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# PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL



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# **XIV Congreso Panamericano Cochabamba (Bolivia) 28, 29 y 30 de Enero 2022**

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# Olympia wins against Covid

Last spring I noticed that, despite pressure from the media and politicians to call them off, the Tokyo Olympics would go ahead.

The Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympics did take place and, thanks to the precautions taken mainly by the IOC, i.e. athletes and staff vaccinated, as well as to the sense of responsibility among athletes and their entourage, the foretold catastrophe did not occur. Despite the health restrictions, the Games were a success and offered glorious emotions and truly remarkable sport performances.

The Summer Games have just ended, and preparations are already underway for the 2022 Winter Games. They will take place in China - Beijing, Yanqing and Zhangjiakou - from the 4th to the 20th February. The hygiene requirements will be as strict as those in Tokyo: very few spectators or no public and the Olympic family confined in a sort of bubble that encloses, in the capital, a vast area including hotels and competition venues. The facilities of the 2008 Beijing Summer Games will be used again.

The Games and correlated controversies occupy part of this edition of the magazine. Grandiosity, enormous costs and the question of inheritance have long divided commentators. The IOC's efforts to remedy these shortcomings are tangible, but often overlooked. In Beijing, as in 2008, we will probably have to add the issue of respect for human rights. However, criticism is useful when it is not excessive and one-sided. The Olympic Games, for those, especially the athletes, who are lucky enough to participate and feel them intensely, remain an unforgettable event.

In our magazine we also mention Fair Play a lot, or rather, its absence.

Giacomo Santini is appalled by the blatant disregard for the basic rules of fair play, exemplified by the outbursts of fanaticism that surrounded and followed Italy's victory of the European Football Championship.

Football and fair play do not always go hand in hand, this is well known, but it is at the spectator level that the most atrocious things happen. The need for disruption, but also simply the disproportionate national pride, does not care about Fair Play.

Failing to correct these excesses, Panathlon International, with its limited means, intends to support greater respect for Fair Play not just among the general public but also amid athletes. With its brand-new project "Fair Play starts from school", it intends to train generations of athletes and future citizens, so that they learn and respect the ethical values of sport. We are setting up and closely following a pilot project, conducted by some Clubs in a test area, in cooperation with schools.

With the aim of spreading the values of sport, our Domenico Chiesa Foundation, after the conclusion of the short films competition, produced with the cooperation of the International Sport Movies TV Federation, is launching a photo contest for 2022. We will have the pleasure of presenting it very soon.

To finish on another positive note, I would like to greet the excellent news of Philippe Housiaux's election as head of the European Fair Play Movement. We finally have a "man in the house" and we can bet that our collaboration with this important association will become even stronger.

I wish everyone a very good reading!



Pierre Zappelli  
International President

# The reverse of Olympic medals hides a global ethical disaster

*In 2012 Pietro Mennea published the investigative book “The costs of the Olympics”, against social damage and political conditioning*

by Enrico Fora  
Co-editor of ACSI Magazine

We proudly take part in the triumphs of sport, but at the same time we are historically and consistently devoted to promoting sustainable sport, therefore we simply believe that mass sports expressions must be “responsibly” resized due to the alarming upsurge of environmental and pandemic emergencies.

The chauvinist and rhetorical jubilation of the “globalized swarm” - labelled as such by sociologist Zygmunt Bauman - ignored the only real winner of the Olympics: the extraordinary, ancestral “kintsugi” of the people of the Land of the Sun. The Japan Times revealed “pre-emptively” that 86% of the Japanese feared a resurgence of infections due to the Olympics.

Nonetheless, the bulldozer of the powerful “multinational sports corporation” - with the appropriate political connivance – tarmacked over the legitimate and well-founded grievances of an entire community. The slithering conformism of the media “complied” with the increasingly despotic and pervasive diktat of the granite Moloch, which we could define as actual “sporting imperialism”.

The sport dominant class has stubbornly glossed over the devastating consequences of the European Football Championship, responsible for 450 thousand tons of CO2. Experts from the South Pole Carbon Asset Management claim that 600,000 trees should be planted, 50,000 for each participating country, to offset such harmful extra pollution.

However, they did not explain that this “compensation” for environmental damage will last 23 years, affecting the quality of life and the health of future generations.

Hence the “multinational sport corporation” - with the pharaonic revenue from sponsors and television rights – sails into the Gotha of wild capitalist lobbies, responsible for greenhouse gas emissions.

Following a tight monitoring, in a few weeks we will know the full impact of the Japanese Olympics, not just in environmental terms but also in terms of pandemic spread and record budget-overrun.

The financial and polluting consequences of the Olympics have repercussions on future generations. An outstanding study conducted by the University of Oxford shows how costs have increased dramatically in most of the host countries. Pietro Mennea, in January 2012, published an explosive “j'accuse”: the documented book denouncing “The costs of the Olympics”, which was highly ostracized by the media and by the sport establishment.

The scathing 215-page pamphlet took the lid off a devastating “Pandora’s box”: the disturbing and nostalgic ideological affiliations of the world’s pinnacle of sports; the invasive political meddling of the “alleged” champions of sports autonomy; the unequivocal and certified financial disasters of the cities brought to their knees by the Olympics; the greedy parasitism of international sports organizations that look anachronistic and inadequate when compared to the new ethical-social, cultural, economic and environmental challenges.

The pressing world emergency calls for the inevitable countdown to the “belle époque” of sports imperialism which must “begrudgingly” abdicate the senseless squandering of huge resources and the mad polluting race towards environmental euthanasia.

Every minute - as we scroll through the hyperbolic figures of “Olympic” financial bankruptcies - a child dies of starvation, becomes blind or is unable to drink clean water in the most depressed areas of “our” planet. Is this the pharisaic and ruthless demagoguery of the politically correct Samaritans, or is it a significant expansion of the holistic vision in popular imagination that finally goes beyond the egoic “I” to subliminate itself into the “we”?

The biblical exodus from the South to the North of the world is the cathartic harbinger of a heart-breaking economic and social gap that overflows into the conflict between homo sacer and homo consumens. In Italy, the epidemiology of suicidal behaviour in cities running for the Olympics reveals a schizophrenic and irresponsible management of the “ethical and virtual res publica”,



repeatedly invoked by Italy's President Sergio Mattarella. An indisputable example: instead of building "Olympic facilities" doomed - after the ephemeral event - to traditional neglect, we could defuse the powder keg of the degraded (Italian) suburbs inhabited by 15 million wheezing and invisible people, abandoned by the State and colonized by the underworld.

In light of this dramatic, irreversible involution, we ask - paraphrasing the trilogy of Peter Jackson's colossal fantasy - the "lords of the rings" (the Olympic ones) to activate a radical "moral suasion" in order to restore the noble and primitive Olympic ethics in sync with the new global consciousness.

The 29th July 2021 was the day of the Earth Over-shoot. Do you know what that means? That on the 30th July we have already accrued a debt to Mother Earth. We are exploiting more resources than the Planet is able to regenerate, thus subtracting them from future generations and altering the entire ecosystem.

It is time to enter the field, to raise awareness of a movement of condemnation, to put pressure on the media and on the institutions. We hope that the 2026 Winter Olympics in Milan-Cortina will not have the bleak repercussions of those of 2006 in Turin: a sea of concrete transformed into sinister skeletons of sport archaeology.

Among the neglected infrastructures are the Pragelato ski jump, the Cesana Pariol bobsleigh track, the Olympic village, the free-style terrain in Sauze d'Oulx, the biathlon facility in San Sicario, etc... Common sense suggests not to issue blank proxies to a small oligarchy in the immediate future.

We need bottom-up responsible sharing: a popular referendum should be called in the cities applying to host mass sporting events. We conclude with the statements of two far-sighted (Italian) politicians: Sandro Pertini "Sport must always have a high ethical profile" - Alcide De Gasperi "A politician looks to the next elections.

A statesman looks to the next generation." Are there any enlightened "statesmen" in politics and sport today?



# Refugee athletes Beyond any barriers

*The six refugee Paralympians currently competing in Tokyo are demonstrating the power of sport to promote inclusion and transform the lives of an estimated 12 million displaced people currently living with disabilities. UNHCR's protection officer for disability inclusion Ricardo Pla Cordero, sets out the challenges facing people with disabilities in situations of forced displacement, and describes what UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is doing around the world to ensure they have access to the same rights and freedoms as everyone.*

by Malcolm Foster

## **What is the significance of the Refugee Paralympic Team to you?**

I really had the feeling that these six athletes — one woman and five men, who originally come from four different countries — were breaking new ground in international sport competitions when I saw them leading the parade of athletes. Now, refugees with disabilities also have a space to compete on an equal basis with others.

## **How many refugees and other forcibly displaced people are living with disabilities?**

There is no exact figure, although it is estimated that there are 12 million forcibly displaced people including refugees living with disabilities. That's based on applying the percentage of people with disabilities in broader society — about 15 per cent — to the 82.4 million people who have been forcibly displaced from their homes by war, violence and persecution. However, humanitarian surveys show that the prevalence of disability in these contexts may be much higher. For example, a 2019 survey by UNHCR in Jordan showed that 21 per cent of Syrian refugees living there have a disability.

## **What is the impact of displacement on people with disabilities?**

Evidence shows that people with disabilities feel the impact of displacement more dramatically than those without physical, psychosocial, intellectual or sensory impairments. They are often at higher risk of violence, discrimination, exploitation and abuse. They face barriers in accessing basic services and are often excluded from educational and livelihood opportunities. They may also confront negative attitudes from those in the community or service providers, or even be subject to targeted attacks in some contexts where stigma and prejudices

against those with disabilities are very high. Such issues are frequently reported across UNHCR operations.

## **What does UNHCR do to help people with disabilities?**

What UNHCR does is to help refugees and internally displaced people access the same fundamental rights and freedoms as anyone else. In some places, for example, refugees will not have the same rights as citizens of the countries where they live. The same can also happen to refugees with disabilities, who may not be able to access social protection programmes as nationals with disabilities, for example. We work with partners and UN member states to uphold the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which recognizes people with disabilities as part of human diversity and requires states to ensure that they can access rights on an equal basis.

## **That sounds like it could be difficult to implement in practice. What approach does UNHCR take?**

UNHCR has adopted a community-based approach, in which community members are engaged to help remove barriers that may hinder people with disabilities from gaining access to the same services or assistance, such as access to water and food supplies, or to classrooms, that other refugees do. It may also involve training teachers to include children with disabilities in their classes, or facilitating access to assistive devices such as wheelchairs.

## **Are refugee camps difficult places for people with disabilities to live?**

Refugee camps present challenges for all people living there, but can be particularly difficult environments for those with disabilities. Because these are temporary



settlements, there is usually no long-term planning to install infrastructure such as paved roads or ramps for wheelchairs. There are often open sewers or gutters. Also, people with disabilities often don't have the same access to key information in refugee camps, which is often spread through leaders or in central areas, and they struggle to reach those places where information is disseminated. So yes, they're particularly unfriendly settings for people with disabilities.

***What about refugees who live in urban areas, as more than two thirds do today?***

Cities can also be very inaccessible, and refugees tend to live in poorly developed urban areas with less access to transport or livelihood opportunities. A community-based approach is also applicable to these contexts, supporting access to education and livelihoods through individual empowerment, skills training, assistive devices, or cash support to cover additional expenses related to transport, for example. For those living in areas with established services for national citizens with disabilities, establishing linkages with national disability networks and organizations for refugees is key.

