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# PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL

N° 1 January -April 2018







# SAVE THE DATE

## FLORENCE

### 15-17 June 2018

- *48th General Assembly of Panathlon International*
- *21st International Congress with regard to  
“Education in and through sport –  
Connecting values, physical literacy and wellbeing”*

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# After Pyeongchang 2018, a new hope

Dear friends and panathletes,

This year begins with the wonderful adventure of the Winter Olympic Games Pyeongchang 2018.

Do I have an overly idealistic view of this event?

Some might reply to me saying that each edition also brings a series of controversies.

Those of Korea were not lacking.

They were preceded by painful and sensational decisions regarding the recognition of the generalized deception on doping in Russia. The present edition of the magazine dedicates a large space to this exceptional situation. Beyond this situation, for athletes and lovers of sport and its values as we are, the positive aspects win. This also applies to doping although it may seem paradoxical. In fact, the update of new and more cases of doping shows also how the tools to combat this scourge have been perfected and how they are able to solve the most sophisticated stratagems.

At the Summer Games of 2000 and 2004 and at the Winter Games of 2006, the two Korean delegations had marched together. The effect was ephemeral and relations between the two countries cooled immediately after the end of the games.

The political context of 2018, marked by real tension, is different. The common parade of the two Koreas gives even more emphasis to the event.

During a press conference during the games, the Secretary General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, recognized the IOC this unique ability to maintain peace.

The present issue of our magazine has a common thread: the E-Games. The idea of introducing perhaps such games in the Olympic Games has raised strong reactions, very often negative. Panathlon wanted to deepen this theme by opening the columns of this magazine to personalities from every sector, panathletes and not panathletes.

You will read well-documented opinions and even reactions that are more spontaneous than cries of pain.

I am convinced that this will enrich the debate.

Have a good read of our magazine!



**Pierre Zappelli**  
International President

# Also the pope takes in the field

by Giacomo Santini

**"Sport for Humanity"** is the sports movement launched by the Vatican, with the personal intervention of Pope Francis, to formalize the presence of the Catholic world in the problems of sport and in the action for its development as a tool for educating young people.

Panathlon International took part in the constitutional congress in October 2016 with the Past International President who presented to the audience of delegates coming from all over the world the history and the aims of our movement. Many observed then how the principles enunciated by our fundamental Charters coincided with an ethical and moral vision very close to that of the "Sport for Humanity" Movement.

Now this institution has focused on some principles of reference that has spread throughout the Catholic world and has sent to our magazine to be disseminated. Regardless of the religious belief of the individual panathletes, these principles are evidently similar to those that guide our commitment, even in a frame of secularism. This is why it is a useful and constructive exercise to examine the document.

## PREAMBLE

We believe that

Sport has the power to **celebrate our common humanity**, regardless of faith, race, culture, beliefs, gender and ability.

Sport can bring us together – to meet one another across borders and boundaries, to learn to compete as friends, to respect and trust one another even in opposition.

Sport has the power to **teach positive values and enrich lives**. Every one of us, who plays, organizes and supports sport, has the opportunity to be transformed by it and to transform others.

Many people are deprived of sport through lack of opportunity, prejudice, or vested interest. We have a responsibility to help and share its benefits.

Sport challenges us to stretch ourselves further than we thought possible.

Sport **can be distorted** if we lose sight of the sheer joy it brings us. While we strive for excellence in sport, it is more important to aim for excellence as human beings.

Therefore, guided by our common values, we jointly pledge to be inspired by and aspire to the following Principles:

- **Compassion: use the power of sport to help others.**

Share the benefits of Sport to empower those who are poor and disadvantaged.  
Respect use sport to build trust and understand. Respect your opponents. Through sport understand them and their culture more deeply.  
Condemn violence in Sport – on and off the field of play.





- **Love sport is for all.**

Do all you can to help everyone take part in sport. Do all you can to enable everyone to compete on equal terms.

- **Enlightenment sport has the power to transform lives and build character.**

Learn graciousness in victory and perspective in defeat. Apply the values you learn in sport to help you excel in life.

- **Balance sport has the power to help us make the most of ourselves.**

So play it in the knowledge that it can revitalize you physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. At every stage of life, play for fun, for health, for friendship.

- **Joy sport, above all, is about enjoyment**

So enjoy it! And remember, there is more to sport than winning, but when you compete, be and do the best you can, always.

# KOREA AND ARGENTINA, OLYMPIC FRONTIERS

The Winter Olympics at PyeongChang and the Olympic Games of the Youth in Buenos Aires have the flavor of two historical challenges in the sports movement

We are at the start of a great Olympic Year 2018.

When the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018 begin in just a few weeks, it will be the first time that the magic of Olympic sport on snow and ice will come to the Republic of Korea. They will showcase a modern Korea and connect its passion to the world. Thanks to the excellent work of the PyeongChang 2018 Organising Committee, the stage is set for the best winter sport athletes of the world to amaze us all with their sporting performances.

At the same time, we know about the political tensions on the Korean Peninsula. The IOC has addressed them already since 2015. This happened through close contact with the leaders of governments and NOCs concerned. In all these discussions, the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018 were never put in doubt. On the contrary, we feel support for our position that the Olympic Games must always be beyond all political division. The Olympic Games are about dialogue. They are a symbol of hope and peace. In our troubled times, they are the only event that bring the whole world together in peaceful competition. To ensure this for the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018, we keep monitoring the situation very closely.

One of these reforms is the new format for the Youth Olympic Games. The first to showcase our new approach will be the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018, which will be more youthful, more urban, and more female. It will be the first Olympic programme with complete gender equality, a 50-50 balance, with the same number of girls and boys taking part in the same number of sport events.

This will be another milestone in our continued efforts under Olympic Agenda 2020 to promote gender equality. With an exciting new format and new sports and disciplines, the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 promise to be a festival of sport, youth and culture.

Another direct result of Olympic Agenda 2020 will

be the very first "Olympism in Action" Forum, taking place in Buenos Aires just ahead of the YOG. It will bring together a community of around 2,000 stakeholders from the Olympic Movement, business, politics and civil society.

One of the major projects of Olympic Agenda 2020 is the Olympic Channel. Now in its second year of existence, the Olympic Channel will provide more live sporting events and engage the audience with new interactive programmes. In this Olympic year, the focus will also be on enhancing the broadcast of PyeongChang 2018 and providing live coverage from YOG to bring the performances of the young athletes to every corner of the globe. In doing so, the Olympic Channel can build on a strong foundation of having already reached over one billion video views across all platforms so far.

Olympic Agenda 2020 has a strong focus on reforming the candidature procedure for the Olympic Games, reducing costs for cities and providing greater flexibility to tailor the Games to local, regional and national development goals. In this context, the new candidature procedure for the Olympic Winter Games 2026 is already underway, with a dialogue phase that puts the focus on a deeper partnership between the IOC and candidate cities from the outset. The IOC has already entered into a preliminary dialogue with a number of cities and NOCs on three continents.

Another pillar of Olympic Agenda 2020 is to make the organisation of the Games more feasible and sustainable. In this respect, the new Games Management 2020 programme, which will be made public at beginning of 2018, will play a key role to control costs and will allow for savings of several hundreds of millions of US dollars for the Organising Committees of Olympic Games.

Guided by Olympic Agenda 2020, the IOC will be a partner in the establishment of the independent





Centre for Sport and Human Rights in 2018, together with a coalition consisting of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Labour Organisation, sport organisations, NGOs and many others. It is the latest illustration of the relevance of sport in our modern world.

The same holds true for the IOC's leadership role to combat corruption in sport. In this regard, the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport (IPACS), a multi-stakeholder platform founded by IOC in 2017, will play an even more important role in cooperation with our partners, which include other international sports organisations, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Council of Europe and many governments. IPACS will develop tools and practical solutions to help improve governance and ensure the integrity of sport across all levels.

With all these and more activities we will address the challenges that society and sport are facing in our fragile world. Stability is perhaps the most valuable currency of our times. As we have demonstrated in 2017 through our many long-term partnerships

with sponsors and broadcasters, and with the double-allocation of the Olympic Games 2024 and 2028 to Paris and Los Angeles respectively, the Olympic Movement continues to be an anchor of stability in our fast-changing world.

This is why we can start this new year 2018 with confidence – but not complacency. What better time than the beginning of an Olympic year to remind ourselves that sport is always about the joy of life and confidence in the future.

# Women in Sport: A Panathlon Opportunity



by Elaine Cook (\*)

It wasn't until I began to do some research for the presentation I was to make at the Pan American Conference in Recife, that the concerns and issues regarding women in sport became very real; despite the fact, that I have spent the past three years working with elite female athletes and coaches at the University of Toronto.

In my work, which involves helping elite coaches to adopt more synergistic communication skills and helping athletes find personal meaning and development, I have never worked from a gendered perspective. Yet, I realize in hindsight, that in the many, many years I have been involved with elite sport, first as the wife of an accomplished professional cyclist, then as undergraduate student in sport management, and now as a doctoral candidate in sport psychology, and president of the Cultural and Scientific Committee of Panathlon International, I have experienced and continue to experience a gendered narrative that is far too common in sport.

I am grateful to the organizing committee of Recife for opening my eyes and offering us the opportunity, as an international organization, to consider how we can make a difference.

We know that sport facilitates social interaction, it can help to foster better educational outcomes, communication and negotiation skills, as well as leadership skills – and research indicates that all of these skills are vital for the empowerment of women. However, even more specifically, sport participation is related to the development of three empowering qualities for women: 1) physical competence, 2) enhanced self competence, 3) proactive approach to life<sup>1</sup>.

In a recent report by the Women's Sport Foundation, experts from related disciplines of epidemiology, exercise physiology, kinesiology, sociology and psychology determined that moderate and consistent levels of physical activity and sport for girls and women is essential to good physical and emotional health.

The report also affirmed that females from lower economic contexts and females of colour have lower participation rates, as well as less access to programs and as a result, they suffer negative health consequences. This is not news to us, especially those of us involved

with Panathlon. We know of and believe in the transformative power of sport. Yet, despite the growing body of research, girls are still not provided the same degree of support and encouragement, or even opportunities to participate in sport and fitness, as boys.

Perhaps nowhere is the gender inequality and the underrepresentation of women in sport more apparent than in the number of women who hold decision-making positions in the sport context. In continental Europe there are twenty-eight Olympic sport federations.

As of 2015, women held on average 14% of the decision-making positions, while 4% of these federations had a female president or chairperson and only nine of twenty-eight federations had gender quotas. Four federations have no women at all in decision-making positions. There has never been an IOC woman president in over 100 years, there has never been a FIFA women president in over a 100 years, and in 60 years Panathlon International has never had a female president. In fact, my fellow committee member Anne Tiivas and I are the only females on a Panathlon International Board or Committee.

However, since April 2016, we do now have a female district president, Gerti Gaisbacher, who reigns from Austria. I point this out, because as an organization that claims to be primarily concerned with ethics, we first and foremost need to model good ethics. We must first self-reflect and examine our values, our practices, our strategies, and ensure that these align with practices of equality for all people. Optics are important, but action is even better.

For example, the Norwegian FA recently announced that their new player agreement is entirely equitable. Female players of the national team will earn exactly the same as a male player. The message this agreement sends to other federations, and the sport world in general, is essential to progress on gender equality. Women's sport federations around the world are fighting for better support.

Given that gender equality is a fundamental principle of the EU (and many other nation states around the globe), there are proposals for strategic action where I believe Panathlon International, and even local clubs, can contribute to meaningful change. For example, the Strategic Actions of Gender Equality in Sport



2015-2020, encourages sports governing bodies and non-governmental organizations to develop and implement local, national and international strategies for action. These can include: gender balance on executive boards and committees, in management, coaching, in our club memberships, educational events, collaborative projects, and other creative initiatives.

