

## China and Olympism

In order to reveal the facts about what many commentators have called "the China questions" as clearly as possible, we have thought it necessary to present them in two separate periods. At first, only one NOC sought to develop a Chinese Olympic movement ; next we will deal with the existence of the present Chinese Olympic Committee and the Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee, both of which are recognized by the IOC.

### CHINA

Area : about 9,600,000 km <sup>2</sup>.

Population : 1,008,175,288 (in July 1982).



### CHINESE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (COC)

Recognized by the IOC in its present form in 1979.

*Current President:* Zhong Shitong\*.

*Current Secretary General:* Song Zhong\*.

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### The role of the COC

The general aim of the Chinese Olympic Committee is to spread and develop the Olympic Movement and its ideals throughout all Chinese territory. Only the COC is fit to represent the Chinese Olympic Movement in its relations with the IOC, the National Olympic Committees and the International Federations. The COC co-ordinates Olympic sports, develops physical culture and sport amongst young people in order to further their moral, intellectual and physical training as harmoniously as possible.

The COC assists other national sporting bodies in the organisation of multi-sport competitions at national level. Only the COC has the right to enter Chinese Competitors in the Olympic Games and the Olympic Winter Games. To this end, it collaborates with the national sports federations involved to select the athletes and train the Chinese delegation to the Olympic Games. They provide the delegation with funds and the necessary sports equipment.

\* See biographical notes

## History

On 18th October 1910, Chang Po-ling, Shen Shih-liang and Dr Wang Chenting \* founded the "China National Amateur Athletic Federation", a body which was the basis of the sports movement in China. Thanks to the determination of these leaders, the Federation of Far Eastern Games saw the light of day in 1913, under the presidency of Dr Wang who, in this capacity, welcomed the Far Eastern Games to Shanghai in 1921. As a career diplomat, and also China's delegate at the negotiation of the Treaty of Versailles, he was a natural choice for Coubertin and his colleagues to create the Chinese Olympic Movement. In 1922, he became the first member of the IOC in China. The IOC then received the Chinese Olympic Committee into its fold. One point must be explained however ; at the time, the idea of a National Olympic Committee was very different to that of today. In the Twenties, a country, a region, or a geographical unit was admitted into the IOC at the same time as one or two members, as soon as proof of sports activity - or as they usually called it at the time, athletics - had been furnished. The most representative organisation in a country became the IOC's direct correspondent, while the National Olympic Committee was set up at the time of the Olympic Games and did not function at any other time. Today, the IOC recognises this or that NOC; it no longer receives it within itself. Furthermore, nowadays an NOC is a permanent body.

It was not until ten years later, in 1932, that a Chinese athlete took part for the first time in the Olympic Games at Los Angeles. A bigger Chinese delegation took part in the Olvmoc Games of 1936 and 1948. As Dr Wang's activities as a statesman drew him further and further away from the Olympic family, the IOC called a second member for China to its cause - Dr. H. H. Kung'. The latter took hardly any part in the activities of the IOC. In 1947, a third member for China was thus co-opted in the person of Mr. Tung Shou-Yi\*.

In 1949 the People's Republic of China was founded. The Chinese Olympic Committee was re-organised and transferred its headquarters from Nanjing (Nanking) to Beijing (Peking). A number of its members withdrew to the island of Taiwan. Moreover, the IOC recognised this fact in 1952, before the Olympiad was celebrated. In fact, the Oslo Session took place in February 1952. "None of the three IOC members in China were present", points out Monique Berlioux, Director of the IOC, in an article entitled "Concerning China" and published in the *Olympic Review* of May, 1973.

However, when the Games of the XVth Olympiad at Helsinki in 1952 were announced, the Chinese Olympic Committee with its headquarters at Beijing as well as its splinter group installed at Taiwan, wrote to the IOC asking to take part in the Olympic Games. In the "notification concerning China" signed by its President on 16th June 1952 at Stockholm, the IOC affirmed that the sports organisations of Beijing governed more than 95 % of Chinese youth.

