

Règle Olympique N° 25

COMITÉS NATIONAUX OLYMPIQUES

(adoptée à la Session du C. I. O. à Athènes, mai 1954)



Olympic Rule Nr. 25

NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

(adopted at the Session of the I. O. C. in Athens, May 1954)

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIQUE - LAUSANNE

An III de la XV^e Olympiade

1954

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25. Only National Olympic Committees recognized and approved by the International Olympic Committee may enter competitors in the Olympic Games. Therefore, in order that contestants from a country can participate in the Olympic Games, a National Olympic Committee, conducting its activities in accordance with these Olympic regulations and the high ideals of the Olympic Movement, must be organized and accepted by the I. O. C.

National Olympic Committees shall have as their purpose, the development and protection of the Olympic Movement and of amateur sport. They shall cooperate with the national amateur sport governing bodies affiliated to the international federations recognized by the International Olympic Committee, in guarding and enforcing amateur rules. They shall have the exclusive right to use the Olympic flag and Olympic insignia, and shall confine their use and as far as possible that of the words "Olympic" and "Olympiad" to activities concerned with the Olympic Games (all commercial use of the Olympic flag and Olympic insignia is strictly forbidden). It is their duty, in cooperation with the national sport governing bodies (national federations), to organize and control the team that will represent their country in the Olympic Games. They shall arrange to equip, transport and house this team. They are patriotic organizations not for pecuniary profit, devoted to the promotion and encouragement of the physical, moral and cultural education of the youth of the nation, for the development of character, good health and good citizenship.

They shall enforce all the rules and regulations of the I. O. C.

National Olympic Committees must be completely independent and autonomous and entirely removed from political, religious or commercial influence.

Because of the importance of National Olympic Committees which are in complete charge of the Olympic Movement in their countries, great care must be exercised in choosing members, who should be men of good standing, upright character, sound judgement, independent mind, and a knowledge and belief in Olympic principles.

They must include in their membership :

- a) the members of the International Olympic Committee to that country, if any ;
- b) at least one representative of proved service to his sport, nominated by each recognized national federation (association or governing body), whose sport is included in the Olympic Games programme. Individuals of this category must constitute a voting majority of the committee.

The following are not eligible to serve on a National Olympic Committee :

- a) A person who has ever competed as a professional ;
- b) A person engaged in or connected with sport for personal profit. (It is not intended to exclude individuals occupying purely administrative positions in connection with amateur sport.)
- c) A person who has ever coached for payment.

A N. O. C. must not recognize more than one national federation in each sport and that federation must belong to the International Federation recognized by the I. O. C.

The members and officers of the N. O. C. and the members of its Executive Committee shall be elected at least every four years, at a N. O. C. meeting held expressly for that purpose. They may coopt in limited number to the Committee, persons who have rendered or can render exceptional service to the Olympic Movement.

Members of National Olympic Committees shall accept no salary or fee of any kind because of their position. They may, however, accept reimbursement for transportation, lodging and other proper expenses incurred by them in connection with their duties.

National Olympic Committees are responsible for the social and sport behaviour of their athletes and officials.

The National Olympic Committee is the official organization in full and complete charge of all Olympic matters in its own country. It handles all arrangements for taking part in the Olympic Games. All communications on such matters shall be addressed to it.

In order to obtain recognition, the rules and regulations, constitution and by-laws of National Olympic Committees, with a certified copy in French or English, must be sent to and approved by the International Olympic Committee. Any changes, not in accordance with I. O. C. rules and regulations, made in the constitution or by-laws must be reported to and approved by the International Olympic Committee.

In the event of any regulations or actions of the N. O. C. conflicting with I. O. C. rules, the I. O. C. member in that country must report the situation to the President of the I. O. C. for appropriate action. If there is no I. O. C. member in the country, the President has the power to appoint a member from another country to investigate and report to him.

