

1. Introduction: The Olympic Games

For more information refer to www.Olympic.org

"As in the daytime there is no star in the sky warmer and brighter than the sun, likewise there is no competition greater than the Olympic Games." - Pindar, Greek lyric poet, 5th century bc.

The ancient Olympic Games were held in Greece from as early as 776 BC. It was then that the basis of the Olympic Movement began to evolve into a philosophy of life: exalting and combining the qualities of body, will, and mind in a balanced whole. Out of this philosophy the Olympic Ideals were born, placing noble competition, sport, peace, culture, and education at the very core of Greek civilisation.

The Games continued until 393 AD, when Emperor Theodosius abolished them for being "too pagan". The first modern Olympic Games were held in Athens in 1896.

Olympic Summer Games:

Athens 1896	Los Angeles 1932	Munich 1972
Paris 1900	Berlin 1936	Montreal 1976
St. Louis 1904	London 1948	Moscow 1980
London 1908	Helsinki 1952	Los Angeles 1984
Stockholm 1912	Melbourne 1956	Seoul 1988
Antwerp 1920	Rome 1960	Barcelona 1992
Paris 1924	Tokyo 1964	Atlanta 1996
Amsterdam 1928	Mexico City 1968	Sydney 2000

Olympic Winter Games:

Chamonix 1924	Cortina d'Ampezzo 1956	Sarajevo 1984
St. Moritz 1928	Squaw Valley 1960	Calgary 1988
Lake Placid 1932	Innsbruck 1964	Albertville 1992
Garmisch-Partenkirchen 1936	Grenoble 1968	Lillehammer 1994
St. Moritz 1948	Sapporo 1972	Nagano 1998
Oslo 1952	Innsbruck 1976	Salt Lake City 2002
	Lake Placid 1980	

2. The Sports

There are 35 sports and nearly 400 events which make up the Olympic Games. These sports and events have been constantly amended, replaced and withdrawn throughout the years.

Summer sports:

Aquatics	Fencing	Shooting
Archery	Football	Softball
Athletics	Gymnastics	Table Tennis
Badminton	Handball	Taekwondo
Baseball	Hockey	Tennis
Basketball	Judo	Triathlon
Boxing	Modern	Volleyball
Canoe / kayak	Pentathlon	Weightlifting
Cycling	Rowing	Wrestling
Equestrian	Sailing	

Winter sports:

Biathlon
Bobsleigh
Curling
Ice Hockey
Luge
Skating
Skiing

For a sport to be included in the Summer Games, it must meet the following criteria:

- It must be widespread in at least 75 countries and 4 continents (men's sports).
- It must be widespread in at least 40 countries and 3 continents (women's sports).



OLYMPIC SPORTS OF THE PAST

Sports no longer practised at the Olympic Games

Tug-of-war

Tug-of-war was on the Olympic programme in 1900, 1904, 1906 (Intercalated Games), 1908, 1912 and 1920. Tug-of-war was always contested as a part of the track and field athletics programme, although it is now considered a separate sport. The Olympic champions were as follows: 1900: a combined Swedish/Danish team; 1904: an American club team representing the Milwaukee Athletic Club; 1906: Germany/Switzerland; 1908: a British team from the City of London Police Club; 1912: Sweden; and 1920: Great Britain.

Golf

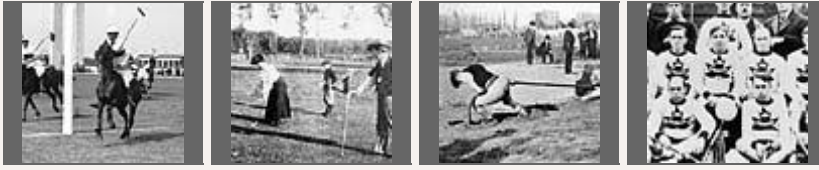
Golf has been on the Olympic programme twice, in 1900 and 1904. There were two golf events in 1900 - one for gentlemen and one for ladies. Golf is one of the world's most popular sports, being played in well over 100 nations world-wide. Golf also has a long history, as its origins can be traced back several centuries, and it has had organised international competitions since the mid-19th century. In the last decade golf has made entreaties to be returned to the Olympic programme.

