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OF THE

# International Olympic Committee

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## SUMMARY.

1. — List of members of the International Olympic Committee and of the Council of Delegates of the International Federations (No. 28).
2. — Addresses of the National Olympic Committees and of the International Federations (No. 28).
3. — Meeting of the Executive Committee of the I.O.C., 25th February, 1935, at Oslo.
4. — Meeting of the I.O.C., Oslo, February 1935.

## INDEX :

- Charter, Statutes, Regulations, Protocol and General Rules : see special pamphlet issued January 1931.
- The rights and duties of the I.O.C., the National Olympic Committees and the International Federations : No. 2.
- Olympic Congress of Prague (1925) : No. 1.
- Olympic Congress of Berlin (1930) : No. 16.
- Code of Regulations for the conduct of the business of the Executive Committee (Standing Orders) : No. 5.
- |                                     |          |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Prague,      | May      | 1925 : No. 1.  |
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Lisbon,      | May      | 1926 : No. 3.  |
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Monaco,      | April    | 1927 : No. 7.  |
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Amsterdam,   | July     | 1928 : No. 11. |
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Lausanne,    | April    | 1929 : No. 13. |
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Berlin,      | May      | 1930 : No. 16. |
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Barcelona,   | April    | 1931 : No. 18. |
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Los Angeles, | July     | 1932 : No. 22. |
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Vienna,      | June     | 1933 : No. 24. |
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Athens,      | May      | 1934 : No. 26. |
| Meeting of the I.O.C., Oslo,        | February | 1935 : No. 28. |
- Meetings of the Executive Committee of the I.O.C.
- |          |                |
|----------|----------------|
| November | 1925 : No. 1.  |
| March    | 1926 : No. 2.  |
| July     | 1926 : No. 4.  |
| January  | 1927 : No. 6.  |
| August   | 1927 : No. 8.  |
| October  | 1927 : No. 9.  |
| February | 1928 : No. 10. |
| July     | 1929 : No. 14. |
| March    | 1930 : No. 16. |
| May      | 1930 : No. 16. |
| October  | 1930 : No. 17. |
| June     | 1932 : No. 21. |
| February | 1935 : No. 28. |
- Meetings of the Executive Committee and Delegates of the International Federations, Amsterdam, August 1928: No. 11
- Lausanne, April 1929 : No. 13
- Meetings of the Executive Committee and of the Council of Delegates of the International Federations,
- |          |         |                |
|----------|---------|----------------|
| Paris,   | October | 1930 : No. 17. |
| Vienna,  | June    | 1933 : No. 24. |
| Brussels | May     | 1934 : No. 26. |

- Meeting of the Presidents of National Olympic Committees (Amsterdam, August 1928) : No. 11.
- Conferences of the South American, of the Central American and of the Far Eastern Games (Amsterdam, August 1928): No. 11.
- Modern Pentathlon Committee : No. 11.
- Roll of Honour of the IXth Olympiad, (Amsterdam 1928) : No. 14.
- Roll of Honour of the Xth Olympiad (Los Angeles 1932) : No. 23.
- Account of the IXth Olympiad (Amsterdam 1928) : No. 11.
- Account of the Xth Olympiad (Los Angeles 1932) : No. 22.
- Official Account and Roll of Honour of the IIInd Olympic Winter Games, St. Moritz 1928 : No. 10.
- Official Account and Roll of Honour of the IIIrd Olympic Winter Games. Lake Placid 1932 : No. 20.
- Official Results of the IIIrd Olympic Winter Games, Lake Placid 1932 : No. 21.
- Results of the 7th Far Eastern Games : No. 3.
- Results of the 8th Far Eastern Games : No. 12.
- The 9th Far Eastern Games (Report of M. Franklin H. Brown) : No. 17.
- Results of the 1st Games of Central America : No. 6.
- Results of the 2nd Games of Central America : No. 16.
- Results of the 1st Balkan Games (Sofia 1931) : No. 20.
- Account of the 5th Balkan Games, 1934 : No. 27.
- Award of the Olympic Cup : No. 18.
- Celebration of the Olympiads : No. 18.
- List of Olympic Congress No. 18.
- The New Panathenaea, by Baron Pierre de Coubertin : No. 8.
- «The Charter of Sports Reform». by Baron Pierre de Coubertin : No. 17.