***How does UNHCR work with advocacy groups and community-based organizations to help refugees with disabilities?***

UNHCR recognizes the central role of people with disabilities, including refugees, as actors of change. We work with the International Disability Alliance, a network representing thousands of organizations for people with disabilities, to strengthen their participation in the response to refugee situations. For example, one of their members called RIADIS, the Latin American Network of Persons with Disabilities and their Families, produced

a series of information materials in 2020 for refugees with disabilities on the prevention and response to COVID-19 and on tackling gender-based violence. This year they have published a full report on the situation facing refugees with disabilities in the Americas, in collaboration with UNHCR and partners in the region. High-level supporters such as Nujeen Mustafa and Paralympian Abbas Karimi use their influence to advocate on behalf of refugees with disabilities as well.

***What role can sport play in all this?***

Access to and participation in sport is a right under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, including for refugees. Sport provides a welcoming space for refugees and local communities to develop friendships, promoting peaceful coexistence. Sport also encourages physical and psychological wellbeing, and develops the life skills and self-confidence needed to pursue your own goals. Alia Issa, Anas, Parfait, Ibrahim, Shahrad and Abbas are breaking down barriers by doing what they most enjoy; participation in sport can be a way of changing the world, for anyone.

The Refugee Paralympic Team were rewriting the narrative as they led the parade of athletes at the opening ceremony, even if it happened in an empty stadium. They have shown the importance of representation, and what people with disabilities – including refugees – can achieve when given access to the same opportunities as others. In getting behind and supporting the team, I hope people will also support the inclusion of refugees with disabilities in all other aspects of society.



# Special Olympics mission

## *Interview with Prof. Alessandro Palazzotti World Fair Play Diploma in the Category of “Jean Borotra - Career”*

by GIAMPIERO CANTARINI,  
President of Panathlon Club Roma

***Prof. Palazzotti, you have been awarded the World Fair Play Diploma in the category of “Jean Borotra-Career”. Are you happy with this recognition?***

Having been part of organizations that have awarded prizes and awards on several occasions, I have always appreciated the fact that these were awarded for real merits acquired, selected by serious and impartial commissions, without favoritism and solicitation. In this case, the internationality of the organization that awards it and its prestige give the Prize a plus.

***You have spent your life entirely in sports. In her numerous assignments she has always transferred a pedagogical charge that derived from her profession as a teacher. Why?***

The passion for teaching, which in the School makes you focus your attention on your students, leads you always to see in the other people what is positive, highlighting and maximizing it, pushes you to correct any personal fault and limitations, stimulating personal commitment, teamwork to grasp the set goals. Transferring all this to the field, as a coach, and then, as a manager in sports institutions, be they Associations, Federations or the National Olympic Committee, was almost natural. Results always come and they are so satisfying for the whole team you have been able to put on the field.

***The executive positions in the world of competitive sport have not prevented you from proposing and carrying out the Special Olympics Program in Italy for more than 40 years, which has objectives, characteristics and working methods quite different from performance sport. How did you do?***

Surely. In competitive sport, the goal is the result, the performance, the championship. In Special Olympics the aim is the acquisition of skills that are useful in everyday life, personal autonomy, the birth of social relationships, friendships, the inclusion of the Athlete in the community. This gives rise to different working methods and very particular organizational methods of events. However, if there is love for sport and attention to the needs of the Athlete, be it with or without disabilities, any difficulty does not become a barrier or even an obstacle.



Today we talk so much about inclusion. Sport can be an engine of extraordinary strength. Special Olympics in the world and you have always offered it in Italy. One of the reasons for the Award is probably due to this great work carried out in years in which there was no sensitivity on the subject.

Yes. The difficulties were enormous. We felt like we were rowing against the current in the world of sport, which we loved and that we were sure could be the one that could have determined the positive turn we were trying to make. Sportspeople are naturally generous and they realized that they could help us. After a first moment of troubles in figuring it out, they understood that proposing or helping a sporting activity that includes the participation of people who have difficulty starting, for disability or other reason, can be the cherry to put on cake of a sports organization, even at a high competitive level.



***The difficulties you met in Italy in the world of sport, both Olympic and Paralympic, due to the specificity of the programs and the innovative spirit of Special Olympics, and all the obstacles that have stood in the way of the diffusion of Special Olympics in your country, how have they been overcome?***

I believe that Special Olympics and Panathlon have plenty the power of ideas, motivations and goals, which when combined with Fair Play, education and moderation in behavior, can only lead to extraordinary results. I have always inspired my personal action and that of all those I have had the good fortune to be able to involve in concrete actions for the social promotion

of sport. That's why I am honored to have been chosen for the World Fair Play Diploma "Jean Borotra - Career", which remembers not only a great sports champion, but also someone who believed that sporting activity could contribute to giving an essential contribution to the cultural and social improvement of people and communities in one's own country and in the world.

***Thanks Prof. Alessandro Palazzotti and good Fair Play to all.***

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

## "STRONGER TOGETHER"

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has launched "What Agnes Saw" - the latest film in its digital campaign "StrongerTogether" - featuring the oldest living Olympic champion, Agnes Keleti, (10 times Olympic gymnastics medallist) and 13-year-old prodigy of British skateboarding Sky Brown.

This video combines the wisdom of age with the passion of youth to bring light to darkness, and to remind us of the hope and inspiration that arise when the world comes together for the Olympic Games.



# Fifteen clubs for Ewos 2021

## *In Slovenia, launch of the new edition of the European Week of Sport*

by Paul Standaert

On 23rd and 24th September, Panathlon International took part in the opening of the seventh edition of EWOS (European Week of Sport), promoted by the European Commission.

The partnership between Panathlon International and EWOS is an initiative of past-president Giacomo Santini and its significance has grown considerably over the years. From a rather modest contribution in 2016, Panathlon's participation has gradually grown into an ever-stronger commitment to disseminate EWOS goals.

An increasing number of Panathlon clubs are leveraging on this European initiative to develop local action and to promote physical activity. Furthermore, the focus is often on "sport for all" and on the inclusion of disabled people and their social groups.

This is what Panathlon stands for and it is why so many people become active members of our unique association.

This year in Bled, Slovenia, former international board member Paul Standaert, representing President Pierre Zappelli, attended the opening meeting of EWOS 2021.

Paul Standaert could explain Panathlon International's mission to the European leaders, among whom were European Commissioner Mariya Gabriel, MEP Tomazs Frankowski, the director of EAC Sport Floor Van Houdt, and numerous representatives of international sports organizations, such as ENOC (European National Olympic Committee), UEFA and others.

In 2021, fifteen clubs also organized educational, information and sporting initiatives, including activities in schools, with club members, for young people (tennis, basketball, cycling, swimming for children with autism), a seminar on inequality in women's cycling, and the submission of a nomination for a be @active Education award (involving a school for autistic children where sport is used as a means to achieve academic results).

In all these outstanding initiatives, the commitment and knowledge of the local club members proved to be the key factor for the success of these events.

We thank our members and encourage them to continue these initiatives, to increase even more in number, thus making the message and mission of Panathlon resonate on the international scene.

On the same occasion, Commissioner Mariya Gabriel urged to further commit by officially presenting the initiative "HealthyLifestyle4All" (HL4A) in conjunction with the opening of the European Week of Sport.

Gabriel's initiative invites all forums and organizations to join forces to promote and boost a healthy lifestyle at all levels and ages.

Following Tartu Call for a healthy lifestyle, Healthy Lifestyle 4 All is a two-year campaign that shows the Commission's commitment to promoting a healthy lifestyle across generations and social groups.

HL4A is driven by the awareness that everyone can benefit from activities that improve health and well-being.



**Paul Standaert represented Panathlon International in Slovenia**



**European Commissioner Mariya Gabriel presents the campaign for a healthy lifestyle also thanks to sport**



# Stefano Bizzozzi

## “Willi Daume - Promotion” Diploma

by Fabrizio Coniglio

### ***How did the story of Sports Around the World begin?***

Our story began when we realised that our way of playing sport did not fully involve our youngsters, that we forgot a good part of the sensitivity of the children who were entrusted to us. We realised that this sensitivity could be sought through examples, that we could not forget that the kids we coached were not just what we saw on the pitch.

A doctor who treated children in Africa told us that many kids suffered from disease-related problems, but that there were many more youngsters who were deprived of what is normal for us: playing. We thought that by using what we know, i.e. sport, we could help those who didn't play, and be a concrete example for the young people we coach in our clubs.



### ***What was the most important moment for you?***

Having shared everyday life with those populations, in the first travels there. Being infected with their desire to do something, once the opportunity was offered to them. This has created a one-way path, which forces us to do something, and which I and all those who participate in our association are walking along.

### ***What is still driving you after 10 years?***

Not a day goes by without dedicating a thought to Africa and the people who live there. Then the constant presence of all the partners, old and new, who are a push and a continuous contribution to create: it's a true team.

### ***What are your next projects?***

We are working in Rwanda, Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The activities we started in Swaziland are continuing autonomously, same as in Tanzania.

In Rwanda we want to create an all-round sports centre in Busasamana, where we are already operating. In Gisovu we would like to create a tailor's shop for single mothers and set up a place where children can study and play while their mothers make clothes.

In Cameroon we need to improve the conditions of the orphans who live in the orphanage we have built in Ebolowa. We are organizing a food support plan for the 65 children who live there.

In the DRC we are actively working to increase sports projects.

### ***In a historical moment of instability in many countries, how does your work perform in countries under difficult conditions?***

As I said, in every nation we have vulnerability problems linked to insecurity. In Cameroon, because of Boko Haram in the far North (although in Zouzouli we have resumed basketball and other sports), and the strive to create an independent state in the North West (the English speaking Ambazonia), we are not allowed entry.

In Rwanda, in the hot area of Lake Kivu, we are able to operate, and some projects aim to bring children to play safely in areas where we are present.

In Congo we want to involve the weak part of society: children, street urchins; we want to engage them and motivate them towards a different sort of self-determination.

Play and sport give unity and heal wounds that would hardly mend.

# WORLD FAIR PLAY DAY

by Maurizio Monego

The Fair Play Day was celebrated on 7 September. This date was originally set to celebrate the day on which Jean Borotra, French tennis champion, gathered a group of friends from different sports federations to propose the creation of a committee dedicated to disseminate the ideal of fair play in sport, at a time when chauvinism and violence in stadiums had reached worrying levels. The idea was to establish a "Pierre de Coubertin Award" to reward the public and the athletes for the greatest sporting attitude demonstrated during the year. Thus, on 5 December 1963, at the Cercle Interallié in Paris, an initial meeting was held to set up the provisional international committee for the organization of Pierre de Coubertin International Trophies. It was attended by representatives of UNESCO, AIPS (Association Internationale Presse Sportive), ICSPE (International Council of Sport and Physical Education) and of the International Basketball (FIBA), Football (FIFA), Rugby (FIR), and Wrestling (now UWW, United World Wrestling) Federations. Jean Borotra was elected President of the ICSPE Committee.

This Committee is today the Comité International pour le Fair Play (CIFP) and is chaired by Jeno Kamuti; Vice-Presidents are the Russian Nickoli Dolgoplov and the Italian Maurizio Monego (Italy), while Sunil Sabharwal (USA), is the Secretary.

Bringing together the Comité International pour le Fair Play (CIFP), the European Fair Play Movement (EFPM) and Panathlon International to celebrate the anniversary of the World Fair Play Day was a personal achievement of Philippe Housiaux, president of Panathlon Club Wallonie-Bruxelles and member of the CIFP Council.

A video was published on Facebook and YouTube to celebrate this day. The world premiere started at 15:00 CET and it is still viewable in its full version or divided into chapters by clicking on the links shown in footnote below.

The film, long approximately 1h and 50', is a collection of interviews, messages, visits to organizations and events characterized by the wish to promote Fair Play. The common thread is carried on by Hungarian journalist Gábor Gundel Takács. The film starts with a message from CIFP President Jenő Kamuti and the presentation of the 13 nominations for exemplary behaviour from the recent Tokyo Olympic Games; it continues with conversations with Laura Sárosi<sup>(1)</sup>, Olympic badminton athlete, and with Attila Mizsér<sup>(2)</sup>,

modern pentathlon champion, interspersed with several other contributions. The viewer can learn about the Rapid Vienna football team and the IX International VARTA Turnier Tournament, or about EFPM, or listen to Christiam Hinterberger's message and to Panathlon International President Pierre Zappelli's presentation.

