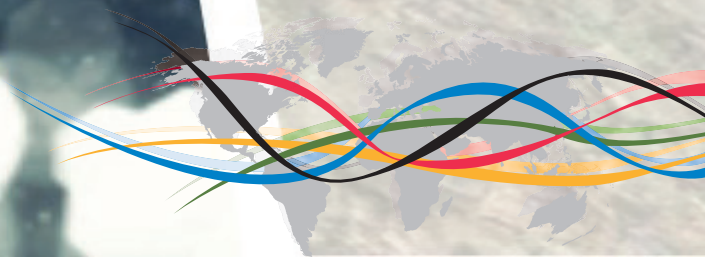


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PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL

N° 3 September-December 2022





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“Flambeau d’Or” symbol of peace and sporting ethics

During autumn in 2022, Panathlon International was characterized by a succession of extraordinarily productive events.

Judge for yourself: in September, the events in Brussels framed around the World Fair Play Day, with the collaboration of the main organisations promoting Fair Play: the International Fair Play Committee, Panathlon International and the European Fair Play Movement. The presence of these eminent European organisations gave this event great public resonance.

Also in September, in Rome, we organized, as we do every four years, the award of “Flambeau d’Or”, which went this year to the President of the IOC, Thomas Bach. The event was characterized by a roundtable on the burning issue of the day: the effects of politics and, in particular, of war on sports and athletes.

In reaction to the aggression from the Russian Federation military against Ukraine, Panathlon International could have settled for a detailed press releases on the issue. And yet, PI actively engaged and approached this crucial and controversial issue head-on. We hit the nail on the head with the events in Rome, which resonated with the public and are also widely reported throughout our magazine.

In October, an ethical summit organised by the Panathlon International Club, Lisbon, brought together representatives from Portuguese-speaking clubs and countries.

In the same month, in Beausoleil (France), all parts of Panathlon International met together for the first time since the health emergency including the participation of a large number District Presidents. It was good news with the creation of Primorska Slovenija Club which brings the number of countries where our Movement is present and active to 28.

In November, the second short film competition organized by the Domenico Chiesa Foundation concluded with the support of FICST and the first prize being awarded to Joseph Areddy, a Swiss competitor. We conclude this autumn’s whirlwind of events with the Pan-American Congress taking place in Cochabamba, Bolivia. The next issue of the Review will cover this well organized and successful event in detail.

Let us say that by implementing the theme of Panathlon International’s contribution to the Community, this Congress touched upon a central issue. It highlighted the essential elements and the *raison d’être* of Panathlon. The culture of friendship among members is important and motivating, but the most important thing is coming together and being at the service of sport as well as everything that is positive and constructive for the community.

Invited by the Panathlon International, Baltazar Medina, Colombian president of ODEBO, (sports organization comprising six South American countries) attended the congress in Cochabamba, thus opening the possibility for Panathlon International to expand in Colombia. This project should be a success and allow our movement to be present in 8 of the 12 countries of South America.

We hope you enjoy reading our magazine.



Pierre Zappelli
International President

Thomas Bach athlete and manager an “Olympic” life and vocation

The ceremony was held in Rome at CONI headquarters, named after Giulio Onesti, in the presence of President Malagò as well as many athletes and panathletes



IOC President Thomas Bach enters the auditorium of the CONI centre accompanied by Presidents Pierre Zappelli and Giovanni Malagò

In the great hall of the CONI Center in Rome, named after the remarkable president “Giulio Onesti”, the ceremony of the “Flambeau d’or” was held – the prize is awarded by Panathlon International, in the wake of important Olympic events, to prominent personalities in the world of sport as a result of competitive, organizational, cultural, scientific and human merits.

The International Panathlon Council decided that the important award was given to the President of the International Olympic Committee, Thomas Bach, who exemplifies, through his career as athlete and manager, all the values that the award embodies.

In the main hall of the center, was attended by top executives of CONI, headed by President Giovanni Malagò; civil, military, sports authorities; and, many young athletes who train on the fields, in the pools and nearby gyms. It was a rare opportunity to share Panathlon’s aims and highlight the significance of the prize, contained in the introductory address of the President of the Panathlon Pierre Zappelli.

Address by President Pierre Zappelli

"We are about to present the Flambeau d'Or, Panathlon International's highest award, to Thomas Bach. Panathlon International was established in Venice in 1951. Recognized by the IOC in 1982, nowadays the Movement consists of approximately 280 Clubs across 4 continents and about 9,000 members overall. We are proud to be part of the Olympic family.

The IOC President is well aware of what Panathlon International is. However, for all those attending this ceremony I would just point out that our Movement has been pursuing, for 71 years now, the goal of disseminating a notion of sport based on Fair Play. Moreover, Panathlon International is committed to guaranteeing everyone, without distinction, access to sports education and supports the Olympic Movement in all circumstances.

Other organisations exist that aim at similar objectives. Just to mention a few, I would recall the International Fair Play Committee and the International Pierre de Coubertin Committee. Both international organisations, with headquarters in Paris and Lausanne respectively, are recognized by the IOC and their objectives are comparable to ours.

Panathlon's uniqueness – its distinctive feature – lies in its ability to bring the ideals as well as the moral and educational values of sport closer to young people and their entourage. Panathlon realises achieves this goal by means of its Clubs across the world that are called upon to disseminate the ideal values of sport to the general public, and in particular to young people, drawing their attention to dangers such as doping, the manipulation of sports competitions and corruption.

Let us focus on today's ceremony:

By its Flambeau d'Or, Panathlon International is willing to honour those who have demonstrated the essential

values of sport in an exemplary fashion.

This is the highest distinction Panathlon International is proud to award.

The Flambeau d'Or is named after Antonio Spallino, whose name may sound familiar to President Thomas Bach. Antonio Spallino was an outstanding president of Panathlon International, but he was also a great fencer, a gold medallist in team foil and bronze medallist in individual foil at Melbourne Olympics in 1956.

Dear President Thomas Bach, by presenting this award to you, we would like to put the spotlight on a distinguished person from the world of sport, a person who stood out for his actions and who gave a major contribution to promoting and spreading sport, organising world-class sports events and advancing the cultural role of sport.

The first Flambeau d'Or awards were presented in 1972 to Avery Brundage, former IOC President, Willy Daume, President of the German Olympic Committee, and Giulio Onesti, President of Italy's National Olympic Committee. Among the laureates of the subsequent editions, let me recall IOC presidents Lord Killanin, Juan Antonio Samaranch and Jacques Rogge, sportsmen like footballer Pelé, Monegasque bobsleigh pilot, His Highness Prince Albert of Monaco, pole vaulter Sergey Bubka and skier Jean-Claude Killy, just to mention a few.

From these names, you may realize that the award of the prize is not grounded primarily on sporting qualities, however extraordinary, but on all those human qualities that command admiration and encourage to honour a person who engaged in an exceptional way to promote sport and its values.

Today I am truly convinced I am presenting the Flambeau d'Or to a person who combines all the qualities I have just mentioned.

A lawyer by profession, Thomas Bach became known to the world of sport thanks to the fencing medals he earned for Germany. As a matter of fact, he became Olympic fencing champion in team foil at the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in 1976. But it is Thomas Bach's career in the Olympic Movement that Panathlon International wishes to highlight.

In 1981, Thomas Bach attended the 11th Olympic Congress in Baden-Baden as athletes' representative. He was one of the founding members of the IOC Athletes' Commission. In 1991, he joined the IOC and, in 1996, he became a member of its executive board. He served as IOC vice president for over 10 years and as chairman of several IOC commissions. Thomas Bach was elected as the 9th IOC President



in 2013 in Buenos Aires. Upon taking office, he launched a new and ambitious strategy targeted to enable the Olympic Movement to live up to new requirements. His slogan is: «Change or be changed». Under his leadership, the IOC adopted the Olympic Agenda 2020 and its 40 goals, all of which have been achieved.

However, Thomas Bach was soon confronted with several Olympic Games laden with problems.

The 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics were followed, in 2016, by the outbreak of the biggest doping scandal ever in the Olympic Movement. President Bach managed to remedy that false start and, by the PyeongChang Winter Olympics, we had finally got out of that rut.

The 2016 Rio Summer Olympics were not exempt from difficulties, for that was when a severe economic and political crisis broke out in Brazil.

After those Games, Thomas Bach could at last see the light at the end of the tunnel and thought he could now successfully kickstart the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. Alas... the pandemic broke out. In spring 2020, we were on the brink of cancelling the Games, but President Bach held out and, albeit with difficulty, succeeded in postponing the Olympics by one year, thus rescuing a whole generation of athletes who could then take part in the Olympic Games in a Covid-safe environment.

On 10 March 2021, he was re-elected for a second four years' term.

The Covid crisis impacted the 2022 Winter Olympics too. The health protocol in Beijing was even stricter than in Japan. The Olympics could take place, though at the cost of considerable restrictions on the freedom of movement, and were partially deprived of the joyful and festive atmosphere which usually characterises this global sports gala. In spite of everything, these two editions of the Olympic Games turned out to be a success. The athletes could compete and, consequently, the Olympic funds could support numberless sporting organisations hit by the Covid crisis. The goals set for 2020 could be achieved and further strengthened by the new 2020 + 5 goals.

What a success!

While the Beijing Winter Olympics were drawing to a close, the Olympic Movement was deemed to be finally able to turn that painful page.

But it was premature to cry victory. In February 2022, while the Paralympics were still underway in China, the war triggered by Russia broke out.

Once more, Thomas Bach proved his exemplary and unique resilience. He took action, issued thoughtful guidelines, at times against all odds. He was criticised, as is always the case for people with a strong character.

Also Thomas Bach's predecessors had had their dose of difficulty, though never in such an ongoing and severe way, to the point of jeopardising the entire Olympic Movement. President Thomas Bach, on top of your qualities as a strategist, we cannot fail to highlight your exceptional courage in the face of difficulty. You embody the values and ideals of the Olympic Movement.

This is what Panathlon International wishes to emphasize by awarding you the Flambeau d'Or.

By presenting this award, Panathlon International and I myself are very honoured to express our gratitude to you."

Sport accessible for all is the true Olympic goal

"First of all, thank you very much for having awarded me the prestigious Flambeau d'Or. My gratitude and appreciation go to all the members of Panathlon International and, of course, in particular to your President Pierre Zappelli, whom I wish to congratulate and thank for his great leadership of Panathlon International, as a result of which the whole Olympic movement benefits greatly. With this award, you honor not only me, but the entire Olympic movement and the Olympic values that Panathlon International defends and promotes with such fervour. It is also an immense privilege to join this illustrious host of award-winning precedents to which you have already referred, including my immediate predecessor, Jacques Rogge, who was so prominently mentioned just a couple of minutes ago.

