

SPECIAL EDITION



AROUND THE RINGS

YOUR INDEPENDENT SOURCE OF WORLD SPORTS NEWS SINCE 1992

DECISION 2005: *Singapore*

117TH IOC Session
July 2005

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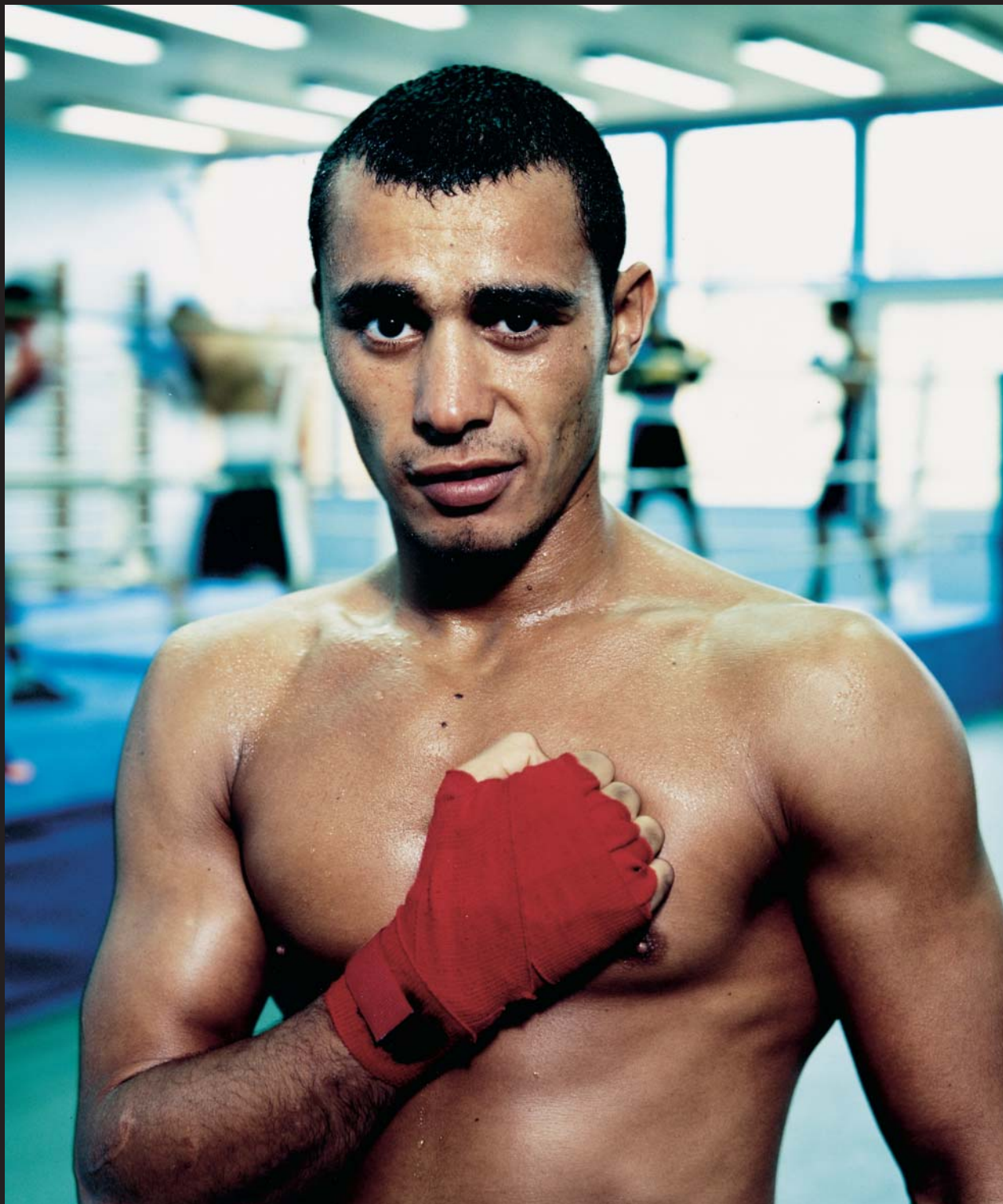
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COLLECTOR'S ISSUE • LIMITED EDITION





PUBLICIS - Photo : Aldo Soares

Brahim Asloum, Olympic Champion, Boxing (light-flyweight), Sydney 2000

OUR HEART BEATS FOR THE GAMES

L'AMOUR DES JEUX

PARIS 2012
CANDIDATE CITY




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Decision Time In Singapore

By Ed Hula

The calendar may say 2005, but the IOC is concerned about 2012 when it meets in Singapore for the 117th Session July 6 to 9. The Session's major decisions concern the 2012 Olympics: where they will be held and which sports will be included in those Games.

At the top of the list is the July 6 election of the 2012 host. It is a race unprecedented in the history of Olympic bids, with five world-class cities competing at the same time: London, Madrid, Moscow, New York and Paris.

"The IOC is the winner of this election," observes Juan Antonio Samaranch, who has seen 22 contests since he was elected to the IOC in 1966.

"Never have we had these most important cities fighting against one another for the Games," says the IOC honorary president for life.

The 2012 Vote

The Raffles Ballroom of the Raffles City Convention Centre will be the scene of the 2012 decision. The vote will follow presentations by the five cities, scheduled to begin at 0900. Paris is first; each city will have one hour to make its final appeal. Madrid, last of the bidders, is scheduled to end at 1700.

The actual vote is set for 1745 to 1830, although it may go more quickly, depending on how soon a city is able to muster the 51% majority needed to win. Electronic voting ensures each round lasts just a few minutes.

No more than 100 of the 116 current members will be eligible to vote in the first round. Members from nations with bids are excluded from casting votes until their city is eliminated; 14 members fall into that category. The IOC president doesn't vote and one member who is suspended – Ivan Slavkov – is barred from voting.

Follow the 2012 Vote on July 6 with the Tally Sheet on page 26

The Sports Program for 2012

For the first time since 1936 this IOC Session will make choices about cutting sports from the Olympic program, beginning with the 2012 Olympics. No sport has been cut since polo was dropped 69 years ago; whether the members will cut any in 2005 is considered a long shot.

Sport-by-sport, members will wade through 28 separate ballots on July 8, deciding which of the sports to retain.

