### Edition 1/24

International Workers and Amateurs in Sports Confederation

BRUNO MOLEA re-elected as President





ROMAGNA

# SPECIAL INLAY FULL OF WSG IMPRESSIONS

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**45<sup>TH</sup> CSIT CONGRESS BRUNO MOLEA CONFIRMED** 

4<sup>TH</sup> CSIT SPORTS FORUM SPORT IMPACTS ALL

**CSIT WSG 2023 IN CERVIA** A COMPLETE SUCCESS

**CSIT WSG 2025 IN LOUTRAKI GREECE IS WAITIMG** 

INTERNATIONAL CATCH'N SERVE **BALL SPORTS FEDERATION** 

PART OF THE OLYMPIC RINGS AND MOVEMENT

**GROWING OLDER HEALTHY** AND HAPPY

FREE AND QUALIFIED TEAM SPORT IN ITALIAN SCHOOLS

PRESENT AT ALL SEVEN CSIT WORLD SPORTS GAMES

**RKB** "SOLIDARITÄT" COACH INSTEAD OF COUCH

**EVERY MOTHER CAN OUR MISSION HAS JUST BEGUN** 

**AUHHCF** DREAMS COME TRUE FOR THE UKRAINE

**PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL** WHAT AN EXCITING YEAR 2023



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ear friends, dear colleagues, dear members!

I am overwhelmed by the encouragement and confidence you have shown in me. The unanimous re-election as President of CSIT fills me with great pride and at the same time gives me the strength to enter my second full term in office. Since I took office six years ago, I have tried to make our organisation even more stable and broad-based, and I think that with your help I have succeeded very well so far.

Over the next four years, I would like to continue along this path and spread CSIT across all continents of the world. To do this, I naturally need your cooperation and the strength of your organisations. We have already discussed many points in the joint meetings and meetings to date, which now need to be implemented in detail. I look forward to the tasks ahead and to having your full support.

Together, we have guided our organisation through difficult times in recent years and continued to strengthen our community despite – or perhaps because of – these difficulties. The global pandemic has only brought us closer together and shown what our organisation is capable of. I am thinking in particular of the 2023 World Sports Games in Cervia. Despite the severe storms and flooding in Italy, the host managed to organise great Games and make people forget their worries.

Climate change is more omnipresent than ever. We can see this in the many natural disasters in all parts of the world. We also have a role to play here and must make our contribution together. And the CSIT has also responded well here by setting up a working group of experts to show us the way and trying to organise the WSG edition in Cervia as a first pilot project for green games to underline the need to fight climate change. We must leave our children and grandchildren a better world. A better one than we currently have.

The world is in a state of constant change in many areas, which we must face with all our strength and sometimes even resist. I am also thinking of the many theatres of war in the world and the many refugees that we must support with all our strength and help in any way we can. Above all, this includes sport and our events in particular. We have already done a lot for refugees through EU projects and will continue to do so. We have also shared and trialled best practice in tackling discrimination and inequality, playing our part in building peace and social cohesion through sport. Both at our World Sport Games and at the individual championships and our other projects.



As part of the congress in Barcelona, we also re-elected our Executive Committee and rejuvenated it. This was necessary in order to modernise and broaden the CSIT and to better meet current and changing requirements. With the new team, we will face many new challenges, which we will endeavour to solve together in the best possible way.

One of my big visions is that we need to open up our Games much more to all athletes. Specifically, we need to include as many trend sports as possible in the CSIT programme that are popular with young people. All types of popular sports, including for people with special needs, senior citizens and many other popular sportspeople, must also be integrated even more. This calls for great creativity on the part of all specialised delegates.

But that's not all. Eighty per cent of our participants come from Europe. That has to change fundamentally. Many African, Asian and American countries are not in a position to send teams, either because of visa problems or because of the high cost of travelling abroad and the different purchasing power in the various countries. For example, if African athletes cannot travel to the Games, then the Games have to take place there. That's why one of my visions is to organise World Sports Games every four years, with continental games in each continent in between. This would at least partially solve the visa problem and the problem of financial discrepancies.

Friends, let's work together on all our goals and make the CSIT even broader, more modern, younger and more flexible.

Your President Bruno Molea

Bundesministerium Kunst, Kultur, öffentlicher Dienst und Sport





### BRUNO MOLEA confirmed as CSIT President

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer



THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CSIT CONGRESS IN BARCELONA WAS ORGANISED AS AN ELECTION CONGRESS. BRUNO MOLEA WAS THE ONLY CANDIDATE TO STAND FOR RE-ELECTION AS CSIT PRESIDENT AND WAS RE-ELECTED WITH AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF 100% OF THE CSIT MEMBERS PRESENT AND ENTITLED TO VOTE. IT IS MOLA'S SECOND FULL TERM OF OFFICE, DURING WHICH HE INTENDS TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE CSIT AND BROADEN ITS ORGANIZATION.







Sports Games are to be held every two years and will be dedicated to the inclusion of all genders. Bruno Molea wants to organise the World Sports Games every four years, just like the Olympic Games.

olea, 68, took over as CSIT President from Harald Bauer in 2016 and is now entering his second full term of office. In the 110-year history of the CSIT, he is the first Italian to head the world amateur sports federation. Under his presidency, the opening up of inclusive sport, gender policy and green events will be promoted. In addition, the Italian is planning to expand the games and thus further increase the size of the association on all continents. The CSIT currently has 80+ member organisations in 63 nations and around 200 million individual members world wide.

