henrik Larsson v Yohji Misuzawa, Takahiro Terada v Mark Jones. In the first semi-final, each player won a rack until the score was 6-6. Henrik then took 2 racks in a row and only needed 1 rack to win the match. However, Yohji fought back

## World Wheelchair Games 2003 and the ISOD World Athletics cont.....

and took the next rack, only for the experienced Henrik to win through to be the first to reach the final.

The second semi-final between Takahiro Terada v Mark Jones was a very equal match and nobody could have predicted who would win. In the end, the Japanese shone through to be the next finalist.

The final between Henrik Larsson and Takahiro Terada became a race to 11 racks. The first 6 racks were shared then Henrik pulled out all his skills and won his first World Championship.

Congratulations go to Maki Midorikawa, the only female player who won 3 of her 10 matches in both competitions, which is a good result. It is hoped that in the future, more female players will follow her example and compete in Cue Sports.

The next Wheelchair 9-Ball World Championship will be held in Chinese Taipei in 2004.

### WHEELCHAIR FENCING

The Fencing event was a World Cup format, with fencers competing in Foil, Epée and Sabre.

Classification of fencers took place two days prior to the start of competition and 17, mainly Asian athletes, were classified and met the minimum disability required for participation in wheelchair fencing.

Four of the classified athletes were given a provisional classification to enable them to participate and to be observed during competition.

Once again, referee training and accreditation took place, and the sport was also pleased to welcome back some of the referees who had participated in Sydney 2000.

Participating Countries and fencers were as follows:

| COUNTRY       | MEN | WOMEN |
|---------------|-----|-------|
| CANADA        | 0   | 1     |
| CHINA         | 8   | 5     |
| FRANCE        | 5   | 1     |
| GREAT BRITAIN | 2   | 0     |
| GERMANY       | 2   | 2     |
| HUNGARY       | 1   | 0     |
| MALAYSIA      | 2   | 0     |
| THAILAND      | 5   | 2     |



Full results are available on the Wheelchair Fencing website: [www.iwfencing.com](http://www.iwfencing.com)

### LAWN BOWLS

The Woolston Lawn Bowls Complex in Christchurch saw the first fully multi disability integrated lawn bowls competition, this was an "experiment" reflecting the world of Pennant Bowls, where people with a disability play alongside and against able-bodied bowlers at comparative skill levels.

This "experiment" is a complete break away from the segregated format currently favoured in IPC Lawn Bowls Championships, whereby only the various categories/classifications can play or compete against each other. This new  
(Continued on page 6)

## World Wheelchair Games 2003 and the ISOD World Athletics cont.....

“experiment” under the ISMWSF-ISOD banner, fully justified the effort by the sport to level the playing field and create increased opportunity level and was an outstanding success.

The Lawn Bowls competition saw a total of 48 participants from 6 countries. Whilst the entry may have been small, the competition was excellent and it was rewarding to see the emerging countries improving so well that they received medals in some of the events. This looks exceptionally good for the future of the sport. The team from Kenya proved to be a huge and pleasant surprise, and they were very competitive.

This first multi-disability integrated Lawn Bowls event has set a new direction for the future of the sport for people with disabilities and the sports objective for a working partnership with the World Bowls Board.

Competing countries were as follows: **Australia, Hong Kong, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia and New Zealand.**

During the duration of the Games, Lawn Bowls held a Sports Assembly, the first one since 2001. During this Assembly a new Chairman, Alf Boyle of Australia along with a new Committee was elected.

### RESULTS

**Ladies Singles:** Cathy Vluggen, Australia, GOLD — Joan Ware, New Zealand, SILVER

Sau Lin Chu, Hong Kong, BRONZE

**Men’s Singles:** Brian Hyatt, Australia, GOLD—Ross Halligan, New Zealand, SILVER

Barrie Parris, New Zealand, BRONZE

**Ladies Pairs:** Rattna Idrdis Malaysia & Joan Ware, NZ, GOLD

Pauline Cahill and Cathy Vluggen, Australia, SILVER

Jariah Zakaria and Rafidah Shahir, Malaysia, BRONZE

**Men’s Pairs:** Seon Kyong Pang and Seung Hyo Lim, Korea, GOLD—Clive Adsett and Freddie Bawden, Australia, SILVER—Peter Horn and Mark Noble, New Zealand, BRONZE

**Men’s Triples:** Barrie Wynks, Peter Horn, Mark Noble, NZ, GOLD—Graham Reardon, Richard Rogers, John Burton, NZ, SILVER—Joshua McAuley, Stan Bolto, David Bailey, Australia, BRONZE

### TABLE TENNIS

The Table Tennis competition was located at Table Tennis Canterbury Stadium. The stadium, built around 2 years ago, is medium sized and accommodates 15 tables. All equipment used was International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) approved and consisted of 8 tables (Stigar Elite Roller), Balls (Donic 3\* white).