## 3. — International Olympic Committee

### Report of the

**meeting of the Executive Committee  
Monday, 25th February, 1935, at Oslo.**

Present :

Count de Baillet-Latour, President  
Marquis de Polignac  
J. S. Edström  
H. E. Dr. Th, Lewald

**Absent and asked to be excused :**

Baron Godefroy de Blonay, Vice-President  
 H. E. General C. H. Sherrill  
 Lord Aberdare

Session opened at 2.35 p.m.

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**PROGRAMMES FOR THE GAMES OF THE  
 XIth OLYMPIAD AND THE  
 IVth OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES.**

The programmes submitted by the International Federations for Equestrian Events, Weight-Lifting, Bobsleighting and Tobogganing, Boxing, Shooting, Rowing, Handball, Basketball and Cycling were approved.

The following demonstrations were selected :

1) **Gliding.** In accordance with the request submitted by the International Aeronautic Federation participants of other countries in addition to Germany will be admitted. There will, however, be no competition, no jury and no prize.

2) **Baseball.** Displays will be given by an American and a Japanese team.

**Lacrosse,** which was proposed, was already demonstrated at Amsterdam and at Los Angeles and was rejected, as the regulations only provide for two demonstrations,

**Canoeing Programme :** Dr. Eckart, President of the International Federation, addressed the Executive Committee. A reduction of the proposed programme was considered necessary. After discussion it was decided to eliminate the canoe-sailing contest, also that for four oarsmen which, however, will remain as a demonstration solely confined to German crews. It was decided that only one entry from each nation will be accepted for each of the competitions.

**Shooting Programme :** It was decided to reply to the request of the American Olympic Committee «that the programme fixed by agreement between the International Shooting Federation and the I.O.C. cannot be increased», and to the request transmitted by Prince Axel of Denmark «that the International Shooting Federation has approved the Berlin Programme and that, if the Danish Olympic Committee desires to suggest modifications for subsequent Olympic Games, it should address itself to the International Shooting Federation which alone is competent to enforce modifications of a technical nature».

**Gymnastic Programme :** The Programme submitted by the International Federation was identical with that at Amsterdam and was approved. The President will write to the International Federation that to the

ladies team competition, which alone is admitted, there can be no question of adding the throwing of the discus, as the ladies' technical commission had proposed to the Organizing Committee. The ladies' programme must be identical with that at Amsterdam.

**LETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY  
 FEDERATION.  
 REPORT OF ENQUIRY.**

The Executive Committee of the I.O.C. having made itself acquainted with the letter addressed by the International Federation to the President of the I.O.C., having heard the President of the Organizing Committee for the XIth Olympiad :

having consulted :

- 1) the letters of Mr. Sondhi dated April 25th and November 27th, 1934 ;
- 2) the agenda of the Session at Athens published in the «Official Bulletin», No. 25 ;
- 3) the report of the meeting of the Executive Committee and of the Council of Delegates held at Brussels on May 8th, 1934, and the report of the Session of the I.O.C. held at Athens on May 18th, 1934, published in the «Official Bulletin», No. 26 ;

and as :

a) Dr. Lewald confirmed that at Brussels he informed the delegate of the International Hockey Federation that the Organizing Committee of the Berlin Games did not propose to carry through the eliminating rounds of certain games in the springtime, as was permissible under the regulations ;

b) Mr. Sondhi's letter dated April 25th, 1934, instead of being written to assist an effort made by the President of the I.O.C. to bring a National Federation, which was in opposition, in contact with the International Federation controlling this sport, was addressed to the Secretary of the I.O.C. to excuse his absence and to draw the attention of the I.O.C. to the difficulties, which the division of the Games would create for distant countries without at the same time solving the problem in a manner satisfactory to all, since the fixing of the Hockey tournament in the spring, approved by some of the Indian players, would cause serious inconvenience to other players, especially those coming from Universities ;

c) the letter of November 27th addressed to the President only supplements the first letter and confirms the assertion that the agreement of the Indian players as to the choice of time was far from being unanimous ;