A 51% majority is needed to stay on the Olympic program. Should any of the 28 sports lose, the IOC would decide on July 9 whether to add any new ones.

The vote is the culmination of a three-year review of the program, an unprecedented inquiry into each of the sports. A 265-page report published June 13 is the result, the details meant to provide guidance to the IOC about the popularity, universality, financial strength, and cost and complexity of each sport.

"What is most valuable to consider?" asks Robert Fasulo, a member of the IOC Program Commission and the director of the Association of Summer Olympics International Federations, the group representing the 28 sports on the program.

"There is no one factor to consider," he says. "That is why we have argued for a balanced approach.

"How do you compare football and archery based on popularity?" he raises as one example.

Intrigue over the vote may be reduced – or heightened – by a voting procedure that will keep the numerical results a secret, disclosing only whether a sport won or lost. And the up-or-down result on each won't be announced until votes are taken on all 28.

Understandably, the sports on the current lineup say no change is needed. They called the existing program "well-balanced" in a resolution adopted at an extraordinary meeting of ASOIF in Geneva in June. The group also said that none of five new sports up for consideration to be added "would improve the value of the Olympics."

Golf, karate, roller sports, rugby and squash are on that list.

The Association of Recognized International Sports Federations, looking out for the interests of its members seeking to step up to the Olympics, says it "regrets" ASOIF's opposition to change.

Photos Courtesy of Singapore Tourism Board



continued on page 20

For Future Generations



An Olympic and Paralympic Games in London will leave a spectacular legacy for sport: state-of-the-art facilities for future World and European Championships.

London's East End will be transformed, with the creation of Europe's largest new urban park with sport at its heart: new stadia, training facilities and the Olympic Institute.

A London Games will inspire a new generation of youth and demonstrate the power of the Olympic Movement to transform lives through sport.

Sport at heart





Turin 2006: Politics, Funding Settled - Let the Games Begin!

By Alberto Riva

With just a few months remaining before the Turin Winter Games, the drama over funding and control of the big event appears to be over,

leaving the organizing committee to worry about its primary mission: delivering the 2006 Olympics next February.

The past few months have been a twisting and turning ride for TOROC president Valentino Castellani and Olympic supervisor Mario Pescante.

The two have navigated the organization through an Italian cabinet change and a regional election that moved the political landscape in Turin.

Barring another showdown in Rome, the Olympics will take place under Silvio Berlusconi's third cabinet, which took office in April. The prime minister managed to stay on with a minor cabinet reshuffle, while Pescante kept his post as junior minister in charge of sport.

With venues completed or almost finished and infrastructure work proceeding steadily, the main problem TOROC now faces is developing a coherent communications strategy. An independent study in

May revealed that a minuscule one to six percent of Italy's European neighbors know about the Turin Olympics.

Mercedes Starts Out Fast

After taking a seat on the TOROC board in April as the newly elected president of the Piemonte region, Mercedes Bresso promised a new approach to Olympic promotion.

Bresso created a coordination forum comprised of all branches of local government – the Piemonte region, and the city and province of Turin – and put it in charge of developing an integrated communication strategy.

The regional government, she announced, will fund an international promotion campaign focusing on the attractions of Piemonte and tying – for example – the food and wine experience to the Olympics. The campaign will be funded through a special budget. "Promotion and tourist housing remain a critical point," said Bresso.

IOC Comes Visiting

Bresso also was introduced to the IOC Coordination Commission, which paid its second-to-last visit June 6 to 9. "We have seen great progress here in Turin, with venue construction, infrastructure and city beautification advancing on track and the organization of the Games moving ahead well," said the Commission's chairman, Jean-Claude Killy, as the commissioners wrapped up their ninth visit.

They apparently were unfazed by a controversy over the look of the games stemming from the city's decision to have its own Olympic colors, quite different from the official look approved by sponsors.

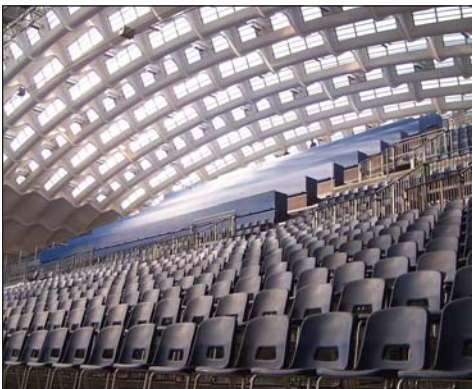


Turin Plaza: The count-down clock for the Turin Olympics in the Piazza Castello. (ATR)



mercedesbresso.it

Mercedes Bresso, new president of the Piemonte regional government, is pressing for more international promotion of the Turin Olympics.



Ice Hockey Stadium: The 12,000-seat Palasport Olimpico will be the last venue completed for the 2006 Winter Games.



TOROC has sought to play down the controversy and has stated that worldwide TV audiences will see its approved colors, not the dark red chosen by the municipal administration. The latter graphics and banners will be limited to the city itself.

In Turin, Killy also noted a “fresh sense of direction and renewed purpose” and “improved cooperation by the local, regional and national government.” The Coordination Commission will inspect Turin for the last time in November.

“We Should Have Done This Before”

Turin Mayor Sergio Chiamparino's visit to Japan with Castellani and city officials in May to present the Olympics to the local media is one example of how TOROC and local authorities are cooperating.

Castellani and Elda Tessore, who heads the city's Olympic department, accompanied him on a tour that Italian observers called very successful.

“We should have done this before,” Chiamparino told an Italian reporter after the tour's closing conference.

In May, the mayor also was granted special Olympic powers he had requested many times without success. The extension of his ordinary powers enables him to deal swiftly with broadly defined “emergency situations” that may arise during the Olympic period.

What Lies Ahead

TOROC still has to inaugurate two major venues, both of them in the city and both in the final stages of construction.

The massive 12,000-seat hockey stadium by Japanese architect Arata Isozaki will be completed this fall, just in time for an international tournament on November 9. The much smaller speed skating oval, on the grounds of what used to be a Fiat auto plant at Lingotto, will be finished before then.

The torch relay starts in Rome on December 8. The two-month run will bring the flame of Olympia through all of Italy's provinces and 20 regions.