"I am honoured by the result, especially after the CSIT World Sports Games that took place in Cervia in Italy this year, just a few months after the terrible floods in May last year", said Molea. "The CSIT, which was founded as a sports organisation for workers, has expanded its scope in recent years to include amateur sport in a fully inclusive key. We have extended participation in the World Sports Games to people with disabilities, we have invested in training projects for future sports managers, we are introducing a research and equality policy and investing in a policy of environmental sustainability, and the Italian edition of our World Sports Games was the first to be green".

Molea also wants to work on driving participation in the CSIT, particularly outside Europe. "With my team of managers, sports technicians and design consultants, we will now try to spread international sporting events more widely and strengthen our ambassadors in America, Africa and Asia. For us, greater participation means more sport for all. And sport for all can be balm on wounds, especially in countries in crisis, and promote the psychosocial well-being of individuals and communities."

Among the reforms announced in the re-elected President's keynote speech is the expansion of the CSIT World Sports Games, which currently take place every two years. Bruno Molea wants to triple the number of CSIT events by organising continental sports games every two years. This is intended to circumvent the recurring visa problems that restrict many members' participation in the WSG. In addition, Mediterranean

#### NEW EXCOM GENDER EQUALITY MORE WOMEN THAN MEN

The 45<sup>th</sup> CSIT Congress in Barcelona was organised as an election congress. CSIT President Bruno Molea (AICS Italy) was reelected for his second term of office of another four years with an absolute majority of 100 per cent of the members present and entitled to vote. However, the composition of the CSIT ExCom is new. With Desislava Yagodin (Bulgaria), Yoram Arnstein (Israel), Palle Thomsen (Denmark), Henk Bouchums (Netherelands), four members have left the committee and are no longer available. The Congress elected the new ExCom and thus also the eight Vice-Presidents as follows: Mr Christian Vifian (SATUS Switzerland), Mrs Anu Rajajärvi (TUL Finland), Mr Georges Michel (AFSTB Belgium), Mr Thomas Zacharias (ASKÖ Austria), Mrs Patricia Illa i Borge (UCEC Spain-Catalonia), Mrs Veronique Fratier (FSGT France), Mrs Birthe Henriksen (DAI Denmark), Mrs Kineret Tzedef (HAPOEL Israel)





#### HARALD BAUER APPOINTED AS HONORARY MEMBER OF CSIT

CSIT President Bruno Molea presented former President Harald Bauer with an honorary membership. At the beginning of the CSIT Congress in Barcelona, Harald Bauer accepted his appointment to great applause and a standing ovation from the congress delegates. The honour came as a surprise to the Austrian but was a unanimous decision by the CSIT management team. Harald Bauer was President of the CSIT from October 2008 to November 2016 and under his leadership, the World Amateur Sports Federation has undergone enormous development. The change of name from the Workers' Sports Association to the Amateur Sports Association and

thus the opening up to a much broader audience was also thanks to Harald Bauer, as were many necessary internal changes to processes and the relocation of the CSIT World Sports Games to odd-numbered years and thus to practically sportfree periods. "I am delighted to receive this honour and consider it a great thank you for my many years of service. I was very ambitious and always very happy to fulfil the role of CSIT President, but then had to hand it over to Bruno Molea due to private restructuring in my career. I will always be part of this great community and am very happy to be part of it, albeit irregularly, but always."

# CSIT IN THE PARLIAMENT OF CATALONIA

It is thanks to UCEC President Jaume Domingo and his excellent contacts in Catalan business and politics that CSIT President Bruno Moela and the entire CSIT ExCom were personally received by Catalonia's

Parliament President Anna Erra i Solà in the run-up to the congress in Barcelona. This is the third time that the CSIT has visited Catalonia. Twice with the CSIT Congress, in Barcelona in 2023 and in Tortosa in 2018, where the CSIT World Sports Games were also held in 2019. "Just as it is important for the CSIT to have good partners like the UCEC, it is also important for Catalonia to host strong world federations that hold their events in our region and are also informed about our political situation. This can be conveyed very well, especially through sport", said Senora Solà in her statement. CSIT President Bruno Molea expressed his thanks for the audience and emphasised the importance of the partnership with Catalonia: "We have been in very close contact with UCEC for years and are very grateful for their great support. We are always happy to be quests here. UCEC is also a partner for one of my great visions, namely to organise and host the Mediterranean Games together. I hope that we can achieve this together." X









## 4<sup>th</sup> CSIT SPORTS FORUM SPORT IMPACTS ALL

THE CSIT SPORT FORUM HAS BEEN A FIXED PART OF THE ANNUAL CSIT CONGRESS FOR YEARS. THIS YEAR, "SPORT IMPACTS ALL" WAS HELD AT THE INEFC SPORTS UNIVERSITY IN BARCELONA. THE MOTTO OF THE FOURTH EDITION WAS "POPULAR SPORT AS A TOOL FOR CHANGE" – "FROM SCHOOL-AGE SPORTS TO SPORTS FOR EVERYONE".

he event was hosted by the Catalan CSIT member association UCEC with President Jaume Domingo, who also gave the opening speech, together with Anna Caula, Secretary General of Sport in Catalonia and CSIT President Bruno Molea. Just as traditional as the sports format was the presentation of the EU co-funded projects that CSIT has been successfully realising for years in a wide variety of areas. This year's projects were "SGS – Sport for all Gender and Sexualities", an important topic that is becoming increasingly important in sport, and "e-YouACA E-learning", an online course for management in grassroots sports.

