

The German Democratic Republic and Olympism

"Our country expresses its love and gratitude to Pierre de Coubertin, the creator of the great and lasting festival dedicated to the youth of all countries and to the preservation of peace—the modern Olympic Games."

Dr. Heinz Schöbel, 1969

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (GDR)

108,178 square kilometres.

17,000,000 inhabitants (approximately).



NATIONALES OLYMPISCHES KOMITEE DER DEUTSCHEN DEMOKRATISCHEN REPUBLIK (NOK der DDR)

National Olympic Committee of the GDR (GDR NOC).

Founded on 22nd April 1951.

President in office: Manfred Ewald*.

Secretary General in office: Günther Heinze*.

Address: 108 Berlin, Behrenstrasse 40/41.

Telephone: 21.24.987.

Cable: NAOLYMKO Berlin.

* See biographical notes.

Role of the NOC

The primary task of the GDR NOC is to lead its teams taking part in the Olympic Games and to co-operate with all the institutions and organisations concerned at national and international level, particularly the International Olympic Committee, the Organising Committees for the Games and the German Sports and Gymnastics Union (DTSB) of the GDR.

It is also responsible for:

- safeguarding and propagating the Olympic ideas in the spirit of Coubertin, that is the spirit of humanism, rapprochement of peoples, peace and physical culture developed for the whole population;
- collaborating actively in the solution of problems expressed by the IOC or raised in the international Olympic movement;
- co-operating with the education of the GDR youth to form strong character, the generally cultured and balanced man physically, intellectually and morally, the loyal citizen;
- defending the interests of GDR athletes and representing them within the international Olympic movement;
- maintaining relations of mutual respect with the NOCs of other countries.

Creation and development

Founded on 22nd April 1951 at Berlin Town Hall, the GDR NOC was given "provisional" recognition by the IOC at its 50th Session held in Paris in 1955. After participating at the 1956, 1960 and 1964 Games in the combined teams of the two German States, it obtained the right to delegate its own teams at the IOC Session in Madrid in 1965. The 67th Session in Mexico granted it complete recognition, taking effect from 1st November 1968, as a sovereign NOC for the German Democratic Republic.

On the day of the committee's foundation, 19 Presidents of national federations of recognised Olympic sports were members of the NOC, whereas today the number has increased to 23.

Successive Presidents of the GDR NOC

1951-1955: Kurt Edel.

1955-1973: Dr. Heinz Schöbel*.

Since 1973: Manfred Ewald*.

IOC members for the GDR

1. Dr. Heinz Schöbel*, since 1966.



Dr. Heinz Schöbel, member of the IOC (on the right) congratulates Helmut Behrendt, for a long time Secretary General of the NOC of the GDR. Opposite, Mr. Manfred Ewald, present President of the NOC.

THE GDR AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES

● Date of first participation: 1956.

At the VIIIth Winter Games in Cortina d'Ampezzo, 16 GDR competitors, of whom three were women, made their Olympic entrance. Harry Glass became the first GDR athlete to win an Olympic medal by coming third in the special jumping event.



Harry Glass

Facing Mr. Manfred Ewald, President of the NOC of the GDR, is Mr. Erich Honecker, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. Opposite is the pole-vaulter Wolfgang Nordwig.



Representation of the GDR at the Olympic Games from 1956 to 1972¹

	Athletics	Rowing	Basketball	Boxing	Canoeing	Cycling	Equestrian Events	Fencing	Football	Gymnastics	Weightlifting
1956	16(5)			3		6					1
1960	46(12)	4		6	6	12	2			10(6)	6
1964	58(18)	5		6	2	2	2		20	11(7)	4
1968	49(15)	32		8	13(3)	13	8	5		14(7)	3
1972	69(34)	32		8	34(8)	13	9	5	19	14(7)	9

¹ The figures in brackets represent the number of women included in the first figure.

● Not included on the programme.

1972 - Munich: The delegation of the NOC of the GDR enters the Olympic stadium.