Gangwon Province
www.provin.gangwon.kr

We Aspire to See You in PyeongChang

PyeongChang, the Best Location for Winter Sports

PyeongChang, the Heart of Winter Sports in Asia

PyeongChang, also called 'Winter sports belt', blessed with scenic natural beauty and located at an ideal altitude for winter sports, presents perfect conditions. Having abundant snowfall, it has many world-class ski resorts attracting many skiers from home and abroad with the exciting courses in an optimal state. On top of that, its well-established infrastructure ensures every visitor can enjoy winter sports as much as he or she wants at ease and with convenience. All the facilities were already proven world best through various national and international competitions and championships. That's why people call PyeongChang the Heart of Winter Sports in Asia.



Beijing Hits the Home Stretch

By Alberto Riva

The Road to Beijing is entering the home stretch, and the signs are everywhere.

Chinese veterinary experts are concerned about the spread of disease from horses in China to ones brought into the country for the Olympics.

Talks between FEI and BOCOG prior to the IOC Session could resolve the matter, which still needs the approval of the IOC Executive Board.

Also up for IOC approval: the mascot for the 2008 Olympics, expected to be unveiled later this year. The choice likely will not be the panda, China's most famous mammal, which branding experts say is too hard to trademark.

In the works in hush-hush mode are plans for the 2008 Olympic Torch Relay. Only sketchy details are known so far, such as a daring summit of Mt. Everest. A worldwide relay is likely now that the IOC has endorsed the idea. Sponsors and a route are now being devised, but will not be revealed until after the Turin Olympics in 2006.

Volunteer recruitment, another inexorable sign of the coming of the Games, started in June. For the Olympics, 70,000 volunteers are needed; the Paralympics will need 30,000. Recruitment will take place from August 2006 to April 2008.

"The Beijing volunteers will be part of the community of millions of other volunteers who have served the Olympic Games over the last century," said IOC President Jacques Rogge at the launch.

"Volunteering also gives personal enrichment. It is a once-in-a-life-time experience, and a wonderful human adventure," he said.



Construction cranes return to the Beijing skyline

August is the three-year mark to the opening of the Games (August 8-24) and the Paralympics (Sept. 6-17). And with last year's postponement of construction projects, 2005 has brought the return of the construction crane from Beijing to the coastal sailing venue of Qingdao.

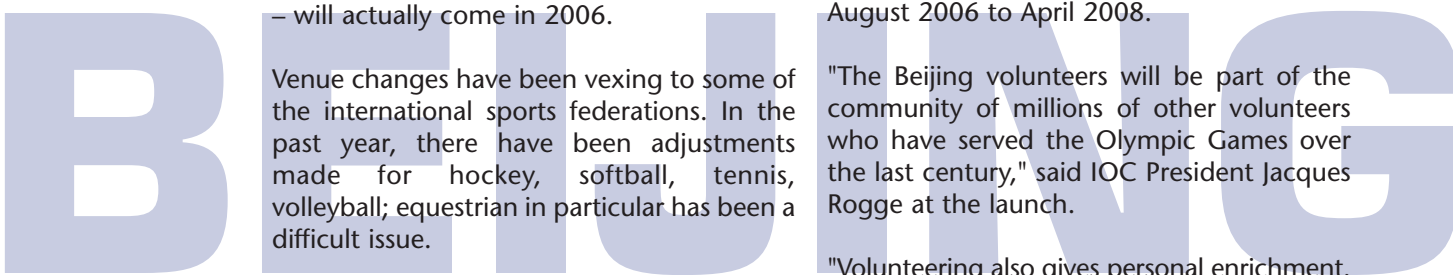
Seven major projects are now underway, including the National Stadium, Aquatics Center and

a complex of indoor arenas in the Olympic Green area in Beijing's northern suburbs.

Without delays, Beijing organizers say all will be ready for a series of three dozen test events in 2007. The first – sailing and softball – will actually come in 2006.

Venue changes have been vexing to some of the international sports federations. In the past year, there have been adjustments made for hockey, softball, tennis, volleyball; equestrian in particular has been a difficult issue.

In the face of vehement opposition from FEI, the International Equestrian Federation, BOCOG wants to move equestrian events to Hong Kong, 2000km west of Beijing.



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for show creation

Marco Balich

ceremonies

2006 olympic games

2002 olympic flaghandover

concerts

1989 pink floyd venice

1998 heineken jammin' festival

television

12,000 hours of TV entertainment

Ric Birch

ceremonies

2006 olympic games

2000 olympic games

1996 olympic flaghandover

1992 olympic games

1984 olympic games

1982 c'wealth games

1988 world expo'88

Mark Fisher

ceremonies

2006 olympic games

2000 millenium dome

tours

rolling stones, U2, pink floyd,

tina turner, elton john, etc.

stage shows

KÀ - cirque du soleil

we will rock you



Canada's Games Taking Shape

By Bob Mackin

If John Furlong is sweating in Singapore, it'll be because of the heat and humidity – not because of a case of nerves.

expects the rest of the “tier one” roster to be complete this summer. He said VANOC does not anticipate generating any revenue until after the Torino Games.



JOHN FURLONG

In Prague two years ago, Furlong – now chief executive officer of the Vancouver Organizing Committee – made the most important and anxious speech of his life. This time, he can relax and watch as bidders for 2012's Summer Olympics and Paralympics make their final presentations.

“We were astounded at how the Canadian corporate community was willing to engage with us,” Furlong said.

In February, the Bell Globemedia/Rogers Media consortium won Canadian broadcast rights with a \$153 million bid that also includes the 2012 Summer Games.

The first wave of licensed merchandise – now on sale at The Bay and Zellers stores across Canada – also is making cash registers ring.

Construction on Schedule; Logo Launched

Construction of the bobsleigh, luge and skeleton venue at Blackcomb Mountain and the Callaghan Valley Nordic centre is underway and on-time. By early 2006, construction for all new venues will have begun. Furlong said VANOC is working closely with contractors and suppliers to prevent cost overruns; a building boom in British Columbia has caused labor and materials shortages and price jumps.

The April launch of the colored inukshuk emblem generated controversy because the colored stone symbol of friendship and navigation is an Inuit sculpture and there are no Inuit tribes in B.C.

The logo reflects VANOC's shift in strategy. Gone is the Sea-to-Sky Games theme; now they are “Canada's Games.”



CALLAGHAN VALLEY

“You can't imagine how good that's going to make me feel to not feel that tension and just sit there and watch how the anticipation is building for the others,” said Furlong, who presented Vancouver's successful bid as president of the Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation.

