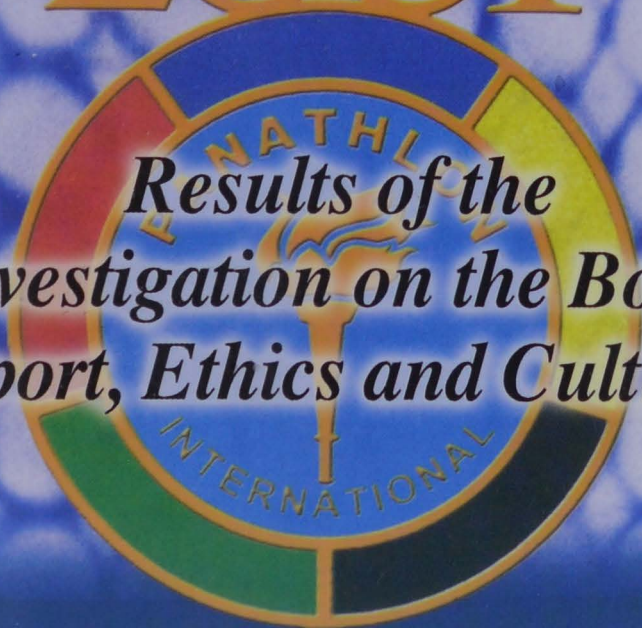


# Panathlon International in the last 50 Years

1951  
2001

*Results of the  
Investigation on the Book:  
Sport, Ethics and Culture*



**PANATHLON**  
Booklet





# **Panathlon International in the last 50 Years**

*Results of the Investigation  
on the Book:  
Sport, Ethics and Culture*

XIII Congress of  
Panathlon International

*Venice 11/13 October 2001*

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# Foreword

*by Vittorio Adorni\**



It was our duty to hold the 13th Congress of Panathlon International in Venice, the city where 50 years ago the first Club was formed. And Venice, the city and the local Panathlon club responded with sunny days and an unforgettable hospitality. Together

with the 50th anniversary celebrations of our movement, we also presented the Flambeaux Awards with a ceremony that was traditionally held in the Rome Capital Hill.

It was a really interesting congress, both for its contents and the presence of internationally renowned speakers who discussed about “Sport, Ethics and Cultures”, but also developments in the second half of the XX Century.

The research was not only focused on Panathlon’s achievements in half a century of life through its Clubs, but also on sport in general, and on the events that improved people’s living conditions.

The second topic was devoted to “Sport and Communication” and here the discussion reached its apex, because through the press and television the competitive event became international, but was later also conditioned by the media as we observe almost every day. An aspect became the core of discussion and polemics, i.e. the role of the reporter (or of the media in general): should the reporter contribute in the education or, doesn’t this fall within his tasks, his work? Even if the reporter can’t or should not educate, the media are still fundamental for a sound, civil development of young people who often “live” as a function of champions and are therefore influenced by their attitudes, their philosophies.

After fighting the windmills of indifference for so many years, Panathlon International Clubs start being taken into consideration not only at local and national level but also by international institutions. The European Union has dedicated 2003 to the disabled, while 2004 will be the European Year of Education through Sport. Our



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Association has been discussing these topics for years, examining them in depth, contributing also, through its solidarity, in repeatedly tackling the issue of young people.

The final resolution of the 13th Congress, drawn up by Past President and Cultural Commission Chairman, Antonio Spallino, is an essential document as it contains all those principles forming the platform of real sport, that should group together all the people who work in the world of sport. A concrete point of reference, not the usual, general theses that too often obsess, rather than help young people, the elderly, the disabled, managers and coaches always looking for the right word, for a really better world.

This is exactly what Panathlon has been aiming at, for many years.



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# History

*by Antonio Spallino\**



Today it's 11 October 2001. Ten years ago the backdrop of Venice was a backdrop of happiness. Today's backdrops are the towers of New York, the mountains of Afghanistan, the barren land of Palestine and of other

countries. We can speak of sport, as a hymn to the beauty of plastic gestures, that according to Panathlon's concept is also a hug with the opponent. Can we speak of sport when thousands of men, women, children act in the name of hate?

Where have we been living in recent years? In Europe of course, but in which Europe? In 1996, in the course of our Assembly, we recalled that there were areas in Europe where occupying the womb of a woman from another ethnic group was equivalent to conquering a territory and to ethnic cleansing. This is not centuries ago. In which Americas have we lived? Among enormous inequalities, I think some still remember Pele's law, that instead of creating competitive machines first of all supports life, setting as a priority sanitation, schooling, and then sport. We lived in a society where some white collars promoted actions based on hate by negotiating products coming from opium, oil or weapons. We lived and we still live in this society. We have always said that sport is not salvific per se, it is not a satellite that lives on an island away from reality, far from everyday life. This is our current situation and for this reason today we ask ourselves: is it still possible to continue along this path?

Some of you will probably remember that in 1999, not just in Italy, both on papers and in magazines there were several contributions acclaiming the third millennium. High "Hopes" for the third millennium. The second millennium had brought along advances in the

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field of science (at times also used for purposes opposite to those for which its researchers had studied it for), medicine, and in some places had reduced the social gap. But it is also true that too many situations did not work. We therefore rightly denounced the world crisis that also involved sport. The English historian, Richard Conquest, cruelly entitled his book "The Century of Criminal Ideologies" and Barbara Spinelli, daughter of a renowned pro-European, Altiero, living in Paris, chose for her book the title: "The Sleeping Memory", to underline that we tend to forget what has happened just a few years earlier.

After Auschwitz we asked ourselves if God still existed. In our research the chapter on the disabled reassured us that society, in a large part of the world, helped both the families and the disabled to overcome their tragedy, and to come out of the house where the disabled were held as they were considered negative signs of God. It is thanks to Guttman, who started treating the paraplegics and veterans immediately after the war, that three, four, five, six associations were gradually set up, to finally achieve the organisation of the ^Paralympics^. We must not forget, however, that up to a short while ago there were two separate organisations, because the Olympic Committee, organiser of the Summer and Winter Games, did not want to deal with the disabled. Fortunately, an agreement was reached in Sydney for a single organisation.

Despite these reassuring aspects, our sleeping memory however prevents us from recalling that in 1936 the Führer's chancellery has launched a programme to kill all disabled people, as their lives were considered useless. This programme was then applied to the Jews, simply because they were another race. I do not believe that by being sports people and panathletes we should consider ourselves exempted from examining where and how we live. If this is part of the real aspect of society,

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I think Mairano was right - I consider him to be the best President Panathlon ever had, for his courage, challenges, skills and intuitions - when he affirmed that the first goal (I seem to perceive under the word "goal", the word "miracle") is the very existence of Panathlon. It is true that figures tell us that in the last ten years the number of members is more or less unvaried, but these data should be examined by looking at causes. Meanwhile, after a turning point in 1988, when a questionnaire was sent to all Presidents fixing precise targets, some clubs expelled meaningless members, who were, and still are, if they still exist in some areas, Panathlon's dead weight. It is not so much the number that is important as the quality. The other aspect that I consider significant is referred to the presence of women. Up to the mid '70s, Panathlon had no women among its members. When an investigation was made on the presence of young people and women, there were very few answers. To the second question: "If you don't have any women or young people among your members, explain why", a club quite frankly answered: "Women? No. - Why? Because they are the cause of intrigues!" Years later I learned from a newspaper that in that place women had no voting right as yet. So a precise socio-political culture fully explained the answer. Some years later women started joining our clubs, with some difficulties. The data of the General Secretariat unfortunately are not fully reliable, as we still don't know the age of a large percentage of our members. This may seem a paradox, but some clubs have still not ascertained such information. Although with partial data, we can, however affirm that women in 1971 accounted for 0.19 % of members, in 1981 reached 1.65% and then in 1991 6,22%. The presence of young people, was not reported until 1991, and accounted for 10.67% in 1996 and for 16.22% in 2001.

I think the presence of women is fundamental in our movement. Our statute mentioned, first

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of all, friendship. Friendship is certainly important, but when we say that a club is a "service club" this implies a lot more, because friendship - the Greek 'philia' - is resulting from a friendly relationship between different people. I am not the friend of a stranger, I am the friend of people I appreciate, I meet. I may stay away for years and he is still my friend and I am still his friend. When we, as a movement, work for people we don't know, there is something more, there is a "gift" implied. There is the awareness that we do not meet all our own needs and that we feel part of a larger community, that we do not know fully. If, however, the other party shares all our views, we must therefore transmit those values that we had luckily acquired. I shall always insist that we are "returning" something. This is what our founding fathers from the Venice Club did, they transmitted unrequested values, because a gift is not the automatic answer to a question, it implies breaking the loop of giving and receiving.

Belonging to a community is something that is innate, and it's not simply gathering people together with a common interest. The presence of women, who are born to procreate maintain this vocation also when they go out of their home to become entrepreneurs, sports-women or cultural, technical or health workers. It is an asset for a club to have among its members competent women. The first woman to become a secretary is not from the North, but from Lecce, Southern Italy. Women who hold the position of secretary exist in almost all American districts. These are the people we have to thank. Women have also been appointed presidents, from Paris to Oslo, also in my home town and, as far as I know, their presidency was extraordinary, because they are concrete, enthusiastic, captivating persons.

Panathlon must be courageous. Even IOC was not successful in its goal of appointing women in 10% of its managerial offices. We have to closely observe these phenomena because they

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can have sociological implications. This must not happen within Panathlon and I hope that 12% of women-secretaries and 6% of women-presidents may soon grow in number. Clubs will certainly be advantaged by this. And we should add that the relationship between a woman and her child is such that her ability, as a secretary or president, to communicate with young people is undoubtedly better than ours. In the 1988 investigation, most clubs agreed with the idea that Panathlon was to become a service club. If we consider historical facts: Panathlon grew substantially through social meetings, yet Panathlon organised important congresses: in 1979 on violence, then on Fair Play, on sponsors. Panathlon was even prophetic in some of its choices. But what happens on the territory? We should stress that this congress is anomalous, because its aim is to remember and not to suppress memory. If we did not have a memory, our memory would dissolve into thousands of particles, that would not fall in the past, but into nothingness.

On the other hand Bergson used to say: "la conscience c'est la memoire"; memory forms our past, present and future conscience. In this research of an identity that today is at risk due to some globalisation aspects, there is almost a total oblivion of relations with the territory, with the town. Sport is bought and sold like a product. But if this is now a market, Fair Play too is at risk (we will discuss this issue in Montevideo at the 7th Congress of IASL). Somebody should explain to us - and I asked for some explanations from the Congress of Sport Law of the Mexican Parliament - why the sponsor that pays the club, the federation that issues prizes and must win medals, do not sanction the athlete who performed a Fair Play action and consequently his team lost the competition. He is paid to win and if the market law prevails, this would be the logic consequence! It is therefore important that the resolutions passed by sports ministers become the



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common conscience of the European Parliament. Rules are needed to safeguard sport's ethics.

I was pleased to read almost identical words in the statements by the Italian President of the Republic, Ciampi, in which he supports the formation of a group of European nations sharing the same code of ethics, and in the statement by the new IOC President Rogge, who in turn spoke of a code of ethics. He referred in fact to business transactions, while in 1994, when Samaranch asked us to contribute in reinforcing the unity of the Olympic Movement, we did not speak of governing business transactions, but rather we asked to form a group of people devoted to ethics and independent from IOC, to protect IOC. Our message was totally ignored. Only when corruption in the Olympic bid process was denounced, an ethics commission was appointed with IOC members. We then recorded disputes between representatives from different governments and IOC - unfortunately some countries have no sports law - when Samaranch tried to create an Agency to fight doping and corruption. Those governments affirmed that it fell within their competence.

This does not surprise because a few days ago in Lombardy a bill was presented that does not specify which sport this regional government intends to support or promote. IOC member, Cinquanta, clearly declared at our Palermo Conference that sport, and not just in Italy, is undergoing an organisational and financial crisis and that there is a serious problem of conflicts between federations, Olympic Committees, local organisations. Our statute requires our participation in the drafting of laws. We should not wait for a law to be passed, because afterwards it is almost impossible to change it, or can only be changed after many years. In Sardinia Panathlon collaborated in drafting a sports bill and the same occurred also in Sicily. This is not so elsewhere. We have to act in time, before laws are promulgated; and,

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when they have been promulgated, they have to be examined and discussed to improve them. This falls within the tasks of the clubs, districts, and of the Central Board.

Let us move on to the “Venice 2001” project. It includes past and future, memories and projects. It is not by chance that we have used the words “sport, ethics, cultures”, because Panathlon’s international status is consisting of different ethics, different cultures, and the threat that is being triggered around the world, and that we do not know how far it is extended, is resulting from the lack of understanding and respect for other cultures. If a better dialogue had been established, then, perhaps the ground for nurturing terrorism would be more circumscribed.

We asked ourselves: what has happened in the 50 years in which Panathlon was founded and developed? What has happened in the world of sport and around it? As far as we know, ours is the only investigation of this type by an organisation and it is understandable that it was Panathlon to make it. Panathlon’s name is self-explanatory, as it summarises all sports disciplines, including literature, law, medicine, journalism, etc..

It is perhaps the biggest “service” we have offered society. A service made available to everybody, not, just to panathletes. On the contrary, panathletes who collaborated in this investigation are a minority with respect to other authors of the papers. And this because we managed to carry out a research at university level. Every paper is consisting of a text, notes, bibliographies, the latter are a real asset for all those who wish to examine this topic in detail.

A parallel, historiographical, sociological and also psychological investigation was also conducted among our clubs. Have clubs continued organising only dinner-meetings, or have they tried to follow the flow of life and safeguard the values reported in the Statute? Many do not remember what they have done, there

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are no archives, presidents follow one another without passing on documents; and how many clubs carried out actions, services, instead of self-rewarding ceremonies? I am convinced - and this is my personal opinion - that awarding ceremonies are not services rendered to others.