The fact that we are gathered here today in the Giulio Onesti Centre, named after this great man who has been a fervent supporter of our shared Olympic values, makes today's ceremony even more meaningful for not only myself, but for all of us.

Our organizations share the same values of respect, fair play, tolerance, friendship, solidarity and peace. Both Panathlon International and the IOC work for young people, to instill in them the desire to practice sport and teach them about our values. In this increasingly conflicted and fragile world, sport is more important than ever to unite all peoples in peaceful competition.

I look forward to receiving the results of your deliberations which, so it seem, are moving in exactly towards this and, once again, confirm the great commitment of Panathlon International to our Olympic values and all the values that always build bridges to unite the whole world in a peaceful competition. Yes, sport teaches us to strive for excellence, but at the same time it teaches us to live together in peace and friendship as well as to respect ourselves and others.

Making sport a force for good in the world was at the heart of Pierre de Coubertin's thinking when he founded the Games in 1894 for the International Olympic Committee. For him, the Olympic Games were always much more than just a sporting event. He was an educator.

So, from the beginning, sport and education were closely linked to the Olympic Games. Coubertin wanted to make the world a better place through sport and sport values, and this remains the main mission of the IOC and the Olympic movement to this day.

It is this intrinsic connection between sport and education that is also at the heart of the many activities and initiatives of Panathlon International as well as your many clubs



and districts around the world. It is in this way, that you spread and promote our shared Olympic values, spreading the joy of sport among people from all walks of life, inspiring children, youth and families with the Olympic spirit. Our Olympic mission is not a political mission. Our Olympic mission is a humanitarian mission. To engage even more in this humanitarian mission, we have recently modified our Olympic engine, Faster, Higher, Stronger, which now says Faster, Higher, Stronger together.

This word, Together, emphasizes that to overcome any kind of challenge, to be able to go faster, to aim higher, to become stronger, we need to be together.

And this is an experience that we all have in our individual lives. It's an experience that every athlete has in his or her career.

And it's an experience that we want to pass on to many other organizations, societies and political leaders in this world.

At the Panathlon you know the importance of this union.

Panathlon Belgium remembers President Jacques Rogge

Speech by Paul Standaert President of Panathlon International Belgium

Panathlon Belgium members are delighted and proud of your Flambeau'd'Or Award from Panathlon International.

The undiminished efforts of the Olympic Committee and its president in the promotion of the genuine values of Sport have been exemplary, inspiring and a guiding force.

Baron Jacques Rogge, from Ghent capital of the East Flanders region, was at the heart of Panathlon Ghent and a patron of Panathlon in Flanders. Since 1978, Panathlon International has been leading the way in sports ethics. In 1982, the IOC recognized Panathlon International, and our mission and actions took a step up.

In 2016, Panathlon International encouraged members in Lausanne and Brussels to develop activities in collaboration both with the International Sport federations and the European Institutions participating in the sports ethical debate at an international level.

We are committed to promoting Olympic values at macro, meso and micro levels through participation in EU programs and academic studies; and by assuming executive functions in Sport organizations and schools ...wherever we can make a difference.

Our goal is to promote a healthy lifestyle together with the development of human values.

IOC support and above all the exemplary role of its president, is invaluable and a important factor in keeping the NOC's and all international sport federations focused on the sporting values such as respect, humanity, Fair Play, honesty....

Today we are delighted to offer you a reference book on the restauration of a unique work of art:

The Adoration of the Holy Lamb by the Van Eyk brothers which symbolizes Jesus when as he bore the transgressions, abuse and sins of the world. This altarpiece can be seen at Saint Bavon Cathedral in Ghent, the hometown of the late Jacques Rogge and

its restoration could only be made possible with the support of the Flanders people and its highest political and cultural bodies including Panathlon.

We hope this book emphasizes Panathlon's commitment to addressing abuse in sport and keeping sport focused on its Olympic values

With our highest regards



PPaul Standaert hands Thomas Bach Jacques Rogge souvenir in the presence of President Perre Zappelli

How war and politics affect the destiny of sport

by Andrea Sbardellati

What are the effects of conflict and politics in sports? This highly topical issue was discussed during a roundtable discussion organized by Panathlon International on September 15th 2022 at Giulio Onesti Olympic Preparation Center's Great Hall of Acqua Acetosa in Rome.

Piermarco Zen-Ruffinen, a member of Panathlon International's CCSE (Committee on Culture, Science and Education), coordinated the meeting.

CCSE President **Eugenio Guglielmino** also spoke at the roundtable and opened the proceedings.

Panathlon International President Pierre Zappelli began by stating that "the political motives do not coincide with the those of sport," in response to the question, 'should sports sanctions be aligned with political sanctions and what reasons can justify alignment and what reasons can exclude it?' he replied: **"Sanctions can be justified if there has been a violation of one of these principles. A clear distinction must be made in the cases between sanctions directed towards an athlete and those directed towards a country. Athletes are often collateral victims of sanctions. The war in Ukraine is an event destined to leave a strong mark on sports as well. Peacekeeping during the Olympic Games is key. We ask ourselves: how do we react to other conflicts as well? What will we do if China invades Taiwan?"**



The same questions were then answered by CONI President, **Giovanni Malagò**, who pointed out, **"Who is that codifies, sets the perimeters, stakes or parameters of a conflict? When one country invades another? When there are no terrorist attacks? What about border wars? These are wars, just not politics or geopolitics. There should be one clear rule: we must respect the Olympic truce during the Olympics and Paralympics with an oath. If we do not wait until the Paralympics have finished, where there is a need to raise awareness, that is more serious. In normal times people would have bought tickets. There has been no respect for my world, and the pillars of the international Olympic system are cracking."**

On the topic, **Sarah Solemale**, sports lawyer and expert in football diplomacy, spoke. **"It's a pleasure to be here in Rome in the Eternal City, even though I'm from Paris. I actually agree with President Zappelli with the starting principle. Sports and politics are very close and should only be separated if there are violations. The alignment of sports sanctions versus political sanctions result in complex decisions. We need to define what is a political sanction and what is a sports sanction. Sports sanctions are very punitive for athletes. It is all about political affiliation. There is a risk of moving away from these values from sports movement."**

Luca Pancalli, president of the Italian Paralympic Committee (ICP), said that **"it is a very delicate issue and it would be preferable to address avoiding any human hypocrisy. There needs to be real independence in the world of sport. These are very delicate issues. History recounts some very sad pages. To imagine today that the world of sport can be totally independent I think is a real hypocrisy. We had a scenario free of all prejudice and in 1972, in Munich, we were unable to guarantee the security of the village. Align political sanctions with sporting ones? Sport is OK when it has its own rules"**.

Raffaella Masciadri, former national basketball athlete and president of the CONI athletes' commission highlighted that **"giving a say to athletes is important. It is not athletes who make decisions. Athletes want to have fun and put their passion into the field. It's hard to put yourself in the shoes of an athlete or a para athlete who is competing in his last Olympics. The athlete is the one who fights for every kind of discrimination and pursuit of peace. War is the most serious negation of human and ethical values. As an athlete I should underline how the IOC should be politically neutral"**.

All roundtable participants were then asked the following question: should all international federations adopt the same attitude or should they have the freedom to react as they wish? In what context could international federations agree? Should the IOC issue directives?

These were the responses of the protagonists of the round table.

Pierre Zappelli. **"I think it is right that there should be rules of a global nature. The number one tennis player, Medvedev, did**

not play at the US Open or Roland Garros and could not participate in Wimbledon. The distinction is not justified. It is an injustice. It is the IOC's job to intervene and clarify its point of view. I quote Thomas Bach urging all federations in the world to give maximum protection to athletes against other people who might threaten them".

Giovanni Malagò: "There are different stories and cultures within every federation. There can only be a single line of conduct, otherwise any action taken will become barely credible. In the case of tennis, Wimbledon has been effected by the exclusion of world number one Medvedev. For those organizing competitions of professional tennis there is the ATP, however there is still no direct dialogue with the Olympic and para-Olympic worlds.

Sarah Solemale: "We are starting to realize that from the point of view of the summit it is necessary to have an unambiguous international position. A federation, FIFA for example, as well as other federations, cannot act differently, the situation becomes complicated. Just think of ice hockey for example".

Luca Pancalli: "We must have a uniform attitude. Orwell in 1945 said sport is a war without gunshots".

Raffaella Masciadri: "I agree on uniformity. The IOC has done everything it could. It made its recommendations and expressed to all organizers guidelines needed for integrity in competitions and the safety of athletes. Measures are needed first before sanctions with psychological effects such as the use of neutral IOC flags, for example, to allow athletes to participate in international competitions".

The following questions were asked to the participants in the roundtable: to what extent can the psychological effects of certain measures (such as racing under the IOC flag and not under the national flag) prevent sanctions? Should sports measures or sanctions take into account the psychological effects that they can cause, especially for sanctioned persons, for particular athletes, and what reasons could justify sports sanctions and what could prevent their use?

Zappelli: "you can ask to participate in the Olympics with the neutral flag, but it is not always possible. There should be no politics through sport, it is unacceptable".

Malagò: "the first step is the warning that the IOC should issue against a national Olympic committee. Your country is doing something against the rules. I'm protecting you and defending you and the condition is to replace the flag. It's the most elegant system. Military athletes were penalized. The IOC is far-sighted. Without athletes, the IOC would not exist. Even Plan B would not exist. In the imagination of public opinion. Why are Russia and Belarus outside? Russia has invaded Ukraine and Belarus has not".

Solemale: "being under the neutral flag is already a sanction. Not being able to participate with your own flag for a race is a sanction. Avoid going through more and more serious penalties. Races are organized thanks to athletes. There are opportunities through these measures to ensure athletes who prepare for years (are allowed to participate)".

Pancalli: "The CIO flag is a solution to athletes (allowing them) to realize their dream. You need to have balance (in handing out) the penalty. We are always a part of the world and not a world apart".

Masciadri: "from the athletes' point of view sanctions are an extreme measure. Let's not forget that athletes are also people".

Then international councillor, **Giorgio Chinellato**, spoke "with two organizations that protect the world of sport and in recent years have stemmed the attempts of politics. Leaving athletes at home from a certain nation, can invalidate the result and can even harm those who win".

Past president, **Giacomo Santini**, pointed out, "How many things does politics become responsible for that then become part of sport? Good questions: protection of athletes. Single line of conduct. Different sensitivity and reaction of sport that is not cohesive with professionals. Cycling very much thrust forward by professionalism. Participation under neutral flags demeans athletes. This is just a ploy. Who is most penalized by such a decision? The athletes most of all. States will find



Piermarco Zen-Ruffinen coordinatore della Tavola Rotonda

more athletes in the future. As Giorgio Chinellato said. The Olympics represents that chance and then it's gone. There is no way so many athletes can miss their once-in-a-lifetime magic moment. To take away their chance to participate is a very serious thing. You take away their chance to write a page in the magical book of the Olympics. In 1980 and 1984, we experienced the embarrassing reality of commenting on it all, and then who loses out? The athletes. It doesn't surprise me that politics cares about sports. It worries me when politics cares about sports for propaganda. Comparison with the welfare system. Sport as an instrument of welfare. No to politics occupying sports."