Competition had been awarded an IPC ranking factor of 30 and ran from Tuesday 28 October to Saturday 1 November and except for one day’s team event, there were no evening matches. A total of 11 countries came to compete in Table Tennis: Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, Croatia, Japan, Hong Kong, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia, Puerto Rico and Russia. A total of 50 wheelchair Table Tennis players competed from these countries, (33 men and 17 women). For some of the players from Kenya, Puerto Rico and Malaysia, it was a first-time international encounter with Table Tennis during the World Wheelchair Games and they left for home having benefited from increased skills and international experience.

Three International Paralympic Table Tennis Committee (IPTTC) classifiers were responsible for the classification of the players and were very efficient. A total of 11 players needed re-classification. An Umpire’s seminar was also held during the event and was conducted by Mr Maurie Poole and Ms Averil Roberts, which resulted in 12 umpires sitting a test on completion of the seminar.

## World Wheelchair Games 2003 and the ISOD World Athletics cont.....

### WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

Wheelchair Rugby formed a prominent part of the 2003 World Wheelchair Games. In addition to the competition, clinic and certification programmes were held for both referees and classifiers. The Wheelchair Rugby Sports section also took advantage of the event to hold its Sports Assembly, during which several key motions, including rules updates and the adoption of new competition regulations, were addressed. After a few days of training and meetings, everyone hit the gym at Pioneer Stadium for the main event.



Seven teams from Canada, Great Britain, New Zealand, South Africa and the United States participated in 4 days of intense competition. For South Africa, the event represented the return of their national team to international competition; for the rest, the Games provided an opportunity to mix experienced players with those who were new to international competition, developing greater depth in preparation for next year's Paralympic Games. For everyone, the goal was to play as much rugby as possible.

The full round-robin format certainly allowed for that, with each team having a chance to play all the others in competition at least once. Prior to the competition, Canada and the USA—reigning World Champions and winners of Paralympic Gold respectively, were expected to have the edge. However, New Zealand came on strong. Their A team, the Kea, went undefeated in round-robin play, leaving the USA second and Canada's first team, the Nordiques, third. The fourth spot in the medal round went to the New Zealand Kaka.

The Canada Ice and South Africa joined Great Britain in the consolation round, decided in a 3-team mini round-robin. Both Canada and Great Britain achieved easy victories over South Africa before meeting to decide fifth and sixth place. In a mirror image of their one-point loss during the round-robin, the Ice defeated Great Britain by a score of 34-33.

The semi-final matches were neighbourly events, with kiwi versus kiwi in one and Canada against the USA in the other. The Kea had little difficulty with the Kaka, while the Canada Nordiques upset the American side by 1 point to advance to the finals.

The USA recovered in time for their bronze medal game, defeating the Kaka by a healthy 55-37 margin. In the final, 4 quarters of hard-hitting competition in front of an enthusiastic capacity crowd saw the home team Kea take the gold with a final score of 35-31.

Many thanks are owed to the organisers of the Games, and in particular, competition managers Phil and Karen Humphries, for putting this event on, and to the people of Christchurch and New Zealand for being so warm and welcoming.

**Full results for all sports events staged at the Games can be obtained from the local Organising Committee via their website: [www.greatevents.co.nz](http://www.greatevents.co.nz)**

*Our thanks go to Christchurch City Council, who in partnership with Paralympics New Zealand created the atmosphere and conditions for a great Games in pre-paralympic year. To Neil Blanchfield and his stalwart team at "Great Events" - "the lack of sleep was worth it —thanks for your hard work".*

## World Wheelchair Games 2003 and the ISOD World Athletics cont.....

### GOODWILL STORY FROM THE GAMES

Kenneth Njoroge arrived at the World Wheelchair Games and ISOD World Athletics in Christchurch with what he called the “flashiest wheelchair in Kenya”. His trusty steel framed chair, complete with solid rubber tyres and held together with wire, has been his only form of transport since he was left unable to walk by an electric shock in 1993.

