

# Bobsleigh and Olympism



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*In 1893, on the road between St. Moritz and Celerina, the Reverend Hofmann, director of tourism, proved to be an able braker.*



*In 1984, on the run at Sarajevo, the fastest bobslers were present for the Olympic competition. Shown are Hans Metzler and Anton Fisher (FRG).*

## Foreword



**E**ver since the first Winter Games in Chamonix, 1924, bobsleigh has been included in the programme. The sport was started by English winter holiday-makers in St. Moritz back in 1886. It quickly became an irresistible attraction for all winter sports resorts. On 23rd November 1923 representatives of four countries met in Paris to form the International Bobsleigh and Tobogganing Federation, an organization which was recognised by the IOC. The federation chose as its President the best pre-war bobber, Count Renaud de la Frégeolière.

Since 1924, with the sole exception of the 1960 Games in Squaw Valley (USA) where there was no bob run built, bobsbers have contested the highly coveted Olympic medals every four years. In 1924 and 1928 there were four and five-man competitions only. Two-man bobs appeared at Lake Placid in 1932.

The growth of the FIBT, from the original four members to the present twenty-eight (including Mexico which has recently applied for affiliation), is testament to the popularity of our high-speed sport. That this is a sport which arouses great interest is further borne out by the fact that bobsbers from fourteen countries have to date won medals in the World Championships, while competitors from ten different countries have earned Olympic medals.

It seems to me that our federation must, on the one hand, raise the calibre of participants and make the chance of success more important to all of them, and on the other hand offer the bob manufacturers and race promoters the necessary financial guarantees by entrusting them with the Championships. As with downhill skiers and ski-jumpers, the relatively small number of bobsbers reflects the enormous demands on the practice of the sport, demands which are rarely satisfied.

A successful bobber must combine great physical strenght with the moral qualities of courage and the willingness to take risks, attributes not always found together in the same person.

The fact that the FIBT is privileged enough to be featured in the "Olympic Review" gives me hope that in the future bobsbers will always have the opportunity to challenge for Olympic glory. Don't they work very hard to overcome the risks and inherent dangers that confront them ?

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "K. Kotter". The signature is fluid and cursive.

*Klaus Kotter  
President of the FIBT*

## FIBT

### General information

*Year of foundation* : 1923.

*President in office* : Klaus Kotter \* (FRG).

*Secretary general in office* : Ermanno Gardella \* (ITA).

*Treasurer in office* : Heinz Pezzei (AUT).

*Address* : Via Piranesi 44/b, 20137 Milan, Italy.

*Telephone*: (39.2) 719 751.

*Telex* : 310161 Fisi I.



*E. Gardella,  
Secretary General*



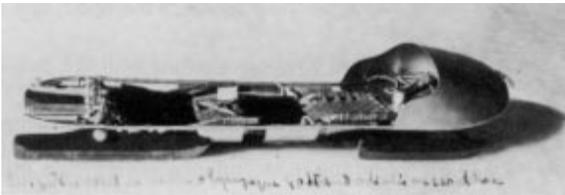
*H. Pezzei,  
Treasurer*

\* See biographical notes

## Part I

### History

#### Origins of bobsleigh and the setting up of the FIBT



Bobsleigh appeared in the Swiss Alps towards the end of the 19th Century as the result of a desire to make the sledge and luge go faster. It was originated by the British who were ever in search of new sporting sensations.

In about 1875, they dreamed up the Skeleton<sup>1</sup>, a sophisticated sledge with a sliding seat

which enabled the rider to go down lying on his stomach, while at the same time varying the centre of gravity by shifting his weight.

<sup>1</sup> This individual sport, which was to come under the FIBT, appeared twice at the Olympic Winter Games – in 1928 and 1948

The first bob was made in 1886. Count Renaud de la Frégeolière \*, who was to become the father of the FIBT, described this contraption thus : *"A rustic plank with at least half a dozen crude bits of wood across it, was laid over two long sledges. These pieces of wood were for the passengers' feet. The front sledge, mounted on a pivot, provided the steering by means of two strings. At the back, a primitive harrow acted as a brake. This basic model was gradually improved until it became the iron or wooden version, that precision mechanism we see in use today."*

Wilson Smith, an Englishman, had designed this first model, which impressed Christian Mathis, the St. Moritz blacksmith. Urged on by a Mr. Townsend, United States Ambassador in various European cities, Mathis made improvements to this, the first "bob".

The bobbings began by using the fairly high-banked roads at Davos, St. Moritz, Les Avants-sur-Montreux, Leysin, Mürren, Engelberg... Clubs were established. The St. Moritz Club, formed in 1896 by Lord Francis Helmsley (GBR), remains to this day the most famous. Günther Sachs has been President since 1969.

It was later felt that runs were essential. They appeared at St. Moritz from 1903 onwards, with a 1600 m link between le Parc Badrutt and Celerina, and at Davos, where the Schatzalp, with its 51 bends, was built in 1907.

It was in that same year that the first German Championships took place in Oberhof. The Hofmann-Giusti team won the cup offered by the Crown Prince William of Prussia, himself a fervent follower of bobsleigh. Clubs then appeared in France, Austria and Romania. The Garmisch Club was founded in 1911.

In 1913 the "ventre à terre" bob appeared, complete with steering wheel. It joined the many different models which then existed. Count Renaud de la Frégeolière \* comments : *"up until 1924, I spent nine winters in the mountains, and used a dozen types of bob, wooden ones, iron ones, bobs with steering wheels, with strings, bobs from 0 m 41 to 0 m 43 or 0 m 67 wide, weighing from 30 to 250 kg, for two to five team members, on ten different runs."* "There were as many clubs as there were rules", he adds ! While the organisers of the international winter sports week (to be recognised by the IOC as the first Winter Games) planned to include a bobsleigh event on the programme, they were concerned by the wide range of rules. The Secretary General of the Games, Frantz Reichel, felt it necessary to have a clear set of rules, recognised by all. An International Federation was essential.

The IOC, in the course of its XXII<sup>nd</sup> Session in Rome, suggested such an organisation on the initiative, in particular of future President Edström (SWE) and his colleague Johan T. Sverre (NOR). The French Olympic Committee was thus asked to arrange a constitutional meeting. This took place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1923. Attending this meeting were

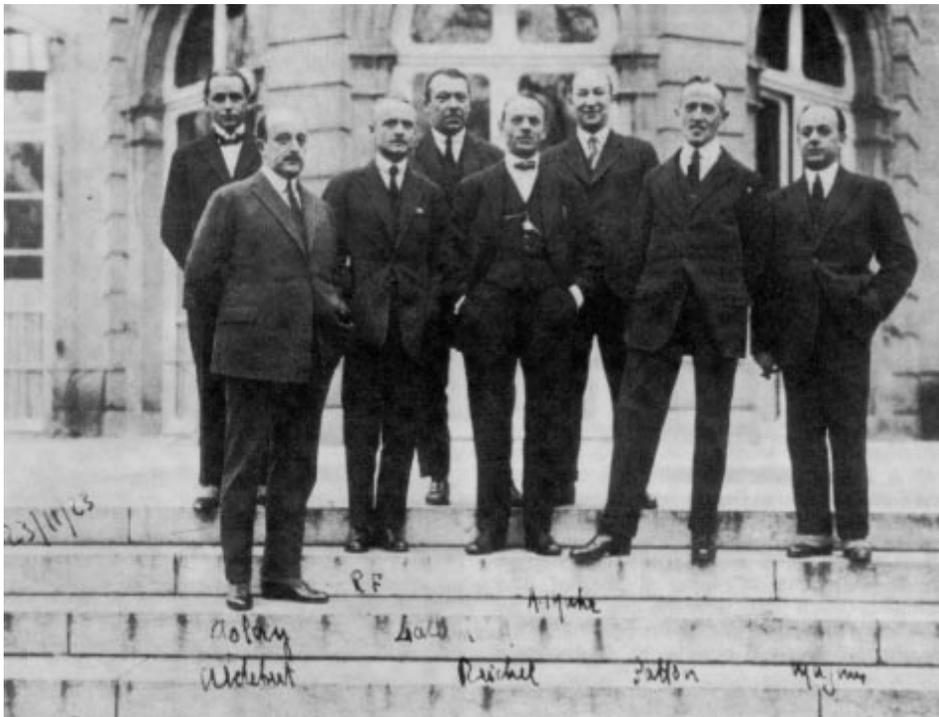


In 1899.

