

Poland and Olympism

"In no field is the ancient Greek so close to us as in the field of sport. The contemporary philosopher would feel solitary among those of Antiquity, who would not understand his problems; our scholar, among the ancient scholars, would seem to come from another planet.

"Yet our athletes would have been able to mix with their companions of 2500 years ago without any difficulty. Their understanding of everything which gives sport the value of a human ideal would be completely spontaneous.

"There is an ideal—we can even call it commandment—to which 20th century mankind aspires and which it expects: the commandment of peace. In Antiquity the voice announcing the Olympic Games disarmed fighters, put an end to animosity and discord, and, although this divine truce only lasted a few months, sometimes it consisted of whole years."

Jan Parandowski
prize-winner of the 1936 Olympic art competitions,
author of the book "The Olympic Discus"

POLAND

312,677 square kilometres.

33,202,300 inhabitants (census of 31st December 1972).



POLISH OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (POC)

Founded on 12th October 1919.

Recognised by the IOC in 1919.

President in office: Boleslaw Kapitan *.

Secretary General in office: Stanislaw Drazdzewski*.

Address: 4 Frascati Street, Warsaw.

Telephone: 28 50 38 (Secretary General), 29 88 62 (Assistant Secretary General).

Cable: PEKAOL.

Role of the POC

The Polish Olympic Committee represents the Polish sports movement within the IOC and NOCs. It arranges a social programme of activities for the Polish Olympic team. It seeks to promote a general understanding of the Olympic ideal.

Creation

"Already in the 19th century the problems of physical education had the attention of Polish educators and one can find many articles on this subject in Polish publications of those days. There was accordingly great interest in the revival of the Olympic Games and one

* See biographical notes.

of the first actions after the liberation of the country was the formation of the Polish Olympic Committee”, wrote the President of the IOC, Avery Brundage, in his message commemorating the 50th anniversary of the POC in 1969.

In 1919 Poland had just gained its independence after 123 years of struggle, and no sports federation as yet existed. On 12th October a preparatory meeting for a Polish Olympic Games Committee was held at Krakow. Tadeusz Garczynski and Henryk Szot-Jeziński were appointed the provisional President and Secretary General respectively. This Committee helped to create federations able to train athletes capable of competing in the Olympic Games and led to the foundation of the football, rowing, tennis, shooting, equestrian, gymnastics, athletics, fencing, cycling, photographic, press and propaganda sections.

Seven weeks later, on 1st December 1919, the constitutive assembly of the Polish Olympic Games Committee opened. Prince Stefan Lubomirski became first President of the POC. However up till 1939 Tadeusz Garczynski and Henryk Szot-Jeziński, both elected members of the Executive Committee, were the mainsprings of the NOC.

When the Organising Committee for the Olympic Games in Antwerp received the diplomatic note confirming the existence of an independent Poland, it immediately sent an invitation to Warsaw for Polish sportsmen to take part in the 1920 Olympic Games.

Although supported by the government of the time, the NOC was unable to

First official Board of the Polish Olympic Games Committee:

PT: Mr. Tadeusz Garczynski and Dr. Stanislaw Polakiewicz; **SG:** Mr. Henryk Szot-Jeziński; **T:** Mr. Jerzy Kowalewski; **Ms:** Mr. Ludwik Christelbauer, engineer, Dr. Stanislaw Kopczyński, **Mr.** Tadeusz Kuchar, engineer, Dr. Mieczyslaw Orłowicz and Dr. Wladyslaw Osmolsk, Colonel.

raise the necessary funds and refused this invitation.

In 1922, one of the founders of the NOC, Prince Kazimierz Lubomirski, became the first IOC member for Poland. He was succeeded by his compatriots Ignace Matuszewski, General Rouppert, the lamented Dr. Jerzy Loth* and the current President of the IOC Culture Commission, Dr. Wlodzimierz Reczek*.

In 1923, a national sports congress was organised. It originated the foundation of the Polish Sports Associations Union which, until 1939, governed all Polish sports organisations (for this reason, the NOC did not regain its complete autonomy until 1946). The name of Polish Olympic Committee was adopted in 1923 and its activities defined:

- to co-ordinate the preparatory work for the Olympic Games; to maintain relations with the International Olympic Committee;
- to supervise the preparation of the delegation; to set up and administer Olympic funds.

During the Second World War, when Poland was the most devastated country in Europe—a fact no one can forget—the occupying forces prohibited all sports activity. As a result, the NOC ceased to exist until 1944.

Following the country's liberation, the ardent forces in sport concentrated their efforts on re-creating the Polish Olympic Committee. It was to be officially constituted in 1946, under the presidency of Professor Alfred Loth. His first cousin, Dr. Jerzy Loth*, joined the IOC in 1946 and until his death in 1967 his international influence was widespread.

* See biographical notes.

The NOC, under the leadership of Alfred Loth until 1952, then under Włodzimirz Reczek*, also an IOC member, after 1952 and presently under Boleslaw Kapitan*, was to increase its activities and experience justified popularity for the greater good of Olympism.