The Swede, Sigfrid Edström who, at the Helsinki Session in 1952, was presiding for the last time over an IOC Session, reminded members that "the Olympic organisation must ignore questions of race, religion or politics and that its aim is to unite the youth of the world". Mr. François Piétri, IOC member in France, then submitted the following motion which obtained the majority vote. "The IOC, without prejudice to the final decisions it will be called on to take concerning the respective situations of the Chinese People's Republic and the State of Taiwan - which will depend mainly on a precise determination of the international status of these two entities - the IOC authorises the athletes of both countries, in agreement with the Organising Committee of the Helsinki Games, to take part in the events of the present Olympiad in all sports in which the corresponding International Federations have accepted their entry." While reserving the right to repudiate this motion, the Chinese Olym-



*Start of the annual "Cross-Beijing race".*

pic Committee sent its delegation to Finland to participate in the Games of the XVth Olympiad.

At Athens, from 12th to 15th May 1954, the IOC adopted a decision at its 50th Session to recognise the Chinese Olympic Committee (the National Sports Federation of China).

In Melbourne, in 1956, the Chinese Olympic Committee withdrew its delegation at the last moment as a protest against the presence of athletes from Taipei. Now, during the IOC Session which preceded the Games, Mr. Tung Shou-yi, the only Chinese member of the IOC in attendance, had been charged by the Committee to see to what extent a mixed team could be formed. Mr. Tung\* stressed in his speech that it was illegal to put Taiwan on the list of NOCs recognized by the IOC, all the more so since it had been included without any discussion beforehand. He asked that the

IOC strike the Olympic Committee at Taiwan off the official list. On 19th August 1958, the Chinese Olympic Committee announced its withdrawal from the Olympic Movement and Mr. Tung\* handed in his resignation to the IOC. The official communication was received on 25th August at the IOC Chancellery. Simultaneously, the national federations of that country left the International Federations of Athletics, Basketball, Football, Wrestling, Weightlifting, Swimming, Archery and Tennis. On 30th August, the IOC accepted the resignation of Mr. Tung and took formal note of the withdrawal of the Chinese Olympic Committee.

In 1959, during the 56th IOC Session at Munich, the following decision was ratified : *"The Chinese Olympic Committee with its headquarters at Taipei (Taiwan) shall be informed that it can no longer be recognised under this name, in view of the fact that it no longer administers sport in*

*China. Its name will be removed from the official list. If an application for recognition were to be submitted to the IOC under another name, the question would then be re-examined. ”*

On 9th April 1975, the Chinese Olympic Committee (the National Sports Federation of China) made a request for recognition to the IOC while at the same time requesting that this recognition be withdrawn from the Olympic Committee at Taipei. In September 1977, the President of the IOC, Lord Killanin, went to Beijing. In 1979, during the IOC Session at Montevideo in April, and at the meeting of the Executive Board held in Puerto Rico in June, the question of the recognition of the Chinese Olympic Committee (COC) was the main point of the discussions.

On 25th October 1979, the members of the Executive Board of the IOC meeting in Nagoya, Japan, adopted an official resolution. This resolution was approved on 25th November 1979 by the members of the IOC by means of a postal vote with 62 in favour, 17 against and 2 spoiled votes.

Here is the integral text of the Nagoya resolution :

### **People's Republic of China**

Name : Chinese Olympic Committee

NOC anthem, flag and emblem : Flag and anthem of the People's Republic of China. The emblem submitted to and approved by the Executive Board.

*The statutes conform fully to the IOC Rules.*

### **Committee situated at Taipei**

Name: Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee.

NOC anthem, flag and emblem : Other than those used at present and which must be approved by the Executive Board of the IOC,.

*The statutes must be amended by 1st January 1980 in order to conform to the provisions of the "Olympic Charter".*

## **CHINA AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES**

From 1932 onwards.

● First took part in the Olympic Games in 1932. On his own, Liu Chang-Chung represented his 400 million fellow citizens in the elimination heats for the 100 m and 200 m sprints.

The Chinese had regularly taken part in the Far Eastern Games. The Olympic sports which they played most were Athletics, Swimming, and Basketball.