Rugby

Rugby football is one of the earliest forms of football in which the ball is carried rather than kicked. It developed in Great Britain in the mid-19th century. Originally, rugby league was considered the professional sport and rugby union the amateur one, but in 1995 the International Rugby Board made rugby union an open sport, allowing professional competition. Rugby union football was held at the Olympics in 1900, 1908, 1920 and 1924.

Polo

Polo is considered the oldest mounted team sport, with a history reaching back centuries, when it was played in the plains of Asia, ancient Persia, China and India. Polo was on the Olympic programme in 1900, 1908, 1920, 1924 and 1936.



Lacrosse

Lacrosse was contested as a full medal sport at the 1904 and 1908 Olympics. In 1904, two Canadian teams challenged a local team from St. Louis, with the Shamrock Lacrosse Team of Winnipeg winning the gold medal. Lacrosse was also a demonstration sport at the Olympics in 1928, 1932 and 1948.

PAST SPORTS LIST

Cricket	Power boating
Croquet	Rackets
Golf	Rink-hockey
Jeu de paume	Roque
Lacrosse	Rugby
Pelote basque	Tug of war
Polo	Water skiing

3. Athens Olympic Games 2004

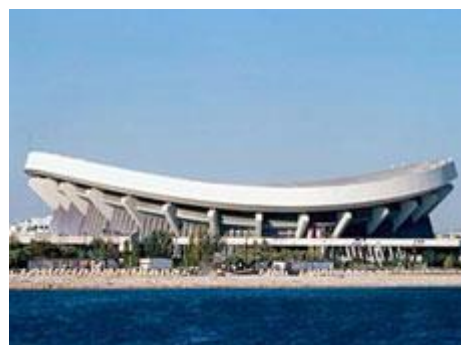
For more information refer to www.athens2004.com



In 2004, the Olympic Games will return to their origins when Athens hosts the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad. Athens was elected at the 106th IOC Session in Lausanne, Switzerland, on 5 September 1997, from a total of five finalist cities: Athens, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Rome and Stockholm.