Furlong will come to Singapore bearing good news about preparations

for the XXI Olympic Winter Games and X Paralympic Winter Games. Construction has begun on schedule and sponsorship is ahead of expectations. The 2010 Olympics are set for Feb. 12-28; the Paralympics for March 12-21.

Coffers Overfloweth

Five Canadian corporations have filled VANOC's coffers with \$500 million of cash and in-kind sponsorship. Furlong says he

“We're sharing it and making it about Canada and not an organizing committee on the west coast, which is really enjoying



the glow of putting it on,” Furlong said. “It’s too big of an opportunity to not share it with people everywhere.”

The Sea-to-Sky Highway, which links West Vancouver and Whistler, is undergoing a facelift and widening to be ready by 2008. The on-again, off-again rapid transit line linking downtown Vancouver with Vancouver International Airport is on and will begin construction this summer. Completion is scheduled for late 2009. Meanwhile, the expanded Vancouver convention centre is on target for 2008 completion. It will house the international broadcast centre in 2010.



One thing beyond Furlong’s control is the weather. Southwestern B.C. ski slopes were unusually bare for much of the winter of 2005. Furlong said artificial snow could solve such a shortage in 2010. It would actually be worse for competitors, broadcasters and fans if too much snow were to fall during the Games, he said.

“It was not a fun year for the mountains, but they’ve learned a lot and I hope it will eventually be seen as an advantage to us and we’ll be better prepared,” he said.

VANCOUVER

JORDAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

JORDAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (JOC), UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE FEISAL AL HUSSEIN, IS PROUD TO UNVEIL ITS NEW IDENTITY IN TIME FOR THE 117TH IOC SESSION IN SINGAPORE.

WE HAVE CHOSEN AS OUR SYMBOL, THE FAMOUS BLACK IRIS WHICH IS UNIQUE TO JORDAN. LIKE JORDAN, THE BLACK IRIS GROWS AND PROSPERS IN A HARSH ENVIRONMENT WHILST RADIATING SERENITY AND INDIVIDUALITY.

AS ONE OF THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE, THE JOC IS COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING SPORT TO BECOME A POSITIVE FORCE OF CHANGE IN A SOMETIMES VOLATILE REGION. LIKE THE SEEDS OF THE BLACK IRIS, SPORT IN JORDAN IS NOW TAKING ROOT AND OPENING ITS ARMS TO THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT, SHOWN HERE BY OUR NATIONAL FLOWER CRADLING THE SYMBOL OF OLYMPISM.

FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE OLYMPIC FAMILY, WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING OUR SPORTING VISION WITH YOU IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE.



JAS at 85

Honorary IOC President for Life Celebrates A New Year

Juan Antonio Samaranch celebrates his 85th birthday in July, keeping a busy schedule between his office at the Barcelona headquarters of savings bank La Caixa and Lausanne, where he oversees the Olympic Museum as chairman of the museum board.

"I have my health," he says, reminding himself of the days right after he stepped down as IOC president in 2001. He found himself in a Lausanne hospital, battling exhaustion.

Now fit again, the IOC's honorary president for life watches his travel schedule – doctor's orders, he says.

While he jets between Barcelona and Lausanne with ease to take care of IOC duties, he carefully chooses longer trips, such as the IOC Session in Singapore. He says he'll be on hand for the full seven days of meetings, long enough for his well-travelled body to adjust to the Singapore time change.

But most days he'll spend working in his 22nd floor office at La Caixa, where he holds the title of Honorary President.

From his windows he can see Montjuic and the Olympic stadium that hosted the 1992 Games in Samaranch's hometown.

"The Games brought maybe the most important changes to a city in the history of the Olympics," he says about the impact of the Barcelona Games.

He has been working to bring the Olympics back to Spain, this time for Madrid.

"I spoke with some friends and colleagues. I tell them Madrid is a good bid," says Samaranch, who has hosted a number of visitors to his office or spoken with colleagues by phone.

He says he is satisfied with the system of selecting Olympic host cities that bars visits

by IOC members to the cities, a practice that went out of control during the Samaranch presidency.

"Visits should be banned. No visits. This system is the best," he says without any nostalgia for the free-wheeling days of Olympic bidding in the 80s and 90s.

Samaranch says he is glad to see the review of the sports program that will be taken at the Singapore Session. The review is prompted in part by the growth of the sports program that took place under his presidency. Baseball, badminton, softball, taekwondo and triathlon all became Olympic sports during his tenure.

Now he says the review is needed to force all the sports to look closely at how their Olympic events are seen on TV and in the grandstands by spectators.

But when he hears that the IOC will be asked to keep the results secret of its July 8 sport-by-sport vote on the program for the 2012 Games, Samaranch shakes his head

chairman of the Radio-TV Commission.

"Many people cannot forget the great contribution he has made to international sport. Maybe with his resignation, it will lead to his release soon from prison," says Samaranch.

Whether Kim's case was being handled fairly, Samaranch simply replied, "the rules are the rules."

Samaranch is worried about the prospects for transportation problems with the Turin Olympics and how the image of the Games might be affected by what cranky journalists have to say. He also wonders why more promotion for the 2006 Games is not taking place, not just internationally, but in Italy as well.

Samaranch appears to have a good source for his information about Turin. His son, Juan Antonio, an IOC member since 2001, serves on the coordination commission for the 2006 Games.

"He is working hard, very hard," he says about the role of his progeny on the IOC.

Samaranch says Beijing's Olympics will bring "a new era" to China, helping it step up to become a world power in sport. If not first on the medals table in 2008, he says China will be either two or three.

Samaranch also is working with La Caixa and the Spanish government on China, with the aim of building sport, cultural and business ties between the two countries.

Looking at the IOC of the 21st century, he is pleased with the presence of 15 active athletes in the IOC membership, one of the reforms that came as a result of the Salt Lake City scandal.

"It used to be that [IOC] members were thought of as aristocrats. Now it is the athletes who are the aristocrats of the IOC," he says.

As to the operation of the IOC since his departure four years ago, the honorary president for life has no complaints.

"In general, the IOC is well-led. Jacques Rogge is an excellent president," adding "everyone has his own personality."



