



IWAS  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2005/2006

SEPTEMBER 2006



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# INTERNATIONAL WHEELCHAIR & AMPUTEE SPORTS FEDERATION

## List of Serving Officers during the Period

### **President**

*Mr. Paul DePace, USA*

### **Vice President**

*Mr. Juan Palau Francas, ESP*

### **Members at Large**

*Dr. Oriol Martinez, ESP - Sports Science & Medical Officer*

*Mr. Seyed Amir Hosseini, IRI, - Marketing Officer*

*Mr. Rudi Van Den Abbeele, FRA – Sports Services*

*Mr. Karl Vilhelm Nielsen – DEN*

*Ms. Radka Kucirkova, CZE*

*Mr. Duncan Campbell, CAN*

### **Secretary General/Executive Director**

*Ms. Maura Strange – GBR*

### **Honorary Treasurer**

*Mr. Bob Paterson – GBR*

### **IWAS Sports Officers/Representatives**

*Mrs. Ann Webb, Wheelchair Archery Representative – GBR*

*Mr. Jean Minier, Athletics – FRA*

*Mr. Huang Chung-Jeng, Cue Sports – TPE*

*Mr. Alberto Martinez Vassallo, Wheelchair Fencing – ESP*

*Mr. Alf Boyle, Lawn Bowls - AUS*

*Mr. Glyn Hibbert, Powerlifting Representative – GBR*

*Mr. Brad Mikkelsen, Wheelchair Rugby – USA*

*Mr. Paul Gockel, Swimming Representative – AUS*

*Mr. Leandro Olvech, Table Tennis Representative – ARG*

# ANNUAL REPORT 2005/2006

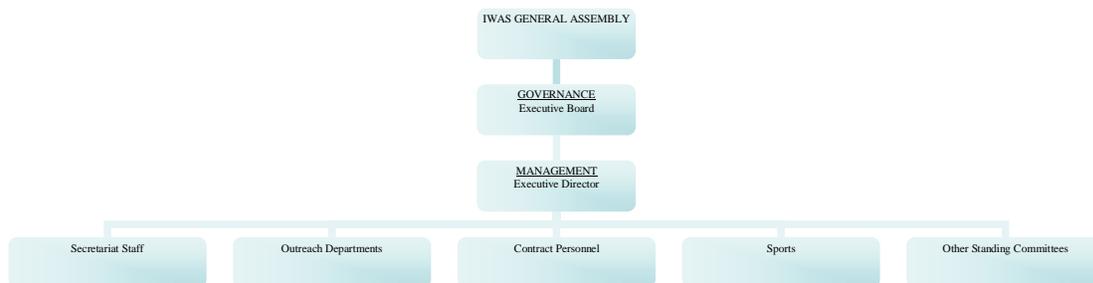
## PRESENTATION OF REPORT – BY PAUL DEPACE, PRESIDENT

The International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS) is a Charitable Company (limited by Guarantee and registered in England and Wales with Companies House (2713410) and the Charity Commission (1011552).

IWAS is obliged to produce and file Annual Reports for Companies House and the Charity Commission as well as its membership. IWAS therefore produces two separate reports which together cover all requirements – a comprehensive Annual Financial Report on the Charity's Accounts, which is audited by the firm of Hillier Hopkins, and this Annual Operational Report, which covers all the activities of the Federation.

It should be noted, however, that there are new reporting practices (as disclosed in SORP 2005) and being a smaller Charity, the Federation falls below the audit threshold of £500,000 sterling. The Executive Board is currently considering whether a full audit will be carried out in the future.

## IWAS ORGANISATION CHART



The Executive Board meet at least once a year face to face and conducts regular teleconference meetings and electronic voting by email. The Executive Board is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the Charity.

### **Recruitment & Election of Executive Board**

The Directors of the Company, who are also Trustees for the purposes of charity law under the company's Articles are known as the members of the Executive Board.

The composition of the new Executive Board to run the amalgamated organisation of ISMWSF and ISOD under its new name of IWAS was identified in mid-2005. A call for nominations was made by the Charity's Secretary General in accordance with the Federation's Memorandum & Articles of Association (Constitution). Elections were held in Rio de Janeiro in September 2005 at the Charity's Quadrennial Assembly of members for the President, Vice President and 6 Members at Large; the positions of

Secretary General and Hon. Treasurer were appointed by the Executive Board and ratified by the Assembly.

The Charity's focus is providing sporting opportunity for persons with a physical disability. As such, the Executive Board members seek to ensure that the needs of this group are reflected through the diversity of the Trustees, with all members having a background in one of more aspects of sport governance and/or management and 4 of these additionally being ex athletes.

Personal and business skills of Executive Board members are taken into account when allocating portfolio/job descriptions. An annual assessment of members' performances is undertaken.

### **Trustee Induction & Training**

Every opportunity is taken at events and meetings to provide new trustees with familiarisation sessions about the Charity and the context in which it operates. All members are posted updates sent by the Charity Commission to keep them up to date with current affairs.

### **Risk Management**

The Executive Board recognises its obligation to conduct a review of the major risks to which the Charity is exposed. This has resulted in implementing a contingency policy for the Charity's reserves:

**To retain in reserves the minimum level needed to cover staff redundancies should the Federation no longer have the financial means to continue operations. Currently, this is in the sum of £45,000 based on actual salary levels to cover redundancies, associated with tax and pension payments.**

as well as the implementation of procedures for authorisation and review by members to minimise internal control risks. Compliance with health and safety of staff and visitors to the HQ offices is managed by the Charity's Office Manager.

Further reviews of potential risk areas are undertaken on a regular basis and have undertaken in 2005/06 a comprehensive Games Event risk management exercise resulting in establishment of contract principles and new bidding undertakings designed to strengthen IWAS indemnification from financial risk.

# SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

## **Introduction**

The Executive Director/Secretary General is accountable for the management function of the Federation. The management function is responsible for the direct implementation of the Federation's strategic plan, policies and the delivery of its goals and as such reports to the Executive Board. The Executive Director is an ex officio member of the IWAS Executive Board, but is not a trustee of the Federation. The Executive Director/Secretary General is directly answerable to the President of the Federation.

Until such time as the Federation realises a full complement of staffing and contracted personnel within HQ, Regions, Sports and outreach departments commensurate with management delivery objectives, the management function continues to be met with the support of elected Officers, Sports, Standing and Ad hoc Committees and individual appointments. The present Secretariat staffing situation remains at the same level as 1993 and is composed of: Executive Director, Office Manager and Finance Administrator (1 morning per week). Outreach departmental and contracted personnel are: Athletics and Games' Event Coordinator (new – August 1<sup>st</sup> 2006) and West Asian Regional Office Manager.

## **Purpose**

To report on all activities under the responsibility of management, as well as any interface with other organisations/committees related to the IWAS Strategic Plan and delivery of associated goals during the period under review and to put forward ideas and recommendations regarding the Federation's operation for the coming period.

## **Report**

The amount of work undertaken by the staff, contracted personnel and sport experts in the year since the Games in Rio in September 2005 and our last Annual Report is nothing short of miraculous. The rate of productivity not only matches, but often outweighs that of a similar organisation with 400% plus more professional staff. We continue to take strategic steps to expand our professional resource through establishment of special situations with outreach workers and consultants working with the HQ on a pro-bono/nominal fee basis.

My last report prior to the General Assembly and elections in Rio, Brazil last year was written on the brink of our new beginnings as IWAS, following the interim amalgamation period ISMWSF and ISOD and I believe that the momentum has carried us forward rapidly, positively and productively.