### **● Chinese representation at the Olympic Games**

1932 : 1 athlete.

1936 : 69 athletes, including 2 women (Athletics 23(2), Basketball 14, Boxing 4, Cycling 1, Football 22, Weightlifting 3, Swimming 2).

1948 : 33 athletes (Athletics 3, Basketball 10, Cycling 1, Football 18, Swimming 1) and 7 artists in the Art competitions.

In 1952, an Olympic delegation made up of 38 men and 2 women sent by the Chinese Olympic Committee took part in the Olympic Games at Helsinki.

In 1956, the COC withdrew its delegation at the last moment (see above).

In 1980, at the Olympic Winter Games at Lake Placid, the COC sent a delegation made up of 28 athletes : 2 in the Biathlon, 15 speed skaters, 4 figure skaters and 4 skiers.

Further, in 1974, China had taken-part in the 7th Asian Games at Tehran.

In 1978, China sent a delegation to the 8th Asian Games at Bangkok.

In 1982, China took part in the 9th Asian Games at New Delhi.



▲ *New Delhi. 1982.*

## The present organisation of the COC

● *The current statutes* came into force on 1 st March 1979 and were approved shortly afterwards by the IOC.

● *The General Assembly* constitutes the supreme authority. It is made up of representatives of the national sports Federations affiliated to the International Federations recognized by the IOC as well as the representatives of other mass sport organisations. It is convened once a year.

● The Executive Board settles everyday matters. It controls, under the management of the Secretary General, the working bodies such as the secretariat, the department of international relations, the department of information and press, the technical committee.

## ● Present members of the Executive Board



*President of the NOC, Zhong Shitong.*

*PT:* Zhong Shitong\*, *VPTs:* Li Menghua\*, Huang Zhong, Lu Jindong, Zhang Hueilan (F), Liu Changchuh, Xia Xiang, *SG :* Song Zhong\*, *Ms:* He Zhenliang\*, Zhu Zhe, Zhang Zhihuai, Dong Nianli, Mou Zuoyun, Li Fenglou, Li Wen-yao.

## SPORT IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA



*Ron Gaotong, an adviser, with the rank of minister, to the Commission for Physical Culture and Sport.*

### ● Federations affiliated to the COC

Athletics, rowing, basketball, canoeing, cycling, fencing, football, gymnastics, handball, ice-hockey, wrestling, skating, skiing, shooting, archery, volleyball, weightlifting, yachting, tennis, table tennis, badminton, hockey, softball, modern pentathlon and biathlon, equestrian sports and judo.

### ● Non Olympic Federations in China

Chess, Xianqi (Chinese chess), Weiqi (Go), wushu, mountaineering, baseball, rollerskating, university sports, school sports, water sports, aeronautic sports, motorcycling sports, radio amateur sports, sports medicine, sports press.

### ● National Olympic bibliography :

1955 : «Soviet Olympic Champions».

1956 : «A Collection of speeches on the Olympic Games», by Yan Sumin

1956 : «Olympic Games».

1964 : « Records and performances in the Olympic Games », by Shi Ge.

1973 : «Performances at the Olympic Games ».

1982 : «it History of the Olympic Movement».

● The protection of the Olympic emblems is provided for by the statutes.

### ● Other leading sports bodies

- The Commission for Physical Culture and Sports (A ministry of the Council of State).

### State Aid to the Sports Movement

The different national sports organisations receive financial aid from the State and donations offered by different social organisations. The State undertakes the construction of stadia and sports complexes for the different sports organisations.



### ● Sport at School

School-children have two hours a week of physical education. There are about 100,000,000 at primary school (aged 7 to 12 years), 50,000,000 in the first cycle of secondary education (12 to 15 years) and 20,000,000 in the second cycle (15

### ● Sports equipment

Stadia	207	(1949-1982)
Sports complexes	168	(1952-1982)
Open-air swimming pools	1503	(1949-1982)
Indoor swimming pools	95	(1954-1982)
Shooting stands	384	(1954-1982)



*The Workers' Stadium at Beijing during the National Games*

to 17 years). This is also applies to students in the first two university classes. One hour of extra-curriculum sports activities per day is currently being introduced, in addition, for all students.