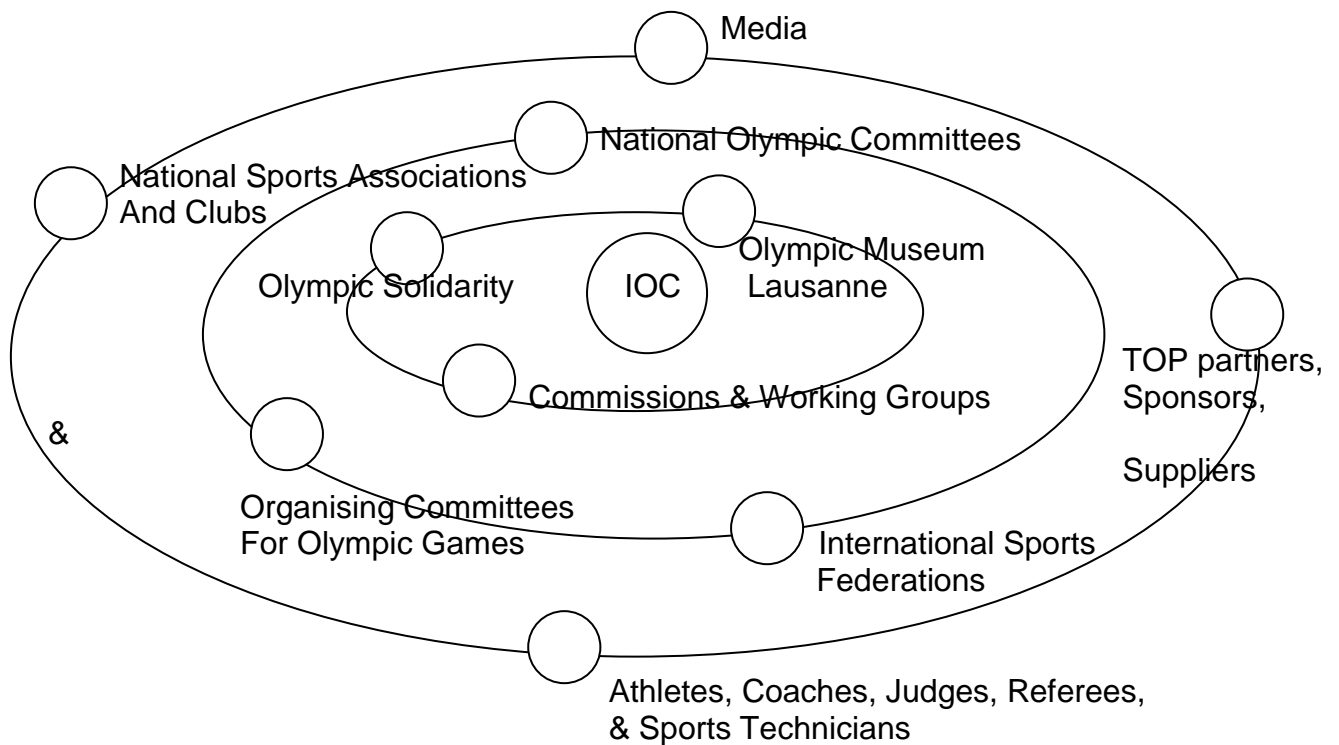
GENERAL FACTS AND FIGURES

- 301 medal ceremonies will take place over a period of 16 days.
- 28 sports will be represented in 38 venues.
- 10,500 athletes and 5,500 team officials from 201 National Olympic Committees (NOCs) will participate.
- 21,500 members of the media are expected to cover the Games (16,000 broadcasters, including AOB, and 5,500 photo/written press members).
- The Olympic Village will house 16,000 athletes and team officials during the Olympic Games and 6,000 during the Paralympic Games.
- Some 45,000 security personnel will work at the Olympic Games: 25,000 from the police, 7,000 from the military, 3,000 coast guards, 1,500 fire-fighters, 3,500 private security contractors and 5,000 trained volunteers. Their training is already in progress.



4. The International Olympic Movement

For more information refer to www.olympic.org



The Olympic Movement groups together all those who agree to be guided by the Olympic Charter and who recognise the authority of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), namely: the International Federations (IF) of sports on the programme of the Olympic Games; the National Olympic Committees (NOCs), the Organising Committees of the Olympic Games (OCOGs), athletes, judges and referees, associations and clubs, as well as all the organisations and institutions recognised by the IOC.

5. International Olympic Committee

The International Olympic Committee was founded on 23 June 1894 by the French educator Baron Pierre de Coubertin who was inspired to revive the Olympic Games of Greek antiquity.

The IOC is an international non-governmental non-profit organisation and the creator of the Olympic Movement. The IOC acts as the umbrella organisation of the Olympic Movement. It owns all rights to the Olympic symbols, flag, motto, anthem and Olympic Games. Its primary responsibility is to supervise the organisation of the summer and winter Olympic Games.

The Committee consists of a President, an Executive Board (President, 4 Vice-Presidents, & 10 other members, elected by secret ballot for 4 years at a time), (currently) 125 other members, 21 honorary members & 4 honour members. Juan Antonio Samaranch is Honorary President for Life. There are also other administrative staff.

6. IOC Commissions

In order to study certain subjects and make recommendations to the Executive Board, the President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) sets up specialised commissions or working groups. Some of these are mixed, including IOC members, representatives of the International Olympic Sports Federations and the National Olympic Committees, athletes, technical experts, advisers and sports specialists.

These Commissions include:

- ✚ Athletes' Commission
- ✚ Commission for Culture and Olympic Education
- ✚ Coordination Commission for the Olympic Games
- ✚ Ethics Commission
- ✚ Finance Commission
- ✚ International Relations Commission
- ✚ Juridical Commission
- ✚ Marketing Commission
- ✚ Medical Commission
- ✚ Nominations Commission
- ✚ Olympic Games Study Commission
- ✚ Olympic Philately, Numismatic and Memorabilia Commission
- ✚ Olympic Programme Commission
- ✚ Olympic Solidarity
- ✚ Press Commission
- ✚ Radio and Television Commission
- ✚ Sport and Environment Commission
- ✚ Sport and Law Commission
- ✚ Sport for All Commission
- ✚ TV and Internet Rights Commission
- ✚ Women and Sport Working Group

7. National Olympic Committees

The National Olympic Committees (NOCs) propagate the fundamental principles of the Olympic Movement at a national level. There are currently 201 National Olympic Committees over five continents.

Association of National Olympic Committees

The NOCs come together at least once every two years in the form of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) to exchange information and experiences in order to consolidate their role within the Olympic Movement. In this way the ANOC helps the NOCs to prepare for their meetings with the IOC Executive Board and Olympic Congresses.