Our business is sport and opportunity for athletes with a physical disability on a global basis from grass roots to elite. We have not only sustained our objectives, but continue to improve and expand their application. 2006 is World Championship year and the start of qualification periods for Beijing 2008. Our operations therefore have focussed on the events that are the pinnacle for each athlete's personal and sport

specific objectives. You will be able to see how well in particular the two IWAS paralympic programme sports – the traditional gentleman’s sport of fencing and the younger aggressive sport of wheelchair rugby - have delivered their respective World Championship events.

It would seem that not one moment has been wasted in the period under review, not only delivery of events and opportunities for our membership but also with preparation being keynote and underpinning our expansion of programmes and activities for coming years as you will see from the following.

### **Strategic Plan**

On behalf of and in consultation with the Executive Board, I reported against the IWAS Strategic Plan 2003/2005 and up-dated this to establish continuity of the Plan for the period 2006-2010 against identified core principles and priorities. This was circulated to the member nations in May 2006.

### **IWAS Games’ programmes**

Regional – the investment made by IWAS with the support of the IR of Iran Federation of Sport for the Disabled is bearing fruit with a Regional Athletics Meet and Development Forum being planned for delivery in November 2006 in Tehran, Iran. Mr Seyed Yousef Mousavinasab, our West Asian Regional Office Manager has worked diligently in pursuit of success and at the time of writing, we understand that 8 countries from the region will participate in the event. Resource and support to the endeavour has also been provided by the IWAS Sports Services Committee and we look forward to the feedback from the Forum to plan for future regional activity and wish athletes from the region well in competition.

Junior Games – following on from the success of the 1<sup>st</sup> Junior Games staged at Stoke Mandeville in July 2005, the Organising Committee from the Irish Wheelchair Sports Association took on the mantle for 2006 and provided all junior participants with a glorious (weather as well!) opportunity in July of this year to demonstrate their skills in track and field. The athlete standards were outstanding and congratulations are extended to our Irish member organisation, especially for their hospitality and organisation in accommodating the needs of an increased number of participants.

The Organisers for the 2007 Junior Games were announced in February 2006 as the South African Sports Association for the Physically Disabled (SASAPD) in South Africa. A site visit has been scheduled for October 2006 at which time I shall be introducing the newly appointed Event Coordinator, Jan Bockweg, to his first experience of an IWAS multi-sport, multi-venue Games situation as we look forward to opening up the Junior Games to two more sports in April 2007.

World Games - We approached the IWAS World Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in September 2005 with anticipation of the first World Games to be held in the Americas continent and looked forward to the experience of a different culture and approach. Whilst in some respects we were rewarded with a true reflection of the effervescent Brazilian way of doing things, there were certainly some lessons that we learnt along the way, although the price we ultimately paid was perhaps harsh and affected our budget for 2006. A comprehensive review of the situation was undertaken by the Executive Board post the Games taking into account the feedback solicited from participating nations, sports, staff and Board members and I was charged with achieving a comprehensive event risk management review. This has

not only resulted in new bidding documentation and procedures being put in place to underpin preparation for Chinese Taipei and future events, but also new associated and necessary regulations. The key principles identified in this exercise will become universal to all event contract situations from IWAS Championships through to IWAS Games.

Having finalised this exercise, we then completed our preparations for improved multi-sport event coordination with the appointment of Jan Bockweg as IWAS Event Coordinator commencing in August 2006. We are very pleased that Jan took up our proposal and view him as a key member of IWAS management.

### **Sports Services**

Under the IWAS strategic plan, the demand for more coordinated activity on a sport specific and multi-sport basis was clearly evidenced from within the nations.

The Sports Services Committee, a newly formed Standing Committee of IWAS, has the task of coordination and linkage, especially at development level. Whilst presently in its infancy, management is able to utilise the experience and expertise within its members to:

- Reinforce and resource regional development objectives
- Audit and work alongside sports to bring more definition and depth to programmes
- Work with new sports to provide support and guidance
- Assist with multi-sport strategic initiatives
- Recruit and nurture experienced individuals across the nations who are prepared to contribute through their own expertise to a coordinated resource network
- To create the link between sport and sport science

Initially starting with 3 members from the Executive Board under the Chairmanship of Rudi van den Abbeele, we have already identified two new experts to assist us in promoting the value of sport, especially within underdeveloped regions.

During the period under review, the Chairman of the Committee has closely consulted the Executive Director and together we have underlined the major situations where the Committee's developing resource can be gradually brought into play. We have a very clear strategic direction for this Committee to perform a crucial role in the Federation's future by creating resource and linking development activity.

### **Development**

IWAS prioritises development and has created a thread in its operational functions linking development aspects into the majority of its programmes and projects.

Development is a word which can carry different meanings according to different contexts, and we must remember that the key to IWAS existence is development. That we have progressed development in some areas is obvious – eg the International Stoke Mandeville Games are now the Paralympic Games. However, the basic premise of the ISMG remains as strong today as it did at the beginning – organisational development, resource development, the need for development of youth, the need for sport specific development, the need for development of pathway from grass roots to elite, within underdeveloped nations or regions – the list is never

ending and remains a challenge we all endeavour to meet on a daily basis. It is true to say that “development” cannot remain the total responsibility or jurisdiction of one organisation or one sport. What we must truly be accountable for, is creating solidarity in principles and standards which we can all buy into, an identification of the different aspects of the term “development” and how it can be delivered to support our nations’ athlete constituency, concerted effort to create realistic resource levels and a clear desire to collaborate and contribute at a sustainable level. Development is not, and never has been a one-off situation or answer.

IWAS has policies and strategies that are broad-based, encompassing all aspects of the term “development” – through the Sports Services Committee, through the individual sports, through Games programmes etc and it is at the forefront of all our operations. For example, you will see that the ground-breaking Wheelchair Fencing World Championships this year also carried Educational and Development programmes with training of young fencers, referee examinations and a Medical Seminar.

Two key development projects scheduled this year are the Development Forum in Iran as mentioned above under Regional Games and the Electric Wheelchair Hockey Development Event. Both these events and indeed others that are components of a bigger event, contribute to the continuing awareness and growth in participation.

More examples of development initiatives can be found in every single project that we undertake, some of which detail can be found in this Annual Report and certainly within our quarterly Newsletter.

### **Branding**

The new logo launched in Athens 2004 has generated a fresh, outgoing and productive look to the Federation and much work is being done to ensure that this new branding continues to work to the IWAS family’s benefit. Branding policies are being developed and applied wherever our profile is recorded, demonstrating consistency and developing an increased awareness of who we are and what we do right through all the activities that the Federation undertakes.

This has also meant focus being directed at developing our new web-site. I drew up a specification for what was needed to up-date the present web-site to reflect what the Federation’s role and responsibilities are and to more effectively ensure that appropriate information can be easily accessed and/or downloaded. Although hampered by financial restrictions, innovative actions to utilise pro bono support/nominal cost has been matched by the efforts of our Office Manager, Kim Garner in coordinating the production of the new site.

As I write, we are nearing completion of our goal to have the new web-site fully up and running by the end of 2006 – address [www.iwasf.com](http://www.iwasf.com)

### **Relationship with the International Paralympic Committee (IPC)**

The IPC has consulted widely with its membership during the period under review and IWAS’ policy is to give active support to the direction of IPC by participating within such consultation exercises. I have therefore responded on behalf of IWAS to IPC calls for consultation related to their Strategic Plan, Classification Code, Sport Governance & Management Initiative and Development Committee strategy.