You can learn about some interesting documented experiences, such as those of Semmelweis University Water Polo Club, and of the most important international youth water polo tournament HaBaWaBa, as well as listen to the speech by the University Dean, and cardiologist, Dr. Béla Markely, who explains the value of fair play and relates it with hospital reality during the pandemic. Other shared experiences are shown in the TV news report "Budapest - City of Fair Play 2021", showing games on the Family Day and contributions from technicians, managers and athletes including world champions such as Danuta Kozák (Kayak sprint) or Shaoang Liu and Shaolin Sándor Liu (Short track), all witnesses to the importance of Fair Play in the educational process.

The interview with Pál Schmitt, member of the IOC, emphasizes that Fair Play is an essential element of the Olympics, while Sunil Sabharwal stresses the importance of educational and cultural programs to be included in the Youth Olympic Games.

Other stories, such as the renunciation of the Norwegian Handball Federation to continue in the protest which, according to regulation, would have allowed it to continue hoping for qualification for the Rio Games, or the famous episode that occurred in the same Olympics, which featured the 1500m semi-finalists, New Zealander Nikki Hamblin and American Abbey D'Agostino, highlight the best values embedded in sport, even at the top.

In the video, Jorge Castro Rea, in charge of promoting Fair Play in Latin America and in the Caribbean, illustrates the many activities pro Fair Play that take place in the countries involved, while Professor Junko Tahara, member of the CIFP Council, brings the testimony of how the value of Fair Play is felt in Japan.

The commemorative film of this second World Fair Play Day ends with a warning from President Kamuti who reminds everyone that "Fair Play is more than a victory!"





**JEAN BOROTRA** (1898-1994) was a tennis player, politician and entrepreneur. Born in Biarritz, he made a name for himself in tennis after playing for only 5 years. In 1924, in fact, he won the French Championships and Wimbledon, the first non-English-speaking tennis player to win the most famous tournament in the world. Gianni Clerici, in his encyclopaedic "500 Years of the Game" wrote: "Montherland would have liked his education more than Rousseau: he played sports, worked, supported an entire family and, on top of it, he graduated as an engineer at the Polytechnic". Nicknamed the "Bounding Basque" for the blue beret he wore and his habit of flying, he had discovered the volley by chance: aged 22, in his second tournament, he was losing 0/6, 0/4 when, "attracted to the net by a drop shot, (...) he instinctively dived on, touched the ball, and made a point". It was a revelation. He started diving like a goalkeeper and from that moment onwards the opponent never won another game and lost the match. "If lob did not exist - René Lacoste observed more than once - Jean would be unbeatable". Weak in the serve, he had a "bayonet" attack tactic, always in a hurry, as he was in his life, jumping between training and his business in petrol pump manufacturing.

Jean Borotra was one of the Four Musketeers - Henri Cochet (1901), René Lacoste (1905), Jean Borotra (1898) and Totò Brugnion (1895) - who dominated the world of tennis by bringing the Davis Cup to France in 1926 - where it was held uninterruptedly for six years - and winning time and time again between 1927 and 1933. Overall, between individual and double titles, they won 20 Grand Slams in singles and 23 in doubles. To support that very strong team, the French Tennis Federation built the Roland Garros Stadium, and the Coupe des Mousquetaires, the most prestigious Tennis Cup in France, is dedicated to them.

Jean Borotra, after 1924, also won Wimbledon in 1926 in the singles, and a total of another 16 Grand Slam titles: the Australian Open singles, doubles and mixed doubles in 1928; the French Open singles in 1931 and doubles in 1925, 1928, 1929, 1934 and 1936, demonstrating that, as Lacoste often repeated, "Borotra in good shape is the greatest doubler in the world". His doubles winning streak includes the titles won at Wimbledon in 1925, 1932 and 1933 and, in the mixed doubles, those of Wimbledon 1925, US Open 1926 and the French Open 1927 and 1934. He missed only the victory in the singles at the US Open: in the 1926 final, he was beaten by René Lacoste (4/6, 0/6, 4/6).

Many years ago, CIPF decided to name the World Career Trophy after Jean Borotra, to reward personalities who have lived a sporting career in the true spirit of Fair Play.

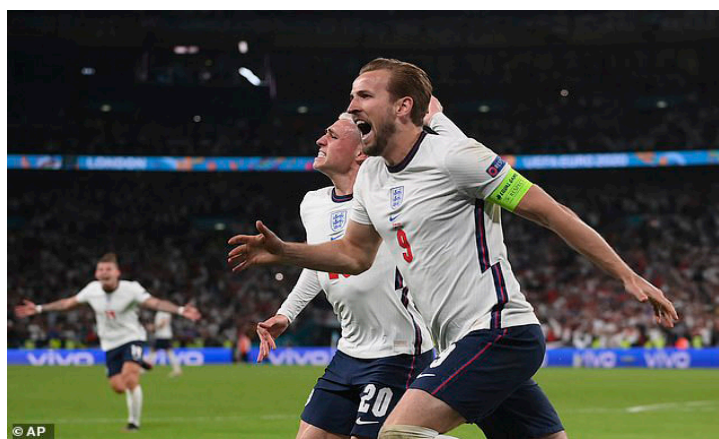
**(1)** In the 2016 European Championships in France, Laura Sárosi played against Karin Schnaase; during the match, she gave her spare shoes to her opponent - who had broken hers - in order to continue the match. Sárosi was defeated, thus ending her chance to qualify for the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. Actually, she could participate in those Games because the Badminton World Federation (BWF) admitted her, in recognition of her position in the international ranking and of the Fair Play demonstrated, for which in the same year she was awarded a Special World Fair Play Diploma by CIPF. In addition to the Rio Games, Laura Sárosi also participated in 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

**(2)** During his career, Attila Mizzér won a gold medal in Modern Pentathlon Teams at the Seoul Games in 1988 and a silver one in Modern Pentathlon Individual in Barcelona 1992. His prize list also includes 5 World titles and 2 European titles.

# Enough with the scenes of delirium for a sport victory

*From Olympics medals to Sunday goals, there is an urgent need for a style of conduct that respects the real values of sport, of the opponents and other countries.*

by Giacomo Santini  
International Past-President



I would like to start a campaign to criticise and condemn the disorderly excesses of jubilation and delirium when expressing one's joy for a sport victory.

The sports narrative entails some cardinal subsidiary aspects which at times dignify it, often glorify it, but at other times mortify it and sometimes even degrade it. From Olympics or world victories, to cross-country races in little towns, to trivial Sunday goals in one of the thousand championships that take part in the world, the scene is now the same: the athlete begins to jump and twitch, opens his mouth, jaws wide open risking dislocation and, shouting heavens know what, shakes his head as if faced with an event that has never happened in the world before, then throws himself belly down on the grass or on the track and rolls around as if victim of a fit of madness or the bite of a black mamba.

And other athletes flock to him, not to mitigate his euphoria but to share it and magnify it in a choral delirium deserving a group admission in the nearest psychiatric ward.

In other endings of total self-indulgence, billionaire athletes improvise ridiculous dances, worthy of a hangover off the dreariest pubs, or freeze in plastic poses waiting to be immortalized in marble by the new Canova, then finally dislocate their fingers in an attempt to create a hand heart for who knows which far-away she, or perhaps a he, given that also in sport every gender reference is unpredictable.

Now, the sense of exaggeration and ridicule is the same

for any form of expression, although we must recognise that there is a difference between winning an Olympic gold medal and scoring an ordinary Sunday goal.

Even in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics we saw athletes who, after winning a gold medal, gave the event a regular kind of euphoria made of smiles, clapping, bows and laps of honour with the flag of their country on their shoulders. Very well done, in this case I take my hat off, I applaud, and I am also touched.

I did not like the winners who never stopped rolling on the ground, hugged everyone they met, jumped up and down the barriers, and continued to do laps of honour even when the audience was applauding other winners, arrived in subsequent competitions.

Apart from an evaluation in terms of self-control of the ability to give the right value to a sporting victory, this is where the fair play issue comes in. These performers of over-the-top frenzied delirium show no respect for the defeated, for those who have finished second or third, perhaps just by a millimetre or a hundredth of a second.

Finally, if it is true that sport is an important expression of life, we must not forget the rest, perhaps comparing it to other values and other champions.

I often wonder what kind of delusional exteriorization should have improvised the many historic figures who have built the pillars of our civilization, or invented extraordinary things that have improved our living conditions or discovered vaccines that saved millions of lives. I think of Leonardo Da Vinci before the immortal smile of the Mona Lisa, or of his hundreds of technical ideas that have inspired many of today's technological tools and means of transport.

I think of Marie Curie, winner of two Nobel Prizes, and of her husband Pierre, after realizing that they had defined the founding principles of radioactivity.

I think of Albert Bruce Sabin who developed the vaccine against polio, a centuries-old disease, which mostly affected young people.

I think of Albert Einstein when he realized that his theory of relativity would influence the scientific research of the decades to follow.

I think of how emotional Guglielmo Marconi must have felt after hearing his voice echoing over the Atlantic



with the radio telegraph, the mother invention of modern radio and television.

I think of Thomas Edison's long series of inventions, starting with the light bulb and the recording of human voice on a magnetic base. And of Bell and Meucci, who challenged each other in the race to invent the telephone.

I think of Galileo Galilei when, finally, he managed to prove that Nicolaus Copernicus was right in saying that the earth was round and not flat and that it revolved around the sun, not vice versa.

I could cite many more examples; all I would need is to scroll through the Nobel Prize roll of honour or dust off an old history book.

It would be nice to compile a summary and donate it to sports champions, specifically to the Sunday goal scorers who would, perhaps, understand the futility of their "exceptional" achievement of putting a ball behind another player, the innocent custodian of a cage of chickens who get excited for so little.

With all respect for football and the footballers who will manage to find the right measure to restore to sport its dimension of a mosaic tile, immensely more important than it is.

## CIFP AWARD "Pierre de Coubertin "Willy Daume - Promotion" Diploma

The winners of the "International Fair Play Committee" award were proposed by Panathlon Club Buenos Aires. They are coach ROBERTO ICHAZO and wheelchair tennis players LUCIANO VARELA and OSCAR GONZALEZ

On 9 February 2021, after the wheelchair tennis tournament, which is a qualifier for the 2020 world championship, the organization, led by José María Valladares, accompanied by the IFT coach, Juan Escobar, announced the closing of the tournament and referred the Uruguayan team's fair play action: while Luciano Varela was facing his Canadian opponent, who was winning the game, the latter's wheelchair broke. The Uruguayans asked to stop the game, fixed the Canadian's wheelchair and then the game continued. The Uruguayan lost the game. The gesture of solidarity and fair play was made by the whole Uruguayan team.

Who are/Let's meet the prize recipients:

**ROBERTO ICHAZO** is a national coach who graduated at the Instituto Superior de Educación, level II coach of the International Tennis Federation, head coach of the Tenis Para Crecer program (Club Internacional de Tenis y Secretaría Nacional del Deporte), coach Tenis Para Ciegos (Tennis for the Blind) de la República Oriental del Uruguay, and since 1999 he is the coach of the Uruguayan team.

**OSCAR GONZÁLEZ** is 63 years old. He is part of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay Team since 2015. He has taken part in all editions of the Uruguayan Wheelchair Tennis Championship with outstanding results and has also represented his national team on several occasions. Currently he is involved in the development of a tennis school for wheelchair athletes in a municipal sports centre, which is being adapted/fitted/customised.

**LUCIANO VARELA** is 25 years old. He has been part of the Uruguayan team since 2019, being the nº 1 adaptive tennis player of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay. At the age of 22 he was involved in a car accident in which he lost his right leg.