	Handball	Hockey	Judo	Wrestling	Swimming	Modern Pentathlon	Shooting	Archery	Volleyball	Yachting	Total
1956	●		●	3	6(3)			●	●	2	37(8)
1960	●		●	6	25(12)	1	6	●	●		130(30)
1964	●	18	1	5	44(16)	2	6	●		8	194(41)
1968	●	17	●	11	40(16)	4	9	●	12	10	248(41)
1972	16		5	17	45(24)		9		12	15	331(69)

Representation of the GDR at the Winter Games from 1956 to 1972¹

	Biathlon (skiing & shooting)	Bobsleigh	Ice Hockey	Luge	Speed Skating	Figure Skating	Skiing	Total
1956	●	2		●	2		12(3)	16(3)
1960	4	●		●	10(5)	1	19(4)	34(9)
1964	5			10(3)	9(6)	6(3)	19(4)	49(16)
1968	5		18	10(4)	1(1)	8(4)	18(4)	60(13)
1972	5			9(3)	2(2)	7(4)	19(4)	42(13)

The GDR Olympic Champions

I. Titles obtained at the Olympic Games

Name	Christian Name	Sport	Event
Behrendt	Wolfgang	Boxing	Bantamweight
Krause	Dieter	Canoeing	4 x 500 m. relay
Krämer-Gulbin Krämer-Gulbin Krämer-Gulbin	Ingrid Ingrid Ingrid	Diving W. —	Springboard Platform Springboard
Eschert	Jürgen	Canoeing	C1
Balzer	Karin	Athletics W.	80 m. hurdles
Wolke	Manfred	Boxing	Welterweight
Höhne	Christoph	Athletics	50 km. walk
Gummel	Margitta	Athletics W.	Shot put
Vesper Metz	Rudolf Lothar	Wrestling —	Welterweight Middleweight
Lucke Bothe Forberger Rühle Grahn Schubert	Jörg Heinz-Jürgen Frank Frank Dieter Dieter	Rowing — — — —	Coxless pairs Coxless fours — —
Matthes Matthes	Roland Roland	Swimming —	100 m. backstroke 200 m. backstroke
Ehrhardt Stecher Stecher Zehrt Zehrt Käsling Kühne Seidler Fuchs	Annelie Renate Renate Monika Monika Dagmar Rita Helga Ruth	Athletics W. — — — — — — —	100 m. hurdles 100 m. 200 m. 400 m. 4 x 400 m. Javelin
Nordwig Frenkel	Wolfgang Peter	Athletics —	Pole vault 20 km. walk



*Aviron, 1968-1972:
coxless fours*



Year	Birth	Death	Notes
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1956	1936		NOC member
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1960	1936		
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1960-1964 - Ingrid Krämer

1960	1943		
1960	1943		
1964	1943		

Besides these three titles, Ingrid Krämer-Gulbin won a silver medal for platform diving at Tokyo

1964	1941		
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1964	1938		
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1968	1943		
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1968	1941		
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1968	1941		
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1968	1939		
1968	1939		



1956 - Wolfgang Behrendt

1968	1942		
1968	1941		
1968	1943		
1968	1944		
1968	1944		
1968	1943		



1972 - Annelie Erhardt and Karin Balzer

1968	1950		
1968	1950		

1972	1950		
1972	1950		
1972	1950		
1972	1952		
1972	1952		
1972	1947		
1972	1947		
1972	1949		
1972	1946		

Also second in the 4 x 100 m. relay

1972	1943		
1972	1939		



1972 - 4 x 400 m.

Name	Christian Name	Sport	Event
Lucke	Jörg	Rowing	Coxed pairs
Gunkel	Wolfgang	—	—
Neubert	Klaus-Dieter	—	—
Brietzke	Siegfried	—	Coxless pairs
Mager	Wolfgang	—	—
Forberger	Frank	—	Coxless fours
Rühle	Frank	—	—
Grahn	Dieter	—	—
Schubert	Dieter	—	—
Bahmann	Angelika	Canoeing W.	K1 slalom
Horn	Siegbert	Canoeing	K1 slalom
Eiben	Reinhard	—	C1 slalom
Amend	Dieter	—	C2 slalom
Hofmann	Walter	—	—
Janz	Karin	Gymnastics W.	Horse vault
Janz	Karin	—	Asymmetrical bars
Köste	Klaus	Gymnastics	Horse vault
Matthes	Roland	Swimming	100 m. backstroke
Matthes	Roland	—	200 m. backstroke

II. Titles obtained at the Winter Games

Name	Christian Name	Sport	Event
Recknagel	Helmut	Nordic skiing	Special jump
Haase	Helga	Speed skating W.	500 m.
Köhler	Thomas	Luge	One-seater
Enderlein	Ortrun	Luge W.	One-seater
Köhler	Thomas	Luge	Two-seater
Bonsack	Klaus	—	—
Müller	Anna-Maria	Luge W.	One-seater
Scheidel	Wolfgang	Luge	—
Bredow	Rainer	—	Two-seater
Hörnlein	Horst	—	—
Wehling	Ulrich	Nordic skiing	Combined



1968-1972 - Roland Matthes

This team from Dresden retained the title won in 1968.