As Mr. Włodzimirz Reczek* explained: *"During the first years after the war, the role of the Polish Olympic Committee was fairly modest and was restricted to a large extent to the organisational preparation and delegation of our team to the first Olympic Games.*

With the passage of time, the Polish Olympic Committee played an increasing role in the development of competition sport; it assisted sports unions in the organisation of sports training, in improving the qualifications of coaches, in the extension of training centres and ensuring medical care and good equipment for our leading athletes...

... The Polish Olympic Committee does not, however, restrict its activities to training work. It seeks new social contents for its enterprises and establishes strong and vital connections with the sports movement...

... The Polish Olympic Committee therefore develops wide activities which favour the link between sport, art and culture. This goal is realised, among other things, through the Olympic clubs which are becoming a place for meetings and discussions between Olympic leaders, writers, journalists, artists and other representatives of culture.

The Polish Olympic Committee also organises numerous art competitions on Olympic themes.

In bringing sport closer to art and culture, we believe that the International Olympic Committee will revert to ancient tradition and will find effective forms for linking fine arts and sport into the rich programme of the Olympic Games."

IOC members for Poland

1. Prince Kazimierz Lubomirski, from 1922 to 1930.
2. Ignace Matuszewski, from 1928 to 1939.
3. General Rouppert, from 1931 to 1946.
4. Dr. Jerzy Loth*, from 1948 to 1961, honorary member from 1961 until his death in 1967.
5. Włodzimirz Reczek*, since 1961.



Dr Jerzy Loth



Mr. Włodzimirz Reczek



Mr. Boleslaw Kapitan

Successive Presidents of the POC

- 1919-1921: Prince Stefan Lubomirski.
 1921-1929: Prince Kazimierz Lubomirski.
 1921-1929: Tadeusz Garczynski and Dr. Stanislaw Polakiewicz.
 1929-1939: Colonel Kazimierz Glabisz.
 1939-1945: All Olympic activity ceased during the occupation.
 1946-1952: Professor Alfred Loth.
 1952-1973: Włodzimirz Reczek*.
 Since 1973: Boleslaw Kapitan*.

* See biographical notes.

POLAND AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES

- **Date of first participation:** 1924.

Previously, some athletes of Polish extraction took part in the Games under the colours of other countries. In London in 1908, the diver Jerzy Gajdzik (United States) won a bronze medal and F. Pietryzkowska (Austria) played in the tennis tournament. Quite a large number of Poles attended the 1912

Olympic Games in Stockholm: the Russian team included eight.

Since 1924, Polish sportsmen have attended all Olympiad celebrations and all Winter Games.

- **Polish cities which have applied to stage the Olympic Games**

None to date.

1948 - London: The Polish delegation.



Representation of Poland at the Olympic Games from 1924 to 1972¹

	Athletics	Rowing	Basketball	Boxing	Canoeing	Cycling	Equestrian Events	Fencing	Football	Gymnastics	Weightlifting
1924	14	6	●	5	●	8	6	9(1)	11		
1928	16(5)	12	●	4	●	8	6	6			
1932	7(3)	7	●	7	●			7			
1936	18(3)	7	12	7	2	4	6	11	17	8	
1948	7(3)			6	3			8(1)			
1952	31(9)	10		10				13(3)	15	16(8)	4
1956	23(7)	8		9	4(1)			6		7	5
1960	51(16)	5	12	10	8(2)	5	4	21(5)	13	14(7)	7
1964	29	11	12	10	10(3)	8		15		13(6)	7
1968	33(8)	3	12	11	8(3)	12	4	24(6)		14(7)	7
1972	45(18)	16	12	11	23(5)	12	8	20(5)	17	14(7)	9

¹ The figures in brackets represent the number of women included in the first figure.
x Sport included in the programme but in which no event was contested.



	Handball	Hockey	Judo	Wrestling	Swimming	Modern Pentathlon	Shooting	Archery	Volleyball	Yachting	Total
1924	●	●	●	2			7	●	●	1	69(1)
1928	●		●	4	2(1)	4	●	●	●	2	64(6)
1932	●		●					●	●		21(3)
1936	0 ²		●	3	5		6	●	●	7	113(3)
1948	●		●					●	●		24(4)
1952	●	16	●	5	8(2)		2	●	●		130(22)
1956	●		●		1(1)		2	●	●		65(9)
1960	●	16	●	12	7	3	7	●	●		195(30)
1964	●			5			6	●	10(10)		136(19)
1968	●		●	12	9(2)		12(1)	●	24(12)	3	188(39)
1972	15	17	4	18	8(2)	3	13(1)	4(3)	12	8	289(41)

² Demonstration Sport.

● Not included on the programme.