For the most significant actions we thought of boxes introduced in the paper body dealing with a specific topic, to highlight the spirit and achievements, significant actions performed by panathletes, so that the reader may be aware of how our movement managed to combine discussions and actions in the impetuous period between 1950 and 2000.

A question was raised: how will those clubs that only organised dinner-meetings react when a list of services will be drawn up and their club will not appear in it? A correct objection, but how many clubs will react? There is a sad page by Jean Presset (He was asked to investigate into the European area, with the exception of Italy, assigned to Odaglia, and the whole of the American area assigned to Nicolini) in which he affirms: "I am deeply disappointed, out of the 57 Clubs that I reached with my letter dated 27 April 2000, only 15 answered". A very bad sign, that must be disclosed, because unless we know the reality we cannot imagine any input on which we can act so that Panathlon's movement may reach the desired level, already attained by many clubs.

We asked ourselves: we are speaking of Panathlon's actions, but in which context? Has the world of sport changed, both inside and around sport? President Adorni referred on the impact of television, of the media, and many people are certainly aware that in a European country sponsors decide which athletes national teams must line up; then there is Ronaldo's case at the Paris World Cup, and we all remember at what crazy hours athletes had to compete in an edition of the Olympic Games to meet TV audience requirements!

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We should ask ourselves whether we realised or not, what was happening in the world of sport and around it. We do not believe that a research has been carried out in this sense. And it is from this analysis that we get an overview on the fifty years of life of Panathlon. An ambitious and original operation, on which some of us have been working almost daily in the last two years. The research is consisting in almost fifty papers. Where do they come from? Some from panathletes, the remainder from 37 universities, both European and American, whose professors accepted to cooperate with us on a voluntary basis. Just like Fair Play, voluntary work is not a bygone virtue of the past. The only way Panathlon may reward them is by publishing this research in four volumes, to be donated to the international scientific community, to top sports associations, to Olympic Committees, to UNESCO, to CIFP, and to IOC obviously. The breakthrough consisted in identifying which men shared our point of view. It is true that there is a paper by Prof. Krueger, a leading sport historian and sociologist, that is totally dissonant. When I raised the question on this issue, they rightly answered that : "Panathlon is a free association, so we must also report discordant opinions".

By observing the scheme of the research we notice that Germany is represented by 8 professors from the universities of Mainz, Goettingen, Berlin, Erlagen; there is one Danish university; the Netherlands are present with the University of Utrecht; Belgium with that of Leuven and with the free University of Brussels; Italy with the universities of Rome, Milan, Genoa, Cassino; Switzerland with Geneva and with the Polytechnic of Zurich; Greece with Athens; France with Nice and Lyons; Russia with Moscow; Great Britain with Leicester and the Anglia University; Brazil with Sao Paulo and Porto Alegre. When looking at these names, one takes us back to the speech by MEP Santini, because professor

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Collomb from the University of Nice examined the numerous contradictions between the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and some sports rules.

The woman's condition was examined from different points of view by three different academics: one in Berlin, one in Italy and one in Mexico. This comparison clearly outlines the relation between women and sports organisations; it is not by chance that in one of the recent editions of the Olympic Games a committee of women athletes was formed to complain against the exclusion of some women's competitions. Topics also include investigations into post-modern societies: will the future of sport still be on the fields or, as was the case in Florence one week ago, will it become a virtual sport? Sociologist Porro examined this trend - supported by many young people - that would imply the extinction of sport. Paradoxically, some reason in this way. There is the problem that sports clubs are undergoing a crisis, or better, old clubs are disappearing. In Spain 50% of centennial associations are now closed down. They were not renovated. Probably, there is an underlying individualistic drive: in the past people were members of the same club all their life, or almost. Today there is a growing trend in favour of high risk, extreme sports without rules, while sport is by definition based on rules.

All these different opinions are contained in the various papers forming this research. The cost for publishing all this work is of about 400 million lire. We do not expect Panathlon members to fund the whole operation. However, all clubs normally give a gift to the different invited speakers: I do not believe there is a gift more significant than this "service". Because one thing is a jug or a plate, but this publication on "what is Panathlon?", "what issues have been raised?", "what are the problems society faces?" is an authentic gift and, at the same time, a real visiting card of our association.

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Quite rightly a speaker who delivered his speech on Saturday said: "Panathlon 'must take another step forward: from a careful observer to a protagonist in sports development. We do not organise competitions, we never wanted to create sports federations, but we know we have to ask federations, local governments, nations, a series of guarantees, so that sport may develop in the way we conceive it. These guarantees have to be substantially ethical. Not later than one month ago CIFP conferred its top award for "Fair Play Promotion", i.e. the Willy Daume trophy, on Panathlon International. I believe we were rightly awarded because we managed to create in some areas a network of awards, for which the Central Board fixed the regulations, so as to meet the very essence of Fair Play. In Italy we promoted the Italian Committee for Fair Play; the Uruguayan Committee for Fair Play, headed by the secretary of our Montevideo Club, is about to be formed; a Fair Play body is about to be formed within the Mexican Olympic Committee, requested by the local panathletes. This shows Panathlon's international position.

Fair Play is not only observance of non written rules. Fair Play, both requires us not to object when a decision damages us, but also requires us to ask to change the results when it is unfairly to our advantage. Some could object: but this is lack of respect for the judge. The truth is more important than the judge. In this sense, Panathlon could become a protagonist. The Sao Paulo Club has already given us an example. When the Brazilian football team in a World Cup did not go on the podium because it ended being third - big disgrace, as if sport were not a continuous lesson on how to face a defeat - our club denounced this team to the Olympic Committee for lack of Fair Play. Despite the fact that our organisation is not big yet, however this is how we have to act. Our association has an essential reason for living, to continue living and give the opportunity to



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men and women who believe in these value to speak out their opinions. We substantially support what we consider to be the ethics of responsibility for others. And we believe in the ethics of solidarity: nobody saves oneself alone. We must support truth. On another occasion, I remembered that an Irish Nobel Prize-winner, in the speech he delivered in Stockholm on poetry, ended by recommending: "give credit to truth, despite temporary defeats, suffering, humiliation". We all experience moments of perplexity, fear or difficulty, but also these moments are authentic pledges of our being men and women, pledges of our mankind. If we manage to develop friendship with a stranger, we freely fulfil our task. Nobody has been forced to become a member of Panathlon and whoever became a member because it was a status-symbol made a big mistake and should leave the club. Panathlon's life does not end with us. We must train tomorrow's educators in all the different fields. For this reason, I like to say : thank you Panathlon.

\* *Como Panathlon Club (I)*  
*Past-president*  
*Cultural Commission Chairman*





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# Research

*by Lucio Bizzini\**



## **Introduction**

In this paper we want to summarise the research promoted by Panathlon's Cultural Commission, chaired by Past-president Antonio Spallino. In the course of this research, about 60

scholars, trainers, communication experts from different countries and continents, discussed developments in the sports world between 1950 and 2000.

This discussion was triggered by the following three questions :

1. With which cultural heritage do we reach the 21st century?
2. Which warning, recommendations and hopes do we draw from our past experience?
3. What are our future prospects?

### **1. We reached the 21st century with an enormous experience**

*1.1 We can define the 20th century as the first century in the life of sport.*

**Nicola Porro**, historian at the University of Cassino, thinks "*the idea of competition and records, the precision of results, the exaltation of the man-athlete, his exploitation as a symbolic, marketable product, the creation of a sports system based on various political and economic interests, are the main features characterising this century : industrialisation, profitability, a world competition between nations and ideologies*". According to historian Porro, sport is one of the most powerful metaphores of modernity.

**Christian Garrabos**, French reporter and Panathlete, recalled that sport is still anchored to the very essence of man : "*Sport is a gut reaction, the expression of the irresistible*

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*need for 'desport', to use a word from ancient French, the need to use up one's own energy, to outperform, to transcend one's limits, but also to compete with others, to play. Sport is both individual and collective. It favours the personal development of those who practise it within a group, a team, a family. Sport means rules, self-control, ability, elegance, but also overcoming obstacles, and sometimes displaying excesses, perhaps also wild behaviour ... projecting an image of those who practise it". Sport deserves being promoted, but, as underlined by Garrabos, "Sport, irrespective of its figures and performance, must safeguard the dignity - in all meanings that can be attributed to this word - of those who practise it. Panathlon International's task is to ensure that this occurs both today and in the future, at international level, at the level of sports managers and of all sporters".*

**Maria Emilia Alvarez**, a Uruguayan Panathlete and doctor, in her chapter entitled "Globalisation, Poverty and Sport" tackled the problem referred to the number of people who live in conditions of extreme poverty, and marginalisation, mainly children. These people, who face all types of difficulties and adversities, are subject to continuous stress. According to Doctor Alvarez, in this situation, sport and physical education have an alienable opportunity.

**Franco Ascani**, from the University of Milan, reminds us of another aspect of sport, sports-performance whose sponsorship in recent years literally recorded an exceptional boost: "*Associating one's name or product to an event or personality, whose prestige derives from practising a sport, has become a means through which to create "attraction", a transfer of positive values to the sponsor; therefore producing greater awareness for the trademark and enhanced prestige*".

Ascani added that communication must follow the mass of spectators and television viewers, of readers and listeners. Undoubtedly, the sport's image according to the media is that

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of sports performance. We should stress the importance of another diversity.

According to **Pierre Collomb**, from the University of Nice, the right to practise sport can be defined in relation to 3 categories of human rights. The right to sport can be defined with respect to the three categories of human rights :

1. Individual right (freedom of access to sport),
2. Social and cultural right (the right to practise sport is an integral part of the right to education, this is exactly what is proclaimed in article 1 of the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport: "Practising Physical Education and Sport is a Fundamental Right for All"),
3. The universal right that translates the solidarity that unites all inhabitants of this planet (right to the environment, to peace, to lasting development, to the protection of the common heritage of mankind, to energy).

According to Collomb, *"if there is a reason to associate human rights to sport, it means that sport must be in the service of man. This golden rule in sports ethics should not be forgotten, particularly at a time when people appear to lose sight of it. The main aim of human rights is to prevent man's exploitation; this is what it is like in every social activity, and this is how it must be in sport, also in sports-shows"*.

*1.2 The research also refers to other types of heritage handed down by the 20th century. Here are two examples.*

**Maria Rosato**, teacher at the College of Physical Education (ISEF), Turin, outlined the fundamental stages in women's integration into sport: the first woman to take part in the Amsterdam Olympic Games (1928), the creation of Sports Rhythmic Gymnastics in 1952 (the first exclusively feminine sport), the long debated recognition of women's

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right to practise competitive sport. Rosato quoted a contribution by a psychologist at the 1st International Congress on Sports Psychology, Rome, (1966), according to whom, *"A sportswoman, who would implicitly follow men's scale of values, is a woman who has not solved all her psychological problems."* According to Rosato, women are still fighting today for their rights in sport. The 1997 July issue of the Olympic Review published a dossier dedicated to women, in which IOC was invited *"to strengthen the role of women in this organisation and in sports administrations considering women's increasingly active participation in the Olympic Games"*. Similarly, in the final resolution of the 2nd World Conference on women (Windhoeck, Namibia, 1998), we read : *Despite the fact that progress has been made in women's equal rights in sport, it was also observed that a lot is still to be done so that equality may become a reality*". This clearly shows that not everything has yet been won by women in sport.

**Gudrun Doll-Tepper**, from the University of Berlin, discussed another conquest in the world of sport in the 20th century, disabled sport. Doll-Tepper deems that *"In the last fifty years a remarkable change took place : the disabled have been increasingly seeking for their social integration and acceptance, but only partially achieved them. In the '70s and '80s, the disabled were still considered groups marginalised by society, today great efforts have been made to guarantee this group of people an unlimited participation"*. Doll-Tepper mentioned some positive aspects in this development, such as an improved integration of the disabled, university courses on this issue, the fact that disabled sport is an excellent showcase to assess public opinion on the acceptance of the disabled, and finally, the outstanding technological progress favoured by practising sport. In recent years competitive sport has become increasingly important. The success of the Paralympic Games is surprising and encouraging, even if infrastructures, coaches' trai-

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ning and the rules of the different races must still be improved. What creates concern, according to Doll-Tepper, is the fact that beyond *“professionalism and increased marketing of competitive sport for the disabled a considerable explosive material is concealed. At the Paralympic Games held in autumn 2000 in Sydney, for example, the problem of doping and manipulation and of performance enhancers also in disabled sport competitions created great concern. 11 athletes proved to be doped. Furthermore, after the Sydney Games, a Spanish athlete announced that some members of the Spanish team, basketball gold medallists, were not disabled”*. In conclusion, Doll-Tepper deems that *“Sport has been a means for the disabled to accelerate their social integration process”*.

We have reached the 21st century with this diversified heritage consisting in:

- diversity (sporting traditions, competitive levels, problems related to the different countries),
- history (the memory of sports epics of the different disciplines, of more or less renowned men and women, of world or local events that wrote the history of sport),
- progress (the right to sport for all, women introduced in sport and disabled sport, sporting achievements, an increasingly broader range of sports disciplines).

## **2. Warning, Recommendation and Hopes: Past Lessons**

*2.1. Nowadays it is inevitable to discuss doping, more specifically, a warning is issued on top level sport. Current events usually bring doping into the limelight.*

**Arnd Krüger**, Professor at the University of Göttingen, made an original contribution on doping that he discussed, just like sports ethics in an astonishing way. Based on a



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post-modern philosophy, Krüger is rather sceptical on all types of truths and continuously re-examines rules and positions. He recalled that postmodernism considers it essential to explain every rule: *"An explanation of the type 'That's how it is and that's it!' is not sufficient. We should ask how rules have been designed, who drew them up and why, as well as why have they been modified"*. The German author denounced the fact that numerous doping tests seem to be arbitrary, less interested in the athlete's safety and more in the application of an external power. He also asserted that federations *"control athletes, and occasionally steal the added value generated by athletes and not by managers"*, and they profit from doping rules. The solution suggested by Krüger implies a system of bans that must have a meaning, and that must be applied in a uniform way, based on simple grounds, such as the athlete's health.