Minor breaks in gear forced the lawn bowls athlete to take his wheelchair for repair at a Christchurch wheelchair shop. A representative from the shop, Personal Mobility Engineers stated “Mr Njoroge arrived for a couple of \$5 parts and left a big impression on the business. We looked at the chair, ended up fixing what was wrong with it, and giving him the parts for free. He thought that was wonderful but after he left the shop, we got thinking about the state of his chair and thought, well, we are in a position to do something for someone that would make a huge difference to their life. And so we did. We got him a new chair.”

Mr Njoroge and his 4 Kenyan team-mates were overcome with emotion as their competitors’ dinner was interrupted with the surprise presentation of a new chair. A teary Mr Njoroge was left speechless. “I just don’t know what to say. But thank you, thank you very much.”

Mr Njoroge swapped his new chair in front of a cheering crowd and took it for a test run.

The new wheelchair is among the most modern designs in New Zealand. It is made of lighter materials, and Mr Njoroge will now be able to get around without relying on manpower to push his chunky old wheels through rough terrain.

And what of his old chair? It sat beside Mr Njoroge on his plane journey home ready to be handed on to someone else.

## Sports News

### ATHLETICS– 23rd Oita International Wheelchair Marathon, Oita, Japan 2003



The winners of the 23rd Oita International Wheelchair Marathon which took place on 16 November 2003 received a new award. The new award, to be presented from 2003 onwards, is the “Nakamura Award”. This shield has replaced the “Nakamura Cup” .

The award was presented by Dr Taro Nakamura, the Chairman of Medical and Technical Committee of the Oita International Wheelchair Marathon and the first son of the late Dr. Yutaka Nakamura.

The words on the shield are:

*“Dr. Yutaka Nakamura who passed away on July 23, 1984, made not only great contributions as leader in many worldwide organisations for the progress of welfare for the disabled, but also, founded the Oita International Wheelchair Marathon. This Marathon is officially recognised by the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation.*

*In honor of the distinguished service of his lifetime works, the Committee set up the Nakamura Awards, which are given only to winners of the Half and Full Marathons”*

## RESULTS

### FULL MARATHON

#### T53/T54 Men

1. Joel Jeannot 1.25,43 France
2. Ernst Van Dyke 1.29,58 South Africa
3. Saul Mendoza 1.29,59 Mexico

#### T53/T54 Women

1. Tsuchida Wakako 1.40,01 Japan
2. Hatanaka Kazu 1.40,06 Japan
3. Diane Roy 1.44,28 Canada



## Sports News cont.....

### T52 Men

1. Thomas Geierspichler 1.53,28 Austria
2. Takada Toshihiro 1.56,08 Japan
3. Clayton Gerein 2.13,26 Canada

### T52 Women

1. Yamaki Tomomi 2.31,47 Japan

### T51 Men

1. Alvise de Vida 2.44,39 Italy
2. Stefan Strobel 2.44,39 Germany
3. Thorsten Oppold 2.52,09 Germany

## HALF MARATHON

### T53/T54 Men

1. Watanabe Shusuke 0.44,37 Japan
2. Alfonso Solorio 0.48,12 Mexico
3. Roger Verdager 0.48,12 Spain

### T53/T54 Women

1. Jenny Lundblad 1.00,59 Sweden
2. Komine Naomi 1.03,16 Japan
3. Suzuki Yoshimi 1.03,50 Japan

### T52 Men

1. Oh sang-Hoon 1.05,30 Korea
2. Fukumura Takeshi 1.05,37 Japan
3. Ramon Casablanclas 1.07,37 Spain

### T52 Women

1. Kristen Messer 1.58,00 USA

### T51 Men

1. Hamazoe Kaname 1.47,28 Japan
2. Tanigawa Yukinori 1.47,48 Japan
3. Sakai Teruaki 1.48,56 Japan

## WHEELCHAIR FENCING—World Cup Warsaw, Poland 2003

*By Andrzej Gryglewicz*

**One of the 4 World Cups in Wheelchair Fencing to be held in 2003 was the Szabla Kilińskiego (Kiliński's Sabre) tournament held in July in Warsaw, Poland. The tournament is over a decade old and attracts wheelchair fencers from around the world.**

This year's event (July 26-27) featured 125 participants from 16 countries, making it the largest competition in the history of the discipline. As a comparison, only 88 fencers will compete during next year's Paralympic Games in Athens.