Allan H. Muhr, a football international, who represented the United States, Major B.M. Patton from Britain, Pierre Golay from Switzerland, and the Frenchmen, Frantz Reichel representing Canada, Jules Magnus, Secretary of the Congress, A. Lalleman, consultant, and Renaud de la Frégeolière \*. The latter was elected President of the new body, the FIBT.

## Subsequent development through Congresses

Paris, the 23rd November 1923 - Foundation of the FIBT, from left to right : Golay, Aldebert, Count de la Frégeolière, Lalleman, Reichel, Muhr, Patton, Magnus.



**I. 23rd November 1923 - Paris (FRA) :**  
8 delegates from 4 countries

– Constituent Congress of the FIBT

**II. 31st January 1924 - Chamonix (FRA) :**  
6 delegates and 8 assistants from 6 countries

– Adoption of Rules.

– First Olympic Competition : 4-man bob event.

**III. 8th May 1926 - Paris (FRA) : 6 delegates from 6 countries**

– Setting up of European Championships, the first of which was to take place in 1927.

– Adoption of Skeleton Rules in use at St. Moritz.

**IV. 11th February 1927 - St-Moritz (SUI) :**  
5 delegates and 1 assistant from 5 countries

– Present are IOC Vice-President, Baron Godfrey de Blonay, and the IOC Member, Alberto Bonacossa.

– Adoption of the definition of “amateurism” as set by the Olympic Congress in Prague, 1925.

– A second Vice-President to be nominated to represent the United States of America.

– It is decided to organise European Championships for the two-man bob every two years. These to be considered as World Championships as American bobs will participate.

**V. 16th February 1928 - St. Moritz : 13 delegates and 7 assistants from 13 countries**

- The five-man bob, "ventre à terre", style, replaces the four-man bob on the Olympic programme.
- Appearance of the steering wheel which replaces steering by cords. A return to the use of cords was to be made in the "Fifties".

**VI. 7th February 1929 - Davos (SUI) : 20 delegates and 2 assistants from 10 countries**

- Count L. de Pimodan (FRA) appointed Secretary of the FIBT.
- Metal and wooden bobsleighs to be admitted to the World Championships of 1930, with teams of 4 or 5, maximum weight limit 220 kg-
- "Ventre à terre" style banned for FIBT and national Championships.
- Compulsory helmets introduced.

**VII. 25th January 1930 - Caux (SUI) : 9 delegates and 1 assistant from 9 countries**

- World Championships to be held annually. The Olympic title continues to have the right to the World title.
- Teams to be limited to four members, five-man bob disappears.

**VIII. 31st January 1931 - Oberhof (GER): 11 delegates from 11 countries**

- Confirmation of the banning of the "ventre à terre" style, for safety reasons.
- The first "Feiererabend" bob appears, named after its builder, Carl Feiererabend (SUI), whose son Fritz was to dominate competitions from 1945 to 1955.

**IX. 10th February 1932 - St. Moritz (SUI) : 6 delegates from 6 countries**

- Championships for the two-man and the four-man bob to be held from now on, in principle, on the same site.
- It is accepted in principle that women may drive a two-man bob and be included in the middle of a four-man team. However a final decision is to be made at the Congress of 1933.

**X. 4th February 1933 - Chamonix (FRA) : 7 delegates and 2 assistants from 7 countries**

- It is decided to standardize the width between the runners to 0,67 m.
- The warming up of runners before competitions is banned.

- The Congress decides to forbid the participation of women in FIBT events.

**XI. 3rd February 1934 - Engelberg (SUI) : 7 delegates and 3 assistants from 7 countries**

**XII. 14th February 1935 - St. Moritz (SUI) : 9 delegates and 1 assistant representing 9 countries**

- As the result of a request by the President of the "Federation Internationale de Luge", it is decided to incorporate this federation as a "special section" of the FIBT. The President of the FIBT to ask the IOC for the introduction of a Luge event at the Winter Olympic Games in Garmisch.
- The distances between the points of the front runners and the ends of the rear runners to be fixed : 380 cm for the four-man bob and 270 cm for the two-man bob.

**XIII. 13th February 1936 - Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER) : 13 delegates and 1 assistant from 13 countries**

- Avery Brundage attends the Congress as representative of the USA.

**XIV. 10th February 1937 - St. Moritz (SUI) : 11 delegates from 11 countries**

- The minimum width of runners to be 8 mm ; the radius of the runner bend, which comes into contact with the track, to be no less than 4 mm.

**XV. 29th January 1938 - Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER) : 9 delegates and 5 assistants from 9 countries**

- The minimum width of runners to be : 10 mm (radius of 5 mm for the part coming into contact with the ice) for the four-man bob ; and 8 mm (radius of 4 mm for the part coming into contact with the ice) for the two-man bob.

**XVI. 8th February 1939 - St. Moritz (SUI) : 10 delegates and 4 assistants from 10 countries**

- A new model of bobsleigh, built in Norway, appears in the World Championships in St. Moritz.
- Weight limit to be 165 kg for the two-man bob, and 230 kg for the four-man bob.

**XVII. 7th February 1947 - St. Moritz (SUI) : 8 delegates from 8 countries**

- It is decided to retain the flying start and the handles needed to push the bob.

– The use of spikes or nails on shoes worn by team members pushing the bob is strictly forbidden.

**XVIII. 6th February 1948 - St. Moritz (SUI) :**  
10 delegates representing 11 countries

– The Italian “Podar” bobs, equipped with a protecting hood for the pilot, gradually replace the “Feierabends”.

**XIX. 4th February 1950 - Cortina d’Ampezzo (ITA) :** 10 delegates representing 11 countries

**XX. 27th January 1951 - Alpe d’Huez (FRA) :**  
10 delegates from 10 countries

**XXI. 21st February 1952 - Oslo (NOR):**  
10 delegates from 10 countries

– As proposed by the Italian Association, it is decided to organize, as from 1953, European Junior Championships.

– The weight of team members is limited to 200 kg for two-man bob, and 400 kg for four-man bob.

**XXII. 30th January 1953 - Garmisch-Partenkirchen (FRG) :** 8 delegates representing 9 countries

– Request to include the “luge” in the programme of the Olympic Winter Games is submitted to the IOC.

**XXIII. 29th January 1954 - Cortina d’Ampezzo (ITA) :** 11 delegates representing 12 countries

– The weight limit for two-man bob team members increased from 200 kg to 210 kg. The weights of the bobs are unchanged : 165 kg for two-man bob, and 230 kg for four-man bob.

**XXIV. 29th January 1955 - St. Moritz (SUI) :**  
12 delegates representing 13 countries

– The delegate from Czechoslovakia reports that in his country there are women interested in bobsleigh. The Congress repeats that female competitors are forbidden in international competitions.

**XXV. 2nd February 1956 - Cortina d’Ampezzo (ITA) :** 15 delegates from 15 countries

– New runs to have bends with a minimum radius of 14 m.

– Creation of a Technical Committee with two sub-committees : a “Subcommittee for Material” and the other a “Subcommittee for Bob Runs”.

**XXVI. 8th February 1957 - St. Moritz (SUI) :**  
13 delegates representing 14 countries

– The minimum thickness of runners set as follows : 12 mm for two-man bob, and 14 mm for four-man bob.

– “Podar” starts studying a standard bobsled.

**XXVII. 31st January 1958 - Garmisch-Partenkirchen (FRG) :** 12 delegates representing 13 countries

– The new articles of Association of the FIBT are approved, and come into force immediately.

**XXVIII. 13th February 1959 - St. Moritz (SUI) :**  
12 delegates from 12 countries

– The organizers of the Winter Games at Squaw Valley (USA) refuse to build a bob run, and in 1960, for the first time, bobsleigh does not appear on the programme of the Olympic Winter Games.

**XXIX. 22nd January 1960 - Cortina d’Ampezzo (ITA) :** 13 delegates from 13 countries

– Amilcare Rotta\* is elected President of the FIBT, as successor to Renaud de la Frégeollière\*, who retires.