**Conrado Durantez**, member of IOC's Commission for Culture and Olympic Education, pointed out Past-president Samaranch's quotation, *"Using doping substances is like dying physically, psychologically and morally. (...) We have to continue fighting doping as it is a risk for the athlete and it is cheating"*. Durantez stressed that at the Seoul Olympic Games, at least 50% of the athletes had used anabolic steroids, and ends that *"Some pro sports are far from the ethical contents promulgated by the fair play philosophy"*. According to some authors of our research, the line followed by IOC, was characterised by some confusion among its members - from gigantism to the power of money - it was not very effective, even though we have to admit that after Seoul things improved, partly also thanks to more severe controls and incisive sanctions.

**Eduardo Henrique De Rose**, from the University of Porto Alegre, Panathlete and President of the International Federation of Sports Medicine, affirmed that it is *"Important to understand that controlling*

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*doping and related problems to this phenomenon are highly dynamic topics and Sports Medicine professionals must always be well informed and updated, and must check and educate the multidisciplinary team training athletes for international competitions. Panathlon International is an example and shows that every member of a sports club should convey a clear message promoting ethics in sport and in relation to the athlete's health".*

*2.2 A second topic discussed the barriers sports experts fixed for children's early, intensive training, to ensure a sport that respects ethical and educational principles. Research gathered information on this issue that had been debated at the wonderful congress of Panathlon International held in Avignon.*

**Yves Vanden Auweele** and his team of psychologists from the University of Leuven, following a series of investigations carried out with young sporters on the notion of well-being and success, highlighted that competitive sport was judged both positively (entertainment, self-esteem, success) and negatively (anxiety, burden). This judgement is strongly linked to the attitude of coaches and parents and seems to be the key element of a positive sports practice. The authors therefore gave some recommendations (that we find in the Vlaanderen Panathlon manifesto) to improve the situation that in some cases, though limited, reached the threshold of tolerance. By accepting this situation without reacting - Vanden Auweele added - we would be accomplices in this change.

**Jacques Personne**, author of different works on the consequences of early intensive training, quoted the book by Joan RYAH who for ten years followed all women's gymnastics and figure skating competitions, and asked young stars in these disciplines how they had reached their stardom. The journalist also interviewed losers. This is what she wrote :  
*"What I discovered can be summarised in a*



*story of child exploitation and abuse, legally accepted and recognised. In the ditches along the road we find the bodies of those girls who failed, overloaded with work, pressure and repeated humiliation".* Personne, in the chapter entitled "*The Cult of Performance*", denounced "*The premature overwork, also from a psychological point of view, caused by a regime of permanent overload where school hours are 'adequate' but not the programmes, that are added on to physical training. Training that accounts for an average of 15 to 18 hours a week, in some specialities (skating, dance, gymnastics) can even reach 25 and even 30 hours a week. Besides training camps during the holidays, when resting and relaxing are considered necessary for the other children who do not experience separation from their family, from their social environment, potential elite athletes have to focus on the obsessive tasks of being successful at all costs, at an age when frailty does not only involve the skeleton, but also the personality, for the same reasons, because the body changes month after month*".

**Bruno Grandi**, President of the International Federation of Gymnastics, pointed out the recent decision of his federation to organise training and prevention programmes based on : a) physical and biological development, nutrition, the study of physiological potentials of the different age groups with reference to skills needed to practise gymnastics; b) the technique and teaching of gymnastics at the different development stages; c) training psychology. This type of initiative, taken by the federation of one of the most criticised disciplines, should be stressed as it highlights the progress made in this sector.

*2.3 Fair play is a way - suggested by our research - to promote an improved sport.*

**Manfred Messing**, from the University of Mainz, raised the issue if "*Fair play is a fundamental value of sport. In ancient times, in*

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*Olympia, the oath that had to be taken before the terrifying statues of Zeus, Horkios and Zanes, by those who had not behaved fairly, shows that the need was felt to impose such a conformity rule. O'Neal (1979) reports details of sporting events in ancient Greece, at the time of Homer, when fair play, as it is defined by modern standards, was decidedly inadequate". For the English amateur sportsmen belonging to the upper class of the XVIII and XIX century, the word 'sport' was more or less equivalent to 'fairness'. Nowadays, in the course of a growing, internal differentiation, certain subsystems of sport seem to be more characterised by 'unfairness', and consequently tolerance limits shown by athletes, sports reporters and spectators are lower. A behaviour considered in the past as deviant, becomes the informal standard. The identity test and the result in top level competitions, is in this way falsified".*

**Arnd Krüger**, recalled that the modern notion of fair play was introduced in the English public schools of the XIX century as a code to maintain a certain order among more turbulent adolescents: *"the order was maintained through a series of rigid rules that had to be observed. But these rules had a precise meaning otherwise all efforts of social engineering would not have worked. We must therefore examine such rules, see how they had been thought, who had drawn them up in such a way and why, and also why they had been modified and when. We often assume that there may be some type of moral imperative, that doping is wrong. In post-modern times, moral rules have to be revisited before considering such an imperative".*

**Jean-Louis Boujon**, President of the International School Sport Federation, stressed that *"In the name of ethics, observance of the rules is a fundamental value. We should remember that the set of rules are established by the athletes and that equal opportunities are the very essence of sport. The rule reflects the sporter's use of freedom.*

*It is subject to constant changes as sport is creation. It takes into consideration sport's moral value as sport is culture. It is created by the athlete as sport is humanism. For this reason, we have to constantly guarantee that young people are aware of and know how to apply the rules of the game. Introducing the rules of the game and asking young people to observe these rules is the educator's main task. The Rules must be taught and the reasons why they were created must be explained".*

These warnings and recommendations contributed in improving sports practice, but there are still a lot of deviations. However, globally speaking, the picture of sport (as mass practice or entertainment), that emerges from Panathlon's investigation is, at the beginning of this millennium, positive. The one million people in the world who everyday practice sport and in return experience entertainment and control, relaxation and well-being, even money and some also strong emotions, will never deny their experience.

### **3. Future Developments**

Let us now move on to the third question, that of prospects drawn up by our experts, regarding some factors that may allow us to outline sport's future developments.

#### *3.1 The Generational Factor*

**Jean Brechbühl**, 88 years, a Panathlete and a very active man of sport, draws our attention on the fact that sport changes with new generations. Brechbühl observed that *"Interest in amateur competitions has decreased. Participants in competitions are more frequently children and adolescents, with a remarkable drop during puberty, for a series of family, school, professional reasons or in relation to new trends in personal motivations. But for a long time this practice has preserved competitive connotations. Most people who practise a sport want to improve,*

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*to exercise regularly, to compete with others or to test their limits, and are often loyal to their sports. Almost all members of a ski club were doing their best to ski regularly, to be in excellent conditions, to take part in the club's races, tennis players and fencers wanted to take part in different tournaments and gymnasts were proud to represent their club during cantonal or federal events. All those who organise low level competitions are increasingly recording a drop in competitors, with the exception of some mass competitions to which we proudly take part, even if we end several hours after the winner (just like in various marathons). In this case too, it is difficult to anticipate future trends, but one thing is for sure : we will not go back to old forms of amateurism".*

### 3.2 IOC's Future

**Pierre Morath**, a historian from Geneva, believes that IOC is at a crossroads. According to the author, "*Business in sports performance progressively eliminated the purely playful aspect of sport. International Federations are now professional. This transformation is delicate, particularly from a managerial point of view, for organs that have always worked on an associative model based on volunteers. The future of sport goes through a new form of active partnership, at international level (since sport has undeniably become a worldwide phenomenon that can only be managed on a supranational level), between the Olympic Movement and public powers. If the federal sports system (dealing with the socio-pedagogical aspects of the physical and competitive activity, the organisation and development of sport practised by the largest possible number of people) is to maintain the co-ordination and guidance of world sport, this can only be done in close co-operation with the public sector that supports the same interests. The latter, represented by the states, is called to legitimise the Olympic Movement from a juridical point of view (particularly in fighting doping) although it has a certain power of*

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*control over the Olympic Movement, whose morality, as we have seen recently, is not always irreproachable”.*

### *3.3 The Role of Women*

**Maria Rosato** underlined that *“Everybody’s participation in all sports will offer new, different results, just like scientific studies will have to meet new requirements to understand that culturally and biologically different men and women can compete in the same activity without losing their identity. Women, besides having the right to choose and practice every type of sport, would not only acquire a ‘decision-making power’, but would form a constructive presence, that could mitigate severe, extreme positions on different sports, placing greater attention and sensitivity in the educational, aggregating content of sport and, beyond all national records, Women would guarantee with strength and persuasion the application of any rule aimed at eliminating all forms of discrimination.”*

### *3.4 Socio-Historical Changes*

**Nicola Porro** concluded his observations by suggesting *“To represent the sports system of the more economically developed countries as a political arena where a new antagonist player could develop actions, a widespread, identifiable leadership opposing the old paradigm and supporting the reasons and values of a sport for all. This means suggesting an abstraction based on different ideologies. If, however, we try to understand all signs coming from the sports system and we group together highly heterogeneous, but also contradictory elements, we realise that it’s not unrealistic to describe current trends as newly developing trends. There is a widespread, unmet social request, and there are conflicting dynamics within the sporting world that are neither marginal nor ephemeral. If new individuals were to enter this world, people who are still examining their role and their interests in changing the spor-*



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ting world, i.e. local powers, environmental associations and non-profit organisations, consumer movements and the educational system, coherently bringing together their innovative action and the vanguards of the 'sport for all' associationism, a new movement would be outlined with a big impact on the public opinion and on the political system. 'The citizens' sport' could soon stop being a 'ready-to-use' slogan and become the concrete expression of a new right in the affluent society. This is a concrete prefiguration of a new paradigm".

### 3.5 Future Legal Prospects

**Antonio Spallino** and **Lucio Colantuoni**, co-ordinators for the research on Law, outlined legal prospects. Colantuoni wrote: "Sport per se has generated a growing legal 'globalisation', that according to many people is an 'Americanisation' of sports rules that are to be made compatible with the European model, particularly in major business sectors such as sponsorships. The biggest efforts are to be made in such fields as violence and doping, which have a big legal impact at the international level. The more appropriate tools seem to be the harmonisation of rules and standards co-ordinated by supranational bodies, the harmonisation of decisions and sanctions thanks to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, that plays an important role in the ethics/doping sector".

### Conclusions

Our research highlights that practising sport is an additional asset in the history of a lifetime and, for a limited number of people, a fascinating profession. Sport is therefore an activity that has to be constantly promoted. The plagues experienced today provide an opportunity for new generations to re-create the conditions of a sport that must first of all focus on participation, then on achievements, a youth sport, motivated by entertainment

and progress, practised in a sound environment of reliable adults.

Panathlon must be the guarantor of ethical and cultural values in sport. As outlined by **Boujon** *"We should not be responsible for the lack of control over all these deviations. Some would call us to order, as back ups. When facing all these situations, we can only go back to an ethical vision, the only way in the future we can safeguard the very essence of sport. Wherever there are people animated only by a business logic, or when others add to this logic an ethics of circumstance, our task will be to show that there is a third way: a correct balance between ethics and business"*.

The complementarity of sport-show and 'sport for all' seems to be the breakthrough of the 20th century. If the benefits of practising sport are evident for an increasingly sedentary society, the sport show (beautiful gestures, a competition between two top level athletes, strong emotions shared during a match, etc.) now belongs to the cultural activities of a society that finds in sport a means to get away from everyday problems. The confusion created in sport by success at all costs and the appeal of money were denounced and some measures to rehabilitate fair play and competitions without cheating were suggested. For the new millennium we must take up the challenge of a Sport based on the "third way".

\* Geneva Panathlon Club (CH)  
Member of Panathlon International Cultural  
Commission





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# Targets

by *Henrique Nicolini\**



## PART I

### *Introduction*

My dear friends and colleagues from Panathlon International asked me to speak on the achievements attained by Panathlon's movement in half a century of activities, fighting

for a better world.

It is therefore my task to give an overview, in a maximum of 50 minutes, on a corresponding number of years spent supporting sport and mankind.

It is with great enthusiasm that I started collecting data on the activity of almost 400 clubs, if we put together present and past clubs.

We knew we could act as possible ambassadors of a large number of clubs scattered over 30 countries and anxious to see mentioned, on such a privileged occasion provided by this assembly, some of the works and achievements for which they stood out in a context that contributed in turning Panathlon into an organisation respected all over the world.

During our investigations we collected such a large amount of material to write this paper that it is literally impossible to mention all the activities carried out during this half a century.

To give you an idea of how difficult this is, just think that if we were to use the time allotted for this paper, we could only dedicate one minute to the activities of all Clubs carried out in the course of one year, since we are celebrating today its 50th anniversary.

If, instead, we were to divide in an impartial way the time available to refer all that every club has done since its founding, we would only have 10 seconds for each club, without leaving any time of this conference for an introduction, an analysis or assessment of this topic or for a conclusion. Those seconds correspond to the pit-stop of a Ferrari in Formula 1.

Since I cannot mention all initiatives taken by each single club, as this would turn the conference into a monotonous list of facts, we decided to offer a collective assessment, by analysing activities clubs

in general engaged in, as overall initiatives. We believe that the biggest contribution to our work will consist in establishing a series of predominant objectives and, if possible, in highlighting historical developments in interests, values and relations with Panathletism and sport in these last 50 years. Several initiatives taken by single clubs will be reported in detail. The criterion according to which such initiatives are referred does not depend on a hierarchy, but on the fact that these initiatives illustrate better than others changes that from a historical point of view convey the desired message.