"Popular Sport as a tool for Change" is a meaningful title, mentioned CSIT President Bruno Molea in his opening speech: "...because it gives us the opportunity to talk about the impact of sport on the world. Sport is not just sport, it is also a means of social integration, a healthy lifestyle and, above all, peace. Especially now, it is by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer

very important to recognize this role of sport, because we have a terrible world situation. After two years of a global pandemic, we now have two terrible wars, the Russian-Ukrainian war, which has been going on for two years now, and now the crisis between Israel and Hamas. In both cases, the war is leading nowhere. With war we have no way of solving problems, we only produce death among the civilian population. Many of them are not interested in the political situation, they just want to live in peace. The CSIT can be an important instrument at international level to promote peace in the world. Through funding from the European Commission, CSIT runs projects that fight discrimination and inequality and promote inclusive communities.

This is our response to war: projects and initiatives to promote social inclusion and equality in sport."



**CSIT** .. is an important instrument at interviewel to promote peace in the world











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... is an important CSIT platform for the global promotion of amateur and grassroots sport. The World Amateur Sports Forum is aimed at experts from the world of grassroots sport, the international Olympic and Paralympic community, the world of research and academia, and all sportsmen and women interested in an initiative that aims to represent the special weight of grassroots sport in the world. The Sport Impacts All World Conference aims to engage athletes, academics, sports managers, policy makers and testimonials to discuss the social, health, economic and educational impact of sport on people

worldwide, as well as the impact of sport on promoting health, well-being and strengthening the social cohesion of communities, based on surveys and research. Science provides evidence of the benefits of sport for the daily lives of people and communities. These will be the pillars of the presentations and discussions.





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### CSIT WSC 2023 IN CERVIA A FAMILY EVENT AND COMPLETE SUCCESS

THE WSG2023 IN EMILIA ROMAGNA IN THE TOWNS OF RAVENNA, RICCIONE, FORLÌ, CESENA, CESENATICO, MISANO ADRIATICO AND THE CENTREPIECE CERVIA WERE POMPOUS AND COLOURFUL. NEARLY 5,000 PARTICIPANTS SPREAD ACROSS 7 CITIES AND 47 COMPETITION VENUES! THE GAMES IN THE EMILIA ROMAGNA REGION WILL BE REMEMBERED IN MANY WAYS, AS SHOWN BY THE SPECTACULAR OPENING CEREMONY WITH 3,500 PEOPLE IN PIAZZA GARIBALDI AND A PARADE OF 44 NATIONS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

esides the sporting activities, participants and their families had a great program besides. In addition, there were several side events and the possibility to participate in tourist activities on less crowded days. Relaxing and vacationing on the beautiful Adriatic Sea - a family event! And with the Closing Ceremony and an impressive closing party at the Fantini Club on the beach of Cervia with the taking down of the CSIT flag and the handover to Loutraki in Greece, the "host" of the 8<sup>th</sup> World Sports Games 2025.

#### HOPE FOR THE REGION OF EMILIA ROMAGNA

CSIT President Molea found very serious words during his opening speech: "Ladies and gentlemen, civil and military authorities, dear CSIT family, I am very glad to be here with you because this event has many emotional aspects: First of all, this is our first World Sports Games after the terrible world pandemic. We are here together, but many friends are no longer with us. The second aspect is the disaster that hit the Emilia Romagna region. I speak about the flooding. It

was terrible. Many cities were underwater for many days, many citizens were without houses, and some people lost everything. Their lives have changed." The CSIT president also pointed out very clearly that sport is a vehicle of inclusion and the World Sports Games represent a new start, particularly for this area. "With our festival, we not only bring competition and show elements. We also move the economy and bring hope to this region."

### BROAD SPORTS PROGRAM FOR ALL

3,800 athletes, plus referees, coaches, staff and volunteers. In total, the 7<sup>th</sup> CSIT World Sports Games had around 5,000 participants spread across 7 cities and 47 competition

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer





venues. Hundreds of medals in gold, silver and bronze were presented in 20 official CSIT international championships and 33 different sports. Almost all participating federations were able to take home precious medals.

### THE MOST SPECTACULAR SPORTS

Of the 33 sports contested, 20 were international CSIT championships. In addition, there were some demonstration sports and partner championships. Among them were pole sports in Forlì, water basketball in Riccione and Greco-Roman wrestling on the beach of Cervia. Dance sport was outstanding, the absolute protagonist at the Pala Galassi in Forlì with 700 participants in the U16,



Youth and Adults classes. The performances on Friday and Saturday evening left the audience speechless.

#### COLOURFUL DISTRIBUTION OF MEDALS

The list of medals won often naturally follows the list of participant numbers; however, this time, with a few surprises. Those who suspected host Italy at the top were wrong. ASKÖ Austria clearly won the medal table with 153 gold, 137 silver and 77 bronze medals. INDET Mexico followed with 101/82/87, host Italy with the associations AICS, ACSI and UISP only came third with 92/81/69 medals. The Dutch and Austrians were great swimmers. The Israeli champions in Mamanet and Chess, the Mexicans a bit in everything from swimming to basketball - from volleyball to football - from tennis to especially nightlife. As expected, the Italians were the excellent hosts and, above all, champions in fair play.

### THE MEXICAN "INVASION"

In terms of the number of participants, the Italians were clearly ahead. 363 AICS members, 217 from ACSI and 20 from UISP. A total of 600 Italians took part in the official championships. In addition, there were a few starts in partner and demonstration sports. This time, the largest foreign group was INDET Mexico with 288 participants, followed by FSGT France with 187 and INATEL Portugal with 119. There were just 53 for NCS Netherlands, which nevertheless took third place in the overall medal table thanks to podium finishes in swimming.