During his recovery he started playing football for amputees, but later got introduced to tennis, and he loved it. He is currently ranking 283 in the ITF, and he is trying to compete as much as possible and move up on the leader board. He said in this interview: "Thank you so much for the recognition. I understand that this is the basis of sport, which helps everyone to improve and compete honestly".



# ETHICAL VALUES TO SUPPORT THE ROLE OF SPORTS MEDICINE

Pierre Zappelli, President of Panathlon International, attended the world congress of the International Federation of Sports Medicine in Athens, making an important contribution to the experience of the panathletic movement in this sector.

On 12 March 2019, Panathlon International, recognized by the IOC as well as by FIMS, signed an agreement with FIMS to “attempt to establish and coordinate joint action for the promotion and implementation of programs on education, health and physical activity”.

In his report, President Zappelli reminded of Panathlon’s objectives for the promotion of sport, its moral and cultural values, and it being a tool to shape and educate an individual.

“I would like to focus on the objectives of PI which are, just as for FIMS, to improve the physical and mental health of today’s and tomorrow’s athletes”, the President said, “because mental health can also depend and be strengthened by people’s observation of ethical rules, especially by the athletes themselves.”

“The IOC, sports federations, public and private international organizations have issued rules of conduct to tackle abuse and moral or sexual harassment. It is interesting to examine whether the athlete’s mental health can be safeguarded, particularly by respecting the rules of fair play. What does mental health have to do with it? It has to do with self-esteem. Having good self-esteem means being able to appreciate and value oneself. Adopting a correct behaviour towards others helps creating a positive image of oneself.”

“If we stick to the pursuit of performance, of victory, a Fair-Play conduct may involve being defeated by an opponent who does not comply with it. Two of the essential rules of Fair Play and its Charter, adopted by Panathlon International, are the respect for the opponent and the acceptance of the decisions taken by referees and sport judges.” President Zappelli mentioned that, as a spectator, he attended the wonderful 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics: “Unfortunately, I did witness shocking violations of Fair Play rules. Two examples among others: during the pole vault final, the local public booed the most threatening opponent for the local champion, to destabilize him. The second example: a Tokyo Olympic marathon runner, during a water stop, spilled all the bottles meant for the runners, before taking the last one for himself. Considering these examples, unfortunately we have to admit that there is no other

## OTHER FAIR PLAY CHAMPIONS:

### Lella and Alfredo Ambrosetti receive the “Jean Borotra Career”

Special Fair Play Award for Alfredo and Lella Ambrosetti, with the “Jean Borotra - Career” Diploma, conferred to them for their commitment to the less fortunate and the disabled. Their spirit and motivation emerge in this fresh testimony which takes the form of a retrospective dialogue between the two winners.

**LELLA:** “*Special Olympics is the largest sports organization in the world for people with intellectual disabilities. Among other things, it has created the so-called “unified teams”, where half of the players are intellectually disabled (special-need athletes) and half are not (partner athletes). The results are extraordinary because partner athletes get to know and to appreciate special-need athletes, their teammates, and become their friends.*

*In schools, disabled people are often bullied, and this friendship transforms partner athletes into defenders of special-need athletes. In short, bullying, the real scourge of our society, is tackled.*”





solution but sporting sanctions.”

So, we ask ourselves: how can we instil the respect for Fair Play rules in tomorrow’s athletes and the public? This is the task to which Panathlon International is particularly committed.

President Zappelli also summarized the history of Panathlon, its structure and the outlines of its mission in sport:

- spread the idea of sport inspired by fair play
- work towards the ideal of sound sport education for all, without distinction;
- support the Olympic Movement in any activity, in line with the aims of the Association.

Guidelines are contained in Panathlon’s “Charters”: Panathlete Charter; Fair Play Charter; Charter on the Rights of the Child in Sport; Charter of the Duties of Parents in Sport.”

To make these Charters better known, they have been printed on aluminium boards and the Clubs have them displayed in public places.

“Teaching of Panathlon’s aims also takes place through other forms of involvement such as events in which young people can learn about and practise sport e.g.: Friendly Games, Family Games in Lausanne or events in which Fair-Play is highlighted (WFPD). During the last Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires and Lausanne, our organization was present with a stall. Through our clubs, we also organize competitions, such as graphics, literary and drawing contests.”

President Zappelli put particular emphasis while explaining the role of Panathlon in the education sector:

“School and family share the same objective: to educate young people to become mindful citizens. The project is aimed at students of all levels, starting from nursery, but also to their parents. Students are asked to design a campaign to promote Fair Play through videos, flyers, columns and other channels they find useful: each group presents their own Fair Play project. The program targeted to students could include seminars on various topics that also involve parents: fair play, bullying and cyberbullying, children’s rights in sport.

President Zappelli closed his speech by reminding that: “Some aspects of Panathlon International’s mission are part of the fundamental objectives of the Olympic Movement (4th Fundamental Principle of Olympism, and chapter 1.2.1 of the Olympic Charter). We are therefore a bit like “missionaries.” I do not reject this term, nor this mission; on the contrary, I accept it with enthusiasm.”



**ALFREDO:** “The scholarship that allowed me to work for more than a year in the United States (1959-60) gave me the great opportunity to attend Syracuse University, a place with 17,000 students from 58 countries; this opened me up to the world, because from that moment there hasn’t been a country where there wasn’t a schoolmate to welcome us, to heighten our stay. At Syracuse University, or should I say at all the major American universities, the first question a new student is asked is: “What sport do you want to play?”. Whatever the answer, the student gets access to everything he/she needs to practice his/her favourite sport, at Olympic scale. In other words, most universities have swimming pools, American football fields, athletics fields, tennis courts, etc. This is why American universities are the “cradle” of a very large number of great athletes who then win gold medals at the Olympics. The coaches of each sport are strict in ensuring that each competition is characterized by loyalty, that is, fair play. “

In addition to supporting the intellectually disabled, Lella Ambrosetti is strongly committed to other good causes such as Vidas (free assistance to terminally ill patients), AIRC (Italian Cancer Research Association), Mensa dei Poveri (i.e. soup kitchen), and many more.

Alfredo has had a life equally dedicated to one’s neighbour, with a lot of studying and working, a lot of innovations and great satisfactions.

Recently he founded the Associazione per lo Sviluppo e il Progresso del Paese (i.e. Association for the country’s development and progress), immediately joined by a high number of competent people of great experience and prestige. He also organizes an annual event called “I Campionissimi” where medallists of every sport take part.

# Sport in the Divine Comedy

*A study by Alfonso Vigorita was rediscovered on the occasion of the 700th anniversary of Dante Alighieri's death and the 70th anniversary of Panathlon International's foundation*

by Adriana Balzarini

A tribute and a new edition of the book that Alfonso Vigorita wrote in 1990 for his club and that had been lost because we Italians, unfortunately, are not used to archiving news of sporting events for their cultural value, unlike other European countries.

However, we are beginning to understand how important that is, as the researchers who must resort to the archives of Anglo-Saxon countries are well aware. However, in this case, we were lucky enough to find that document again.

For us at Panathlon International, donating means, in this case, bringing this little gem back to life.... and what better opportunity to do so than the celebration of the 700th anniversary of Dante Alighieri's death! [and the 70th birthday of Panathlon International? – Ed.] An unusual tribute but one that fits well into Panathlon's cultural mission.

To bring together sport and the Divine Comedy seems a really unusual topic, but it is certainly intriguing, compelling, fascinating, exciting, or even tantalizing.

Vigorita conveys to us his reflections assuming that Dante, in the Divine Comedy, had also found room for reflections upon sport, though certainly not in the way we understand it today. Back then, sport did not yet exist but there were certainly activities and occasions for games, gymnastic challenges, tournaments, military training exercises... and it is precisely because of these circumstances that Dante cannot have possibly talked about sport, even though he certainly offered us a glimpse of the society of his time, where men used to challenge each other in competitions.

Dante uses metaphors and similarities, makes comparisons, and for this reason we can say that there were already primordial signs of activities that bore resemblance to sport.

In 1300, the year in which the Divine Comedy is set, there were activities, such as archery, wrestling, fencing and racing, that evoke the disciplines of our times.

There are metaphors about archery, a popular activity of ancient origins where the bow was initially used as a hunting tool and, later, for survival, whereas for Dante the arrow is the pain of his exile.

Wrestling was then a popular practice where the fighters, before striking, circled around each other, like a wheel, studying and observing each other before fighting to exhaustion.

Hunting was practiced by all social classes and it gradually turned from a survival practice into a pastime for nobility, as a means for interaction to foster social relations and to compete in privileges among nobles.

Climbing is represented by Dante as the effort of ascending, with its difficult journey and constant pace to reach the goal.

Last but not least, racing. Dante shows a thorough grasp of this sport thanks to the "Palio del Drappo Verde" (i.e.





Race of the Green Banner) which used to be held in Verona, the city that sheltered him after his exile from Florence. We do not believe that Dante took part, but he certainly was a guest and knew pretty well all the pitfalls of the race.

For example, when the Ghibelline families (including the Montague) defeated their Guelph rivals, the new mayor, Oderico Visconti, organised a great festival with a race to celebrate the victory. The race covered a distance between seven and ten kilometres through Verona, touching the important sites of the city.

The green banner, 12 meters long, was the final prize awarded to the winner, but there was also a prize for the last runner: a hen. The loser then had to walk around the city with the feathered reward in his hands.

These are popular traditions, like Palio di Siena and other medieval jousting. The Race of the Green Banner, considered the oldest race in the world, was maintained until 1798, when it was abolished by Napoleon who decided to ban all public gatherings. It was resumed in 2008 during the celebrations of the 800th anniversary of its creation.

Running has always represented the sporting phenomenon par excellence; it has been handed down from ancient times to the present, and even today it provides

a popular party atmosphere in the towns it touches.

I would like to end by stating that Dante certainly grasped the popular value of the “sport phenomenon”, which is important for its direct communication function. He grasped its implications in terms of shared values, amusement and recreation, characteristics that have been fading over the centuries, depriving sport of its playful dimension.

We go back to Dante in this new edition because we believe in the educational value and in the enhancement of the human being through what we now call sport.

In those times, all those practices evolved into the French word “desport”, which described a series of means for pleasant pastimes. Only in the 16th century did the new word “sport” become British. The first sportsmen were the nobles who devoted part of their day to various exercises, suitable to their rank.

To conclude, I believe that Alfonso Vigorita wanted to convey some intriguing and fascinating emotions through his reflections... searching for “sport” in the Divine Comedy meant, first of all, being able to read a cultural cross-section of that time, a portrayal of the medieval society, with its activities and contests that became opportunities for getting social gatherings, feelings that definitely mirror Panathlon spirit.

## IMPORTANTE RICONOSCIMENTO

# *A Pan-athlete at the top of the European Fair Play Movement*

Philippe Housiaux, President of Panathlon Club Wallonie-Bruxelles, was elected President of the European Fair Play Movement for a 4-year term at their General Assembly in Vienna.

Congratulations from Panathlon International as a whole for this important recognition, which rewards Housiaux's multi-year commitment to fair play by organizing many memorable events attended by thousands of participants.



# A party full of memories and values

## *From the meetings of Panathlon's statutory bodies to the official celebration in Villa Queirolo gardens*

The celebrations for the 70th anniversary of Panathlon International's foundation took place in Rapallo, at Villa Queirolo, flanked by a series of meetings that made the event even more intense and meaningful.

We started with the Expansion Commission meeting, followed by the meetings of the District Presidents and, finally, of the International Board, also attended by representatives of the arbitration and auditors' boards.

For a long time there had been no opportunity to have such a complete and constructive review of the issues affecting our movement in today's delicate recovery after the long period of work carried out remotely, as imposed by the COVID pandemic.