We however wish to thank our friends Giorgio Odaglia, Jean Presset, Aristides Almeida Rocha for their work and the researchers recruited by Panathlon International for collecting data on the activities carried out in the course of half a century. All these data put together allowed us to identify a new way of thinking that we wish to transmit to panathletes still operating in the third millennium. After careful classification, this material will most probably be useful for a possible future edition of an important booklet on Panathlon's historical memory.

In our current assessment we must not forget that when the pioneering Venice, Brescia and Genoa clubs were calling their first meetings, the computer was as yet an unknown or hardly known machine. World War II had just ended, ideologies, national borders and even technology were different with respect to today.

Revisiting the gradual changes of the first years, then moving on to more intense, accelerated, present-day activities is the very essence of this conference and the best way to understand our movement. Nowadays, when the clinking of coins may determine enormous changes among sportspersons, Panathletism must take a different position, in line with the concept of the '50s, when Panathlon was founded, when problems were concentrated on expansion and on sports values of that time.

## **PART II**

### ***Friendship, The Spark***

Panathletism resulted from the noble feeling of

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friendship, in a historical city and place. Half a century ago - Venice. The convergence of different worlds. A confluence of different opinions.

This noble feeling that brings men close together, was already an essential factor in the manifesto that brought together the people who were later to be on the list of club members and formed the “parent cell” of Panathletism.

The document, probably drawn up by Mario Viali and now the “birth certificate” of our movement, announced *“a club with the aim of grouping sporters from different disciplines and of cementing friendship, besides promoting the sporting ideal and in particular its social and moral aspects”*. It also recommended to support sports clubs.

The same manifesto also stated that *“meetings cement friendships”* and *“sport must unite individuals and peoples and must go beyond personal interests, political beliefs and social classes”*.

This principle of friendship among men was so strong that according to Domenico Chiesa, co-author of these lines, the words “Ludis Iungit” preceded the very name “Panathlon”, that today still defines our association. These two words, which mean “Sport Unites”, sanction the ideal that gave origin to Panathlon International.

The co-founder of Panathlon’s movement, together with the late Colonel Mario Viali, referred on the life they spent together and on the friendship they cultivated for over twenty years, through curious anecdotes that were not reported in the official, normally rigorous, impersonal, formal documents full of dates and official registers. Among these, the fact that at the Venice Rotary Club meetings, a group of members always sat together and had a quite lively discussion. Their discussion naturally focused on sport. The original core of Panathletism resulted from this group of sports persons.

From this group we also have Rotary’s influence on Panathlon International’s organisation. The first documents of the Brescia Panathlon Club were printed as “Rotary Sport Club”.

Besides pursuing friendship, our movement was consolidated by a consistent expansion activity. This idea of expansion was already included in the

Venice club manifesto and the targets were first the areas surrounding Venice and later the rest of the world. In actual fact the initiatives of the Venice club, followed by the clubs that were gradually formed - in the following order: Brescia, Genoa, Milan, Naples, Sondrio and Vicenza - opened the way to the creation of a district after only two years from the founding of the very first club.

Many others were formed all over Italy, with the consequent creation of new districts, up to 1960, when our movement crossed the Italian border, therefore becoming Panathlon International.

In summary:

The activities of the budding Panathlon movement were aimed at attaining the main objectives of the time:

- Cementing friendship among its members through meetings.
- Expanding Panathlon's movement.
- Promoting the sporting ideal at a time when physical activity needed to find its place in the scale of values in society - promotion and diffusion were therefore already important at that time.

Despite the introduction of other objectives among Panathlon's activities, friendship continued being a pillar within our association.

Economists from all over the world create, every minute, indexes to measure the social phenomenon. We believe we should create "H.C.", that is "Human Capital", to show how many new friends we make after joining Panathlon in our town, people we had come across but with whom we have never had the opportunity to become acquainted. To these members we should add all those persons we meet at regional meetings, organised by the District, or at international meetings.

If friendship is fundamental, a person is enriched simply by belonging to Panathletism, where members are considered as friends, and not just as "mates". No panathlete will ever feel like a stranger in a town where there is one of our clubs. As people gradually develop this concept of friendship, our association's badge will increasingly have the value of a passport.

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## PART III

### *Culture, a Life-long Objective*

As time went by, and the number of clubs increased remarkably, new objectives started gaining ground within the developing Panathletism.

The Rotary model, that was at the origin of Panathlon's movement, encouraged the latter to play an important cultural role.

As more and more expert speakers discussed highly topical issues both for Italian and world sport of that time, culture too acquired an increasingly important role.

Without ever abandoning the original objectives of friendship that formed Panathlon's first pillar, the growing number of clubs not only favoured the aggregation of existing units into a district, but also set the bases for organising new cultural activities outside our meetings. This boosted congresses and favoured the exchange of ideas among a much larger number of sports persons. Panathlon International Magazine and club bulletins were then published, therefore creating an intense cultural movement. Prestigious articles were published, while the movement was increasingly consolidated and had already acquired an international "status". The first Panathlon congress was held in Florence in November 1956, and was followed by important events. The first international congress was held in 1961 here in Venice, a stage for big historical events in the life of our movement. Today we are attending the 13th of these congresses that at the beginning only assembled some cities from Central Europe and later also went overseas. These congresses currently bring together sporters from 30 different countries scattered over three continents.

If we examine the topics discussed during the congresses held so far, we obtain a significant overview of changes and problems that occurred in the Sports World in every decade of Panathlon's life, a fundamental aspect in our work.

The first congress discussed "Amateur and Pro Sport", a subject that is surpassed today by a new economic reality.

In 1961, in Venice, we looked at the future of the Olympic Games, a problem that is still considered a topical issue today, discussed before an audience



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of 500 members.

In June 1969, in Sanremo, in the presence of 250 members, "Youth and Sport" were discussed.

In 1975, there was a very original initiative: panathletes took part in a cruise in the Mediterranean Sea, on board of a cruiser and at Palma de Majorca, the topic "Sport Education in the Context of General Education" was debated.

Congresses reached their maturity in 1978 with the meeting organised by the Naples Panathlon Club, during the presidency of General Manduca: over 100 clubs attended Panathlon International's event. Sessions that year were held in the historical Teatro di Corte (Court Theatre) of Palazzo Reale. The topic: "The Future of the Olympic Games", relaunched the same issue already highlighted in the 1961 Congress.

These prestigious events always discussed highly topical issues: in 1979, an extremely up-to-date issue was discussed: "Violence in Sport". Besides the solemn sessions held at Palazzo della Signoria, a symbol of Renaissance, work sessions were held in other venues, in the presence of the then International Olympic Committee Chairman, Lord Killanin, who took notes, with great modesty, on all debates.

"Sport and Family", was discussed in Lausanne at a congress organised "with Swiss precision", that also highlighted the prestige Panathletism enjoys within the Swiss Confederation, as testified by the large number of local authorities attending this event.

"Sponsorships" was the topic discussed in 1984, at Montecatini Terme, once again proving our updatedness and showing that we had reached the modern age. This excellent work was done by the Valdarno Inferiore club, that stood out also for other Panathlon activities.

In 1986, in Trieste, the debate - in the form of a round table - focused on the return of artistic events at the Olympic Games, featured as speakers the late master Sisto Favre, author of a book on this topic, as well as the Olympic Museum Director, Pahud, and the author of this paper.

We shall not report at this point the next congresses, starting from Avignon, held in May 1995, as we prefer to refer on them under the chapter "Actions". Starting from that year, the aim of these congresses



went beyond culture, so we decided to classify them under the next chapter, whose focus is on action.

### **Other Cultural Events**

Panathlon's cultural activity, however, was not only based on congresses. Among the various events we wish to point out:

- Round Tables

There have always been important initiatives such as "Round Tables" on specific topics. A round table was held during the above mentioned 32nd Assembly of Panathlon International Presidents, in the city of Trieste, in 1986, or on "AIDS and Sport", held in the course of the 1992 Bologna Assembly.

- International Meetings

The Sao Paulo meeting on "Sport in the Year 2000" is worth pointing out, featuring as official speaker the former Central Board Member, Carlo Alberto Magi. On that occasion 340 of its participants came from Europe, mainly Italy and Switzerland. This was the first major cultural event organised outside Europe.

- Regional Congresses

Cultural activities also include District and Regional Congresses, i.e. organised by groups of Districts.

Among significant initiatives in this sector we point out Pan American Congresses, promoted by the Punta del Este club president, Lopez Spangenberg, and held in the following sequence:

- 1) 1996 - Punta del Este - Uruguay  
Topic: *"Sport as an Inevitable Complement in Children's Education"*
- 2) 1997 - Recife - Brazil  
Topic: *"Sport Law"* (I)
- 3) 1998 - Mexico City - Mexico  
Topic: *"Sport Law"* (II)
- 4) 2000 - Buenos Aires - Argentina  
Topic: P.E. in schools as a contribution to the education of young children and the future of a country's sports
- 5) 2002 - Santiago - Chile

## Magazines and Publications

Panathlon's cultural activity also voiced its opinion through a publishing activity.

- a) Magazine - Read with interest, published in six languages. There are only a few publications in the world edited in so many different languages.
- b) Booklets - Special issues on ethics, fair play, adolescents and sport and other cultural topics.
- c) District bulletins
- d) Club bulletins
- e) A big cultural book on Panathlon's 50th anniversary  
(currently being edited)
- f) A historical book on 40 years of Panathletism, published in 1991.

## PART IV

### *Action - Programmatic Guidelines*

In 1988, under the guide of Antonio Spallino, a new Central Board and a new President's Committee were elected; at their first meeting, when new members were introduced, a question was immediately posed:

*- After all... which are our aims? What type of association is Panathlon?*

In the course of that historical meeting a unanimous conclusion was reached, besides the firm position that Panathlon was an "association of service clubs", even more important was the decision that Panathlon is a club of action!

Despite numerous clubs, in Europe like in America, had already carried out initiatives characterised by the main aim that was emerging, Panathletism was still substantially identified by a more contemplative attitude, promoting friendship and culture, or concentrated only on meetings.

All measures aimed at emphasising the need for action - the importance of initiatives resulting in changes within institutions and in local improvements - were launched by the central bodies.

An example of action, as a symbol of this new attitude, came directly from Panathlon International, at that time under the guide of Antonio Spallino. He promoted changes in the statutes, and it all started here in Venice in 1991.

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Panathlon's new by-laws were approved by an overwhelming majority during the 40th anniversary celebrations.

Clubs gradually started to internalise the principle that encouraged clubs to interact with the local community, with schools, with federations, and to organise big events. Panathlon International set the example by contacting such world bodies as the International Committee for Fair Play, the U.N., IASL (International Association of Sport Law), as well as by intensifying relations with the International Olympic Committee.

The development that followed, after fixing action as priority target, was so accelerated that Panathletism in the years of technology and Internet proved to be an up-dated organisation, free from any stratified conservatism.

Panathlon supported present-day dynamics and proved to be increasingly close to regional and national sport and to the community.

In this chapter we tried to offer a mosaic, a global view on the numerous initiatives that were carried out, with the aim to communicate the grandeur and diffusion of Panathlon's ideal. This wide range of alternatives allows every club to act according to the specific needs determined by local problems and to adapt to community preferences.

We agree that it is very difficult to provide an overall vision that meets many different interests: from an unusual, historical interest shown by the Florence club for numismatics and medal engraving to the involvement of the Mexico City Panathlon club in studying the history of sports practised by pre-Columbian populations.

In the next few lines we attempted to illustrate this complicated panorama. We reaffirm that it is impossible, apart from single cases, to sum up the large number of initiatives carried out in different sectors by all Panathlon clubs, particularly in the last two decades, as already stressed in the introduction to this paper.

### ***A - Initiatives focused on culture and on the awareness of social issues and of the sports world***

#### **1) Congresses**

As already mentioned, starting from the '90s, con-

gresses were more focused on action, and therefore were not included in the previous classification. The distinctive factor in these events is that with respect to previous ones, apart from the debates during the plenary assembly, a panathletic action should result from the final resolution.

We started reasoning in this way at the Avignon congress, held in 1995. On that occasion Panathletism became more aware of the problems related to physical education and sports practice for children and youngsters, and therefore approved the Charter for the rights of the child in sport and started a closer co-operation with schools.

The Avignon model, suggested by the Cultural Commission, at that time chaired by Jean Presset, was highly effective. The Congress venue - the Popes' Palace of this beautiful town in southern France - was the historical backdrop that gave respectability to our debate. The club president, Ferren, who headed the on-site organisation, greatly contributed to Panathlon's cause.

Two years later, in 1997, the Vienna Congress integrated the process aimed at approaching schools to sporting activities and promoted an investigation that through the comparative method, examined expectations and behaviours of young sporters in the different socio-economic milieus in which Panathlon operates.

An even more evident change in favour of actions was recorded at the Palermo congress. After analysing "doping" in all its facets, the final resolution affirmed that it was the duty of clubs and individual panathletes to intervene against this type of cheating - an unfair behaviour that damages the athlete's health and life.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of Panathletism, a congress was held in Venice on Sport, Ethics and Culture. The final resolution did not simply acknowledge the phenomenon of doping, but also established some guidelines to be followed and the position to be taken.

## **2) Regional Congresses**

Many districts organised regional congresses. An example was given by the 12th District that highlighted the need for schools to take sport into greater consideration. They managed to obtain the pre-

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sence of representatives from the Ministry of Sport and the final resolutions were sent to the Ministry of Education. As a practical result Physical Education became a compulsory subject in school curricula and funds from the Ministry of Sport were allocated to school facilities. The first provision that followed was the construction or roofing of 400 sports facilities.

### **3) Round Tables**

Clubs and districts have regularly organised round tables on important events. In Venice, during Panathlon's 50th anniversary, the topic that was discussed was the future of Panathletism and the importance of the press for sport.