Compared to some of the entrenched ethical dilemmas, some of which were highlighted on our textbook *Ethics and Governance in Sport: The Future Imagined*, this can and should be relatively easy to rectify. And yet, the return on investment is enormous, even economically. We have the opportunity to enhance the physical and emotional wellbeing of our families and communities by advocating for, and adopting practices

that promote the empowerment of women through sport.  
What will our first small step be?

**(\*) President of the Cultural and Scientific Committee of Panathlon International**

<sup>1</sup> Blinde, E., Taub, D., & Han, L. (1993). Sport participation and women's personal empowerment: Experience of the college athlete. *Journal of Sport and social Issue*, 17, 1), 47-60.

DISTRICT SWITZERLAND / LIECHTENSTEIN

# When on the “paraplegic” champions the lights are turned off

by Giancarlo Dionisio  
CH-FL District President

When in Switzerland the word “Nottwil” is pronounced, the thought immediately runs to the clinic specialized in the care and assistance to patients suffering from paraplegia.

Excellent athletes such as the pilot, Clay Regazzoni, and the downhill racer Silvano Beltrametti have passed from Nottwil. Most of the athletes who successfully represented Switzerland in various editions of the Paralympic Games have come out of Nottwil.

For these top athletes the return to normal, even in a wheelchair, it was a long, tiring journey, fraught with difficulty. Panathlon Switzerland and Liechtenstein questioned whether to provide even minimal support. It did it during a congress that was held at the Paraplegia Center in Nottwil.

The first day was dedicated to internal affairs: two panathletes, Bruno Huber from the Club of Soletta, and Hans-Jörg Arnold from Upper Valais, recounted their touching experience: the former as an organizer of integrated sports and recreational activities, the latter described with a surge of positive energy his return to competitions, but in different conditions, after an accident.

The debate that ensued was very stimulating, during which tales of the past and the present and proposals for the future were intertwined. In short: two days of

talks are not enough to change a reality. Therefore, if 2017 has been designated by the CH-FL district as the year of disability, it goes without saying that we will have to continue to deal with it in the future. Organizing evenings, meetings, involving and sensitizing civil society and the media, so that they can increase support and attention.

On the second day of the Congress, Lukas Christen's reports were very instructive, an athlete who won several medals at the World Championships and Paralympic Games; of Claudio Perret, doctor in natural sciences and researcher in the field of performance by disabled athletes; of Peter Brüggemann, professor of biomechanics and great guru in prosthetics; of Matthias Strüpler, a Swiss Olympic doctor, sent several times to the Paralympic Games; of Kippolyth Kemps, winner of the gold medal in Calgary in the Nordic combined and current director of the Nordic sector of Swiss Ski; and finally Chantal Cavin, a blind swimmer who holds numerous world records. From their reports and the round table moderated by the journalist of Radio-television, of the German-speaking Switzerland (SRF), Susy Schär, anecdotes, ideas, suggestions have emerged.

The road has been opened. Now it is up to the 32 Clubs to give continuity to this attention towards disabled athletes.

# RUSSIA OUT OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES FOR “State Doping”

The scandal involves the 2012 London Olympics and Sochi 2014 - Among the excluded, someone has returned at the last minute, but it is war between the international organizations IOC, CAS and WADA.

Great sensation, unanimous condemnation but little surprise greeted the sensational decision of the International Olympic Committee to banish Russia from the 2018 winter Olympics in South Korea in Pyeongchang due of the doping scandal that involved Moscow at its 2014 Sochi Olympics and at the London 2012 Summer Olympics.

The decision was taken in Lausanne to crown the investigation of so-called state doping. The sanction comes after the IOC has completed the investigation, which reiterated the guilt of Moscow in having implemented an extensive doping program supported by government sports bodies.

Government officials in the country were banned from participating, the Russian flag was not exposed to the opening ceremony and the anthem was not played. The official medal table showed consistently that Russia won zero medals. IOC President Thomas Bach said he was “upset”, not so much for doping, but for how it was done. That is, “corrupting the Olympic laboratory that has conducted the anti-doping tests at the Games and on the orders of the same Russian Olympic officials”. Bach spoke of “an unprecedented attack on the integrity of the Games and sport. The sanctions **“are proportional to this systemic manipulation, and protect the clean athletes”**.”

“Over a thousand” Russian athletes have benefited from the manipulation of anti-doping tests taking part in the Olympic and Paralympic Summer and Winter Games in London 2012 and also in Sochi.

According to the report by the independent commission of the International Anti-Doping Agency, Wada, the **“institutional conspiracy”** to hide the positivity of Moscow’s athletes dates back to before 2011 and went forward until 2015; the scandal involves twelve Russian medal winners, including four winners of a gold medal, at the Sochi Games. The second part of the report, which follows the shock revelations released last June, points out that at the London Games there was an **“unprecedented corruption”**, adding that the **“state doping”** carried out by Moscow represented an institutional conspiracy of Russian athletes carried out by the Ministry of Sport and its infrastructures, such as Rusada (the Russian anti-doping agency), the Russian

Sports Preparation Center and the Moscow Laboratory “.

**“The athletes did not act individually but within an organized structure as reported in the first report”**, continues the complaint that reiterates how the Moscow’s doping coverage was **“systematic and centralized, perfected during the London Games, the 2013 Universiade in Kazan, the Moscow World Championships in 2013 and the 2014 Sochi Winter Games”**.

Looking at the medal table obtained from Russia, the one in London had 72 podiums, including 21 gold medals, 33 medals and 13 gold medals obtained at the Winter Games in Sochi.

Ten days before the opening of the PyeongChang Games 2018, the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) stirs up a hornet’s nest by canceling the sanctions pronounced by the Olympic institution a few weeks earlier, concerning a contingent of Russian athletes.

The facts. Out of 43 Russian athletes who have resorted to their disqualification from the IOC of the 2014 Sochi Games, a sanction accompanied by a lifelong suspension at the Olympic Games, the CAS heard 39 during an extraordinary hearing, transferred for the occasion from Lausanne to Geneva. Without assuming the decision of the magistrates, we had therefore understood that the scale bent towards the Olympic institution.

But, surprise, the CAS announced Thursday, February 1 at a press conference, from the media center of the PyeongChang Games, that the sanctions were canceled for 28 of the 39 complainants. A decision justified by “insufficient evidence” to establish with certainty a violation of the anti-doping regulation.

The 28 clean athletes maintain their results at the 2014 Sochi Games. At the same time, the lifelong suspension from the Olympic Games is revoked.

For the other 11 complainants, the decision of the CAS is more indefinite. The lifelong suspension is canceled, but they are found guilty of violation of the anti-doping rules. Their disqualification for the 2014 Sochi Games is confirmed.



# Here is the Official Communiqué of the International Olympic Committee

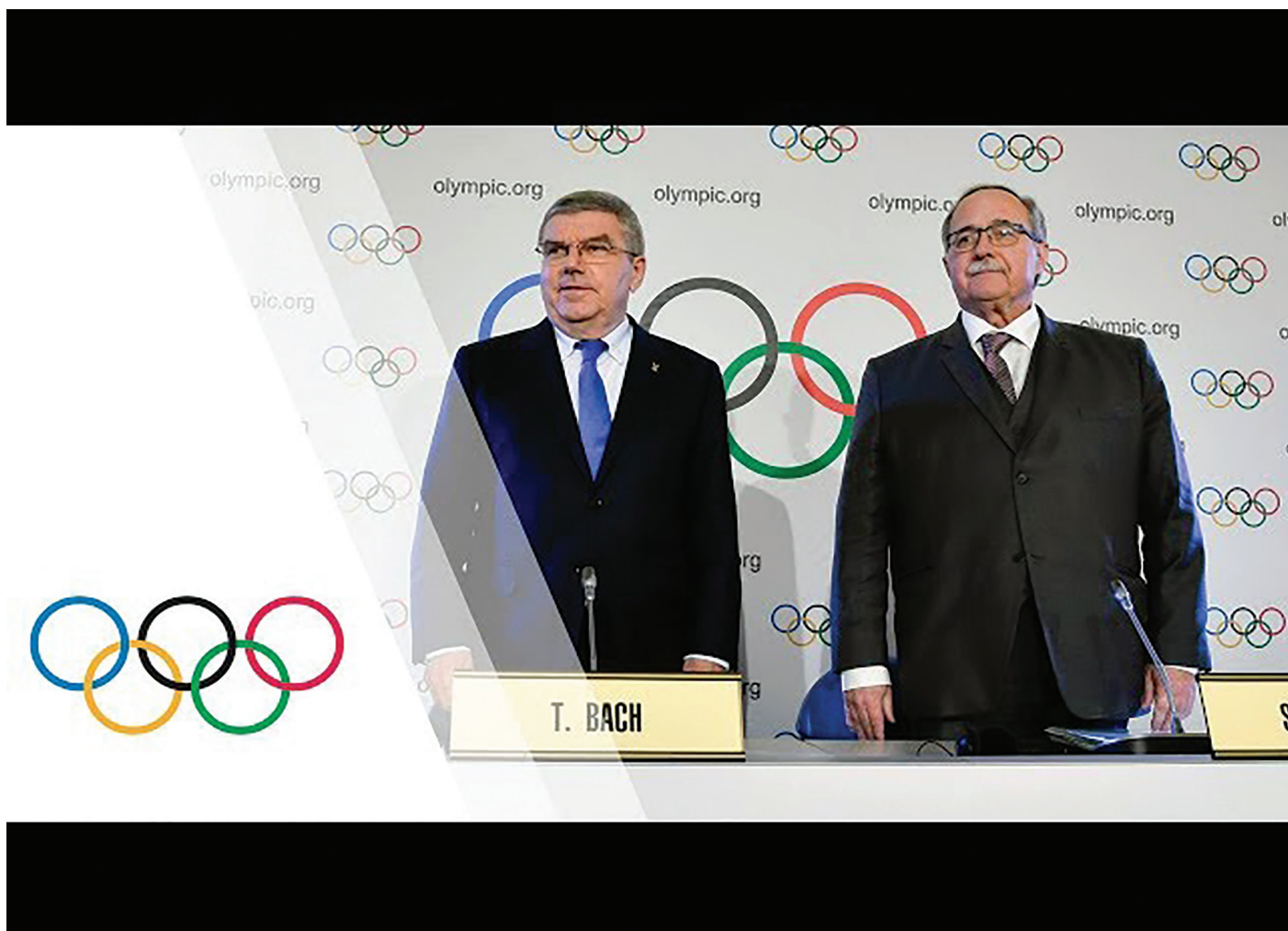
The IOC Executive Board studied and discussed the findings of the Commission led by the former President of Switzerland, Samuel Schmid, addressing the systematic manipulation of the anti-doping system in Russia. This report also addresses in particular the manipulation at the anti-doping laboratory at the Olympic Winter Games Sochi 2014 which targeted the Olympic Games directly. Over 17 months of extensive work, the Schmid Commission gathered evidence and information and held hearings with all the main actors. Due process, to which every individual and every organisation is entitled, was followed. This opportunity was not available to the IOC prior to the Olympic Games Rio 2016.

The conclusions of the Schmid Report, on both factual and legal aspects, confirmed “the systemic manipulation of the anti-doping rules and system in Russia, through the Disappearing Positive Methodology and during the Olympic Winter Games Sochi 2014, as

well as the various levels of administrative, legal and contractual responsibility, resulting from the failure to respect the respective obligations of the various entities involved”.

As a consequence, the Schmid Commission recommended to the IOC EB:

- “to take the appropriate measures that should be strong enough to effectively sanction the existence of a systemic manipulation of the anti-doping rules and system in Russia, as well as the legal responsibility of the various entities involved (i.e., including uniform, flag and anthem);
- while protecting the rights of the individual Russian clean athletes; and
- to take into consideration the multiple costs incurred by the two IOC DCs, in particular those linked to the investigations, the various expertise and the re-analysis



of the samples of the Olympic Games.”