Representation of Poland at the Winter Games from 1924 to 1976¹

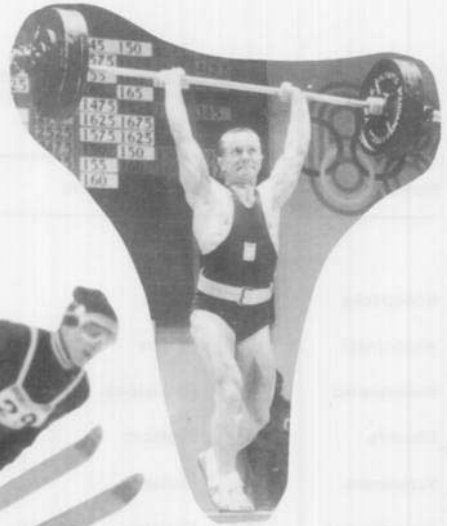
	Biathlon (skiing & shooting)	Bobsleigh	Ice Hockey	Luge	Speed Skating	Figure Skating	Skiing	Total
1924	●			●	1		7	8
1928	●	5	12	●			18	35
1932	●		11	●			5	16
1936	●		15	●	1		16	32
1948	●		17	●			14(1)	31(1)
1952	●		23	●			18(4)	41(4)
1956	●	9	19	●			26(7)	54(7)
1960		●		●	2(2)		11(4)	13(6)
1964	4		17	12(5)	3(3)		24(5)	60(13)
1968	6			11(3)		2(1)	22(4)	41(8)
1972	5		19	11(3)		2(1)	16(3)	53(7)
1976	4		18	6(2)	4(4)	3(2)	19(4)	54(12)

¹The figures in brackets represent the number of women included in the first figure.
● Not included on the programme.

The Polish Olympic Champions



1960-1964-
Josef Szmidt



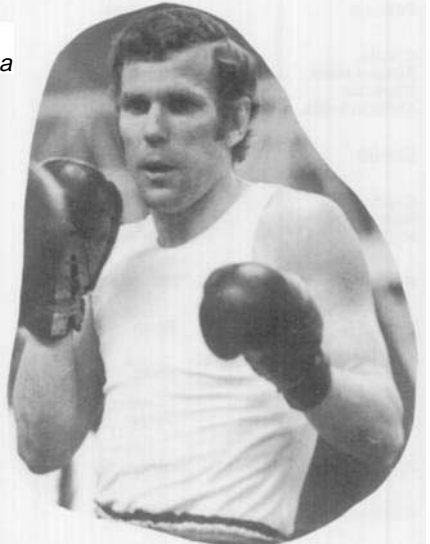
1964-1968-
Waldemar Baszanowski



1972 -
Wocjciech Fortuna



1964-1968 -
Irena Szewinska- Kirszenstein



1972 -
Jan Szezepanski

I. Titles obtained at the Olympic Games

* The names in heavy print indicate that the champion in question will be mentioned again later on.
 * We would like to thank in advance all readers able to help us complete this table and give us news of all the champions.

Name	Christian Name	Sport	Event
Konopacka	Halina	Athletics W	Discus
Kusocinski	Janusz	Athletics	10 000 m.
Walasiewicz	Stanislawa	Athletics W	100 m.
Chychla	Zygmont	Boxing	Welterweight
Krzesinska	Elzbieta	Athletics W	Long jump
Krzyszkwowiak Szmidt	Zdzislaw Jozeif	Athletics —	3000 m. steeplechase Triple jump
Pazdzior	Kazimierz	Boxing	Lightweight
Palinski	Ireneusz	Weightlifting	Middle heavyweight
Ciepla Kirszenstein Gorecka Klobukowska	Teresa Irena Halina Ewa	Athletics W — — —	4 x 100 m. — — —
Szmidt	Josef	Athletics	Triple jump
Grudzien Kulej Kasprzyk	Josef Jerzy Marian	Boxing — —	Lightweight Light welterweight Welterweight
Baszanowski	Waldemar	Weightlifting	Lightweight
Franke	Egon	Fencing	Foil
Kirszenstein- Szewinska	Irena	Athletics W	200 m.
Kulej	Jerzy	Boxing	Light welterweight
Pawlowski	Jerzy	Fencing	Sabre
Baszanowski	Waldemar	Weightlifting	Lightweight
Zapedzki	Josef	Shooting	Rapid-fire pistol
Komar	Wladyslaw	Athletics	Shot-put
Szczepanski	Jan	Boxing	Lightweight

Year	Birth	Notes
1928	1900	
1932	1907	Executed by the Nazis.
1932	1911	Top sprint and long jump athlete until 1939.
1952	1926	Jozef Szmidt Dominated world triple jumping for more than ten years.
1956	1934	
1960	1929 1935	
1960	1935	1928 - Halina Konopacka
1960	1932	
1964	1946	
1964	1935	1960 - Kazimierz Pazdzior
1964	1939 1940 1939	216 victories out of 253 fights appear on his honours list.
1964	1935	COP Board member.
1964	1935	
1968	1946	Exemplary mother, she has remained at the peak of world athletics since 1962: world recordholder for 100 m. in 1962 and for 400 m. in 1974.
1968	1940	National champion from 1962 to 1969 (except in 1966).
1968	1932	
1968	1935	
1968	1929	
1972	1940	
1972	1939	1972 - Wladyslaw Komar



