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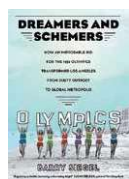
## Defeating the Coronavirus With Fighting Spirit and Determination

- + International Hygiene Exhibition 1911: The IOC Takes a Wider Stage for the First Time
- + Those Elusive Rome Olympics: The Games and the Competitions
- + A New Olympic Life Form: The Beginning of Olympic Television
- + The Devitt-Larson Race: Decided by the Width of a Fingernail
- + Remembrance Is No Substitute for Contemplation and Consideration



But her fame quickly faded. In the race for the best headlines, the newspapers quickly focused on the next generation of rising stars and Ederle's advertising contracts soon expired. She never had the idea of patenting the "bikini", which she had developed with her sister and then wore while crossing the channel. Instead, she pursued other ideals, as she wrote to me in 1969: "Naturally, as a Professional Swimmer my most heartfelt interest in life has always been to stimulate public enthusiasm in this beneficial sport, and, particularly to inspire and instruct YOUTH ... in Swimming!"

She also advised women worried about their figure: "Don't diet ... swim the channel". The letter from Trudy Ederle, who reached the age of 98, is published in this book that is well worth reading.



Barry Siegel  
**Dreamers and Schemers**  
University of California Press, 2019  
US\$29.95 (hardcover), 24.95 (paperback)  
256 pages, ISBN-10: 0520298586  
ISBN-13: 978-0520298583

Reviewed by Harry Blustein

It was a miracle when the Los Angeles Olympic Games opened in the Coliseum on 30 July 1932 to the cheers of 105,000 spectators.

There were many reasons why it could have been cancelled. And once the decision had been made to go ahead, circumstances conspired to push it toward failure. Yet

it was a stunning success, and in *Dreamers and Schemers*, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Barry Siegel describes how the organisers, particularly Billy Garland, were able to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles to stage one of the finest Games in Olympic history.

Garland had all the personal qualities needed to pull off this coup. Part hustler, he was able to excite the cautious burghers of Los Angeles with his dream. In wooing the IOC, Garland proved to be a natural diplomat, shamelessly flattering and charming its fusty aristocratic members, most from Europe, to embrace far away Los Angeles as host. Perhaps one of the oddest friendships developed between Baron de Coubertin and the brash American. And when it came to dealing with unsympathetic politicians, Garland's irrepressible enthusiasm, guile, and skill kept critics at bay.

It was not his love of the Olympics that drove Garland but his love for Los Angeles, and in particular its real estate, which had made him a wealthy man. His dream was to put the City of Angels on the map. In this way, he hoped to attract visitors and business to Los Angeles. For Garland, this would undoubtedly increase the demand for real estate and fortuitously increase Garland's wealth.

Garland's grand plan almost ran aground on the shoals of the Great Depression, which, by 1932, had unleashed its misery on the world. In the US the *New York Times* called for the Olympics to be called off, while protesters carried signs that read: "Groceries not Games". Even in Los Angeles his critics were calling the Games "Garland's folly".

Showing grit in the face of adversity, Garland refused to accept defeat, and came up with plans to keep his dream alive.

Costs of travel for overseas teams were reduced when he arranged cheap steamship and rail fares,

and the organising committee charged countries just US\$2 day to accommodate athletes in the newly-built Olympic Village, well below the actual cost.

At first, few countries accepted invitations to participate, but then a combination of nationalism and Olympic fever took over, and countries found ways to fund their teams. For example, the Brazilian team arrived in the US with 50,000 bags of coffee beans, which they sold to cover their expenses.

To fill the stands, Garland turned to Hollywood royalty, enlisting the help of Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks Jr. to spruik the Olympics, and Walt Disney produced a seven-minute cartoon called *Barnyard Olympics*, in which Mickey Mouse competes in a cross-country race.

The campaign worked, and over 16 days 1,247,580 people attended, a record, although understandably, the number of countries participating was low at 37, compared to 46 countries who turned up in Amsterdam for the 1928 Olympics.

At the end of the Games, Garland was able to boast: "In almost every part of the world, Los Angeles has been advertised."

Siegel argues that the Olympics helped transform Los Angeles from a dusty pueblo into a thriving metropolis. It also helped transform the Olympic Movement. For the first time it attracted a mass audience. It was the first Olympiad to provide accommodation for athletes. And it achieved what few Olympics, before or since, have been able to do: it made a profit of US\$1.25 million. Finally, it gave other American cities an appetite for bidding for future Games.