After discussing and approving the Schmid Report, the IOC EB took the following decision:

- To suspend the Russian Olympic Committee (ROC) with immediate effect.
  - To invite individual Russian athletes under strict conditions (see below) to the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018. These invited athletes will participate, be it in individual or team competitions, under the name “Olympic Athlete from Russia (OAR)”. They will compete with a uniform bearing this name and under the Olympic Flag. The Olympic Anthem will be played in any ceremony.
  - Not to accredit any official from the Russian Ministry of Sport for the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018.
  - To exclude the then Minister of Sport, Mr Vitaly Mutko, and his then Deputy Minister, Mr. Yuri Nagornyykh, from any participation in all future Olympic Games.
  - To withdraw Mr Dmitry Chernyshenko, the former CEO of the Organising Committee Sochi 2014, from the Coordination Commission Beijing 2022.
  - To suspend ROC President Alexander Zhukov as an IOC Member, given that his membership is linked to his position as ROC President.
  - The IOC reserves the right to take measures against and sanction other individuals implicated in the system.
  - The ROC to reimburse the costs incurred by the IOC on the investigations and to contribute to the establishment of the Independent Testing Authority (ITA) for the total sum of USD 15 million, to build the capacity and integrity of the global anti-doping system.
  - The IOC may partially or fully lift the suspension of the ROC from the commencement of the Closing Ceremony of the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018 provided these decisions are fully respected and implemented by the ROC and by the invited athletes and officials.
  - The IOC will issue operational guidelines for the implementation of these decisions.
- How the athletes will be chosen:  
To invite individual Russian athletes to the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018 according to the following guidelines:
- The invitation list will be determined, at its absolute discretion, by a panel chaired by Valerie Fourneyron, Chair of the ITA. The panel will include members of the Pre-Games Testing Task Force: one appointed by WADA, one by the DFSU and one by the IOC, Dr Richard Budgett.
  - This panel will be guided in its decisions by the following principles:

1. It can only consider athletes who have qualified according to the qualification standards of their respective sport.

2. Athletes must be considered clean to the satisfaction of this panel:

Athletes must not have been disqualified or declared ineligible for any Anti-Doping Rule Violation.

Athletes must have undergone all the pre-Games targeted tests recommended by the Pre-Games Testing Task Force.

Athletes must have undergone any other testing requirements specified by the panel to ensure a level playing field.

The IOC, at its absolute discretion, will ultimately determine the athletes to be invited from the list.

3. These invited athletes will participate, be it in individual or team competitions, in the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018 under the name “Olympic Athlete from Russia (OAR)”. They will compete with a uniform bearing this name and under the Olympic Flag. The Olympic Anthem will be played in any ceremony.

4. These invited athletes will enjoy the same technical and logistical support as any other Olympic athlete.

5. The panel, at its absolute discretion, will determine an invitation list for support staff and officials.

6. This panel will be guided in its decisions by the following principles:

- No member of the leadership of the Russian Olympic Team at the Olympic Winter Games Sochi 2014 can be included on the invitation list.

- No coach or medical doctor whose athlete has been found to have committed an Anti-Doping Rule Violation can be included on the invitation list. All coaches and medical doctors included on the invitation list must sign a declaration to this effect.

- Any other requirement considered necessary to protect the integrity of the Olympic Games.

7. The IOC, at its absolute discretion, will ultimately determine the support staff and officials to be invited from the list.

IOC President Thomas Bach said: “This was an unprecedented attack on the integrity of the Olympic Games and sport. The IOC EB, after following due process, has issued proportional sanctions for this systemic manipulation while protecting the clean athletes. This should draw a line under this damaging episode and serve as a catalyst for a more effective anti-doping system led by WADA.”

He continued: “As an athlete myself, I feel very sorry for all the clean athletes from all NOCs who are suffering from this manipulation.

Working with the IOC Athletes’ Commission, we will now look for opportunities to make up for the moments they have missed on the finish line or on the podium.”



## International seminar in Portugal

# WHO MANIPULATES SPORTS RESULTS?

The “Match Fixing – Manipulation of Sports Results” seminar was held in the conference hall of the Olympic Committee of Portugal, organized by the Panathlon Club of Lisbon, an event attended by specialists in various areas and also by an interested audience filling the hall completely.

The seminar, recognized by the Portuguese Institute of Sports and Youth and by the Ministry of Education to obtain credits for the certification of coaches and for the continuous training of professors, had the aim of knowing, in more detail, a reality which, due to corruption, manipulation and determination of sporting results, threatens good practice and sporting truth, and also offers sporting operators the practical means to identify and combat the phenomenon.

Manuel Brito, president of the Panathlon Club of Lisbon, welcomed those present, congratulated the City Council of Lisbon for the choice of the city as the European Capital of Sport 2021 and explained the reasons for the realization of this seminar, given the need for a “rigorous scrutiny of sporting practices” to prevent the growth of corruption and match fixing. Subsequently, the President of the Executive Committee of the Portuguese Olympic Committee (POC), José Manuel Constantino, as host, recalled that the POC in collaboration with the Panathlon Club develops actions in favour of sports ethics, such as this seminar and supports its Sports Integrity Program.

The deputy mayor of the Municipal Council of Lisbon and head of Sport, Duarte Cordeiro, underlined the fact that Lisbon “is at the centre of international interest for Sport” by virtue of the choice of the same as European Capital of Sport 2021, “appointment that it is due to previous municipal councillors of this sector, like Manuel Brito”, who thanked. According to the deputy mayor “we won thanks to all the sports agents of the city”, which contribute to making Lisbon “a city that today lives the sport in all its aspects, from the informal and amateur to the highly competitive.”

The Secretary of State of the Institute of Sports and

Youth, João Rebelo, recalling that the manipulation of results is a fact as old as the Olympic Games themselves, he warned that today match fixing is “an activity of criminal organizations, which generates corruption and money laundering “and it is urgent” to reduce the scope of manipulators “.

To this end, the head of government referred to the initiatives developed by the Portuguese Institute of Sports and Youth for the “promotion of ethical values”, to the POC Program of Sports Integrity and “this seminar that contributes to the prevention of such practices” through awareness-building. João Paulo Rebelo stressed that Portugal “criminalizes behaviour that can alter sports truth” and that there is a “good regulation of sports betting”, but acknowledged that it is difficult to combat manipulation that acts without a territorial base, especially the one that starts from abroad and the online one, so “the path to follow passes from the field of national and international cooperation”, recalling that Portugal has joined the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Results.

Even before the start of communications of invited lecturers, as speakers at the seminar, presented by Carlos Lopes Ribeiro, member of the PCL management and coordinator of the seminar, Pierre Zappelli, International President of Panathlon International, thanked for the invitation to participate and expressed that he was very impressed with the organization of the initiative.

Later, in the closing speech of the seminar, we talked about how the value of fair play is the same as the ethical action, culture and friendship of this Panathletic movement (based in Rapallo, Genoa and founded in Venice in 1951 and, since 1981, the only movement that collaborates with the International Olympic Committee for the realization of actions).

For Zappelli, who announced the creation of an edition of the magazine of the movement in Portuguese, education and information are Panathlon instruments for the affirmation of fair play, “the raison d’être of our movement”.

The first session of the seminar began with the spe-

ech by José Fanha Vieira, a specialist in Sports Law, who defended the self-regulation of sports agents to protect themselves from manipulation. Subsequently, Alexandre Mestre, specialized in European Sports Law and former Secretary of State of this sector, expressed several considerations on the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Results. Joaquim Evangelista, president of the Union of Professional Soccer Players, stressed that the vulnerable socio-economic situation of athletes can weaken their resistance to acts of corruption and determination of results.

Finally, and before the highly participated debates of the first session, Luís Ribeiro, inspector of the Judicial Police who coordinated the investigation of the “Jogo Duplo (Double Play)” case, explained to the audience the various illegal and/or illegitimate processes used by the criminal organizations to alter sports truth.

In the afternoon session, before the final intervention of the International President of Panathlon International (also in his capacity as referee) Pierre Zappelli, and of the president of the Panathlon Club of Lisbon, Manuel Brito, also Diogo Guia spoke, director of Public Sports Policies of the International

Centre for Sport Security (Brussels and Lisbon) who defended the deepening and improvement of a communication platform between all sports agents and bodies involved in the fight against the manipulation of sports results. Subsequently, João Paulo Almeida spoke, Director General of the Olympic Committee of Portugal, who participated in commissions of the International Olympic Committee, the Council of Europe, the European Union and the United Nations, who outlined an overview of the operation of the illicit betting world and its relationship with the determination of sports results.

## Assigned the task to Mastro7 of Trento One supplier for all gadgets

Panathlon International has approved the assignment of the official supplier mandate to the MASTRO 7 company of Trento, at the conclusion of the evaluations followed by the call for proposals, launched months ago and open to all interested operators.

The basic condition of the announcement was to assign the whole offer of objects to a single company in order to facilitate orders from the clubs and other panathletic organizations interested in these supplies. The big advantage is to have only one shipment for different types of objects.

The company Mastro 7 of Trento has a history of almost half a century of activity, in Italy and in Europe, such as goldsmiths, jewelry, creation of personalized trophies, objects for awards of all kinds, cups, plates and original creations on innovative and original materials. The owner, Settimo Tamanini, is also a renowned sculptor of large copper works.

Orders are placed through the Panathlon International online shopping section ([www.panathlon-international.org](http://www.panathlon-international.org)) which will direct them to the Dealer's website. Individual clubs will have direct access to the order of institutional products.

The same clubs can view the Mastro7 catalog by going to the website at the address specified below.

Coordinates of MASTRO7:

Tel. 0461-945354 fax 0461-944607  
E-mail: [info@mastro7.it](mailto:info@mastro7.it)  
[www.mastro7.it](http://www.mastro7.it)

Via della Ceriola, 9  
38123 TRENTO Italy  
PI: 00411630221

Against sexual abuse in sport

# THE COURAGE TO DENOUNCE

by Angelo Porcaro  
Past President Club di Pavia

It is too bad to feel that in the world of sport, there are the orcs that threaten our children and it's shocking to discover sexual abuse in environments where we believe to excel absolute security and the most correct ethics.

We entrust young people with total trust to sports, to keep them safe, to make them grow healthy, with authentic values.

Abuses represent the most sinister betrayal one can imagine and unfortunately, they are a reality all over the world: the orcs are among us, in America, in England, in Italy, in Pavia and perhaps until now we have not done enough to identify them and fight them.

This is a big problem.

A problem that we do not feel in our clubs because we are used to rewarding rather than punishing. We are those who propagate respect for rules and good behaviour and we do not worry too much, about what happens behind the scenes instead.

Past President Giacomo Santini, in a not too distant time, had tried to focus attention on wrong behaviour by inventing the NO FAIR PLAY award but it was not understood.

The clubs preferred to continue rewarding good people rather than discussing of problems that, deep down, undermine the reliability of sporting activity.

Moreover, while being psychologically understandable that our members, healthy, enthusiastic and honest people try to shield themselves from the scandals that follow each other, today, however, we have to get out of this state of partial blindness not to give anyone the impression that under this reaction there is another one that is much more corporate and cynical, the fear that young people and their families move away from the various disciplines for this reason.

The first mistake, faced with these misdeeds, is to

hide behind this phrase "these things do not happen with us", which seems pure indifference especially if we do nothing to become aware of any cases of abuse that occur in the most diverse environments and disciplines.

## **What to do**

First of all, you should break the taboo that surrounds the issue and make better known where you can turn for help and how to act in concrete cases of abuse by addressing criminal justice and not the sports one.