Samaranch, with Madrid bid leader Feliciano Mayoral and Juan Antonio Samaranch, Jr., IOC member in Spain. (ATR)

Honorary President of La Caixa, Samaranch has taken to using a laptop to keep an eye on figures from the financial markets. He says he started using a computer at the end of his IOC presidency.



and says "it will not stay a secret as long as one IOC member knows the exact result."

Regarding the race for the 2014 Winter Games, Samaranch notes the second attempt by PyeongChang, South Korea, to win the prize it barely lost in the race for 2010.

He calls Korea "one of the most important countries in the East," adding "they have the right to bid. I think it will be a strong candidate."

The bid will not include the participation of the former IOC member Un Yong Kim, who resigned last month rather than contest a vote to expel him at the IOC Session in Singapore.

Kim has about six months remaining to serve on a two-year jail sentence for bribery and embezzlement.

Kim, who joined the IOC in 1986, served closely with Samaranch, who named him as



■ **OLYMPIC RIVER** – THE MOSCOW 2012 PLAN IS ONE OF THE MOST COMPACT IN OLYMPIC HISTORY. OUR MAIN VENUE CLUSTERS ARE ARRANGED ALONG THE MOSCOW RIVER AND ARE WITHIN 5-10 KM OF EACH OTHER. AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, ALL OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC ATHLETES WILL BE LOCATED IN A SINGLE, CENTRALLY LOCATED OLYMPIC VILLAGE. ■ **HISTORIC CHOICE** – THE SELECTION OF MOSCOW AS HOST CITY OF THE 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES WOULD IMPACT A COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE – AND INDEED THE ENTIRE WORLD, LIKE NO OTHER. RUSSIANS HAVE PEACEFULLY FACED THE UNPRECEDENTED TRANSFORMATION OF THEIR NATION WITH OPEN MINDS AND HEARTS. NOW WE WANT THE MOSCOW 2012 GAMES TO SHOW THE WORLD HOW FAR WE HAVE COME, AND HOW FAR THE WORLD CAN MOVE FORWARD. ■ **TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE** – 65% OF OUR VENUES ALREADY EXIST AND HAVE BEEN TIME TESTED BY OVER 100 EUROPEAN AND WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SINCE 1980. SUPERB VENUES, WORLD-CLASS TECHNICAL SKILLS AND A WORLD-RENOWN PASSION FOR SPORTS TRULY PLACES MOSCOW 2012 IN A CLASS BY ITSELF.



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117TH IOC SESSION CALENDAR

Sunday 3 July 2005

09:00 - 18:00	IOC Executive Board Meeting	Raffles City Convention Centre, Bras Basah
13:30 & 18:30	Press Briefings	Raffles City Convention Centre, VIP Lounge

Monday 4 July 2005

09:00 - 18:00	IOC Executive Board Meeting	Raffles City Convention Centre, Bras Basah
13:30 & 18:30	Press Briefings	Raffles City Convention Centre, VIP Lounge

Tuesday 5 July 2005

TBC	IOC Executive Board	Raffles City Convention Centre, Bras Basah
13:30	IOC President's Press Conference	VIP Lounge
19:00	Opening Ceremony of the 117th IOC Session - upon invitation only	Esplanade, Theatre Hall

Wednesday 6 July 2005

08:30 - 09:00	Opening of the 117th IOC Session - Followed by the presentations of the 2010 Candidate Cities	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
09:00 - 10:00	Presentation by Paris	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
10:15 - 10:45	Press Briefing by Paris	Raffles City Convention Centre, VIP Lounge
10:30 - 11:30	Presentation by New York	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
11:45 - 12:15	Press Briefing by New York	Raffles City Convention Centre, VIP Lounge
12:00 - 13:00	Presentation by Moscow	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
13:15 - 13:45	Press Briefing by Moscow	Raffles City Convention Centre, VIP Lounge
14.30 - 15:30	Presentation by London	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom

15:45 - 16:15	Press Briefing by London	Raffles City Convention Centre, VIP Lounge
16:00 - 17:00	Presentation by Madrid	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
17:15 - 17:45	Press Briefing by Madrid	Raffles City Convention Centre, VIP Lounge
17.15 - 17:45	Report of the Evaluation Commission	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
17:45 - 18:30	Vote to elect the 2012 Host City	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
18:30 - 19:15	Announcement preparation	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
19:30	Announcement Ceremony of the host city of the Games of the XXX Olympiad in 2012 including signature of the host city contract	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
20:30	Joint IOC / Host City Press Conference	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom

Thursday 7 July 2005

09:00 - 18:00	117th IOC Session	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
13:30 & 18:30	Press Briefings	Raffles City Convention Centre, VIP Lounge

Friday 8 July 2005

09:00 - 18:00	117th IOC Session	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
13:30	Press Briefings	Raffles City Convention Centre, VIP Lounge

Saturday 9 July 2005

TBC	117th IOC Session	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom
13:30	IOC President's Press Conference	Raffles City Convention Centre, Raffles Ballroom

Please note that all times are local times (GMT+8) and subject to change.

Source: <http://www.olympic.org/uk>



First Sights to Last Bites: What to do in Singapore



Attractions

Bukit Timah Nature Reserve: Home to more species of plants than all of North America, this is one of the world's only two rainforests contained within city boundaries. The reserve includes a visitor center and trails winding through 170 acres of jungle.

177 Hindhede Drive

Tel: 1800 468 5736 (toll-free in Singapore only)

Free Admission

<http://www.nparks.gov.sg>

The Night Safari: Visit the world's only night-time zoo and see more than 110 species of animals when they are most active!

80 Mandai Lake Rd.

Tel: (65) 6269 3411

Adults: \$18.00;

children

(age 3 – 12): \$9.00

[Http://www.nightsafari.com.sg](http://www.nightsafari.com.sg)

Singapore Art

Museum: Housed in one of Singapore's finest colonial buildings, this famous museum contains a wide array of contemporary Southeast Asian art.

71 Bras Basah Road

Tel: (65) 6332 3222

Adult : \$3.00; student: \$1.50; senior citizen

(above 60 years): \$1.50; family ticket (3 adults and

2 children): \$8.00; children under age 6: free

<http://www.museum.org.sg/SAM>

DUCKtour: Tour both the city and harbors of Singapore in an amphibious vehicle. The DUCKtour will take you to all the best sites, plus its crew of "ducktainers" will also entertain you during the ride.