Siegel was lucky to have such a larger-than-life character as Billy Garland around which to base his story. Thoroughly researched and peppered with entertaining anecdotes, *Dreamers and Schemers* is an excellent account of how Los Angeles successfully bid for and

staged the 1932 Olympics. Siegel also makes a strong case that the Games helped put the city on the map.

*Dreamers and Schemers* however devotes only one chapter to the Games themselves, skipping quickly over notable events on and off the field. For example, the Japanese threatened to boycott when the IOC would not allow a team from Manchukuo, a puppet state Japan created after it occupied Manchuria. In response, China sent a single competitor, to make the point that it was the sole representative of all Chinese people, including the Chinese population of Manchuria.

During the Opening Ceremony, the Italian team gave the fascist salute as they marched around the stadium. And while prohibition was in place in the US, the government relaxed its rules, in the interests of international goodwill, which allowed French, Italian, and other athletes to import and drink wine.

With Los Angeles due to host the Summer Olympics again in 2028, for the third time, there is room for another book that gives the 1932 Olympic Games themselves the attention they deserve.



Michal Osaba / Milan Jaroš  
**Nemůžeš? Přidej! / Can't go on? Try harder!**  
Prague: Universum, 2019, in Czech and English  
440 Kč (US\$19.85), 184 pages, ISBN 9788076176188

Reviewed by Volker Kluge

"Can't go on? Try harder!" A saying typical of the "Prague locomotive", Emil Zátopek, this serves as the title for an attractive work published by

## Tokyo 2020 – Moving in the Right Direction

Mario Capuano and Pasquale Polo have dubbed the eighth edition of the "lo collezione" series *Verso Tokyo 2020* (Towards Tokyo 2020). Over 480 pages, a team of collectors documents all 33 sports and 339 medal events that are on the programme at the next Olympic Games. An interesting album with numerous philatelic objects and Olympic memorabilia.



Unione Italiana Collezionisti  
Olimpiche Sportivi (UICOS)  
Largo Lauro de Bosis 15  
00135 Rome, Italy

the Czech NOC in 2019. There were two occasions for this: firstly, the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the constitution of the committee in support of the participation of Bohemian athletes in the 1900 Olympic Games in Paris and, secondly, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Czechoslovak NOC on 13 June 1919.

The book is divided into six eras: 1899–1918 (Bohemia as a part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire); 1918–1938 (the First Czechoslovak Republic); 1938–1948 (German occupation and the post-war period); 1948–1968 (communist takeover until the Prague Spring); 1968–1989 (Prague Spring until the "Velvet Revolution"); 1989–2019 (post-revolutionary era, separation into the Czech Republic and Slovakia).

What is particularly spectacular are the numerous photos from the early years that are closely associated with the names of Jiří Guth-Jarkovský and Josef Rössler-Ořovský. Guth, a headmaster, was one of the founding fathers of the IOC, of which he was a member until his death in 1943. Rössler-Ořovský was as multitasking an athlete as he was an organiser. It was a diplomatic feat to send Bohemian teams

to the Olympics of 1908 and 1912 despite resistance by the Viennese government.

The heyday of Czechoslovak sport began in the First Republic when the Sokol – the Czechoslovak gymnastics association – became a member of the NOC. The gymnasts also provided the first Olympic gold medal, which the 24-year-old Bedřich Šupčík won in 1924 in Paris for rope climbing. A year later, Prague was the site of the VIII Olympic Congress, at which Pierre de Coubertin bowed out as IOC President.

A photo of the 30,000 gymnasts who swore the oath to the Republic at the X All-Sokol Festival in Prague's Strahov Stadium in front of 100,000 spectators marks the beginning of the decade from 1938 to 1948. A few months later, Czechoslovakia was broken up. Hitler's troops occupied the so-called rump of Czech Republic, which was converted into the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia.

One of the Olympic participants who joined the resistance was the 800 m runner, Evžen Rošický, who was arrested and executed after the attempted assassination of the Reich Protector, Reinhard Heydrich. One of the best Czech gymnasts,

Ladislav Vacha, who had won five Olympic medals, died as a result of Gestapo interrogations. One victim of the Holocaust was Oskar Hekš, who had finished eighth in the marathon in Los Angeles in 1932 and became spokesman for the Czechoslovak boycott movement against the Berlin Games in 1936. His life ended in the gas chambers at Auschwitz in 1944.

After the liberation and seizure of power by the Communist Party, Czechoslovak sport was organised based on the Soviet model. There was no place in this concept for the re-established Sokol. Nevertheless, these were “golden years”, for which the Zatopeks, above all, were responsible. Dana won the javelin

in 1952, and Emil became Olympic champion four times, in 1948 and 1952. It remained for the gymnast Věra Čáslavská to top these results, with seven golds and four silvers between 1960 and 1968.