Patrick Van Campenhout, president of the Expansion Commission (IEC) also spoke *"about amateur sport, because the consequences are also in grassroots sport. We cannot give people the opportunity to do everything. In Belgium, Flemings prefer to speak English rather than French. The ability of government lies in making decisions. Decisions that must be clear, unambiguous, convincing and robust"*.

Antonio Laganà, Councillor of Panathlon's District of Italy, highlighted his experience as an international arbiter in the struggle: *"I've found myself since 1979 going around the world. Politics doesn't have to deal with sport. About ten nations had a political figure who controlled athletes. There are many wars internally. I am surprised that in a hundred years people will remember that the athlete who won a competition had the flag of the IOC on his side instead of those of his own nation. The images of Tommie Smith and John Carlos who on October 16, 1968 in the Mexico City Olympics raised their fists with the black glove to the sky are imprinted in our minds. In 1972 in Munich, we remember the terrorist attack and today the athletes kneel to express solidarity for the killing of George Floyd in the United States against racism"*.

Resolution of Panathlon International (PI) adopted in Rome on 15 September 2022

On 15 September 2022, Panathlon International organised, at "Centro di Preparazione Olimpica – Giulio Onesti" in Rome, a Round Table on the topic 'The Effects of Conflicts and Politics in Sport'.

Participants stressed that sporting competitions can be used to promote peace and demonstrated that athletes, whether able-bodied or disabled, are the core element of sport. Without them, Clubs, national and international Federations would not exist.

With this in mind, PI solemnly asks political leaders, and above all sports leaders, to follow this Resolution which concerns the possible measures that could affect sportsmen and sportswomen, whether able-bodied or disabled, as a result of political sanctions on States:

1. Recognize that athletes cannot and should not be the direct or collateral victims of the policies of their own State.

2. Recognize that sports Federations do not align themselves with political sanctions, but adopt their own solutions, namely:

- sports Federations should not exclude athletes from competitions because of political sanctions against their own State;

- the aim of sports Federations is to respect athletes as individuals and to ensure that they participate in competitions in a dignified, friendly, fair and equal manner, respectful of Fair Play and in safe conditions in all respects;

- the qualification of an athlete for competitions should be based solely on sporting criteria;

- the athlete's attitude may however be taken into account;

- the sports world can take appropriate measures to ensure the participation of athletes in competitions, for instance competing under the IOC (International Olympic Committee) flag.

3. Recognize that the credibility of the sports world requires a certain degree of harmonization of its interventions and of the measures to be taken.

For this purpose, it is desirable that the IOC (International Olympic Committee) and/or the IPC (International Paralympic Committee) propose the adoption of a common approach, whereby each international Federation is free to adapt its action to the specificity of the situation, save for the Olympic Games.

Agreement between Vatican and IOC For sports which are open to all

During the International Summit on Sport, held in the Vatican on 29 and 30 September, President of the International Olympic Committee, Thomas Bach, joined Pope Francis and other leaders of sports and intergovernmental organizations to sign a new declaration promoting inclusion and access to sport for all.

Recently, we have seen the emergence of new societal challenges, many of which have been accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This Declaration recognises the important role sport plays in transforming these challenges into opportunities and, in particular, how it can contribute towards a more inclusive society, in which every person is accepted and welcomed, regardless of their ability or disability. The Declaration is a new commitment to promoting the social and inclusive benefits of sport.

During his speech President Bach said: "Our conference and the Declaration we will sign today are the latest demonstration of our shared faith in the power of sport to make the world a better place...I would like to thank Our Holy Father for this wonderful initiative that illustrates how faith and sport can complement each other. Both faith and sport share many of the same values that guide us to live together in peace with our fellow men".

Alongside the Summit, the IOC President was invited to a private audience by Pope Francis. At the meeting, in the Vatican, sport and the contribution of sport to solidarity and peace in the world were discussed. The Pope expressed his appreciation for initiatives taken by the IOC and in particular the support to refugees through the Olympic Refugee Team and Olympic Shelter Foundation (OSF). President Bach expressed gratitude for his strong support and informed His Holiness that the IOC has been inspired by His Holiness' great affection and support for refugees.

Addressing the summit, President Bach stressed the mission of the Olympic Movement to promote sport as a force for good in the world and emphasised their continued commitment to promoting solidarity, peace and non-discrimination.

He said ***"In these difficult times - with divisions and war on the rise - we need the unifying power of sport more than ever to promote our Olympic mission of peace and solidarity,"***

"But peace is much more than setting aside our differences. It is also about creating a better world where everyone is able to prosper; where people are treated equally; and where there is no place for any form of discrimination or exclusion."

He continued: ***"While we are determined to fight for peace, we must be realistic about our limitations. We know that sport alone cannot create peace. We cannot make decisions about war and peace - this is the job of politics and politicians."***

Yet, being aware that we operate within these limits, there is a single path to peace for us. This path consists in bringing people together in peace and solidarity. This is our role: to support and strengthen the paths towards peace; to foster and promote understanding and solidarity between people and nations. In our increasingly conflicting and fragile world, we see how relevant our mission is to building a more peaceful world through sport"

President Bach also highlighted some of the areas where the IOC is already working to foster and promote solidarity through sport including the creation of the IOC Olympic Refugee Team and the establishment of the OSF.

"Our vision at the Olympic Refugee Foundation is a society where everyone belongs, through sport," he said. "Our UNHCR partners have told us many times that whenever they ask refugees what they need most after food and shelter, the answer is almost always sport. This is because sport is much more than just a physical activity."

"Sport is empowerment. Sport is inclusion. Sport is respect. Sport is health. Sport is building trust and creating dialogue. Sport is solidarity. Sport is peace"

Closing his speech, President Bach urged all participants to work together to ensure the unifying power of sport can be fully realized.

“Our conference today is proof of a shared desire for peace in our time,” he said. “That is why, in the Olympic spirit of peace and solidarity, I extend a hand on behalf of the Olympic Movement to people of all faiths to work together for a better world through sport, and to create a world of solidarity and peace”.

The International Summit on Sport welcomed more than 200 people from the world of sport including international federations and amateur sports associations. Speakers included Filippo Grandi, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and IOC member Andrew Parsons, President of the International Paralympic Games.

The congress was attended by representatives from different Christian denominations and other religions, along with representatives of non-profit organizations and educational institutions working for inclusion in society through sport.



Pope Francesco addresses his message of sporting fraternity to top Olympic executive: in the first row IOC Preseident, Thomas Bach

Summit on expansion, role of districts sport for all and Panathlon in society

by Simona Callo
General Secretary P.I.



Panathlon International's Beausoleil-Riviera Française Club hosted proceedings of the Expansion Commission, District Presidents and the International Council who met at the CCPHJM (Centre Culturel Prince Héréditaire Jacques de Monaco) and Salle José RIZAL Building Le Centre's hall on the 13th and 14th of October.

The first meeting held was that of the Expansion Commission chaired by CI Patrick Van Campenhout and composed of 6 Members from Italy, Belgium, France, Portugal and Switzerland. The International President opened intense activities focused on the need to involve new countries in creating Districts in order to have a greater presence on the international scene.

Subsequently, each participant presented themselves making their contribution with the aim of expanding the movement and, at the same time, implementing policies to maintain members and clubs and involve the next generations to come.

The proceedings of the District Presidents' Committee spread over the two afternoons of the 13th and 14th, to allow the participation of South American countries, was attended by all the Districts both in person and remotely. It has been more than two years since we had such a large attendance: all Districts were present (Belgium, Brazil, Chile, France, Italy, Mexico) and Presidents of Austria,

Equador, Switzerland and Uruguay were remotely connected. CI Luis Moreno, representing Peru, presented the implementation of the I PI Strategic Plan approved in the General Assembly. Also attending as auditors, were The Club of Buenos Aires (RA)- remotely- and the Vice President of the Club of Lomé (Togo), in person. Before the beginning of the meeting, the participants were greeted by the Mayor of the City of Beausoleil, Gérard Spinelli, who wished everyone well. At the end of the meetings, the City Administration offered an aperitif on the terrace of "Building Le Centre" overlooking the beautiful town of Beausoleil, adjacent to Monte Carlo.

After the presentation of each President to the Presidency Committee's reports, The Committee drew up the Final Document of the District Presidents, which shows the efforts made by each District towards PI's development and the initiatives aimed at young people and schools. They also stressed the willingness to participate in the establishment of the Ethics Commission, which will be a fundamental tool for international associations, especially those belonging to the Olympic Family, such as the Panathlon International.

Even the International Council was in full attendance with only 2 absentees : past President Giacomo Santini who was otherwise engaged in Slovenia establishing a new Club; and Treasurer, Stefano Giulieri, who was connected

remotely from home. On Friday, October 14th, numerous topics were discussed and, in particular, following the reports of the President, Treasurer and General Secretary, the projects which have carried out as well as new ideas to be implemented.

In particular, the decision was taken to: repeat Project "Club +sensitive to sport x all" biannually; to continue with Projects carried out with the Foundation (photography) and with the Foundation and FICTS (short films); to continue the project of providing promotional material to Clubs by the General Secretary; and, to continue with project "Fair Play starts again at school". Regarding new projects, the focus was on the possibility of being at Paris 2024 Olympic Games with a booth to study new forms of support for athletes as stated in the Final Resolution of the Round Table "The Effects of Conflict and Politics in Sport"; to continue and implement the collaboration with One-Ocean (sport and environment); to establish the IP Ethics Commission with the collaboration of one or more District Presidents; and to implement a special project involving athletes as PI Testimonials.

The need to adapt PI regulations to statutory amendments, approved during the Lausanne General Assembly, was also highlighted.

All sessions were intense and attended in a satisfactory manner with many points of agreement and goals to work on over the next period.

Proceedings came to an end at "Rocca di Montecarlo" in front of the Castelroc Palace, a dinner was held in an elegant, pleasurable and friendly atmosphere where you could enjoy the view of the city at night.

The next day, before the heading off, "Monte Carlo Country Club" venue of the ATP Monte-Carlo Masters tournament, was visited, which is also home to the Monte-Carlo Tennis Academy, historic centre of the beautiful Monegasque town.

Thanks to President of Beausoleil-Riviera Française Club, Bruno Catelin and the Treasurer of the District of France, Gérard De Stefanis, who together with their expertise and collaboration, made the PI's leaders' stay in the beautiful French Riviera even more pleasant.