Then it is necessary to add to the Charter of duties of parents a codicil in which, at this moment of awareness of the extension of the phenomenon, a more participated attention to the sporting environment that their children attend is asked.

A little less privacy, in these cases, and a little more vigilance. Finally, a long-term prevention work must take place in universities where instructors and coaches should not only be required to prepare a technical preparation, but a real ethical "degree" deriving from courses attended and precise instructions received.

No more "Do it yourself" coaching!

And lastly, try to help create an organism, at least a provincial authority, which includes investigating authorities, psychologists, law enforcement agencies and sports managers who are able to evaluate and sanction any case that appears on the horizon and that it has a yellow number to which the victims can address.



# Money mortifies sport

by Gianni Carnevale  
Club di Bra

*The articles on football and its economic contradictions and those on its fans have caused a constructive debate among many members. Some have limited themselves to phone calls of solidarity inspired by the ironic tone of the question whether football is still a sport or rather it is a commercial enterprise.*

*Also on the subject of racist and xenophobic excesses, many have confirmed the line of rejection and the need to batten down the hatches. If someone wants to add more organic considerations, just send an article to the following e-mail address: [past-president@panathlon.net](mailto:past-president@panathlon.net). Among the reactions is particularly heartfelt that of a member of the Club Bra that we publish in full:*

Dear Past President,

On our magazine, we still talk about football and sport. Personally, the recent fact that Italy has been excluded from the football world championships has left me completely indifferent, because I do not consider football a sport.

If I am not mistaken, today the biggest football clubs are public limited companies, commercial companies. What is the purpose of the PLC? Make profits and remunerate the invested capital. Certainly not promoting sport. To organize shows so that the pushovers go to see them and pay the ticket to make profits. Is this sport?

We must start from this consideration: what is sport? Sport means offering physical performance, or with mechanical means or with comparable personal or team resources, measurable with a stopwatch or with other evaluation criteria, scores, number of goals or baskets. To improve performance you need training, continuous improvement. If you dedicate yourself exclusively you get into professionalism, and then you have to be remunerated.

We return to the Decubertian vision of amateurism in the Olympics.

Do you remember when the Russian athletes were criticized for being colonels of the Red Army?

Many followed that route; today our skiers are all carabinieri, members of the State Forestry Corps, revenue officers or police officers.

The drivers of the motor racing competitions are all professionals paid for their greater or lesser abilities. Football is also this with a greater one visibility for its greater diffusion, at least here in Italy and in Europe.

In addition, when money comes into the sport, you know how it starts but you do not know how to end it. Sport becomes a spectacle; investments are needed to attract paying spectators and so on.

You go back to the starting question: is football a sport or a commercial activity?

If a PLC manages it, as well as Formula 1 is a commercial activity, there is no doubt.

Then, in order for it to become a sport, do we have to go back to amateurism?

I think it is impossible, so let us resign ourselves.

Cordially

# Videogames as Olympic sports?

At the last IOC summit in Lausanne, there was a historic opening towards e-sports. In other words, competitive videogames. For the first time, the International Olympic Committee officially supports that video games can be considered real competitive disciplines, and therefore “a sporting activity”. To be fully recognized, they will have to respect the Olympic values and equip themselves with facilities for doping control and the repression of bets. The news has caused a fuss in the traditional sports federations and also in the ranks of Panathlon International. Many members intervened and asked to open a debate to know the position of the movement or at least the majority of its members.

## IOC official statement

### The development of “e-Sport”

The Olympic Summit eventually discussed the rapid development of what are called “eSports”, and the current involvement of various Olympic Movement stakeholders.

The Summit agreed that:

- “eSports” are showing strong growth, especially within the youth demographic across different countries, and can provide a platform for engagement with the Olympic Movement.
- Competitive “eSports” could be considered as a sporting activity, and the players involved prepare and train with an intensity which may be comparable to athletes in traditional sports.
- In order to be recognised by the IOC as a sport, the content of “eSports” must not infringe on the Olympic values.
- A further requirement for recognition by the IOC must be the existence of an organisation guaranteeing compliance with the rules and regulations of the Olympic Movement (anti-doping, betting, manipulation, etc.).

The Summit asked the IOC together with the general Assembly of International Sports Federations -GAISF, in a dialogue with the gaming industry and players to explore this area further and to come back to the Olympic Movement stakeholders in due course.



# e-Sports: a phenomenon on which we must reflect

by Maurizio Monego  
Past President of the Cultural and Scientific  
Commission

## News that creates a debate

The theme proposed by Panathlon International to the discussion among the panathletes is the most delicate and demanding. Delicate because there is a high risk that we tend to simply and uncritically oppose a wall to the hypotheses that we make to introduce eSports in the program of the Olympic Games, after the recent recognition of the IOC of eSports as a sporting discipline. (See Box) Challenging, because it asks its members, in the vast majority not very accustomed to the use of joysticks, consoles and all the devilries that the world of video games includes, to express themselves on a phenomenon that is complex from the social, economic and ethical point of view. The greatest effort consists in comparing a proposal that for many people creates confusion, with the principles of Olympism and the model of the modern Olympic Games, without falling into cynicism or skepticism.

## The proposal

Those who follow a bit, the evolution of the computer world if only for social aspects and research and technological innovation, know that the request to access **the Olympic Games is not new. In December 2014, Rob Pardo, one of the creators of World of Warcraft, a massively multiplayer role-playing game, claimed that the initiative was born in compliance with the two fundamental characteristics to aspire to be a recognized sport: the physical exercise required to competitive players of electronic sports and the number of spectators and participants in the various tournaments.**

**Tony Estanguet, co-chairman of the Paris candidature committee, proposed eSports' demonstration participation in the Games program in France, stating - as Bryan Armen Graham wrote on 9 August 2017 on the Guardian - "We must look at this possibility; we cannot say no a priori, it does not concern us, it is not about the Olympics. Young people are interested in e-sports and this kind of thing. Let us take a look at this world. Let us meet them. Let us try to see if we can find bridges. I think it is interesting to interact with the IOC, with them, the eSports family, to better understand what the phenomenon is and why it is so successful." To read the IOC's "release", which recognizes eSports as a sports activity, it seems that this takes time by requiring "the creation**

**of an organization (read Federation) that guarantees compliance with the rules and norms of the Olympic Movement (anti- doping, betting, manipulation, etc.)."**

## Arguments against and in favor

**- The characteristics that define the Sport are fun, movement, competition. Electronic games, which for many hours keep players locked in front of screens and controllers, compulsively engaged only in the use of the fingers, are lacking in "movement". Therefore, they cannot be classified as a sport, even if the recognition of the IOC overcomes this challenge.**

*In reality, as the IOC press release recognizes, "the players involved [at the professional level] prepare and train with an intensity that can be compared to that of athletes of traditional sports". For e-Sports professionals you need 3 to 4 hours of training every day - which increase in view of important competitions -, you have to study your opponent, to implement strategies and to be able to deal with difficult situations with unforeseen circumstances that do not you can manage. This is why they resort to mental coaches and have to relieve stress at the gym.*

**- The Olympic movement and all the educational agencies in the field of sport, and not only, lead the fight against a sedentary lifestyle as a commitment undertaken in all international forums, including the UN. The decision taken by a majority of the main representatives of the IOC seems paradoxical.**

*The mistake that is made is to compare the electronic games that we see used by children and grandchildren - and that we judge waste of time or dangerous precursors of pathological gambling - with the activity of professional players. It would be like putting on the same level Cristiano Ronaldo and a child who plays at the park just because they both use a ball. There are also disciplines such as chess, recognized as a sport of the mind. The Chess Olympics took place every two years. In history, they have often played in the context of Olympic Games editions. Up until 2004, there were also the Bridge Olympics, now World Mind Sports Games. No one has ever thought of criticizing these disciplines, for example, of encouraging sedentariness.*

**- The IOC would be wrong to support a phenomenon like that of eSports. It would be the demonstra-**



tion that the main interest is turned to the business rather than to the formative value of the sport. It also seems difficult to resolve the consistency of eSports with the principles of Olympism such as equal opportunities, fair play and compliance with the rules for the fight against doping, betting and manipulation.

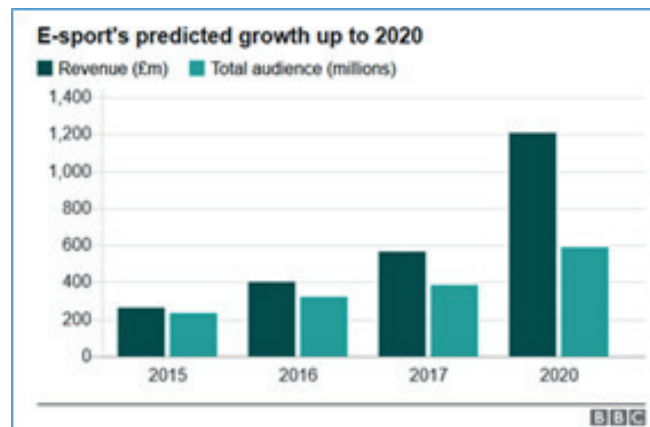
That the business has a great weight is unquestionable. Some of the main sponsors of the Olympic Games - significantly present at the meeting on 28 October in Lausanne - are interested in increasingly enriching the range of disciplines included in the Games. The volume of investments in the eSports sector has reached important levels in a short time and the trend seems unstoppable. The BBC has published a graph of growth forecast for the eSports phenomenon in terms of revenue and audience: from £ 400 million (about € 450 million) and from the 360 million people concerned in 2016, it should reach £ 1,200 million (about € 1,353 million at current value) and reach € 600 million for the audience rate in 2020. The Baird Equity Research Center, cited by "La Gazzetta dello Sport", estimates revenue in 2018 for the eSports of around one billion US dollars and an audience of almost 500 million viewers. Among the video games, there are not only those violent or demented as "Dota 2". A wide sector concerns those of a sports type. Keep in mind that football clubs, in Europe, now also in Italy as happens for example at Sampdoria or Rome, recruit virtual ball gamers. There are Italian Championships and there is also a World Championship. This type of video game will be part, for demonstration purposes, of the Asian Games 2018 in Indonesia and will be in effect a discipline in the Asian Games of 2022 in China. In this country, Mr. Tencent, a great Chinese internet manager, is the owner of the "League of Legend" game. A video streaming company, BAMTech, in which Disney has also recently



entered, paid in 2016 the sum of 300 million dollars for the rights of streaming of the tournaments of that game until 2023. Amazon bought the Twitch in 2014, an online platform that deals with eSports, for almost one billion. As regards the issue of eSports regulation, various organizations are active in the United States. The Manhattan-based Electronic Gaming Federation is one of the groups fighting for leadership roles in colleges. "Its real goal - the New York Times writes - is to organize a kind

of N.C.A.A. for eSports. The N.C.A.A. (National Collegiate Athletic Association) is the largest university sports organization in the world, with approx. 1200 institutions grouped into leagues, organizations and individuals, which manage sports programs in colleges and universities. The only organization that preserves amateurism as a fundamental and inalienable principle. A young man who aspires to enter an American university with a scholarship to become part of a team may never have been hired by professional clubs in any of the many sports present in N.C.A.A. One of its representatives said that discussions were held on the topic and that the eSports world is being monitored to gain more knowledge. Perhaps it will have to decide soon, because many groups are gearing up to fill the void. In a year, for example, the National Association of Collegiate eSports (N.A.C.E.) has set up a consortium of universities, to which 42 members already belong, to develop programs and establish basic rules. In Italy, GEC, the Competitive Electronic Games sector, has been working for some years. It is part of the ASI (Italian Sports and Social Associations), a sports promotion body recognized by CONI. As you can see, "cyber sports" are taking important steps on the road to inclusion in the Olympic Games. Those that today seem difficulties will perhaps be overcome in a shorter time than one imagines.