The brief Prague Spring, ended by Soviet tanks, was followed by a period of normalisation, but also stagnation. The ice hockey duels against the Soviet Union became more heated. Up until 1980 and 1988, the teams always returned with Olympic medals, but the Czechs had to wait until 1998 for their first Olympic victory.

At the end of 1989, Věra Čáslavská was one of the faces of the “Velvet Revolution”. In April 1990, she was elected President of the “new”

NOC, though it lasted not even two years. After the Federal Republic, the Czech Republic and Slovakia were constituted as independent states with their own Olympic Committees in early 1993. Names and photos like those of the javelin throwers, Jan Železný and Barbara Špotáková, the speed skater Martina Sáblíková, the cross-country skier Kateřina Neumannová, and the alpine racer and snowboarder, Ester Ledecká, represent a new generation of a small country with great Olympic traditions.

In addition to the Czech edition of the book, there is also an English version being issued in a small print run, which is intended for representative purposes.

## NEWS

**IOC President Thomas Bach** received the prestigious Seoul Peace Prize on 26 October 2020. He joined the ceremony virtually from Lausanne, with the award collected on his behalf by the former UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon. In particular, the Seoul Peace Prize Cultural Foundation highlighted three major achievements: contributing to peace through sport in the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia; the creation of the Refugee Olympic Team and the Olympic Refugee Foundation; reforms of the IOC through Olympic Agenda 2020. The Seoul Peace Prize comes with a US\$200,000 prize which the President will donate to the Olympic Refugee Foundation and three other social charities. (IOC/IOH)

**The 137<sup>th</sup> IOC Session** will be held in Athens on 10–12 March 2021. It will be hosted by the Hellenic Olympic Committee, which will also celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1896 Olympic Games next year. The Session will include the IOC presidential election in accordance with the IOC statutes. The term of office will begin on the day after the closing ceremony of the Tokyo Games. In an announcement made during the 136<sup>th</sup> Session, held virtually on 17 July, President Thomas Bach confirmed that he will seek a further four-year term. Other candidates must announce their intention to stand by 30 November 2020. The election of new members to the Executive Board will take place at the 138<sup>th</sup> Session, to be held in Tokyo. (IOC/IOH)

**A sketch of an original design** for the Olympic flag sold at auction for €234,950 on 26 July 2020 in Cannes, France. It was bought by a collector from Brazil. The graphite and watercolour drawing, measuring 21 x 27.5 cm, was expected to fetch between €80,000 and €100,000. Designed in 1913 by IOC founder Pierre de Coubertin, it was owned by Lucien Perrot of Lausanne, of whom little is known. The sheet bears a dedication by Pierre de Coubertin. Beyond that, however, there is no authentication that this really is the hitherto unknown original design. (IOH)

**Doha is planning an Olympic bid** for 2032. The Emirate of Qatar staged the 2019 World Athletics Championships and will also host the 2022 FIFA World Cup. (IOH)

At its meeting in Stockholm in 2017, the ISOH Executive Board decided to reduce administrative costs by decreasing the number of payment categories. The annual dues for ISOH membership are now:

**Regular 1 year**    US\$ 35.00  
**Regular 5 years**    US\$ 145.00  
**Regular Life**    US\$ 400.00

Membership fees can be paid directly via our homepage through PayPal. Please use the following link: <https://isoh.org/pay-your-dues>

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## Member Information

### NEW MEMBERS

**BRYANT Jennifer Ms.** \*20 August 1966; E-mail: [jennifer@jenniferbryant.net](mailto:jennifer@jenniferbryant.net); Address: 503 Story Rd, West Chester PA 19380, UNITED STATES; Occupation: Editor, writer, author, journalist, photographer; *OlympicSports Publications*: *Olympic Equestrian: A Century of International Horse Sport* (Eclipse Press, 2008), articles published in USDF Connection and The Horse magazines, and on TheHorse.com, among others; Specific Olympic Research interests: equestrian.

**CHECKOWAY Julie Ms.** \*15 July 1963; E-mail: [julie@checkoway.com](mailto:julie@checkoway.com); Address: 3840 Las Pasas Way, Sacramento CA 95864, UNITED STATES; Tel: +1 8063590934; Occupation: author; *OlympicSports Publications*: The Three-Year Swim Club.