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Night Safari



Shopping on Orchard Street

Shopping

Orchard Road: This is the premier shopping district. **Tanglin Mall** contains four floors of boutiques, including Sports Station, Tanglin General Store, and Food Junction. **The Shaw Center** offers artsy souvenirs and Singapore woodcraft. Purchase Asian antiques, including antique books and ancient sea charts at the galleries in the **Tanglin Shopping Center**, an older shopping area near the Orchard Hotel. The **Wisma Atria** sells all the trendiest designer clothing.

Bugis Street: Once a hotspot for rowdy pirates and transvestite prostitutes, the area underwent a rigorous reform in the 80s and is now known for shopping. Be sure to stop by the **bazaar**, where you can buy funky touristy trinkets and the cheapest t-shirts in town (\$2). The more adventurous should check out the ButtON Trendy Undies shop on the 2nd floor of the bazaar, which offers a unique selection of undergarments.

Geylang: Visit the **Malay Market**, where Muslim merchants sell pretty much everything except pork. Some of the prominent

products on sale in this district are curry pots, batiks, Indonesian cosmetics, scarves, and rice, most of which are reasonably priced.

Travel Tips: Through July 24, the annual **Great Singapore Sale** will tempt pocketbooks in a city famous for shopping. Retailers throughout Singapore offer numerous bargains during the eight-week event. **The Singapore Food Festival** also runs July 1 to 31.

continued on page 18

What to do in Singapore – continued

Dining

You don't have to go to a five diamond restaurant to find good food. Some of the tastiest dishes are served in hawker centres, coffee shops, and food courts, many of which are open 24 hours a day. Here are some Singaporean favorites you can pick up at any of these casual dining spots:

Laksa – Rice noodles mixed with shrimp, egg, chicken, and cockles, all topped with coconut curry gravy.

Murtabak – Singaporean pizza stuffed with minced mutton or chicken and covered with curry.

Satay – Meat kebabs served with rice cake, cucumber, and peanut gravy for dipping. A safe bet for everyone.

Rojak – A salad of cucumbers, bean sprouts, pineapple, white radish, fried crullers, dried bean curd, mango, and cuttlefish, all tossed in a bowl with prawn paste and sprinkled with peanuts.

Hainanese chicken rice – Steamed chicken served with rice cooked in chicken stock and a tangy chili sauce. One of the most popular dishes among locals.

Photos Courtesy of Singapore Tourism Board



Hawker Fare



Dining at the Fullerton

Popular dining spots

Clarke Quay Satay Club – The place to go for satay. Open from 7 pm – 3 am.

Marina South Hawker Centre – Renowned for its seafood and steamboat stalls. Open from noon – 2 am.

Chinatown Food Centre – Offers a wide selection of tasty Chinese food at scandalously low prices. Can get crowded and hot during lunchtime in the summer. Be sure to stop by the famous Cantonese cold dessert stalls. Open from 7 am – 9 pm.

Little India – Enjoy meals for as little as \$3 or visit the posh North and South Indian restaurants. The area is particularly notable for excellent vegetarian dishes.

The Fullerton Singapore - Chocolate Buffet – The words “chocolate buffet” should be incentive enough to visit this restaurant, renowned for its chocolate mango yoghurt mousse and chocolate-blended beverages. Open 8 pm – 11 pm Friday and Saturday.

Lau Pa Sat – 24-hour food market that is a favorite for both locals and tourists. Serves Singaporean and international cuisine at low prices.

Kia Hiang – Upscale restaurant serving the finest Singaporean dishes.

Compiled by Christina Tucker



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**Decision Time in Singapore** *continued from page 4**By Ed Hula*

ARISF says it supports the review of the Olympics program and says it hopes the IOC “would allow the Games to evolve side-by-side with the actual participation figures and public appeal of different sports throughout the world.”

Golf or rugby could be added if a team sport drops out, squash or roller sports for one of the indoor sports, and karate could fill-in if a martial art doesn’t make the grade.

Given that the host city for 2012 will be chosen by the time the IOC votes, its sports heritage could be a factor in the program for those Games. If New York City wins, would baseball be sure to remain, despite its weaknesses? Should Paris or London win, rugby could be a natural addition if a sport drops out. How about a roller sport road race through the streets of Madrid, or a squash tournament in glass-walled courts at the Kremlin in Moscow?

Slavkov Expulsion Vote

On July 7, the IOC may face the decision of whether to expel a member of 18 years. Bulgaria’s Ivan Slavkov could choose instead to resign prior to the Session. Slavkov has been suspended since 2004, soon after a BBC-TV program aired that showed him discussing the buying and selling of IOC votes for the 2012 host city election.

Slavkov maintains he was unfairly portrayed in the TV program. He was videotaped by a concealed camera carried by a BBC reporter who claimed to be an agent representing London businesses keen on seeing the Olympics come to their city.

A two-thirds vote of the IOC will be needed to expel Slavkov. Often outspoken, the 65 year-old sports leader says he will consider it a moral victory if only five members vote for him in Singapore.

Other Decisions: Election for EB, Vice Presidents

The final day of the IOC Session on July 9 brings elections for three seats on the Executive Board: two for vice president, the third for a regular slot.

One of the vice presidential seats is open as a result of the resignation of Korea’s Un Yong Kim. The second VP slot is for the seat held by Russia’s Vitaly Smirnov.

As this issue goes to press two weeks before the start of the Singapore meetings, at least four candidates are mentioned for the vice presidencies: Australia’s Kevan Gosper, Lambis Nikolaou of Greece, Syria’s Samih Moudallal and C. K. Wu of Chinese Taipei.

There are two possibilities for the regular seat on the EB, Singaporean Ser Miang Ng and Ivan Dibos of Peru.

Other candidates may step forward before the deadline to file at the IOC Session, especially after the 2012 host city is named.

Barbara Kendall, the sailing gold medalist from New Zealand, is the only new member to be proposed for election.

She will serve the remaining three years of the unexpired term of Susie O’Neill, who resigned earlier this year.

Leaving the IOC at this meeting will be Tay Wilson of New Zealand, Nikos Filaretos of Greece, Fidel Mendoza Carrasquilla of Colombia and Boris Stankovic of Serbia Montenegro, who all reach retirement age of 80 this year.