Polish fencers hosted their colleagues from the United States, Kuwait, China, Hong Kong, Germany, Great Britain, Spain, Israel, Ukraine, Canada, Brazil, Czech Republic and Italy. Recently, the Polish team returned from the European Championships in Paris, France, where the Polish swordsmen and women won 10 out of 17 gold medals. Poles occupy 8 places in the world's top 10 ever since the Paralympic Games in Sydney 2000, they have been acknowledged as the world's best wheelchair fencing team.

However, this competition was dominated by fencers from Asia. The winner of the general classification was the team from Hong Kong and 7 of the 12 commemorative sabres went to Asian fencers. Polish winners were Marta Wyrzykowska (gold medal in foil and épée, category B) and Leszek Danisewicz (gold medal in foil and épée, category C). Other Polish contestants had to contend with lesser medals. Piotr Czop came second in sabre and third in foil (category B). Stefan Makowski (category A) nearly made it to the final in sabre, eventually coming third and scoring the same result in foil. In épée, category A, Dariusz Pender gave in after an exciting duel with Jian-Ping Zhou from China and the bronze medal went to Arkadiusz Jabłoński.

Szabla Kilińskiego was organised under the patronage of the Minister of Education and Sport and the Mayor of Warsaw. This time, it was part of the European Year of the Disabled.

Sponsors deserving special mention were 3M Poland, Plus GSM, Whirlpool Polska and the Marriott Hotel. Media patrons were TVP3, The Warsaw Voice, Życie Warszawy and Integracja.



## Sports News cont.....

### WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

### RESULTS

#### Oceania Zone Wheelchair Rugby Championships—5-7 September 2003, Chiba City, Japan

|                    | W | L | P  | PF  | PA  | DIF | PLACE |
|--------------------|---|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| <b>AUSTRALIA</b>   | 5 | 1 | 10 | 223 | 195 | 28  | 1st   |
| <b>NEW ZEALAND</b> | 4 | 2 | 8  | 221 | 216 | 5   | 2nd   |
| <b>JAPAN</b>       | 0 | 6 | 0  | 205 | 238 | -33 | 3rd   |

|                      |                                |             |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Most Sporting Player | George Hicks (Class 3.0)       | AUSTRALIA   |
| Most Valuable Player | Shinichi Shimakawa (Class 3.0) | JAPAN       |
| Best 0.5 Player      | Koichi Ogino                   | JAPAN       |
| Best 1.0 Player      | Bill Oughton                   | NEW ZEALAND |
| Best 1.5 Player      | Scott Vitale                   | AUSTRALIA   |
| Best 2.0 Player      | Tim Johnson                    | NEW ZEALAND |
| Best 2.5 Player      | Satoshi Ito                    | JAPAN       |
| Best 3.0 Player      | Shinichi Shimakawa             | JAPAN       |
| Best 3.5 Player      | Brad Dubberley                 | AUSTRALIA   |

### MEDIA RELEASE

#### 2004 USQRA National Championships to return to Phoenix

The United States Quad Rugby Association (USQRA) is pleased to announce that the Arizona Paralyzed Veterans Association (AZPVA) will host the 2004 USQRA Division I and Division II National Championships and Annual General Meeting. The AZPVA staged this event in 2003 and invited the USQRA to return this season on April 22-25, 2004. Sixteen of the country's top wheelchair rugby teams will come together in the desert for a weekend full of extreme competition.

"The AZPVA is a very capable organisation and we're excited to be working with them again" stated Ed Suhr, President of the USQRA. "Their support and enthusiasm for disabled sports is great, and the hospitality and accessibility of the city of Phoenix an ideal destination. The tournament will be held on the campus of Arizona State University in Tempe."

Wheelchair Rugby is the fastest growing wheelchair sport in the world today. It is a hard hitting, fast paced game played by disabled athletes who are quadriplegic or have similar disabilities. There are more than 35 teams in the United States and numerous others throughout the world that participate in the sport. The success and popularity of the game has made it a Paralympic sport, which is quite impressive considering the game's brief 25 year history. Wheelchair Rugby will be one of the sports played at the 2004 Paralympics in Athens, where USA Paralympic Rugby will be defending its Gold Medal won in 2000.