### FAIR PLAY AWARD TO ITALIAN BEACH WRESTLER

The most coveted prize of WSG2023, the Fair Play Award, went to Alessandro Bellavia of CAB-Bologna. For a noble, truly heroic act. The Italian beach wrestling athlete forfeited his gold medal due to misinterpretation of the rules. The jury had based the team score on the Italian federal criteria and not on international standards, which meant that the CAB/AiCS wrestlers took first place with a two-point lead. ASKÖ Austria lodged a protest and demanded a recount according to international rules. The protest was accepted with the agreement of the Italian team. The winner's trophy, which had already been presented to Italy, thus went to Austria, who, however, in the spirit of fairness, left the trophy with Italy. As an award for not winning gold and for his fair conduct, Alessandro Bellavia received the "CSIT Green Card" from the



international jury and was presented with the CSIT Fair Play Award at the closing ceremony of WSG2023.

#### PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR AVI SAGI

PI is a long-standing partner of CSIT, which awards deserving individuals from the world of sports with high medals during the CSIT World Sports Games. During WSG2023 in Cervia, this order was awarded to Israeli Avi Sagi. Among all the activities Avi Sagi has dedicated himself to during his long career in the service of sport. Panathlon International wanted to highlight his efforts to unite people through sport, one of Panathlon International's main objectives. Avi initiated the inclusion of Iranians as members of the CSIT and is still working to strengthen ties with South and Central American countries. In addition, Avi was one of the organisers of the 2016 CSIT ExCom Conference in Havana, Cuba. He initiated the reception of athletes from delegations of South American countries, including Brazil, led by Rui Campos. He also assists in obtaining visas for organisations from Africa and India that have difficulty in obtaining them. Avi was also awarded the "HAPOEL" prize for his activities in 2012.





# WORLD SPORTS GAMES 2025 IN GREECE

WITH THE CITIES OF LOUTRAKI IN GREECE AND BUSAN IN SOUTH KOREA, CSIT HAD TWO VERY STRONG AND ATTRACTIVE CANDIDATES TO HOST THE CSIT WORLD SPORTS GAMES 2025, AFTER A THOROUGH **EXAMINATION OF THE DOCUMENTS AND** WEIGHING UP ALL THE PROS AND CONS OF BOTH CANDIDATES, THE CSIT EXCOM ENTRUSTED THE GREEK METROPOLIS OF LOUTRAKI WITH THE STAGING OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CSIT EVENT AND THE FLAGSHIP OF THE ORGANISATION. LOUTRAKI WILL PROVIDE A WIDE RANGE **OF SPORT DISCIPLINES THAT COVER** THE NEEDS, TASTES AND ATHLETIC **ABILITIES OF ALL PARTICIPANTS. JOIN** THE SPORTS FESTIVAL TO DISCOVER THE **GAMES, WATCH WORKERS & AMATEURS** COMPETE ONE ANOTHER AND LIVE AN **UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE!** 

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer

The 8<sup>th</sup> World Sports Games in Loutraki will take place from 3 to 8 June 2025







SIT President Bruno Molea and Giorgios Gkionis, the Mayor of Loutraki (GRE) signed on the first day of the CSIT ExCom meeting in Greece 2023 the cooperation agreement for the 8th CSIT World Sports Games 2025. The meeting took place in Olympia, the birthplace of the Olympic Games. CSIT President Bruno Molea: "After a long and friendly discussion, the CSIT Executive Committee has decided to award the CSIT World Sports Games 2025 to Loutraki, because this candidature was more in line with the philosophy of the CSIT."

The Hellenic Organization for Company Sport and Health (HOCSH) had the pleasure to participate as an official member of CSIT since 2019. The delegation was accompanied by the President of the Organization, Mr. Nikos Kerasovitis, and the Mayor of Loutraki-Perachora-Agioi Theodoroi, George Gkionis, who received the CSIT flag at the closing ceremony of the Games 2023 in Cervia.

### WSG FOR THE FIRST TIME IN GREECE

The Greek region of Loutraki-Perachora-Agioi Theodoroi together with the CSIT member association HOCSH - Hellenic Organization for Company Sport & Health and its highly experienced and dedicated team proofed to guarantee the high quality of the CSIT WSG and the related satisfaction of the participants in a very privileged sports destination. It is the first time that CSIT World Sports Games are held in Greece, one of the most famous tourism, cultural and sports destinations in the world. More than 40.000 athletes have participated in championships & events in Loutraki in the last decade!

### BETWEEN ATHENS AND OLYMPIA

Loutraki, the gate of Mythical Peloponnese, is a unique destination, ideal for tourism on a year-round basis, located 80km from the city of Athens and 3km from Korinthos, on the way between Athens and the ancient city of Olympia. The centre is the town of Loutraki, founded in 1934. The municipality covers an area of 293.2 km and has 21,200 inhabitants. In summer, the population rises up to 60,000. The inhabitants are mainly engaged in the tourism industry, but at the same time also in the developing light industry, handicrafts and agriculture.

### PERFECT TRANSPORT LINKS TO ATHENS

Loutraki is connected by road and rail to the Greek capital Athens, 80 km away, and by road, rail and sea to the country's main ports in Piraeus and Patra. The city is a worldwide destination for sports travel and events, with a recognised diversity and quality in the organisation of major cultural and sporting events. The city and its surroundings host interesting sporting events throughout the year with great success, as well as various European and national championships.

### BLUE FLAG OF EUROPE

The Loutraki-Perachora-Agioi Theodoroi region is world famous for its beautiful beaches with crystal clear sea. Since 1987, the region has been repeatedly awarded the "Blue Flag of Europe" in environmental management for the benefit of tourism and the environment. Here the quality of the bathing water, the environmental information, the environmental management, the organisation of the beach and the services provided are right.



