

# ATHLETES

**BULLETIN:** ISSUE 004 APRIL 2005

## A MESSAGE FROM SERGEY BUBKA



It is often difficult for an athlete to imagine his/her life after sport. What can one do after having dedicated years to training and competition? Is there life after sport? Like all of you athletes, I asked myself this question, and those around me also asked. That is why the IOC Athletes' Commission can only be delighted by the agreement recently signed by the IOC and Adecco, which focuses on reintegrating athletes.

Thanks to this programme, every athlete will be offered the appropriate means to take the best professional route possible and to fully succeed in his/her new life.

The Commission had already expressed such a desire at the 1st Athletes' Forum in October 2002, and

today it has become a reality thanks to this agreement.

The issue of reintegrating athletes will also be at the centre of discussions at the 2nd Athletes' Forum, which will take place next June at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne. Also on the agenda are the economic influences on athletes and sport, and the protection of athletes against doping.

Every athlete must get involved to encourage clean sport and help to rid sport of cheats so that the new generations are set a healthy example. The fight against doping is one of the Athletes' Commission's missions.

This Commission is your link with sports leaders to make your voice heard and express your concerns. Since

Athens, thanks to your vote, Rania Elwani, Hicham El Guerrouj, Frank Fredericks and Jan Zelezny have joined the Athletes' Commission and are now defending your interests, just like their colleagues who work on the other IOC commissions. In less than one year, it will be the turn of all those who will take part in the Olympic Winter Games in Turin to exercise their right to vote and choose their representatives.

Dear Colleagues, it is our duty to place our skills, our experience, our enthusiasm and our passion at the service of the Olympic and sports Movement.

**Sergey Bubka**  
Chairman, IOC Athletes' Commission

## FACILITATING ATHLETES' POST-SPORTS CAREERS

The period following the end of a sports career can often be difficult, even very difficult. For this reason, the IOC Athletes' Commission had proposed that something be done to facilitate athletes' redeployment. This dream, formulated at the first Athletes' Forum in October 2002, is now a reality.

In February 2005, the IOC, in close cooperation with human resources company Adecco, launched the "Athletes' Career Programme" (ACP) which aims to facilitate athletes' insertion into the labour market.

### THIRTEEN NOCS IN 2005

This worldwide programme will offer the athletes, during and after their sports careers, professional career management services. In 2005, 13 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) were selected to take part in this programme.

Adecco, the IOC's partner in this programme, already has many years of experience in this area.

"Since 2000, we have helped more than 800 former athletes to make a second career in various countries," said Adecco CEO Jérôme Caille at the launch of the operation.

Adecco is counting on helping 2,000 more athletes to manage their



redeployment and accede to the labour market. To achieve this, Adecco is relying on some 20 dedicated teams around the world, as well as a personalised methodology incorporating professional evaluation, career planning, support and finding employment.

### USEFUL SKILLS

Caille is convinced that athletes have great potential: "Athletes develop extremely

useful skills throughout their sports careers, which makes it easier for them to reintegrate working life."

IOC President Jacques Rogge has shown his enthusiasm for this project: "The athletes are at the heart of the Olympic Movement," he stated. "They devote their life to sport and it is fair that sport gives something back to them at the end of their sporting career."

The IOC Athletes' Commission

**Above:** "The athletes are convinced of the usefulness of this programme"

considers this agreement to be very important for the athletes, and thanks the IOC and Adecco for having made this step. The Commission believes that this programme provides appropriate means for guiding the athletes towards a better career path and helping them to succeed in their new life.

## 2nd INTERNATIONAL ATHLETES' FORUM

After the great success of the first International Athletes' Forum in October 2002, a second meeting will be organised on 11 and 12 June 2005 at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne. Eighty members of Athletes' Commissions of International Federations and Continental Associations of NOCs will meet to discuss three main themes:

- Transition after sport
- Anti-Doping – safeguarding the athletes
- Economic influences affecting athletes in sport

The main goal of the International Athletes' Forum is to strengthen ties between the federations and NOCs, as

well as to set up a communications network between the athletes and their representatives.

This second Forum can once again count on the participation of all the members of the IOC Athletes' Commission, who will share their vast experience during the debates with the athletes.

## THE WORLD ANTI-DOPING AGENCY (WADA): REACHING OUT TO ATHLETES IN ATHENS

In an effort to raise awareness and educate the athletes about anti-doping issues, WADA was on hand during both the Olympic and Paralympic Games to speak with competing athletes and officials. WADA's Athlete Outreach



Above: Athletes involve themselves in the fight against doping

Programme has proven successful over the years and Athens was no exception. Over 300 athletes visited the Outreach booth on a daily basis to speak with anti-doping experts, play the interactive doping quiz and win their prize to promote doping-free sport.

The IOC Athletes' Commission played an important role in this success by supporting the programme, liaising with competing athletes and encouraging them to visit WADA.

### ALSO IN TURIN

Plans are currently under way for the Outreach Programme to take place during the 2006 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Turin, as well as during many regional events in 2005.

WADA has developed several doping control forms, which can be adopted by

anti-doping organisations (ADOs) worldwide for use in the doping control process. With the insight and feedback from the IOC Athletes' Commission, there will now be a place on the form for the names of both the doctor and coach of the athlete.

The forms were created to standardise the documentation and simplify the doping control process for athletes and sample collection personnel. It is hoped that ADOs worldwide will adopt these forms, which have already been translated into several languages, including Czech and Turkish.

### WADA'S ATHLETE GUIDE

WADA has a new Athlete Guide, which is in French and English, and will soon be translated into Spanish. For access to the guide and other educational materials, please visit WADA's website at [www.wada-ama.org](http://www.wada-ama.org).