Outside of these situations, IWAS has also continued to reaffirm its commitment to the goals of the IPC in relation to the Paralympic Games and movement. As an indication of our desire to contribute and reinforce the paralympic movement and recognising a similar objective from the IPC, IWAS has taken the opportunity to develop a position paper in order that mutual concern and issues can be aired and a more beneficial relationship established between IWAS and IPC, perhaps through a Memorandum of Understanding. IWAS feels strongly that we need to put an end to the "grey areas" of jurisdiction and potential conflicts. Discussion in this respect continues with the IPC President and CEO who have a similar objective.

We also continue to work very closely with the IPC in respect to the IWAS Paralympic programme sports of Wheelchair Rugby and Fencing. This is a demanding role and responsibility that absorbs the resources of our sport management professionals both pro-bono and staff on a regular basis in order to deliver first-class programmes for our rugby players and fencers in Beijing. The Memorandums of Understanding with the Beijing Olympic Organising Committee (BOCOG) will shortly be presented to us for review and signature. This document will be the blue print outlining the commitments the key stakeholders IPC, BOCOG and IWAS are prepared to make to the success of the Games.

### **Policy, Principle and Regulation Review**

I have undertaken a review of the majority of IWAS policies and principles throughout 2006 and will continue into the New Year of 2007 to ensure that appropriate regulations are in place and support effective operations in all areas of the Federation's activities on behalf of the member nations.

This has meant that the Federation's Handbook has been under a re-write for a considerable period now and not been available in its entirety at any one time. However, I am pleased to say that the end of the exercise is near and has meant addressing and finalising so far the:

- IWAS Internal Regulations
- IWAS Games Policies, Principles and Regulations
- IWAS Anti-Doping Regulations
- IWAS Sport Budget rules and regulations
- IWAS International Classification Standards
- IWAS Youth Event Policy and regulations
- IWAS Appeal Hearing regulations and associated protocols
- IWAS Data Protection policy and regulations

A review of fiscal policy, rules and regulations is also currently being undertaken by the Finance Committee and our final objective is to make the whole Handbook available on the new web-site in January 2007. We feel that this is the most user-friendly medium for members to have up-to-date information which can be readily available.

### **Membership**

Response, support and involvement of member nations in the activities of the Federation remains at a high level and the number of nations in membership is consistently held at 65-70. We are noting however that some national organisations are experiencing some difficulties in respect to their national role and responsibilities

as a member organisation of IWAS and that of their NPCs. This situation together with the changes that are occurring due to sport independency from IPC and the impact on national infrastructures has prompted my recommendation to the Executive Board for a Working Group to review membership levels and entitlements. This has been approved and the subject will also be included in our discussions within the IPC IOSDs Council and the IPC Management and Board.

As I close this report on the period September 2005 to September 2006, I include other positive notes for our future operations and take the opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to:

- The Ludwig Guttmann Paraplegic Sports Foundation for their donations this year to our education publications
- UK Sport Council for their support of office facility and international representatives grants
- Net Tech Srl for their value in kind (VIK) offer to provide us with software systems development and support.

Respectfully submitted

Maura Strange

## HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

When the report on the 2004 figures was being written, we were looking forward with enthusiasm and excitement to the ground-breaking World Games about to be held in Brazil. The event was held in Rio de Janeiro and, while elements of the organisation did not quite come up to expectations a large group of athletes were introduced to international competition, made friends and participated with enthusiasm.

Sadly, from the IWAS point of view, the event has put a severe strain on our financial resources as the Organisers, ABRADecAR, have failed to honour their contractual obligations and, despite all our efforts to recover this money, still owe us £24,000 in round figures, including £17,000 in capitation fees. In addition various other expenses to individuals and organisations are owed totalling £6,700 approximately. It is a sad and bitter end to what started out as a brilliant pioneering development for our movement in a new part of the world. It does not give much encouragement to our organisation in our efforts to support and develop sports programmes in the more needy parts of the world community.

Our efforts to recover the money owed to us are not over but it has currently made a severe dent in our financial position. However, IWAS is currently developing risk management strategies associated with the Games to minimise a future reoccurrence.

Amir Hosseini has continued to promote our ambitions in Iran and the neighbouring countries and has been successful in establishing a fund in Iran which has been invested in such a way as to give a fixed income every quarter at a good rate of interest. There are many difficulties in accounting for this fund as part of our overall assets. For instance it is not possible to exchange the funds freely into sterling if we wished, but we have been able to obtain goods and financial support for certain projects and have therefore been able to benefit in "kind" rather than have cash to call on. Our thanks to him for looking after our interests in these difficult and politically uncertain times.

As usual we must recognise and thank our secretariat staff for their superlative work throughout the year. This year the Junior Games event took place in Ireland and all the accounts indicate a great success and our congratulations to the organisers.

The work of IWAS continues under the leadership of our President and with the supporting drive of our Secretary General and the outstanding contribution of our wonderful volunteers in all areas of activity. Sincere thanks to them all and my very real regret at the financial fiasco resulting from the Brazilian organisers failing to meet and honour their basic, agreed contractual obligations.

Respectfully submitted

Bob Paterson  
Hon. Treasurer

# SPORTS SCIENCE & MEDICAL CHAIRMAN REPORT

In my capacity as IWAS Medical Officer, it is an honour for me to present this report on the activities of the Sports, Science and Medical Committee during the period.

## 1) Main activities of the Medical Officer for the period

The main activities carried out in this period have been the new organization of the I.W.A.S. Sports Science and Medical Committee (SS&MC) with the formation of a new Executive Committee until the elections in 2009.

1.1. Following the SS&MC Meeting to raise a proposal to the IWAS Executive Board to compose the SS&MC, until the year 2009 as follows:

Dr. Oriol Martínez - IWAS Medical Officer and President to the Sport Science and Medical Committee.

Mr. Antonio Pascual (Spain) – Chairman of the IWAS Anti-Doping Sub-committee.  
Both already ratified by the E.B. (February 2006)

Dr. Luca Michelini (Italy) - representing IWAS Paralympic Sports

Dr. Bassam Qasrawi (Kuwait) - representative of IWAS Member Countries.

Dr. Rafael Martínez-Cayere (Puerto Rico) - representative of other sports on IWAS Games Programme.

1.2. Tasks for the SS&MC during this period to end of 2007

It is the aim of the SS&MC to act as " Collegiate Organ", with exception of Anti-Doping Control's area, the Medical Officer being responsible for assigning work or activities to members of the SS&MC to develop or perform specific actions.

1.3. Development of the Anti-Doping Program of IWAS Official Events.

During this year contracts have been developed with the organizing committees to establish the quantities and systems of Anti-Doping Control in IWAS Official Events, following petition of the Executive Board in the year 2005.

1.4. Specific projects of IWAS Sports Science and Medical Committee.

During this year a project has been developed for the development of a Functional Classification system for the Electric Wheelchair Hockey, which had been submitted in October 2006 to the sport section ICEWH for its study and future development.

1.5. WADA documentation revisions during 2006

During this year revisions and proposals have been carried out, together with the IWAS Secretariat. The following documents were remitted by WADA.

- World Anti-doping Code
- Devices of Hypoxia (Hypobaric cameras)
- Revision of the International Standard for Laboratories

1.6. Programme of SS&MC meetings:

- Anti-Doping sub-committee meetings: 4 (Barcelona, Spain)
- Anti-Doping Hearing: 1 (Phone-conference).
- Classification Appeal Hearing: 1 (Phone-conference).
- IWAS SS&MC Annual Meeting: 1 (Zaragoza, Spain)

1.7. Scientific activities during 2006:

- International Journeys to Adapted Sport in Zaragoza (Spain), representing IWAS SS&MC: Dr. Luca Michelini and Dr. Oriol Martínez.