The next meeting in the calendar will be in Cochabamba (Bolivia) where the South American Districts will meet to discuss the topic of "Panathletic Movement and The Community".

Final document

The meeting of the District Presidents ended at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, October 14.

The District Presidents, both in-person and online, indicated District Belgium President Paul Standaert as the delegate to take the floor and list the items and proposals to be submitted to the President at the International Board.

The Presidents, before listing their proposals, thanked the International President, the General Secretary, the General Secretariat for all their work and Bruno Catelin together with Gérard Destefanis for their excellent organization.

Below are the main points covered by the District Presidents:

- 1)** The reports presented by the District Presidents had one feature in common: they all stress the strong commitment to the development of Panathlon International;
- 2)** This year all Districts have made strong efforts to restart Club activities that had been interrupted due to the pandemic;
- 3)** All Districts have carried out an increasing number of initiatives aimed at both youth and schools and are making strong efforts to acquire new members;

4) The Presidents feel the need to improve the exchange of information on successful initiatives in order to standardize future projects;

5) In reference to point 4, they want take advantage of technology, hoping to meet several times a year;

6) They also shared and appreciated the need to promote the cultural values of sports in all possible venues;

7) The District Presidents, taking the cue from President Zappelli's suggestion who informed that the IOC foresees the obligation of an Ethics Commission, decided to adhere to the President's request and form an Ethics Commission, composed of their representatives;

8) The Presidents ask the Expansion Commission for special attention to the promotion of Panathlon International in new Continents, not forgetting to increase and strengthen the Continents that are already part of Panathlon International.

At the end of the meeting, the Presidents unanimously agreed on the drafting of these minutes, hoping to meet online as soon as possible to continue the work done so far by progressing with other significant projects for the development and consolidation of Panathlon International.

Ethics and Integrity in Sport

No a razzismo, xenofobia, doping, scommesse, infiltrazioni criminali nelle pratiche sportive. Quarantotto esperti e cento istituzioni sportive ne hanno discusso per tre giorni

The event “ÉTICA SUMMIT 2022” took place from the 30th of September until the 2nd of October 2022, which focused its strategic objectives on promoting debate, reflection, sharing of ideas, knowledge and good practices on ethics, fair play in sport.

As a 100% online event, its operational and technical center was installed at the Faculty “Faculdade de Motricidade Humana”, in Cruz Quebrada, from where the broadcast of the sessions that make up the event program were broadcast to the entire Portuguese-speaking space.

For 3 days, 48 expert speakers from several Portuguese-speaking countries shared their ideas and knowledge, in conferences, round tables and workshops, on various topics such as “ethical values”, “genetic manipulation”, “racism and xenophobia”, “manipulation of results”, doping and anti-doping”, or “professional sport versus amateur sport”, “criminal infiltration in sport” and also, “inclusion and equality”.

This event aimed to involve all those who directly or indirectly relate to and/or intervene in the sports world, such as athletes, coaches, referees and judges, teachers, researchers, doctors, journalists, professionals, students and fans in general.

At the same time, it was intended that the Ethics Summit would be an opportunity for grassroots sports structures and civil society institutions to make a commitment around the promotion of ethics and integrity in sport, in the Lusophony triangle. In this sense, it should be noted that around 100 entities (associations, federations, confederations and others) formalized their support for the event, something that denotes a high interest shown by the need to reinforce the promotion of ethics and integrity in sport.

On September 30, we had the opening session, with the presence of the President of the Panathlon Clube de Lisboa - Mário Almeida, the President of the Federal Council of Physical Education - Cláudio Bochi, the member of the Board of the Portuguese Institute of Sports and Youth - Carlos Pereira; from the President of the Sports Foundation - Paulo Frischknecht, from the President of the Lusophone Confederation of Coaches - Pedro Sequeira and from the President of the Panathlon District of Brazil - Pedro Souza - the idea being unanimous that the “Ética



Summit” event is a huge opportunity for mobilizing of all around issues related to sports ethics.

On the 1st of October, we had thematic panels with great participation and strong debate, such as “Current challenges: genetics in sport” and “Sport and the development of values, from the young ages”, “Integrity of sport - new risks and new requirements”, “Good governance and transparency - factors of credibility and sustainability”, “Criminal infiltration in sport - regulatory framework in force” and “Professional / amateur sport - specifics in terms of integrity”.

On October 2nd, the main topics of debate were “Doping and anti-doping - situation in Portuguese-speaking countries”, “Anti-doping and fundamental ethical principles”, “Sanctions on Anti-Doping - sufficiently dissuasive?”, “Inclusion and equality - ethical approach -legal”, “Racism and xenophobia - unifying and dividing sport” and “Gender equality - action for inclusion and combating discrimination”.

More than 1000 registered participants in this event, who were distributed among the different panels, on the different days, had the opportunity to attend a very rich event, both in its content and in the reflections generated in each session.

Of note were the exchanges carried out between participants from different Lusophone communities. It was also clear the need to establish strategies so that organizations from different countries can work together, aiming at convergence, mobilization, sharing of resources and the ability to generate more information and more training for all sports agents.

In the closing session, in addition to Mário Almeida (President of the Panathlon Clube de Lisboa), Fábio Figueiras (Chair of the Event) and Jorge Carvalho (EC member of the event), Almir Adolfo Gruhn (President of FIEFE), Ave-lino Azevedo (President of CNAPEF), Mariana Carvalho (President of the National Confederation of Parents' Associations) and Luís Sardinha (President of the Faculty of Human Motricity).

According to the organization, the event fulfilled the proposed objectives, being the first of its kind organized in the Portuguese-speaking space. Firstly, because it assumed itself as an event generated within sports organizations, for civil and sports society. Then, because it al-

lowed a strong collaboration between organizations from different Portuguese-speaking countries, which worked together since a year ago, when the preparation of the Ethics Summit began. And finally, launched the debate on topics until recently, considered "taboo", for which it is essential to set a strategic and mobilizing agenda in all Portuguese-speaking countries.

This event would not have been possible without the support of the Portuguese Institute of Sports and Youth, the Sports Foundation, the Federal Council of Physical Education, the Panathlon International District of Brasil, the Faculdade Motricidade Humana, SportMagazine, the Jornal A Bola, RTP and also EDUGEP (digital partner) and the entities that make up the Honor Committee (of which Panathlon International is part of) and the Institutional Support Committee.



45% of European citizens do not practice any sport

Eurobarometer

Public Opinion in the European Union

The updated edition of the 2022 Eurobarometer on sport, the European Commission study describing state of the art of sports practice in various EU countries, has been published. This is an important edition - the first of the post-restriction era since Covid-19.

The survey showed that 38% of Europeans do sports and physical activity at least once a week, compared to 17% who, instead, play sports less than once a week. Today, 45% of Europeans never play sport or exercise. All in all, the Eurobarometer shows that those who engage in physical activity and sport on a regular basis are mainly those between the ages of 15 and 24, representing 54% and decreasing with age.

Among the motivations most reported by respondents in Italy, was the need to improve health, for 48% of people interviewed, followed by the desire to feel fit (42%) and try new methods of relaxation (31%). Lack of time, on the other hand, is one of the main obstacles to physical activity, followed by lack of motivation or interest in sport. This figure affects 40% of people in our country.

About half of the people interviewed expressed the desire to carry out physical activity and outdoor sports, followed by those having the intention to carry it out in their own homes (16% in Italy).

More than 4 out of 10 Europeans spend between 2 hours and 31 minutes and 5 hours and 30 minutes sitting on a normal day. Sedentary behaviour affects 42% of respondents.

The gender gap is still present: men engage more regularly in physical activity than women (70% versus 62%). But it is interesting to note that about six out of ten people surveyed, follow both male and female sports with the same levels of interest. In addition, 75% of the people surveyed - 85% in Italy - thought gender-based violence in sport deserves greater attention. Despite the growing emphasis on promoting physical activity in EU Member States, especially following the

pandemic, EU physical inactivity rates remain "alarming" low. Although the percentage of Europeans who never exercise or never play a sport has slightly decreased between 2017 and 2022, it has grown since 2009: rising from 39% in 2009 to 42% in 2013, 46% in 2017 and 45% in 2022.

Vice-President for Promoting the European Way of Life, Margaritis Schinas, said: "Sport alone will not solve all of our problems, but apart from the very obvious benefits to our health, it also has the unique potential to connect us to each other making us feel we are part of a community. Sport has an important role to play in building cohesive societies, which is one of the biggest challenges Europe is facing today. We have already reached out to millions through our initiatives, but today's Eurobarometer shows us that we must continue to find new ways to motivate Europeans in getting active."

Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Mariya Gabriel, said: "The findings we are presenting today show that, through sport, it is vitally important to continue stepping up our efforts to promote physical activity, healthy lifestyles and universal values, from gender equality to inclusiveness."

We have already launched some valuable initiatives to encourage people to be more active, and the European Week of Sport, which will start at the end of this week, is one of these with events and actions in every corner of Europe. Working with Member States and partners from the European sports family, from athletes to coaches and grassroots clubs, and particularly for young people in this European Year of Youth, we will yet again use the Week to encourage all Europeans to engage in physical activity."

Another flag flying for the Panathlon family

“Primorska Slovenija” has opened in Nova Gorica and is already reaching out towards other regions of Eastern Europe

The first Panathlon club in Slovenia has been started in New Gorica. For our association this event has an added historical flavour as it is the first time our Flambeau has illuminated a nation of Eastern Europe. Through this door that opens out to central Europe, as well as the Adriatic coast of the former Yugoslavia, other clubs in surrounding areas may also join.

In the meantime we should update this new entry in our historical table with the nations that are part of Panathlon International now totalling 26.

The event is also very significant for a territory where all kinds of sports are practiced by many people.

In addition, a new step forward has been taken in the common historical journey between the two cities of Nova Gorica and Gorizia, which have been linked by deep ties of partnership since Slovenia joined the European Union in 2004.

Already, the path towards European membership signalled a strong capacity for cross-border cooperation, overcoming not only the boundaries that physically divided the two cities, but also the historical and political events that had created those barriers.

The architects of this event have also been able to bring their will and resources resulting in further initiatives in surrounding regions.

The director of the operation, on the Italian side, was Panathlon's governor of area 12, Paolo Perin, who took the outstretched hand of Miran Mullner, first president of Nuova Gorica, the driving force, on the Slovenian side, and Patrick Perosa, the Koper elected secretary. The club was named “Primorska Slovenija” whose name already alludes towards targeting a large part of the Adriatic coast.

The opening event was attended by Sergio Lapo, president of Club Gorizia, Sepp Mueller, governor Panathlon Austria also very interested in this new landmark, in addition to Francesco Giuseppe Falco, governor of area 1 Veneto, Trentino Alto Adige.