The ANOC also makes recommendations to the IOC regarding the use of funds deriving from the television rights intended for the NOCs. These recommendations focus on the implementation of the Olympic Solidarity programmes in particular.

The ANOC is currently made up of the 201 NOCs and is split among five continental associations:

AFRICA: ANOCA (Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa)

AMERICA: PASO (Pan American Sports Organisation)

ASIA: OCA (Olympic Council of Asia)

EUROPE: EOC (European Olympic Committees)

OCEANIA: ONOC (Oceania National Olympic Committees)

Olympic Solidarity

"The aim of Olympic Solidarity is to organise aid to NOCs recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), in particular those which have the greatest need of it. This aid takes the form of programmes elaborated jointly by the IOC and the NOCs, with the technical assistance of the International Federations (IFs), if necessary." - Rule 8, Olympic Charter

8. International Sports Federations

In order to promote the Olympic Movement, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) may recognise as International Sports Federations (IFs) international non-governmental organisations administering one or several sports at world level and encompassing organisations administering such sports at national level.

In order to be recognised, these organisations must apply the Olympic Movement Anti-Doping Code and conduct effective out-of-competition tests in accordance with the established rules. The recognition of IFs newly recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) shall be provisional for a period of two years or any other period fixed by the IOC Executive Board. At the end of such period, the recognition shall automatically lapse in the absence of definitive confirmation given in writing by the IOC.

As far as the role of the IFs within the Olympic Movement is concerned, their statutes, practice and activities must be in conformity with the Olympic Charter. Subject to the foregoing, each IF maintains its independence and autonomy in the administration of its sport.

9. Australia's Olympic Tradition

For more information refer to www.olympics.com.au

Australia is one of only two countries that have been represented at every Olympics since the birth of the modern Games.

The Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) is the National Olympic Committee in Australia responsible for the development of the Olympic Movement in Australia. It oversees selection, organisation and funding of Australian teams to both the Olympics and Winter Olympics.

The AOC is an Incorporated Association. It is a non-profit organisation independent of Government and Government funding other than contributions by State Governments to the Olympic Team Appeal. The funds required for the AOC activities are generated through marketing and fundraising programs.

It is comprised of 40 member organisations consisting of national bodies (National Federations) of each sport included in the Olympic Program for both the Olympics and the Winter Olympics.

10. Australia's Nomination & Selection Criteria

The AOC publishes its Australian Olympic Committee Olympic Team Selection By-Laws. These By-Laws generally cover the requirements for the National Federations, selection and nomination criteria for athletes, selection criteria for officials and the appeals process.

Refer to "Australian Olympic Committee Olympic Team Selection By-Law".

The AOC develops a general selection criteria for each sport and forwards it to the respective National Federations. (*Refer to Par 4 of Olympic Team Selection By-Law*).

Each National Federation (NF) then develops its own specific nomination criteria, including details and dates of nomination events, training, the number of nominees to be included in the team, and any points requirements. The AOC must then approve the nomination criteria of each NF. (*Refer Par 5 of Olympic Team Selection By-Law*).

Once the NF nominates its team in accordance with the nomination criteria, selection of athletes to the Olympic team is conducted by the AOC absolutely, in accordance with the published selection criteria.

Refer to AOC Selection Criteria & Nomination criteria for:

1. *Triathlon* - *Selection Criteria Triathlon.*
 - *Triathlon Australia Nomination Criteria.*

2. *Swimming* - *Selection Criteria Swimming.*
 - *FINA Nomination Criteria.*

3. *Basketball* - *Basketball Australia Nomination Criteria.*
 - *FIBA Nomination Criteria.*

4. *Wrestling* - *Australian Wrestling Union Nomination Criteria.*
 - *FILA Nomination Criteria.*

5. *Kayaking*
 (Flatwater sprint) - *Australian Canoeing Inc. Nomination Criteria.*

11. Are These Nomination / Selection Criterion Fair?

Brian Doyle, in his paper “Legal Implications of Athlete Selection” 2 December 1999, wrote “there is no one book called ‘the law of selection’. There is no one place to go to find out whether your selections or your selection methods could result in you being taken to court. There is no statute that has codified the law on selection. In fact we can ask ourselves whether there is a law on selection”.