**2) Anti-Doping Controls Processed 2006**

During this period object of this report the IWAS Anti-Doping Subcommittee has supervised the following controls with the following results:

2.1. Official Anti-Doping Controls 2006:

51 (24 W-Rugby, 15 W-Fencing, 12 World Junior Games)

(\* ) 1 positive to Cannabis, coming from final controls 2005 in Wheelchair Fencing

2.2. Adverse Anti-Doping Result "Hearing"

1 W-Fencing – Sanctioned.

2.3. TUE's procedure:

20 procedures (18 approved, 2 provisional, 0 not approved).

**3) Future work proposals for the IWAS Sport Sciences and Medical Committee**

After the Annual SS&MC Meeting, which took place in November, the agreed work proposals for 2007 are as follows:

- Lend service according to IWAS Anti-doping Code: Anti-Doping controls and TUE's.
- Development to the Educational Anti-Doping Program during 2007.
- Carry out the actions commended by the IWAS Executive Committee.
- Participate in III World Anti-doping Conference (W.A.C.), November 2007 Madrid (Spain)
- Collaborate in the organization and development of 2nd International Conference in Adapted Sports - CIDA 2007, to take place in March in Málaga (Spain)

Respectfully submitted

Oriol Martinez

## MARKETING OFFICER'S REPORT

Below is a breakdown of the Income & Expenditure of the funds raised and expended for IWAS during the period in question:

### **As at December 2005**

#### Investment

Purchasing every 3 months negotiable papers from Bank of Industry & Mine amounting to the equivalent of \$29,021 US dollars on Ordibehesht 1384 (April 2005). The interest of these shares is 17% payable every 3 months (quarterly). These stocks propagated on 11 Bahman 1383 (31 January 2005) but they were purchased on Ordibehesht 1384 (April 2005) and for this delay we paid money in order to receive the first quarter interest on May 1 2005.

Interest received to end of 2005 was the equivalent of \$3,700 US dollars.

Amount of interest received in the first quarter is equivalent \$1,233 US Dollars (May 1 2005)

Amount received in the second quarter is equivalent \$1,233 US Dollars (August 2 2005)

Amount received in the third quarter is equivalent \$1,233 US Dollars (November 2 2005)

The US dollar rate is 9200 Iranian Rial.

#### Expenditure

##### Merchandising:

Preparation of 300 t-shirts for the IWAS World Junior Athletics Championships 2005 – Stoke Mandeville, UK - \$1,223 US dollars.

Shipping of above t-shirts - \$477 US dollars.

Supply and shipping of Sample IWAS pins to UK – 42 US dollars.

Total received income for 2005: \$3,700 US dollars

Total expended for 2005 - \$1,730 US dollars.

Balance: \$1,970 US dollars

### **2006 (to date)**

Amount of interest received in the first quarter is equivalent \$1,233 US Dollars (January 31 2006)

Amount received in the second quarter is equivalent \$1,233 US Dollars (June 1 2006)

We also received \$84 US dollars on 22 May 2006 as part of the first quarter interest.

#### Expenditure

##### Merchandising:

Preparation of 600 IWAS pins - \$327 US dollars.

Expense of visa issue for IWAS Executive Board meetings - \$30 US dollars

Hotel accommodation (1 night) associated with IWAS Executive Board meetings - \$195 US dollars

Preparation of 150 IWAS plaques - \$608 US dollars.  
Preparation of 270 t-shirts – \$1,298 US dollars.  
Purchase of Bonds (6 April 2006) \$2,173 US dollars.  
Sundry and purchasing expenses to Industry & Mine Bank - \$44 US dollars.

Total received income 2005 to 2006 to date: \$6,251 US dollars.  
Total expended 2005 to 2006 to date: - \$6,406 US dollars.

Please note: \$155 US dollars was expended over the amount of income which was covered by myself. This will be deducted from the next interest income.

Respectfully submitted

Seyed Amir Hosseini

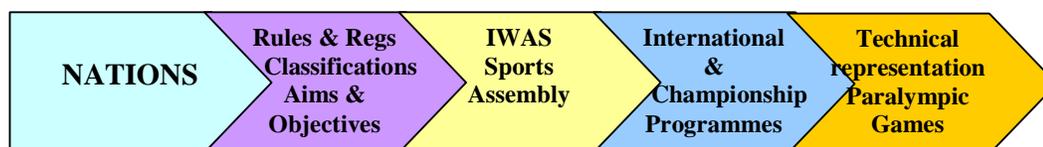
# SPORTS ACTIVITIES REPORT

## Summary for the Period September 2005 to September 2006

The primary role of the IWAS programmes in sport is to provide increasing opportunities for all athletes with IWAS classifications, within the framework of sport specific technical rules and regulations as determined by the respective Sport Assembly. It is an objective of all IWAS sports to recruit and improve participation and standards globally. The IWAS sports programme includes events/activities/classification at different levels and, in addition to IWAS governed sports, includes collaborative and mutually beneficial relationships with IPC sports.

### **WHEELCHAIR & AMPUTEE ATHLETICS, WHEELCHAIR FENCING AND RUGBY**

IWAS maintains an autonomous and singular function in respect to governance of international competition and championship programmes from international grass roots to elite Paralympic level in the sports of Wheelchair & Amputee Athletics, Wheelchair Fencing and Rugby.



### **IWAS WHEELCHAIR & AMPUTEE ATHLETICS – JEAN MINIER, CHAIRMAN**

IWAS jurisdiction for athletics covers the physically disabled grouping classified under IWAS T&F40s and 50s.

#### **2005 – 2006 Overview**

Many Athletics Competitions have been sanctioned by IWAS during the period in question. The majority of them took place in the USA, Canada and Switzerland, which were part of the World Series Athletics, a newly sanctioned Series for IWAS.

#### **List of Events During the Period:**

##### **2005**

September 16 – 25	World Games	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
October 29 – 30	25 <sup>th</sup> Oita International Wheelchair Marathon	Oita, Japan

##### **2006**

January 23 – 26	Arrive Alive Summer Down Under	Sydney, Australia
April 9	Champions Meet (World Series)	Atlanta, USA
May 25	Daniella Jutzeller Meet (World Series)	Ibach, Switzerland
May 27	Schenkon Marathon (World Series)	Schenkon, Switzerland
June 18	Rolling Rampage 10K (World Series)	Toronto, Canada
June 23 – 25	Open Czech Wheelchair Championships	Olomouc, Czech
June 25	NK Long Island 10K (World Series)	Long Island, USA
June 27	Cedartown 5K (World Series)	Cedartown, USA
June 30 – July 2	USP Nationals (World Series)	Atlanta, USA

July 4	Peachtree 10K road Race (World Series)	Atlanta, USA
July 7 – 9	Athletics European Nations Cup	Herve, Belgium
July 7 – 9	Canadian Trials (World Series)	London, Canada
July 11 – 17	IWAS World Junior Athletics Championships	Dublin, Ireland
August 25 – 27	Swiss Championships (World Series)	Arbon, Switzerland

A realistic panel of events and standards were also proposed for the IPC World Athletics Championships 2006 in Assen, the Netherlands.

IWAS Athletics have tried to defend IWAS interests at IPC level during the period and the IWAS ranking database is regularly updated and is available on the IWAS Athletics Website. This database is unique to the paralympic movement.

