



COMITÉ  
INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIQUE

Historical Archives  
Olympic Studies Centre

## Athletes' Commission

### *Fonds list*

Overview of the content of the archives concerning the history, missions and activities of the Athletes' Commission for the period 1981 to 1988

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# Athletes' Commission

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**Reference:** CH CIO-AH B-ID04-ATHL

**Dates:** 1981-1988

**Level of description:** Sub-series

**Extent and medium:** 0.40 l.m. Text documents

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## Name of creator

International Olympic Committee (IOC).

## Administrative / Biographical history

The Athletes' Commission was created at the decision of IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch following the XI Olympic Congress held in Baden-Baden (Germany) in 1981, owing to the huge success of having athletes participate in this Congress<sup>1</sup>. It is responsible for being the voice of the athletes within the IOC and for ensuring cooperation between the athletes taking part in the Games, the IOC and its commissions, in order to foster the development of the Olympic Movement as defined in the Olympic Charter<sup>2</sup>.

It therefore serves as a link between the active athletes and the IOC. The Commission thus represents athletes within the Olympic Movement and also upholds the rights and obligations of the athletes. The Commission members take part in the work of the main IOC working groups and commissions to provide the opinions of the athletes. It also works with the athletes' commission of the Continental Associations, National Olympic Committees (NOCs) and National Federations (IFs). It therefore issues recommendations to the IOC's executive bodies and acts as a consultative organ<sup>3</sup>.

The majority of the Commission members are elected by the athletes competing at the Olympic Games in the elections organised during the Games. The other members are appointed by the IOC President to ensure a balance between the regions, sexes and sports.

Its main activities are:

- Olympic Games: Candidate city evaluation process, monitoring Games preparations, work on the evolution of the Olympic programme, etc.
- Fight against doping: Activities to raise awareness among athletes, support for and participation in World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) initiatives, etc.
- Women in Sport: Supporting the practice of sport by women from all backgrounds, customs and religions in the same way as men, etc.
- The environment: Promotion of a healthy environment for all, awareness-raising among sports event organisers of ecological issues, contribution to the best possible integration of sports facilities into the environment, etc.

The first meeting of the Commission was held on 24 May 1982 in Rome (Italy). The Commission was chaired by Finnish member Peter Tallberg.

As at 1 March 2014, the Athletes' Commission was still active.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: according to circular letter no. 115 of 28 October 1981. In: IOC Archives / B-ID04-ATHL/001

<sup>2</sup> Source: Minutes of the meeting of 24 May 1982. In: IOC Archives / B-ID04-ATHL/002

<sup>3</sup> Source: INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE. Athletes' Commission. <http://www.olympic.org/fr/commission-athletes> (21 March 2014)

**Immediate source of acquisition or transfer**

The sub-series was transferred to the IOC Historical Archives in 1993, following the construction of the new Olympic Museum in Ouchy.

**Scope and content**

The sub-series records the main activities of the Athletes' Commission and the relations it maintains with the IOC.

The sub-series contains correspondence, mainly linked to the Commission's activities, and to the organisation and holding of meetings. We can also find general correspondence between the members or Chair of the Commission and the IOC.

Some reports, press releases, press articles and information brochures complete this sub-series.

It also contains the documents linked to the Commission meetings, i.e. minutes, roll calls and working documents.

The minutes are digitised and available on site in electronic format.

The sub-series contains conservation copies of minutes of this Commission's meetings (incomplete collection).

**Accruals**

Yes

**System of arrangement**

The files are classified by subject, by document type or by activities in alphabetical order. The documents in the files are classified chronologically, from latest to earliest.

**Conditions governing access**

The documents are freely accessible, subject to the provisions established by the IOC to this effect.

**Language / scripts of material**

The documents are written in French and English.

**Additional resources**Internal resources

XI Congress, Baden-Baden 1981: B-ID06-11BAD

**Bibliography**

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE. La commission des athlètes du CIO = The IOC Athletes' Commission. Lausanne: IOC, 2004

**Notes**

The content of this sub-series, including Olympic identifications, is the property of the IOC.

**Rules or Conventions**

Description complies with ISAD(G).

**Dates(s) of description**

March 2014