– As proposed by the Technical Committee, the Congress approves the size of runners, as follows : two-man bob : front runners minimum 93 cm, rear runners minimum 115 cm ; minimum thickness of runners 8 mm with 4 mm radius for the portion in contact with the ice. Four-man bob : front runners minimum length 104 mm, rear runners minimum length 127 mm ; minimum thickness of runners 12 mm with 6 mm radius for the portion in contact with the ice.

**XXX. 19th January 1962 - Garmisch-Partenkirchen (FRG) :** 12 delegates from 12 countries

– Plans of the new bobsleigh run at Hammarstrand (SWE) are approved.

**XXXI. 25th January 1963 - Igls - Innsbruck (AUT) :** 12 delegates from 12 countries

– Inauguration of the new bob runs at Cervinia (ITA) and at Hammarstrand (SWE).

**XXXII. 30th January 1964 - Igls - Innsbruck (AUT) :** 14 delegates from 14 countries

**XXXIII. 29th January 1965 - St. Moritz (SUI) :**  
11 delegates from 11 countries

– Change in competition rules for the two-man bob with respect to weight limits. Weight of the bob itself is increased by 10 kg to 175 kg. Maximum weight of the two team

members is reduced by 10 kg to 200 kg. Combined weight therefore remains unchanged at 375 kg.

**XXXIV. 1st February 1966 - Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA) : 13 delegates from 13 countries**

- Rules for competition relating to the weight of the bobsled and of team members is changed again, as follows : the total weight of bob and team members shall not exceed : 375 kg for two-man bob, and 630 kg for four-man bob. There is no longer any separation of the weights of the bob and its members.

**XXXV. 10th February 1967 - Alpe d'Huez (FRA) : 11 delegates from 11 countries**

**XXXVI. 9th February 1968 - Grenoble (FRA) : 15 delegates from 15 countries**

- Opening at Königssee (FRG) of the first artificially iced bob track

**XXXVII. 21st February 1969 - Lake Placid (USA) : 14 delegates from 14 countries**

- It is emphasized that the FIBT is an "amateur sports" Federation, and that bobbers must meet the amateurs' conditions set by the IOC.
- The Japanese Delegate reports that the Mt. Teine bob track will be opened in Winter 1970 and used for the Japanese Bobsleigh Championships.

**XXXVIII. 30th January 1970 - St. Moritz (SUI) : 15 delegates and 8 assistants from 15 countries**

**XXXIX. 20th January 1971 - St. Vincent (ITA) : 15 delegates and 6 assistants from 15 countries**

- The various changes in the Articles of Association and General Rules for competition are approved, as proposed by the Committee appointed the previous year. Particular attention is paid to runners, which may not be warmed up, nor "waxed".

**XL. 6th February 1972 - Sapporo (JPN) : 17 delegates and 7 assistants from 17 countries**

- The Rumanian delegate reports that work is starting on the reconstruction of the bob run at Sinaia. The bob run will be equipped with an artificial icing plant and flood lighting.

**XLI. 12th February 1973 - Lake Placid (USA) : 14 delegates and 5 assistants from 14 countries**

- As proposed by the Association of the German Federal Republic it is decided to change the General Rules of competition which stipulate that the bob run must be at least 1,500 m in length. The Congress notes the recent trend of building artificial runs suitable for both bobsleigh and luge. It therefore agrees that there shall be no less than 1,200 m of artificial track, with the option of increasing this to 1,500 m by adding a portion of naturally iced track at the top of the run.

This change is aimed at minimising the cost of an artificial run, and so that future organizers of the Winter Games who may not have the facilities at their disposal, do not have to construct two separate runs.

**XLII. 23rd November 1973 - Paris (FRA) : 16 delegates and 6 assistants from 16 countries**

- Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the foundation of the FIBT. The first President, Renaud de la Frégeolière \*, now Honorary President of the FIBT, attends the celebration. This 1973 Extraordinary Congress, replaces the 1974 Ordinary Congress.
- The General Rules for competition are amended with regard to runners. Runners are to be fitted to the bob 20 minutes before the competition, and are to be left in the open air.

**XLIII. 21st February 1975 - Cervinia (ITA) : 17 delegates and 3 assistants from 17 countries**

Bert Isatitsch, President of the FIL, is invited to attend the Congress. He intends to seal the agreement reached between FIBT and FIL for future co-operation, especially in the construction of artificial combined tracks.

- The Agreement is to be put to the test at Igls, where it is decided to construct a combined track for the 1976 Olympic Winter Games.
- Decision to introduce an International Licence for bobsleighters – to specify physical fitness, insurance coverage, and blood group.

**XLIV. 5th February 1976 - Innsbruck (AUT) : 19 delegates from 19 countries**

- The following Vice-Presidents are elected, with specific tasks as laid down in the new Articles of Association : Marcel Leclef (BEL) is entrusted with international relations ; Petre Focseneanu (ROM) to be concerned with sporting matters : organization of competitions, calendar, training of judges, appointment of juries; Klaus Kotter (FRG)



*50th Anniversary of the FIBT : Presidents de la Frégeolière and Rotta.*

entrusted with financial and legal matters, and Luciano Galli (ITA) entrusted with technical problems arising from bob runs and bobsleds.

- The American John J. Fell is appointed representative of the American Continent on the Executive Committee of the FIBT. The Japanese Eikichi Aoki is appointed representative of Asian countries.
- A legal body (Court of Arbitration) is introduced to resolve any disputes that may arise.
- The new bob track at Sinaia (ROM) is opened.

**XLV. 4th February 1977 - St-Moritz (SUI) :**  
18 delegates from 18 countries

- Thirty-two official FIBT Judges qualify as a result of the first training course.
- A mixed FIBT-FIL Commission is set up to encourage the construction of combined bob/luge tracks.

**XLVI. 10th February 1978 - Lake Placid (USA) :** 16 delegates from 16 countries

- As a result of the serious illness that prevented President Rotta \* from carrying out his duties, the Congress decides to appoint the Vice-President, Klaus Kotter, as interim President.
- The practice of "skeleton", reintroduced at the opening of the combined track at Igls, to be followed and encouraged.
- New General Rules for competition are adopted.
- The upper weight limit allowed (team included) for the two-man bob is increased from 375 to 385 kg.

**XLVII. 23rd February 1979 - Berchtesgaden (FRG) :** 20 delegates from 20 countries

- As proposed by the French Association, the international practice of "bob on the road" is authorized, to encourage countries which do not possess bob tracks.
- Setting up of a Solidarity Committee with the task of promoting the development of the sport in countries which do not have bob runs, encouraging training courses for coaches, reinforcing the role of the "Bobsleigh Schools" and organizing exclusive

training courses for competitors from countries which have not won medals at bob championships in the previous five years.

#### **XLVIII. 14th February 1980 - Lake Placid (USA) : 19 delegates from 19 countries**

- Rotta retires. Klaus Kotter (FRG) is elected President for the period 1980-84. John Fell (USA) is elected Vice-President entrusted with international relations ; Heinz Pezzei (AUT) is elected Vice-President entrusted with financial and legal matters; Petre Focseneanu (ROM) is re-elected Vice-President entrusted with sporting activity ; Luciano Galli (ITA) is re-elected Vice-President for technical matters.
- The French Delegate reports on the activity of bobsledding on the road, which has been most successful.
- Austria proposes European Skeleton Championships.
- Bobsleigh Schools operate at Igls (AUT), St. Moritz (SUI), and Winterberg (FRG).

#### **XLIX. 30th January 1981 - Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA) : 20 delegates from 20 countries**

- The General Rules for competition are further amended, with regard to the bobsled. The use of materials which are subject to "cracking" is forbidden in the manufacture of the bobsled.
- It is decided that the Executive Committee of the FIBT can operate as laid down in doping controls at FIBT Events, Rule 27 of the "Olympic Charter"
- For the first time a representative of the USSR, now affiliated to the FIBT, attends the Congress.

#### **L. 5th February 1982 - St. Moritz (SUI) : 18 delegates from 18 countries**

- New "International Rules" are adopted. In drawing up the International Rules, a particular study was made of the bobsled and the bob runs in the interest of competitors.

#### **LI. 18th February 1983 - Lake Placid (USA) : 15 delegates from 15 countries**

- The Technical Committee is asked to study ways in which the manufacturing costs of the bobsled can be restricted. The aim is for a "standard" bob.