### **IWAS Junior Athletics Championships**

The IWAS Junior Athletics Championships 2006 were held in Dublin, Ireland 11 – 16 July. These Championships were the second event following the inaugural Championships in 2005 held at Stoke Mandeville, England. For the event in 2006, a new age group was included “under 23” in order to take into consideration the athletes who were injured after the age of 20.

The Championships were a great success with delegations competing from all over the world. Africa was the only continent not to be represented and there were some interesting performances in both the male and female classes. It is clear that junior athletes need such competitions to improve their performance level before progressing to the elite level of athletics.

### **IWAS Representation within IPC.**

From the 6,000 male athletes competing in paralympic athletics, 2,000 of these compete in a wheelchair. This means, if we also include amputee and les autres athletes that IWAS represents at least half of the athletes competing in the Paralympic Games.

### **Point Scores**

Regarding the point scores used in Assen at the World Championships, IWAS made the following proposals to IPC:

- To use male point scores for female athletes
- To not allow an athlete to compete in any other class than the one he/she was classified in.
- In the case of combination of several different classes together, every class uses its own point scores
- During field competitions, on the result board and sheets, the points are used as the result of the attempt, and the length is added for additional information.

### **Classification Issue**

There is no reason why the IPC is producing a Classification Handbook. Classification is under the responsibility of the IOSDs. Such an IPC Handbook has no regular bases.

### **IWAS Rule Book**

The new IWAS Rules Handbook now combines Technical Rules, Classification Rules, International Technical Officer and Classification Education.

## **Sports Assembly and Elections**

The Athletics Section held its Sports Assembly and elections during the IPC World Championships held in Assen, Netherlands August/September 2006. The following people were elected/appointed to the Athletics Section:

Konstantinia Sotiriadi, Greece	Chairman
Martin Nemeč, Czech Republic	Member at Large
Iva Machova, Czech Republic	Member at Large
Thomas Nuss, Germany	Member at Large
Along with Jan Bockweg,	Athletics Coordinator.

## **Beijing Paralympic Games**

The Beijing programme has been partly decided at this stage. There will be 160 disciplines in Beijing. The safe events (70%) have been defined, other events are to be decided.

This situation is questioning the future of IWAS Athletics. How do we propose perspectives to new and young athletes if the event programme is not stable. Functional Classification is the correct way and IPC is working on that. IWAS Athletics Section must not ignore that and have our own vision for the future.

## **IWAS WHEELCHAIR FENCING – ALBERTO MARTINEZ VASSALLO, CHAIRMAN IWFC**

During the period in question, Wheelchair Fencing has seen many successful competitions which are listed as follows:

### **2005**

September 16 – 25	World Games	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
November 25 – 27	World Cup	Paris, France
December 2 - 9	European Championships	Madrid, Spain

### **2006**

February 24 – 26	World Cup	Hong Kong, China
April 27 – 29	World Cup	Montreal, Canada
May 19 – 21	World Cup	Lonato, Italy
June 9 – 11	World Cup	Turin, Italy
July 15 – 17	World Cup	Warsaw, Poland

### **Future Events**

September 29 Oct 7	World Championships	Torino, Italy
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The World Cup held in Hong Kong China was a great success and gave a good opportunity for participation from Fencers in the Asia region to compete at the highest level in the sport. A Classifiers Course was also held during the event which proved to be very successful with one of the attendees achieving a diploma as an international classifier.

At the beginning of April 2006 the first International Cup took place in Moscow with participation of fencers from Russia, Ukraine and Belarus. Belarus being a new member nation to participate in Fencing who will also attend the World Championships in Turin, Italy in September 2006.

During the World Games held in Rio de Janeiro, the IWFC held their Quadrennial Sports Assembly where a new Executive Committee was elected. Members elected were as follows:

President, Alberto Martinez Vassallo – Spain, Secretary, Serge Besseiche - France  
Members at Large: Uwe Bartmann – Germany, Nelson Tai – Hong Kong, Jozsef Nagy – Hungary, Vittorio Loi – Italy and Jakub Nowicki – Poland.

Each Member at Large has been allocated specific tasks on the Executive Committee ranging from Referees and Classifier training, writing of new rules, web site development etc etc.

At the time of writing this report, the organisation is well under way for the World Championships Wheelchair Fencing which will be held in Turin, Italy in September/October 2006. The main accommodation area is the Olympic Village and the venue will be a mere 300 metres away at the venue used previously as the Speed Skating facility at the Olympic Games (the Oval).

This event will take place at the same time as the FIE World Championships, being a first time ever that a Wheelchair Fencing Championships has taken place simultaneously with the Able-bodied Championships.

We take the opportunity to congratulate the Organisers for taking the lead on this important initiative of integrated World Championships and wholeheartedly support the choice of venue and accommodations made.

### **IWAS WHEELCHAIR RUGBY – ERON MAIN, COMPETITIONS COMMISSIONER**

#### **List of Events During the Period:**

##### **2005**

September 16 – 25	World Games	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
October 17 - 24	European Zone Championships	Middelfart, Denmark
Nov 28 – Dec 3	Oceania Zone Championships	Johannesburg, South Africa

##### **2006**

April 7 - 9	Bernd Best Tournament	Cologne, Germany
June 21 – 25	Canada Cup	Vancouver, Canada
September 7 – 17	World Championships	Christchurch, New Zealand

### **DEVELOPMENT**

A number of development projects have taken place – during the IWAS World Games in Rio de Janeiro Classifier, Referee and Player training was conducted. Brazil began their international competition in Wheelchair Rugby and contacts have been established with Argentina.

#### **Chinese National Tournament:**

Since September 2004, IWAS Wheelchair Rugby (IWRF) has been in contact with the Chinese Disabled Persons Federation (CDPF) and the National Paralympic Committee for China, to assist them in developing the sport of Wheelchair Rugby in China prior to the 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing. In May 2005, the CDPF conducted a development clinic in Wuhan, China, to introduce the sport to potential organizers, coaches, classifiers and referees. IWAS Wheelchair Rugby (IWRF), provided two trainers for this event, both of whom were fully funded by the CDPF.

Following the May clinic, the CDPF committed to continuing the development of the sport. The next step in this project was a National Championship tournament held in November 2005. This represented the first time that a wheelchair rugby competition

had been held in China. The CDPF again asked for the assistance of IWAS Wheelchair Rugby (IWRF) in providing personnel to train the participants and help oversee the event.

### **Project Goals**

The main goal of the project was to assist China in developing the sport of wheelchair rugby. This would allow China to meet Wheelchair Rugby requirements for its participation in the wheelchair rugby competition as the host country during the 2008 Paralympic Games. Given China's prominence in other areas of sport for athletes with a disability, IWAS Wheelchair Rugby (IWRF) also considers its involvement in wheelchair rugby to be a key part of further developing the sport throughout Asia.

The specific goals of this project were:

- To ensure that wheelchair rugby in China is established and played in accordance with IWAS Wheelchair Rugby (IWRF) rules and regulations
- To provide advice and assistance to sports organizers and administrators in China on the proper conduct of wheelchair rugby competitions
- To train national wheelchair rugby classifiers within China
- To ensure that existing players are correctly classified in preparation for national team selection, participation in Zonal Championships and subsequent international tournaments
- To train national wheelchair rugby referees within China
- To provide players and coaches with a positive, competitive wheelchair rugby experience
- To provide players and coaches with advice and assistance on developing their skills in the sport of wheelchair rugby.