Year	Birth	Death
1972	1942	
1972	1948	
1972	1949	
1972	1952	
1972	1952	
1972	1943	
1972	1944	
1972	1944	
1972	1943	
1972	1952	
1972	1950	
1972	1951	
1972	1949	
1972	1949	
1972	1952	
1972	1952	
1972	1943	
1972	1950	
1972	1950	



1972 - Karin Janz



1972 - Klaus Köste

Also won two silver medals and one bronze.

Besides his domination in swimming backstroke in Mexico as well as in Munich, he has remained unbeaten for several years. In the 1972 events, he also added a silver medal and one of bronze for relays to his list of honours.

1972 - Ulrich Wehling



Year	Birth	Notes
1960	1937	NOC member
1960	1934	
1964	1940	
1964	1943	NOC member
1968	1940	
1968	1941	
1972	1949	
1972	1943	
1972	1947	
1972	1945	
1972	1952	



1960 - Helga Haase



1964 - Thomas Köhler



1960 - Helmut Recknagel

PRESENT ORGANISATION OF THE GDR NOC

● Composition

The GDR NOC comprises the IOC member for the GDR, the Presidents of the sports federations, the sports of which appear on the Olympic programme, individual members appointed for their activities in the country's sports organisation or for distinguished services to the Olympic movement.

● Members of the present Praesidium

PT: Manfred Ewald*; *VPT:* Rudolf Hellmann*; *SG:* Günther Heinze*; *T:* Franz Rydz*; *Press Officer:* Wolfgang Gitter*;



Rudolf Hellmann



Günther Heinze

Art Attaché: Erhard Höhne*; *Ms:* Prof. Dr. Günter Borrmann*, Heinz Dragunsky*, Prof. Dr. Joachim Weiskopf*, Prof. Dr. Georg Wieczisk*, Prof. Dr. Georg Zorowka*; *IOC member:* Dr. Heinz Schöbel (also Praesidium honorary life member); *honorary life members:* Heinz Dose*, Helmut Behrendt*.

● Federations affiliated to the GDR NOC

Members at 1.1.1975

Deutscher Basketball-Verband der DDR (basketball)	8,275
Deutscher Bogenschützen-Verband der DDR (archery)	2,467
Deutscher Boxverband der DDR (boxing)	18,248
Deutscher Eislauf-Verband der DDR (skating)	6,954
Deutscher Fecht-Verband der DDR (fencing)	6,283
Deutscher Fussball-Verband der DDR (football)	512,480
Deutscher Gewichtheber-Verband der DDR (weightlifting)	8,829
Deutscher Handball-Verband der DDR (handball)	137,844
Deutscher Hockey-Sportverband der DDR (hockey)	5,820
Deutscher Judo-Verband der DDR (judo)	38,646
Deutscher Kanu-Sport-Verband der DDR (canoe)	24,322
Deutscher Verband für Leichtathletik der DDR (athletics)	161,620
Deutscher Pferdesport-Verband der DDR (equestrian)	28,103
Deutscher Radsport-Verband der DDR (cycling)	18,637
Deutscher Ringer-Verband der DDR (wrestling)	15,779
Deutscher Ruder-Sport-Verband der DDR (rowing)	13,384
Deutscher Schlitten- und Bobsportverband der DDR (bob and luge)	2,619
Deutscher Schützenverband der DDR (shooting)	200,000
Deutscher Schwimmsport-Verband der DDR (swimming)	77,267
Bund Deutscher Segler der DDR (yachting)	20,223
Deutscher Skiläufer-Verband der DDR (skiing)	33,182
Deutscher Turn-Verband der DDR (gymnastics)	345,730
Deutscher Sportverband Volleyball der DDR (volleyball)	82,661

They represent more than 2.5 million members of the GDR DTSB.