#### **LII. 5th July 1984 - Calgary (CAN) : 20 delegates from 20 countries**

- The Congress wants to establish a "World Cup" committee to draw up ad hoc rules, and to produce a calendar.
- The projected combined bob and luge track, to be built in Calgary for the 1988 Olympic Winter Games, is approved. The run is to be situated on the outskirts of Calgary, and will be 1,500 m long.
- The Technical Committee's proposals on a standard bob are accepted. However, those bobs which are already being used in international competition will be allowed until 31st March 1985. Thereafter, only "standard" bobs will be permitted.

#### **Successive Presidents**

1923 - 1960 : Count Renaud de la Frégeolière \* (FRA) ;  
1960 - 1980 : Amilcare Rotta \* (ITA) ;  
Since 1980 : Klaus Kotter \* (FRG).

#### **Successive Secretaries General**

1960 - 1972 : Cesare Bonvini \* (ITA) ;  
Since 1972 : Ermanno Gardella \* (ITA).

## Biographical Notes

### **Count Renaud de la Frégeolière, Founding President of the FIBT from 1923 to 1960, Honorary President up until his death on 16th April 1981.**

Born 29th April 1886 at Angers (FRA). Made his first bobsleigh descent in 1907 at Leysin (SUI). From then on he sped down all the runs, collecting trophies and records. Co-author in 1913 with the founder of the International Ice-Hockey League, his fellow-countryman Jules Magnus, of an encyclopedic work on the Winter Games, he strove to bring together the various clubs and standardize the rules for races. While already holding the office of President of the FIBT he hoped to take part in 1924 in the events which were to become the first Winter Games on the run at Chamonix, having been one of those responsible for its construction. However, a training injury prevented this. During his term of office he judged 50 world events, ten of which led to Olympic titles, and he authorized and presided over 29 congresses.

### **Almicare Rotta (ITA), President of the FIBT from 1960 to 1978 and Honorary President until his death on 17th August 1981.**

Born 1st November 1911 at Dovera (ITA). Italian champion in the four-man bob, he also practised rowing, boxing and fencing with success. President of the national bobsleigh commission from 1952 to 1960 he became, according to some, the saviour of bobsleigh since he took charge of the organization of the 1960 world championships at Cortina d'Ampezzo to replace the Olympic events which could not take place at Squaw Valley (USA), where the organizers refused to build the necessary run.

He was a member of the Tripartite Commission of the International Olympic Committee from 1974 to 1976, when he was struck down by illness. However he bravely carried on in office until 1978.

### **Klaus Kotter (FRG), President of the FIBT since 1980.**

Born 27th May 1934 at Prien am Chiemsee (GER). A tax consultant, he became treasurer

of the German Bobsleigh and Luge Federation and an influential member of the top sports organizations in his country. He was Olympic attache for the German National Olympic Committee for the 1976 Winter Games which took place at Innsbruck, and in the same year he became Vice-President of the FIBT. Juridical and financial matters were entrusted to him. Two years later, when ill-health prevented President Rotta from carrying out his duties to the full, he became interim President until the 1980 Congress at which he was confirmed as President of the FIBT by election.

### **Albert Mayer (SUI), member of the IOC from 1946 until his death in 1968. vice-President of the FIBT from 1930 to 1960, Count Renaud de la Frégeolière's right-hand man.**

Born 1890, in Montreux (SUI). An army officer, he became a Major and Syndic (Mayor) of his home town. He was a member of the Swiss Olympic Committee from 1924 onwards, as delegate for rink hockey, and from 1932, for bobsleigh.



### **Cesare Bonvini (ITA), Secretary General of the FIBT from 1960 to 1972, then Honorary Member.**

Secretary General of the Italian Federation, he was a top class technical expert and the Italian school owes him much of its success.

### **Ermanno Gardella (ITA), Secretary General of the FIBT since 1972.**

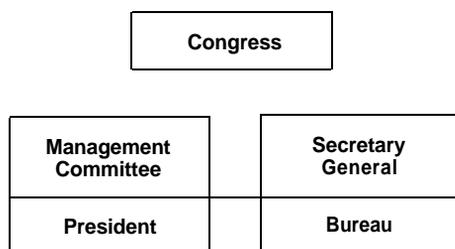
Born in Milano (ITA) on 11th April 1942. Secretary of the "Bob Department" of the Italian Winter Sports Association. He fulfilled the duties of Secretary General, when Mr. Bonvini retired officially, and was then appointed Secretary General.

## The Administration of the FIBT

### Aims

To promote bobsleigh and the skeleton bob as leisure pursuits and more especially, as competition sports.

### ● Organizational Chart



● **The Congress**, the federation's supreme body, meets annually, usually wherever the world championships or the Olympic Games are taking place.

● **The Management Committee** is made up of the President, four Vice-Presidents and the Secretary General. Each Vice-President receives a specific task : one for international and public relations, another for legal, juridical and financial matters, a third for the organization of competitions and the fourth for problems of sports technique such as the security and the health of the athletes, the equipment and the construction of runs.

● The **bureau** of the FIBT is run by the Secretary General, who works full-time.

● **An arbitration court** of five members, elected by the Congress for two years and not members of the Management Committee, has the task of resolving any possible disputes.

### ● Member Federations

1924: 7 <sup>1</sup>	1952: 12	1972: 17
1928: 13	1956: 16	1976: 21
1932: 15	1960: 17	1980: 25
1936: 17	1964: 17	1984: 28
1948: 11	1968: 17	

<sup>1</sup> AUT, BEL, CAN, FRA, GBR, SUI, USA.

### The 28 affiliated federations

#### NOC<sup>1</sup> Affiliation

FRG <sup>2</sup>	1950
AND	1975
ARG	1927/1948
AUS	1975
AUT	1924
BEL	1924
BUL	1984
CAN	1923
CHN	1984
ESP	1927/1955
USA	1923
FRA	1923
GBR	1923
ITA	1924
JPN	1938
LIE	1936/1953
MEX	in process
HOL	1930/1978
POL	1935/1953
GDR <sup>2</sup>	1973
ROM	1924
SWE	1950
SUI	1923
TPE	1975
TCH	1929
URS	1980
VEN	1977
YUG	1979

Three federations were affiliated but are now retired : DEN (affiliated in 1948), LUX (affiliated in 1926), NOR (affiliated in 1939).

<sup>1</sup> according to the listing in the Olympic directory.

<sup>2</sup> Germany : 1926.

## Members of the Management Committee in 1984

*PT:* Klaus Kotter\* (FRG)

*VPTs:* Robert H. Storey (CAN), Heinz Pezzei (AUT), Martin Kilian (GDR), Luciano Galli (ITA).  
*SG :* Ermanno Gardella\* (ITA)



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1. R.H. Storey
2. M. Kilian
3. L. Galli

*Press-Information :* Werner Baumgartner (SUI)  
*Ms:* Nagamitsu Nishio (JPN, for Asia), Reinhold Saischek (AUT, for "skeleton"), Jacques Christaud (FRA, for "bob on the road").

*Accounts Auditors:* Baron Eduard von Falz-Fein (LIE) and Emilio Pedrazzini (ITA).

*Members of the Arbitration Court:* Boerje Blomdahl (SWE), Erwin Brazerol (SUI), Jacques Christaud (FRA), Mike Freeman (GBR), Kurt Loserth (AUT).

### Financing of the Federation

The Federation is financed as follows :

- annual affiliation fees payable by member association : Sfrs 300.-
- share of TV rights for World Championships and World Cup events
- share of proceeds from TV rights for Olympic Winter Games.

### Training and improvement of technical officials

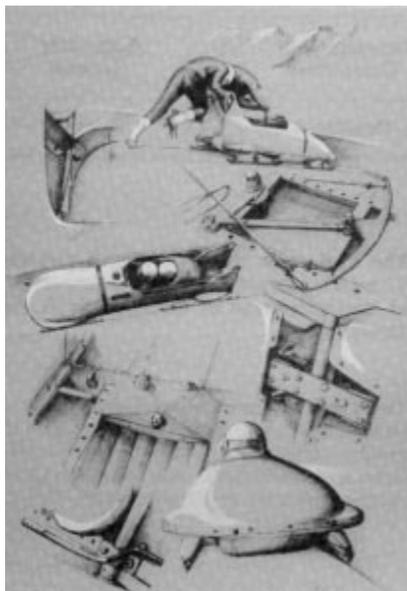
Training courses are organized periodically for candidates as "Race Judges" and technicians

employed in bob tracks and involved in the organization of competitions.