Representing Panathlon International to bear witness to the inauguration was past President, Giacomo Santini, who handed the official act of constitution and affixed badges to the very first members.

It was also very significant that representatives were present from other cross-border and territorial associations such as Friuli Venezia Giulia's CONI with its president,

Giorgio Brandolin, as well as the Italian Union of Slovenia and Croatia.

With the opening of this new club the project of cross-border cooperation in sports has already started and has been further reinforced by Alpe Adria Sport, the patronage of relevant regions and the European Union. Finally, the launch of this club, closely linked to the one in Gorizia, places Panathlon among the most important protagonists of 2025's celebrations when the two cities will be proclaimed “European Cities of Culture” by the European Union.

The first practical input was given by president of Friuli Venezia Giulia's CONI, Giorgio Brandolin, who has already started the establishment of an under 20's football team with players from the two cities and enrolled in Slovenia's youth league.



Participants at the opening ceremony and witnesses, both Italian and Slovenian, of the birth of a new club



International Past President, Giacomo Santini, presents the founding certificate of the first Slovenian club to President, Miran Mullner, in the presence of Governor, Paolo Perin

One Thousand kilometer relay!



The 1000km Fair Play - a great relay uniting all members of Panathlon Wallonie-Brussels on foot and by bike - took place between 20 and 24 September during the European Week of Sport.

The goal was reached: passing the baton 80 times to bring Fair-Play to the forefront of sports clubs, schools and other organisations within Wallonia-Brussels Federa-

tion moreover demonstrating how it is an essential part of our society.

The relay race officially ended on Saturday 24 September in the centre of Wallonie-Bruxelles Federation centre in Yvoir.

In Soignies: 380 young fair play ambassadors

In Soignies, Belgium, 380 children from sixth year primary school, and many other schools in the region, participated in fair play day, which started in very Olympic style with an oath.

Following the program, there were then games of poullball, unihockey and tchouckball that have as a basic philosophy: respect for the opposing team. With the same spirit the group competition in wheelchairs was trialled, with the participation of many volunteers and with the guiding principle that each group remains united until the finish line.

The day was sponsored by Panathlon Wallonia-Brussels - an organization that aims to promote fair play in society through sport.

“Panathlon is part of an international movement that works to improve communication on fair play and ethics in sport,” said Erik Bauwens, administrator of Panathlon.



It brings together Olympic movements, federations, but also partner cities. Fair play is a value that, broadly speaking, everyone shares in sport. But from time to time, when clubs are resuming their activities, just as they are now in September, everyone needs a reminder.»

Fair play day was organized, for a second time, by the sports department of Soignies.

"We collaborated with the Panathlon a few years ago," says Quentin Bare of the city's sports department. We always wanted to work together on a project. And by talking to some of the gymnastics teachers in the region, we knew we'd be able to have a day like today. It is essential to address values like this, especially through sport. »

In the early afternoon, the pupils spread out on the rugby pitch.

But not in any random way - it was necessary to position yourself near the cones arranged in such a way as to spell out the word "respect".

A value widely shared by these participants on fair play day.

DISTRICT ITALY / LA MALPENSA CLUB

Award to Giuseppe Saronni in memory of Sergio Allegrini

The great cycling champion celebrated the 40th anniversary of his World Championship victory with a pledge to join Panathlon

by Sergio La Torre

Cycling was the main subject during the evening of the 2nd Panathlon Day at "La Malpensa" Club where the 40th anniversary of Beppe Saronni's victory at the World Championships, held in Goodwood in England, was celebrated.

His famous "bolt" still excited those who were present at the gathering, which was organized at Villa Renoir in Cerro Maggiore and supported by the presentation of the prestigious Fiamma Panathlon Award to the champion from Parabiago.

The award is even more poignant considering that, starting from this edition, the Fiamma Panathlon "La Malpensa" Award was named after Sergio Allegrini, from Legnano, who was for years secretary general of Panathlon International and who recently passed away. The event was even further enhanced by the presence FCI president, Cordiano Dagnoni who, along with Beppe Saronni, was asked questions by Sergio Gianoli, the first signee to Prealpina cycling.

A digression that enthralled participants such were the anecdotes of the never-ending rivalry with Francesco Moser and it was certainly the common thread revealing the several unheard stories and made the gathering particularly pleasant. Giovanni Castiglioni, President of the Panathletic Association of "Malpensa", also welcomed Banca Generali, main sponsor for the evening, who was there with the District Manager, Guido Stancanelli, Financial Advisor, Giacomo Bergamaschi and Secretary



Presentation of "Sergio Allegrini" memorial to Beppe Saronni who is with Panathlon directors and Federciclismo president, Cordiano Dagnoni (to his left)

General and Director of the Varesotto Ambiente Foundation, Carlo Massironi.

Two important awards were also handed out during the evening: the first was given to the Municipality of Legnano, represented by the Councillor Monica Berna Nasca, for contributions made by their administration to Panathletic initiatives; the second one was given to Pino Pagani, Class of 1930, Panathlon member and historical memory of Legnano cycling.

District Italy President, Panathlon Giorgio Costa, always close to the initiatives of Club Malpensa, came especially from Rapallo to present the awards.

At the end of the evening President, Giovanni Castiglioni, announced that Beppe Saronni would soon become a member of Panathlon "La Malpensa" - an addition that will undoubtedly give further prestige to a club which is especially active and proactive.

A permanent exhibition on sporting champions

Club Cuneo's get together was held at the "WHEEL 2" restaurant in Andonno - Valdieri and its hosts included Cuneo's Local Tourist Agency represented by their President, Mauro Bernardi, and Director, Paolo Bruno. Also present, were Borgo S. Dalmazzo's Mayor, Roberta Robbione as well as Councillor for Sport, Francesco Rosato, and the President of Parco Alpi Marittime, Piermario Giordano.

The main reason for the event was to unveil the permanent exhibition of sport dedicated to the lawyer, Antonio Bertone. The exhibition is the first of its kind in Italy offering visitors an authentic journey through sport: from cycling to rhythmic gymnastics, volleyball to athletics, and skiing to canoeing.

The exhibition is made up of over 140 commemorative memorabilia from sporting events, which are of particular importance to Cuneo. The Museum evokes the most significant moments of some of the great names in sport including Franco Arese, Maurizio Damilano and Attilio Bravi (Athletics); Paolo De Chiesa (Alpine Skiing); Maria Rosa Rosato (Rhythmic Gymnastics); Corrado Donadio (Cycling); Stefania Belmondo (Cross-country Skiing); and, Silvano Prandi (Volleyball).

During the meeting, led by President Giovanni Mellano, the commitment and collaboration of A.T.L Administration with Panathlon to raise awareness, admire and attend this flagship of the Cuneo Association was highlighted. During A.T.L. President Mauro Bernardi's speech, he highlighted efforts made by the Agency to support Cuneo's great champions underlining the commitment to mutual collaboration with Panathlon Cuneo.



Through the evening the new Mayor and Councillor for Sport of Borgo S. Dalmazzo highlighted the role of Cuneo Club in sports' culture and the promotional activity carried out with local schools to spread pan-athletic values inspired by training young people through clean sport, fairplay and fairness.

The speech by President of the Park, Piermario Giordano, also a pan-athlete, highlighted the ongoing collaborations between those present, to raise awareness on opportunities within the area as well as the territory's great sporting potential. At the end of the evening there were the customary exchange of tributes between those present before a final farewell was made by host Giovanni Mellano.



Active athletes can donate blood

Message from Mirko Rimessi outstanding in the World Online Cup in Berlin: 58th out of almost 5000 starters!

by Alessio Brissolese

As every year, the BMW Berlin Marathon animates the Berlin's sporting September with high-level competitions as well as solidarity and humanitarian initiatives such as blood donation by athletes.

After the running race, the most participated in and famous marathon for skaters on the planet has returned as well as an elite race, which was hosted within the marathon, and is valid as the final stage of the World Online Cup where the Olympic "ice" champion, the Belgian Bart Swings, "hit" again with his 8th victory and setting a new record in a stunning 56.45 mins.

In the online race, Mirko Rimessi's (standard-bearer of Gymnastics Gym Ferrara) gave an outstanding performance finishing the marathon on the most prestigious skates in the world in just 1hr and 5.15 mins - an exceptional time earning him 58th place overall, which is a result of prestige considering there were almost 5000 starters; and it was close to his best performance ever, which had been achieved on German roads in 2009.

The only regret was that in World Cup races there are not separate rankings for age; and if there had been, Rimessi would have reached a podium place as, this year, he entered 40-49 years old category ("although I will only be forty in a few days", he wanted to point out).

In any case, the goal was more ethical than competitive: to promote blood and plasma donation in sports, even during periods of activity.

The athlete from Ferrara in fact only produced his great performance after having already made his 6 donations for the year (the limit established by AVIS of Ferrara for each solar year) a few days ago; and his 55th donation since, at just over 18 years of age, he started doing this thanks to the promotion of blood donation by AVIS, which they do near scholastic institutes.

Il messaggio che quindi ha lanciato sui social prima e dopo la trasferta berlinese è rivolto a tutti gli sportivi: avvicinatevi senza paura e senza remore alla donazione del sangue anche mentre praticate sport.

The message then that he launched on social media before and after the Berlin trip is addressed to all



sportsmen and women: donate blood without fear and without hesitation even while practicing sports.

As a matter of fact, athletes make excellent donors and thanks to this humanitarian gesture, have another way for their fitness to be monitored - thanks to the analyses that are made with each donation.

Those who want to donate have only to get in touch with AVIS - they will answer any questions and even respond to any doubts from doctors in charge of the blood donation process.

Sporty 10 days in our school group: we like to move!

In collaboration with Panathlon International (a network platform for sports ambassadors) all primary schools of GO! Ghent school group celebrated the European Week of Sport. On the kick off on Monday 26 September, the cross-country race in Merelbeke and the Pierkesloop in the following days, children once again gave the best of themselves!

A report of these three sporting events:

Joint kick-off #EuropeseWeekvandeSport 3th edition.

We can already speak of a real tradition: It is the third time that we as 'a school group' organize such a week full of activities. The primary schools of our school group kick off the European Week of Sport every year with a joint exercise activity: the muscles of 4,500 children and their teachers got a nice warm-up again. Kevin Eggermont, director of primary education section of our schools: 'With initiatives like this, we make children aware of the importance of sports and health in a playful way. All our schools are working on this for a whole school year, but for the European Week of Sport we always make an extra effort (wink wink)'.

Movie GO! Primary school Merelbeke Flora: Next year already the 20th edition!

Cross-country race Merelbeke

The European Week of Sport was the ideal warm-up for the annual cross-country run of our school group for pupils from the primary schools and their teachers and parents. Wednesday, October 5th was the day! The sports

council and the teachers' team of GO! primary school Merelbeke once again provided a great organization. The green domain of the school is also the perfect location for a top field run. We enjoyed it very much together with the 'athletes' and are already counting down to the anniversary 20th edition next year.