11.1 National Federations late to submit nomination criteria

Nomination Criteria must generally be adopted by each NF no later than 12 months prior to the NF’s first nomination event and no later than 31 May 2003, with the minimum notice of 8 months’ notice of criteria prior to conducting a particular event. (*Refer to Par 5 of Olympic Team Selection By-Law*).

Several of the NF’s were extremely late in submitting their criteria for selection. *Refer to:*

<http://www.olympic.org.au/Default.asp?pg=home&spg=library>

Refer to SMH article “Aggrieved Athletes to get some Legal Aid” 14 February 2003.

11.2 Criteria Vague and Subjective

There is no requirement that each NF standardise their team selection criteria across the board. Look particularly at the Triathlon Nomination Criteria which allows for a great deal of discretion in team nominations. While Paragraph 3 provides for automatic inclusion into the team for those who finish first in each of 2 trial races (20 December 2003 and 1 February 2004), Paragraph 3(f) provides for alternative inclusion “at the discretion of the TAESC”.

As an alternative, the Swimming Nomination Criteria allows nomination only on the basis of swim times, without exception. This provides for a greater level of certainty for all involved. However, it does not provide for extenuating circumstances. Mr Morling suggests that nomination criteria should become more objective in nature, to allow for greater certainty. In Paragraph 35 of his report he praises the criteria of Australian Swimming as “admirably objective”. In his report “Duty of Selectors” Mr Alan Sullivan QC disagrees with this approach. He considers it unnecessarily discriminatory against young and rapidly improving athletes to disallow for a discretion in the selection process.¹ He also raises the unfairness if, for example, due to no fault of his own, Ian Thorpe was injured in a car accident on the way to the swimming trials, and was unable to race.²

¹ Alan Sullivan QC: The Duties of Selectors, 28 October 2002, Paragraph 110

² *ibid*, Paragraph 111

It is worth noting that the United States, among other countries, follow strict selection criteria which allow little room for discretion – similar to the Australian swimming criteria. It remains debatable whether Australia should move towards this type of system.

12. Lawyers and the Nomination Process

Unfortunately, as admission to the Olympic team becomes more competitive, so the scrutiny of the rules of selection increase.

Commentators such as Mr Sullivan and Mr Morling are quick to agree that the Courts are reluctant to interfere with the decisions of sporting bodies.

In **Cowley v Heatley** (unreported decision of the High Court of Justice (UK) reported in The Times, 24 July 1986) Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson VC observed, *“sport would be better served if there was not running litigation at repeated intervals by people seeking to challenge the decisions of the regulating bodies”*.

Mr Sullivan seeks to establish the areas of law under which sports law should fall. He considers torts law and decides there is no duty of care owing towards a person who seeks a position in a team.³ He then considers administrative law but decides that in sports law a complaint is made against a private / domestic body and not a public body.⁴ He then raises the concept of the law of restraint of trade.⁵

Finally Mr Sullivan settles on pursuing sports law rights under the law of contract, since a member of a sporting body most often signs a registration form or nomination form agreeing to abide by the rules of nomination of the sporting body in return for being considered for selection to a particular team or sporting event.⁶ While a Court is generally reluctant to find that a legally binding contract was presumed between an athlete and a sporting body, when it comes to prestigious and elite events the Courts are more likely to find that selectors owe a legally enforceable duty to athletes as a matter of contract.⁷

³ *ibid*, Paragraph 12

⁴ *ibid*, Paragraph 13

⁵ *ibid*, Paragraph 16

⁶ *ibid*, Paragraph 17

⁷ *ibid*, Paragraphs 33-34

13. Appeals

13.1 Olympic Appeals Consultants

The AOC appoints one or more independent senior lawyers to act as Olympics Appeals Consultants, as set out in Paragraph 9 of the Olympic Team Selection By-Law. These Consultants do not provide legal advice but rather ensure that athletes fully understand the reasons for the decisions in question and facilitate a consultative process between the parties.

For 2004, the Olympic Appeals Consultants are Mr Justice Henric Nicholas of the NSW Supreme Court and Mr Brian Collis QC of Melbourne.

13.2 No Appeal to Formal Court

It is very difficult for an athlete to succeed at appeal. Appeals go firstly to the Appeals Tribunal of the National Federation of the sport. A further appeal is allowable to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). There is no further appeal right to a formal Court such as a state Supreme Court.