If you would like more information on the 2004 USQRA National Championships you can contact Tournament Director, Joe Stanislawski at (602) 244 9168. More information on Wheelchair Rugby and the 2004 Nationals can be found by visiting the USQRA's website at [www.quadrugby.com](http://www.quadrugby.com)

## Sports News cont.....

### MEDIA RELEASE

#### **International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation (ISMWSF) and the International Table Tennis Committee (ITTC) sign Statement of Cooperation**

**Stoke Mandeville, England**—the ISMWSF and ITTC Statement of Cooperation has been signed by ISMWSF President, Paul DePace and ITTC Chairman, Christian Lillieroos.

The Statement of Cooperation has confirmed a committed endeavour by both organisations to work in harmony towards the future development of the sport of Table Tennis at grass roots level.

In recognition of the respective roles and responsibilities of both organisations in the development of the sport of Table Tennis for persons with a physical disability globally, the statement underlines areas of mutual cooperation. These include education, promotion and active involvement in development initiatives.

The shared intent of the cooperation is to expand recruitment and opportunity levels and thus provide greater benefit to the national networks of each organisation. The annual ISMWSF World Games programme will play a key role in this initiative.

Maura Strange, Executive Director of the ISMWSF states “We are excited at the potential this cooperation brings to new and developing table tennis players worldwide, and look forward especially to the joint realisation of programmes designed to support young table tennis players’ emergence into the international arena”

### **ADAPTIVE INDOOR ROWING— by Dave Player**

*International Adaptive Indoor Rowing Event—January 23/24 2004 in Portugal.*



#### **PARALYMPIANS DON'T RETIRE—THEY BECOME INDOOR ROWERS**

For the first time in disability sports we find a sport that offers an opportunity for disabled sports people from across the board to enter into a serious sporting event and compete against sports people from different sports. David Player, the event organiser says, “The feedback we are getting has been tremendous. Nearly everyone has commented on how, for the first time, they can compete in a serious sporting event against people from other sports.” Already the list of entrants shows entries from hand cyclists, wheelchair basketball players, tennis, athletics and so on. It is going to be a very interesting encounter!

The International Paralympic Committee is fully behind this sport as they are pressing for this to be a new sport for future Paralympic events, and the IPC President, Philip Craven MBE, will be attending the event, together with other dignitaries.

“ I really want to see top disabled athletes from the many different sports entering this event. I am really keen to see these athletes compete in a full ‘upper body workout’ as this event is all ‘arms and shoulders’, which is what wheelchair sports is all about—strength, stamina and technique. There may be a lack of technique but people’s strength and stamina will be put to the test here, and it’s going to be a wonderful physical and mental challenge for all.”

“I know this is a new concept and many will be concerned about trying it out at such a competitive level.” A list of centres with adaptive rowing equipment is available from: David Player, Wheeling Around the Algarve, Rua Casa do Pova 1, Apartado 3421, 8135-905 Almancil., Portugal—tel: +351 289 393636 fax: +351 289 397448 or email: [dave@player.pt](mailto:dave@player.pt)

More information on the event can be found on [www.player.pt/player/indoor\\_rowing/index.html](http://www.player.pt/player/indoor_rowing/index.html)

## Other News

### IPC AWARDS PARALYMPIC ORDERS

Paralympic Orders were presented to Colin Rains of Great Britain, Donald Royer of Canada, Jean Stone of Great Britain, Hector Ramirez of Argentina, Xavier Gonzalez, Paralympic Games Liaison Director, Yasuhiro Hatsuyama of Japan and Carl Wang of Norway on the occasion of the IPC General Assembly in Turin on 21 and 22 November 2003. Following are brief resumés of some of the recipients particularly associated with the ISMWSF.

#### DONALD ROYER

Since 1984, Canadian Donald Royer has been President of the Quebecois Wheelchair Sports Association. He is also the current President of the Canadian Wheelchair Sports Association. Dr Royer, is also a member of the IPC Legal Committee. He served as President of the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation from 1993 to 1997 and contributed to the formation and operation of the IPC Sports Council. "I have been very privileged in a way because my association with the IPC goes back to the very moment when the IPC was created in 1989. Needless to say that the last 14 years have been filled with many different challenges, but I have always tried to act in the best interests of our athletes and I think we have been successful on many counts. Today, nobody could imagine the disabled sports movement without a driving force and a leader like the IPC. I hope the IPC will continue to focus on athletes and make its presence strongly felt all around the world." - Donald Royer.