Pierkes-run 25th edition

'Pierke' is a Flemish word for 'kiddie' but also a character of a local puppetry theater.

2500 kids come on a Sunday morning together with their parents to the Stadium to run in age groups. All participants are medalists. Every runner is a winner and adults, dressed as a 'Pierke' run alongside the children who have difficulty. At the end of the day their parents also run a tour to close this event.

The Pierkes-run celebrated its anniversary this year: for 25 years, the pupils of the Ghent primary schools have been coming to Gentbrugge to walk together with the Pierkes.

The Pierkes-run 2022 on Sunday 9 October was therefore a real festive edition with an opening parade around the track and extra animation. Children of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades ran 600m. The 4th, 5th and 6th grade 1000m. Teachers, parents and older siblings also participated. New this year: toddlers also got the chance to run 200m.

In short, the Pierkes-run 2022 was a lot of happy faces and above all: all winners!



On this picture some children together with Olympian marathon medallist Mr Bashir Abdi.

For 40 years of memories and all of them in the mountains

With a party at the Hotel de la Prairie, the Panathlon Club Yverdon-les-Bains (Switzerland) celebrated its 40th anniversary.

The anniversary was originally scheduled for 2021, but was postponed due to COVID. The delay has not lessened the enthusiasm, and indeed the long wait made the encounter between the current associates and founders all the more vibrant.

This very important celebration was attended by International President, Pierre Zappelli, who carried with him the very best wishes from Panathlon International. Club President, Christian Aubert, masterfully introduced the evening and led it along the lines of memory of completed initiatives and future programs in order to continue honouring Panathlon's ideals in a territory that particularly lends itself to sporting activities.

A extremely exciting moment was when the Club's first female member, Madame Denise Bonny, famous for her performances as a marathon runner and passionate protagonist of Olympic ideals among young people, was given the floor to recount a personal memory.

Other founding members enriched the album of memo-

ries with their own personal motivations and the re-enactment of many shared initiatives.

The icing on the anniversary cake was made the next day with a hike up to the top of the Moléson. As proof of the importance of the club's activity and the significance of the anniversary, the local newspaper dedicated considerable space within the sports news section, also reporting the speech of President Zappelli.



FRANCE DISTRICT

Over a thousand participants at Montagne Neuchâtel's Family day

Record attendance at the 4th edition of the Family Games, held in La Chaux-de-fonds, and organized by the Panathlon Club Montagne di Neuchâteloises. More than 1,000 participants took part in sports activities including families and young people.

"This year's event exceeded our expectations," said Jean-Claude Perroud, President of Montagne in Neuchâteloises Panathlon Club who organised the event. "Families and young people came in large numbers with total participants exceeding 1,000, which is double the previous year, and they all benefited from about thirty free sports activities."

Among the participants were also six groups of Ukrainian refugees" continued the organizer. "We are responding to an expectation of the ever-greater need for social ties through the sport. And this day has played a integrating role for which the families are grateful to us."

Re-motivate young people

Jean-Claude Perroud hopes that the Family Games, which are sponsored this year by the famous football coach



Bernard Challandes, will have given back just the right taste of sport to young people after the pandemic.

"Children's Aid was also here providing support to families who cannot afford to pay for their childrens' sports activity," said Perroud, also thanking the seven volunteers and clubs present: "Without their support, we would never have been able to organize such an event".

Celebrating the epic story of the oar for the 130 years anniversary of the F.I.S.A.

Outstanding exhibition and a book by Franco Stener - among those present Giuseppe Abbagnale and Denis Oswald

by Andrea Ceccotti
Area12 FVG Communication

The sound of oars entering the water simultaneously, the lapping of skiffs in the water; and all this within the halls of NH Hotel in Trieste, location of Panathlon Club's Gathering on Saturday October 15th.

Amongst the illustrious guests were Gian Piero Galeazzi also known as "Bisteccone", as another historical sports journalist, Gilberto Evangelisti, loudly announced him in his memorable sports broadcasts: Giuseppe Abbagnale and Denis Oswald, the two outstanding attendees at Trieste for celebrations marking the anniversary of the capital of Adriatic members, which was together with Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, and France founded modern rowing 130 years ago.

Following the philatelic cancellation in June, a gripping and successful race on the first weekend of September - hosted by Panathlon Trieste - the opening of a historical-photographic exhibition entitled "Rowing in Friuli Venezia Giulia" completed festivities. After the traditional ribbon-cutting ceremony by Oswald, along with Abbagnale and Santini, the video put forward by National Councillor, D'Ambrosi (edited by Beatrice Millo) - and was a compelling overture - who, together with President Scaini's FIC Regional Committee of Friuli Venezia Giulia, personally organised this unique event, as cited by World Rowing President Jean-Cristophe Roland, on the occasion of the World Rowing Ordinary Congress in Prague on September 22, in front of the entire rowing world, recognizing the role and sporting awareness of Trieste, and the applause of CONI National President Malagò, who was receiving on Friday afternoon, at the FIC Federal Council meeting, the folder with the philatelic cancellation of the 130th anniversary of the International Federation.

After speeches by Panathlon Trieste President, Stener, City Council President, Panteca, FIC-FVG Committee President, Scaini, Regional Councillor, Calligaris, Panathlon International Past-President, Santini, and Area 12 Governor, Perin - acknowledged by an audience of Trieste panathletes - it was the turn of the two guests of honor. Giuseppe Abbagnale reviewed his leadership career in the aftermath of his last boat race, which took him to three federal terms in a crescendo of world and Olympic successes for Italian national teams. Denis Oswald, past-President and Honorary President of FISA and member of the IOC, accepted and overcame the "challenge" of a speech in Italian, surprising everyone by expressing important appreciations for how such a heartfelt anniversary was celebrated by Trieste and the Italian Rowing Federation.

It was an international breath of fresh air received by Panathlon Trieste, as well as by the representatives of all the

rowing companies of Friuli Venezia Giulia, who felt themselves an integral part of a movement that 130 years after its establishment is proactive, engaging and alive as ever. At the end of the evening, all those present were presented with the book "Remi A Nordest Ieri e Oggi" (Oars at Northwest Today & Tomorrow) written by President of Panathlon Club Trieste, Franco Stener, curator of the exhibition who is credited with numerous publications on homeland and sports history for which the subject of rowing features strongly.



The speech of Olympic champion and president of the Italian Rowing Federation, Giuseppe Abbagnale, with (left) Denis Oswald, past-President and Honorary President of FISA and member of the IOC, (standing up) President of Club Trieste, Franco Stener, and author of celebratory edition and exhibition as well as Past President of Panathlon International, Giacomo Santini.



A glimpse of the spectacular exhibition celebrating the 130 year anniversary of the foundation of the International Rowing Federation

Small Republic, great results at Orano's Mediterranean Games

The evening, dedicated by Panathlon Club San Marino to the Mediterranean Games of Oran 2022, was a great success. The guests at the Club were participants of a successful trip led by the San Marino National Olympic Committee's President, Gian Primo Giardi, Head of Mission Anna Lisa Ciavatta and Deputy Head of Mission Bruno Gennari. The Bocce winners included Anna Maria Ciucci, Stella Paoletti, Enrico Dall'Olmo and Jacopo Frisoni; as well as swimmer, Alessandro Rebosio, who was also invited as the youngest representative of the expedition.



The evening's opening was however the entrance ceremony of new Club Partner, Sara Giusti, representing the sport of swimming and introduced by members Lucio Daniele and Riccardo Tentoni. The evening continued with the speeches and feedback from guests present starting with CONS President, Giardi, who made an extremely positive assessment praising all athletes for the commitment and professionalism they had shown throughout the Games.

Head of Mission, Ciavatta, and Deputy, Gennari, expressed their satisfaction for how the Games were organized and how the organizers made it an easy and welcoming stay for the boys and escorts. The evening ended with a nice talk from the athletes on how proud they felt and what it means to see San Marino's flag represented at these awards irrespective of the colour of medal. Our guys have shown their passion for sport as well as being both responsible and aware of representing a state which despite its size is blessed with great secular traditions.

DISTRICT BRAZIL / RECIFE CLUB

For the 43rd anniversary celebrations and memories

Panathlon Club Recife celebrated its 43rd anniversary in September with the attendance of its founding members, Sérgio Flório and José Lapa, as well as its current panathletes.

President, Carolina Maciel, compiled a historical report of the Club, from its foundation up to the present day - countless programs, activities, actions and initiatives in the field of sport inspired by the ideals of Panathlon International's directives as well as the ever colorful and imaginative dynamics of District Brazil.

During the celebration, the figure of Henrique Nicolini, remarkable promoter of panathletic initiatives in Brazil for decades, was recalled. Nicolini was present at the opening of Recife Club 43 years ago as he did with most of the carioca clubs during his long tenancy within the ranks of Panathlon.



Playing increasingly important role for women in sport

Panathlon Club Innsbruck/Tyrol's "Having women in top-level sports is essential" was a high-profile event held on the club's 55th anniversary in collaboration with Tirol TV, Tiroler Tageszeitung and Austrian Ministry of Sport.

The role of women in sport - as athletes, coaches, managers, mothers - also has much to do with equality. The Panathlon movement is dedicated to this theme and the Panathlon Club Innsbruck has made it its motto for the anniversary: "Having women in top-level sports is essential". And with the attention generated from numerous visitors and important personalities from the Tyrolean sports world it just goes to show how engaging this subject is.

In the BFI-Tirol's ballroom in Innsbruck, a group of high-level experts met to study this theme from many different angles. President of Panathlon Innsbruck, Dr. Winfried Sponring, welcomed among others the Tyrolean Deputy Governor, Ingrid Felipe; Tyrolean Vice-President Sophia Kircher; Austrian National Councillor Kira Grünberg (who uses a wheelchair as a result a terrible fall during a pole jump); and Innsbruck City Sports Councillor, Elisabeth Mayr. All representatives who were actively involved in sport as handball players, athletic athletes, skiers, volleyball players or officials.

PC President Innsbruck, Winfried Sponring, has already underlined the problematic nature of this theme in his welcome speech with "Women in Sport" - I would like to expand to: "women in top-level sports" - with the emphasis on "top-level sports", the goal is wide-ranging and does not focus as much on the questions: "How much money can I earn with or through sport? Why don't I earn as much as men?" etc.

It is more important to answer the question: "How much money is spent on sport by the public sector?"

President Sponring added: in principle, every woman must be able to practice the same sports as men and not be disadvantaged. It is not enough to just insist on equality.

Women themselves must do more to achieve their goals and work to change structures.

