

DOMINICA OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday March 30, 2000

Fort Young Hotel

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

For year ended 31st December 1999

Colleagues in sport, it is with pleasure and brotherly partnership that I address you on the activities of the Dominica Olympic Committee during the year ended 31st December, 1999. Your support has been good and may it continue to get better. National Federations and particularly those belonging to Olympic Sport should organize themselves in a way to capitalize on the annual assistance of the Olympic Solidarity Fund donated through the DOC. I need to thank the membership for granting the DOC the permission to be able to assist non-Olympic Sport Federations by donating a 10% levy on Olympic Solidarity Technical Courses then. We can all benefit from the International Olympic Committee's development program if National Olympic Federations access the Technical Courses Fund.

It is imperative that I remind you of the DOC's mission:

The Mission of the Dominica Olympic Committee is to develop and protect the Olympic Movement in accordance with the Olympic Charter and programmes of the IOC and propagate the fundamental principles of Olympism at National level within the framework of sporting activities and otherwise contribute among other things towards the development of national affiliates and sports for all.

Therefore, all our energies should be channeled to ensure that DOC fulfills that mission. This would translate into sound and effective development of sport and sport persons in Dominica. I have a vision that through our joint efforts some Dominicans will establish a sporting feat that will make us display the same euphoria as seen by Jamaicans when Courtney Walsh broke the world record.

SPORTS MANAGEMENT COURSE

In June 1999, thirteen out of a possible sixteen National Federations participated in our first sport management course. We were grateful for the contribution of expert facilitators both local and regional. Mike Fennell, Jamaica's NOC President and also Chairman of the Commonwealth Games Federation initiated the program with a bang.

OLYMPIC DAY RUN

A total of 350 athletes participated in our 3rd Olympic Day Run activities in Roseau and Portsmouth. The DOC proposes to request of all affiliates that you suspend your leagues on June 24, 2000 in order to allow more athletes to be part of the celebrations.

TECHNICAL COURSES

Unfortunately only three technical courses we held in 1999. When one considers US\$40,000 for that purpose we are disappointed that affiliates did not access the fund. The distribution in 1999, however, was as follows:

- Swimming (May) EC\$10,331.*
 - Basketball (Nov) EC\$11,118.*
 - Lawn Tennis (Dec) EC\$12,530.*
- Total **EC\$33,989.***

EQUIPMENT GRANT

To date only the Volleyball and Lawn Tennis Associations have accessed the 1999 US\$15,000 grant for equipment. We should not complain about equipment as a hindrance to our development when that grant is available annually.

NON-OLYMPIC SPORT

We have assisted Cricket with EC\$2,268.28 for purchase of equipment towards a youth program and Netball EC\$1,500 for purchase of varied equipment. We still await squash, bodybuilding and other affiliates to present programmes, either technical or equipment need for the 1999 allocations.

SPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The DOC financed the UWI Continuing Studies Center landscaping which totaled EC\$3,615. We worked in conjunction with the Dominica Conservation Association. Artherton Martin, then President of DCA represented the DOC at the 111 IOC World Conference on Sports and the Environment in Rio de Janeiro 21-24 October 1999. He was an excellent

ambassador and secured our participation in the Rainbow Week program for youth in France 2000.

PANAM GAMES - WINNIPEG July-August

Dominica was represented by three athletes, two track and field - Dawn Williams and Sherwin James - and one swimmer Dunstan Charles. Mr. A Douglas served as Chef de Mission. Our swimmer was luke-warm. Dawn served only as flag waver as she was injured and the two others did not show any commendable performance. We made friend in Winnipeg and were very grateful for the support persons which the organizers assigned to the team.

NON-PROFIT COMPANY

The Dominica Olympic Committee was registered as a non-profit company on July 6, 1999. Solicitor Alick Lawrence, was responsible for that registration which determined DOC as a legal entity and holds its officers accountable for its assets.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

In addition to what the Treasurer will confirm, permit me to reassure that the financial management of the DOC is in good hands. I believe and you can attest to this sound management after the Treasurer highlights our activities for the year ending December 31, 1999. At the end of 1999, DOC recognized a surplus of \$50,313 compared to last year's figure of \$21,167. These gains have to be seen in the light of the negative or non-existent figures for years prior to 1997.

THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

DOC continues to build on the strengths of its executive members through frequent meetings almost on per month. We have had heated discussions, disagreements and successes. This is typical of an actively working executive involved in development, particularly sport.

SUB-COMMITTEE'S ACTIONS

These sub-divisions of the executive are responsible for either Sport and the Environment (D. Angol), or Women (V. Nicholas), or Medicine (N. Issac) or Youth (D. Angol). They have not been visibly active except for small activities by the Olympic Academy manned by D. Angol. Mr. Ainsworth Irish is now responsible for Public Relations

CONSTITUTION

You will recognize, that there are a few minor modifications made to the constitution you adopted last year. Those changes were necessary for registration as a non-profit company under the company's Act of 1994. After three months of scrutiny, the International Olympic Committee has also endorsed the DOC's constitution.

CONCLUSION

*The DOC executive believes that if National Federations continue to support its programmes, we will grow together. I appeal to members to organize themselves so as to access the ready and available funds from the Olympic Solidarity program. National Federations should pay attention to their affiliations with world and regional federations to ensure the survival of themselves and the DOC. **Please be active and committed.***