Donald Royer receives his Paralympic Order from IPC President , Philip Craven

#### JEAN STONE

Jean Stone from Great Britain has been involved with sport for athletes with a disability for more than 40 years. Her international involvement stemmed primarily from her past commitment on behalf of the British Wheelchair Sports Foundation to the International Games. She is involved with the Women and Sports Commission and acted as Technical Secretary for the International Stoke Mandeville Games Federation from 1981 to 1988. She is now the Secretary to the IPC Sports Council. "The Paralympic Movement enables athletes from all walks of life to compete together and demonstrate their true potential, to forget the disability and prove their ability, on the world stage.

It is a privilege to be part of a Movement that strives to create a level playing field by providing world-wide opportunities and rewards which allow athletes to meet together to achieve their ambitions in the spirit of sportsmanship." - Jean Stone.



Jean Stone with other recipients of the Paralympic Order

#### HECTOR RAMIREZ

Hector Ramirez, from Argentina was an Executive Committee Member of the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation, has been President of the Pan American Wheelchair Sports Federation since the organisation was founded and is the President of the National Paralympic Committee of Argentina. Mr Ramirez could not be attendance at the IPC General Assembly to collect his award, but will be presented with the order at a later opportunity. "Sport is one of the means that offers more possibilities to achieve social integration. In practice, a true communication is reached. Sport increases the will by means of dedication and perseverance. Friends are won. The character is tempered. It is this that I always try to equate with sport. It is so extraordinary that it is not contained in a structure, that it doesn't represent a certain group, but rather it is related to all. It adapts, it modifies in form but not in spirit".—Hector Ramirez.

## Historical Moments

### WHEN DID THE PARALYMPICS BECOME THE PARALYMPICS?

The term 'Paralympic' was first coined as a pun by paraplegic athletes at Stoke Mandeville in 1951 being an amalgamation of 'paraplegic' and 'Olympic'. Nowadays, with the Games expanding to encompass other disabilities and the strong links now forged with the Olympic Movement, the term is generally accepted as being an amalgamation of the words 'parallel' and 'Olympics' meaning 'attached to' or 'held together with'. Although sports historians appear to have retrospectively renamed all the International Stoke Mandeville Games held in Olympic years back to 1960 as 'Paralympic Games', the first Games to officially use a title similar to this were those in Toronto in 1976, which referred to the 'Paralympiad'. It is generally accepted that it was not until 1984 that the words Paralympic Games were officially connected to the Games of New York and Stoke Mandeville. However, from the cigarette packet shown below it appears there was an attempt as early as 1964 to attach this title to the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Games held in Tokyo following on from the Olympic Games. In the only known instance of a cigarette company being an official sponsor for the Olympic Games, the Peace Corporation produced around twenty different cigarette packet designs showing the different Olympic Sports as well as the Tokyo Olympic Emblem and the Olympic rings. However, rather more surprisingly they also produced a packet to advertise the ISMGF organised Games which included the word 'Paralympic'. Used in either the paraplegic Olympic sense in which it was first suggested, or the now more commonly accepted sense of parallel Olympics, it appears the Peace Corporation were ahead of their time!



*Cigarette Packet – Peace Cigarettes used to advertise the 1964 'Paralympic Games' aka the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Games.*

### MEDAL FROM THE PARALYMPIC GAMES 1984

ISMWSF has recently been sent photographs of a medal from the 1984 Paralympic Games. The Games took place in Stoke Mandeville, England (Wheelchair) and New York, USA (amputees and les autres)

The medal was bought by a friend of ISMWSF from the E Bay website.

As you can see, the medal depicts the globe with the words "World Wheelchair Game, Paralympics 1984"

If anyone has any other interesting memorabilia, please send photos to ISMWSF and we will include them in the next issue.



## Other News cont....

### OBITUARY

#### MARGARET HARRIMAN

It is with regret and sadness that we advise you all of the sudden death of Margaret Harriman, an Archery and Lawn Bowls icon, whilst on holiday in the USA. Margaret was visiting friends in Maine, USA when she became ill and was rushed to hospital, where she was operated on but failed to recover and died on Saturday, 20 September 2003. Her body was cremated in private in the USA and her ashes were scattered in the sea off Maine.