### EXPERIENCED TOURISM REGION

The municipality attaches particular importance to the organisation of major sports events in order to develop sports and health tourism and attract visitors and groups interested in this form of tourism. The Loutraki Tourism Organisation is the official destination management organisation of the municipality that promotes the tourism product of Loutraki.

### EXPERIENCE IN LEADING LARGE SPORTING EVENTS

The Hellenic Organization for Company Sport and Health (HOCSH) is undoubtedly capable of effectively organising a major event such as the CSIT World Sports Games and hosting competitions in all official CSIT sports in Loutraki. HOCSH is a nonprofit organisation that has been run by a volunteer board since 2011. All board members have proven experience in leading large sporting and recreational activities and events and share the same vision of the importance of a healthier lifestyle.

### SAME VALUES AND GOALS AS CSIT

HOCSH's mission is clearly defined. As a Non-profit organisation, it aims to bring together workers and amateur sports organisations, other non-governmental organisations, companies and society. The focus is on social exchange and improving health through sport and leisure activities within a company and through sport for all. Ideal conditions for a CSIT event.

### YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

In addition, HOCSH aims to promote an active lifestyle among the family members of its employees, especially the youth, in order to cultivate the culture of sports and increase health awareness among future generations. HOCSH is the authorised Greek member of CSIT and works under their auspices to facilitate the participation of Greek corporate teams in international sporting events.

### SPORTS SPIRIT AND FAIR PLAY

This is another area where the ideals of HOCSH and CSIT meet. The concept of sports spirit and fair play is synonymous with Hellenic heritage and has been deeply embedded in the national consciousness since ancient times. A great vision is to create a platform where such initiatives by companies and organisations can flourish, spread and thus contribute significantly to



the further development of sports culture. HOCSH is deeply inspired by the work of CSIT in mobilising youth, workers and amateur individuals to lead active, sociable and healthy lifestyles. Hence the motivation to apply for CSIT World Sports Games.

#### FACTS AND FIGURES FOR THE WSG2025

HOCSH aims to finalize venue bookings by the end of the year 2023. The sports program will be completed in collaboration with CSIT sports directors and CSIT partners. The travel packages will be available from summer 2024, featuring a variety of accommodation options to suit diverse preferences, along with early bird discounts. The opening, closing ceremony and the daily events will take place in a festive atmosphere in collaboration with the municipality and cultural organizations. The website, social media channels, and promotional materials will be released prior to May '24.











THE NEW WORLD SPORTS FEDERATION "ICSBF – INTERNATIONAL CATCH'N SERVE BALL SPORTS FEDERATION" WAS ALREADY PRESENTED INTERNALLY AT THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CSIT CONGRESS IN BARCELONA AND ANNOUNCED BY CSIT PRESIDENT BRUNO MOLEA IN HIS INAUGURAL SPEECH FOLLOWING HIS RE-ELECTION. ICSBF HAS BEEN FOUNDED AND LAUNCHED MID OF NOVEMBER OFFICIALLY.



### ICSBF - INTERNATIONAL CATCH'N SERVE BALL SPORTS FEDERATION

by Elisabeth Speiser-Havel, Mamanet Austria

he Catch'n Serve Ball Sports Federation is a worldwide sports umbrella organisation with a democratic structure that is aimed at all those who have already played the sport of Cachibol, which originated in South America, or who want to start playing "Catch'n Serve Ball". A New World Federation for equality in sport founded under the auspices of the CSIT

With the claim "Play, catch, connect for equality in sport", Catch'n Serve Ball also aims to address new target groups. Serve doesn't just mean serving the ball and playing on, but also using this sport to support those groups in the countries that are needed for equality in sport. These are important measures that Bruno Molea and his new CSIT team have planned for the near future.

Bruno Molea noted this in his inaugural speech following his reelection: "Since 2015, CSIT has been the global supporter and accelerator of Mamanet. In 2020, a European project coordinated by AICS offered CSIT the opportunity to further expand the movement in Europe. 10 new EU countries were activated in collaboration with individuals and organisations where Mamanet was played. All 10 were not members of the CSIT. In recent weeks and months, CSIT has been faced with the question of how to continue with this great potential for the benefit of all new partners. The CSIT has now decided to create the new Catch'n Serve federation to widen participation in the sport and open it up not only to women, but also to men and families. The main purpose is to create a social platform that promotes easy access to sport for everyone. For women and mothers of course, but also for children,



fathers, grandparents, families and all other individuals. The concept here is equality in sport for all."

ICSBF was founded by CSIT, AICS (Italy), TUL (Finland), HLA (Croatia), Mamanet Austria and Mamanet Italy. The federation is based at the Maison du Sport International, Avenue de Rhodanie 54, in Lausanne, Switzerland. All national Catch'n Serve ball sports associations and all sports associations that practice this sport are or can become members. The aim of the ICSBF is to promote and develop the sport and access to team sports, in particular Catch'n Serve Ball. An easily accessible team sport in which the ball is caught and thrown over the net to the opponent.

Mamanet Austria President Jennifer Kickert is convinced: "With the new name and the opening up of the target group, there are new opportunities to promote our sport. However, the focus on women and the motivation for them to take part in sport, as well as the emphasis on respect, equality and fair play should and will remain!" With the restart and the opening up, the circle is now complete, as the sport of Mamanet and now Cath'n Serve Ball is increasingly being recognised and promoted in public spaces and schools.