In *Raguz v Sullivan & Ors. (1/9/2000)* the New South Wales Court of Appeal effectively excluded any review process by the Courts of New South Wales. Mr Morling agrees with this approach in his Report to the Australian Olympic Committee on 20 June 2001. He commented that the resources of the National Federations would be greatly depleted if they had to defend civil litigation proceedings in the Courts.⁸

This case related to the provisions of the Commercial Arbitration Act 1984 (NSW) and was applicable only in New South Wales because of the particular legislation in NSW affecting domestic arbitration. In his report, Mr Morling suggests that the AOC consider providing specifically that all appeals against non-selection be determined according to the law of NSW. This suggestion was taken up by the AOC and has become Paragraph 11.9 of the AOC Olympic Team Selection By-Law. At Paragraph 13 of the AOC Olympic Team Selection By-Law it is also clear to specify that "This By-law is governed by and is to be construed in accordance with the laws applicable to the State of New South Wales".

It has been suggested that Appeals Tribunals within National Federations may be abolished, with appeals going directly to the CAS. This is not an ideal situation, since members of the National Federations have a greater knowledge of their individual sports than the CAS, and can provide appropriate comments on the nomination process.⁹

It has also been suggested that the right of appeal to the CAS may also be modified by, for example, allowing an appeal directly to the CAS or abolishing the right of appeal to the CAS altogether. Neither of these amendments has been made to the appeals process. Under Paragraph 11 of the Olympic Team Selection By-Law appeals go firstly to the National Federations, with a subsequent right of appeal to the Appeals Arbitration

⁸ Hon. T.R. Morling Q.C.: *Report to the Australian Olympic Committee*, 20 June 2001, par 25

⁹ *Ibid*, Paragraph 59-61

Division of the CAS. Under Paragraph 11.7, appeals directly to the CAS are allowed when the NF agrees in writing, in accordance with Mr Morling's suggestions in Paragraphs 66-69 of his paper.

13.3 Grounds of Appeal

There are only 4 grounds of appeal to the Appeals Tribunal, from decisions of National Federations, each of them related to the implementation of the nomination criteria. These are set out at Paragraph 11.3 of the Olympic Team Selection By-Laws. They are:

1. the applicable Nomination Criteria have not been properly followed and/or implemented; or
2. the Athlete was not afforded a reasonable opportunity by the NF to satisfy the applicable nomination criteria; or
3. the nomination decision was affected by actual bias; or
4. there was no material on which the nomination decision could reasonably be based.

Appeals against the decision of the Appeals Tribunal are taken to the CAS and can only be upon the following grounds as set out in Paragraph 11.8 of the Olympic Team Selection By-Laws:

1. breach of the rules of natural justice by the Appeals Tribunal; or
2. the decision of the Appeals Tribunal is otherwise wrong in law.

If the CAS upholds an appeal, the matter is referred back to the NF selection panel for re-determination in accordance with the applicable nomination criteria.

Understandably, when the nomination criteria contain numerous subjective elements, the potential for dissatisfaction increases. This is particularly the case since many of the National Federations' criteria allow the final selection decision to be based upon subjective criteria of people such as the Head Coach.

Grounds for an appeal against the decision of the AOC in relation to selection to the Olympic team are set out in Paragraph 11.15 of the Olympic Team Selection By-Laws:

1. actual bias; or
2. a decision which was obviously or self-evidently so unreasonable or perverse that it can be said to be irrational.

Appeals from the decision of the AOC are heard by a panel of 3 arbitrators subject to R50 of the Code of Sports-Related Arbitration.

14. Appeals towards the 2000 Sydney Games

14.1 Appeals Generally

42 Athletes who were not nominated by their National Federations for the 2000 Olympics made appeals to Appeal Tribunals. Of this 42, 6 appeals were upheld. Then of the 36 who were unsuccessful, 12 lodged further appeals to the CAS, with 3 of these being upheld. None of these appeals were upheld on the basis that the selectors were biased, or that they acted otherwise than in good faith or acted unreasonably.¹⁰

14.2 Subjective Nomination Criteria

As a result of the high volume of appeals, National Federations have been encouraged to introduce more objective nomination criteria.