Margaret, left her native England and emigrated to Rhodesia in 1957. She represented Rhodesia, Zimbabwe and South Africa during her sporting career at Paralympic Games since the 60's. That is an achievement of note.

Margaret's achievements throughout her sporting career included:

#### **1960—Rome:**

Archery 2 Gold, Swimming 1 Silver, 2 Bronze—represented Rhodesia

#### **1964—Tokyo:**

Archery 2 Gold—represented Rhodesia

#### **1968—Tel Aviv:**

Archery 2 Gold and World Records—represented South Africa

#### **1972—Heidelberg:**

Archery 1 Gold, Lawn Bowls 1 Gold, 1 Silver—represented South Africa

#### **1976—Toronto:**

Lawn Bowls 2 Gold—represented South Africa

Over the years, Margaret won more than 200 Gold medals in national and international competition.

\*\*\*\*\*

Below is an article written by Margaret which we are sure you will all enjoy reading:

#### **Looking Back by M Harriman**

Thanks to the bowling administration for making me the first life member after 61 years in paraplegic sport. In return I would like you to join me in a journey into the past and marvel at the changes which have taken place both medically and sportwise.

After sustaining a fractured spine in a tractor accident in 1947, I was sent to a neurological unit in a Cardiff hospital where experimentation took precedence over cure and the mortality rate for spinal cases was high. To rectify their mistakes I was encased in plaster from head to foot and became a skeleton stripped of flesh. By some miracle, a young houseman joined the team who knew about Stoke Mandeville and got me on the 8-month waiting list.

Meanwhile, I refused further experiments and the senior registrar threw me out, "you're a useless chronic" he stormed. The almoner, also terrified of this man, got me admitted to a workhouse on top of a mountain. There I listened to the opening of the 1948 Olympic Games in London as the mice ran around and the old ladies were towed along the floor and then allowed to slip under the water in the baths to the accompaniment of shrieks and yells. Our MP helped to get me into Monmouth Hospital. Sometimes I read of Stoke Mandeville paraplegics shooting bows – beings from another world. In March 1949, the summons came to take up a bed in the old army hut 4x, part of the National Spinal Injuries Centre. Wards 1x to 3x were full of young ex-servicemen and in no time I discovered the girls would get wheeled into their wards for drinks and card playing. The army laid on weekly film shows in the wards and we would be wheeled to shows in the gym. For 8

*(Continued on page 15)*

*(Continued from page 14)*

weeks I was kept in bed until the horrendous plaster sores healed. Our rations were supplemented by a bottle of stout every day, meat was often pigeons, which turned black on cooking and then there were the worms in the salad.

And then I was up! “Q” (for Quartermaster) fixed me up with a wooden bow and arrows in the games ward. The first shot went in the gold from about 10 feet. I took to netball like a duck to water. There was also a snooker table screened off behind the targets which was a great place for my fellow mischief maker, Gwen, and I to play at night with luminous balls – and really have fun with the boys.

Poppa Guttman toured the wards once a week. “Antibiotics mean you will live longer than 12 years so you must work and you must play sport and you are not patients, you are my people” he would say. “You will take your rightful place in society”.

Another miracle! Here was a man who looked far beyond the confines of medicine, and he had about 150 young people – average age 23, to carry his vision around the world. Most of us were reckless, a feature of many “paras” and most of the ex-service had been injured in accidents going back to barracks after pre-battle binges, and we considered ourselves pioneers, something special, flag-bearers into this new future.

We were encouraged to go to the local pub in the three-wheel ‘push-pulls’. Poppa said pubbing was something we could do as well as anyone else. Bunty Noon, being ex-WAAF, had a car. We would reach the Bulls Head in Aylesbury at opening time on Sunday, enjoy roast duck for lunch and leave at closing after much liquid refreshment. The archers were in demand to give demonstrations at fetes. At one of these, I had a picture taken riding a pony and showed Poppa on his rounds. The roof came off! After telling me off he swung round and said “if you must ride, use a felt saddle”.

One day in May, 8 of us climbed aboard the spinal bus with our bows. The first time a ‘wheelie’ sports team travelled. Poppa saw us off on our 200km drive to a residential centre for ‘paras’ in Macclesfield. We picnicked on the roadside on the way with the hedgerows full of flowers and the red carpet was out when we arrived and that night we went out on the town. I quite forgot how the sports side went.