The next steps now consist of integrating all organisations that practice Mamanet and want to practise this new sport into the association. To this end, the CSIT will start working with all EU partners in the European project. The federation must and should be open to everyone.

"Membership of Catch'n Serve Ball should be free for the first year," says CSIT President Bruno Molea. "The idea is to incentivise collaboration and introduce a sport around the world that promotes health and wellbeing, but also social cohesion. If CSIT members and partners want to participate, we are ready to activate membership!"







# **CSIT PART OF THE** OLYMPIC RINGS AND MOVEMENT

by Wolfgang Burghardt, CSIT Secretary General

CSIT HAS BEEN REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF GRASSROOTS AND AMATEUR SPORT AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF WORLD SPORT FOR MANY YEARS. CSIT IS "RECOGNISED BY THE IOC" SINCE 1986 AND IS A MEMBER OF SPORTACCORD SINCE 1973. CSIT PRESIDENT BRUNO MOLEA WAS ALSO A BOARD MEMBER OF THE GAISF (GLOBAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS) UNTIL ITS RECENT DISSOLUTION. AS AIOS PRESIDENT (ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS FOR SPORT) BASED IN LAUSANNE, BRUNO MOLEA WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE THIS SUCCESSFUL PATH IN SPORTACCORD ON BEHALF OF CSIT AND THE OTHER AIOS INTEREST GROUPS.



IOC President Thomas Bach delivered the welcome address at the IF Forum in Lausanne SIT President Molea had the privilege of being a guest at the SportAccordsupported World Combat Games 2023, which took place in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) from 20 to 23 October. The games are an international multi-sport festival that combines ancient traditions, exciting competitions and sports demonstrations. The program included 16 martial arts and combat sports competitions, sports demonstrations and educational conferences organised by leading martial arts experts.





The event also included the first World Martial Arts Gala, at which the legends of martial arts and combat sports were honored. Bruno Molea was invited by SportAccord President Ivo Ferriani, with whom he also maintains close contacts in Italy and regularly exchanges ideas. SportAccord Managing Director Martin Gibbs and Stephan Fox, Chairman of the World Combat Games, were also important dialogue partners. Fox and Ferriani have excellent connections within SportAccord and the IOC and are therefore important partners of the CSIT in its further development.

#### GUEST AT THE SPORTACCORD IF FORUM

Another highlight at this high level was the SportAccord IF Forum from 13 to 15 November at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne (Switzerland). President's Office Valeria Gherardini. The IF Forum is an annual event organised by SportAccord for international sports federations and their stakeholders and supported by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The Forum brings together over 300 leaders from 125 international sports federations, with delegates, speakers and exclusive official IF Forum partners addressing and discussing the challenges and issues facing global sport.

The CSIT was

represented by

President Bruno

Molea, Secretary

gang Burghardt

and Head of the

Wolf-

General

IOC President Thomas Bach, delivered the welcome address at the IF Forum and called on IFs and the sport and business community to unite in the face of an increasingly complex international environment. A panel of high-level external experts discussed, among other things, strategies to improve gender equality in sport, examples of how IFs are using technology to increase viewership and revenue, and the headwinds facing



all sports, such as supply-side constraints and global instability.

In addition, International Federations (IFs) were warned of the impending impact of climate change on their sports. The importance of concrete measures to promote environmentally friendly strategies was emphasised. At the same time, IFs were urged to use their influence to inspire others to make meaningful changes.



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### GROWING OLDER HEALTHY AND HAPPY

by Patrizia Cupo, AICS

AICS HAS BEEN PROMOTING THE NATIONAL SOCIAL AND SPORTS PLAN "MIGIOACT – I MOVE, I PLAY, I AM ACTIVE" THROUGHOUT ITALY SINCE 2023, WHICH IS FUNDED BY THE SPORTS AND HEALTH SECTOR AND INVOLVES COACHES, TECHNICIANS AND VOLUNTEERS TO ENSURE FREE AND SOCIAL SPORT FOR THE COUNTRY'S OVER-60S.



hared collective responsibility against ageing alone and sitting around is an urgent matter in Italy. This is confirmed by data from the Italian health system from 2017 to 2020, which shows that there must be a national plan to promote sports facilities in the fight against physical inactivity and in favour of a healthy lifestyle and diet for the over-60s. Regular physical activity is necessary to stay healthy.

The project was carried out in 20 Italian regions and 30 cities with the involvement of the AICS network and the participation of local authorities, health authorities and other associations. Everyone worked together to organise and ensure sports activities aimed at the over-60s and, of course, disabled athletes.

Activities included three multisport open days in each participating city, free two-hour team sports courses every other week for six months, multi-sport campuses in



residential areas and the training of sports professionals to design and lead disciplines. A total of 17,000 over-60s were involved throughout Italy. The focus was on those most at risk of marginalisation.

The aim was to promote physical activity among the over-60s, test initiatives to promote access to physical activity for older people from a health-conscious perspective and develop appropriate skills among sports stakeholders to promote healthy lifestyles among the older population. One thing is certain: the participants of the AiCS courses feel better today.

Yoga could be practised on the Tuscan beach of Massa Carrara, accompanied by Reiki sessions and seminars. In Cagliari, Sardinia, the free multisport campus provided a great team sports experience to overcome sedentariness and isolation. In Rimini, there was a project with mobility impairments and neurodegenerative diseases. A whole day of wellness and tranquillity. In Syracuse, Sicily, MiGioAct took place exclusively in the swimming pool, including water aerobics with gentle gymnastics, lots of walks in nature and plenty of networking. This was also very positive for social interaction.