The potential is definitely there, if you look at the number of women who are capable. It is enough to take away from us men a significant part for women's sport. We men are not women and we "develop" differently, even when we are engaged in women's sport. The change of mentality must start from children and young people". That this theme must be highlighted was also

demonstrated by the video messages of the two winners of Panathlon, Barbara Schett, former top ten tennis player, and the two-time Olympic snowboarder, Nici Pederzolli-Rottmann: "Let us never give up and continue asking for equal opportunities in sports".

District President, Sepp Müller, thanked the club for raising the issue and outlined a wish: "We also need a greater awareness of lesser-known sports in which women participate".

The fact that this event was wide-reaching and was a great success is also due to the Vice-President of Panathlon Innsbruck, Univ. Prof. Dr. Günther Mitterbauer. Thanks to his work in preparing the content a varied and high-level program was created. This was also evident during the event.

Young female talent and coaches or athletes with disabilities: just two topics that came to the fore thanks to the presence of a well-represented panel. Among others were: in the field of synchronized swimming were coach Jana Petris with Anna Petris (12 years); golf coach Anna Kogler with Amelie Wolf (14 years); and Kira Grünberg and Claudia Lösch, two-time gold medalist at the 2010



Winter Paralympics. A roundtable with Toboggan World Cup winner, Madelaine Egle, national figure skating champion, Anita Kapferer, and weightlifter, Victoria Steiner, were worthy of the finale.

"This event is a sign that we must do more in this area," Vice President Kircher stressed. "We simply need to better integrate women into the existing infrastructure," added Tyrolean Deputy Governor Felipe.

National Councillor, Grünberg, just like successful disabled athlete, Claudia Lösch, both have only one wish: "We need to get girls into sport as soon as possible and make sure they stay there, and create better opportunities to play sports, especially in rural areas".

Coordinator, Univ. Prof. Mitterbauer and Vice President of PC Innsbruck, summed up the common message of all athletes and officials: "It's not just panathletes who need put women in the spotlight to fight for fairer framework conditions".

The highlight of the event was the tribute to the great lady and pioneer of Tyrolean volleyball, Therese Achammer, who celebrated her 80th birthday. She was in great physical and mental form and continues to actively engage in women's volleyball. The vice-president of Panathlon Club, Mitterbauer, praised and paid tribute to her "life's work" as a player, coach and official. District President, Sepp Müller, and PC Innsbruck President, Winfried Sponring, also presented a certificate of honour.

PANATHLON BOOKSHOP

Dusty sandals by a special correspondent

So much sport, so much humanity and so much irony in memory of the Past International President as a commentator and MEP

"How many stones in my sandals" has arrived in Panathlon - a book of sporting memories written by none other than past international president, Giacomo Santini. It is not the first publication, indeed it is in good company along with twenty previous publications, resulting from his work as special correspondent of RAI-TV in sport, with twenty full seasons of cycling and skiing, eight Olympics and other world events.

This book, however, takes sport as a pretext to broaden the intense experience of observer as author, to the many human aspects and ethical values that go beyond competition and rankings.

As the author himself points out, it is not an autobiography but a collection of experiences and encounters with interesting and extraordinary characters from the world of sports and contemporary history.

In addition to twenty years' experience as a special correspondent and radio-commentator, Santini also brings together events and meetings that have characterized his commitment as a Member of the European Parliament and senator of the Italian Republic from 1994 to 2013.

It is a small anthology of apparently unrelated stories, sometimes lively, sometimes thoughtful, sometimes dramatic, flowing along with the chronological thread of the passing years, without setting timeframes for emotions

and reflections that were aroused.

The common factor is the widespread thread of detached irony with which Santini manages to defuse often critical situations, putting scoops and defeats on the same level, as the inevitable stages worthy of being lived.

There is also a chapter dedicated to his experience in Panathlon, which began in 1977 at the club of Trento where he was president for six years. In 2012, he was elected as International President and since 2016, has also served as past president, head of communications and director of this very magazine.

For this assignment, Santini was reluctant to publishing this review fearing a conflict of interest. To many it seemed right, however, to give him something back in return for what he has done for so many panathlete authors of books over the past ten years.

"Quanti sassi nei miei sandali" ("How many stones in my sandals") was published by VITREND (Trento), with "non preface" by Gian Paolo Ormezzano and "post faction" by Diego Andreatta, Director of Vita Trentina.



Como Club's place confirmed amongst the top for cycling

In this magazine the club of Como has already been at the center of a praiseworthy article for having found its place, in its own right, among the organizers of Giro di Lombardia, the most important professional cycling classic that closes the season in Italy, during October.

The logo is on display on the official poster, together with other local authorities, sports associations and sponsors. In this way, Panathlon enters into a "living" dimension of sport at the highest professional levels raising awareness on the aims of our movement. This way of putting itself forward is extremely intelligent, indeed astute, and it joins other organizational initiatives where Panathlon is the direct promoter and the sponsor.

This is the big difference: at Giro di Lombardia Panathlon does not spend anything, other than the commitment and effort of some panathletes who very willingly participate in the many race services that such an important event requires.

And, in return, the organizers have offered an official thanks for this participation as well as the honour of being a privileged partner.

We all know the balancing act clubs do, financially, to organize, on their own initiative, events that promote their existence and the messages they want to send throughout the world of sport.

Learn from Como: enter high-level events, alongside prestigious organisations, with the only cost of providing ethical and personal services. Which is, after all, our mission in sport.



Coming up in the next Edition: Feature on the Pan-American Conference in Bolivia

The 14th Pan-American Congress held in Cochabamba, Bolivia, has always had the utmost strategic importance in spreading Panathlon International's message throughout the American continent. However, for editorial and typographical reasons we are unable to give an account within this issue of the magazine.

Nevertheless, ample space will be dedicated to the conference in our publication's first issue of 2023 including reports from President, Pierre Zappelli, Secretary of State, Simona Callo, and all American directors.



Integration and integrity of young people in sport

Thanks to Erasmus plus sport promoting sporting values as a model

by Paul Standaert

Launched on September 29, during the 2022 European Week of Sport (September 23 – 30), this new initiative between the European Lotteries and ENGSO aims to 'empower young people' to become sports integrity ambassadors within their communities and 'actively promote actions at local levels'.

There is also an emphasis on 'building a culture of identity' within European grassroots communities.

"Supporting sport and sharing in these values – responsibility and integrity – is in the DNA of lotteries," observed Olivier Alsteens, COO, Loterie Nationale Loterij, Belgium.

During a dedicated seminar '#BeActive for Sport Integrity' on September 29 in Brussels, speakers highlighted the importance of youth, inclusion and integrity.

Paul Standaert, Secretary, Panathlon International EU Brussels and Board member, Belgian Gymnastics, said:

"The promotion of a healthy lifestyle linked to the development of human values is our goal."

"From the very start of the European Week of Sport, Panathlon has been engaged in partnership with the European Commission to help promote the #Beactive campaign within its network. Panathlon clubs continue to organise various activities that aim at promoting ethical values among young people."

Over 30 young volunteers and athletes have participated in this collaboration between eight European sport organisations.

Empowering youth in a safer and cleaner sports environment is the main message of the YIAP Programme.

"Cooperation and collaboration is a must, working together and including stakeholders from all levels – from local sport clubs and national federations to sports managers and professional athletes" - said Ugne Chmeliauskaite, Chair of ENGSO Youth.

European University Sports Association (EUSA) Project Manager, **Hrisitina Hristova**, also highlighted the impor-

tance of sport integrity within university sport as well as promoting fairness and fair play within sport competitions.

Meanwhile, **Jenni Hakkinen**, Project Manager for Special Olympics Europe Eurasia, emphasised why inclusion and integrity matters and its importance in championing young people as leaders in sport.



Paul Standaert, President of Belgium District and Panathlon International speaks about young people in sport

Dialogue between youth and champions on the value of ethics in sport

And so, it was a great hit: "Planet Olympia's values of sport as told by champions" was an exhibition conceived and organized by Junior Club Panathlon Rome to promote ethics and sports culture among young people through the exchange of experiences with the sporting champions of Italian sport.

A series of travelling conferences each aim to explore different Olympic sport.

The first event, which took place in May 23rd at CONI Lazio headquarters, was dedicated to judo and the fight on the occasion of the 120th anniversary of Fijlkam. Among the protagonists, in addition to President of CONI Lazio, Riccardo Viola, were judoka Francesca Milani (Olympian in Tokyo 2020); the promising and young Enrica Rinaldi (bronze at the European Championships in Budapest 2022 in wrestling); and, Mattia Miceli (gold at the U23 European Championships in Porec 2020, in judo).

On September 19th, it was the turn of fencing and 10 absolutely outstanding fencers including Enrico Berrè (silver at the Tokyo Olympics 2020), Alberta Santuccio (bronze at the Tokyo Olympics 2020) and Rossella Gregorio (Olympian at Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020). They shared their experiences at the Palace of the Federations together with sports director, Diana Bianchedi (gold at the Barcelona Olympics 1992 and Sydney 2000 in the foil team) and doctor of the Italian Fencing Federation, Riccardo Foti.

Finally, on 26th October, just two months after toping the medals table at the European Championship in Rome the five blue swimming champions were the protagonists of the third event: Simona Quadarella (bronze at Tokyo 2020 Olympics in the 800m freestyle), Alessia Scortechini (gold at the Tokyo Paralympics 2020 in the 4x100m freestyle relay), Domitilla Picozzi (bronze at the European Championships in Split 2022 in water polo), Lucrezia Ruggiero (gold at the World Championships in Budapest 2022 in artistic swimming) and Sarah Jodoin Di Maria (gold at the European Championships in Rome 2022 in diving). The event, which was held in the swimming complex of the Foro Italico, was enhanced by the patronage of the Italian Swimming Federation, represented by the regional president, Gianpiero Mauretti, along with the main Roman companies. "Every 'Planet Olympia' event aims to connect the young people of the capital to the athletes who train in Rome with a view to creating a constant dialogue under the banner of sports values", as said by Panathlon Junior Rome Club President, Lorenzo D'Ilario.



Judo e lotta inaugurano "Pianeta Olympia"



Il Presidente D'Ilario con i campioni della scherma e le istituzioni sportive



Le cinque campionesse del nuoto azzurro con i soci Junior

Sports journalism as a service and a commitment

SpoRt Light is a new subscription magazine that aims to offer spaces for in-depth analysis and reflection away from the clamour of the stadiums and the euphoria of winning at all costs

Topical sports journalism that is far from the beating drum, where the hero is the subject matter not the character and least of all the journalist: this is, in short, the philosophy underlining The SpoRt Light - www.thesportlight.net - the new magazine founded by sports journalists Francesco Caremani and Lorenzo Longhi, the latter born in Tuscany in 1969, and the former born in Emilia Romagna 1979 both of whom have long track record of prestigious collaborations.