1932 - Janusz Kosocinski



1972 - Wladyslaw Komar

Name	Christian Name	Sport	Event
Woyda	Witold	Fencing	Foil
Woyda	Witold	—	Team Foil
Dabrowski	Marek	—	—
Kaczmarek	Jerzy	—	—
Koziejowski	Lech	—	—
Godel	Arkadiusz	—	—
Anczok	Zygmunt	Football	
Cmiekiewicz	Leslaw		
Deyna	Kazimierz		
Gadocha	Robert		
Gorgon	Jerzy		
Gut	Zbigniew		
Jarosik	Andrzej		
Kmieciak	Kazimierz		
Kostka	Hubert		
Kraska	Jerzy		
Lato	Grzegorz		
Lubanski	Wlodzimierz		
Marx	Joachim		
Maszczyk	Zygmunt		
Ostafinski	Marian		
Szlja	Marian		
Szoltysik	Zygfried		
Szymanowski	Antoni		
Szymczak	Ryszard		
Smalcerz	Zygmunt	Weightlifting	Flyweight
Zapedzki	Josef	Shooting	Rapid-fire pistol



II. Titles obtained at the Winter Games

Name	Christian Name	Sport	Event
Fortuna	Wojciech	Nordic skiing	90 m. jump

III. Titles obtained in the Art competitions


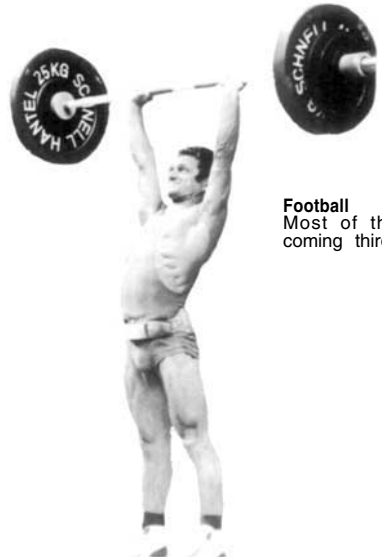

Name	Christian Name	Category	Work
Wierzynski	Kazimierz	Poetry	"Olympic Laurels"
Turski	Zbigniew	Music	"Olympic Symphony"

Other artists have been awarded second and third place:

In 1928, Wladyslaw Skoczylas, eminent painter.

In 1932, Josef Klukowski, sculptor, and Janina Konarska, wood engraver.

In 1936, the sculptor Josef Klukowski, the wood engraver Stanislas Ostoja-Chrostowkis and the novelist Jan Parandowski for his work "The Olympic Discus". The literary critic placed this novel among the most beautiful works in sports literature.

Year	Birth	Death	Notes
1972	1939		
—	1939		
—	1944		
—	1948		
—	1949		
—	1952		
1972	1946		
—	1948		
—	?		
—	1946		
—	1949		
—	1949		
—	1944		
—	1951		
—	1940		
—	1951		
—	1950		
—	1947		
—	1944		
—	1945		
—	1946		
—	1941		
—	1942		
—	1951		
—	1944		
1972	1941		
1972	1929		


1972 - Witold Woyda

Football
Most of these players confirmed their skill by coming third in the 1974 World Cup.

1972 - Zygmunt Smalcerz

1968-1972 - Josef Zapędzki

Year	Birth	Death	Notes
1972	1952		

Year	Birth	Death	Notes
1928			
1948			

1972 - Wocjciech Fortuna

PRESENT ORGANISATION OF THE POC

- *Composition*

The POC comprises the IOC member(s) for Poland, a maximum of 41 representatives of the national sports federations, the disciplines of which appear on the Olympic programme, a maximum of 21 representatives of associations with activities linked to the Olympic and sports movement, and a maximum of 15 personalities who are concerned with the spreading of Olympism.

- *The assembly*, the NOC's supreme authority, unites all the POC members once a year (twice during the 1st and 4th years of an Olympiad). Among its tasks are the approval of reports presented by the Praesidium, the drawing up of future activities and the budget, the election of the Praesidium and the Revisory Commission, the modifications to the statutes, etc. It can be convened in extraordinary session at the request of either one-third of the members or the Revisory Commission.

- *The Praesidium*, the executive body, is made up of 17 to 23 members of the NOC. Elected for four years, it chooses from its midst a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary General and a Treasurer. It meets at least every other month to deal with current matters.

- *The Revisory Commission*, composed of seven members elected for four years by the assembly, has overall control of the POC's activities.

- *The POC's Regional Committees* assist in the realisation of the NOC's decisions.

- **Members of the present Praesidium**

PT: Mr. Boleslaw Kapitan*; *VPTs:* Messrs. Wieslaw Adamski*, Stanislaw Nowosielski*, Mieczyslaw Olbrych*; *SG:* Mr. Stanislaw Drazdzewski*; *T:* Mr. Waldemar Zalecki*; *Ms:* Mr. Wlodzimierz Reczek*, IOC member for Poland, Messrs. Eugeniusz Molczyk and Tadeusz Pietrzak.

- **Members of the Executive Committee**

Mrs. Maria Malaszewska-Kwasniewska, 1936 Olympic medallist, Mrs. Zofia Zukowska, Messrs. Janusz Piewciewicz*, Assistant Secretary General, Antoni Bazaniak, Wlodzimierz Golebiewski, Waldemar Baszanowski, Olympic weightlifting champion, Edward Gorski, Olympic weightlifting champion, Edward Gorski, Andrzej Janiszewski, Edmund Kosman, Jan Maj, Janusz Przedpelski, Waldemar Poleszczuk, Stanislaw Romanski, Roman Stachon, Jerzy Skorowski, Stefan Skrzydlo, Tadeusz Ulatowski, Waldemar Winkiel, Waclaw Zatke and Adam Zaborowski.