The first comforting observation was that, despite the forcibly slower pace, contacts between the various levels of the organization have never faltered, and even the activity at the grassroots level, i.e. the clubs, has continued with new and experimental formulas which allowed our members to keep in touch, albeit via video link. The Expansion Commission has developed a strategic plan to continue the on-going effort, underway for years, to expand Panathlon's footprint also in countries where there are no PI clubs, such as North America, UK and Ireland, Africa which hosts two pilot clubs, and the huge Asian world.

The District Presidents gave detailed reports on the activities carried out and on the operating methods of their intermediate bodies towards the clubs and other bodies of the movement; their conclusions have been documented in a report.

The International Board assessed the state of health of Panathlon through the reports delivered by President Pierre Zappelli, General Secretary Simona Callo and Treasurer Stefano Giulieri.

The interventions of the Board members allowed to focus on the most urgent issues, which included the preservation of the existence and activity of our clubs in the most critical areas (for example: Brazil) where, due to the pandemic and the resulting economic crisis, there is a risk to lose members and clubs.

In this regard, the decision of the International Board to boost the clubs' activity using the savings inevitably accumulated due to inactivity during the pandemic, was welcomed.

Many significant initiatives were given the seal of approval: a project designed by vice-president Ombretta Maggi to promote the dissemination of Panathlon values in schools; the publication of the results of the check-up of the movement through a survey, drawn up by Board member Patrick Van Campenhout; the drive to strengthen our communication system advocated by past president Giacomo Santini, and the resumption of the publication of our quarterly magazine in paper form in six languages.

A long and lively debate led to the approval of some statute amendments, based on the proposals developed by Board member Giorgio Chinellato. President Zappelli reiterated the importance of maintaining strong relations with the IOC and of strengthening the action of the two international representations of PI in Brussels and Lausanne.





## The party

On the morning of Saturday 30 October, the gardens of Villa Queirolo came alive with the presence of panathletes who joined in from various Italian regions and from our Austria and Switzerland districts. President Zappelli and General Secretary Callo did the honours, briefly reviewing the history of the movement and the arrival of its international headquarters in Rapallo in 1988, first at villa Porticciolo and, from 2012, at villa Queirolo, thanks to the harmonious relationship with the city administration. Special thanks were given to the former mayor Giorgio Costa, now president of District Italy, and to the current mayor, Carlo Bagnasco.

The latter made a heartfelt speech, demonstrating the strong ties and esteem that exist with Panathlon International, already strong with his father, former mayor and now senator, Roberto Bagnasco. In the presence of other civil, military and religious authorities, other speakers took the floor: Antonio Micillo, President of CONI Liguria and panathlete; Don Paolo Zanandrei, on behalf of the Bishop, and past presidents Enrico Prandi and Giacomo Santini, who also spoke on behalf of Vittorio Adorni, unable to attend.

The commemorative work of the event, created by the Trentino artist Mastro 7, was then unveiled. This consisted of five copper pomegranates, symbolizing the five continents where Panathlon International operates. Its symbolic meaning was illustrated by Luca Tamanini, the sculptor's son (as shown in the box alongside).

The pomegranate symbol was also celebrated with the planting of a tree in front of the entrance to the villa. Later, all guests attended a buffet and were able to toast with the prestigious Ferrari sparkling wine from Trento.



## Significance of Mastro7's commemorative work Nature-Time-Sign

From time immemorial, the pomegranate tree is considered a precious gift of nature. In symbolism, it represents par excellence:

Prosperity, Harmony, Unity

Its spherical fruit – pomegranate – conjures up the cosmos and the world and, with its countless seeds, it enshrines several virtues including Unity, Honour and Majesty. It also has the power to generate communality and true friendship, as well as to arouse concord, to preserve union of peoples, to ward off evil and to achieve welfare. The root of a centuries-old chestnut tree, projecting upwards, evokes the ineffable bond with Mother Earth and reminds us that we should remain firmly rooted in the true, universal and eternal values of life.

This outstanding work of art was selected to commemorate the first seventy years of Panathlon International.

A sculpture in hot-blown and flamed copper, consisting of fruit laden branches with five pomegranates of different sizes, representing the five continents where Panathlon International extends its footprint.



**Size: 110 h x 75 x 50 cm**

**The sculpture is chisel signed: Mastro 7 MMXVI**  
**Unique piece**

# Six ethics plaques on sporting values

The city of Aosta has elected to promote the sound values of sport, fair play, respect for its rules and for people to young people, families, society and schools by placing Panathlon's ethics plaques in sports facilities.

Thanks to the support of the municipal authorities, the plaques bearing the Charter of the Rights of the Child in Sport and the Charter of the Duties of Parents in Sport will be affixed in six sports facilities in the regional capital, namely in the gyms Palestra Luca Miozzi (PalaMiozzi), Palestra PalaPeilaPressendo and Palestra Avis, the Tesolin Athletics Field, the bowling alley Bocciodromo G. Grange and the outdoor public swimming pool.

The first facility to display the ethics plaques, in both Italian and French, is the Luca Miozzi Arena; the sports clubs will be invited to make the Charter rules, aimed at children and parents, known to managers, technicians, young people and families.

"The goal of this initiative is to make the Aosta community more responsible and committed to share and adopt clear principles of conduct, with a view to spread positive values in youth sport".

"Aosta is the first municipality in Valle d'Aosta to join the initiative, through which we appeal to children, families, companies and all those who use sports facilities to respect and disseminate the founding principles and values

of sport" said Piercarlo Lunardi, President of Club du Val d'Aoste, who proposed the initiative.

The ceremony was attended by Josette Borre, Aosta Deputy Mayor; Aline Sapinet, Councillor for Sport; Luca Tonino, President of Aosta City Council; Jean Dondeynaz, President of Coni Val d'Aoste; Piercarlo Lunardi, President of Panathlon International Club Val d'Aoste, and a representation of club members.



Ceremony for the laying of two Panathlon ethical plaques in the "Luca Miozzi" Arena, Dora district.

## DISTRICT BELGIUM

# Solidarity campaign: Donate sports equipment

The devastating floods that hit Belgium in July had serious consequences... Several sports clubs have lost practically everything, and the list of sports equipment needed is growing day by day.

This is why the Governing Board and the members of Panathlon Club Wallonie-Brussels have kicked off the SolidarSport campaign to collect quality sports equipment, and launched a donation platform to help sport life rebound and restore its role as a key player in teaching social values. Solidarity and team spirit are, in fact, values intrinsic to Fair Play, upheld by Panathlon's family.

Maybe you would like to take part in this solidarity action but you do not have sports equipment... then you can make a donation: with 50 € you can contribute to purchase 5 children's kimonos.

It was during the 1000 km of Fair-Play, the giant relay-race organized each year in September, that part of the material already collected was distributed to heavily affected sport facilities. However, this call for help will last until required to revitalize local sporting life.

For more information: <http://www.panathlon.be/action/solidarsport>





# Merit awards to six athletes

The annual ceremony to award 6 young sport talents took place in the splendid setting of Monte San Salvatore; host was Felice Pellegrini, Panathlon member and chairman of the talents commission.

In the photo, Felice Pellegrini and Claudio Ortelli, President of Panathlon Club Lugano, with the award-winning athletes. Special thanks to: the members of Club Lugano, Banca Stato, AIL-Aziende Industriali Lugano and Funicolare San Salvatore for their financial support.

Congratulations to the athletes: Vera Crovetto and Valentina Masciari, fencing; Mida Fah Jaiman and Massimiliano Gusmini, skiing; Elia Ran, orienteering, and Niccolò Scornaienghi, artistic gymnastics.

To each of them a prize of CHF 1500 (£1,184)- for a total of CHF 9000 (£7,100).



## DISTRICT ITALY

# SCHOOL AND SPORT

## ***Conference on the theme: “The Restart of School: More Movement, More Health, More Sustainability”***

by Lorenzo D’Ilario

“School is the first step to ethics and culture and its restart is inextricably linked to the world of sport. In a historical moment in which the pandemic has unsettled our lives and changed our habits, school has the fundamental task of giving young people the opportunity to build relationships again, as well as encouraging and stimulating their growth through physical activity”.

With these words Giorgio Costa, president of Panathlon International District Italy, opened the National Forum “The Restart of School: More Movement, More Health, More Sustainability”, organized by Panathlon International District Italy in cooperation with the Regional School Office of Lucca and Massa Carrara.

Six panel discussions took place at Hotel Undulna - Terme della Versilia, gathering corporate and scientific speakers, as well as Olympic and Paralympic sport personalities, including Marcello Lippi, who coached the 2006 World Champion Italian team; Sara Simeoni, gold medal in high jump at the 1980 Moscow Olympics, and Francesco Boccardo, double gold medal in swimming at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics.

The Forum aimed at drawing up and bringing to the attention of the institutions important proposals on key school-related issues, such as physical activity, health education, eco-sustainable development, and the value of inclusion.

In recent months, plenty of scientific evidence and various reports from the World Health Organization have confirmed the importance of physical activity in childhood and adolescence, with particular focus on disability, emphasising the role that school must play to encourage appropriate lifestyles and healthy behaviours, as well as to promote the daily practice of sport.

Education of young people in health and physical and mental well-being through sport, in line with the sustainable development of its environs, is a very urgent goal that can only be achieved through positive interaction between sport and school. The event had a great media coverage also thanks to the participation of sports journalists Filippo Grassia (RAI), Giovanni Bruno (Sky Sport), Roberta Noè (Sky Sport) and Riccardo Magrini (Eurosport) as moderators.



# Ethical sport at the University of Urbino

"I will tell my children that to be good athletes and be happy in life it is not essential to become a champion". This is one of the fundamental principles that can be read in the Charter of the Duties of Parents in Sport, engraved on the plaques put up today, with a ceremony, at the entrance to PalaCarneroli and on the façade of the School of Motor Sciences.

"On their return home, I will not ask if they have won or lost but if they feel better, nor will I ask how many goals they have scored or how many records they have beaten, but if they had fun". This is what sport must have as its main purpose, as reaffirmed in the Charter of the Rights of the Child in Sport, which was put up next to the other plaques.

"This is a great opportunity to reaffirm the ethical values of sport" commented Marianna Vetri, city councillor for Sport and Equal Opportunities, during the unveiling of the two plaques, donated by the Panathlon International Clubs of Rimini and Pesaro to the Municipality and the University of Urbino. "As an administration and in close collaboration with the University - she said - we want to push forward these values because sport is the means to leave the world in a better state than we found it".

"Panathlon International aims to promote and spread sport culture and ethics" said Angelo Spagnuolo, President of PI Pesaro. "The plaques contain the basic principles of sport; they may seem obvious but actually they are not, and for this reason it is wise to always give them prominence". Gianluca Riguzzi, President of Club Rimini, added: "Sport embodies the educational power needed for the social elevation of children, therefore it is also essential to convey its ethical values".

Also present at the ceremony were Maurizio Gambini, Mayor of Urbino, and the Rector of Università di Urbino, Giorgio Calcagnini, who commented: "The values of sport teach children to act in solidarity in a society where money is often given too much prominence.

The pursuit of fame and wealth must not be the drivers to practice sport. This is also why it is important to reaffirm the rights and duties relating to sport, especially those of the parents who often emphasize the aspect of success rather than sport itself".

**Rossella Rappociolo**



The City Councillor for Sport Vetri and Rector Calcagnini, together with the Presidents of Panathlon Clubs Pesaro and Rimini, show the plaque on the ethical

The Rector of Università di Urbino, Giorgio Calcagnini, Mayor Maurizio Gambini, with the Presidents of Panathlon Clubs Pesaro and Rimini, Angelo Spagnuolo and Gianluca Riguzzi





# 35 years of great commitment from Club Graz, in Styria

Solemn celebration at the sports school and at the headquarters of the Regional Government



The group of Austrian, Swiss and Italian panathletes who participated in the celebrations of the 35th anniversary of Club Graz, hosted at the seat of the Styrian Regional Government.