Fully registered at the Court of Modena with ISSN code, as well as The SpoRt Light website (www.thesportlight.net) there is a weekly newsletter included with the subscription: the format comprises an in-depth studies on a single topic every Saturday, while on Tuesdays there is the Stielike section and Thursdays feature headliner columnists (including Antonella Bellutti, Olympic gold in Atlanta '96 and Sidney 2000; Guglielmo De Feis, professor at Coverciano Cultural Intelligence; and sports historian, Nicola Sbeti) who all enrich the publication with their contributions to a column called Tackle.

On Saturdays, subscribers receive a newsletter that summarizes all this and introduces the monograph, the heart of The Sport Light: three pieces which explore a given topic - rather than following the current news feed - studying and reflecting on the actual development of the sport at national and international levels.

Three annual subscription plans are available: Basic 30 euros, Supporter 53 euros and Sponsor 72 euros; each offers full access to the website plus a series of benefits for those who decide to become more involved in The SpoRt Light community.

The editor-in-chief («but only according to seniority», as he pointed out) is Francesco Caremani.

Caremani and Longhi write in the manifesto: **«Journalism, or this kind of journalism, is not done for ourselves, but for and together with the readers. Subscribing to The SpoRt Light means being part of a community that, in practice and not only for the sound of memes, wants to look at sport in a different way from just searching for sensational, provocative, unconstructive, and controversial**

stories typical of a certain kind of journalism. Subscribers can interact with us suggesting new topics, correcting or providing further information, in a continuous feedback loop that benefits everyone - for us journalists who learn by writing, for the readers who keep informed by reading».

Because, as their motto goes: Today more than ever, journalism is a matter of choice.

Editor's Note

Even the Director of this magazine has made his choice: to publish the article reported here, faced with some hesitation for a text that could look like free advertising for a paid activity. Even the Director of this magazine has made his choice: to publish the article reported here, faced with some hesitation for a text that could look like free advertising for a paid activity.

There is, above all, the moral guarantee on the ethical content of the initiative from panathlete Francesco Caremani and the magazine's Editor, with numerous years experience as a professional, who sees in this new form of service for athletes a positive tool to attract new fans around the actual values of sport.

In addition to the innovative and technologically advanced formula, is a ploy to ensure new forms of work are added to a category made increasingly precarious by a tendency of publishers to reduce staffing, favouring remote workers and exploiting those not enrolled in the Order of Journalists, thus without guarantees of professionalism and ethics that the subscription ensures.

Within this framework contributions of former athletes are also inserted that embellish the subscription for those who want to know about more than rankings, victories and defeats - namely the immense human, social and value-based background that lies behind the whole sports movement.

So, well done and remember Panathlon is the protagonist alive and kicking on this scene.

Giacomo Santini

Covid and war: escape from sport?

by Renato Zanovello
Distinguished President of Panathlon Padova

Before the Covid pandemic (unfortunately not yet completely eradicated) many young people (from 30% upwards, according to authoritative sources) left the sport to maybe devote themselves to the sedentary life of the Play-station; then the now devastating war has caused, among other things, the depressing effect of high-bills, which, in addition to stifling families and businesses, threatens to lead to the closure of 15000 football fields, for mostly boys and amateurs, not to mention the sports facilities of other disciplines (gyms , swimming pools , arenas ,) .

All this' could lead to the discouragement and abandonment of many athletes, managers, technicians, volunteers; but whoever, like us, still believes in the educational and health values of sport, need only listen to Randy Pausch - professor of Computer Science at the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania - who, having learned that he had a few months to live from pancreatic cancer at the age of 46, gave his last public lecture in front of over 400 students and colleagues, speaking about, among other things, of sport and stating, in free translation:

"What we really want when we push our young people towards sports activities is that they learn about teamwork and society, perseverance, commitment, sacrifice, the ability to manage adversity, fair play, the validity of a multicultural sport without drugs or violence of all kinds. Long live sport!"

Listening to his words, I hope the Meeting-debate on "Youth and sport : what future?", organized by Padua Panathlon, in collaboration with Ansmes and inserted in the European Week of Sport - to which Panathlon Padua has long been a member - creates a compelling appeal not to give up, on the much hoped for and needed help of institutions and government, through the mass media , social networks ,

May the arms be silenced, may peace return, may sport return to flourish above all for the good of young people, and for the good of theirs and our own future.



Spirit and Ideals

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

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

Domenico Chiesa Award

On 24 September 2004, the Board of Panathlon International, considering the need to increase the capital of the Foundation and to honour the memory of one of Panathlon's founding members, first benefactor and inspiration for the same, established the "Domenico Chiesa Award" to be assigned, on the proposal of the individual clubs and on the basis of specific regulations, to one or more panathletes or non-member personalities who have lived the panathletic spirit. In particular, the award is for those who are committed to the promotion of the sporting ideal and who have made an exceptionally significant contribution of the following:



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

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

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

Being available to help, thanks to the activity performed in favour of the Club

Chiesa Italo - P.C. Venezia 20/10/2004	Gianni Marchiol - P.C. Udine N.T. 11/12/2010	Palmieri Caterina - PC Varese 16/05/2017
Chiaruttini Paolo - P.C. Venezia 16/12/2004	Mario Mangiarotti - P.C. Bergamo 16/12/2010	Paul De Broe - PC Brussels 28/01/2018
Pizzetti Martino - P.C. Parma 15/12/2004	Mario Sogno - P.C. Biella 24/09/2011	Vic De Donder - PC Brussels 28/01/2018
Chiesa Italo - offerto Enrico Prandi 20/10/2004	Mariuccia Lombardini - P.C. Reggio E. 19/11/2011	Buzzella Mario - PC Crema 28/02/2018
Battistella Bruno - P.C. Vittorio Veneto 27/05/2005	Bernardino Morsani - P.C. Rieti 25/11/2011	Balzarini Adriana - Distretto Italia 16/06/2018
Ferdinandi Pierlugi - P.C. Latina 12/12/2005	Roberto Ghiretti - P.C. Parma 15/12/2011	Guccione Alù Gabriele - PC Palermo 09/11/2018
Mariotti Gelasio - P.C. Vald. Inf 19/02/2006	Fondazione Lanza P.C. Udine N.T. 17/12/2011	Di Pietro Giovanni - PC Latina 27/10/2018
Prando Sergio - P.C. Venezia 12/06/2006	Giuseppe Molteni - P.C. Varese 17/04/2012	Speroni Carlo - PC La Malpensa 13/11/2018
Zichi Massimo - P.C. Latina 06/11/2006	Enrico Prandi Area 5 11/12/2012	Dainese Giorgio - Area 05 26/10/2019
Yves Vaan Auweele - P.C. Brussel 21/11/2006	Sergio Allegrini - P.C. Udine N.T. 17/12/2012	Bambozzi Gianni - Area 05 26/10/2019
Viscardo Brunelli - P.C. Como 01/12/2006	Piccolo Gruppo Evolution - Polisp. Orgnaro A.D. P.C. Udine N.T. 17/12/2012	Marini Gervasio - PC Latina 9/12/2019
Giampaolo Dallara - P.C. Parma 06/12/2006	Don Davide Larice - P.C. Udine N.T. 17/12/2012	Pecci Claudio - PC Como 12/12/2019
Fabio Presca - I Distretto 15/02/2007	Maurizio Monego - Area 1 31/10/2013	Lucchesini Giorgio - PC Altavaldelsa 16/12/2019
Giulio Giuliani - P.C. Brescia 12/06/2007	Henrique Nicolini - Area 1 Area 2 31/10/2013	Facchi Gianfranco - PC Crema 18/12/2019
Avio Vailati Venturi - P.C. Crema 13/06/2007	Together onlus - P.C. Udine NT 30/11/2013	Marani Matteo - PC Milano 28/01/2020
Luciano Canavese - P.C. Crema 13/06/2007	Enzo Cainero - P.C. Udine NT 30/11/2013	Ginetto Luca - Venezia 21/10/2020
Sergio Fabrizi - P.C. La Malpensa 19/09/2007	Giuseppenicola Tota - Area 5 11/06/2014	Porcaro Angelo - Pavia 06/05/2021
Cesare Vago - P.C. La Malpensa 19/09/2007	Renata Soliani - P.C. Como 12/06/2014	Landi Stefano - Reggio Emilia 10/05/2021
Amedeo Marelli - P.C. La Malpensa 19/09/2007	Geo Balmelli - P.C. Lugano 12/06/2014	Albanesi Aldo - La Malpensa 25/05/2021
Fernando Petrone - P.C. Latina 10/12/2007	Baldassare Agnelli - P.C. Bergamo 30/10/2014	Dusi Ottavio - Brescia 21/06/2021
Vittorio Adorni - P.C. Parma 16/01/2008	Sergio Campana - P.C. Bassano 09/12/2014	Muzio Ugo - Biella 23/10/2021
Dora de Biase - P.C. Foggia 18/04/2008	Fabiano Gerevini - P.C. Crema 13/11/2015	Beneacquista Lucio - Latina 25/09/2021
Albino Rossi - P.C. Pavia 12/06/2008	Dionigi Dionigio - Area 5 06/12/2015	Migone Giorgio - Genova Lev 11/03/2022
Giuseppe Zambon - P.C. Venezia 18/12/2008	Bruno Grandi - P.C. Forlì 22/01/2016	Romaneschi Sergio - Lugano 16/06/2022
Maurizio Clerici - P.C. Latina 15/12/2008	Mara Pagella - P.C. Pavia 18/02/2016	Pintus Patrizio - Como 16/06/2022
Silvio Valdameri - P.C. Crema 17/12/2008	Giancaspro Antonio - P.C. Molfetta 26/11/2016	Sandro Giovannelli - Rieti 26/06/2022
Enrico Ravasi - P.C. Varese 21/04/2009	Oreste Perri - Area 02 26/11/2016	Grassia Filippo - Milano 29/06/2022
Attilio Bravi - P.C. Bra 25/05/2009	Gianduia Giuseppe - P.C. La Malpensa 13/12/2016	Aschedamini Massimiliano - Crema 29/06/2022
Antonio Spallino - P.C. Como 30/05/2009	Giovannni Ghezzi - P.C. Crema 14/12/2016	Bernardinello Giovanni - La Malpensa 19/09/2022
Gaio Camporesi offerto Enrico Prandi 21/11/2009	Roberto Peretti - P.C. Genova levante 26/01/2017	Riguzzi Gianluca - Rimini 28/10/2022
Mons. Mazza - P.C. Parma 15/12/2009	Magi Carlo Alberto - Distretto Ita 31/03/2017	Regione Piemonte - Area 03 01/10/2022
Mario Macalli - P.C. Crema 22/12/2009	Mantegazza Geo - PC Lugano 20/04/2017	
Livio Berruti - Area 3 19/11/2010		



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