THE GDR NOC AND OLYMPISM

● Olympic Day

Every year, two sports events are devoted to the renovation of the modern Olympic Games:

- *Olympic International Athletics Day* (since 1963)—a meeting point for well-known athletes, held at the beginning of the season, it is very popular internationally.
- *The NOC's swimming meeting* (since 1952) above all attracts young hopefuls from the international swimming world.

Momentous occasions, such as Coubertin's centenary, the 10th and 20th anniversaries of the committee's foundation and other events, have given rise to the organisation by the NOC of galas, exhibitions and other cultural events devoted to the Olympic idea.

● Organisation

- *Supreme organism*: four-yearly general assemblies and yearly plenary assemblies (legislative bodies);
- *Praesidium* (executive body): composed of the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary General, Treasurer, Press Officer, Art Attache, and five assistants (normally sports federation Presidents), as well as honorary life members and the IOC member for the GDR (ex officio member);
- *General secretariat* (organisation and executive office);
- *Temporary or permanent commissions*.

● Financing of the NOC

- Annual fees from the member federations of Olympic sports;
- Subsidies paid by the Association for promoting the Olympic idea in the GDR, including surcharges on special stamps issued for the Olympic Games and Winter Games;
- Aid granted by the public authorities for equipping and transporting Olympic teams;
- Donations.

● Publications of the NOC

The GDR NOC's bulletin (in French and English) has appeared since 1956, initially at irregular intervals, but since 1965 as a quarterly publication. It informs in particular IOC members, NOCs, IFs, personalities, editorial staff, reputed libraries in the sports world and other interested persons about the Olympic movement, sports experiences and sports science problems.

● Olympic Bibliography

Following all the Olympic Games since 1956, the NOC has been publishing reference books in German which give complete and detailed information on the Games, accompanied by reports and accounts by sports journalists and well-known columnists.

Dr. Schöbel has served Olympism well through his two publications:

* See biographical notes.

- “*The Ancient Olympic Games*”, also translated into French, English, Spanish, Russian and Dutch;
- “*The Four Dimensions of Avery Brundage*”, printed in English and German.

Articles dealing with the basic problems of Olympism appear in several reviews:

- Bulletin of the GDR NOC (French-English);
- Theorie und Praxis der Körperkultur (German);
- Körpererziehung (German);
- Sports in the GDR (German, French, English and Spanish);
- Wissenschaftliche Zeitschriften (scientific reviews) of the German College of Physical Culture (DHfK) at Leipzig, universities and other training schools (German).

SPORT IN THE GDR

● Other sports governing bodies

The GDR’s constitution guarantees the right of all citizens to physical culture, sport and recreation. One of the most noble objectives in the GDR is to promote this right and make sure it is used.

The initiator and organiser of sport in the GDR is the German Sports and Gymnastics Union (DTSB) of the GDR. To propagate and promote sport, the GDR DTSB is assisted in its work by large organisations such as the *Free German Youth* (FDJ), the *Young Pioneers* (JP), the *Confederation of Free German Trade Unions* (FDGB) and the *Sports and Technical Association* (GST), which contribute to the realisation of common programmes and joint activities.

Engaged in the overall, continuous and balanced development of physical culture and sport, the GDR DTSB

closely co-operates with public authorities: national education and professional training, advanced and technical instruction, cultural affairs, public health, etc.

An organ of the Council of Ministers, the *State Secretariat for Physical Culture and Sport* assures the execution and control of measures which have been adopted to develop physical culture and sport in the public sector: formation of sports teachers, editing of sports articles, construction of sports installations, etc.

This co-operation with the most important organisations is shown, for example, by the children and youth Spartakiads (regional and national level) which assemble at present more than four million children and young people in sports competition, and by the “Joint sports programme of the FDBG, FDJ and GDR DTSB”, which involves factories, institutions, co-operatives and recreation zones. In 1974, more than six million people took part in this programme.

At the present time, 2,512,214 people belong to the GDR DTSB, representing 14.8 per cent of citizens (statistics at 1.1.1975).

● Sport at school

Two hours of physical education and sport per week are compulsory (3 hours for classes 3-6) in general, professional, technical and upper schools. There is also extra-scholastic sport, in which 55% of students regularly participate (of whom 30% in school sports associations and 25% in sports associations affiliated to the GDR DTSB). By the end of general short education (10 classes), 74% of students have obtained the sports badge and 96% of all pupils have passed the swimming certificate.