### **4) Updating Courses**

Updating courses for managers were offered, some with the support of Olympic Solidarity, like those in Ponta Grossa, Campinas, Sao Paulo and Juiz de Fora in the 12th District, and others organised directly by clubs, like those held in Lausanne in 1995 and in 1996, featuring the participation of 203 sports managers. As for Italy we wish to mention the creation of the La Malpensa Sports Medicine Centre.

### **5) Art Initiatives**

Art too has supported Panathlon's action as it is a form of culture.

In this sector the most significant initiative is the Domenico Chiesa<sup>TM</sup> Foundation, created by the testamentary donation of this meritorious co-founder of Panathlon, expanded by contributions from clubs and currently directed by our international president, Vittorio Adorni.

Right from the beginning, clubs organised painting, photography, numismatics and other visual art competitions and shows. Our research brought to light numerous events in this field, including those organised in Sao Paulo, as well as the Lanciano and Piracicaba stamp exhibitions.

### **6) Publications**

Thanks to Panathlon's support, different books on sport are present today in public and private libraries. Many of them have already been awarded by

Panathlon International Communication and Image Commission. Here are some examples:

- a) "Dal gioco allo sport" (From game to sport), by Paolo Monticone and Ezio Mosso - Asti Panathlon Club;
- b) "Il Po - la storia e lo sport" (The Po river - history and sport) by Maurizio Mondoni - Cremona Panathlon Club;
- c) "Quale attività sportiva e perché?" (Which sport activity and why?) - Gorizia Panathlon Club

Other Panathlon publications deserve to be mentioned, such as those by the Lausanne club on Doping, by the Zug club, Switzerland, and by the Sondrio (on Sport in Valtellina) and the Pordenone (on the Friuli region) clubs.

### ***B - Activities focused on youth sport and initiatives in cooperation with schools***

The '90s were characterised by strengthened relationships between Panathletism, schools and youngsters. This approach, that gradually evolved starting from the '50s, was undoubtedly promoted by the Avignon and Vienna congresses.

Within this same topic, the most important initiatives were achieved in the following fields:

#### **1) Research**

The aim is to determine the characteristic features of the local youth.

Dozens of works have been presented in this field, but the work by the Gorizia club is now a classic: a work turned into a big book, was awarded by the Communication and Image Commission and admired by everybody for its in-depth investigation. Lucio Bizzini, with the surveys carried out by all clubs for the Vienna congress, drew up an extremely important statistical work.

#### **2) Promoting sport and culture among students**

In this field Panathlon's action was particularly intense all over the world:

- Pordenone established scholarships;
- Sorocaba, Brazil, organised a series of multi-sport events featuring the participation of more



- 
- than 10,000 students;
  - Como and Cuneo organised student tournaments;
  - Cremona is working on a project aimed at promoting basketball;
  - Itapira, Sao Paulo, promoted a regional multi-sport event featuring 26 local schools and 3,000 athletes;
  - Ribeirão Preto organised a long-distance race for young people living in the outskirts;
  - Milan too has developed a programme in co-operation with schools.

### **3) Promotion of the school-sport link through Panathlon's organisation**

The school-sport match, supported by Panathletism, was widely promoted through publications, competitions, conferences and papers presented during club meetings.

- Venice has developed a co-operation-programme by choosing a slogan that clearly indicates its aims: "Sport enters into a dialogue with schools"; this club confers the athlete-student award not only for sporting but also for school achievements;
- Asti and Pavia organised meetings to promote physical education in schools;
- Siena encouraged the regional bishop to highlight the importance of this subject in the course of a conference;
- Orvieto designed the excellent poster, in co-operation with schools, "Educating for a better world", exhibited in the halls where Panathlon's 50th anniversary celebrations were held.
- The District including Tuscany printed, with the students' artistic contribution, a high quality calendar to fight doping.
- The 6th and 7th District held a joint meeting on permanent initiatives promoting young people's physical education.

### ***C - Initiatives supporting Fair Play***

Panathlon's philosophy, fighting for a sport more appropriate to the spirit of citizenship and respect for institutions, automatically championed the cause of fair play as a behavioural rule.



This concept brought Panathlon closer to the International Committee for Fair Play, the international organisation specifically fighting for these principles. Several Panathlon International directors, including past-president Antonio Spallino, are members of this Committee and are working for this prestigious body.

Most districts and clubs have their own specific fair play commission, and this special attention emerges from numerous initiatives, such as:

- Conferences
- Awarding, during meetings, of the more disciplined clubs and athletes
- Promulgation of the "fair play action"
- Promotion of this principle through posters exhibited in public places and during sports competitions
- Publication of articles, leaflets, booklets
- Dissemination of the "Fair Play Charter"

There are so many documents related to all the work done by clubs to promote fair play that it would be easier to mention those clubs that did not contribute in this sense, because Panathlon International, and we are proud for this, managed to create awareness within its community for these principles.

We simply need to recall that the 1999 international fair play award, the highest recognition granted by the International Committee for Fair Play, was conferred on Panathlon International for the efforts made to promote this ideal, this behaviour, this ethical model.

Through Panathlon, Monterrey and climbers from Sao Paulo won, together with others, the 'Fair Play Action' award of the International Committee for Fair Play.

### ***D - Initiatives aimed at preserving memory and recognising merits***

Some currents of thought, also at the top of Panathletism, do not always give due importance to initiatives falling within the above title. They do not consider honours and awards granted to athletes, managers and other personalities as important

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as the other awards described in this work.

### **1) Memory lives on**

It's an issue we need to reflect on, as it is through these awards that the memory of sport lives on. When we recall a person who decades earlier contributed to the sporting achievements of a town, region or nation, we uphold tradition and history, particularly when we consider that modern generations tend to ignore the deeds of past generations.

Therefore, the "Athlete in History" initiative by the Valdarno Panathlon Club is to be taken as a model. Among the clubs supporting this aspect, we found to be interesting the activities of the Recife and Santos clubs, from the 12th District.

### **2) Flambeau D'Or**

Panathlon's Flambeau D'Or is one of the most important sport and art awards in the world. The most famous personalities of our time have been granted this award.

### **3) Awards in general**

The awards granted by Panathlon, besides being a recognition and a way of expressing gratitude, are also a tool for public relations and for promoting Panathletism. It's also a way with which Panathlon's community shows its friendship, and encourages meritorious behaviour.

### **4) Museums**

Panathletism also fights for preserving our heritage, by contributing in creating sports museums in all areas covered by our clubs.

### ***E - Initiatives aimed at promoting club activities and Panathlon's philosophy***

Even though we are celebrating our 50th anniversary, Panathlon is still a movement subject to expansion. Now, more than ever, it's important for the principles at the basis of our philosophy to be promoted with all possible tools.

It is by promoting our philosophy and by disseminating such data as those reported in this conference that we shall set the basis for increasing

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the number of clubs fighting for our cause. Thanks to a big promotional campaign, clubs can find ideas for new initiatives, therefore contributing also to obtaining better results.

### **1) Communication and Image Commission**

Great awareness of this subject encouraged the Central Board, at its meeting held in October 1995, to approve the creation of the Communication and Image Commission. The latter, in turn, drew up the rules and finalised the “Communication Award”, aimed at clubs, districts, the media and other figures or personalities who contributed towards this mission.

Clubs like Vercelli, Pescara, Turin, Punta Del Este, Ribeirão Preto, Sorocaba, Venice and Chur und Umgebung are among those who stood out in this field.

In the areas of Lozano, in Mexico, and Barbour, in Brazil, Governors achieved the best results.

### **2) Publications**

Clubs are greatly interested in promoting the principles of Panathletism, of the Panathlete’s Charter, of the Fair Play Charter and of the Charter for Children’s Sporting Rights.

The dissemination of Panathlon’s vision was highlighted in particular on paper work done by the Venice, La Spezia and other clubs from all districts.

### **3) Other initiatives**

Other methods were also used for promulgation, as in the case of the Turin club that put up a Panathlon stand during various exhibitions, or the Monza-Brianza club, that advertised our movement during the “Sport Festival”.

During the Rapallo stage of the Giro d’Italia, Panathlon International promoted Panathletism. President Adorni’s successful idea.

### **4) Yearly reports**

Also the yearly reports of districts and clubs can be considered as promotion factors. We feel great admiration for the detailed and meticulous way in which the Como and Florence reports are always drawn up.

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## ***F - Initiatives focused on prevention and on the world of sports medicine***

Topics concerning health have always been regularly discussed at meetings, in written documents and in a series of other initiatives. Similarly, sports medicine has already been the subject of congresses and other works. Some panathletes hold or have held important positions in sports medicine associations: doctor Eduardo Henrique de Rose, from the Porto Alegre club, is president of the International Federation of Sports Medicine, doctor Giorgio Odaglia is president of the Italian Association and doctor João Gilberto Carazzato is president of the Brazilian Confederation.

### **a) Congresses**

In 1992 an International Congress on Sports Medicine was successfully organised in Sao Paulo, and such topics as AIDS and Sport had already been debated at the conference held during the Bologna Presidents' Assembly.

### **b) Meetings**

The Asti club organised a meeting in a theatre on "Prevention and Sport", the Venice club on "Sport, Health and School", the Molfetta club on "Asthma and Sport", and the La Malpensa club on "Nutrition and Quality of Life".

### **c) Publications**

Pavia published a work on "The Athlete's Diet", and Siena, after a round table, edited several works on "First Aid, Hygiene and Sport for the Elderly".

## ***G - Initiatives focused on disabled sport and integration***

The category of the disabled is acquiring great importance in the world of sport, up to the point of legitimising the Paralympics, held a few weeks after the Olympic Games, in the same facilities as the biggest sporting event of the world.

Many Panathlon clubs carry out initiatives aimed at motivating once again the life of the disabled and they encourage accident prevention to avoid the causes that led to their partial invalidity.

## **1) Intercontinental initiatives**

Disabled people from the Pordenone area, guided by panathlete Paola Zelanda, visited this year the Punta Del Este and Montevideo clubs. Several activities, in the form of games, walks and exhibitions were carried out and co-ordinated in South America by José Lopez Spangenberg and Maria Emilia Alvarez.

## **2) Competitions and events**

Grosseto participated in the donation of horses and saddles for therapeutic riding; Alessandria organised meetings open to citizens; Orvieto held conferences and debates on the disabled; Mottarone, Monviso, Lecco and Molfetta organised disabled sports competitions and in Sao Paulo doctor João Gilberto Carazzato has been organising for 25 years competitions for sporters with different types of disabilities, particularly those caused by brain injuries.

## ***H - Initiatives proving that Panathlon is present locally***

The presence of statues, monuments, smaller works, plaques and posters all prove the existence of Panathletism in that community.

In Europe these works are substantially artistic, while in America they symbolise the presence of a club in that town.

- 1) For the artistic aspect, please note that Trieste has an interesting monument dedicated to swimming;
- 2) The Arezzo club has donated to its town a beautiful monument on sport;
- 3) Carrara-Massa donated to this town several monuments dedicated to athletes.
- 4) Specifically panathletic monuments, plaques and posters are probably limited in number due to local difficulties. They are found in :
  - Rapallo - opposite the Railway Station, upon initiative of the local P.I.;
  - Pordenone - plate on the door of the hotel where the club meets;
  - Langhe - plaques in four different points of town;
  - Punta del Este - two small monuments, one in the Maldonado Stadium and one in a more

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tourist area of the town beach;

- In Brazil, beautiful monuments dedicated to Panathlon are found in the towns of Cosmópolis, Sorocaba, Jaboticabal, Ribeirão Preto (in two places), Santos, Sao Paulo (in the main gym of this city) and São Bernardo do Campo. The towns of Sorocaba and Cosmópolis have named a public square: "Panathlon".

### ***1 - Support and organisation of sporting and social events***

Panathlon's role is not that of organising sports competitions on behalf of clubs, federations or of any other body. However, there are circumstances in which it is helpful and proper for panathletes to organise sporting events or to support other initiatives.

- 1) La Spezia organised a competition on youth sport;
- 2) Campinas organised a five-a-side football match for the visually impaired;
- 3) Montevideo offered a remarkable cultural and technological contribution to the creation of the Ministry of Sport in Uruguay;
- 4) Buenos Aires provided a substantial support and prestige to the Regional Youth Games, involving more than 100,000 participants;
- 5) Goya, in Argentina, organises the surubi fishing festival (surubi is a local fish). In April or May, more than 1,000 boats meet in Rio Paraná;
- 6) Munich, in Germany, organised the Panathlon Golf-Cup;
- 7) Neuchatel staged soccer and ice hockey meetings that allowed to raise substantial charity funds.

## **PART V**

### ***Ethics***

Technological and economic changes strongly perceived in the last two decades of the past century, have had deep repercussions on the current vision of sport.

As sports competitions became more explicitly .



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subject to marketing, managerial, technical and behavioural changes were recorded worldwide.

Marketing brought money, an element that on the one hand boosted sport, built new stadiums and increased affluence, on the other threatened De Coubertin's amateur spirit and opened the door to different types of cheating.

Spectacle brought millions of Euros and thousand more millions with TV rights. Athletes sign up for figures that were unthinkable at the time in which Mario Viali founded Panathlon.

The value of an athlete is no longer assessed on the number of victories achieved during the course of an important championship or in an international event, but on the millions of Euros he earns.

Consequently the only aim is to reach the top. The Olympic spirit *Altius, Citius, Fortius* no longer prevails. Rules are fixed by figures.

Up to this point there is no illegal behaviour. An artist that does what the others cannot do deserves a higher remuneration.

Marketing, however, after conveying a lot of resources into a team, in a sponsorship, starts demanding a victory at all costs, paving the way for all types of cheating, most of all doping.

Furthermore, easy money, transfers worth billions of Euros resulted in several forms of corruption of sports managers. In Europe, the false passport scandal; in my country, Brazil, there were equally serious problems that required the intervention of a federal parliamentary investigation commission to identify responsibilities.

Who should speak out in the name of sport and declare that this type of behaviour is indecent?