d) the interpellation of M. Liégeois did not appear on the agenda of the meeting of the Executive Committee on May 8th, 1934, but nevertheless the President replied to it as shown in the letter itself of the International Hockey Federation, in which it complains of a phrase he had used ;

e) this phrase which, taken by itself, made nonsense, reflected on the contrary the well-founded grounds

on which the I.O.C. declined, despite the inconvenience it would cause, to propose the modification of the protocol rule, which imposes unity both of time and location for the celebration of the Olympic Games;

f) in informing M. Liégeois of the motives preventing the submission as a proposal to the Congress of the suggestion made by the International Hockey Federation, the President made him acquainted with the opinion of the I.O.C. in 1933 when this question was raised at the Vienna Session on the request of certain advocates of the alleged reform, so that he could inform his Federations ; and

g) the I.O.C., which is not qualified to authorize a breach of the General Rules, was for this reason unanimous in rejecting the request addressed to it by the International Hockey Federation that the finals could be decided outside the official period of the Games as laid down in Art. 5;

it was decided that :

All the allegations contained in the letter addressed to the President are inaccurate.

This report and annexes shall be transmitted to the International Olympic Committee.

A copy shall also be sent to the delegate of the International Hockey Federation who, prevented from accepting the invitation to the meeting of the Executive Committee at Oslo, did not nominate a substitute.

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**Copy of letter from G. D. Sondhi, Esq.,  
dated 25th April 1934.**

No. 492.

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I very much regret to say that I shall not be able to attend the meeting of the I.O.C., to be held at Athens from the 16th. May onwards. Kindly give my kind regards to the President, and remember me to my colleagues on the Committee.

Regarding item V of the agenda, I have to state that a Hockey-on-grass Championship should be held at the same time as Athletics and other Sports. The holding of Hockey in spring would cut the Olympic programme into three parts : Winter Games, Spring Games and Summer Games. This has several drawbacks : 1) that it increases the expense of participation. If both the Spring (and Summer Games are held together, the same Manager can look after 'all the teams of a nation. If they are split up, two different Managers have to be sent or the same man twice. For distant countries like India, this is a great consideration.

2) Holding the Hockey Championship in the Spring is not so convenient for all countries. A large percentage of the teams are University students and they cannot afford leaving their studies in March and April to join the Team. On the other hand in July and August all over the world practically, students have their summer vacation and therefore without any harm to their studies they can join the Teams. Of course

it may be said that in England and other countries there is no Hockey after April. The same is true of the greater part of India. But we can manage to keep our team in training and I think the same could be done by other countries.

I would therefore strongly vote for the retention of Hockey in the July and August programme of the Olympic Games.

signed : G. D. SONDHI  
Member of the I.O.C.  
Lahore.

Addressed to Lt.-Col. Berdez, Secretary of the I.O.C.,  
Lausanne.

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**Copy of letter from G. D. Sondhi, Esq.  
dated 27th November, 1934.**

No. 99.

Dear Count,

I am in receipt of a copy of a letter dated the 27th October, 1934, addressed by the Federation Internationale de Hockey to you as the President of the I.O.C.

It seems to me 'that the Federation Internationale de Hockey are making a lot of fuss about the matter.

You might remember that I wrote to you before the meeting of the I.O.C. at Athens giving my personal opinion as regards the time 'suitable for Hockey. At that time I was not familiar with an old resolution of the Indian Hockey Federation saying that a time other than August would be preferable for Olympic Hockey contests. Since then, however, the matter has been informally raised in the Indian Hockey Federation but no new decision has been made nor was one thought necessary in view of the time of the 1936 Hockey Tournament having been already fixed. It is possible that the Indian Hockey Federation will re-consider the matter some time later. As there is a certain amount of difference of opinion among the members of the Indian Hockey Federation regarding the most suitable time for the Olympic Hockey Tournament, I cannot say what the decision ultimately will be.

In the province of Punjab, which supplied seven out of fifteen players to 'the last Indian Olympic Hockey Team, the opinion is in favour of having the Olympic Hockey in the month of July or August.