### **Overview**

The development project took place during the first Chinese National Wheelchair Rugby Championships held from 5 to 13 November 2005 in Wuhan, Hubei province, China. This event included over 90 athletes and coaches on 10 teams, over 15 classifier and referee trainees, and almost 100 organizing committee personnel, minor officials, translators and other volunteers. While IWAS Wheelchair Rugby (IWRF) had development goals for the project, the participants were clearly focused on competition and on learning and playing the sport of wheelchair rugby. This project was supported by the IPC Development Fund. A further National Tournament and training also took place in Wuhan, China in March 2006.

### **Canada Cup 2006:**

During the Canada Cup event, clinics were held in Classifier and Referee training and was supported by IWAS and IPC Development Funds.

### **Wheelchair Rugby Resource Package:**

This project began early 2006 and will consist of:

- **CD-ROM** – this will include documents such as Official Wheelchair Rugby Rules and Regulations, Classification Policies and Procedures, Directory Information, Sport History, Equipment Specifications, Promotional Images, Instruction/Coaching Manual and more.
- **Instructional DVD** – This will include an introduction to the sport, technique, drills, game videos and other visual media. This may be combined with the CD-ROM component, space and technology permitting.

- **Promotional Poster** – Wheelchair Rugby has developed a poster and is prepared to go to print.
- **Promotional Brochure** – Wheelchair Rugby would develop a promotional brochure to create awareness of the sport around the world.
- **Promotional Packaging** – Resources #1 – 4 would be assembled in a 'Promotional Package' to facilitate the dissemination of information to member nations, developing countries and so on.

#### **New Caledonia:**

Our member organisation in Canada conducted a development clinic in New Caledonia.

#### **Korea:**

Two delegates from Korea attended the Chinese National Tournament in November 2005 in order to further develop Wheelchair Rugby in Korea. Korean delegates also attended the World Championships in Christchurch, New Zealand 2006.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

IWAS Wheelchair Rugby held its Sports Assembly and elections during the Wheelchair Rugby European Championships, Middelfart, Denmark in October 2005. The following people were voted onto the IWAS Wheelchair Rugby Executive Committee. Names in **bold** are new Executive Committee members, although all positions were up for election in Denmark.

Brad Mikkelsen – President - USA

Judith Zelman – Secretary - Canada

Cathy Cadieux - Vice President Finance - Canada

**John Bishop** - VP Communications - USA

Dan McCauley - President -The Americas zone - USA

**Joke Beekman** - President – European zone - Netherlands

Ken Sowden - President – Oceania zone – New Zealand

**Anne Hart** - Classification Commissioner - USA

Eron Main - Competitions Commissioner - Canada

Gail Hamamoto Dore - Development Commissioner - Canada

**Stan Battock** – Technical Commissioner – New Zealand

**Ross Morrison** - Athlete Representative – Great Britain

#### **SPORT TECHNICAL**

The Revised International Rules for the sport were adopted in March 2006 and work continues on the Classification Manual (3<sup>rd</sup> edition).

As Competitions Commissioner, I represent IWAS Wheelchair Rugby to IPC through the IPC Sports Council and continue to work with the IPC Sports Department to renegotiate the sport programme allocation for the Beijing Paralympic Games in 2008. We have been successful in restoring a full allotment of twelve players per team in return for commitment to ensure female participation.

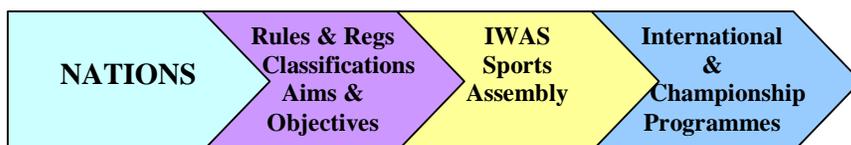
I also represented IWAS Wheelchair Rugby at the IPC General Assembly, Beijing, November 2005.

The Wheelchair Rugby Chief Classifier, Anne Hart continues to serve on the IPC Classification Committee and as part of the IPC Classification Code Working Group.

## **SPONSORSHIP**

A sponsorship arrangement has been renegotiated with Molton for the provision of game balls and contacts have been established with Coloplast who currently provide regional sponsorship in Europe and Canada. Coloplast sponsored a Wheelchair Rugby reception during the World Championships in Christchurch, New Zealand September 2006.

## **IWAS GOVERNED NON PARALYMPIC PROGRAMME SPORTS**



## **ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR HOCKEY – BRUCE ASHBY, CHAIRMAN**

Electric Wheelchair Hockey was endorsed by the IWAS Member Nations at its General Assembly in Rio de Janeiro 2005 as a provisional sports section of IWAS. Electric Wheelchair Hockey is a new sport for the more severely disabled athletes within the IWAS family and is a mixed team sport and is open to athletes who are not able to participate in a team sport in any other way than in an electric wheelchair.

IWAS has been working closely with EWH in developing documentation and competition/development events to promote the sport internationally with the full aim of meeting the criteria to become a full Sport Section of IWAS.

To this end, towards the end of November the sport will hold its first Sports Assembly under the IWAS banner in De Rijp, The Netherlands which will be followed by the first Development Event of the EWH movement. The DE will include courses for Referees, Trainers/Coaches and Training and competition opportunity.

Electric Wheelchair Hockey have also recently produced a book “The Principles of Electric Wheelchair Hockey” which is not only aimed at coaches and trainers, but also the athletes themselves. EWH and IWAS feel that the book is a valuable acquisition for the international development of the sport and it is therefore recommended that all coaches, trainers and athletes of EWH utilise this book. The book will very soon be on sale.

## **LAWN BOWLS – ALF BOYLE, CHAIRMAN**

Since the last report, I have been trying to look “outside of the square” and not just try and focus on conducting World Championships, but to introduce a “plan” whereby over the next four years Lawn Bowls is put in a position of building a future. A future that would encourage people with a disability to want to take up the sport, particularly when ending their careers in a more aerobic sport. To also introduce Lawn Bowls to people with disabilities who do not play sports, by getting out into the public arena.

Over the past years, Lawn Bowls has tried to continue with far too many International Competitions such as , IWAS multi-sport (4 years), IWAS Lawn Bowls (4 years), IPC (4 years), FESPIC (4 years, which on reflection presents a huge problem to our athletes in funding to attend these Championships.

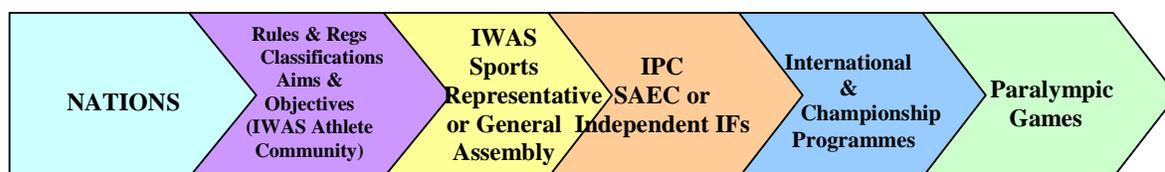
In truth, our members thirst for International Competition and the choice for Lawn Bowls is now only between two options:

1. IPC, 2. IWAS (2006 being the last FESPIC)

IPC Lawn Bowls, I believe is no longer under the control of the International Paralympic Committee. A new organisation has now been formed names "World Bowls for the Disabled Incorporated" This new organisation still follows the dictate of the past IPC in as much as the sport of Lawn Bowls is a "segregated" game whereby the various classifications may only play against its own classification.

On the other hand, IWAS Lawn Bowls offers a completely "integrated" games, whereby skill dictates the outcome irrespective of classification. Feedback would dictate that the membership prefer the IWAS system as opposed to segregated.