The 12th District Governor, Sérgio Barbour, deems that it is Panathlon that should speak out. Our institution, due to its history, its philosophy (already starting from the word "Pan"), can be a sufficiently widespread movement to assume the defence of sports ethics.

Sports clubs all over the world only have a unitary view of their own community. The same applies to federations, confederations, associations of referees, of P.E. teachers, of coaches or sports reporters. Although highly important, these voices only represent single sport segments.



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“Sport’s ethical conscience”, quoting a definition of Antonio Spallino, may be globally attributed to Panathletism.

This is an enormous objective given Panathlon International’s current structure, but unless we start to “think big”, we’ll always achieve second-rate results.

When our founding fathers from Venice formed the first Panathlon unit, in their manifesto they already declared that they wanted to go beyond that single club. They wanted to form other clubs - in the Venice area - and subsequently in other parts of the world. They did not think small.

Considering current trends in sport, Panathlon’s mission consists in giving priority to an ethical target: fighting so that dignity may continue to support sport. It doesn’t matter whether athletes are professionals or amateurs. What matters is that every sports competition must be fair, correct and offer equal opportunities to all competitors.

In the third millennium Panathlon faces extremely important problems, completely different from those faced in the rather naive years of its founding.

## **PART VI**

### ***Conclusion:***

#### ***Future Prospects for Panathletism***

During the past five decades Panathlon has been moving along paths that were yet untrodden by our Venetian founding fathers who started paving the way for us.

As time went by, historical events required new objectives, new missions, without ever neglecting previous ones.

The most recent topic, ethics, resulting from this constant attention paid to new trends, does not exhaust Panathlon International’s commitment to sport and to a better world.

The defence of ethics and of all other duly updated objectives, however, is not only achieved with a conservative attitude, resulting from the origins of a service club. It often requires a more authoritative, determined, public position on crucial issues to safeguard sport’s morality.

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In 1996, when the Atlanta Olympics were about to end, we had a concrete example of what Panathletism may be in the future. After playing the final for third and fourth place, the Brazilian national team won the bronze medal and for trivial reasons due to the players' selfishness, supported by authorities, they demanded (and their demand was unfortunately satisfied!) to receive the medal immediately after the match and not on the following day, on the Olympic podium.

When money starts to disregard even the top solemnity of the Olympic ideal, it means that ethics is being violently attacked by figures.

In the following weeks, the Football Federation and the Olympic Committee received 40 letters of protest from the 40 Brazilian Panathlon Clubs. Subsequently, at the Sydney Games football managers fully complied with the Olympic ideal.

It might be too early to say, but judging by the way the world is behaving, Panathletism will not only be based on friendship, culture, action and defence of ethics. Panathlon will also have to be an opinion movement: a flag that is simply waiting to be hoisted!

\* *São Paulo Panathlon Club (BR)*  
*International President's Delegate for America*  
*Communication and Image Commission Chairman*



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# Round Table

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# The French experience

by André Ferren \*



After the authoritative speeches by Lucio BIZZINI and Henrique NICOLINI, as a simple manager of the Vaucluse French Department, I feel very small ... but USEFUL.

I wish to stress that everything I am about to say is applicable in France, in compliance with our sport law, but is equally valid for any other country.

I feel humble in delivering a paper on what we could now define as "department agency on prevention", I feel small in relation to the size of our Department, I feel useful because in perfect harmony with the target we had set : PREVENTION!! I shall leave to experts the task of TREATING.

Finally commitment, passion, stubbornness led to the creation, four years ago, in Vaucluse, of a "Sports Ethics Committee", with the aim of supporting prevention.

This is not a project, but a reality.

This is the procedure we followed.

Since the sports movement had not managed to fully overcome its deviancies (violence, doping etc.), we admitted our "defeat" on this subject.

## There were two possible solutions:

1) Either the Ministry of Youth and Sport revoked the delegation assigned to sports federations that had not carried out their educational role and had not protected the life of season ticket holders (by being silent).

2) or Federation Presidents, facing this problem, accepted to cooperate with the Ministry of Youth and Sport.

- by accepting to apply the new Buffet Law against doping:

with sanctions against:

- Athletes
- Distributors
- Doctors,

- by accepting to cooperate with the Government and to strike off any offenders,
- while accepting, at the same time, to increase the number of preventive actions.

As for prevention, we intend to create tools easily understood by children and youngsters, as we don't want:

"today's children to be tomorrow's dopers".

- In France, this preventive action has to be enforced at the 'department' level.
- This preventive action must be permanently accepted and implemented by top, national authorities (top of the pyramid).
- This preventive action is achieved by creating specific tools.

### **TOOLS SUGGESTED BY THE AVIGNON PANATHLON CLUB**

Creation of a Sports Ethics Committee in Vaucluse  
Formed by 4 Athletes, 4 Politicians, 4 representatives from the Media

Ideas promoted by this Committee and that somehow could act as the conscience of the sports movement, of political power, of the media power, can be achieved as follows:

- a) By asking "financiers", local governments in particular, to distinguish, when allocating funds, those reserved for training and for young people from those reserved for a club élite. Currently, according to the statistics on Vaucluse, out of 1000 Francs, 5% goes to young people and 95% to the club's "banner" team.

*Suggestion* : for example, by increasing from 5% to 30% the quota allocated to young people.

- b) Hopefully this additional money for young people may allow organisers to employ high quality educators :  
Young people aged 8-12 and 12-15 should be assigned the best educators. So far, in most cases, the best educators are reserved for the élite, while at the base of the pyramid, the educators are substantially volunteers who cannot carry out their task and are not able to correctly introduce children to sport.

c) By training managers

- 1 - At Country level (1st /2nd Certificate, National BESAPT (Brevet d'Educateur Sportifs des Activités Physiques pour Tous) BESAPT certificate)
- 2 - At Federation level (1st /2nd /3rd level educator)

**And to fight violence and doping.**

d) By organising with the media :

- 1 - Press : a monthly column that could be entitled : “the monthly blue card”.
- 2 - On the radio : weekly programmes on topical sporting issues, stressing the interest in “fair-play”, and observance of sports ethics : topics can be defined in terms of deviance (violence, doping, all types of cheating) or of discipline (soccer, rugby, basketball, handball, hockey, cycling, athletics etc.)

e) By encouraging clubs to ask members to go to a sports medicine centre (locally) to undergo medical tests and avoid easily obtainable certificates.

f) By creating awareness among and bringing together sports people, young people, parents, educators, teachers, managers to inform them on the need to stamp out the plague of doping through conferences and debates.

g) By avoiding trivialising the problem and giving credit to alarms launched by medical staff.

If a doctor or a coach tells a youngster not to take creatine, they must also explain to him why.  
*“If I were to tell a player that he/she risks dying by taking a lot of creatine, I would do medicine and sport a big favour”.*

**The Youth Pass-Sport**

- a communication tool par excellence
- the Pass-Sport must be written in a language that is very close to young people
- it shall not be a booklet written for children by adults
- adults should place themselves on the same level as young people
- Pass-Sport shall consider 3 aspects :



- 1) sporting issues
  - 2) social issues
  - 3) health issues
- in this booklet youngsters must find solutions to all their problems

*Example :* 800 number on doping Telephone number of a doctor from CPAM (A major health insurance company) to discuss the lack of dialogue between parents and children (who can they talk to?)

- Children should also be gradually advised on:
  - damages caused by tobacco
  - damages caused by alcohol
  - how to approach the problem of "AIDS"
- This booklet should also update youngsters from the medical-sporting point of view.
- A page will be specifically dedicated to collecting the autographs of their 'sporting idols'.
- He/She will be able to record his/her training sessions, sporting achievements and results, etc.
- Similarly "immediate actions" will be suggested.
- Furthermore, we shall not forget to include in the booklet: the concept of fair play, of observance of sport's rules, of respect for referees, for opponents, for team-mates, etc.
- The different Charters will also be reported (The Fair Play Charter and the Charter for the Rights of the Child in Sport).
- Sports and social bodies, to which he/she will be reporting, must be presented in an interesting way.

### **The Charter or Manifesto of Reference.**

Naturally every action must be referred to the basic principles of sports ethics.

The Avignon Panathlon Club had already defined, during the two Vaison-la-Romaine assemblies, in April 1998, its objectives through the Vaucluse Manifesto.

- Both with regard to the merit and the objectives, all real sporters in Europe are on the same wavelength.

As to the form :

- they are responsible for achieving their objectives, in relation to and as a function of its

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government institutions and of its sports federations.

- a “clean sport” today needs the precise will of all sports people and requires everybody’s commitment.

Everyone of us can discover other tools if we wish, all together, to defeat deviancies, and we should not put off to tomorrow what we can do today.

Let us stop daydreaming, let us challenge reality, let us not bury our head in the sand, as we have done so far, let us throw light on all trafficking that was certainly to the advantage of some minorities, but gradually and inexorably destroy the health of our children.

- Let us stop pushers.
- *Altius, fortius, citius!* What wonderful formula! But not at all costs.
- We must not be hostages in the hands of dream merchants, of money and lobbies.

We should stop thinking that increasingly widespread doping and violence is an inevitable fact.

## **PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL AVIGNON CLUB**

### **THE VAUCLUSE SPORTS ETHICS COMMITTEE**

#### **Vaucluse Manifesto for a Clean Sport**

The Vaucluse Sports Ethics Committee was formed in 1998, sponsored by the Avignon Panathlon Club, with the scope of bringing together sports power, political power and media power.

Reference :

This Manifesto focused in particular on the fight against violence in sport, on prevention and on the fight against doping.

- Conditions :

- 1) Let us work together with a single aim :  
sport.
- 2) Let us forget our political belief.
- 3) Let us work in a limited, approachable  
geographical area :

the Department’s administrative area.

- Strategy :
  - \* 4 politicians : the two co-presidents of the Vaucluse Mayor's Association,
    - 1 from the right wing + 1 from the left wing
    - 1 Right wing deputy + 1 Left wing senator
  - \* 4 sports persons representing the Vaucluse sports movement:
    - The DDJS (Youth and Sports Office) director
    - The CDOS 84 President
    - The CDOS 84 delegate President
    - The Avignon Panathlon Club President
    - (Vice President of CDOS 84)
  - \* 4 representatives from the most important media :
    - 1) Vaucluse Matin
    - 2) La Provence
    - 3) Radio France Vaucluse (Radio Bleue)
    - 4) An independent reporter

This Committee is informal and forms the so-called Vaucluse "Sport Senate".

Meetings shall focus on sports problems in Vaucluse and shall promote preventive actions.

Thanks to these meetings the following actions were undertaken:

- \* Vaucluse Grand Prix of Fair Play
- \* Youth Pass-Sport
- \* Health Sports Bus
- \* Partnership agreements
- \* Creation of sports charters
- \* Contributions were made during training sessions
- \* Sports ethics agreements (cycling, etc.)
- \* Creation of an Internet site
- \* Conferences

Furthermore, thanks to these actions and to pressure exerted on Government, we recently created a Department Committee to fight and prevent violence in sport.

As sports reference manager was appointed a police superintendent, who is also sports educator and Member of the Avignon Panathlon Club.

This Committee is closely operating with the Sports Ethics Committee 84.

Our role consists in being present on all fronts, when needed, and to be at the disposal of Sports Committees, clubs and athletes when requested.

\* *President of the Avignon Panathlon Club (F)*

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# The Austrian Presence

by Willi Krenn \*



The XVI District includes 5 Clubs, four of which in Austria and one in Munich, Germany.

In alphabetical order they include: the Graz PC in the capital of Styria, the Innsbruck PC in the capital of Tyrol, the Munich PC in the

capital of Bavaria, the Salzburg PC in the capital of the homonymous Region of Salzburg, well known for its festival and homeland of the world-renown composer, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Finally the Vienna PC in the capital of Austria. Vienna is also a Region.

The “oldest” and also the more deeply rooted club in this District is the Innsbruck club, founded at the time of the 1964 Winter Games.

## **Austrian Sports Facilities and Panathlon**

In Austria, more than in any other country, sports facilities are organised in a very rigid structure. On the one hand there are the federations for each sport, for example the Athletics Federation, the Swimming Federation, Football Federation, Cycling Federation, etc., and, on the other the governing associations. There are three types of governing associations that can be considered neutral with respect to political parties. They cover all types of sports and use their power, so far in a legal form, to distribute public funding to sports clubs.

Federations and governing associations are found both at the level of the whole Austrian Republic and at the level of the Regions.

So in a small country of about 8 million people we have nine governing associations plus a supervising national organisation. Furthermore, local sports organisations have been created in the different regions.

Federations have the primary task of organising

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championships. They are also responsible for referees and officials' training and updating.

These organisations and federations show their interest and influence in almost all fields.

Funds being distributed are subject to "friction loss" so that clubs and their athletes only receive a small portion of this "pie". A lot of the funds are lost at intermediate levels. The administration is too expensive.

In this context, the Panathlon Clubs from the XVI District try to find niches to exploit them in many different ways.

We should proudly mention the Innsbruck Panathlon Club, already at the third edition (the organisation is in progress) of the biennial FESTIVAL FOR YOUTH AND SPORT entitled "Sports & More".

An average of 8000 students from the whole Region of Tyrol take part in this meeting. The Innsbruck Club managed to find the funds for the students' transfer by coach to and from the Festival.

The Innsbruck PC managed to collect € 100,000. The aim of this event is to give young people an overview of the different types of sports.

Visitors can directly try some of these different types of sports, with the aid of an instructor and therefore test their abilities.

Naturally in Innsbruck priority was given to winter sports.

The Graz Panathlon Club tries to be active despite its limited funds available.

The club awards schools that stood out during sports festivals, with special activities. Not just the students but also teachers are awarded.

Panathlon International's attention to ideas and aims was reported on leaflets with the following motto: "Sport as an Element of Culture among Men and Peoples".

The twinning with the Trieste Panathlon Club resulted in common sports and social activities. Tennis tournaments and the participation in the Trieste marathon, are worth mentioning.