In July, all talk turned to ‘sports day’. “It’s a big reunion day. All the original paras come back and it’s party time” Bunty explained. Then I realised that Stoke Mandeville was also family. Poppa, his people, staff like Charlie Atkinson (physio) and Joan Scruton and others from the nearby housing estate like Edna and George Eatwell, were all destined to grow into internationally known figures.

Sports day 1949. Fifty two competitors for netball, archery, table tennis and snooker. And Poppa proclaiming one day we would have our own Olympic Games! Impossible, we said, as we knocked back some beers.

One day Q called me outside “Poppa wants to find out if paras can throw a javelin from a wheelchair. Aim for my handkerchief” he said. It worked! But shot putt and discus were thought to put too much strain on the spine.

Then the wonderful summer was over. It was time to go. Bus driver, Charlie took me away and we stopped on Dunstable Downs to look back across the Vale of Aylesbury. Then we drove off into the dusk—after 2 years in hospitals, it was time to face an unknown future.

## GET WELL WISHES

### Birgitta Blomquist

It is with great sadness that ISMWSF has learned of an accident suffered by Birgitta Blomquist of Germany. Birgitta was involved in the accident whilst out riding her bicycle and is now in a deep coma in a rehabilitation hospital in Germany.

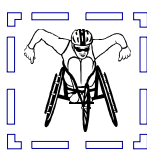
Birgitta has been involved in the development of sports for persons with a disability over many years and serves on various sports committees. To her merit, she was heavily involved in the development of the swimming classification system prior to the advent of IPC, and is still involved as a classifier for Winter Sports. Birgitta has represented Germany at the majority of ISMWSF General Assemblies and recently contributed towards the finalisation of the ISMWSF-ISOD amalgamation, as an active member of the Working Group.

Our thoughts are with Birgitta and her family.

## Up-coming Major Sporting Events

| <u>EVENT</u>  | <u>LOCATION</u>                      | <u>DATE</u>          |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 23rd Oita International Wheelchair Marathon         | Oita, Japan                          | November 26 2003     |
| World Cup Fencing                                   | Budapest, Hungary                    | November 28-30 2003  |
| Parapanamerican Games                               | Mar del Plata, Argentina             | December 6-13 2003   |
| Arrive Alive Summer Down Under 2004 (track & field) | Sydney, Australia                    | January 23- 30 2004  |
| Wheelchair Rugby Europa Cup                         | Reinsberg, Brandenburg, Ger-<br>many | February 27-29 2004  |
| World Cup Fencing                                   | Leganes, Madrid, Spain               | March 5-7 2004       |
| International Meeting Ibach (Athletics)             | Ibach, Switzerland                   | May 20 2004          |
| World Cup Fencing                                   | Lonato, Italy                        | May 20-23 2004       |
| 10th International Schenkon Wheelchair Marathon     | Schenkon, Switzerland                | May 22 2004          |
| Swiss Open Championships (Athletics)                | Thalwil, Switzerland                 | June 19-20 2004      |
| Fencing World Cup                                   | Warsaw, Poland                       | July 16-18 2004      |
| World Wheelchair Cue Sports Championships           | Chinese Taipei                       | July/August 2004     |
| Paralympic Summer Games                             | Athens, Greece                       | September 17-28 2004 |
| Fencing World Cup                                   | Budapest, Hungary                    | TBC                  |

Sport Specific news for:



Wheelchair Athletics - please visit: [www.wsw.org.uk/athletics](http://www.wsw.org.uk/athletics)



Wheelchair Fencing - please visit: [www.iwfencing.com](http://www.iwfencing.com)



## EDITOR'S NOTE

As you will have read on page two, a new era will commence from January 2004, when ISMWSF and ISOD become one organisation to serve athletes with a physical disability world-wide. Hence, the next production of this newsletter will have a new title: **ISMWSF-ISOD NEWS**.

We welcome articles from organisations and individuals alike about disability sport events and issues. We would also welcome any comments/suggestions you may have with regard to future issues.

*The next issue of **ISMWSF-ISOD NEWS** is due for distribution in March 2004. PLEASE submit any articles that may be of interest to the International Sporting Community to:*

*[info@wsw.org.uk](mailto:info@wsw.org.uk) or to the fax/postal address below.*

**DEADLINE DATE: February 15 2004**

## EDITORIAL

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Registered Office as above. Registered in England and Wales.

Company No. 2713410

Registered Charity No: 1011552

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