Signed : G. D. SONDHI

Addressed to the President of the I.O.C., Mon Repos,  
Lausanne.

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The session closed at 5.50 p.m.

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The Executive Committee reassembled on the 2nd March, as two proposals concerning the programme were received after the session had ended. One, from the International Federation of Bobsleighing and Tobogganning, dealt with the admission to the programme

of the IVth Olympic Games of a Luge (rodel) competition; the other, from the Spanish Olympic Committee, requested that a demonstration of throwing the Biscayan bar should be permitted during the athletic contests of the Games of the XIth Olympiad.

Having heard the President of the International Amateur Athletic Association and the President of the Organizing Committee of the IVth Olympic Winter Games, the Executive Committee decided not to admit a Luge competition or a demonstration of throwing the Biscayan bar in 1936.

President  
Baillet-Latour.

Secretary :  
A. Berdez

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**4. — International Olympic Committee  
Session of 1935  
(4th Year of the Xth Olympiad)  
Oslo**

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**Inauguration of the Session**

The inaugural meeting was held in the Hall of Oslo University at midday, February 25th, 1935. H. M. the King of Norway opened the proceedings with the following address, in the presence of official representatives, the Diplomatic Corps and a large gathering :

**HIS MAJESTY'S SPEECH**

It is with real pleasure that I welcome the members of the International Olympic Committee to the Norwegian Capital; I trust your stay here will be enjoyable and that you will carry away pleasant memories of it.

I know that your work is inspired by a high idealism, based on the noble conceptions of Baron de Coubertin, who was your Founder and first President. We all know that this illustrious reviver of the ancient and famous Hellenic competitions desires, by means of the modern Olympic Games, to unite the youth of the world on the field of Sport through pacific struggles carried out in a spirit of noble emulation. He cherishes the hope that these contests of strength, speed and agility may serve not only to strengthen generations of young people, thus helping to perfect humanity, but that they may also contribute to develop friendship amongst these international youths and consequently a closer harmony and good understanding amongst the nations.

Convinced that your work will always continue on the path of these lofty sentiments, I declare the annual session of the International Olympic Committee open.

**SPEECH OF MR. D. EIE, PRESIDENT OF THE  
NORWEGIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE**

Your Majesty,  
Your Royal Highnesses,  
Mr. President,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Norwegian Olympic Committee and the Norwegian Confederation of Sports, comprising 15 different associations, I have the honour to extend a hearty welcome to the President and all members of the International Olympic Committee, who have accepted our invitation to come to Norway and to Oslo, our capital,

Since the International Olympic Committee was revived in Paris in 1894 by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, and the first Modern Olympic Games were celebrated in 1896, it may truly be said that a tremendous work has been done to organise Physical Education and foster the spirit of chivalry, love of «fair play» and reverence for true amateurism. I venture to assert that Physical Education and Sport have reached a height of importance and due recognition throughout the whole civilised world which could hardly have been dreamt of 40 to 50 years ago, and that the work done during these years therefore can bear comparison with any of the Herculean tasks which Hercules performed, before he was taken up into Olympus.

The I.O.C. also considered, and quite rightly, that these gatherings of young men, i.e. the Olympic Games, would be one of the best ways of making different peoples and different classes well acquainted with each other and of promoting a better understanding.

At first the International Olympic Committee assumed the technical arrangement and management of the Games until 1921, when the I.O.C. left this entirely to the International Federations, by whom the technical regulations had been used from early days. The International Federations have, therefore, since 1921, had charge of all sports equipment and technical control of the events at the Games.

The flag of the I.O.C. portrays five rings, symbolising that its work is spread over all five parts of the world, embracing all nations and races. Such a wide spread work requires a perfect organisation, and it may be said that every member of the I.O.C. forms the necessary link between that distinguished Committee and his own Nation, which in this case is represented by the National Olympic Committee, consisting of representatives of the National Sports Associations.

The Motto of the I.O.C. is :

**Citius, Altius, Fortius,**

and because the aims of the I.O.C. are high and noble and its tendencies are democratic, we «appreciate very much that the I.O.C. decided to hold this 32nd Session at Oslo during our Winter Sports Week this year. We extend our cordial welcome to all the mem-