### ● The training of sports leaders

Sports leaders in the various categories are trained in 13 academies of physical education and sports, 116 higher institutes and a certain number of sports schools.

### ● Percentage of practising sportsmen

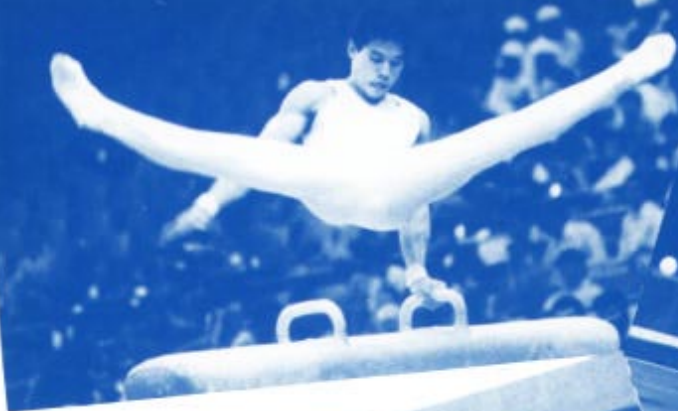
About 30 % of the country's population.

### ● Sports which have experienced the greatest development in recent years

Athletics, volleyball, basketball, table tennis, badminton, gymnastics, weightlifting, swimming, shooting and fencing.

### ● Sports which attract the greatest number of spectators

Football, basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, table tennis, athletics, swimming, wushu, wrestling and ice hockey.



▲ Li Ning, world champion

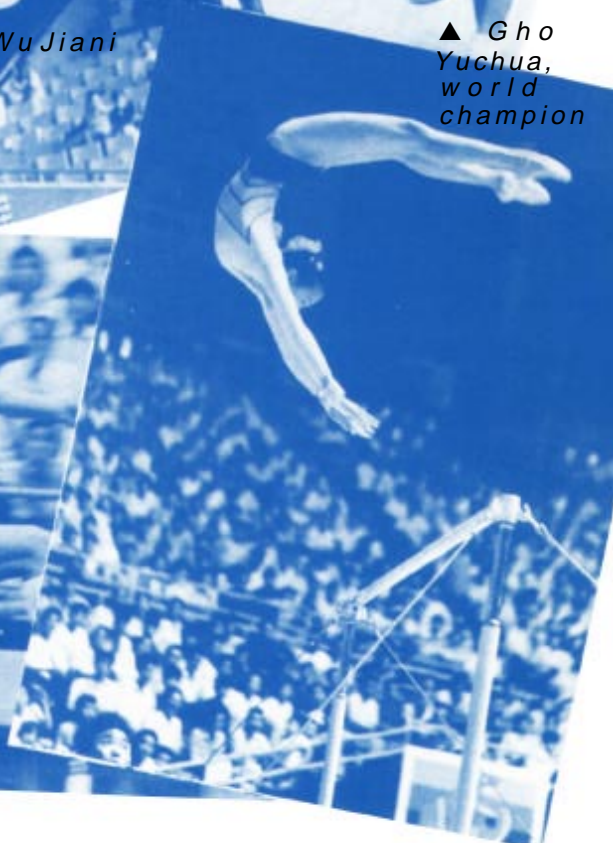
▼ Zhu Jianhua holder, 2 m 37



▼ Wu Jiani



▲ Gho Yuchua, world champion





## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

### Dr. Wang Chenting

Member of the IOC from 1922 to 1957.

Dr. Wang was born near Shanghai in 1882. First and foremost, he was diplomat. Outside his political activities, he was one of the promoters of amateur athletics in China. He withdrew to Hong Kong, became an honorary member of the IOC, and lived there until his death on 21 St May 1961.

### Mr. Zhong Shitong

President of the Chinese Olympic Committee since 1979.

Mr. Zhong was born on 20th December 1913 at Shuansi (in north-western China). He has been Director of the Institute of Physical Education and Sports in Beijing since 1953.