Session Birthdays:

Coincidentally, Mendoza and Stankovic celebrate their birthdays during the session, the 7th and 9th, respectively. Other members with Session-time birthdays include Un Chang (5th), Phil Craven (4th), Robert Ctvrtlik (8th) and Mario Pescante (7th).

For a calendar of the IOC’s week in Singapore, see page 16 of this Special Edition.

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Around the Rings Datebook

July 13-31	FINA World Championships	Montreal
July 14-24	World Games	Duisburg, Germany
July 28	2014 Bid Applications Due	Lausanne
August 6-14	IAAF World Championships	Helsinki
October 24-27	Sportel	Monaco
October 26-28	IOC Executive Board Meeting	Lausanne
November 8-20	Beijing Coordination Commission	Beijing
November 30-Dec. 1	Turin Coordination Commission	Turin
December 10	Start of Turin Torch Relay	Rome
December 30	Around the Rings Golden 25	Global
February 2-8, 2006	IOC Executive Board Meeting	Turin
February 10-27, 2006	XX Olympic Winter Games	Turin
March 10-19, 2006	IX Paralympic Games	Turin
March 15-26, 2006	XVIII Commonwealth Games	Melbourne, Australia



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Volleyball and Beach Volleyball:

Governed by five Continental Confederations comprising National Federations in Europe, Asia, Africa, South America as well as North and Central America, Volleyball and Beach Volleyball have become increasingly spectacular sports which are attracting evermore fans and sponsors. Today they boast over 500 million athletes throughout the world, including 35 million licensed players. The International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) brings together 218 National Federations sharing the values and ideals expressed in its

Code of Conduct. Its headquarters are located in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Volleyball: The Major Events

The **World Championships** take place every four years and are the most important competition for the FIVB, save the Olympics. After surviving the qualifying rounds, the top 24 men's and women's teams compete for medals in a grand finale. A record-high 174 teams are participating in this year's event, including 97 men's and 77 women's teams. The qualifying rounds began in September 2004 and the finals will take place in November 2006 (in Japan).

The World Cup: The top 12 teams from each continent compete in this tournament, which is one of the qualifying events for the Olympic Games. Japan will host this competition in 2007 and the winning teams will qualify for the 2008 summer Games in Beijing.

The World League is in some ways the most prestigious competition of the FIVB. Each year 12 of

the world's best teams take part in a round-robin to win USD 13 million in prize money. The Federation also offers television and publicity rights to participating countries.

The Grand Prix is similar to the World League with 12 world-class teams - but with the feminine touch as well! Women's national teams at the professional elite level are enjoying a fantastically successful rise in popularity - and television broadcasters worldwide have taken note!

The Junior and Youth World Championships take place every other year. The champions of tomorrow compete in four different categories (U-21 Men, U-20 Women, U-19 Boys and U-18 Girls).

Beach Volleyball's Olympic Success

The key to Beach Volleyball's success is no secret: beach, sand and fun! This sport was born in California back in the 1920s, and has caught on throughout the world. Beach Volleyball became an Olympic sport at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, and enjoyed extraordinary media and popular success in Sydney (2000) and Athens (2004).

The men's and women's **World Championships** are of course the shining stars of Beach Volleyball. Every two years, this event draws the world's most outstanding players to compete for the highly-coveted title. The 2005 World Championships have just concluded (21 to 26 June) in the heart of Berlin, the historic and nerve centre of Germany.

The **World Tour** consists of several events staged throughout the calendar year in world-class cities. Top athletes originating from more than 60 countries compete for USD 5 million in prize money, Olympic qualification, and world-class rankings.

(Advertisement)





Two Sports for Everyone!

The FIVB also organises **Satellite/Challenger** matches, which are familiar to the residents of Lausanne, since the men's and women's International Beach Volleyball Tournament is held in August in the Olympic capital.

Technique, Development, Sports Aid and Solidarity

The Technical and Development Commissions of the FIVB carefully oversee all of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball's equipment requirements. They also organise courses for judges and coaches.

The FIVB **Sports Aid Programme** is the foundation of a global development approach. Conscious of its social responsibility and wishing to offer the same opportunities to men and women on every continent, the Federation provides comprehensive equipment resources for Volleyball and Beach Volleyball, as well as the literature and instructional material needed for

playing these non-violent sports, which are open to all. The goal is to maintain the sports' universality. This support from the FIVB enables countries to develop their potential and offer courses which would be otherwise unavailable.

In this spirit, the FIVB teamed up with the United Nations to devote large sums of money toward rebuilding regions that were devastated by the tsunami in Southeast Asia. The world of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball has no borders – solidarity is one of its key ideals.

For more information, visit our website at www.fivb.org.



The FIVB at a Glance

During the 1984 Congress held in Long Beach, California, Paul Libaud, the first FIVB President, resigned after 37 years of leading the Federation (founded in 1947).

Winds of change accompanied the dynamic Dr. Rubén Acosta Hernandez when he took over the helm of the FIVB. The Federation moved from Paris to Lausanne, closer to the International Olympic Committee headquarters and the Olympic Museum (both located in Lausanne). The FIVB set up its offices in a family villa from which it ran what would become the largest

International Federation in terms of the number of affiliated National Federations. Thanks in large part to the indefatigable work of the FIVB President, Volleyball began its rise to its current status as an elite sport.

With the extraordinary growth in popularity of Volleyball and Beach Volleyball, administrative needs have naturally increased, and the FIVB employees are beginning to feel the space constraints of their current location. Thus, the Federation plans to establish its headquarters on a new property it has acquired in Lausanne, on the banks of Lake Lemán. The final decision is expected later this year.

The FIVB organisational structure is comprised of the World Congress, the Board of Administration and the Executive Committee. The Secretariat, headed by the President and the General Manager, runs the Federation and oversees its operations.

Within the organisation, the various departments – Sports Events, Beach Volleyball, Technical, Development, and Press – collaborate with the National Federations to coordinate many world-class tournaments and competitions as well as related communication tasks.



GET INVOLVED! KEEP THE BALL FLYING!

2014 Winter Bids Line Up Support

With the first deadline in the race for the 2014 Olympics coming at the end of July, potential bidders are deep in talks with their national and regional governments to make sure they will support plans for the Games.

At the most, three or four cities are expected to meet the IOC's July 28 deadline to apply.

The most likely challengers are 2010 also-rans PyeongChang, South Korea, and Salzburg, Austria. Sweden is making plans to present Ostersund, which has bid three other times.