The sports formation and education of children and young people culminates in the Spartakiads organised for summer and winter sports.

● National sports federations

Abbreviation

Aero-Club der DDR	
Allgemeiner Deutscher Motorsport-Verband der DDR (motor sports)	ADMV der DDR
Deutscher Anglerverband der DDR (fishing)	DAV der DDR
* Deutscher Basketball-Verband der DDR (basketball)	DBV der DDR
Deutscher Billard-Sport-Verband der DDR (billiards)	DBSV der DDR
* Deutscher Bogenschützen-Verband der DDR (archery)	DBSV der DDR
* Deutscher Boxverband der DDR (boxing)	DBV der DDR
* Deutscher Eislauf-Verband der DDR (skating)	DELV der DDR
Deutscher Faustball-Verband der DDR (fist-ball)	DFV der DDR
* Deutscher Fecht-Verband der DDR (fencing)	DFV der DDR
Deutscher Federball-Verband der DDR (badminton)	DFV der DDR
* Deutscher Fussball-Verband der DDR (football)	DFV der DDR
* Deutscher Gewichtheber-Verband der DDR (weightlifting)	DGV der DDR
* Deutscher Handball-Verband der DDR (handball)	DHV der DDR
* Deutscher Hockey-Sportverband der DDR (hockey)	DHSV der DDR
* Deutscher Judo-Verband der DDR (judo)	DJV der DDR
* Deutscher Kanu-Sport-Verband der DDR (canoe)	DKSV der DDR
Deutscher Kegler-Verband der DDR (bowls)	DKV der DDR
* Deutscher Verband für Leichtathletik der DDR (athletics)	DVfL der DDR
* Deutscher Pferdesport-Verband der DDR (equestrian)	DPV der DDR
* Deutscher Radsport-Verband der DDR (cycling)	DRSV der DDR
* Deutscher Ringer-Verband der DDR (wrestling)	DRV der DDR
Deutscher Rollsport-Verband der DDR (roller skating)	DRV der DDR
* Deutscher Ruder-Sport-Verband der DDR (rowing)	DRSV der DDR
Deutscher Rugby-Sportverband der DDR (rugby)	DRSV der DDR
Deutscher Schachverband der DDR (chess)	DSV der DDR
* Deutscher Schlitten- und Bobsportverband der DDR (bob and luge)	DSBV der DDR
* Deutscher Schützenverband der DDR (shooting)	DSV der DDR
* Deutscher Schwimmsport-Verband der DDR (swimming)	DSSV der DDR
* Bund Deutscher Segler der DDR (yachting)	BDS der DDR
* Deutscher Skiläufer-Verband der DDR (skiing)	DSLVL der DDR
Deutscher Tennis-Verband der DDR (tennis)	DTV der DDR
Deutscher Tischtennis-Verband der DDR (table tennis)	DTTV der DDR
* Deutscher Turn-Verband der DDR (gymnastics)	DTV der DDR
Deutscher Verband für Versehrten-sport der DDR (handicapped)	DVfV der DDR
* Deutscher Sportverband Volley Ball der DDR (volleyball)	DSBV der DDR
Deutscher Verband für Wandern, Bergsteigen und Orientierungslauf der DDR (hiking, mountaineering and orienteering)	
Radio-Club der DDR	DWBO der DDR
Schiffsmodell-sport-Club der DDR (model boats)	
Tauchsport-Club der DDR (diving)	

* These federations are members of the GDR NOC through their Presidents.



110,000 spectators in the Leipzig central stadium, the biggest in the GDR.

● **Sports installations in the GDR**

According to statistics, there are:

Stadia	306
Sports grounds	986
Areas for games and exercises, including small ones	8,579
Sports halls/all-sports halls	224
Gymnasia and school gymnasia	3,735
Indoor swimming pools (25 and 50 m.)	120
Nautical stadia and other swimming installations	595
Ski jumps	408
Artificial ice rinks	13

● **Sports experiencing the greatest developments**

Football, handball, judo, canoe-kayak, athletics, swimming, skiing, gymnastics, volleyball.

THE GDR AND THE INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS

The GDR sports federations are affiliated to the 26 International Federations which govern the sports registered on the Olympic programme.

Other GDR sports organisations are members of 55 international sports bodies and groups.