**CONTECHA CARRILLO Luis Felipe Mr.** \*16 March 1957; E-mail: [lcontechac@ut.edu.co](mailto:lcontechac@ut.edu.co); Address: Carrera 43 sur – 109-108, Itagüé Tolima 330005, COLOMBIA; Tel: +57 3208400832; Occupation: University Professor, Member of the Colombian Olympic Academy; *OlympicSports Publications*: book, *Genesis De los Juegos Nacionales Deportivos Universitarios. Un Aporte A La Construcción De La Historia Del Bienestar Universitario En Colombia* (2009); many articles; Specific Olympic Research interests: history of the Olympic Movement, Colombia at the Olympic Games.

**DURAND Marc Mr.** \*25 April 1964; E-mail: [quebeculid@igmail.com](mailto:quebeculid@igmail.com); Address: 1 Place au Pied des Pentes, Stoneham QC G3C 0H5, CANADA; Tel: +1 854 664 435; Occupation: producer, CBC

reporter for the last eight Olympic Games; *OlympicSports Publications*: two books on ice hockey history, president of the société d'histoire du sport de la capitale nationale; Specific Olympic Research interests: Canada, inspiring stories and results.

**JADAMBA Baasankhuu Mr.** \*5 January 1951; E-mail: [baasankhuu.oc@gmail.com](mailto:baasankhuu.oc@gmail.com); Address: Mongolian Olympic Committee, Khan Uul District 16, Chinggis Avenue, Ulaanbaatar 1420, MONGOLIA; Tel: +9761345285; Occupation: coach; *OlympicSports Publications*: many articles; Specific Olympic Research interests: Olympic Games, promoting Olympic Movement.

**MISHRA Aniket Mr.** \*29 September 1989; E-mail: [aniketb@gmail.com](mailto:aniketb@gmail.com); Address: Jalan Jalil Perkasa 3, Bukit Jalil, 15-6, Tower 8, Link 2 Apartments, Kuala Lumpur 57000, MALAYSIA; Tel: 0166090838; Occupation: media and broadcast operations manager, Asian Football Confederation; Specific Olympic Research interests: India at the Summer Olympics.

**NICHOLSON Catherine Ms.** \*20 April 1959; E-mail: [catherinicholson9@gmail.com](mailto:catherinicholson9@gmail.com); Address: 13603 S. 39th Cir., Bellevue NE 68123, UNITED STATES; Tel: +1 42642895; Occupation: writer; *OlympicSports Publications*: Nearly completed the book *Running in Borrowed Shoes* about my father Thane Baker, winner of four Olympics medals from Helsinki 1952 and Melbourne 1956; Specific Olympic Research interests: 1952 Olympics.

**PARMEGANI Andrea Mr.** \*8 March 1973; E-mail: [anparmeg@gmail.com](mailto:anparmeg@gmail.com); Address: Via Valdarno 26, Roma 00191, ITALY.

**STAVROU Stavros Mr.** \*10 May 1988M; E-mail: [stavrosss@gmail.com](mailto:stavrosss@gmail.com); Address: 50, Spyrou Kyrianiou St., Nicosia 223, CYPRUS; Occupation: Lyrics-writer, Philologist; *OlympicSports Publications*: Olympic education guide (2019), “The Five Rings Which Unite the World” (2020); Specific Olympic Research interests: Olympic education and culture, Olympic heritage.

### OLD MEMBERS

**ANDERSEN Martin Fris Mr.** New Address: Fasanvej 21, 8700 Horsens, DENMARK.

**BOLZ Dr. Daphné Mrs.** New Address: WWU, Institut für Sportwissenschaft AB Sportpädagogik und Sportgeschichte, Horstmaier Landweg, 626, 48149 Münster, GERMANY.

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**REID Heather L. Mrs.** New Address: Via Anacoli, 22, 96100 Siracusa (SR), ITALY.

**OKAPLAN Aila Mr.** New Address: Atilla Okaplan VP, Production Operations – Olympics, NBC Sports Group, 187 Silvermine Rd., New Canaan, CT 06840, UNITED STATES.

**STRÖM Ulf Mr.** New E-mail: [ulfstrom1957@gmail.com](mailto:ulfstrom1957@gmail.com); Tel: +46 70 790 00 52; Website: [www.olympic-memorabilia.se](http://www.olympic-memorabilia.se)

### DECEASED

**MACGREGOR Donald Forbes Mr.,** St. Andrews, Fife KY16 8DS, UNITED KINGDOM, Member 2012–2020.

**ROSANDICH Thomas P. Mr.,** Daphne, AL, UNITED STATES, Member 1995–2020.