### **RELATIONSHIPS WITH IPC PARALYMPIC PROGRAMME SPORTS**



### **ARCHERY – ANN WEBB, IWAS REPRESENTATIVE**

This has been a good year for archery, with the numbers taking part increasing rapidly at major championships. The World Championships in Italy in September 2005 had the highest number of archers and countries ever seen at an archery competition.

#### **Competitions**

There were 3 major competitions during this year, the IWAS Games in Brazil and the World Championships in Italy, both during September 2005, and the European Championships in Czech Republic in August 2006.

It was unfortunate that the IWAS Games and the World Championships were so close together as it meant that most countries preferred to use their limited finances for the World Championships which cut down the number attending the IWAS Games. Nevertheless, it was a very worthwhile competition. Several new countries took part who were anxious to learn as much about disabled archery as they could. With the smaller entry, the officials were able to spend time explaining things to those who were there and wished to learn.

The World Championships was an excellent competition with an entry so much larger than expected that the organisers had to work hard to find enough suitable wheelchair accommodation. However, they did manage this and there were very few complaints. The competition was well run and many favourable comments were heard from teams.

The European Championships were again well attended (as many archers taking part as there were for World Championships 8 years ago). The organisers again did an excellent job and the ideal shooting conditions meant that there were a lot of new world records.

## **Courses**

With our aim of ensuring that all regions had their own classifiers, Pauline Betteridge held 4 classification seminars during the year, 3 alongside the major competitions and one in USA. This last was particularly needed as North America had no archery classifiers. Many of the new National Classifiers took the opportunity of attending the classification sessions in Czech Republic in order to improve their knowledge. It was good to see that so many were keen to progress.

Ann Webb travelled to Colorado Springs, USA, in January to hold a seminar for Technical Delegates. 23 American National judges attended. They were all extremely keen and plan to make many of their tournaments IPC recognised to give their disabled archers a chance to break world records.

## **Website**

IPC Archery now has a new web site. It is intended, as the site is built, to list all international archers on it and different parts of the site will be able to be added to by, for example, NPCs or the chief classifier so that updates do not have to wait for changes from the centre.

In addition, the Italian team who have built the website are also producing credit card sized classification cards for all international archers, which they will be required to produce at all competitions. Most of these have now been distributed and have been well received.

## **Conclusion**

This has been a particularly productive year and it is hoped that the initiatives started this year will expand over the next few years.

## **TABLE TENNIS – LEANDRO OLVECH, IPTTC APPOINTMENT TO IWAS**

During the IWAS Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, I had the chance to ask some members of the federation to have a meeting.

We met at the Miecimo complex, where the table tennis competition was taking place established. The meeting was with Paul De Pace (Chairperson), Maura Strange (Secretary General) and Ian Brittain (then Event Coordinator) for about 1 hour with a very cordial atmosphere. I reported to them that the IPTTC through the Americas Committee had supported a successfully classification seminar in the games logistically and financially. The other point was my portfolio as table tennis representative, as an outcome we can synthesize in these 3 points:

### **IWAS Education Program**

I was asked to cooperate on the development of this program; of course I can act as a link with IPTTC and provide material and/or help in appointing people for seminars. Classification and Anti-Doping are the main focus.

### **IPTTC Calendar**

I have to ask on behalf of IWAS to be included on the calendar and sanctioned as IPTTC tournament in the future. I informed them about the situation on this games and why the factor was 20 instead of the 30 given for CP-ISRA Games (European Championships)

## **Classification**

More cooperation between IPTTC and IWAS is to be established regarding classification and medical issues. During the Games I met with Dr. Oriol Martinez, Medical Officer IWAS, who is also an IPTTC classifier and worked very closely in the creation of the ITTC classification system in the '92 for the Barcelona Paralympic Games. We talked about many opportunities. We agreed that the best way forward would be to ask the IPTTC Classification and medical Committee to appoint a person to represent Table Tennis on the IWAS Classification Committee. This person should be an active, fluent communicator with possibly a medical background.

## **Statement of Cooperation**

In 2003 a Statement of Cooperation was signed between IWAS (then ISMWSF) and ITTC (then International Table Tennis Committee) and confirmed a committed endeavour by both organisations to work in harmony towards the future development of the sport of Table Tennis at grass roots level.

In recognition of the respective roles and responsibilities of both organisations in the development of the sport of table tennis for persons with a physical disability globally, the statement underlines areas of mutual cooperation. These include education, promotion and active involvement in development initiatives.

The shared intent of the cooperation is to expand recruitment and opportunity levels and thus provide greater benefit to the national networks of each organisation.

This Statement of Cooperation will be refreshed in the near future to reflect the new names of both organisations.

## **AMPUTEE FOOTBALL (INDEPENDENT SPORT) – JIM FRERE**

### **Development Update**

The development programme continues and is at present targeting regions which have been ignored in the past.

For many years it has been my desire to “make something happen” in Africa and my new “Ambassadorial” role within WAFF allows me the time to attempt such a project.

The seeds were sewn last year in Brazil when I met the delegation from Sierra Leone who had travelled to participate in the Amp Football World Championships and was able to discuss the possibility of constructing an “All African Championships” to be held in Freetown, Sierra Leone sometime in 2006 (at this stage let me say that 06 might be premature – my visit 17-24 March will help me to assess the reality of the situation and thus put a more accurate date on the proposed tournament.

At this time I have been supported by UK Sport, England FA and have made an approach to FIFA. Whilst in Freetown I shall be meeting with the SLFA (courtesy of FIFA) and in turn hope to be introduced to a member of CAF who were responsible for the recent African Cup of Nations tournament held in Egypt.

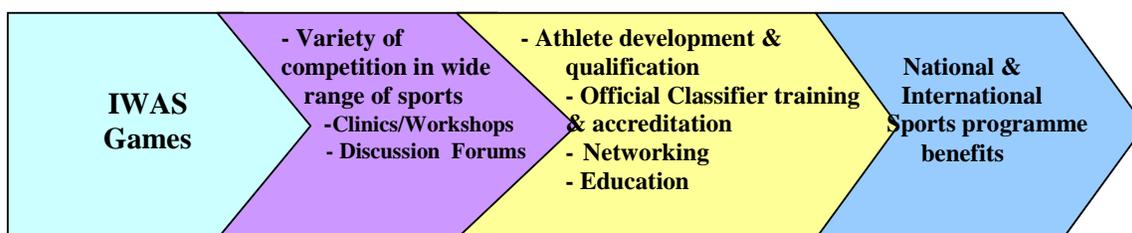
A member of the Ghana Paralympic Organisation has recently held coaching clinics in Angola and Nigeria (until I meet this guy in March I am unable to evaluate the level

of coaching but I can say that I have received emails from both countries which were full of enthusiasm and support for the sport).

IWAS support is sought for introductions to organisations such as ASCOD etc as it would be very important to be involved in development of the sport. When you take into consideration the number of adults/children who as a result of constant civil unrest have become amputees and thus need an inexpensive pastime in their lives – in cost terms it is a pair of crutches and a football (I have played barefoot in the past so the lack of footwear should not be seen as an obstruction).

There has been activity with “Asia” in as much as Tehran sent a squad to Turkey last December and played a 3 match tournament – my understanding is that it was enjoyed by all involved.

## **WORLD GAMES**



## **IWAS WORLD OF PEACE WHEELCHAIR & AMPUTEE GAMES RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, SEPTEMBER 2005**

The staging of these Games were a credit to the athletes, sports and Organising Committee.