112 representatives of GDR sports organisations and institutions are members of 38 management committees and 119 commissions at the head of and within these international organisations.

● **Sports which draw the biggest crowds**

Football, boxing, swimming, cycling, rowing, athletics, handball, figure skating, luge, ski jumping.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Helmut Behrendt

Secretary General of the GDR NOC from 1951 to 1973. Since then, honorary member of the Praesidium, as well as of the DTSB, to which he has belonged since its foundation in 1957. Born on 18th January 1904. He trained as an electronic moulder. From 1923 onwards, he devoted himself to workers' sport, in which he held responsible positions, practising athletics, handball and football. An anti-fascist, he was imprisoned for ten years. After 1945, he turned to the organisation of socialist sport and its development, and above all to youth activities. He made great efforts to gain international recognition for the GDR NOC and in the eyes of the national and international public he remains a firm supporter of Olympism.

Prof. Dr. Günther Borrmann

President of the German Gymnastics Federation of the GDR and as such member of the NOC and its Praesidium since 1970.

Born on 11th March 1926. A competition gymnast until 1952. After an apprenticeship in aeronautical construction, he turned towards pedagogy and became a teacher. He is at present the Dean of the Faculty of Sports Methodology at the DHfK in Leipzig. Member of the German Gymnastics Federation of the GDR since its foundation.

Heinz Dose

Founder member of the GDR NOC and member of its Praesidium, initially as Secretary General, then as Administrative Secretary, and until 1970 as Treasurer. Born on 25th May 1901. A follower of workers' sport from 1920, he was a keen football player. In 1925 he led the Lower-Rhine sports dele-

gation participating in "The Workers' Olympiad". After 1945 he took an active part in the reconstruction and re-organisation of national sport. President of the German Cycling Federation of the GDR from 1949 to 1960. He then became Treasurer and founder member of the Association for promoting the Olympic idea in the GDR. He has been an honorary member of the NOC Praesidium since 1970.

Heinz Dragunsky

President of the German Skating Federation of the GDR and as such member of the NOC and its Praesidium since 1958.

Born on 3rd June 1921. In his youth, he practised gymnastics and handball. In turn a farm worker and commercial painter, he then took a training course and obtained a diploma in social sciences. Since 1957, President of the German Skating Federation and member of the confederal management of the GDR DTSB. In June 1960, he became an ISU judge. From 1963 to 1967 he was a member of the Speed Skating Technical Commission, since when he has sat on the Management Committee of the International Federation.

Head of the electric timing of speed skating events at all Winter Games since 1964.

Manfred Ewald

President of the Athletics Section and as such founder member of the GDR NOC. Vice-President from 1970 and since 1973 President of the NOC.

Born on 17th May 1926. As a young man he practised sport, and athletics in particular. Called upon to take up a leading role in the sports movement, after 1945 he devoted himself entirely to its organisation. After a college training, he became a sports teacher. From 1948 to 1952, Secretary of the German Sports Committee, and from

1952 to 1960 President of the State Committee for Physical Culture and Sport. In 1961 he was elected President of the German Sports and Gymnastics Union (DTSB) of the GDR. He held the posts of Vice-President of the German federations of athletics (from 1959 to 1970) and of gymnastics (from 1970 to 1974) of the GDR.

Wolfgang Gitter

Since 1970, member of the NOC and the Praesidium's Press Officer.

Born on 4th July 1932. Publishing economist and journalist and as such connected with the GDR DTSB since 1963. Before 1955 he played handball at regional level. He is responsible for editing the bulletin of the German Athletics Federation of the GDR, of which he has been a Praesidium member since 1962. He is also the editor of the review "Sports in the GDR". Co-author of "Athletics, past and present" (an historical work in two volumes).

Günther Heinze

Secretary General of the GDR NOC, after being Vice-President from 1955 to 1973. He became a member of the former "Studies and Projects" Commission of the European NOCs and today he is a member of the IOC Commission for Olympic Solidarity.

Born on 26th July 1923. Outstanding athlete and basketball player. Graduated in sport and political sciences. Since 1949 he has been holding top positions in GDR sport. From 1952 to 1955, President of the Basketball Section, then Praesidium member of the German Basketball Federation of the GDR and then Praesidium member of the German Volleyball Federation of the GDR. From 1952 to 1972, he was given responsibilities within the FIBA, including the vice-presidency of the Commission for International Organisations.