The members of the Praesidium are at the same time members of the Executive Committee.

- *Specialised commissions* enable the POC to extend its activities in different fields, helping it to:

1. propagate the Olympic ideal in society and especially among the youth,
2. publicise Polish sports achievements,
3. organise and co-ordinate the competitions for the Olympic circles,
4. create and control the Olympic clubs,
5. collect Olympic funds,
6. care for Olympic athletes,
7. accomplish other tasks commissioned by the Praesidium or Secretary General of the Polish Olympic Committee.



Members of the POC (from left to right): Messrs. Andrzej Janislewski, Josef Topisz, Leslaw Skinder, Boleslaw Kapitan (President), Włodzimierz Reczek (IOC member), Stanislaw Nowosielski (Vice-President), Stanislaw Drazdzewski (Secretary General), Andrzej Jucewicz, Waldemar Zalecki (Treasurer), Tadeusz Vlatowski, Janusz Piewcewicz (Assistant Secretary General) and Lukasz Jedlewski.

— *The Propaganda Commission* seeks to propage the Olympic ideal through the press, cinema, etc., to inspire artists by organising literary and art competitions, to publicise their actions, and to publish sports and Olympic works.

— *The Olympic Programme Commission* is responsible for:

1. The initiation of work aiming at:
 - a) co-operation with the Organising Committee for the Olympic Games with regard to the programme, dates of submitting entries, and exchange of information.
 - b) co-operation with the national sports federations.
 - c) participation of the POC in the work of the International Olympic Academy.
2. The preparation of documentation for IOC, NOC and other meetings.

3. The drawing up of activity programmes.

— *The Commission for Co-operation with Local Associations* set up to:

1. Co-operate with the POC's Regional Committees.
2. Organise and supervise the Olympic circles' action, draw up the rules, etc.
3. Set up certain forms of assistance for talented young people chosen from the Olympic circles' action.
4. Work out activity programmes for the commission as well as proposals for the Committee.

— *The Commission for the Co-operation of people of Polish origin living abroad with the Olympic Fund Commission* strives to:

1. Develop co-operation and contacts of the Polish Olympic Committee

and Polish sports organisations with people of Polish origin living abroad.

2. Publicise the traditions and achievements of Polish Olympic sport among people of Polish origin living abroad.
3. Help sports organisations abroad.
4. Maintain and develop the contacts of national organisations with people of Polish origin living abroad in order to co-ordinate co-operation.
5. Organise and support all action undertaken by people of Polish origin living abroad aiming at collecting funds for Olympic preparations.
6. Support all action to increase the national Olympic fund.

● Financing of the POC

The necessary funds are obtained from membership fees, entrance fees, donations by individuals or institutions, mainly industry. The state does not subsidise the Polish Olympic Committee.

In 1923, shortly before the Olympic Games in Paris and on the initiative of Tadeusz Garczynski, a sports journalist and writer, first Polish long jump record holder, a national plan for collecting funds for the training of the Polish Olympic team was examined, culminating in the creation of the Olympic Fund Commission. It propagated the idea of helping Polish Olympic athletes at home as well as Polish communities abroad.

The project of the Olympic fund was continued for many years and resulted not only in financial aid for the Polish Olympic Committee, but also in the promotion of the ideal of the Olympic Games throughout the population. It was during the 1932 Games which were held in Los Angeles that the assistance of Poles living in the United States could best be noted.

In the same way, in 1956 when the Games took place in Melbourne, Poles

residing in Australia gave Polish sportsmen all their support.

The action of the Olympic fund, with 50 years of tradition behind it, is constantly extended by Poles who live in Poland and abroad. However, its contribution is in fact hardly more than symbolic and above all shows the moral support that the nation and Poles living abroad give to Polish sportsmen. Let us point out that at Montreal in June 1974, a reception committee was set up for Polish sportsmen.

● Federations affiliated to the POC

26 Olympic federations...

	Affiliation IF	Members in 1973
Athletics	1921	24 418
Rowing	1928	2 745
Basketball	1934	26 952
Boxing	1946	5 928
Canoeing	1946	5 500
Cycling	?	4 600
Equestrian	1924	536
Fencing	?	3 238
Football	1923	214 903
Gymnastics	1922	3 940
Weightlifting	?	11 772
Handball	1946	30 592
Hockey	1927	1 967
Ice hockey	1926	4 097
Judo	?	3 417
Luge	1948	837
Wrestling	1925	7 036
Swimming	1922	8 364
Figure skating	1925	1 834
Speed skating	1925	2 436
Modern pentathlon and biathlon	?	77
Skiing	1924	7 611
Shooting	?	31 183
Archery	1931	3 424
Volleyball	1947	29 468
Yachting	?	58 108

... and eight federations, the sports of which do not appear on the Olympic programme: acrobatics, speed boating, automobile, rugby, chess, table tennis, tennis and mountaineering.