Refresher courses are organized for "Race Judges", who already hold the FIBT Licence.

During World Championships and other outstanding events, two assistants to the Jury are appointed : they are chosen from among Judges with less experience, so that these neo-judges may acquire the experience of "Seniors".

Particular attention is paid to the training of coaches and technical experts of those countries who do not have tracks, or have no tradition in the sport of bobsledding. For these technical experts training courses are conducted by the best trainers. Practical courses with athletes are also organized, during Summer training, and on the track.



### Principal FIBT Publications

The FIBT bulletin, the «*FIBT Review*», has appeared twice a year since 1982, before and after the competition season, under the authority of Werner Baumgartner (SUI).

A bulletin was published in the past : 30 issues appeared between 1960 and 1980.

## The Competitions

### Technical Aspects of Bobsleigh<sup>1</sup>

Bobsleigh competitions take place on either artificially iced tracks (Lake Placid, Igls, Königssee) or on runs dug from natural ice (St. Moritz, Cervinia, Sinaia). The tracks are between 1,200 m (Königssee) and 1,600 m (Cortina, St. Moritz) in length. Competitions consist of several training descents (a minimum of 6 runs in three days, or in the case of the Championships, a minimum of 8 runs in four days), a day of rest and then four competition descents in two days. The winner is the team which totals the least time after four descents. These times are expressed in minutes, seconds and hundredths of seconds.

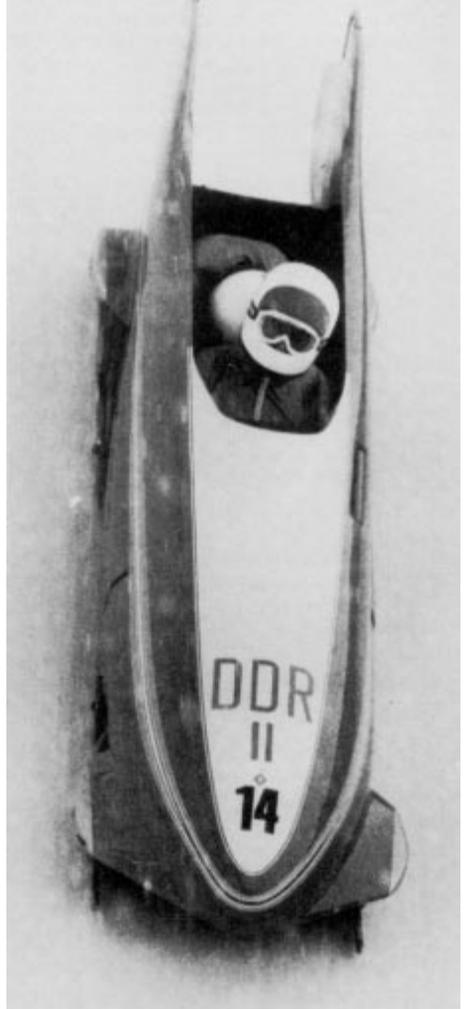
In general there are two bobsleigh competitions : the two-man bob and the four-man bob. Minor competitions have only one discipline on the programme.

“Two-man bob” involves teams of two : the “pilot” and the “brakeman”. “Four-man bob” involves two “inside” team members in addition to the pilot and brakeman.

There is a drawn starting order for both training and competition descents. The starting order for the first run is reversed for the third. Teams start the second and fourth runs in reverse order from the middle of the starting list of the first run. This ensures that no team starts in the same position twice. No team is thus favoured by track conditions.

Teams get ready in the starting area in numerical order. When the starter signals, the team members lead the bob to the starting line, which is marked by a wooden beam. The bob is then put on rails, which are dug into the ice for the first 15 metres, in order to prevent the bob from skidding off line.

Team members are in position : the pilot, standing next to the driver's seat, holds his push-bar; the two inside members (in Four-man bob), one on each side of the bob, hold their push-bars ; the brakeman, standing at the rear of the bob, has two handles and rests his feet on the starting beam (this imitates the starting blocks used by athletes).



*Sarajevo 1984 : W. Hoppe and D. Schauerhammer (GDR).*

The start is signalled by a green light. The team must begin their descent within sixty seconds. The team then uses all its strength and coordination to get the bob away to a good start. After fifteen metres the bob goes through the first photoelectric cell and the clock starts. The bob then enters the first section of the run – about 50 metres long and with an average gradient of about 2 %. It is at this stage that the team members get into the bob, starting with the pilot and working backwards.

As soon as he is seated, the pilot takes hold of the steering handles and attempt to keep the bob on the ideal line. It needs hardly be said that the most direct course will result in the fastest time. The other members of the team sit hunched up and as low as possible to offer less wind resistance and have a better weight distribution thus making the bob more stable.

After the bob goes through the finishing line, the brakeman comes into action. This final part of the track is uphill in order to help slow down the bob. The team and the bob are then returned to the start where they wait to repeat the whole process. The third and fourth competition runs are held the following day. This is mainly for safety reasons as the bobs subject themselves to extreme pressure and stress within a very short time period when they go down the run. Even if the maximum speed achieved does not exceed 120-130 km/hour, the bobs will on some bends experience a centrifugal force of up to 4G.

The ideal bob team is made up of a good driver and strong team members who are natural sprinters. It is really up to the other team members to give the bob the required flying start.

### The Bobsled itself

Over the years the bobsled and its mechanics have developed remarkably. There were wooden bobs at the turn of the century; we now have very sophisticated machines which have been subject to study and research by leading car manufacturers and aeronautical organizations.

In order to curtail the seemingly endless research for the best, which sometimes involves excessive expenditure, the FIBT has recently produced very strict rules in order to contain the ever-rising costs and to protect the poorer nations. Countries with the means to invest in technology should not be favoured.

### Approved runs

Site	Length
St. Moritz (SUI)	1500 m
Cortina d'Ampezzo * (ITA)	1600 m
Innsbruck-Igls * (AUT)	1200 m
Lake Placid * (USA)	1500 m
Königssee * (FRG)	1200 m
Cervinia (ITA)	1500 m
Sapporo (JPN)	1500 m
Marianske Lazne (TCH)	1200 m
Sinaia (ROM)	1500 m
Winterberg * (FRG)	1200 m
Oberhof * (GDR)	1100 m
Hammarstrand (SWE)	1100 m
Altenberg * (GDR)	1400 m
Sarajevo * (YUG)	1300 m

\* Artificial ice.

The regulation bobsled as it is today is made up of a number of steel quadrangles, which are arranged along the length of the bob. These make up the basic structure. The frame is cut in two and is thus articulated. The two parts are connected by a steel pin, attached at the front to a bushing, and at the back to two bearings which work against each other to enable the two parts to swivel. This half-rotation motion is aided by a number of springs which act as shock absorbers against the lumps and bumps of the track, and helps to restore the two halves to their original positions.

The rear runners are fitted on leaf springs. The front runners are also on leaf springs but are welded to the steering mechanism, which is attached to the frame by a pin. The brake at the rear of the frame is a steel comb operated by two levers. The seats and pushbars are all attached to the frame. The frame is covered with a streamline cowling of plastic.

The weight of the two-man bob including the team members shall not exceed 390 kg ; the maximum weight including the team members for the four-man bob is 630 kg.

### The run

The FIBT has for many years paid particular attention to the design and construction of new tracks, in order to preserve equality of sporting chance, maximum safety conditions and minimum costs.



*Before starting.*

The average gradient of bob runs varies between 8 % and 15 %. The bends must not be so tight that they result in a force of 4G for more than three seconds.

Bobsleigh competitions are run on three types of track : natural ice, artificially maintained ice, and combined artificial tracks (for bob, luge and skeleton).

The first type exist in places where conditions allow for natural ice (mixture of snow and water) for at least two or three months in the year. Examples are the runs at St. Moritz, Cervinia, Sinaia, Sapporo, Marianske Lazne and Hammarstrand.

Artificially iced tracks are equipped with an icing plant similar to that used for maintaining ice rinks. Examples are the runs at Lake Placid and Cortina. These were both originally natural tracks but have recently been equipped with icing plants.

Combined tracks built for both bobsleigh and luge can be found at Innsbruck-Igls, Königssee, Winterberg, Oberhof, Altenberg and Sarajevo. A similar run is at present under construction in Calgary.