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The Munich and the Salzburg Panathlon Clubs organise every year golf tournaments in their cities. Profits are donated to charity.

The Vienna Panathlon Club is organising discussions on current sports facilities in Austria, and for this purpose tries to maintain close relationships with the Austrian Sports Minister.

Furthermore, the Vienna PC has been organising for several years tennis tournaments open to the whole District, therefore favouring contacts among Austrian Clubs.

All Austrian Clubs recall the fact that in EU Conventions sport has never been mentioned.

Panathlon International is sufficiently competent to trigger in Brussels the necessary processes for this aim.

The future of European sport has already started.

Panathlon International must be present!

Panathlon International  
Graz Club

### **What is Panathlon?**

- favours friendship among athletes
- promotes fair play
- promotes studies and research
- provides advice and planning in sport
- promotes sport among young people and school sport
- participates in drafting sports laws
- fights doping
- promotes disabled sport
- supports the Olympic ideal

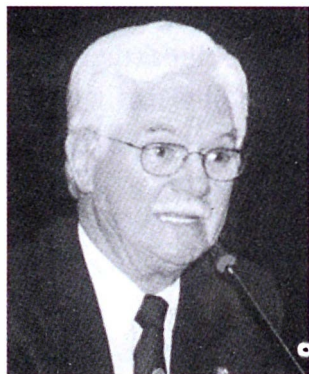
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# The Uruguayan Philosophy

*by Walter Pérez \**

## The First 50 Years

Panathlon's development in the American continent started at the beginning of 1967, therefore 34 years ago. In this period the movement's actions were all different from one another, however they form the experience from which we should profit. The achievements of the different clubs should be seen as examples to define guidelines promulgated by central bodies.



Up to the present day, in Spanish-speaking countries, with only a few exceptions, society did not understand and did not benefit from Panathlon's actions. And this was logic as clubs were closed in their dinner meetings.

Following Panathlon's transformation into a service club, ten years ago, we tried to change this trend, although not everybody interpreted this change in the same way and with the same intensity. The "service" is not aimed at panathletes, but at society in general. Our field of action is outside the club.

I shall briefly mention two examples from Uruguay - the smallest country in South America with 3.5 million inhabitants - that illustrate some opportunities of actions.

The Montevideo Club, deeply rooted in the country capital, with over 1.5 million inhabitants, adopted the strategy to invite, to the perfectly organised dinner-meetings, prominent personalities from the political, institutional, entrepreneurial world, as well as non-member sports managers and reporters, with the intent to promote the activity of one Panathlon Club. In this way excellent results were achieved in public relations.

The Maldonado-Punta del Est Club, created in a sea-side resort of 50,000 inhabitants, is more open to the local reality, with external activities: courses for sports managers, promotion and organisation of sports days in schools; but also erected a



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monument with Panathlon's emblem at the entrance of the town of Punta del Este; this is undoubtedly a better position with respect to the Rotary and Lions clubs. Also the respect and support received by the press form part of the results achieved by this Club.

Both clubs therefore reached their objectives: Panathlon influences local and natural culture and is well known by institutions and by the population.

### **Future Prospects**

Our vision of the world at the beginning of the new century is puzzling: the optimism for technological advances and related applications, that radically changed everybody's life style, is combined with the pessimism generated by man's negative attitudes: from extreme materialism, increased by irrational violence, drug abuse, and criminal terrorism, a new, unimaginable threat for coexistence.

It is not difficult to anticipate a critical situation for a world peace in the next decades.

One of the causes advanced to justify a certain type of man's irrational behaviour is the economic gap that limits access to material goods, including basic necessities. The media daily present these differences to the whole world population. Reactions, however, do not come only from less well-off societies, but also, and in a more marked way, from more affluent societies. Violence and drugs are not resulting from reactions due to a lack of resources, but due to their excesses. Most probably, the main reason is resulting from an exaggerated valorisation of competition with no ethics: the culture of triumph, combined with a decaying spirituality. As panathletes we are convinced and we defend this concept : *"The end DOES NOT justify the means "*.

### **How should Panathlon see its role in a context in which we shall live to justify its very existence?**

A marketing expert would present it as follows:

Our product is ethics and morality.  
Our market is the world.

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We fight violence, drugs, triumph without ethics.

Our aim is to change attitudes.

Our strategy: the active diffusion and promotion of principles

Our resources: panathletes, friendship, altruism, tolerance.

Our strength: organisation and ideas

Our weakness: the lack of funds.

Panathlon's big advantage, in the areas where it is present, consists in being the first and, so far, the only institution to have as main objective the promotion of Sport's ethics and morality. This advantage will most probably cease when there will be the imitators of such ideal, highlighted by public opinion. For this reason, we must immediately strengthen our conceptual position and extend our basis as far as possible. We shall need a clear, simple, and possibly emotional definition, favoured by the nature of our objectives. In other words: when we speak or reason on sport's ethics or morality, people, or at least sporters, must immediately associate these topics with Panathlon.

Ethics and morality become even more valuable if they are recognised as a rare, desired value, as a reaction to the current "anti-value" society: triumph as the only target. We all know the consequences: violence and drugs, and we understand that day after day they threaten the very bases, as they are accepted as natural and irreversible. Our concern, our mission, our maximum effort consists in neutralising these plagues that have penetrated society. Panathlon must act on a broadest possible area: the whole world, because we share common problems. And this shows the absolute need to expand. Our plan of "conquest" must be customised for every continent, every country, every financial situation. It cannot have a global strategy or tactics, it will only have a strong, inflexible backbone: ethical principles. In this way we can achieve our objective: changing attitudes. The same media that communicated and accepted anti-sporting facts, will also be able to recover values and communicate them to the public at large. This is our new strategy: finding an intelligent way to promote ethical principles and values. We need

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clear ideas, simple concepts, time, patience and perseverance. We rely on inestimable resources, such as panathletes, they form a well-trained, homogeneous team, based on friendship, altruism, tolerance.

We must face a lack of funds and this gives us a sense of weakness. Today, according to our mentality we believe that we cannot find solutions without money. We must reject this idea. We must be creative, imagine our future, fight to win, with a sporting spirit. Important, positive changes occur at a time of great crisis. When a balance is upset, nature restores it by creating an equally strong, opposite force.

Panathlon must represent the advance of an uncontrollable Movement combining all of man's positive forces. Panathlon has the advantage of operating in an environment that can easily define cultural changes, the Sports world. There is no other man's activity that can stimulate such a universal attention and support, and that can be extended to all countries, to all races, religions, cultures and socio-economic levels of the world. The main obstacles we shall face will be our own ideas, and opposition to changes. We shall have to shatter paradigms, open people's minds, eliminate prejudice.

This plan for Panathlon's future may seem the delirium of an idealist. I would define it as the hopes of a great, pragmatic panathlete with an enthusiastic view on the power of our Movement.

To conclude I wish to report some significant statements:

The big works:

*Are dreamed by crazy visionaries.*

*Implemented by natural fighters.*

*Exploited by happy, wise persons.*

*And criticised by chronically useless people.*

*Let's dream and work!*

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# The Belgian Proposal

*by Yves Vanden Auweele \**

As already mentioned by the President, I am the representative of the Belgian and Flemish Clubs and I am also a member of the Brussels Club. I wish to express here the concern of the Belgian Clubs, and also give an overview on our past and future plans.



What worries us, as some already said, is the ethical problem. Every week we can read on the papers that there are new scandals: doping, corruption, violence, abuses. Several doctors and psychologists, members of Panathlon, can tell us which are the negative effects on the health of young people. Physical, but also psychic effects. We said we would be accomplices if we were to remain passive, to simply observe from afar and to deplore aberrations in sport. I think this concern of ours is perfectly compatible with Panathlon's objectives and best traditions in using our moral power to safeguard sport's positive values.

We created an Ethics Committee, and we wrote a "manifesto". However, we need to pay attention to ensure there are not too many manifestos. Everywhere, in every Nation, manifestos have been launched and should be coordinated by the Central Board.

We did not simply investigate and write. Please do not think that we intend to make athletes feel guilty. We get the impression that athletes in particular are being picked on, but all investigations tell us that athletes are partly victims of their circumstance, because positive values, pleasure, self-esteem, experience, competence and fair play are not generated automatically. Sport creates opportunities, but at the same time also aberration; both positive and negative effects.

Conscious and lasting efforts are therefore needed. This task is increasingly in contrast with the general mentality that favours egocentric values

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in sport. It is for this reason that we focused in particular on team managers and coaches. This is what we intended to formally ask Nations here today and the Panathlon International Central Board: to resume discussing and promoting actions focused on team managers. We therefore, suggest to draft and develop a code of conduct for coaches, to include a code of ethics, so that coaches who exceed certain limits may be sanctioned. This is an action suggested by our Clubs in Belgium. If an athlete exceeds certain limits, if he is too violent or aggressive, or if he takes doping substances, there are many different commissions ready to sanction him directly. But if a coach, a team manager or a doctor exceeds certain limits, nothing happens. This is what we noticed on several occasions in Belgium; you can't stop a coach, neither at the level of federations, nor at the level of the Olympic Committee, nor at Government level. The only thing that can be done is to sue him, but this is perhaps too drastic a measure.

For this reason we would like to make this appeal today to the Nations represented here and to the Panathlon Central Board.

Thank you very much.

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# The Italian point of view

by Giorgio Odaglia \*

Dear Panathlon Friends,

If - when referring on Panathlon's experience in Italy - we recall its numerous aspects and global relevance, we realise that the numerous bricks, gradually laid in the course of these fifty years, led to the construction of various buildings of different size, for specific purposes. A concrete example may be the publication in four volumes of the work "Sport, Ethics, Cultures" a collection of several, important studies and essays, currently being edited.



However, one fundamental aspect, in Panathlon's vitality and experience within society is its widespread, appreciated, effective presence, with ideas, initiatives, proposals, real 'services' performed by our Clubs. A patient investigation that by examining different sources shows that they amount to several tens of thousands of meetings that were held in the world and a few thousands services.

We cannot ignore that even simple periodic or routine meetings are important, as it's an opportunity to present and promote a sport, Panathlon's ideals and principles, involving people from the sports world and civil society. This activity, not so evident at first, is hardly negligible, as we can see from the numerous publications by Districts and Clubs, from pictures and media coverage, confirming the remarkable participation of non-members. Without attributing too much importance, we wish to remember the educational aims of many recognitions and awards to people who worked in the world of sport, and, above all, we should underline the presentation and diffusion of the different Panathlon "Charters", that almost all



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Clubs efficiently promoted in their towns.

Even if most probably there are no big differences between one area and another, I believe I should point out some significant initiatives taken by Italian Districts and Clubs. It's not simply the events or achievements that testify incisiveness and efficacy of Panathlon's proposals, as the multiple actions focused on different aspects of the same topic. This is what emerged also from an investigation into Club activities and into the different aspects of sport in relation to society and changes in the course of time.

What prevailed is the attention Panathlon paid to young people in Italy, well aware of the important role played by a correct, widespread (or, better still, generalised) sports practice as a basic element for young people's training and cultural education. All initiatives going in this direction have become highly significant as a stimulus for society, given the general stagnation of the past decades.

Many promotional initiatives focused on the need for an increasing attention to be paid to motor education programmes in junior schools, while detailed studies highlighted the important educational role of specific motor programmes in the pre-school period. Numerous, complex problems emerged, that certainly could not find general solutions, but triggered local debates and favoured local solutions.

We believe that the incessant, general criticism, expressed in the course of years by almost all Clubs on the shortage of facilities in our towns and on the insufficient number of P.E. and sports hours in our school curricula proved to be effective. In such conditions and while waiting to find radical solutions, numerous actions were undertaken to support sports organisations for young people; please remember that some clubs also designed and contributed in the construction of facilities and donated special equipment also in foreign countries.

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Many other sports and physical education problems are still being examined also with the contribution of panathletes. We should also guarantee a youngster's safety and health, and make sure that he/she has the opportunity to identify and practice an adequate and gratifying sport, and we should study the reasons why there are so many early dropouts. In many cases the preventive role of sports medicine and psychology and the need to offer young people of all age groups a special health and protection programme so far have not been achieved, but Panathlon has always advocated them.

A delicate problem, often investigated and discussed, was that of early introduction to competitive sport, as is currently considered essential for achieving the best results. Also in this case, Panathlon's repeated contributions were based on serious, cautious criteria of gradual, rational involvement of young people, to respect, first of all, their health conditions.

Besides these strictly sporting aspects, the Clubs' top attention was dedicated to the fundamental, educational role that sport must and can have in young people's life : fair play campaigns, against any form of doping and violence in general, for correctly discussing sports ethical issues, were conducted by all Clubs. Both broad and shared doctrinal, practical contributions were achieved, that led to the fundamental resolution of the International Congress of Avignon and to the draft of the Charter for the Rights of the Child in Sport.

All these initiatives supporting a sound, effective sporting activity for children and youngsters, systematically carried out in the course of many years by Clubs and Districts through meetings, conferences, congresses, publications and other activities, were dedicated to the different components of society, involving sports trainers, educators, doctors, teachers, etc. and were often also covered by the media.

Even if I discussed in particular the aspect more frequently tackled by our Clubs, we should also

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recall many other actions in the field of knowledge, prevention, associationism, activities aimed at women, at sick people, at the elderly, in the field of culture, law, etc. But what really deserves to be underlined is yet another field of action, that was treated with great sensitivity, also way back in time when the world had not yet paid great attention to this issue: disabled sport, that several Clubs encouraged, promoted, supported with great commitment.

\* *Genoa Panathlon Club (I)*  
*President of the Italy / San Marino Multidistrict*

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# The Brazilian Activity

by *Sérgio Barbour* \*



Dear Panathlon  
Friends,

I apologise right from the beginning if my comments and remarks repeat what has already been affirmed by previous speakers.