Some participants got so involved with the AICS project that they wanted to become testimonials. Like Nino Venuto. The 83-year-old singer and musician is now a committed sportsman thanks to AiCS: "Sport makes me feel better and less lonely!"





### Free and qualified TEAM SPORT in **ITALIAN SCHOOLS** by Patrizia Cupo, AICS

ACCORDING TO THE WHO'S EUROPEAN REGIONAL OBESITY REPORT 2022, ONE IN THREE SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN IN EUROPE LIVES WITH OVERWEIGHT OR OBESITY. ITALY IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE INCIDENCE OF THE DISEASE IN EUROPE. THIS IS WHERE "TEAM SPORT AT SCHOOL" COMES IN, ONE OF THE FOUR NATIONAL SPORTS PROJECTS FOR WHICH AICS RECEIVED FUNDING FROM SPORT AND HEALTH, THE ITALIAN NATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF SPORT AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLES.

ccording to the report, Italy has the highest percentage of overweight or obese children between the ages of 5 and 9, at 42 per cent, and ranks fourth in the 10-19 age group, at 34.2 per cent. To counteract the current forecasts and prevent this silent epidemic from worsening, the WHO has decided to promote physical activity. Sport is proving to be an effective means of preventing and treating obesity, as well as acting as a socialising tool and combating psychophysical problems in young children.

In the last 12 months, the project has activated 29 AICS Area Committees in Italy, involving around 3,000 children and young people, training 60 qualified sports coaches and reaching more than 40 schools. It is aimed at school-age children between the ages of 3 and 14 and offers free and quali-fied physical activity from kindergarten to secondary school. These are in-school or out-of-school activities, with a commitment of 2 hours per week for 6 consecutive months. In addition, there are 4 days of open sports in each participating city.Entire festive days open to all teachers, pupils and families, dedicated to free sport.

The objectives are:

- 1-to promote the constant practice of physical activity and sport among chil-dren and young people;
- 2-to actively involve families in the promotion of motor practice for chil-dren and the whole family;
- 3- to develop specific competences of sports actors in relation to the offer of physical activity and sport and its role in the development of children and young people aged 3 to 14.

The goal was achieved and confirmed by the fact that schools that were already involved in the first edition of the project in 2022 applied for an extension of the activities for the following year. This is certainly due to the trusting relationship established

> between AICS and the

educational institutions, but above all to the project itself. The plan provides for free qualified sport in schools. A service that did not exist before. According to the latest Italian reform, there are no special sports lessons in pre-schools and in primary schools only in the fourth and fifth grades.

The "Team sports at school" plan, which is also promoted by the Ministry of Education and Merit, provides schools with competent coaches who are trained to plan sports activities. Untrained teachers are thus relieved of the obligation. Sports equipment is also provided, which remains in the school after the project is completed, as well as sports festivals that are free of charge and open to everyone, not just the pupils involved in the project.

With four open days for each of the participating cities, AICS was able to guarantee more than 100 days of free sport, benefiting more than 13,000 people, including adults, children and young people. A wave of health, that makes sport a public policy.





### CSIT news | MEMBERS AND PARTNERS STORIES



## ASKÖ present by Andrea Gruber, ASKÖ at all seven CSIT WSC

ASKÖ AUSTRIA HAS BEEN CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE CSIT FOR MANY YEARS. THE ASKÖ DELEGATION IS ALWAYS ONE OF THE LARGEST TEAMS IN THE ENTIRE FIELD OF PARTICIPANTS AT ALL CSIT WSGS. ASKÖ PRESIDENT HERMANN KRIST IS A REGULAR GUEST AT THE CSIT WORLD SPORTS GAMES AND IS IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE CSIT MANAGEMENT AND CSIT PRESIDENT BRUNO MOLEA AND SUPPORTS THE INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT IN ALL ITS ENDEAVOURS.



he ASKÖ participation at the Games took place for the 7<sup>th</sup> time. The delegation consisted of about 200 athletes, coaches and accompanying persons. In addition to numerous victories, the overall ranking was also won in various sports. The fact that the ASKÖ stands for fairness in sports was shown once again by the fact that the Fair Play Award went to the mixed relay of the Masters swimmers, the Green Card was awarded to our karate athlete Thomas Schell

for his fairness in combat.

In addition to numerous competitions, the CSIT World Sports Games always offer opportunities for networking Fit und locker





and exchange of different nations and their focus. On the part of ASKÖ, a small group of seniors was again represented, who used these days to do sports together, to network and also to talk about future cooperation. Our delegation of seniors under the leadership of Peter Staribacher



experienced productive and interesting activities where new international friendships were made.

### AUSTRIAN DAY OF SPORTS

Austria's largest open-air sports event was hosted on Saturday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2023 in the Vienna Prater. Like every year, ASKÖ was part of it again. The ASKÖ Team was there the whole day to inform old and young about our activities and courses. For them lots of sports equipment was available and Visitors could also use the Fit-Check Bus. The highlight was again the Hopsi Hopper carpet (especially for our youngest guests) as well as the ASKÖ wheel of fortune with many great prices. President Hermann Krist was pleased to welcome many presidents of professional associations and sports officials.

### ASKÖ YOUTH PROMOTION PRIZE

This year again, the ASKÖ federal organization awarded sports clubs as well as trainers for their great commitment in the field of youth. The ASKÖ Youth Promotion Award was open to ASKÖ clubs with young athletes, aged 14 to 21, who were successful at national or international level between January 2022 until May 2023. The winners were awarded in the House of Sports in Vienna by Vice President Mag. Dr. Thomas Zacharias, Secretary General Michael Maurer and Youth Officer Mag. Andrea Gruber, MSc.