Thirty-five years of activity are the exact half of Panathlon International's history. For the Styrian club, this anniversary bears great significance due to the intensity and quality of the commitment shown during this time by the various members and managers who have taken the helm of the easternmost club in Europe.

It is no coincidence that numerous panathletes from far away attended the two-days event. From Switzerland, former International Board member Ernst Denoth arrived with Ruth; Winfried Sponring and Peter Preisinger arrived from Innsbruck and were joined by a delegation from Trieste composed by Roberto and Marisa Pallini, Annunziato and Antonella Minniti, Donatella Lovisato, Tiziana Cozzi and Michaela Gattin.

Panathlon International was represented by Past President Giacomo Santini, who brought the greetings of President Zappelli and the International Board. The celebration saw several special moments; the first and particularly touching one took place inside the large school, hosting more than a thousand students engaged in high-level sports studies and training.

Josef (Sepp) Mueller, President of Austria District and former head, for several years, of the prestigious

school, and Uwe Stark, President of Club Graz, hosted the event. Among the attendees were former club and district presidents Gerti Gassmeier and Heinz Recla.

After a stocktake of the various activities carried out in the 35 years of the club's life, the celebration offered an in-depth review of the code of fair play, through a conference and subsequent debate. The greetings from the neighbouring Club Tarvisio and the President of District Italy Giorgio Costa came via video link.

In the evening, the group of panathletes moved to the headquarters of the Regional Government, at the invitation of the Styrian Governor (Landeshauptmann) Hermann Schuetzenhoefer, where they attended a charming ballet show, which took place in the palace park, followed by a gala dinner.

The next day the Austrian club offered a guided tour of the city which enjoyed Gero Strasser's mastery illustration of its artistic and historical values. The day and the celebrations ended in the hills, around a table laden with typical local products all washed down with fine wines from the region.



# Two Diplomas of Honour awarded to Club Ferrara

*A Club that has particularly rejoiced for the international Fair Play awards this year is certainly Club Ferrara, which has seen its nominees honoured with the local distinction named after past-president Valentino Galeotti during a beautiful evening on live TV. Club Ferrara received two Diplomas of Honour, one for a Career and a very special one, later we will understand why, to promote Fair-Play. A letter of merit in the youth category was then added to the two diplomas, to crown a truly exceptional 2021 for the Club. The following interviews will help us to find out who the winners are.*

## **PROFESSOR MARIO TESTI (Diploma for Promotion - In memory)**

With a few simple questions, we discover the importance of preserving the memory and the work of Mario Testi, author of the book "Inciampare nel Cancro e rialzarsi - La filosofia del decathlon come efficace adiuvante alle cure mediche per ostacolare il male" (Stumbling into Cancer and getting up - The philosophy of decathlon as an effective adjuvant to medical treatment to fight the disease), from the words of his wife Antonella Castagnoli. She gave this interview after learning of the World Honour Diploma for the promotion of Fair Play awarded to her husband's memory, who passed away in March 2020; our first question was how she reacted to the news:



*"It had already been very touching to receive the "Valentino Galeotti" Award, awarded by Panathlon Ferrara, and to relive the words of the book during the television evening dedicated to the award ceremony. However, given the larger - even global - scale of the distinction, far beyond the Ferrara area where Mario was known and respected by everyone, my emotional reaction and that of the whole family was huge and made the memory even more vivid."*

**Antonella, what does it mean for you to carry on the values expressed by Mario with his civic commitment?**

*"We have always shared a lot with Mario, especially activism; being able to carry on his "campaigns" is very important for me. Doing something in line with his commitment for the community, for the environment, for improving everybody's quality of life, even though it feels like emptying the sea with a spoon, was and still is part of our lifestyle as a family. Everything carries on, unfortunately without him, but we persevere, in his memory, knowing that we are still in full harmony with his commitment."*

## **How helpful can the book be to people who are facing the same or similar paths in life?**

*"I can assure you that the feedback is great: the need to help that transpires in people of any age and the feedback from anyone who has been able to read the book have always been positive. We must be aware, though, that everyone has a different reaction to these difficulties - some live this condition with detachment, whereas others, like Mario, need to know and understand. Of course, the more we move into this condition, the more the story is beneficial: the people who want to go "in depth" and really understand what the situation is are those who think that a guide with a helping hand is vital. These people have had a relief from the book, and this is truly a beautiful thing for us."*

## **Mario wrote the book for others, to guide and to help, which is why he decided to donate all proceeds to AIL, the Italian association against leukaemia-lymphomas and myeloma. How was this relationship born?**

*"AIL was a reference point for us even before the disease. The disease has led us to appreciate what AIL can offer and, with the release of the book, this partnership was strengthened and became a truly profitable work in both senses: we would not have reached the publisher or the circulation that the book has had without the help of the association and of its local president Gianmarco Duo. At the same time, this has helped AIL raising funds to continue its work which, as often happens in the world of volunteering, is of fundamental importance for the community."*

## **GIANFRANCO VITALI (Diploma for the Career)**

We were also able to ask a few questions to Gianfranco Vitali, a well-known tourism entrepreneur, in Ferrara and beyond, for his foresight and his great commitment for the sustainable development of the area. We started with how he reacted to the news of his International Diploma for the Career - Fair Play, which comes a few months after the Welcome - Working for Refugee Integration Award he received from UNHCR for his accommodation facility, the Holiday Village Florenz, to promote the inclusion of refugees in Italy.

*"I was really proud, as it crowns my professional career and our tourism business, which has always given special consideration to the social and ethical aspect of sport, mainly*



favouring those aspects related to inclusion. Each of our activities must, as a mission, enhance the social aspects and, when it comes to ethics and sport, we must always remember the inclusion of people with disabilities or difficulties, even if only temporary or linked to specific situations."

**How did you reach the decision to continue even the most difficult activities of your facility, such as the Summer camps, during the pandemic, when additional costs, such as those for sanitizing and maintaining social distancing, made the activity decidedly uneconomical?**

"Throughout the pandemic of 2020, a year of extreme uncertainty, we chose to support any activity that was useful. We started, in full lockdown, by giving free hospitality to healthcare workers and other categories who were managing the emergency on the front line. When came the time to think about Summer, with more doubts than certainties, we did not hesitate for a moment to support Luciana Boschetti Pareschi's idea, then CONI (IOC) provincial delegate, to continue the activity of the Educamps that enliven our village since 2010. We changed its name and created FlòCamp, due to the national decision to put the project on hold. Thus we "wrote" our protocol and adopted all the

health measures required and even more, putting aside the economic aspect in order not to affect the families. This was the good choice because, after months of restrictions, it was a unique re-unite moment, which brought great benefit and satisfaction to all the participants."

**It is certainly not the first time that you have found yourself facing emergency situations...**

"In our history we have always responded "Here!" to emergencies, giving free hospitality to the victims of the earthquake in Emilia-Romagna in March 2012, or accommodating children with disabilities or with difficult family situations. We have done this on our own or in partnership with other associations.

For instance, the year after the earthquake in Central Italy, we focussed on welcoming a group of youngsters from the municipality of San Severino Marche [editor's note: this activity was included in District Italy's project "Di + & + forti" (More and Stronger)]. During our working career, we have found out that, when we focus on the social sector, truly investing and not just in words, then the rewards arrive, because more and more people choose organisations that adopt a true, real and concrete social responsibility policy, made of facts and not just posters."

**What is the role of sport in the social inclusion process?**

"It plays a decisive role: nothing like sport to facilitate the inclusion of disabled people in society. It is a strong catalyst in the relationships between disabled and able-bodied. The National Resilience & Recovery Plan, as well as the UN 2030 Agenda, provide ever greater investments towards an inclusive society, and sport can and must be paramount for health and welfare.

The important thing is to provide them with adequate facilities and equipment, making the necessary public and private investments, looking to the future and not just the now."

#### **Letter of Merit to MARIA LAURA PEDERZINI in the Youth category**

As previously mentioned, to complement the party, a Letter of Merit in the Youth category was awarded to Maria Laura Pederzini, an athlete from Atletica Estense who last year decided to cut her long and thick hair in aid of a project that creates oncological wigs.

Although not a purely sporting gesture, it was anyhow rewarded because, considering the peculiarity of a year like 2020, Club Ferrara had decided, for this last edition, to give more room to those stories that were most successful in reconciling Sport with the need of society at large to restart "better".

Maria Laura's gesture was not an isolated one but was replicated almost instantly by her teammate Martina Calori; though it was too late for Martina to be nominated, the two friends celebrated the award together in full panathletic spirit.





# Rackets on wheelchair

## Champions and examples of life

The eighth edition of the "Città di Cremona" International Wheelchair Tennis Tournament took place, with great success, framed by the splendid setting of Canottieri Baldesio rowing club.

Almost forty female and male athletes took part from many European countries and Japan.

This was "the restart tournament", with a great desire to get back into the game, to compete, to meet old friends and to breathe air of normality.

The men category was won by Suzuki Kouhei, a young and promising Japanese, ranking 28 in the world, with great potential (by a whisker not selected for the Tokyo Paralympics), who beat the forty-year-old French Guilhem Laget, world n. 25, in a nail-biting final, full of surprises.

The women competition was dominated by the German Britta Wend, ranking 51, only recently arrived in this Paralympic discipline, who beat the most experienced Ukrainian Olena Shyngaryova, number 39.

The men's double was won by the French Laget-Charrier against the German Sommerfeld (who has been attending this tournament for years) paired with Suzuki. Their game was won thanks to spectacular shots, great competitive spirit and incredible recoveries.

The Italian Silvia Morotti and Vanessa Ricci prevailed, thanks to an almost impossible comeback, over the Swiss Angela Grosswiler and the Austrian Christina Pendorfer, who also won the Consolation Prize.

The men's Consolation Prize, on the other hand, was won by the Baldesio team captain, Giovanni Zeni, who beat Salvatore Vasta.

The Tournament was masterfully umpired by Fabio Buccolini.

The organizers Alceste Bartoletti and Roberto Bodini were very satisfied and thanked the numerous supporters, including over 20 Clubs of Rotary District 2050, Panathlon Club Cremona and Area 2 Lombardy, the many volunteers, the students of the bachelor course in physiotherapy at Università di Brescia. Without their help, the "Città di Cremona" Tournament would not have reached such high levels of organization, which was acknowledged by all the participants.

The award ceremony was also attended by Stefano Arisi, president of Canottieri Baldesio; Luca Zancchi, Sport Councillor of the Municipality of Cremona; Giuseppe Bresciani, delegate of the district Paralympic Committee; Sergio Dulio, Governor of Rotary District 2050, and Attilio Belloli (Dal testo non si capisce; sembrerebbe che la stessa persona sia governatore del distretto rotary 2050 e dell'area 2 Lombardia del Panathlon, ma sembra improbabile. Da quello che ho trovato su internet, il governatore dell'area 2 Lombardia è Attilio Belloli (eletto a giugno 2021). Ti consiglio di verificare). Governor of Panathlon International's Area 2 Lombardy. Also present was Professor Pitturelli, director of the Antonio Stradivari High School of Violin Making, who donated two violin curls, specially made by the students for the winners.

The "Città di Cremona" Tournament is part of the "Wheelchair Tennis: a social project", an initiative that includes showcase exhibitions in many Italian locations, the most recent of which took place in Madonna di Campiglio in mid-August. This beautiful tradition has taken place for several years and has strengthened the relationship between Cremona and Trentino's Madonna di Campiglio, encouraging students to get met. The next demonstration will be held on Friday 10th September at Canottieri Baldesio, with the students of the Master Course in Sport and Psycho-Social Intervention of Università Cattolica di Milano.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the ninth edition in 2022.