#### - How is it possible to guarantee anti-doping con-



trol and manipulation for virtual disciplines such as video games that take place both offline and online?

Already in July 2015, the Electronic Sports League (ESL), the world's largest eSports organization (5 million members, over 1 million teams) announced its plans, following the ongoing collaboration with NADA, the German national anti-doping agency, to "create an anti-PED policy (the abbreviation stands for Performance Enhancing Drugs) that is fair, feasible and conclusive while respecting the privacy of the players. It will also provide WADA with assistance for the creation, application and dissemination of policy in the United States, Asia and Australia. In March 2015 the best of the players who had competed for \$ 250,000 in prize money, a professional "global offensive player", had admitted the use of Adderall, a compound of mixed amphetamine salts, used in cases of attention-deficit-disorder and hyperactivity. The substan-

ce was used illegally as a “cognitive enhancer” during the “ESL One Katowice” competition in Poland. The problems of contrast to doping are not different from those of other sports. ESL spokesperson said: “PEDs are a topic we are discussing at an organizational level and will be one of those we need to involve industry in the future to maintain the integrity of our sport”.

**- The IOC cherishes young people. In this sense, starting from the advent of the new century, it has changed a lot its agenda, introducing sports that once did not exist in the Olympic program. We can say that in general these new sports maintain characteristics that can be traced back to the Olympic values: friendship, fun, and respect for opponents, excellence, and solidarity. It does not seem that eSports - at least as we know them - can transmit these values.**

In this regard a possible answer is in some passages of the article - appeared on the Republic with the title “Five circles and a joystick” - by Andy Miah, philosopher, bioethicist, professor at the University of Salford (Manchester), journalist, focused on technology and on how humanity deals with change within society. Regarding the “approach of eSports to the inclusion of the Olympic disciplines” he writes that an element inherent to the Olympic movement is that “nothing is static in sport, the place in the program is not guaranteed to any discipline and new activities can be added without too many problems, as long as the movement recognizes a “value” to these new activities ». Just think of the sports included in the last five Olympics to agree with it.

We could also add the creation of the Youth Olympic Games, both in summer and in winter, where some games are inserted that are not in the repertoire of traditional sports. The word on which to focus attention is “value”. That for the panathletes may be the litmus test to challenge the proposal. The competitive video game has commercial value, as we have seen. It also has a “cultural” value, as the eSports disciplines are establishing themselves as “the sport of our time”. “Today, video games are rapidly becoming something very closely associated with physical activity. Just think of applications like “Zombies Run” - a software for mobile devices that during a common running session projects the user into a story in which he has a role to play, a mission to complete - to understand how eSports will inevitably end up finding common ground with traditional sporting activities.”

## A change of culture

With the acceleration that all human activities know, and sport in particular, the IOC has made the Olympics a global media tool, a container in which converts any sport that has a strong financial and economic impact and involves masses of practitioners and users. It must keep up with the transformations of the behavior of society. It takes nothing to be bypassed by sectoral organizations, capable of creating worldwide events. See the Asian

Games, for some time protagonists of pressure towards the reception of non-traditional sports, but able to meet the needs of the market, they can count on huge numbers of populations. These phenomena indicate a change of epochal culture. Professionals make today’s sport, it is a job, and even in work one can and must pursue excellence and keep up with the market and the culture of time.

The IOC’s major concern in recent years is, Miah writes, “to stay connected with the youth of the planet”. “The future inclusion of eSports will surpass current industry standards and will create new communities of people dedicated to physical activity, digital innovation and participatory multimedia experiences.” It is easy to foresee that the computer games that we will see in future Olympic programs “will also include examples of virtual reality sports or traditional sports that bring within them the social media communities and the community of fitness applications. A fusion that will precede another transition: from a world in which viewers simply watch and consume, to the one in which they will also be able to interact with what happens on the playing field “.

## In conclusion

We are witnessing the redefinition of the concept of sport, as we have so far understood it. It would be a pity that Panathlon would be perched on rearguard positions. As it often did, it should anticipate the issues to be addressed to safeguard the ideals and values it has in its nature and own statute. We must not “assist” but be part of the change. Technologies are not our field.

Our task is to watch. To be vigilant, it is necessary to know and free ourselves from prejudices. It is therefore necessary to intensify cultural activity so that the humanism that we want to affirm does not have to become post-humanism without us realizing it.



Word of pedagogue and sportsman

# It is not sport, on the contrary...

by Renato Zanovello  
President emeritus Club Padua  
University professor of Mathematical Science

In the reductive and misleading hypothesis that sport, besides being fun for its etymological meaning, is understood only as a complex of manifestations especially competitive, perhaps with many spectators, also practiced by default in compliance with certain rules, the majority of the members of the IOC have been tempted to include videogames (astutely called e-sport) among the Olympic sports disciplines, officially recognized.

On the other hand, if sport, as the encyclopaedic Dictionaries refer to in the definition, obviously shared by me, necessarily also includes an activity aimed at satisfactorily developing the human being from the physical and psychic point of view, then all this gives rise to many perplexities and contrarities. One for all, the champion of swimming Francesca Pellegrini, reveals her opposition, stating that sport implies a real physical effort.

Some researchers, entrepreneurs and sponsors, among whom Rob Pardo, under the pressure of strong business interests and visibility, have supported the opportunity for the inclusion of videogames in the Olympic sports, referring above all to the "exergames", considered, compared to traditional videogames, as a combination of the videogame dimension with physical exercise.

According to an accurate analysis carried out in 2017 by Newzoo, there is a whirling business, given that the turnover of the same year reaches almost 700 million dollars, with a growth forecast of one and a half billion by 2020.

However, many scholars, doctors and educators have revealed significant limitations, with very important negative aspects in the use of all video games by people, especially the many young adepts.

Their widespread distribution is due to the fact that they are used as a baby-sitter to entertain children when their parents are occupied by work or worried about keeping them at home, under control or for fear that, the games in the open air can cause the occurrence of some accident, even a simple cold.

In any case, video games, including exergames, cannot

provide the dose of physical activity recommended by specialists, but, on the contrary, can become a source of alienation, contribute to obesity, stress often compensated by further food intake, states of insomnia or restless sleep, the weakening of the muscles that becomes less reactive.

A new, very recent study done in Iowa State University by a team of researchers led by D. Gentile, in collaboration with colleagues from Singapore and Hong Kong, has analysed the condition of 3000 boys, fans of video games, defining even as pathological 300 boys, having manifested worrying depressive symptoms, anxiety and disturbances of sociability.

In addition, the American boys classified as "addicted to video games" showed a worse academic performance and bad relationships with others, compared to their normal peers.

At this point, a motivated rethinking by the IOC would be highly desirable, even to dispel any doubt that the recognition of video games as Olympic sports is dictated by the prevailing of attractive financial perspectives on all the fundamental ethical-cultural-social aspects, present in a context of healthy realism.



# On the contrary, as a sports teacher, I do not refuse and I will explain why

by Livio Guidolin  
Panathlete and Sports Teacher

The Olympiad, in its Greek expression, was born with a series of races that closely resembled the gestures and the work that the man performed in his activity as a farmer and shepherd.

In a few years (Olympic cycles), the competitions were schematized to resemble some of the races that are also present in the Olympic Games. The races are the mirror, the testimony, and the immaterial document of human development in whose time they belong.

In fact, over time the program of the Olympic Games has been enriched by many races that have always reflected and still reflect the historical moment, the civilization experienced. Today we are in a period of transition, a period in which the human machine is subject to tremendous stress, and is seeking a "humanistic consistency" to balance unstoppable progress with an indispensable philosophical balance.

Perhaps the humanization of what is mechanical, of the incorporeal, of the abstract, the virtual goes through the e-games, experienced as a sport, which we know gives pride and joy to practitioners much more than pleasure to those who assist.

For us that "we assist" the prerogatives of the current Olympic Sports, they are Movement (little or much), strength, speed, resistance, and coordination. However, these qualities are not necessarily all present at the same time.

If we analyze the qualities required by e-games, we find:

## **Movement: undoubtedly little**

- Strength: not required
- Speed (manual): so much
- Manual oculus coordination: a lot
- Response times: extremely rapid
- Resistance in paying attention: very much
- Resistance in reaction times: a lot
- Game strategy: very high

We cannot deny that e-games require, if not all, many and very high qualities, typical of classic sports.

So we will have to ask the question "Is it right to stop the evolution in sport?" when everything around it becomes virtual, is it lived as a video game, from the crypto currency to the cyber war?

In deepening the theme of e-games I made other considerations:

1. Given that sport as human activity is identified with the characteristics of each epoch, in response to the conditions in which human beings live: fight against nature and other humans, in response to the irrepressible need for survival.
2. Considering that after the qualities of strength, speed and resistance required at the beginning, more elaborate manual skills and a cerebral development followed.
3. Family relationships began to be more important, it is believed that the first entertainment, amusement, would appear at the same time. It is considered that these "diversions" have evolved into simple games. The disputes that undoubtedly followed the "games" gave life to the first "rules". Games and rules are considered the precursors of competitions, therefore of competitiveness and sport.

This reconstruction leads to the following sequence:

**Fun > leisure > game > rules > competition > sport.**

In addition, if the sequence started with:

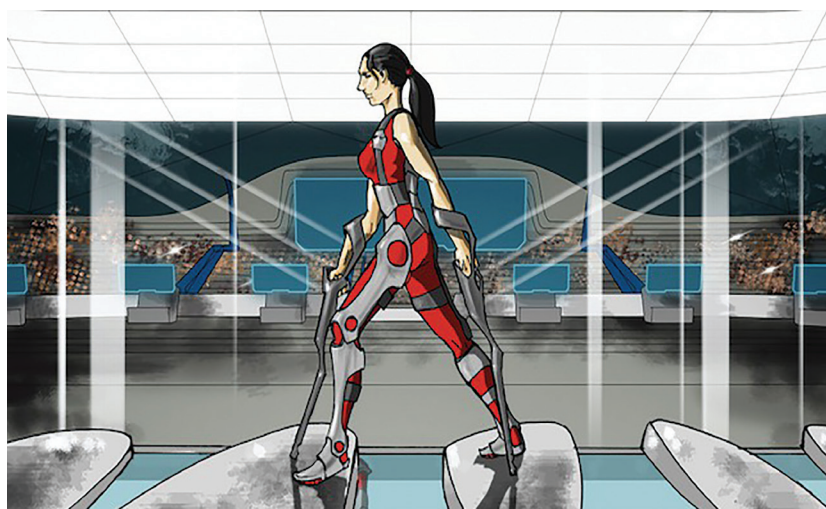
Competition > competitiveness?

In fact, all of us are the result of a great competence, of real competitiveness: thousands of spermatozoa fight for one egg cell.

Perhaps we could open a philosophical / sports debate, never imagined.

# Cyber-athletes and Olympic values

by Stefano Giulieri  
President of Panathlon Club Lugano



Wikipedia describes the word sport as an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment.

Is it possible to insert videogames in this description? In fact, one could even answer affirmatively, even if my image of sport is not identified in this vision.

The discussion is open and surely, we will talk about it a lot.

Meanwhile, it is known the decision made in Asia according to which sports video games will be a demonstration sport at the Asian Games in Indonesia in 2018 and they will be a full discipline in the Asian Games of 2022 in China.

The organizers of Paris 2024 had already spoken about their hypothetical future at the Olympics before the official assignment of this edition of the Games, which the French capital then obtained. Subsequently, recent history, in the October 2017 summit of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Lausanne, there was a historic opening towards e-sports.

The IOC recognizes that video games can be a sport:

players must prepare with intensity comparable to that of the athletes of traditional sports.