Rudolf Hellmann

Member of the GDR NOC since 1962. Elected Vice-President in 1973.

Born on 26th February 1926. After training as a mechanic and then following sports and social science studies, he obtained diplomas in these two subjects. He practised football and diving most actively. He has been a leader in the sports movement since 1950. In 1961 he was elected a member of the confederal management of the GDR DTSB. He heads the Sports Department in the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany.

Erhard Höhne

Founder member of the GDR NOC and since its foundation Art Attaché to the Committee's Praesidium.

Born on 25th August 1909. Excellent athlete and gymnast. Sports pedagogy studies. Sports professor, responsible for physical education at the general inspectorship in Berlin. From 1951 to 1954, Deputy Rector of the DHfK in Leipzig.

In 1967, Managing Director and since 1973, scientific attaché at the general secretariat of the GDR NOC. His functions are very diversified: propaganda, journalism, pedagogy and Olympism.

Franz Rydz

Since 1970, member of the GDR NOC and its Praesidium, of which he has become Treasurer.

Born on 27th May 1927. Graduated in social sciences. Active footballer until 1948. Since 1950, attached to the administrative service of the DTSB, firstly as President of the Sachsen-Anhalt Regional Sports Committee, and then as department head and Secretary, and since 1959 as Vice-President of the GDR DTSB, as well as honorary Praesidium member of the German Football Federation of the GDR. He has been most successful in preparing and equipping the national Olympic delegations.

Dr. Heinz Schöbel

IOC member for the German Democratic Republic since 1966.

Born on 14th October 1913. Publisher, he is Director of two publishing houses in Leipzig, his native city. A keen sportsman from the age of 8. He was elected President of the Football Section of the GDR in 1953 and member of the NOC, of which he was President from 1955 to 1973. Today, he is an honorary member of the NOC Praesidium and of the GDR Football Federation, and also Praesidium member of the GDR DTSB. He has attended all the Olympic Games since 1956 in an official capacity. His Olympic knowledge is reflected in his publications: "The Ancient Olympic Games" (translated into five languages) and the biographical work "The Four Dimensions of Avery Brundage" (in German and English).

His activities in the IOC confer on him an authority which is well regarded. He presides the Publications Commission, having been an influential member of the Press Commission.

Prof. Dr. Joachim Weiskopf

President of the German Canoe-Kayak Federation of the GDR since 1970, and as such member of the NOC and its Praesidium.

Born on 5th November 1927. Studied medicine and dentistry. Today, Director of the Clinic of Prosthetic and Orthopaedic Stomatology and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Karl Marx University in Leipzig. International hockey player from 1950 to 1958, he played for the national team in 19 matches. At the end of his international athletic career, he became official doctor of the German Hockey Federation of the GDR and in 1965 its Vice-President. He was elected President of the German Canoe-Kayak Federation of the GDR in 1970.

Board member of the Fédération Internationale de Hockey from 1966 to 1971.

Since 1970, Board member of the International Canoe Federation, as well as international canoe judge.

Prof. Dr. Georg Wiczisk

Since 1959, President of the German Athletics Federation of the GDR and as such member of the NOC and its Praesidium.

Born on 20th July 1922. At the end of the Second World War, he went into secondary teaching. Advanced education, defence of a doctorate thesis. Since 1969, course professor at the Sports Science Section of Humboldt University in Berlin. He practised many sports. He became Vice-President (1958) and President (1959) of the German Athletics Federation of the GDR. Since 1970, Praesidium member of the GDR DTSB, Council member of the European Athletics Association and since 1972 Council member of the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

He was the initiator and organiser of the Olympic International Athletics Day in Berlin.

Prof. Dr. Georg Zorowka

President of the German Swimming Federation of the GDR and as such member of the NOC and its Praesidium since 1966.

Born on 10th February 1927. He studied law up to the defence of his doctorate thesis. Today, course professor at the Economic Science Section of Martin Luther University at Halle-Wittenberg. Swimming competitor, he formed part of the GDR national team from 1946 to 1953. Up to 1958, water polo international 17 times. Since 1966, he has been a member of the European Water Polo Committee within the European Swimming League and since 1972 Board member of the Fédération Internationale de Natation Amateur.

He watches attentively over the tradition and success of the NOC's international swimming meetings.