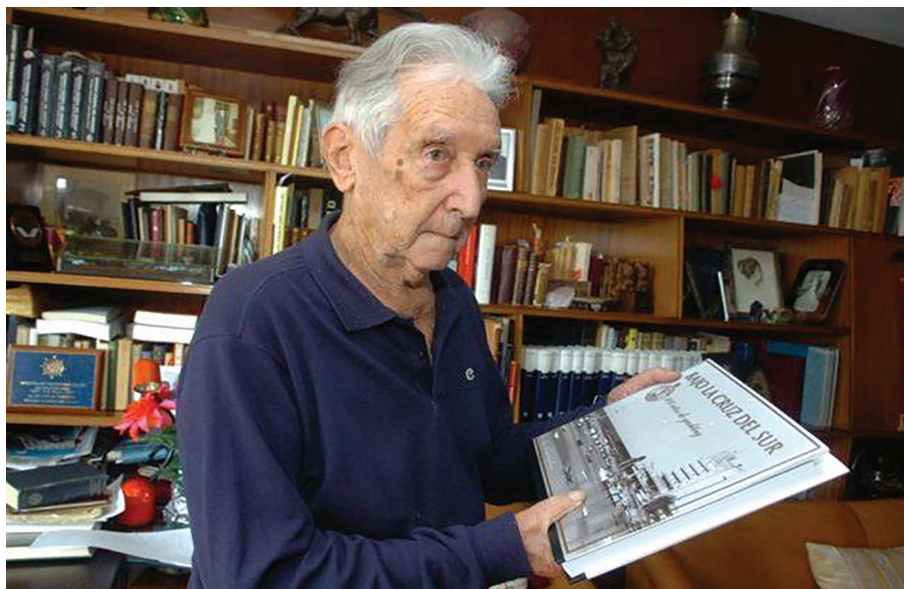
# At 105 he receives the “World Fair Play” award

## *Meet Félix Fructuoso Sienra Castellanos, sailing champion and great sports executive*

Félix Fructuoso Sienra Castellanos is a lawyer and member of Panathlon Club Montevideo (District Uruguay); he is also a veteran Uruguayan sportsman, former sailor and sports leader, born on 21st January 1916. In 2016 he turned 100 years old and he is now 105.

Sienra Castellanos has competed in many regattas and sailing championships around the world representing Uruguay. In 1948 he participated in the London Olympics, where he finished sixth overall in the Firefly class.

He was Vice President of the Uruguayan Olympic Committee. He sat in the Board of the Yacht Club of Uruguay on many occasions, serving as its Commodore twice. He has also served for many years as an International Judge in sailing competitions.



In 2011 (at 95), Félix Sienra wrote “Under the Southern Cross. A Hundred Years of Yachting”, a story of the Yacht Club of Uruguay, of Uruguayan Yachting and of his own life, the book being his legacy to the new generations and transmitting the spirit of Fair Play.

In 2016, aged 100, he was awarded the “Golden Pin” by the Uruguayan Olympic Committee, a distinction reserved to the most prominent figures of the Olympic spirit.

In 2019, the House of Representatives of Legislative Power of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay awarded him the “Nasazzi-Varela 2019 Distinction” for his long-life commitment to Sport and Fair Play.

He thanked us with the following letter:

*“Dear Edgardo,*

*I hereby address you and the other members of Panathlon District Uruguay to thank you for honouring me with your recommendation to Panathlon International Board to endorse my application for the World Fair Play Diploma in the “Jean Borotra - Career” category.*

*This commendation was crowned with the award of the Diploma by the International Fair Play Committee, which was communicated to me on 25 August 2021.*

*I want to share this honour with all of you since, without your endorsement, I would have never been awarded this Diploma which is - I believe - much more than a personal highpoint; rather, it is meant to give recognition, through me, to our national sport at all levels, encompassing athletes, sports technicians and sports managers.*

*Greetings,  
Félix Sienra Castellanos “*

# Talks about the fight against match-fixing in Vienna

by Patrick Van Campenhout  
International Board Member



The transnational meeting of EPOSM (Evidence-based Prevention Of Sporting-Related Match-Fixing) took place on the 23rd and 24th September at the Play Fair Code (PFC) headquarters, located in the heart of beautiful Vienna. The CEO Severin Moritzer welcomed the audience in the meeting room of PFC; in fact, a dozen people were in attendance, while the others were connected via weblink; not an ideal setting but still practical.

Several partners of the Erasmus + project were attending: Panathlon International, with Prof. Yves Van den Auwelle and Patrick Van Campenhout, PFC, Utrecht University, Ghent University, University of Loughborough, University of Lausanne, ICES (Centre for Ethics in Sport), the National Olympic Committee of Croatia, Foundation for the Integrity of Sport and IRIS (Institut de Relations Internationales et Stratégies).

On the first day, each partner presented their progress and action plan, as well as an update on the workshops. The partners also gave their overview of the strategy for the promotion of this project.

The program of next month's Multiplier Event has been widely discussed and the international symposium, which will take place in Lausanne on the 15th and 16th November, will be the highlight of this project. A high number of attendees is expected, but the webinar format will be an added value

to promote this important project as much as possible. The proposal to organize a meeting after the event, to gather all the international players and federations at "La Maison du Sport", also located in Lausanne, may certainly improve the chances of some good networking.

A pleasant walking tour of beautiful Vienna was organized after the first day with a very good guide, followed by a pleasant dinner in one of the famous city restaurants where the authentic "Schnitzel" was part of the menu; this was another success.

The second day began with the summary of the event and the assembly of the panel, which comprised a good mix of different speakers, each with their own point of view. Interesting discussions took place regarding the book and the document that will be drawn up and circulated after the event.

I suggested that a 'teaser' of this project could be produced and shown on all social media in the form of a short presentation of the project, so to attract the attention of the various stakeholders.

At the end of the afternoon, the conference drew to a close and everyone was thanked for their time and effort. All were assigned their additional tasks and Stef will continue to follow them up.



# The sporting and human epic of the peasant champion Thévenet

## *Past President of District France and life ambassador of Panathlon*

Bernard Thévenet is a name that counts in the world of French cycling and sport. Double winner of the Tour de France, in 1975 and 1977, the former cycling champion attended the Châlons-en-Champagne Fair at a conference on independence and well-being at all ages, two themes that cannot be disconnected from practicing sport, and which "Nanard" promotes through Panathlon International.

The occasion also served to present a book on Thévenet's life and achievements and to plan the opening of a Panathlon club in the region.

"I was the son of a farmer. Sport gave me everything, especially from a social point of view. This allowed me to meet many people - says the honorary president of the French District of the organization - Sport is what allows people of all ages to stay healthy and share important values. "

He realized this sport's chance to build important relationships when, much younger, he saw the enthusiasm that the Grande Boucle created when it passed not far from the family farm.

"Sport also allows me to take part in conferences like this one, where we talk about health through sport, for young people, for seniors, for people with disabilities ... You learn a lot."

For almost two hours he enthusiastically took part in the discussion that brought together health professionals, representatives of sport and of the Paralympic world. Everyone has reached the same conclusion: sport is an essential component of collective and social balance.

"People must live together, support one another. They must be encouraged to go to Panathlon International clubs, to improve their social life. And if they practice sport at the same time, it's even better. What is important is to be aware of one's potentials and always be satisfied with what you do. This is the main thing."

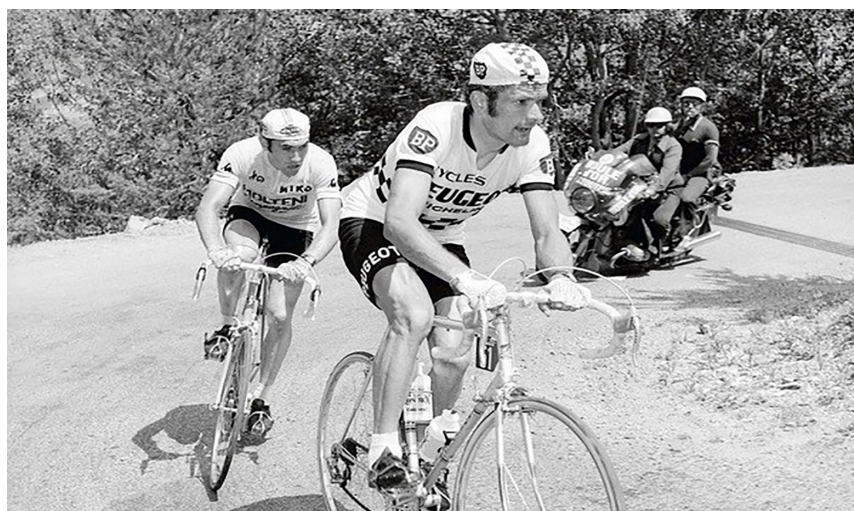
All these values are part of the fundamental principles promoted by Panathlon International. "We have created a charter for the children's rights in sport; there is also one for parents. We work to ensure that

fair play is truly part of sport, for athletes as well as fans. All these objectives seem to me very useful for sport. I like this idea of sharing, of reflection, that we can bring to the clubs or to athletes."

Bernard Thévenet still enjoys himself in Grenoble, in Val d'Isère, where he lives. At 73, he has not yet abandoned the sport that gave him so many emotions.

"I live in the Grésivaudan valley and I keep on tackling climbs and descents. I think long and hard about the route and take longer to cycle up, but it is always a pleasure to say that I will be stronger than the mountains, even at 73" he smiles. "Sport can provide great benefits to people, especially in the modern world. We are always in a hurry, often angry.

Sport allows us to reconcile with others, with nature, to release tension. For my part, I think that pedalling a couple of hours twice a week is very beneficial for your health and good mood."





# The new club Lyon-Métropole is born

In France there is a strong impetus towards the creation of new clubs, thanks to the commitment of the District President Jean Luc Grillon, and of the Vice President, Bruno Catelin.

An important event took place in Lyon on the 2nd September at the "Oxygène" auditorium of Ibis hotel, with the General Meeting of District France and the presentation of the Lyon-Metropole Club, which will become a fully-fledged Panathlon International club by the end of this year.

Panathlon clubs had already operated in Lyon in the past, with alternating fortunes, but with the shared passion of many sports lovers. Now we are moving towards the rebuilding of a new group, hoping for a longer haul of the club.



The ceremony was attended by Pierre Zappelli, International President; Patrick Van Campenhout, President of the Expansion Commission of Panathlon International; Jean-Luc Grillon and Bruno Catelin, respectively President and Vice President of District France, then President Benoît Dumollard and the board of the future Club Lyon Métropole.

Also present was Bernard Thévenet, honorary President of District France, one of the greatest ambassadors of Panathlon's ideal, director of the "Dauphiné" criterium and in charge of international relations at ASO for the "Tour de France".

During his presidency of District France, Thévenet contributed significantly to the promotion of Panathletic ideals by bringing our values to various sectors of sport, particularly to cycling, of which he was a top champion who won, among others, two Tours de France.

## DISTRICT BRAZIL

# Club Recife's 42 years

Founded in 1979, Panathlon Club Recife celebrated its 42nd anniversary. It was a simple celebration, which took advantage of the monthly lunch that brings together directors, members and guests at the Military Circle restaurant in the capital of Pernambuco Region, the last Thursday of each month. Attending by invite we can see in the photo above, from left to right: Gilmar Santos, Fernando Almeida, Carolina Maciel (president), José Pinto Lapa, Fernando Soares, Cláudia Sofia Santana, Jonas Coriolano, Marcos Aurélio Magalhães, Fortunato Russo Sobrinho, Lenivaldo Aragão and Edvaldo Vítório.

Panathlon is a worldwide organization, with branches in the most diverse countries, similarly to Rotary, for example. It brings together people who have contributed to the development of sport, such as teachers, coaches, athletes, journalists, etc. and who can still take part as simple support, in an amateur way, and apply the experience acquired during their time as professional athletes.