After twenty years from the birth, the competition video games get a great international recognition.

The step for the Olympics to welcome the national teams of this new sport, however, are still fraught with difficulties. Cyber-sportsmen must have full respect for the Olympic values.

In defense of e-sports, we must consider that in fact it is an activity (sport?) followed by millions of people, constantly growing and with a huge turnover. Surely also from this fact came a first opening of the IOC to this new discipline.

The news has raised a real fuss in the traditional sports federations, and not only. Even within Panathlon International, the theme is the subject of profound reflections.

Personally, I am anchored to sport as a psycho-physical activity, an activity in which physical training prevails sharply and which allows a healthy harmony for a healthy management of one's body and one's life.

# E-Games:

## *Moods, reactions and much more...*

### **NOW THE TRUMP OLYMPICS!**

I am absolutely against this opening. What do we find of sport in sitting in front of a TV screen to press the keys? Moreover, in a subliminal way the message that is transmitted to our kids is that going an hour into the football field, an athletics track, or staying in front of the game console are almost equivalent activities.

I consider it a highly inappropriate message.

Why this choice? For economic interests?

When the Olympics of trump, "tressette", gin rummy, poker, etc. Cordial greetings.

**Alberto Tramonte - Panathlon Club del Garda**

### **BUT WE SCOLD OUR CHILDREN!**

"Just stop being always on those games!"

The mother screams to her son. "You've been there for two hours. When do you start doing your homework? The mother who tells her husband: "Do you say anything to your son? He is locked in that room for hours playing with the PlayStation". "Instead of being on those indoor games, why do not you go out or play sports? See what a beautiful sunny day. "Good work and may good sense prevail.

**Giovanni Sandonà - Panathlon Club Padua**

### **IT IS A ROBOT DISCIPLINE**

E-sport cannot be considered as an Olympic discipline as long as it does not correspond to a sporting ideal, but to considerations that have no real human value. We could therefore also imagine sports disciplines contested by robots from artificial intelligence. Dangerous.

**Pierre Nusslé - Journalist**

### **ALSO THE PRESTIGE GAMES AT THE OLYMPICS!**

Videogames at the Olympics? OK, but, then, also games with cards and / or chess, games of prestige, games of poetic and / or musical composition, mathematics, various sciences, etc. Beyond any joke (if it is), I think that, as for the bridge or chess championships, it is preferable that many activities, marvelous, but difficult to be attributed to the contemporary and coordinated commitment of mind, soul and body, which I

believe is the connotation of a sport, have their competitive outburst in competitions or games reserved for them and named.

**Alberto Frigo - Past President Panathlon Club Vicenza**

### **I DID EIGHT OLYMPICS: THEY ARE SOMETHING ELSE...**

I fully agree with President IOC Thomas Bach: videogames have no physical performance, and cannot be considered a sport. I participated in nine Olympic Sailing Games, from 1948 to 1992, both as an athlete and as an international judge; I therefore think I have sufficient experience to express my vote against the recognition of video games such as Olympic discipline.

**Carlo Rolandi, Honorary President of the Italian Federation of Sailing**

### **WHAT WOULD DE COUBERTIN SAY?**

I consider it a miserable intrigue, behind which pure commercial interests are hidden, considering that the multinationals of the game are real economic powers. De Coubertin will be turning in his grave...

Much better to enlarge the audience to chess, checkers and trump.

**Antonio Rinetti - Panathlon Club Asti**

### **WHERE ARE THEY: "MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO?"**

The possible opening to the "e-sports", for some time, has also caused discussions among Panathletes like us, perhaps nostalgic lovers of "real sport". Our motto is "Ludis lungit", our values are ethics and fair play, we have grown with respect for the athletic gesture in single and team sports, so how do we place ourselves before "e-sports?" In my opinion, we must ask ourselves some questions that can be talked about by a single result. Is the ability in video games a sporting skill? This is the first Hamlet doubt. We have always talked about avoiding the "dependence" of our children from computers that increasingly alienate the human interpersonal relationship, creating a virtual relationship that pushes towards loneliness, for which we are bound to the screen and the mouse. Obviously, someone can argue that in electronic games the meritocracy allows





the victory to those who are better. However, how is today the “Mens sana in corpore sano?” Certainly some events of sporting offenses, can make object on this axiom, but we must remember that despite errors that can be done, the actor is always the man, who to become an athlete had to form with sacrifices of years supported primarily by parents, and Panathlon knows this well, and later by coaches and managers who led him in his sports training. Therefore, what is all this about in electronic games? Maybe nothing. However, an objection to these observations can be made, because there are sports where the athletic gesture does not predominate, but the skill, such as motor racing, motorboat racing etc., where despite it may, but not necessarily a basic athletic preparation, it is not with our body that one competes, but with the ability to lead a vehicle. In fact, these sports, in themselves appreciable, have different paths. Perhaps this could be the key to reading “e-sports”, as an activity, where you can compete, but certainly, not as sports recognized by the IOC... We could conclude by saying that those who practice this activity could also be considered a sportsman, but certainly not an “ATHLETE” therefore...

**Francesco Schillirò - Panathlon President Club Napoli**

### **I TEACH PHYSICAL EDUCATION: E-GAMES ARE A DAMAGE**

As a teacher of Sports Science in High Schools, I believe that the admission of videogames to the Olympics is truly harmful for many individuals. More and more often, there are major problems of hypokinesia with teenagers who can barely run and perform minimal motor gestures, with consequences that are certainly disastrous for health. Many other sports should be admitted to the Olympics: the Tchoukball, the Ball tambourine... The admission of video games to the Olympics, could ‘justify’ a series of behaviors among adolescents that would damage them for their future psychophysical development.

**Prof. Brigidina Pepe**

### **WHY NOT CHESS?**

In my opinion, it is not sport in the noble sense of the word. Why wouldn't we incorporate chess?

**De Willy Monnin- Panathlon club des Montagnes Neu-châteloises CH**

### **A VIRTUAL SPORT CANNOT EXIST**

It seems completely deviant to think of a virtual sport. Sport implies physical presence, not just mental.

**Alfredo Redaelli**

### **MAYBE TOMORROW, BUT NOT TODAY**

Personally, I believe that sport should be seen as a physical-athletic activity, based on the commitment of an individual who carries out a task that engages him as a whole on his own or with an instrument. It can be a gun, a bow, a rod, the race rather than boxing. Video games are virtual games, and they are also called virtual games because they are not real! I do not know what virtual games have been intended at the Olympics, but car racing comes to mind, going off the road with a video game is not risking life as in reality. However, I do not know which games will be used. Dexterity and speed will certainly be the protagonists and they are important skills, but they have little to do with the traditional Olympic disciplines. However, the future is behind the doors, but those doors now, I still see them closed and not compatible with the spirit of a real Olympics. Maybe tomorrow the virtual Olympics will take place and then it will be something else.

**Benedetto Piccinini**

### **NOBLE SPORTS ARE ALREADY BEING MORTIFIED...**

Videogames at the Olympics: if this is sport ... The IOC claims that video games can be fully counted among the real competitive sports disciplines that could also be on show at the Olympics in a not too distant future; what to say?! For pseudo-needs of sponsors and spectacularization of the event we must sacrifice parts of noble disciplines, as in fencing, with curtailment of the historical program or forget full-fledged competitive sports as are all the disciplines of roller skating (figure skating, speed and hockey) and you want to insert sedentary play activities with consoles that already hold far away our kids from real physical activity. Without going into the merits of other problems with regard to manipulation and doping, this seems to me already sufficient to raise many doubts in this regard.

**Rainer Giampiero**

### **THOSE GAMES KILL FAIR PLAY**

The integration of e-sport as Olympic discipline seems to me totally contrary to the precepts that are applied in the spirit of the IOC, but also in those of Panathlon-Club International. Indeed, the practice of video games already tends to supplant that of physical sports with young people. It creates a stupidity of intellectual abilities by focusing the mind on violent practices, often unsavoury, or even anti-fair play. Video games are the virtual expression, but close to reality, of an internal violence that is released in the form of aggression towards its “adversary”, whether fictional or real. This state of mind seems to me to be incompatible with the

one we defend. In addition, we do not yet know very well the impact of videogames on health through prolonged youth activity in front of a screen.

Personally, I think that video games practiced as e-sports are also a form of doping of the mind that already creates some "damages" in the behaviour of our young people, this to the detriment of the traditional sport.

**Frank Ducret, Member of Panathlon Club Lausanne**

### **WILL THE STRONG POWERS WIN?**

The IOC's temptation to introduce more and more sports is well known, as are the attempts to assign the Olympics to strong powers (economically).

The temptation of business by many members of the IOC is equally strong and if the organizers of Paris 2024 had proved interested, it was only aimed at both tourism related to the Olympics and having Asian votes.

Sport is life, it is competitive, and it is a comparison with another man / woman and not with a video. It is also true that, in order not to exaggerate the comparison, it is said that it is also a game - especially at a youth

level, but sport is also a physical confrontation and moral elevation.

I am with IOC President Thomas Bach - No to Olympic Video Games!

We laugh at the Olympic Games what they are and if the Asians want to introduce video games in the Asian Games they are entitled to it, but the Olympics are quite another thing. If videogames came in, one day we would hear about card games and turn the Olympics into a business bandwagon, where instead of the Sports Arenas, we would find huge casinos.

Dubai would wait for them and Coca-Cola would sponsor them.

**Oronzo Amato**

## **June 12 will be Panathlon Day all over the world**

Panathlon Day was officially established.

The President's Committee, in its last meeting approved a proposal that emerged during the recent Pan-American Congress and relaunched by the District of Brazil to dedicate a celebratory day to the annual anniversary of the foundation of Panathlon.

On June 12 of each year, or on the immediately following Saturday, throughout the Panathletic world, various kinds of events will be organized to commemorate the day in which, in Venice, on June 12, 1951, Panathlon Italia was officially established that it would soon become International.

On the nature of the events to be organized Panathlon International will indicate three basic strands on which the initiative of members, clubs, areas, districts will be grafted according to their sensitivity and possibilities. As an example, a theme could be that of the congress, the second theme is the recommendation to involve schools and the disabled sector, the third to do everything to get visibility on the mass media.

The Cultural and Scientific Commission and the International Board, convened in Florence in June, will soon express themselves on the overall package of the proposal.



# They cause anxiety, depression and threaten mental health

by Eliane Cook  
President of the Cultural and Scientific Commission

My concerns regarding E-Sports (ES) are less related to the debate of whether they constitute real sports and as a result, deserve inclusion in the Olympic Games (OG), than they are related to the well documented harmful impact on the psycho-social well-being of both individuals and society.

Concerning children and youth:

Researchers have suggested that although children and youth (as well as adults) are more connected than ever, via technology, that they have poorer face-to-face communication skills (Center on Media and Child Health, 2015; Turkle, 2012). Compared to even a few years ago children and youth are less adept at: eye contact, reading body language and understanding spatial awareness, focus and perhaps most importantly, having conversations. Correlations have been made between these declining skills (due to social media and technology) and a lack of play, with increased rates of anxiety and depression in children and youth (Gray, 2010; Bedell, 2016).

Recent studies (Maras, Flament, Murray, Bucholz, Henderson, Obeid, & Goldfield, 2015) indicate, after controlling for age, sex, ethnicity, parental education, geography and physical activity and BMI, that duration of screen time is associated with severity of depression and anxiety in Canadian youth.

A recent longitudinal study from China (Wu, Tao, Zhang, Zhang, chen, Yang, Hao7 Tao, 2016) indicates that increase screen time is correlated with increased mental health problems including: anxiety, depression and psychopathological symptoms. A follow up study by different researchers confirmed these effects.

A recent publication (Carbonell, Guardiola, Gil, 7 Panova, 2016) examining the trends of scientific literature related to e-gaming and screen addiction found that the pathological use of communication technology (screens) is a growing phenomenon.