THE POC AND OLYMPISM



● IOC Sessions held in Poland

1937 - Session in Warsaw.

1969 - Session in Warsaw, on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the IOC and the 50th anniversary of the POC.

● Olympic Awards obtained

Olympic Cup

1969 - By the Polish Olympic Committee on the occasion of its 50th anniversary, for promoting sport and the ideal of the Olympic Games and movement.

● Protection of the Olympic emblems

The request of the POC and the General Committee for Sport and Tourism to issue special instructions for protecting the Olympic flag and emblem and restricting the use of the terms "Olympic" and Olympic Games" was accepted on 28th January 1974.

● Olympic Day

From its creation by the IOC, the POC took the initiative of organising such events. These "Days" are traditionally held each year from 1st to 15th March. They begin with a festive inauguration either on the first Saturday or Sunday of March. After the reading of the "*Olympic appeal*" (the POC's proclamation to the youth, sportsmen, trainers and instructors, all sports supporters), and a speech by the President of the POC, there are as a rule a concert and sports displays. Similar meetings and celebrations take place throughout Po-

land, in large and small towns, villages, institutions and schools. Clubs and physical education centres play a leading role.

In addition, many competitions and games are prepared for this event, taking place in sports organisations and clubs with the participation of people from all classes of society.

The organisers try to obtain the participation of young people in the "*Days of the Olympic participant*" and encourage them to compete in the sports events. In 1974, the television and radio broadcasts of these "Days" were seen and heard by 15 million Poles, whilst 6 million people took part in the event.

● International Olympic Academy

The POC wholeheartedly supports the IOA, which has included Mr. Grzegorz Młodzikowski, Rector of the Higher School of Physical Education at Gdansk, among its lecturers. Moreover, ten Poles took part in the Academy's Sessions between 1964 and 1974.

● *The territorial Olympic Clubs*, created by the NOC in 1963, have the mission of propagating the Olympic ideal in Polish society. They assemble all supporters of Olympism: former athletes, Olympic competitors, journalists, pedagogues, etc. The Central Olympic Club operates in Warsaw and is linked to the POC. Far from being closed, these clubs carry out their activities in schools, factories, cultural centres, etc.

The first Olympic Club abroad was founded in London in 1968. Its programme of activities is based on the Polish

model. The members of Olympic Clubs operating abroad are of Polish origin.

● *The five Olympic circles* constitute the highest sports award for Polish youth. Aware of this fact, in 1965 the POC presented an emblem comprising five circles, in order to encourage young people to practise sport and develop their skills. Each circle is obtained as the youngster makes sports progress.

Standards for attaining the first circle are quite low, but the fifth is attributed only to Olympic competitors.

At the beginning, the required time to win the five circles was five years. Later, this was extended to seven years on the basis that at least seven years' effective training were necessary to reach Olympic standard in a sport.

Young people under the age of 18 try to win the first circle, whilst the older ones dream about the second and possibly the third.

● Publications of the POC

Under the name "*Polski Komitet Olimpijski*", the POC publishes an information sheet in Polish with a circulation of 1,500 copies.

In addition, many brochures, albums, bulletins, historical sketches and Olympic appeals help to realise the POC's propaganda work.

● Polish Olympic Bibliography

Olympic subjects are treated by many publishing houses, newspapers and magazines in Poland, with the "*Sport i Turystyka*" publishers taking a leading part. All in all, 500 books on sport and physical education have been published and a total of more than 10 million copies printed. We should also add the specialised publications of the higher schools of physical education (there are six in Poland). The publications issued by these schools include dozens of titles with a circulation of several thousand copies.

In English and French

1960 - J. Parandowski: "*Olympians*". Published by Sport and Tourism.

1968 - "*The Polish Team at the 1968 Mexico Games*". Published by Sport and Tourism.

1972 - "*The Polish Team at the 1972 Munich Games*". Published by Sport and Tourism.

In Polish

1957 - J. Kusocinski and K. Gryzewski: "*From Rounders to the Olympics*".¹

1957 - W. Lipniacki and A. Miller: "*From Athens to Melbourne*".¹

1957 - St. Zakrzewski: "*Marathon, Triumphs and Tragedies*".¹

1958 - A. Krolkiewicz: "*Johnny, Picador and Me*".¹

1962 - Collective work: "*On the Olympic Route*".¹

1965 - B. Tomaszewski: "*Olympic Year*".¹

1965 - W. Zablocki: "*Journeys with a Sabre*".¹

1965 - Collective work: "*The 18th Olympiad - Tokyo*".¹

1968 - A. Jucewicz and W. Stepinski: "*In honour of Olympic contestants 1939-1945*".¹

1969 - Collective work: "*19th Olympiad - Mexico*".¹

1969 - Collective work: "*On the Olympic Route 1968 Mexico - Grenoble*".¹

1969 - Collective work: "*Fifty years on the Olympic trail*".¹

1969 - A. Brzezicki: "*Under the Olympic Flag*".¹

1971 - Collective work: "*Sport In Stories*".¹

1971 - Z. Gluszek: "*Polish Olympic contestants*".¹

1972 - A. Jucewicz: "*Three Olympiads*".¹

1972 - T. Olszanski: "*Faster, Higher, Further*". Published by Ruch.