*E. G.*

<sup>1</sup> Chapter written by Ermanno Gardella \*, Secretary General of the FIBT.

## Bobsleigh and the Winter Games

Bobsleigh has appeared on the programme of all the Winter Games with the exception of those organized in 1960 at Squaw Valley (USA), where it had not been possible to build a run.

### Programme

	1924	1928	1932	1936	1948	1952	1956	1960	1964 <sup>1</sup>
2-man bob			●	●	●	●	●		●
4-man bob	●		●	●	●	●	●		●
5-man bob		●							

<sup>1</sup> Without change since 1964.



Chamonix 1924, at the first Winter Games.

### Participation by team during the last four Winter Games

	Sapporo		Innsbruck		Lake Placid		Sarajevo	
	Teams *	NOC	Teams *	NOC	Teams *	NOC	Teams *	NOC
2-man bob	21	11	26	14	20	11	29	16
4-man bob	19	11	21	12	17	10	25	15

\* In the Olympic Winter Games each Federation Member may take part with up to two teams.

## List of Olympic Winners

### ● Two-man bob

- 1932 J. Hubert Stevens, Curtis P. Stevens  
(USA)  
1936 Ivan E. Brown, Alan M. Washbond  
(USA)  
1948 Felix Endrich, Friedrich Waiter (SUI)  
1952 Anderl Ostler, Lorenz Nieberl (FRG)  
1956 Lamberto dalla Costa, Giacomo Conti  
(ITA)  
1960 No run  
1964 Anthony Nash, Robin Dixon (GBR)  
1968 Eugenio Monti, Luciano de Paolis (ITA)  
1972 Wolfgang Zimmerer, Peter Utzschneider  
(FRG)  
1976 Meinhard Nehmer, Bernard  
Germeshausen (GDR)  
1980 Erich Schaeerer, Josef Benz (SUI)  
1984 Wolfgang Hoppe, Dietmar  
Schauerhammer (GDR)  
1988 –

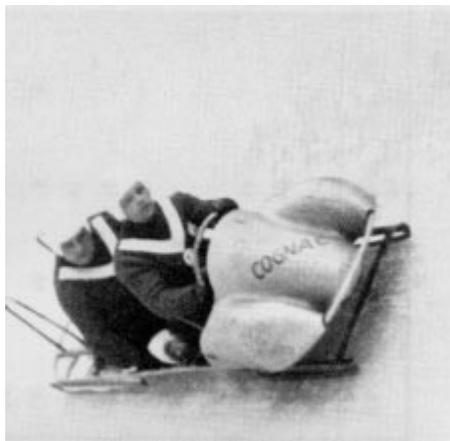
### ● Four-man bob

- 1924 Eduard Scherrer, Alfred Neveu, Alfred  
Schläppi, Heinrich Schläppi (SUI)  
1928<sup>1</sup> William Fiske, Nion Tocker, Charles  
Mason, Clifford Gray, Richard Parke  
(USA)  
1932 William Fiske, Edward Eagan, Clifford  
Gray, Jay O'Brien (USA)  
1936 Pierre Mussy, Arnold Gartmann,  
Charles Bouvier, Joseph Beerli (SUI)  
1948 Francis Tyler, Patrick Henry Martin,  
Edward Rimkus, William D'Amico  
(USA)  
1952 Anderl Ostler, Friedrich Kuhn, Lorenz  
Nieberl, Franz Kemser (FRG)  
1956 Franz Kapus, Gottfried Diener, Robert  
Alt, Heinrich Angst (SUI)  
1960 No run  
1964 Victor Emery, Douglas Anakin, John  
Emery, Peter Kirby (CAN)  
1968 Eugenio Monti, Luciano De Paolis,  
Roberto Zandonella, Mario Armano  
(ITA)  
1972 Jean Wicky, Hans Leutenegger,  
Werner Camichel, Edy Hubacher (SUI)  
1976 Meinhard Nehmer, Jochen Babok,  
Bernhard Germeshausen, Bernhard  
Lehmann (GDR)  
1980 Meinhard Nehmer, Bosdan Musiol,  
Bernhard Germeshausen, Hans-Jürgen  
Gerhardt (GDR)  
1984 Wolfgang Hoppe, Roland Wetzig,  
Dietmar Schauerhammer, Andreas  
Kirchner (GDR)  
1988 –



*1932 - Lake Placid: One of the Olympic champions in the 4-man bob was E. Eagan who received the gold medal in boxing at the 1920 Games in Antwerp.*

*1952 - Oslo : A. Ostler - L. Nieberl (FRG).*



<sup>1</sup> 5-man bob "ventre à terre"

# Participation by NOC from 1924 to 1984

NOC	1924 Chamonix	1928 St. Moritz	1932 Lake Placid	1936 Garmisch- Partenkirchen	1940 St. Moritz	1952 Oslo	1956 Cortina d'Ampezzo	1960 Squaw Valley	1964 Innsbruck	1968 Grenoble	1972 Sapporo	1976 Innsbruck	1980 Lake Placid	1984 Sarajevo
FRG	—	x <sup>1</sup>	x <sup>1</sup>	x <sup>1</sup>	—	5	10	●	9	14	14	12	12	12
ARG	—	10	—	—	5	4	—	●	4	—	—	—	—	—
AUT	—	11	2	12	—	8	9	●	9	12	12	12	12	12
CAN	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	8	6	8	9	12	9
ESP	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	—	10	—	—	—	—
USA	—	15	19	13	23	12	14	●	14	14	14	12	12	12
FRA	8	10	2	10	10	5	5	●	—	14	7	5	—	5
GBR	12	11	—	4	10	—	9	●	15	12	9	12	12	12
ITA	10	5	4	10	10	8	10	●	8	10	14	11	6	10
JPN	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	—	—	8	4	4	5
LIE	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	●	—	—	—	—	—	—
LUX	—	6	6	—	—	—	—	●	—	—	—	—	—	—
NOR	—	—	—	—	8	13	3	●	—	—	—	—	—	—
HOL	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	—	—	—	—	—	2
GDR	—	x <sup>1</sup>	x <sup>1</sup>	x <sup>1</sup>	—	—	2	●	—	—	—	8	12	12
ROM	2	10	6	12	—	—	9	●	6	6	6	8	8	6
SWE	—	—	—	—	—	9	9	●	6	6	5	5	5	5
SUI	4	4	5	13	9	12	10	●	12	10	13	12	12	12
TPF	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	—	—	—	—	—	7
TCH	—	—	—	8	4	—	—	●	—	—	—	2	—	—
URS	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	—	—	—	—	—	12
YUG	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	●	—	—	—	—	—	9

## The “skeleton” at the Winter Games

On two occasions, in 1928 and 1948, a “skeleton” event (a discipline governed by the FIBT) appeared on the programme of the Winter Games.

### List of winners

1928 - Jennison Heaton (USA)

1948 - Nino Bibbia (ITA)

### Participation by NOC

<b>NOC</b>	<b>1928</b>	<b>1948</b>	<b>NOC</b>	<b>1928</b>	<b>1948</b>
AUT	2	1	GBR	1	3
FRA	1	1	ITA	2	1
USA	1	4	SUI	2	4

▼ 1964 - Innsbruck : T. Nash - R. Dixon (GBR).



▼1936 - Garmish-Partenkirchen : P. Mussy, A. Gartmann, C. Bouvier and J. Beerli (SUI)



## The World Bobsleigh Championships

Since 1924, the Olympic events, held every four years, have been considered as the "world championships". Between celebrations of an Olympiad, the world championships have been organized every year since 1930 for the four-man bob and since 1931 for the two-man bob with rare exceptions, as can be seen from the table below.