During the past two decades, the negative effects on psychological health of users is increasing at an alarming rate. These negative effects appear most commonly in male adolescents and young students

and common affects to addiction are: isolation, loss of control, mood modification, conflict, job loss, economic and academic failure and family problems.

Another national study (random selection) in the United States (Gentile, 2009) exploring pathological video game use amongst 8 -18 years olds indicates that approximately 8% of youth have a pathological addiction even after controlling for age, sex, and weekly hours of play. Pathological Gamers did poorer in school and indicated a comorbidity with attention deficit problems.

A 2 year longitudinal study in Singapore reports (confirms) that about of 9% of respondents had a pathological addiction and that greater amounts of gaming were correlated to lower social competence, great impulsivity as well as depression, anxiety and social phobias.

The recent addition of Internet Gaming Disorder (IGD) to section III of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders 5 Edition (DSM-5) emphasizes the relevance of this concern.

Contrary to the note provided by my fellow committee member Antonio Bramante's colleague, Dr. Gizele Schwartz, that

"All negative aspects of e-sports pointed out by different sources could also be applied to conventional sports, such as body adulteration to win at all cost, the use of drugs to implement the plasticity of body, even the hypervaluation of the competitive behavior."

I am not aware that any of these typically occurring concerns with high-compete/elite sports are included in the DSM-5, and are considered pathological.

Including ES in the OG will increase participation levels, especially of youth, and legitimize the amount of time youth spend on these activities, which is strongly correlated with serious mental health concerns.



# We need really special rules

by Antonio Bramante  
Member of the Cultural and Scientific Commission

Dr. Gisele Schwartz, Head of the Laboratory of Leisure Studies at the São Paulo State University, located at the Institute of Biosciences – Department of Physical Education, who have guided master and doctorate degree candidates in this subject.

First of all, she complimented Panathlon International for dealing with this important issue, that will continue to permeate all debates about sports in the present-future. For her, It is almost impossible to deny the importance of e-sports, with all kinds of pressure to be included in the Olympic Games under certain rules.

She is in favor of extensive debates about this issue considering several perspectives such as educational, cultural, economic and political domains. I would also include the ethical aspect, which is one of our major concerns (although this domain permeates all other, in my opinion).

These debates should consider both, positive and negative aspects of e-sports as well the traditional sports.

All negative aspects of e-sports pointed out by different sources could also be applied to conventional sports, such as body adulteration to win at all cost, the use of drugs to implement the plasticity of body, even the hypervaluation of the competitive behavior.

This phenomenon of e-sports should also be also viewed not only as a “fad” but, in light of scientific motricity research (some colleges in Brazil are using this term to substitute physical education and sports), as an aspect of social evolution.

Basic assumptions of conventional sports are the same of e-sports, within their own characteristics, thus they can be included in the Olympic Games in the future. Again, after an extended debate to minimize risks. These debates and strangeness are, practically, the same that involve virtual games as promoter of sedentary lifestyles, social isolation, etc.

Professor Schwartz does not seem to agree with these ideas since that we never had so much interaction and, in some cases, movement, depending on how these games are appropriated. We should be aware not to only to place emphasis on deviant aspects of these games and sports.

These issues should also be a subject of the management of these human experiences in order to change how their governance takes place. In the near future there shall be a group of new professionals who will be in charge of this field of practice and management, dealing with e-athletes, e-managers and all derived aspects such as e-marketing and e-suporters in the

social media.

I would finalize these arguments by saying that the IOC should consider the possibility to include e-sports, first, in the Youth Olympic Games in a medium-range term, which will aggregate even a larger support due to this age group, to then include e-sports in the Olympic Games in a long-range term.

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# What relationship with Olympism?

by Thierry Zintz  
Member of Cultural and Scientific Commission

## Contesto

In October 2017, the IOC agreed in a statement - after meeting with Olympic stakeholders in Lausanne - that esports is "showing strong growth, especially within the youth demographic across different countries".

It added that competitive esports could be considered as a sporting activity, and that the players involved may be comparable to athletes in traditional sports as they "prepare and train with an intensity".

The IOC also confirmed that any future inclusion in the Games would require official recognition of it as an Olympic sport and would also need a governing organization that would guarantee compliance "with the rules and regulations of the Olympic movement." A further requirement for its future inclusion would be compliance with the IOC's rules and regulations in areas such as anti-doping, betting and manipulation.

## Sport?

First we make a difference between esports where a reference is made to sport and E-Gaming where there is no reference to sport.

Second sport refers to the World Health Organisation's definition as it states that "physical activity is defined as any bodily movement produced by skeletal muscles that requires energy expenditure. Physical inactivity has been identified as the fourth leading risk factor for global mortality causing an estimated 3.2 million deaths globally. Regular moderate intensity physical activity – such as walking, cycling, or participating in sports – has significant benefits for health. For instance, it can reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, colon and breast cancer, and depression. Moreover adequate levels of physical activity will decrease the risk of a hip or vertebral fracture and help control weight"<sup>1</sup>.

The World health Organization – Europe states that Sport2 encompasses "all forms of physical activity which, through casual or organized participation, aim at expressing or improving physical fitness and mental well-being, forming social relationships or obtaining results in competition at all levels" while Sport for All "refers to the systematic provision of physical activities which are accessible for everybody"<sup>2</sup>.

Esports does not meet these requirements even if the IOC statement of October 2017 mentioned that competitive esports could be considered as a sporting activity, and that the players involved may be comparable to athletes in traditional sports as they "prepare and train with an intensity".

As a conclusion esports cannot be considered as a sport in its full acceptance. Moreover in a society where sedentarization, individualism and ego-centric attitudes are growing the necessity for real physical and sport activities embedded in strong humanistic values deserves a strong support.

ves a strong support.

## Esports interested in the Olympics or in Olympism?

Esports does not refer to Olympism since it appears not to carry the humanistic values Olympism intend to support as "it is a philosophy of life, exalting and combining in a balanced whole the qualities of body, will and mind . Blending sport with culture and education, Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy of effort, the educational value of good example, social responsibility and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles"<sup>3</sup>.

Esports although is interested in the Olympics. I see two main reasons.

The good one is that esportsers would like to be part of this paramount of all sport competitions. One should remember that mountain-bikers, surfers and snowboarders, in the 1980's, splitted in two groups. One group wanted to be part of the Olympics because becoming an Olympic champion was the highest expectation. They joined the UCI, the International Ski Federation and the International Sailing Federation (World Sailing). The other group wanted to keep their values of "no rules" and "free riding". They rejected the inclusion.

The bad one is probably that esports industry looks at the Olympics as an event that could generate major indirect revenues. The relationship between FIFA and the "FIFA 2018" E-Sport / Game illustrates this way of thinking.

## A place for esports in the context of the Olympics?

Esports is a phenomenon of the XXIst century. It attracts many youngsters. No one should ignore this. Rejecting it would be simplistic. Promoting esports as an (Olympic) sport would be an error as it does not meet fundamental conditions to be recognized as a sport.

However to my opinion Pierre de Coubertin himself opened a way. As a cultural phenomenon esports could be part of the Cultural Olympiad, for the time esports will be considered as a cultural phenomenon.

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.who.int/topics/physical\\_activity/en/](http://www.who.int/topics/physical_activity/en/), retrieved December 16, 2017.

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organisation Europe - Promoting sport and enhancing health in European Union countries: a policy content analysis to support action - [http://www.euro.who.int/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/147237/e95168.pdf](http://www.euro.who.int/data/assets/pdf_file/0006/147237/e95168.pdf), retrieved December 16, 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Olympic Charter 2017 – Fundamental Principles of Olympism - [https://stillmed.olympic.org/media/Document%20Library/OlympicOrg/General/EN-Olympic-Charter.pdf#\\_ga=2.264053256.506509965.1513409808-402371068.1396270707](https://stillmed.olympic.org/media/Document%20Library/OlympicOrg/General/EN-Olympic-Charter.pdf#_ga=2.264053256.506509965.1513409808-402371068.1396270707), retrieved December 16, 2017.

# Homage to Henrique Nicolini in his celebrity wood (*bosque de fama*)

On Monday morning, the journalist Henrique Nicolini was honored with a celebration in the Celebrity Wood, inside the Bicycle Park in São Paulo, Brazil. At the event, realized in the place designed by Nicolini, important names of Brazilian national sport were present as the winners of the Olympic medals Manoel dos Santos, bronze medal in the 100m in Rome in 1960, Ricardo Prado, silver medal in the 400m mixed in Los Angeles in 1984, in addition to the marathon runner José João da Silva, twice winner of the San Silvestro race in 1980 and 1985.

In the Celebrity Wood, whose aim is to perpetuate the sporting memory of the great champions of São Paulo, winners of world awards and Olympic medals and international record holders, the swimmer Ricardo Prado, representing athletes, already honored in it, underlined the importance that the professor had in sport at the national level. "We talked a lot about the fact that Brazil does not remember and does not value its heroes, but Dr. Nicolini is the proof of the contrary. My father did it at home, but Nicolini did it on a national scale. Sport today is professional thanks to people like Henrique who have valued it.

The winner of the Olympic medal declare, "It can be said that without him, sport would not be where it is today". Besides being the journalist with the longest recorded career in the Guinness Book of Records, Nicolini was also one of the founders of Panathlon (an association that supports athletes and sports clubs). Representing the institution, the current president of the association, Georgios Sylianos has announced that will dedicate to Nicolini "the Space of Knowledge" that is located inside the Bicycle Park, in Sao Paulo. The Space, which is next to the trees of the Celebrity Wood, will be used for conferences that contribute to enhancing the career of these athletes.

With the inauguration of the Space, the prefecture hopes that the venue is quite frequented by the students of the Olympic Center of São Paulo. "We want this space, which will be the lower name of Professor Nicolini, to start hosting activities, exhibitions and events of Panathlon. "The idea is that the association uses the local offering courses and activities to show the more than 1200 students of the Olympic Center

the importance of sport and to perpetuate the great achievements of our history," said the Sports Secretary of São Paulo, Jorge Fernando Damião.



Ricardo Prado and José João da Silva while they are watering one of the trees of the Celebrity Wood (Photo: Sérgio Barzaghi / Gazeta Press)



Plaque with the name of Henrique Nicolini in the Space of Knowledge, Free Time and Sport, in São Paulo in Brazil in the presence of his wife Lilian (Photo: Sergio Barzaghi / Gazeta Press)



# For the Club of Innsbruck, twinning with 1. FC Futsal

by Winfried Sponring

The futsal is an indoor football match with different rules from classic football that above all thanks to the extremely fast execution, technically valuable and very attractive to viewers, it is particularly endowed with fair play and little physical aggression.

The playing field has the same surface and the same doors as the indoor hand ball, that is, with sidelines and goal lines that, overcome by the ball in these points, lead to the "lateral return" or "corner kick" done with the foot.

The duration of the game is twenty minutes net, twice, in which each interruption of the game, similarly as in ice hockey, leads to the stop of the stopwatch. Time-outs are allowed. In order to effectively satisfy the principle of fair play, each foul is punished by the two referees, with a punishment point.

1.FC Futsal of Innsbruck is a pure amateur team of "adult boys", in which none of the players or managers receive financial compensation. Nobody would accept it. Only direct expenses are compensated by drawing on the means present, but moreover only in part. For example, players and managers finance traveling abroad, to participate in friendly matches, unless sponsors are found.

The same applies to equipment, etc. Another important point is fair play (not only during the game) that derives from the rules. Naturally, ambition and emotions sometimes lead to committing a foul, but is immediately sanctioned, with a free kick - as well as the handball - and, as already mentioned, from the sixth foul onwards with a penalty shot from a distance of only 10 meters.