When examining the 27-year-old Brazilian Panathlon, I can say that Brazil has always tried to remain loyal to the central model. For many years Brazilian panathletism was substantially a club based on friendship. It was recalled that the first name given to Panathlon was DINAR, initially a gastronomic meeting attended by panathletes.

I joined Panathlon in 1983, therefore 18 years ago, and at that time I discussed at length with Prof. Nicolini the fact that I did not agree that a club with such a potential as Panathlon, with famous personalities among its members, should simply limit itself to meetings during which interesting speeches were delivered and perhaps a few other initiatives, but that did not fully exploit Panathlon's potential. One day Prof. Nicolini said to me: "Sérgio, I believe your complaints are beginning to be considered. There is a new Central Board, a new President who sees things exactly as you do."

That President was Antonio Spallino. And starting from 1988 the Brazilian Panathlon, following developments within Panathlon International, started changing attitude. Our club stopped focusing on in-house issues and established contacts with the sporting community and society. From that time onwards socio-cultural activities were developed and the flag of sports ethics was flying more vigorously.

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This was a brief overview on our past.

If I were to list the main activities carried out by Brazil's Panathlon, after 1988, the 10 minutes I have been allotted are not sufficient: wide-ranging debates have been organised; initiatives related to the Fair Play award were held in different clubs; several clubs contributed in creating sports museums in their towns; numerous sporting events were promoted by Panathlon. I would, however, focus on one event in particular, the District Congress held this year in Sorocaba. In Brazil, just like I think in Europe and in other American countries, there is a serious, pressing problem: sports education and physical education have been relegated to a minor role. In schools and according to present-day pedagogy physical education is now considered of secondary importance, despite the fact that P.E. has always been a compulsory subject.

We therefore decided to organise a congress to discuss physical and sports education in schools. We should stress that this congress was urged by panathletes who met every year in district assemblies. These meetings imply big sacrifices for Brazilian panthletes since, in contrast with European countries where distances are short, our country stretches over a surface of 8.5 million km<sup>2</sup>, therefore distances from one club to another can also exceed 1000 kilometers. It is therefore difficult to bring together the clubs for district activities. The criticism that emerged was that our discussions were only focused on administrative issues and there were no topics that could justify the presence not only of our directors, but that could bring together also the whole world of Brazilian panathletism.

It was at that time that we decided to create the District Congress so as to support the District Assembly. As Prof. Nicolini already highlighted, we managed to draw up a final report that fixed the basis for a change in mentality within Brazil's education system. Today, thanks to the position adopted by

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Panathlon, the Sports Ministry allocated funds for the purchase of sports equipment in all the country and, above all, in the poorer states of North Eastern Brazil, and invested in P.E. teachers' training. After a long period of time, thanks to the cooperation of all clubs, we managed to submit a concrete proposal that I think will change the scenario of physical education and sport in Brazil.

I would like to stress two important facts, that may be used as a model for other Districts. First of all, as from now all Panathlon District Assemblies will be supported by a District Congress, always on a different topic. Physical activity and leisure time for the elderly and for the disabled, will be next year's topic.

I think it is rather difficult to imagine our future at a time of such great uncertainties as we are experiencing now. I believe, however, that it is exactly at a time like this that sport can pave the way for peace and for integration among men, to overcome the problem of violence, that today is even more serious, of terrorism, that already existed, particularly in Brazil, and more specifically that of urban violence. For quite some time we had been stressing the need for actions linked to sport, as there is no better tool than sport and culture to educate children and youngsters and to occupy their leisure time. Since in Brazil students only stay a few hours at school, it is important to involve them in a complementary activity that may take up their leisure time and prevent them from being involved in other types of activities. After some time, in Brazil and all over the world, we recorded an astonishing growth in the number of volunteers, as a sign that political power cannot meet all the needs of the population. Today in Brazil we have several NGOs, as they are called at international level, and there is an ongoing search for ethical values. In the sports world we have seen unprecedented initiatives, such as Parliamentary Inquiry Commissions, organised by the National Congress, aimed at moralising sport

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that unfortunately, as we all know, is contaminated by greediness, interest, and in particular by professionalism.

What is Panathlon's task in all this? It has already been said, and I am aware of the fact that Panathlon is a unique institution in its kind. There is no other organisation that can replace it. If Panathlon does not perform its duty, nobody else will. Why? Because this is the only institution that does not defend the interests of sports categories or of sports sectors. Sport is often facing conflicts: a club's interests don't always match with the athlete's interests, an athlete's interests don't always match with a trainer's interests, etc... Sport's big forum, the privileged platform of sports and related activities is no doubt Panathlon. And this is our task, that we should have carried out and that we are trying to carry out, this is our task for the future.

To do this we must not be driven by a false morality. To avoid the latter, we must protect our organisation. Today, Panathlon is not an interesting organisation for less idealistic sporters. It does not provide power nor wealth. In the future it might also confer power and maybe not exactly wealth, but possibly resources it does not currently have. It is therefore essential that on the one hand we strictly control all members who will join Panathlon in the future and, on the other hand, that we continue being independent with respect to other institutions.

Even though we must establish relationships with all sports institutions, we should never lose our independence, because other organisations could start going in the wrong direction, and Panathlon must therefore be in the position to disapprove. In order to be recognised, we must first of all set our own model, and it is therefore very important to preserve the identity that our Club has so far assumed.

In conclusion, dear friends, I wish to thank you all for your patience and let me say that Panathlon is a young club. We are still at an



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initial stage if we consider that fifty years of life in such millenary countries as Italy and Europe is only a drop in the ocean. I firmly believe that if Panathlon moves in this direction, it will become an important point of reference for society at large.

\* *São Paulo Panathlon Club*  
12th District Governor (BR)

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# Final Remarks

*by Giacomo Santini \**



MP Alberto Scavarelli, pro-secretary of the Presidency of the Republic of Uruguay would have fulfilled the task I was assigned more be fittingly. In a certain sense I was taken from a bench and placed here to summarise what I will take

back home after these three days of work.

I am a simple member of the Trento Club and I never took part in congresses. I do not have the lexicon of the different speakers who preceded me in the course of these days. I am experienced in speaking in other meetings, so I tried to collect the thoughts that I will present to my friends from Trento and that I would like to verify with you. I would first of all express my satisfaction for living my first 50 years of Panathlon, here in Venice, where a really unique and precious work was developed and I would also congratulate the organisers for the recreational and cultural side events.

In the course of these days it was stressed that sport changes with new generations. Panathlon too must necessarily change with them. Obviously we must never forget the reason why we joined Panathlon. Mr. Spallino, lucky him, has a prestigious past as active athlete. I am a sports reporter and for over 30 years I practised this profession and, in this role, I joined Panathlon and intend to remain, to give my contribution.

Heaven help if during these assemblies we were to listen only to identical opinions, to homogenised experience; every member must continue maintaining his/her position as athlete, manager, organiser, reporter, simple supporter, etc. Only in this way there is a richness in contributions that cover the diversity of views our association must guarantee. Everything must be clearly united by denominators representing the philo-

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sophy of our association.

Friendship: a word I heard being echoed several times in the course of these days; sharing the ethical, moral principles applied to the world of sport, but also in general to the youth world and the desire to do something to assert them.

Allow me to say that from the past to the present day there has been an evident development; yesterday laws were being drafted, today Panathlon proved to be able to move to concrete actions. Nicolini affirmed that if an association does not continuously renovate itself, it will be ageing early in life. I can say that he is a living example that some people never get old.

I appreciated the relation the Venice Club has established with the world of culture, with the prestigious Biennale. This relation helps us grow and allows us to establish new friendships. I therefore hope that the Domenico Chiesa Foundation may continue developing these types of initiatives.

Ethics must be applied, enunciations are not sufficient and I realise that in the modern world this exercise is really difficult. To ensure that Panathlon's action is effective we must establish closer, more incisive relationships with institutions at all levels, at regional, national and European level.

I listened with great interest to the Graz President when he said that in Brussels there is an office that is lobbying for sport. Lobbying in Europe is a positive action, and does not have the ambiguous meanings it has in the Italian language. Treaties so far have not covered sport, but they are starting to be interested in sport and the "Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union", signed in Nice by all Member States, at last explicitly mentions sport, with precise indications. It is up to Panathlon to find the correct words and actions to establish a dialogue with institutions. We must not waste time, because in four or five years time Europe will be formed by 27 Countries.

I ask myself if with the athletes and managers of these Countries we will be able to speak the same ethical language of fair play. If we will be

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able to peacefully discuss about doping. Whoever followed the recent history of the Olympics will testify that the motivations with which generations of athletes were brought to compete were dramatic. We must therefore draw up a charter soon, and fix a series of ideals to be indicated to these friends. I believe Panathlon should voice out loud its opinion on the unsolved problem of doping and, if necessary, bang its fists on the table. I don't know whether this is a fair play action, but it may prove to be useful.

As already mentioned, we must point our finger not only at children to be educated, but also at managers, sports club presidents and coaches. We noticed that in many cases of doping these people proved to be responsible. I would like to suggest to give a "fair play award" to the president of that cycling team who during the Giro d'Italia, immediately dismissed a rider who tested positive at the doping test. It was a real fair play action: we give up a champion but not a principle. I would equally award the Tour organisers when they sent off from the competition some champions who were useful for the show, but who had infringed an ethical standard.

These cases should definitely be highlighted. The President referred once again to the role of the media. We were pleased to learn that television is willing to give up a language that is often too free and easy and that inevitably causes reactions in listeners, particularly in young people. We must really teach young people that a sports opponent is not a foe, that a sports victory does not solve all problems, nor a defeat is a good enough reason to feel depressed. This too is a way to teach a correct relation with sport.

I shall end with a personal recollection, a burden that as sports reporter I have been carrying on my conscience for ten years. A cardiologist once told me that there was a top level athlete who should stop practising sport but did not want to. In my role of reporter I immediately asked who it was. The answer was: "If you come to the surgery the day after tomorrow you will see him". I went with a video camera; I saw the athlete: he had won the Giro d'Italia

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the previous year! It was a classical case of mad heart, like Bitossi, but his problem was much more severe. When he saw me with the cameraman he said: "Don't ruin me, I need to work for another two or three years. If you air this report no team will hire me!"

I have been silent since then. But please tell me if I betrayed any ethical principle. I still have not found an answer.

*\* Trento Panathlon Club (I)*  
*Member of the European Parliament*

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# Final Resolution

Panathlon International at its congress in Venice, city in which the first club was formed in 1951

*having listened to*

the paper on the significance of its first fifty years of history, the observations on the international historiographical research devoted to sports developments in the second half of the 20th century, as well to the activities of European and American clubs, and of the movement, in the service of sport, intended as a means towards the development and advancement of the individual and solidarity between men and peoples;

*having heard*

the debate between representatives from major Italian TVs and papers on past, present and future relationships between the media and sport;

*having observed*

the current lively, life and future prospects of clubs in the different socio-linguistic and cultural areas, testified by participants in the final round table

*pays homage to the memory*

of its founders and first protagonists who anticipated the “world consanguinity” of sport and managed to group in a single, international family, testimonies from all disciplines united in the educational, amicable, community values of a ludic, competitive sports practice;

*confirms*

the well-founded validity and the pressing topicality of this association’s constitutional aims: first of all the safeguard and promotion of the ethics of responsibility and of solida-

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rity; in-depth study and diffusion of the cultural vocation; the choice and safeguard of fair play as life customs, also in sports practice and management;

*having noticed*

with satisfaction the cultural development and the sensitising capabilities this association has achieved in obtaining the participation of more than 37 professors from European and American universities, as well as of Presidents from international sports federations, Olympic academies and research institutions of high scientific value from the two continents in the historiographical investigation called “Venice Project 2001”;

*expresses*

its satisfaction with the microcosms of those clubs and districts that with their on-field actions traced the real, active history of Panathlon International;

*declares*

its gratitude to experts who accepted to cooperate in this interdisciplinary investigation as volunteers, since they shared the same objectives;

*hopes*

that top international sports and political organisations, together with economic agencies that recognise sport’s social and cultural values in our post-modern society, and Panathlon clubs may sponsor the publication of the proceedings resulting from this investigation, so that such work may be disseminated and may also reach both the members and archives of these organisations, the national Olympic academies and Olympic committees, national and international sports federations, governments and their ministries of education and sport, and universities;

*affirms*

*and undertakes*

to systematically apply the following principles at all levels:



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- I. Individual and collective sport must maintain its characteristic feature of expressing man's freedom, creativity and lucidity;
  - II. Practising a sport means accepting its rules, as long as they are compatible with the individual's dignity, respect for others, true results;
  - III. Parents, trainers, managers must educate youngsters to life, clubs inspired by this principle must declare, in the first article of their Statute, this ethical and solidaristic aim, and fix all consequent rules;
  - IV. Schools, at all levels, must acknowledge and recognise that sport, if correctly intended, is of high educational value;
  - V. Every supranational, political Community and every Nation must make homogeneous laws to fight both physical and psychological violence resulting from sport, biological manipulation and corruption in the sporting world;
  - VI. Sport sponsorship has become fundamental to meet the financial requirements of small and big sports associations; sports entrepreneurs should be sensible enough to adjust their economic funds to the social context in which they operate and political communities must meet this requirement; sports organisations, on the other hand, must exercise their prerogatives regarding objectives, rules and management of sports activities;
  - VII. Developments in and around sport, that characterised and sometimes negatively influenced the second half of the 20th century have not at all ended.

## **Panathlon**

must devote all the competence and energy of its members both at international and local level, to analysis and prevention, or must support developing phenomena through concrete initiatives that may have an impact:

- on the drafting of laws,
- on constitutions and on university courses on sport,

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- on the attitudes of the media

against all substantial and lexical deviation from a fair sport,

favouring fair play and the so-called “minor” sports,

promoting sport among the disabled, and a correct information of the public opinion also on the profiles, needs and social consequences of sport for all.





# 1951 2001



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