Dates	Place	Teams		Dates	Place	Teams	
		2-man	4-man			2-man	4-man
1924	Chamonix (FRA)	–	6	1956	Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA)	20	21
1928	St-Moritz (SUI)	–	22	1957	St-Moritz (SUI)	20	15
1930	Crans-Montreux (SUI)	–	12	1958	Garmisch-Partenkirchen (FRG)	17	13
1931	Oberhof (ALL)	13	–	1959	St-Moritz (SUI)	17	13
1931	St-Moritz (SUI)	–	13	1960	Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA)	19	15
1932	Lake Placid (USA)	12	7	1961	Lake Placid (USA)	19	15
1933	Schreiberhau (ALL)	8	–	1962	Garmisch-Partenkirchen (FRG)	16	14
1934	Engelberg (SUI)	9	–	1963	Igls/Innsbruck (AUT)	21	16
1934	Garmisch-Partenkirchen (FRG)	–	10	1964	Igls/Innsbruck (AUT)	21	18
1935	Igls (AUT)	11	–	1965	St-Moritz (SUI)	18	15
1935	St-Moritz (SUI)	–	11	1966	Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA)	22	1 <sup>1</sup>
1936	Garmisch-Partenkirchen (FRG)	23	19	1967	Alpe d'Huez/Grenoble (FRA)	20	2 <sup>2</sup>
1937	Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA)	15	–	1968	Alpe d'Huez/Grenoble (FRA)	22	19
1937	St-Moritz (SUI)	–	12	1969	Lake Placid (USA)	21	16
1938	St-Moritz (SUI)	14	–	1970	St-Moritz (SUI)	24	24
1938	Garmisch-Partenkirchen (FRG)	–	8	1971	Cervinia/Breuil (ITA)	21	16
1939	St-Moritz (SUI)	16	–	1972	Sapporo (Mont Teine, JPN)	21	19
1939	Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA)	–	11	1973	Lake Placid (USA)	24	21
1947	St-Moritz (SUI)	13	9	1974	St-Moritz (SUI)	24	19
1948	St-Moritz (SUI)	16	15	1975	Cervinia (ITA)	29	23
1949	Lake Placid (USA)	7	5	1976	Innsbruck (AUT)	26	21
1950	Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA)	11	9	1977	St-Moritz (SUI)	25	18
1951	Alpe d'Huez (FRA)	15	13	1978	Lake Placid (USA)	24	21
1952	Oslo (NOR)	18	15	1979	Königssee(FRG)	27	20
1953	Garmisch-Partenkirchen (FRG)	18	13	1980	Lake Placid (USA)	20	17
1954	Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA)	14	14	1981	Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA)	29	14
1955	St-Moritz (SUI)	16	11	1982	St-Moritz (SUI)	30	25
				1983	Lake Placid (USA)	21	17
				1984	Sarajevo (YUG)	29	25

In the World Championships each Member Nation may take part with up to two teams

<sup>1</sup> Interrupted

<sup>2</sup> Cancelled because of a thaw



*1976 - Innsbruck : Zimmerer and Schumann (FRG, at left), Nehmer and Germeshausen (GDR, center), Benz and Schaerer (SUI), these six bobsleers all had a turn at being Olympic champions between 1972 and 1980.*

*1964 - Innsbruck : and S. Emery, D. Anakin and P. Kirby (CAN).*





1956 - Cortina d'Ampezzo : L. dalla Costa and Conti (ITA).

● **Two-man bob**

- 1931 Hanns Killian, Sebastian «Wastl» Huber (ALL)  
 1932 J. Hubert Stevens, Curtis P. Stevens (USA)  
 1933 Alexandru Papana, Dumitru Hubert (ROM)  
 1934 Alexandru Frim, Vasile Dumitrescu (ROM)  
 1935 Reto Capadrutt, Emil Diener (SUI)  
 1936 Ivan E. Brown, Alan M. Washbond (USA)  
 1937 Frederic J. McEnvoy, B. H. Black (GBR)  
 1938 Bibo Fischer, Rolf Thielecke (GBR)  
 1939 baron René Lundnen, J. Coops (BEL)  
 1947 Fritz Feierabend, Stephan Waser (SUI)  
 1948 Felix Endrich, Friedrich Waller (SUI)  
 1949 Felix Endrich, Friedrich Waller (SUI)  
 1950 Fritz Feierabend, Stephan Waser (SUI)  
 1951 Anderl Ostler, Lorenz Nieberl (FRG)  
 1952 Anderl Ostler, Lorenz Nieberl (FRG)  
 1953 Felix Endrich, Fritz Stoeckli (SUI).  
 1954 Guglielmo Scheibmeier, Andrea Zambelli (ITA)  
 1955 Fritz Feierabend, Harry Warburton (SUI)  
 1956 Lamberto dalla Costa, Giacomo Conti (ITA)  
 1957 Eugenio Monti, Renzo Alverà (ITA)  
 1958 Eugenio Monti, Renzo Alverà (ITA)  
 1959 Eugenio Monti, Renzo Alverà (ITA)  
 1960 Eugenio Monti, Renzo Alverà (ITA)  
 1961 Eugenio Monti, Sergio Siorpaes (ITA)  
 1962 Rinaldo Ruatti, Enrico De Lorenzo (ITA)  
 1963 Eugenio Monti, Sergio Siorpaes (ITA)  
 1964 Anthony Nash, Robin Dixon (GBR)  
 1965 Anthony Nash, Robin Dixon (GBR)

- 1966 Eugenio Monti, Sergio Siorpaes (ITA)  
 1967 Erwin Thaler, Reinhold Durnthaler (AUT)  
 1968 Eugenio Monti, Luciano De Paolis (ITA)  
 1969 Nevio de Zordo, Adriano Frassinelli (ITA)  
 1970 Horst Floth, Pepi Bader (FRG)  
 1971 Gianfranco Gaspari, Mario Armano (ITA)  
 1972 Wolfgang Zimmerer, Peter Utzschneider (FRG)  
 1973 Wolfgang Zimmerer, Peter Utzschneider (FRG)  
 1974 Wolfgang Zimmerer, Peter Utzschneider (FRG)  
 1975 Giorgio Alverà, Franco Perruquet (ITA)  
 1976 Meinhard Nehmer, Bernhard Germeshausen (GDR)  
 1977 Hans Hildebrand, Heinz Meier (SUI)  
 1978 Erich Schaerer, Joseph Benz (SUI)  
 1979 Erich Schaerer, Joseph Benz (SUI)  
 1980 Erich Schaerer, Joseph Benz (SUI)  
 1981 Bernhard Germeshausen, Hans-Jürgen Gerhardt (GDR)  
 1982 Erich Schaerer, Max Rüegg (SUI)  
 1983 Ralf Pichler, Urs Leuthold (SUI)  
 1984 Wolfgang Hoppe, Dietmar Schauerhammer (GDR)  
 1985 -

1956 - Cortina d'Ampezzo:F. Kapus, G. Diener, R. Alt and H. Angst (SUI)





1948 - St. Moritz : F. Tyler, P. Henry Martin, E. Rimkus and W. D'Amico (USA).

● **Four man bob**

- 1924 Eduard Scherrer, Alfred Neveu, Alfred Schläppi, Heinrich Schläppi (SUI)
- 1928<sup>1</sup> William Fiske, Nion Tocker, Charles Mason, Clifford Gray, Richard Parke (USA)
- 1930 Franco Zaninetta, Giorgio Biasini, Antonio Dorini, Gino Rossi (ITA)
- 1931 Werner Zahn, Robby Schmidt, Franz Bock, Emil Hinterfeld (ALL)
- 1932 William Fiske, Edward Eagan, Clifford Gray, Jay O. Brien (USA)
- 1934 Hanns Killian, Fritz Schwarz, Hermann von Valta, Sebastian Huber (ALL)
- 1935 Hanns Killian, Alex Gruber, Hermann von Valta, Fritz Schwarz (ALL)
- 1936 Pierre Mussy, Arnold Gartmann, Charles Bouvier, Josef Beerli (SUI)
- 1937 Frederic J. McEvoy, David S. Looker, Charles Green, Brian Black (GBR)
- 1938 Frederic J. McEvoy, David S. Looker, Charles Green, Chris MacKintosh (GBR)
- 1939 Fritz Feierabend, Heinz Cattani, Alphonse Horning, Josef Beerli (SUI)
- 1947 Fritz Feierabend, Fritz Waller, Felix Endrich, Stephan Waser (SUI)
- 1948 Francis Tyler, Patrick Henry Martin, Edward Rimkus, William d'Amico (USA)