Above: Over 50% of athletes voted during the Athens Games

## ELECTION TO THE ATHLETES' COMMISSION IN TURIN

In February, the IOC Athletes' Commission launched the procedure for the election of two new members during the XX Olympic Winter Games in Turin. All the NOCs that participated in the last Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, as well as those taking part in the Games in Turin, have the possibility of submitting a candidature, by 1 June 2005, as long as there is no present member of the Commission from the same NOC. It is also important to recall that only NOCs with an athletes' commission can submit a candidature. We therefore encourage all the NOCs that do not have an athletes' commission to create one. At the Turin Games, two new members will be elected. They will serve eight years in the Commission and will also be proposed for election for the same duration as an IOC member.

"We would like the choice to be as rich and diverse as possible," underlines Commission Chairman Sergey Bubka. "Our Commission plays an important role in the IOC and the Olympic Movement, and interest in such an election must really be marked. If many NOCs participate, this will strengthen our position," he concludes. Created in 1981, the IOC Athletes' Commission provides a liaison between the Olympic athletes and the IOC. It enables the athletes to have their voice heard within the Olympic Movement.

It is composed of 19 members: 12 athletes elected for eight years by their counterparts during the Olympic Games, and up to seven athletes appointed by the IOC President in order to ensure a fair spread of sex, sport and region.

## THE NEW IOC ATHLETES' COMMISSION

The IOC Athletes' Commission is pleased to be able to count on the experience of its four new members, elected at the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens. All these athletes have knowledge and experience that will enrich the Commission's discussions.

### RAANIA ELWANI

● **Education/career:** Biology degree from the Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, USA (1999); diploma from the School of Medicine of the Misr Science and Technical University, Cairo, Egypt (2004).

● **Sports career:** Participated in three editions of the Games of the Olympiad: Barcelona 1992, Atlanta 1996 and Sydney 2000 (semi-finalist in the 50 and 100 metres freestyle); took part in the World Swimming Championships in Rome in 1994 and Perth in 1998 (semi-finalist in the 50 and 100 metres freestyle).

● **Sports administration career:** Founder of the Egyptian Olympians Association; Technical Manager of the Egyptian swimming team; member of the Egyptian NOC Athletes' Commission; member of the Egyptian NOC.

### FRANK FREDERICKS

● **Education/career:** BSc and MBA.

● **Sports career:** Double silver medallist in the 100 and 200 metres at the Games of

the XXV Olympiad in 1992 in Barcelona, and the Games of the XXVI Olympiad in 1996 in Atlanta; world 200m champion in 1993 and vice-champion in 1991, 1995 and 1997; world 200m indoor champion in 1999.

● **Sports administration career:** Member of the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF); Athletes' Commission; Chairman of the Athletes' Commission of the African Athletics Federation (AAC);

Chairman of the Athletes' Commission of the Namibian NOC; member of the Executive Board of the Namibian NOC.

### HICHAM EL GUERROUJ

● **Career:** President of the Béni-Shassen Charity Association.

● **Sports career:** Participated in three editions of the Games of the Olympiad: gold medal in the 1,500 and 5,000 metres in Athens in 2004; silver medal in the 1,500m in

Sydney in 2000; finalist in the 1,500m in Atlanta in 1996 (fell over); World Championships: four times 1,500m world champion (1997, 1999, 2001 and 2003) and runner up (1995); twice runner up in the 5,000m (1992 and 2003).

● **Sports administration career:** Member of the IAAF Athletes' Commission.

### JAN ZELEZNY

● **Sports career:** Participated in four editions of the Games of the Olympiad: XXIV Olympiad in Seoul 1988 (silver medal), XXV Olympiad in Barcelona 1992 (gold medal), XXVI Olympiad in Atlanta 1996 (gold medal), and XXVII Olympiad in Sydney 2000 (gold medal); member of the national athletics team for over 15 years; five-times world record holder; world champion in 1993 and 1995.

● **Sports administration career:** Chairman of the Czech NOC Athletes' Commission.



Above: Jan Zelezny, Hicham El Guerrouj, Frank Fredericks and Rania Elwani

## ATHLETES IN THE IOC COMMISSIONS

The members of the IOC Athletes' Commission have been appointed by IOC President Jacques Rogge in numerous commissions, where they can put the positions of the Commission and the athletes to good use.

The IOC President and Executive Board rely on 23 commissions, which are composed of IOC members and external experts. You will find below the names of our Commission's representatives in other commissions: Executive Board (Sergey Bubka), Commission

for Culture and Olympic Education (Haya Bint Al Hussein), Ethics Commission (Pernilla Wiberg), Nominations Commission (Prince Albert of Monaco and Pernilla Wiberg), Women and Sport Commission (Lee Kyung Chun), Marketing Commission (Robert Ctvrtlik and Adne Sondral), Medical Commission (Rania Amr Elwani), Press Commission (Charmaine Crooks), Olympic Programme Commission (Frank Fredericks), Radio and Television Commission (Manuela di Centa), Olympic Solidarity Commission

(Mireya Luis Hernandez), Sport and Environment Commission (Yaping Deng), Sport for All Commission (Jan Zelezny), Coordination Commission for the XX Olympic Winter Games – Turin 2006 (Jarri Kurri), Coordination Commission for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad – Beijing 2008 (Sergey Bubka), Coordination Commission for the XXI Olympic Winter Games – Vancouver 2010 (Pernilla Wiberg), and Evaluation Commission for the Games of the XXX Olympiad - 2012 (Frank Fredericks).