1972 - E. Skrzypek: "*500 Olympic Quizzes*". Published by Wiedza Powszechna.

1972 - Z. Zajackowski: "*Memolres of an Olympic Doctor*".¹

1972 - St. Zakrzewski: "*Olympic sensations and disappointments*".¹

1973 - M. Biega and K. Wagrodzki: "*Golden Soccer*".¹

1973 - G. Mlodzikowski: "*Twenty Olympic Games of Modern Times*".¹

1973 - T. Niewiadomski: "*The Olympic Games which were never held*".¹

1973 - D. Passent: "*The Almighty came to Munich too*". Published by Ksiazka i Wiedza.

1973 - A. Roman: "*Sensations at Munich*".¹

1973 - Collective work: "*Munich 1972 Olympic Games*".¹

1974 - A. Jucewicz and A. Konieczny: "*Munich 1972 Olympics*".¹

1974 - B. Kapitan, S. Drazdzewski and W. Szkiala: "*Olympic contestants in the 30 years of People's Poland*". Published by Ludowa Spoldzielnia.

1974 - T. Olszanski: "*The Magic of the Games*". Published by Iskry.

1974 - A. Papée: "*On the boards of four Olympiads*".¹

1974 - Collective work: "*On the Munich - Sapporo Olympic route*".¹

1974 - Collective work: "*Grand final*".¹

1974 - W. Glowacki and W. Rogala: "*Olympic Sails*".¹

1974 - W. Liponski: "*Sport, Literature, Art*".¹

¹ Published by Sport and Tourism.

SPORT IN POLAND

Reorganised in 1973, Polish sport is structured

- at national level round the *General Committee for Sport and Tourism*, head administrative body, the *NOC* and the *Polish Sports Federation*;
- at regional level around the *regional offices for sport and tourism*, the *NOC's* regional commissions, the regional sports federations, clubs and sports associations.

● Role of the State

With the founding of the Polish People's Republic, the role of the state in the development of physical education and sport has become very important.

The basic concept of the state's activity in the field of physical culture and sport is the creation of excellent co-operation between the various organisations and institutions and mainly between the individual government departments, trade unions, educational youth organisations, factories and co-operatives. In this co-operation, a leading role is played by kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, vocational schools and colleges which comprise 30 % of the population.

- *The General Committee for Sport and Tourism*, headed by Mr. B. Kapitaniak*, who is also President of the Polish Olympic Committee, seeks to create the best conditions for the harmonious development of physical culture and tourism, co-ordinates in this direction the work of the state departments, insti-

tutions and organisations, controls and supervises the many institutions and organisations directly involved in physical education and tourism, and helps the development of physical education and sport.

All matters concerning the development of sport and physical education are administered by this committee.

Its work is characterised by an integration of the major role of the state in this respect, and the various departments which represent it, with the widespread activities of the social sports movement in different fields. The state determines the guiding lines and supports at the same time the voluntary leaders whose task is the development of physical education. It allocates the necessary funds to the development programme of physical education, forms the staff and instructors, organises and finances the construction of new sports centres, supplies required equipment, etc. The social organisations also raise their own funds, run the clubs and grounds given to them.

The General Committee for Sport and Tourism constantly upholds independent sports activities, makes sure that the movement is always a better school of social education which teaches the art of the collective management of means that belong to the nation, in order to give the citizens a genuine role in the solution of problems concerning physical education and tourism, and to reinforce social awareness and a sense of responsibility for the development of physical education, sport and recreation.

- *The Polish Sports Federation*, the members of which are all the Polish sports associations, prepares the national teams for participation in the Olympic Games, world championships and other international competitions. In accomplishing this task, the Federation does its utmost to guarantee the best conditions for sports training and for improving the qualifications of coaches and instructors.

In addition, the Federation lays down the principles for organising sports competitions and matches, co-operates in the organisation of sports events and training, and defines the principles for representatives of Polish sport who are internationally qualified.

As the leading organisation in the Polish sports movement, the Federation co-operates extensively with all organisations and institutions interested in the development of sport.

The Federation supports and co-ordinates the activities of the national and regional sports federations.

It receives financial assistance from the General Committee for Sport and Tourism.

- *The sports associations*, supported by the Polish Sports Federation, concentrate their attention on activities for extending Polish physical culture, making its various forms accessible to children and youngsters, as well as to workers and other people, in short to all inhabitants of rural and municipal areas.

- *The sports clubs* belong to the sports federation of their region which subsidises them and to the regional office for sport and tourism. These regional offices form an organisational system that enables it to concentrate its means and powers of action on defined problems and tasks.

- *The new structural organisation* of Polish sports has altered the tasks of the Polish Olympic Committee. The POC concentrates its efforts on the promotion of the Olympic ideal and the propagation of Polish sport at home and abroad. It also works in close collaboration with the International Olympic Committee on the passing of resolutions on the question of representatives of Polish sport at the Olympic Games. The Polish Olympic Committee also works closely with Poles living abroad.