- 1949 Stanley D. Benham, Patrick Henry Martin, William Casey, William d'Amico (USA)
- 1950 Stanley D. Benham, Patrick Henry Martin, James Atkinson, William d'Amico (USA)
- 1951 Anderl Ostler, Xaver Leitl, Michel Pössiger, Lorenz Nieberl (FRG)
- 1952 Anderl Ostler, Friedrich Kuhn, Lorenz Nieberl, Franz Kemser (FRG)
- 1953 Lloyd Johnson, Piet Biesiadecki, Hubert Miller, Joseph Smith (USA)
- 1954 Fritz Feierabend, Harry Warburton, Gottfried Diener, Heinrich Angst (SUI)
- 1955 Franz Kapus, Gottfried Diener, Robert Alt, Heinrich Angst (SUI)
- 1956 Franz Kapus, Gottfried Diener, Robert Alt, Heinrich Angst (SUI)
- 1957 Hans Zoller, Hans Theler, Robert Küderli, Heinz Leu (SUI)
- 1958 Hans Roesch, Alfred Hammer, Theo Bauer, Walter Haller (FRG)
- 1958 Arthur W. Tyler, Garry Sheffield, Parker Vooris, Thomas C. Butler (USA)
- 1960 Eugenio Monti, Furio Nordio, Sergio Siorpaes, Renzo Alverà (ITA)
- 1961 Eugenio Monti, Furio Nordio, Benito Rigoni, Sergio Siorpaes (ITA)

<sup>1</sup> 5-man bob "ventre à terre"



1984 - Sarajevo : W. Hoppe, R. Wetzig, D. Schauerhammer and A. Kirchner (GDR).

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1962 Franz Schelle, Josef Sterff, Ludwig Siebert, Otto Goebel (FRG)</p> <p>1963 Sergio Zardini, Ferruccio Della Torre, Renato, Mocellini, Romano Bonagura (ITA)</p> <p>1964 Victor Emery, Douglas Anakin, John Emery, Peter Kirby (CAN)</p> <p>1965 Victor Emery, Gerald Presley, Michael Young, Peter Kirby (CAN)</p> <p>1966 Interrupted because of a fatal accident in which the pilot Toni Pensberger (FRG) was killed after 9 teams had completed two races. The title was not awarded but a gold medal was given to the members of Pensberger's team.</p> <p>1967 Cancelled because of a thaw.</p> <p>1968 Eugenio Monti, Roberto Zandonella, Mario Armano, Luciano DePaolis (ITA)</p> <p>1969 Wolfgang Zimmerer, Stephan Gaisreiter, Walter Steinbauer, Peter Utzschneider (FRG)</p> <p>1970 Nevio De Zordo, Roberto Zandonella, Mario Armano, Luciano De Paolis (ITA)</p> <p>1971 René Stadler, Max Forster, Erich Schaerer, Peter Schaerer (SUI)</p> <p>1972 Jean Wicky, Hans Leutenegger, Werner Camichel, Edy Hubacher (SUI)</p> <p>1973 René Stadler, Werner Camichel, Erich Schaerer, Peter Schaerer (SUI)</p> <p>1974 Wolfgang Zimmerer/Albert Wurzer, Peter Utzschneider, Manfred Schumann (FRG)</p> <p>1975 Erich Schaerer, Werner Camichel, Josef Benz, Peter Schaerer (SUI)</p> <p>1976 Meinhard Nehmer, Jochen Babok, Bernhard Germeshausen, Bernhard Lehmann (GDR)</p> | <p>1977 Meinhard Nehmer, Hans-Jürgen Gerhardt, Bernard Germeshausen, Raimund Betghe (GDR)</p> <p>1978 Horst Schoenau, Horst Bernhardt, Bogdan Musiol, Harold Seifert (GDR)</p> <p>1979 Stephan Galsreiter, Hans Wagner, Heinz Busche, Dieter Geghard (FRG)<sup>1</sup></p> <p>1980 Meinhard Nehmer, Bosdan Musiol, Bernhard Germeshausen, Hans-Jürgen, Gerhardt (GDR)</p> <p>1981 Bernhard Germeshausen, Henry Gerlach, Michael Trübner, Hans-Jürgen Gerhardt (GDR)</p> <p>1982 Silvio Giobellina, Heinz Stettler, Urs Salzmann, Rico Freiermuth (SUI)</p> <p>1983 Ekkehard Fasser, Kurt Poletti, Hans Maerchy, Rolf Streitmatter (SUI)</p> <p>1984 Wolfgang Hoppe, Roland Wetzig, Dietmar Schauerhammer, Andreas Kirchner (GDR)</p> <p>1985 -<br/>-<br/>-</p> |
|---|--|

<sup>1</sup> This team was one hundredth of a second ahead of Meinhard Nehmer (GDR) and his men.

## The Bobsleigh World Cup

The recently appointed committee will propose rules for the "Bobsleigh World Cup" and a calendar of events.

It is expected that the World CUP will be included in the calendar of events for 1985-86.

## Major international competitions

Events	<sup>1</sup>	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
Olympic Winter Games	4	Sarajevo (YUG)	–			Calgary (CAN)
<i>WC</i> <sup>2</sup> :						
2-man bob	1	Sarajevo <sup>3</sup>	Cervinia	Königssee	St. Moritz	Calgary
4-man bob	1	Sarajevo	Cervinia	Königssee	St. Moritz	Calgary
<i>EC</i> <sup>2</sup> :						
2-man bob	1	Igls	St-Moritz	Igls	X	X
4-man bob	1	Igls	St-Moritz	Igls	X	X
<i>NAC</i> <sup>2</sup> :						
2-man bob	1	Lake Placid	Lake Placid	X	X	X
4-man bob	1	Lake Placid	Lake Placid	X	X	X
<i>EJC</i> <sup>2</sup> :						
2-man bob	1	Cervinia	Igls	X	X	X
4-man bob	1	Cervinia	Igls	X	X	X
<i>Veltins-Cup</i> :						
2-man bob	1	Winterberg	Winterberg	Winterberg	Winterberg	Winterberg
4-man bob	1	Winterberg	Winterberg	Winterberg	Winterberg	Winterberg
<i>Nations-Cup</i> :						
2-man bob	1	Königssee	Königssee	Königssee	Königssee	Königssee
4-man bob	1	Igls	Igls	Igls	Igls	Igls
<i>Sarajevo-Cup</i> :						
2-man bob	1	Sarajevo	Sarajevo	Sarajevo	Sarajevo	Sarajevo
4-man bob	1	Sarajevo	no	?	?	?
<i>Carpati Trophy</i> :						
2-man bob	1	Sinaia	Sinaia	Sinaia	Sinaia	Sinaia
<i>Eröffnungsrennen</i> :						
2-man bob	1	Oberhof	Oberhof	Oberhof	Oberhof	Oberhof
<b>BOB ON THE ROAD</b>						
<i>EC</i> :						
2-man bob	1	Les Avants	Obsteig	X	X	X
4-man bob	1	Les Avants	Obsteig	X	X	X
<b>SKELETON</b>						
<i>EC</i>	1	Igls	Sarajevo	X	X	X

<sup>1</sup> Period between events : 1-every year, 4-every 4 years.

<sup>2</sup> WC : World Championships, EC : European Championships, NAC : North American Championships, EJC : European Junior Championships.

<sup>3</sup> Sarajevo (YUG), Cervinia (ITA), Königssee (FRG), St-Moritz (SUI), Calgary (CAN), Igls (AUT), Lake Placid (USA), Winterberg (FRG), Oberhof (GDR), Les Avants (SUI), Obsteig (AUT), x = to be assigned.

### Olympic awards obtained



Above : *The incomparable Eugenio Monti (at right) and one of this team-mates, Renzo Alvera.*  
Below: *Eugenio Monti in action at Cortina d'Ampezzo.*



#### FIBT Personalities who are holders of the Olympic Order

##### Silver medal

1980 - Almicare Rotta (ITA), see biographical notes.



A. Rotta (at right) and the President of the IOC, A very Brundage.

##### Bronze medal

1979 - Marcel Leclef (BEL), vice-president of the FIBT.

##### Mohamed Taher Trophy

1976 - Eugenio Monti (ITA), a famous champion with an incomparable record of wins, and a true gentleman, was the first holder of the Pierre de Coubertin International Fair Play Trophy.

*"Bob is not just the intoxication of speed. When one finishes one race to begin another the body and blood pressure are severely shaken. This calls for particularly fit athletes, who must have all the qualities of a mountaineer, a parachutist, and a deep-sea diver. . ."*

*Almicare Rotta*