The appeal of **Adam Beashel and Tague Czislowski v The Australian Yachting Federation** took issue with certain qualifications in the AYF's nomination criteria which stated, "*the AYF will nominate to the AOC...the competitors who, in the opinion of AYF, have the best prospects of winning medals in their Class ...*"

In Mr Morling's report he quotes the remark of counsel who appeared in that case, "top flight athletes are well used to close results, indeed they thrive on intense competition. What they are not used to, and cannot handle, is a situation in which considerations other than actual results are used to judge performance; officials appear to move the goal posts after the ball has been kicked ... all things considered, nothing could be better calculated to destroy the morale and medal prospects of high performance athletes than to allow the objective measurement of performance to be over-ridden, without any viable avenue for redress."¹¹

Mr Morling comments quite rightly at Paragraph 42, "The dissatisfaction with the nomination criteria adopted by National Federations for the 2000 Olympics should be kept in perspective. No matter how nomination criteria are framed, lawyers will always endeavour to make out a case for an appellant that the criteria have not been observed ..."

He also notes the reality that the ultimate aim is to nominate to the Olympic team those athletes who have the best chance of obtaining a medal at the Olympic Games, and it could be said that there could be one general nomination criteria across all sports: to nominate those who have the best prospects of winning a medal. In reality this cannot be done.¹²

Another suggestion encouraged by Mr Morling is for coaches and other decision makers to counsel unsuccessful athletes.¹³

¹⁰ Sullivan, Paragraph 53

¹¹ Morling, Paragraph 36

¹² Ibid, Paragraph 43

¹³ Ibid, Paragraph 48

14.3 Nomination Criteria Not Properly Followed

Selectors must be careful to follow nomination criteria carefully in order to avoid having their selections overturned. If they take into account extraneous considerations which are not set out in the nomination criteria, their decision may also be overturned.¹⁴ However, Mr Sullivan points out that in the absence of any express contractual provisions to the contrary, selectors have the right to take into account any other extraneous considerations which derives from the expert knowledge they have about the sport in question.¹⁵

The appeal of **Yanda Nossiter** involved the nomination to the Olympic team for the Flatwater Sprint Kayak. Ms Nossiter was not selected to the Flatwater Sprint team despite the fact that she satisfied the Nomination Criteria for selection. After an unsuccessful appeal to the Appeals Tribunal, Ms Nossiter was successful before the CAS. Her case was therefore returned to Australian Canoeing Inc. to reconsider her non-selection.

Unfortunately when the CAS decides that a particular athlete should be admitted to the team, one team mate selected must be removed. And so in this case there then followed an appeal from the girl who was replaced by Ms Nossiter. Further appeals followed until approximately 3 weeks before the Olympic Games commenced and Ms Nossiter was admitted to the team.

The nomination criteria for Kayaking was particularly detailed. It involved a set of tests including a single skull, speed over a certain distance, starting time reaction, rate of recovery etc. Criteria also took into account various rotations of seats within the 4-seat Kayak as well as various combinations of different kayakers.

¹⁴ Sullivan, Paragraph 55

¹⁵ Ibid, Paragraph 86

15. Appeals towards the 2004 Athens Games

Discretionary criterion continue to guarantee uncertainty for athletes as they compete for the few precious positions in the Australian Olympic team for Athens 2004.

Refer to The Age Article "Disappointed Grigorieva Fails to Get Jump over Selection Process" 19 August 2003.

Refer to SMH Article "Snowsill Questions her Omission" 5 February 2004. Also cross-reference Selection & Nomination Criteria for Triathlon.

Refer to SMH Article "Diamond Still Has a Shot at Athens" 10 February 2004.

Refer to SMH Article "Olympic Selection Rules Backfire on Gun Athletes" 12 February 2004.

Refer to SMH Article "Cairo Beckons after Shoot-Out Draw" 3 March 2004.

Refer to Track and Field Athletes First Athens Olympians Picked" 1 March 2004

16. Other Issues

For the first time in Olympic history, transsexuals will be able to participate as members of their new gender group in a new Olympic policy of respect for human rights.

Refer to SMH Article “Green Light for Transsexual Athlete to Compete in Olympics” 14 November 2003 & article “Transsexual Athletes Cleared for Olympic Games”:
http://www.ultramarathonworld.com/news_2003/n15no03b.htm