- **State aid for the sports movement**

The state does not directly support sportsmen financially. Of course, this does not exclude the possibility of assistance such as time off for training at special times preceding competitions as well as the organisation of training camps. All losses resulting from the absence of a sportsman from work are refunded by the club which applied for leave on behalf of the athlete.

When they enrol in physical education schools, prominent athletes receive extra points if they belong to the national team or have an international rating. Obviously the time devoted to training puts them at a disadvantage at exam time to the benefit of those who have more time for study.

The state spends large sums on the construction of sports installations, such as stadia, halls, swimming pools, skating rinks, etc., not to mention various sports and recreational centres.

The state budget does not include a special fund reserved for sports development. The money provided forms part of the funds set aside for physical education. If the state subsidies allocated to the Polish Sports Federation, its regional branches, associations and clubs were to be added, they would amount to 25 % of the sum attributed to physical education.

- **Sports installations**

According to the latest statistics, Poland has:

- 550 stadia with more than 3,000 seats,
- 960 gymnasia with more than 3,000 seats,
- 3,070 sports grounds,
- 55 modern sports halls,
- 6,000 sports halls,
- 27 indoor skating rinks,
- 137 indoor swimming pools,
- 950 outdoor swimming pools.

- **Sport at school**

Compulsory at a very early age, physical education forms an integral part of school and university programmes.

- *The Museum of Physical Culture and Tourism in Warsaw*, inaugurated in 1966, contains some 10,000 objects.

- **Number of members**

In 1974, the national sports federations comprised a total of 539,263 members. This figure represents only about 10 % of all sportsmen. Approximately one million Poles belong to a sports club. 1,200,000 are grouped in the Society for the Propagation of Physical Culture. The Popular Sports and Athletics Clubs have nearly one million members and as many belong to the Schools Sports Association. We would also mention the university and military clubs.

- **Sports which draw the biggest crowds**

Football, cycling, athletics, boxing, volleyball, basketball, skiing and ice hockey.

- **Sports experiencing the greatest developments**

Ball games, athletics, boxing, weight-lifting, fencing, skiing, wrestling and skating.



Krakow sports centre.

POLES AND THE INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS

In the history of international sport, we note the names of two Polish leaders who acceded to the presidency of an International Federation of an Olympic sport: Mr. Fularski, founder-President of the Fédération Internationale de Tir à l'Arc (archery) in 1931, and his successor until 1939 Dr. Bronislaw Pierzchala. Today 24 Poles are members of the Executive Boards of the International Sports Federations.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Boleslaw Kapitan

President of the POC since 1973.

Born in 1932. Graduate in history and a teacher, he plays an active part in education as well as in social and political affairs. He is also President of

the General Committee for Sport and Tourism, member of the National Council of Polish Pathfinders' Friends Union and Vice-President of the Youth Education Council.

Stanislaw Drardzewski

Secretary General of the POC since 1973.

Born in 1925. Holder of a doctorate in physical education, he has written many books and articles on physical education, sport and recreation. For many years he has played an active role in the sports movement.

Włodzimierz Reczek

IOC member for Poland since 1961.

Born in 1911 at Krakow, jurist, Doctor of Economic Sciences, President of the General Committee for Sport and Tourism (1960 to 1973) and President of the Polish NOC from 1952 to 1973. He is known as a patron and organiser of art competitions with sporting themes. From his entry to the IOC, he made himself the advocate of sports art and acceded to the presidency of the IOC Culture Commission in 1968.

Jerzy Loth

IOC member for Poland from 1948 to 1961, honorary member from 1961 until his death in 1967.

Professor of economic geography and geology, he obtained three science degrees in Belgium, at Cambridge and at the University of Columbia. A great traveller and researcher, he toured the world and particularly the two Americas where he made topographical surveys and carried out ethnographical studies. Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Krakow, he held several chairs at Warsaw University and was Rector of the Higher Commerce Institute. His sports career was prolific, just like his professional career: rowing, athletics (running and

high jump), cycling, swimming, equestrian, football. He gained successes in all these disciplines. POC member, International Director of the Polish Rotary Club before the Second World War, he was elected President of the largest rowing club in Poland in 1945 (1800 members, 287 boats of all kinds).

Wieslaw Adamski

Vice-President of the POC.

Born in 1931, graduate in pedagogy. He is also Secretary General of the Polonia Society which works with Polish communities abroad. For many years he has been very active in trade union circles as well as in the POC.

Stanislaw Nowosielski

Vice-President of the POC.

Born in 1929, graduate in physical education. In the past, he was very occupied with youth movements. In June 1973, he was appointed Vice-President of the General Committee for Sport and Tourism and President of the Polish Sports Federation.

Mieczystaw Olbrych

Vice-President of the POC.

Born in 1943, graduate in philosophy. He plays a leading role in sports and youth organisations.

Waldemar Zalecki

Treasurer of the POC.

Born in 1927, graduate in physical education. He has been engaged in the work of the trade union sports division.

Janusz Piewciewicz

Assistant Secretary General of the POC.

Born in 1918. Jurist, member of the POC Board and of the European National Olympic Committees.