Two founders of Panathlon Recife, José Pinto Lapa and Fernando Soares, were present at the 42nd anniversary lunch. Soares attended, together with Júlio Mazzei, Ricardo Magalhães and others, the very first course at the School of Physical Education of Pernambuco, which opened in 1960.



# THE BOOK “DONNE IN BICICLETTA” WINS THE 58TH BANCARELLA SPORT

“Donne in Bicicletta” (“Women on bicycles”), a book about the era of women’s cycling, has won the 58th edition of the “Bancarella Sport” literary prize. The author, Antonella Stelitano, has been able to condense the history of women’s cycling, through the stories of its main characters, into a work that is both pleasant in its narrative and precious in content.

The book highlights, with great measure and style, the challenges that this category has faced, often subject to improper evaluations and misunderstandings, before the complete acceptance it enjoys today, at all levels: professional, athletic and social.

Antonella Stelitano’s book, published by Ediciclo, was one of the six shortlisted books that made it to Pontremoli after the selection made by a panel of journalists and sports writers. Panathlon International past-president Giacomo Santini, author of numerous sports books, was also a member of this panel. The judging panel was coordinated by Paolo Liguori and Paolo Francia, assisted by Ignazio Landi, from this year President of the “Città del Libro” Foundation.

The final evaluation was assigned, as always, to a jury consisting of booksellers and pan-athletes who sent their votes directly to a notary who read out the votes during the award ceremony which was held in the main square in Pontremoli before a selected audience, in due compliance with anti-Covid protective measures.

The final counting, by reading out the ballot votes, took place in an atmosphere of heated literary competition, as never before.

Antonella Stelitano won “at a sprint” with 119 votes leaving behind, by just 1 vote, **Ezio Luzzi** with “Tutto il mio calcio, minuto per minuto” (All my football minute by minute), Baldini-Castoldi (118 votes) and, by three votes, **Gigi Riva** with “Non dire addio ai sogni” (Don’t say goodbye to dreams), Mondadori (116 votes).

After a tight start, the other chasers could not keep up: **Leo Turrini**, with “Panini, storia di una famiglia e di tante figurine” (Panini, story of a family and many stickers), Minerva Edizioni (105 votes); **Beppe Conti** with “Dolomiti da leggenda” (Legendary Dolomites), Reverdito (85 votes), and **Ilido Serantoni** with “Felice Gimondi, campione nello sport, campione nella vita” (Felice Gimondi, champion in sport, champion in life), Bolis Edizioni (48 votes).

During the event, motoring journalist Carlo Cavicchi, special correspondent and editor of prestigious sport newspapers, was awarded the traditional prize named after Bruno Raschi.



# Regarding Fair Play

by Giacomo Santini

Fair play is said to be born in England. There is no evidence that this is the case, while it is certain that it died there.

The sad funeral took place during the recent UEFA European Football Championships - before, during and after the final against Italy. The “we have to win at all costs” operation started immediately after the England Team qualified, neither spectacularly nor easily.

As if obeying an unwritten script born out of a certain mentality of chauvinistic superiority, a general mobilization kicked in, at every level, starting with the Royal House, where even the queen, historically staid before football passions, waxed lyrical in an official message of support, worthy of the Pro-Borgorosso bulletin of a well-known Italian comedy-sports film.

Encouraged by the uncommon stance of his legendary grandmother, even William, the for-now-on-the-bench heir to the throne, abandoned his aplomb, consenting to several interviews with slightly green-border hooligans' hues.

Then came Prime Minister Boris Johnson's turn, legitimized by the royal cheering. To recover some of the credibility lost for his disastrous handling of COVID, Mr Johnson did not hold back and indulged in predictions conveying the double meaning of reckless promises for

the fans and veiled threats to the players, in the event of a defeat.

By now, we all know the result of the match, but no-one expected the royal dignity of the British to give free reign to racist slurs or even boos to the Italian National Anthem and trampled flags.

Incidentally, the fans who gave birth to wreaking-havoc hooligans could only be boorish and sore losers. As soon as the game was over, the English sectors were emptied even before the award ceremony. Too bad for them: surely they would have applauded the extreme act of non-fair-play of most English players who, having received the silver medal, took a step and removed it from their necks, leaving it dangling like an unwelcome piece of iron.

At this point the Italians cannot fail to experience unexpected feelings of friendship towards the Scots who, a few days after the final, gathered as many Italians as possible and organized a big party in their honour.

Speaking of fair play, there is still a doubt about this unplanned show: did we see the celebration of Italy's victory or the defeat of our English “cousins”?





## Spirit and Ideals

The Foundation was established in memory of Domenico Chiesa, on the initiative of his heirs Antonio, Italo and Maria. In 1951, Domenico Chiesa had been not just a promoter of the first Panathlon Club but had also drawn up its draft statute and, in 1960, he was one of the founders of Panathlon International. Although not technically binding for his heirs, Chiesa had expressed, in life, the desire to allocate a share of his assets to the regular assignment of prizes for artistic works inspired by sport, as well as for cultural initiatives and publications sharing the same objectives as Panathlon International.

In the constitution of the Foundation, alongside the substantial contribution of Chiesa's heirs, one should also remember the generous input of the entire panathletic movement through its numerous clubs and the personal intervention of many panathletes, that managed to offer the Foundation the necessary conditions to make its debut in the world of visual arts in a prestigious and striking way: the establishment of an award implemented in association with one of the leading organizations in the world, La Biennale di Venezia.

## Domenico Chiesa Award

On 24 September 2004, the Board of Panathlon International, considering the need to increase the capital of the Foundation and to honour the memory of one of Panathlon's founding members, first benefactor and inspiration for the same, established the "Domenico Chiesa Award" to be assigned, on the proposal of the individual clubs and on the basis of specific regulations, to one or more panathletes or non-member personalities who have lived the panathletic spirit.

In particular, the award is for those who are committed to the promotion of the sporting ideal and who have made an exceptionally significant contribution of the following:



***Understanding and promoting the values of Panathlon and of the Foundation through cultural tools inspired by sport;***

***For members: to those who have made an exceptional contribution to the concept of friendship between all panathletes and those who work in the world of sport, thanks also to the diligence and quality of their participation in Panathlon activities;***

***For non-members: to those who have made an exceptional contribution to the concept of friendship between all sports components, recognizing panathletic ideals as a primary value in the educational training of young people.***

***Being available to help, thanks to the activity performed in favour of the Club and to the generosity towards the Club or the world of sport.***

Chiesa Italo - P.C. Venezia 20/10/2004  
Chiaruttini Paolo - P.C.Venezia 16/12/2004  
Pizzetti Martino - P.C.Parma 15/12/2004  
Chiesa Italo offerto Enrico Prandi 20/10/2004  
Battistella Bruno P.C.Vittorio Veneto 27/05/2005  
Ferdinandi Pierluigi P.C.Latina 12/12/2005  
Mariotti Gelasio P.C.Vald.Inf 19/02/2006  
Prando Sergio P.C.Venezia 12/06/2006  
Zichi Massimo P.C.Latina 06/11/2006  
Yves Vaan Auweele P.C.Brussel 21/11/2006  
Viscardo Brunelli P.C.Crema 01/12/2006  
Giampaolo Dallara P.C. Parma 06/12/2006  
Fabio Presca I Distretto 15/02/2007  
Giulio Giuliani P.C. Brescia 12/06/2007  
Avio Vailati Venturi P.C.Crema 13/06/2007  
Luciano Canavese P.C. Crema 13/06/2007  
Sergio Fabrizi P.C.La Malpensa 19/09/2007  
Cesare Vago P.C. La Malpensa 19/09/2007  
Amedeo Marelli P.C. La Malpensa 19/09/2007  
Fernando Petrone P.C. Latina 10/12/2007  
Vittorio Adorni P.C.Parma 16/01/2008  
Dora de Biase P.C.Foggia 18/04/2008  
Albino Rossi P.C.Pavia 12/06/2008  
Giuseppe Zambon - P.C.Venezia 18/12/2008  
Maurizio Clerici - P.C.Latina 15/12/2008  
Silvio Valdameri - P.C.Crema 17/12/2008  
Enrico Ravasi - P.C.Varese 21/04/2009  
Attilio Bravi - P.C.Bra 25/05/2009  
Antonio Spallino - P.C.Como 30/05/2009

Gaio Camporesi offerto Enrico Prandi 21/11/2009  
Mons.Mazza - P.C.Parma 15/12/2009  
Mario Macalli - P.C.Crema 22/12/2009  
Livio Berruti - Area 3 19/11/2010  
Gianni Marchiol - P.C.Udine N.T. 11/12/2010  
Mario Mangiarotti - P.C.Bergamo 16/12/2010  
Mario Sogno P.C.Biella 24/09/2011  
Mariuccia Lombardini - P.C.Reggio E. 19/11/2011  
Bernardino Morsani - P.C.Rieti 25/11/2011  
Roberto Ghiretti - P.C.Parma 15/12/2011  
Fondazione Lanza P.C.Udine N.T. 17/12/2011  
Giuseppe Molteni - P.C. Varese 17/04/2012  
Enrico Prandi Area 5 11/12/2012  
Sergio Allegrini - P.C.Udine N.T. 17/12/2012  
Piccolo Gruppo Evolution - Polisp. Orgnano A.D. P.C.Udine N.T. 17/12/2012  
Don Davide Larice P.C.Udine N.T. 17/12/2012  
Maurizio Monego Area 1 31/10/2013  
Henrique Nicolini Area 1 Area 2 31/10/2013  
Together onlus P.C. Udine NT 30/11/2013  
Enzo Cainero P.C. Udine NT 30/11/2013  
Giuseppenicola Tota Area 5 11/06/2014  
Renata Soliani P.C. Como 12/06/2014  
Geo Balmelli P.C. Lugano 12/06/2014  
Baldassare Agnelli P.C. Bergamo 30/10/2014  
Sergio Campana P.C. Bassano 09/12/2014  
Fabiano Gerevini P.C. Crema 13/11/2015  
Dionigi Dionigio Area 5 06/12/2015  
Bruno Grandi P.C. Forlì 22/01/2016

Mara Pagella P.C. Pavia 18/02/2016  
Giancaspro Antonio P.C. Molfetta 26/11/2016  
Oreste Perri Area 02 26/11/2016  
Gianduia Giuseppe P.C. La Malpensa 13/12/2016  
Giovannni Ghezzi P.C. Crema 14/12/2016  
Roberto Peretti P.C. Genova levante 26/01/2017  
Magi Carlo Alberto Distretto Ita 31/03/2017  
Mantegazza Geo PC Lugano 20/04/2017  
Palmieri Caterina PC Varese 16/05/2017  
Paul De Broe PC Brussels 28/01/2018  
Vic De Donder PC Brussels 28/01/2018  
Buzzella Mario PC Crema 28/02/2018  
Balzarini Adriana Distretto Italia 16/06/2018  
Guccione Alù Gabriele PC Palermo 09/11/2018  
Di Pietro Giovanni PC Latina 27/10/2018  
Speroni Carlo PC La Malpensa 13/11/2018  
Dainese Giorgio Area 05 26/10/2019  
Bambozzi Gianni Area 05 26/10/2019  
Marini Gervasio PC Latina 9/12/2019  
Pecci Claudio PC Como 12/12/2019  
Lucchesini Giorgio PC Altavaldelsa 16/12/2019  
Facchi Gianfranco PC Crema 18/12/2019  
Marani Matteo PC Milano 28/01/2020  
Ginetto Luca Venezia 21/10/2020  
Porcaro Angelo Pavia 06/05/2021  
Landi Stefano Reggio Emilia 10/05/2021  
Albanesi Aldo La Malpensa 25/05/2021  
Dusi Ottavio Brescia 21/06/2021  
Beneacquist Lucio Latina 25/09/2021  
Muzio Ugo Biella 23/10/2021



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