Kim Jin Sun, governor of Gangwon Province, says the new bid from PyeongChang will not differ much from the proposal that almost won the race for 2010 against Vancouver two years ago.

"We are gaining wider support for the bid," he says about preparations now taking place in South Korea to prepare for the new campaign.

"The national assembly will form a special support committee for the bid," he says. For now, PyeongChang stands alone among the possible 2014 bidders for endorsements from their governments.

In Sweden, government review of plans for Ostersund is expected to be completed by the end of June, says Stefan Lindeberg, president of the Swedish Olympic Committee.

"We want to see where big opportunities exist, as well as big problems," he says.

And he says the government review will include all the major political parties.

"It's important that we have broad political base, as there will be at least two more elections before 2012," says the NOC chief.

"We feel a strong support so far," Lindeberg says, adding that a decision on Ostersund should come by the end of June.

Whether the Austrian bid goes forward will be decided right after the IOC selection of the 2012 host city. The decision is said to rest on a reading of the tea leaves from the July 6 vote. The Austrians will see whether the 2012 Games go to the U.S. or Europe and then analyze the IOC's round by round vote.

"The Salzburg 2014 Preparatory Committee has made detailed preparations for a possible Salzburg bid for the Olympic Winter Games 2014," says a statement from the organizers.

The bid has changed from the one for 2010. Venues are clustered near Salzburg; two sites more than an hour distant from the city have been dropped. The Paralympic budget has been tripled.

The bid has the support of the Austrian Olympic Committee and won a referendum conducted in the Salzburg region earlier this year. Another referendum held in the city of Salzburg rejected the Olympics, but with less than 20% vote turnout, the non-binding results are not considered a barrier to moving ahead with the bid.

Thumbnails of the 2014 Hopefuls:

Ostersund, Sweden

- n Population 56,914
- n Located near the mountain resort town of Are, with the mountain ranges at altitudes between 1000-1700 meters.
- n Located approximately 250 km north of Stockholm

PyeongChang, South Korea

- n Population 47,200
- n Located in the Great Baekdu Mountain Range (700 m above sea level)
- n Located approximately 130 miles east of Seoul in Gangwon Province

Salzburg, Austria

- n Population 518,000
- n Located in central Austria, in the midst of the Alps, close to the border of Bavaria, Germany.
- n Was chosen over Innsbruck by the Austrian Olympic Committee in January

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Steven Lopez (U.S.)

- Gold medalist at 2004 Athens Olympic Games
- Second eldest in a family of four Taekwondo champions

"The future of Taekwondo is bright, as the majority of Taekwondo practitioners are young people. We should use Taekwondo to instill in them self-discipline, respect for elders, and the determination to fulfill their dreams."



Hadi Saei Bonehkoal (Iran)

- Gold medalist at 2004 Athens Olympic Games
- Sacrificed countless medals to help survivors of the Bam earthquake

"Taekwondo is a sport that offers hope for those in need; it helps us prevail when faced with adversity. Together, we can make a difference."



Adriana Carmona (Venezuela)

- Bronze medalist at 2004 Athens Olympic Games

"Women are rapidly gaining respect through the sport of Taekwondo. This helps empower us in our aspirations to take on meaningful roles in society."



Bayoumi Tamer (Egypt)

- Bronze medalist at 2004 Athens Olympic Games

"I love Taekwondo for the very reason that it embraces all cultures."



Pascal Gentil (France)

- Bronze medalist at 2004 Athens Olympic Games

"I believe that the sport of Taekwondo is moving in the right direction in ensuring a fair refereeing and judging system. I'm sure the athletes will benefit from this."



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How Cities Fared in 2008 Vote



Keep your own score for 2012



Bidding City	Votes by Round				
	1	2	3	4	5
Beijing	44	56			
Istanbul	17	9			
Osaka	6	--			
Paris	15	18			
Toronto	20	22			

Bid City	Vote By Round				
	1	2	3	4	5
Paris					
New York					
London					
Madrid					
Moscow					

New York Surge in Power Index

From a near-death experience, New York City's bid has surged into third place in the latest Around the Rings Olympics Bid Power Index.

The index is the only ranking of Olympic bid cities based on inspections, bid books and bid strategies. Cities are rated in 11 key categories, each scored on a scale of one to ten.

Paris is still tops, rising three points to 89; London follows at 87, up two points. New York surges to 83, a dramatic rise of six points since the last ranking three weeks ago.

Here's a city-by-city breakdown:

London (87; 85 previous) – Higher score in bid operations due to PM Tony Blair's increased involvement and an uptick on security after Scotland Yard briefed ATR on Olympic security plans. "London will not lose this bid over security," Metropolitan police chief Sir Ian Blair tells Around the Rings.

Madrid (74; 75 previous) – Concern about the supply of hotel rooms in the commission report leads to a drop of one point in Power Index.

Moscow (64; 66 previous) – A two-point drop for the Russian bid after complaints from the Evaluation Commission about insufficient information regarding accommodations and marketing.

New York City (83, 77 previous) – Solving the loss of an Olympic Stadium in Manhattan with a plan for another in Queens in just days rescued the bid and made it stronger. The change means better scores in bid operation, cost, public support, security and venue plans.

Paris (89, 86 previous) – The IOC says accommodation plans for Paris are "excellent", the only city to win that superlative, bumping up the Power Index. The June 5 spectacle on the Champs Elysees demonstrated Paris' ability to stage mass promotions; boosting the rating for bid operations; IOC praise for adhering to recommendations of the Study Commission upped the venue score.

June 19, 2005 Bid Power Index
() denotes previous score

	LONDON	MADRID	MOSCOW	NEW YORK CITY	PARIS
Accommodation	8	6 (7)	4 (5)	8	9 (8)
Ambiance	9	7	5	9	10
Bid Operation	8 (7)	6	5 (6)	9 (8)	9 (8)
Games Cost	2	10	4	5 (6)	7
Last Games	10	5	7	2	5
Legacy	10	6	6	8	7
Marketing	9	5	5	10	8
Public Support	7	9	9	7 (6)	8
Security	8 (7)	5	4	7 (6)	8
Transportation	8	8	6	9	9
Venues Plans	8	7	9	8 (6)	9 (8)
POWER INDEX	87 (85)	74 (75)	64 (66)	83 (77)	89 (86)



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