This concordance with the aims of Panathlon on which honest and fair behavior is based, led the 1.FC Futsal, following the recent celebration of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of our Panathlon Club in Innsbruck, in which it participated as a guest, to ask us to authorize it to put the Panathlon logo on its playing uniforms.

The Board of Directors of our Club has unanimously accepted this request and also assumed the costs of printing on the uniforms of the players (the expenses for the uniforms themselves were financed by their own funds from the 1. FC Futsal). Moreover, from now on, during every indoor game played at home, a flag of Panathlon will be hung in a visible way, and a "banner of fair play".

The information material, for example the Panathlon



Declaration on Ethics in youth sport, etc., has been handed out to the players and managers of the company and will be distributed among the spectators during the games. 1. FC Futsal from Innsbruck took the opportunity allowed to apply the Panathlon logo on uniforms to define the same a "great honor to act as ambassadors of fair play, defended by Panathlon".

The official delivery of the uniforms bearing the new logo took place recently, during a match of the International Challenge of First Division of 1. FC Futsal from Innsbruck against the multiple Swiss Futsal champion, Lachenzelg of Zurich, that the Innsbruck team won 8 to 6 in a very varied and extremely fast and fair game (there was only one penalty for the Innsbruck team just before the end of the match).

Afterwards, 1. FC Futsal of Innsbruck invited players and managers of the two teams for a sociable and very friendly evening.

The statements of the two authoritative leaders of the 1.FC Futsal of Innsbruck, with particular pleasure, were welcomed, president Dr. Gerhard Wagner and the president of the jury and manager of the Club Peter Preisinger, who said they were ready to become members of the Panathlon Club of Innsbruck. Representatives of the Club were present, President Andreas Wanker, Vice-President Hans Gastl, Past President Günther Fritz, Associate Engineer Gerhard Enders, as well as the undersigned as a multi-year president, governor and District President.

# EWOS 2018: events at will in the clubs

by Justine Van Den Bon



Panathlon International as a partner of EWOS, the European Week of Sport, strongly supports the initiative of European Commissioner for Sport Mr. Tibor Navracsics.

In 2016 and 2017, Panathlon International focused on participating at EWOS events and promoting EWOS throughout local networks. International Board member, Mr. Paul Standaert, participated at EWOS meetings in Brussels, Dublin and Marseille. Through these meetings, Mr. Standaert was able to get in touch with different national sport organizations in view of strengthening existing relationships and building new ones.

In 2018, Panathlon International will bring things to the next level and participate more actively. That is why Panathlon International invited his member clubs to launch a local club initiative in order for each of them to participate actively in this year's edition of EWOS. Already a number of European Panathlon clubs responded positively to the International President's invitation. Other clubs have announced that similar initiatives will follow.

This is a non-definitive list of the Panathlon clubs that confirmed their participation and content of the initiatives:

- Panathlon **Pavia** – Italy - Bike Ride open to everyone, young or old - Sunday 29/9/2018
- **Piacenza Primogenita** – Italy – Hiking event for dis-

advantaged children

- Panathlon Club of **I'Aquila** – Italy – Sporting event for children

- Panathlon **Ancona** Club - Italy – Project in development

- Panathlon **Ariano Irpino** Club – Italy - Sport initiating summer camp with a finale during the week of sports

- Panathlon **Lugano**

- Panathlon **Udine** – Italy

- Panathlon **Gent** – Belgium – Free bike, walk and swim activity for families - Sunday 23/9/2018

- The Panathlon Club of **Catania** will organize a series of sports and cultural initiatives, in September 2018, which will be subsequently defined.

- The Panathlon Club of **Lecce** organize in the month of September 2018, a Conference on the specific theme subject and a sports get-together involving the whole population (cycle or march).

- The Panathlon Club of **Lecco** has taken the decision to involve the largest number of sports and athletes in order to give a decisive impulse to the values and goals which are the basis of the Club's primary objectives. The event is called "THE GREAT CHALLENGE". The athletes involved are about one hundred, mainly coming from the territory that through earth and sky will

run across the whole city from valleys to the highest plateau.

The sports relay race between trails and skies will be carried out in the province of Lecco. It will be a moment of considerable importance that will have as background the beautiful landscape of Lecco that in this great event will have opportunity to show its beauty.

Teams of 15 athletes for each discipline will compete in an intriguing multi-sport relay. Among the numerous ideas that characterize said event is also that of involving the public spectators. As a matter of fact, there will be an opportunity for the public to support the athletes. Anyone interested can, with his bicycle follow the running part.

The disciplines involved are the following:

Racing bicycles, Walking, Jumping obstacles combination of horse and rider, Mountain biking, Ski roll, Paragliding, Race.

Parallel to the agonistic phase will be organized several moments of aggregation during which the Panathlon Charters will be discussed.

To this event will also participate disabled athletes who will compete the last part of the race with all their teammates.

- The Panathlon Club of **Messina** will be held in Milazzo from 7 to 9 September 2018, "Parolimparty". It is a sporting exhibition that involves hundreds of people and is aimed at the entire population but especially meant for the disabled; sponsored by Vodafone Italia Foundation, Mediterranean Eventi ASD – AISM and the Panathlon Club Messina.

- The Panathlon Club of **Molfetta** will organize a series of sports and cultural initiatives, in September 2018, which will be subsequently defined.

- The Panathlon Club of **Ozieri** will organize a Conference open to Sports Associations and Schools on the theme: "Sedentariness and obesity". Estimated programming scheduled by 29/9/2018.

- The Panathlon Club of **Napoli** intends to propose a Conference on "Walking football and basketball" and also explain to those who are in old age, the possibility of being able to practice sport, in a less traumatic way, especially their favorite sport. The above mentioned Conference is scheduled to be organized in September, 2018 and the related program will subsequently be defined.

- The Club of **Chiavari Tigullio** will organize for the disabled athletes a tour in boat.

- The Panathlon Club of **Trapani** has proclaimed 2018 the year of prevention. Inspired by this principle the Club wishes to join the "European Week of Sports" with an event called "Sport: health and prevention" which consists of involving all the local schools in the territory by walking through the streets of the city center, closed for the occasion to all traffic, with a subsequent get-together in Piazza Vittorio Emanuele where Sports and Administration Institutions will address the young to reflect on the importance of a healthy motor activity, as a moment of healthy physical-mental training and above all health prevention.

Ultimately, they will be allowed to let off their youthful exuberance in the different playgrounds set up in the meantime by Sports Federations.

Most students will participate in the event wearing the sport outfit of the sport practiced.

- The Panathlon Club of **Siracusa** will organize a series of sports and cultural initiatives, in September 2018, which will be subsequently defined.

- The Panathlon Club of **Ravenna** will be holding an event in the week from 27 to 30 of September 2018. This initiative foresees the organization of an event called "Sport in Darsena" in cooperation with the Coni Point of Ravenna. The Port District of the city during the dates established will become a small citadel of sport, where young people will have the chance to get to know and experience different sporting activities assisted by Federal Technicians with a view to strengthen the construction of a wider and broader sport culture thus open to the richness of sport. Schoolchildren, young and older people alike by trying out the various sports involved will be able to build up an extensive sport culture.

- The Panathlon Club of **Viterbo** has decided to share and join the EWOS Project as well as organizing thanks to the support received from the Panathlon Viterbo Junior Club – an event under the aegis #BEACTIVE, which will take place during the last week of September 2018, with the aim of involving the citizenship. In particular, it seemed appropriate to take advantage of National Grandparent's Day (which falls on 02/10/2018) so as to organize on Sunday, September 30th, 2018, a walk through the streets in the city of Viterbo, called "Grandparents and Children in the spirit of sports ethics"

The organizing clubs and Panathlon International will report on these activities through their respective websites.



# A single Korea, thanks to the sport?



Sport accomplishes these miracles.

I am alluding to the two Koreas that marched together at the winter Olympics under a new flag that canceled the wind rose: neither north nor south. A white drape with the silhouette of the celestial Korean peninsula. A single Korea without borderlines. As before the fifties, before the fratricidal war that would have led to the current absurd division of a people that has only one soul even if contended by two governments.

What matters most in this extraordinary operation of sports diplomacy is that the Koreans have done everything themselves, without the direction of international protectors far too invasive, without the push of policies concerned. It can be said with a paradox that ice has broken the ice. It all started in fact from two young people from North Korea, skating champions in pairs, who felt able to compete at the highest levels but did not know if they could go to the Olympics.

Kim Jong-un, a young and ruthless North Korean leader, was too busy launching intimidating missiles to the United States to think about them. At that moment, the North Korean leader was engaged in for nothing sporting competition with the US president Donald Trump on the size of the button to launch hypothetical atomic bombs to the west.

Then the miracle: someone brought the story of the two skaters on his table. While the world was shaking, especially the Japanese, a stone's throw from the Korean threat, the impenetrable, Kim Jong-un was hit by a ray of sunshine and his South Korean colleague, Moon Jae-in, from a diplomatic stroke of genius.

In the name of Olympia, otherwise impassable walls

have fallen. An outstretched hand found another unpredictably ready to tighten it.

With all due respect, to all the mediators who thought of acting as godparents to the event: China and the United States.

For these tutor countries, perhaps too cumbersome, comes an important lesson: "we know how to do it alone and without the need for godparents. When and how we want." The Korean people have a profound sense of dignity and pride. I had the fortune of living in Seoul 40 days of experience as a television commentator at the 1988 Olympics.

I remember the exquisite kindness of the people, made of bows and willingness to serve. However, I also remember the pride of running in the face of any inconvenience to safeguard the image of a country cohesive about its history and culture.

The hope now is that this breach open after 70 years of conflict, let pass other agreements and, above all, let a new air circulate, the harbinger of a true reconciliation between divided but equal brothers.

It is beautiful that the sport was the detonator of this possible peace.

*The spirit and ideals*



# Fondazione Culturale Panathlon International Domenico Chiesa

The Foundation was created in memory of Domenico Chiesa, based on the initiative of heirs Antonio, Italo and Maria. Domenico Chiesa, who in 1951, besides being a promoter, had also drafted the statute of the first Panathlon club, and in 1961 was among the founders of Panathlon International, had expressed the desire when alive, though not technically binding for the heirs, to allocate part of his property for periodical awarding of works of art inspired by sport, as well as more generally, of cultural initiatives and publications in line with Panathlon's objectives. Besides the substantial contribution of the Chiesa heirs, the Foundation was also created thanks to the enthusiastic participation of the whole Panathlon movement, through the generosity of numerous clubs but also of individual athletes, therefore providing the Foundation with the necessary conditions to approach the world of visual art in a prestigious and sensational way: the creation of an award in co-operation with one of the most important organisations worldwide, the Biennale di Venezia.

## *Domenico Chiesa Award*

Panathlon International Central Board, on 24th September 2004, given the need to increase the Foundation capital and honour the memory of one of Panathlon's founding member, as well as major sponsor, resolved to establish the "Domenico Chiesa Award" to be granted, upon the proposal of individual clubs and on the basis of special regulations, to one or more panathletes or personalities who are not our members who lived according to Panathlon's spirit. In particular, this award will be presented to whoever promoted the sporting ideal and has made an exceptional contribution:



***the understanding and promotion of values fostered by Panathlon  
and by the Foundation through cultural tools inspired by sport***

***In promoting friendship among all panathletes and all those who operate in the world of sport, thanks also to their attendance and quality of participation in Panathlon's activities, promulgating both among members and non members***

***the concept of friendship in all sport's components, well aware that Panathlon's ideals are of fundamental importance in the education of young people***

***In being available for services, thanks to the activity carried out for a Club  
or to one's generosity towards a 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 Pierlugi - 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.Como 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 Italia 31/03/2017  
Mantegazza Geo - PC Lugano 20/04/2017



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