For the first time ever, the traditions of Stoke Mandeville and the spirit of IWAS motto “friendship, unity and sportsmanship” was transported to the South Americas. The Games attracted more than 39 nations from around the world prepared to make the long journey to Rio and participate in the 9 sports on the programme. Although the famous sunshine failed to make much of an appearance during the Games, over 500 athletes had the experience of Copacabana beach and good competition. Ratios between men and women participation were of a very acceptable nature, at 67% men and 33% women. There was also a high percentage of more severely disabled athletes participating in the event.

In the end, it was Athens all over again, with the large delegation from China dominating the overall medal table. However, it is good to be able to point out that 36 nations won at least one medal per team, with the remainder being nations that had only one athlete competing at the Games. More details on the Games are included in the following pages.

IWAS also received strong feedback and support from its membership for the continuation and expansion of the Games cycle and a demand for the Games to continue to grow in stature and strength, recognising the fact that the IWAS World Games provide the crucial link in multi-sport terms for an athlete’s international pathway from grass roots to elite. It should also be borne in mind that the IWAS Games provides opportunity for sport specific objectives in training and education as

well as reinforcing sport specific calendars to ensure opportunity at all levels in the paralympic movement.

## **IWAS WORLD JUNIOR ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

As part of the IWAS strategy to facilitate athlete pathways, IWAS Athletics now include the official event of IWAS Junior Athletics Championships within its programme for track & field 40's & 50's classified athletes. It is in addition, the first (but certainly not the last!) step in the IWAS initiative towards a multi sport Junior Games, which is targeted for its inauguration in 2007.

### **2005 Stoke Mandeville, England**

IWAS was delighted to welcome teams from the following member nations to the 1<sup>st</sup> World Junior Athletics Championships 4 to 8 July 2005:

Czech Republic	Jordan
France	Latvia
Germany	Netherlands
Great Britain	Sweden
Ireland	Switzerland

These young athletes ranged from 14 to 19 years old and for some of them, it was their first taste of international competition and their first step on the paralympic pathway.

The event offered a full range of track and field events and was run by IWAS, with the support of our local member nation, the British Wheelchair Sports Foundation.

IWAS brought in athletics event management expertise from the Netherlands and Germany and they, together with British officials ensured that the event was run to international standards.

Although it had been 7 years since the last international event governed by IWAS was staged at Stoke Mandeville due to development on site, it was felt that the introduction of a Junior programme would provide an event opportunity suitable for both the athletes and the new Stoke Mandeville facility.

On hearing that IWAS was once again holding an international event at Stoke Mandeville, the Secretariat was extremely pleased with the response from "old" (not in age, but in familiarity) volunteers who have always been the key to the uniqueness of the Stoke Mandeville experience, and were eager to contribute to the success of this new junior event, now that the traditional and large international multi-sports Games can no longer be held at the Stadium.

This significant event re-ignited the international traditions of Stoke Mandeville and the benefits and opportunities in sport for persons with a disability established at Stoke Mandeville over 50 years ago.

Our thanks go also to the Executive Officers of British Wheelchair Sport, especially Ernie Guild, for their support and involvement.

## **2006 Dublin, Ireland**

Following the 2005 event, Dublin was awarded bid to host the IWAS World Junior Athletics Championships 2006 from 11—17 July and this event was a resounding success, doubling the number of countries and athletes from the inaugural event held at Stoke Mandeville. Seventeen countries entered the event with first time entries from Barbados, Canada, Poland, India, Iran, Russia, Slovakia, Turkmenistan, New Zealand and the United States of America. We were especially pleased to welcome for the first time entry in international athletics competition, two participants from the neutral, central Asian country of Turkmenistan who made great effort to participate supported ably by the Organising Committee and the IWAS HQ.

Entries were also welcomed from the following nations who entered last year's event: Austria, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Latvia, Sweden and Switzerland.

Credit goes to the Organising Committee for finding such an apt setting for the Championships. The fact that the hotel was within 5 minutes pushing distance of the Morton Stadium, Santry in Dublin, through an attractive park, was an ideal situation. The high standard of service and facilities at the hotel added to the positive atmosphere of the Games; the enthusiasm and buzz of the athletes and a superb volunteer group ensured that the event was successful. Our thanks also go to the International team of technical, classification and programme/results management under the leadership of Jan Bockweg who worked alongside the local organising team.

Looking at the faces of all these young athletes, who ranged from experienced juniors to athletes competing for first time on the international stage, we are readily convinced by their attitude and enthusiasm that this Junior Championship will continue to have its place in every international athlete's track and field pathway.

## **FUTURE GAMES**

### **IWAS World Games 2007**

The IWAS World Games for 2007 have been awarded to Chinese Taipei, subject to Contract. The Games will take place in September and currently we are working with the Organising Committee and sports to build an attractive event, aimed at providing opportunity to athletes in a wide range of sport in pre-paralympic year. Whilst writing this report, site visits have been arranged and IWAS President, Paul DePace and Event Coordinator, Jan Bockweg will visit Chinese Taipei in November 2006.

### **IWAS World Junior Games 2007**

The IWAS Junior Games in 2007 have been awarded to South Africa, subject to Contract. These Games will take place at the same time as the South Africa National Summer Championships in March/April in Johannesburg.

With South Africa's support and expertise in junior and development initiatives, IWAS is taking the opportunity to build further on the Junior programme. Site visits have been arranged for October 2006 and will be performed by IWAS Secretary General, Maura Strange and Event Coordinator, Jan Bockweg.

## IWAS MEMBER COUNTRIES

<b>ARGENTINA</b>	<b>IRAQ</b>	SAUDI ARABIA
AUSTRALIA	IRELAND	SINGAPORE
AUSTRIA	ISRAEL	SLOVAKIA
BAHRAIN	ITALY	SLOVENIA
BARBADOS	JAPAN	SOUTH AFRICA
<b>BELARUS</b>	JORDAN	SPAIN
BELGIUM	<b>KENYA</b>	<b>SRI LANKA</b>
BRAZIL	KOREA	SWEDEN
CANADA	KUWAIT	SWITZERLAND
CHINA	LATVIA	CHINESE TAIPEI
CROATIA	<b>LEBANON</b>	THAILAND
<b>CUBA</b>	LITHUANIA	<b>TUNISIA</b>
CYPRUS	LUXEMBOURG	TURKMENISTAN
CZECH REPUBLIC	MACAU	UAE
DENMARK	MALAYSIA	<b>UGANDA</b>
EGYPT	<b>MAURITIUS</b>	UKRAINE
FINLAND	<b>MEXICO</b>	USA
FRANCE	<b>NEPAL</b>	
GERMANY	NETHERLANDS	
GREAT BRITAIN	NEW ZEALAND	
GREECE	NORWAY	
HONG KONG, CHINA	POLAND	
HUNGARY	PORTUGAL	
INDIA	PUERTO RICO	
IRAN	RUSSIA	

Countries entered in **plum** = not paid 2006 membership at time of publication

Countries entered in **red** = not paid 2005 or 2006 membership fee at time publication

Countries entered in **blue** = new members to date for ratification at 2007 General Assembly

Countries entered in **green** = potential members – membership status being pursued



**International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation  
(IWAS)**

**Olympic Village  
Guttman Road  
Aylesbury**

**Bucks HP21 9PP, UK**

**Telephone +44 (0)1296 436179 Fax +44 (0)1296 436484**

**email: [info@wsw.org.uk](mailto:info@wsw.org.uk) website: [www.wsw.org.uk](http://www.wsw.org.uk)**

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