### Mr. Song Zhong

Secretary General of the Chinese Olympic Committee.

Mr. Song was born on 15th May 1923 at Shandong. He is a high level civil servant in the Chinese government.

### Mr. He Zhenliang

Member of the IOC in China.

Mr. He was born on 29th December 1929 at Shag Yu in the province of Zhejiang. He is a graduate of the Aurore University of Shanghai, an Electrical Engineer, and a high ranking civil servant in the Chinese government. He had been Secretary General of the National Table Tennis Association and is now a member of the Permanent Committee of the National Sports Federation of China and the Executive Board of the COC Mr. He is an excellent amateur sportsman, with an interest in many sports, of which his favourites are table tennis, swimming, football and tennis.

### ▼ Pr. Ma Yuehan



*Song Zhong  
Secretary General*

### Professor Tung Shou-Yi

Member of the IOC from 1947 to 1958.

Professor Tuna was born in 1895. An eclectic sportsman, he was first captain, then coach of the national basketball team from 1934 to 1936, during which time he took part in the Olympic Games in this capacity. He was an international referee for FIBA in 1935, Secretary General of the Chinese delegation to the Olympic Games in 1948 and also one of those in charge of the Chinese delegation at Helsinki four years later.

He studied for two years at Springfield College in Massachusetts (USA). A physical education teacher, he became Director of the YMCA Institute of Physical Education at Tien Tsin. In 1944, he obtained the post of Secretary General of the China National Amateur Athletic Federation, which carried out the functions of the Chinese Olympic Committee and had its headquarters at Nanking Mr. Tung was to settle in Beijing. He was elected vice-President of the COC, and later resigned from the IOC in 1958 He died on 13th June 1978.

### Dr. H. H. Kung

Member of the IOC from 1939 to 1955.

Dr. Kung was very rarely present at IOC contests He moved to New York in 1949 and disappeared finally from the IOC records in 1955

### Professor Ma Yuehan

President of the COC and of the National Sports Federation of China up until 1966.

Professor Ma was born in October 1882 and died in October 1966.

He was a graduate of St. John's University of Shanghai, and visited the United States three times to complete his studies at Springfield College where he qualified as a teacher

### Shen Chia-Ming,

was born on 11th July 1916. He was President of the CTOC from 1975 until his death in 1982, and vice-President from 1970 to 1975. He was also President of the Pan-Ocean Forest Development Co. Ltd., President of the National Ski Association and a member of the judicial commission of the International Ski Federation.

## Henry H. Hsu

Member of the IOC since 1970 and President of the CTOC from 1973 to 1975.

Mr. Hsu was born on 6th December 1912 at Canton. Captain of the naval vessel "Yung Ning" in 1945, and a graduate of the Canton Naval Stool and the University of Shanghai. he based his civil career on hotel and airline admnistration and financial investment. With his wide sporting interests, he captured many honours in the Far Eastern Games in volleyball, football and swimming events. As a sports administrator he presided over several football, volleyball, swimming, yachting and basketball associations.



Dr. H. H. Kung\*,  
from 1939 to 1955

## Cheng Wei-Yuan

President of the CTOC since 1983.

Mr Cheng was born on 20th January 1913 As a regular soldier, he rose to the highest ranks. He was President of the Football Association from 1972 to 1975, and of the Parachute Association from 1975 to 1961. A member of the CTOC since 1972, he has also presided over the Sports Federations since 1962.



Dr. Tung Shouyi\*,  
from 1947 to 1958

## Peter B. T. Chang

Vice-President and Secretary General of the CTOC since 1983.

Mr. Chang was born on 16th December 1912 An excellent tennis-player, he coached the team selected for the 1956 Asian Games. He was President of the Basketball Referees Association from 1945 to 1946, Secretary General of the Tennis Association from 1956 to 1960. member of the CTOC from 1960 to 1976. Former President of the Tapa Rotary Club.



Mr. Henry H. Hsu,  
since 1970.

## IOC MEMBERS IN CHINA SINCE 1922



Dr. Wang Chenting\*,  
from 1922 to 1957



Ig. He Zhenliang\*,  
since 1981.