### ASKÖ YOUTH SPORTS WEEK

This year from the 16<sup>th</sup> of July until the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July, for the 72<sup>nd</sup> time ASKÖ hosted its largest youth camp at the Federal Sports and Leisure Center in Obertraun (Upper Austria). More than 100 young athletes were able to work on their technique, coordination and fitness under optimal training conditions and under the guidance of an experienced team of trainers and coaches. The youngsters trained in their specialist sports - Athletics, Volleyball, Judo, Tabletennis and Handball. The athlethes also got the chance to try out 3x3 basketball. The ASKÖ Excom took the opportunity to visit the youth sports week and talked about future topics.

### ASKÖ AWARD CEREMONY ATHLETICS YOUNGSTER'S CUP

Every year, the best ASKÖ clubs in the youth sector (U14-U18) are selected and supported with considerable additional funding. The ASKÖ Athletics Youngster's Cup was held for the fourth time in 2022 and can be described as the best example of a successful cooperation between the professional association and ASKÖ. This year the ASKÖ athletes achieved excellent performances and they earned for their Clubs points for the overall ranking of the ASKÖ Athletics Youngster's Cup. For a long time, sports could be played again without restrictions and the competitions were held as they were before the Corona pandemic. Our ASKÖ athletes were able to achieve perfect results.

The award ceremony took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February 2023 in the course of the Indoor State Championship in Linz. ASKÖ President, Mr. Hermann Krist, and ASKÖ Head of Sports, Mr. Matthias Lindner MSc, did not miss the opportunity to honor the winning clubs personally and the outstanding achievements. They presented the



winning teams with symbolic winner's checks and congratulated them for their fantastic achievements in the past year.

#### ASKÖ NATIONAL CONGRESS OF OFFICIALS IN CARINTHIA

From the 24<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2023 the ASKÖ national congress of officials once again took place together with the Fit and Sport Committee in St. Veit/Glan (Carinthia). ASKÖ's activities for the coming year will be discussed and innovations will be presented. The event "Sportopia", the forum for sustainability in sport, a unique exchange platform for experiences, ideas and smart solutions for sports organizations, will be on the agenda.

### 100 YEARS ASKÖ IN 2024 TWO BIG ANNIVERSARIES

ASKÖ will be 100 years old. On October 25<sup>th</sup> 1924 the clubs from workers and other associations came togheter the first time as ASKÖ. Hopsi Hopper, the mascot of ASKÖ, celebrates his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. Since 1994 Hopsi Hopper inspired 1000 of children every year with doing sport and movements together.







# by Tilmann Ziegenhain, RKB instead of COUCH

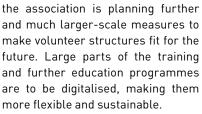
RKB "SOLIDARITÄT" GERMANY SUCCESSFULLY ENGAGES NEW VOLUNTEERS WITH CERTIFICATIONS. VOLUNTEER WORK IS THE BACKBONE OF ALL EVENTS FOR CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS. THIS ALSO APPLIES TO RKB SOLIDARITY GER-MANY. IT IS THE MEMBERS AT LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVEL WHO KEEP THE ORGANISATION RUNNING THROUGH THEIR VOLUNTARY WORK.

nfortunately, like many others, the RKB is seeing a decline in the willingness to volunteer. In addition to developments in society as a whole, such as the increasing burden of work, rigid association structures also play a major role. And this is precisely where RKB 2023 came in with the "Coach Light" project funded by the German Ministry of the Interior and was successful.

The aim of the programme was to give interested parties a low-threshold insight into the work that coaches and trainers do in clubs. In addition to a theoretical input on topics such as training methods, pedagogical attitude or communication and feedback. a second, practical part followed with very specific tips, for example on warm-up training or coordination exercises. Over the course of the year, a total of seven "Coach Light" training courses were held in various regions. One focussed on artistic cycling, the other on roller sports. This covered the two most important sporting specialisations of the association. All participants received a certificate at the end - and their feedback was consistently positive.

### "SOLI ACADEMY" DIGITAL TRAINING OFFENSIVE

The "Coach Light" programme is just the beginning. Under the umbrella of the "Soli Academy",



"Blended learning" is another keyword, i.e. the combination of computer-based, individualised learning on your own computer and practical units in the group on site. Prospective trainers, exercise instructors and other volunteers can thus complete large parts of the necessary training and further education programmes when they have time. Long journeys to and from courses are avoided wherever possible.

This long overdue "digital offensive" also includes instructional videos for artistic cycling. The first









batch was created in cooperation with "Indoor Cycling World Wide" and was published on YouTube over the course of the year. With English subtitles, the RKB hopes to use these freely accessible clips to strengthen the structures of the traditional sport beyond the borders of associations and countries.

### FOCUS ON INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

The RKB wants to focus more on international prospects again from 2024. The start has already been made at the CSIT World Sports Games in Cervia. Hanspeter Friede (RKB Vice President and head of the delegation for the association's own national figure skating team) made many contacts with other CSIT associations in Italy. There is no need to emphasise that the young athletes were very enthusiastic about the competitions and, above all, the atmosphere in Emilia Romagna.

However, it should be emphasised that the "CSIT World Sports Games" played an important role at the traditional international youth camp of the Solijugend (independent youth association of the RKB). In addition to exciting excursions, sporting competitions and a cultural programme, around 200 young people from nine countries took part in a series of workshops focusing on "Sport and Human Rights".

There was also input on the CSIT and its most important event as an alternative concept to commercialisation and the pressure to perform, with the common roots also being highlighted: The workers' sports movement in general and the Workers' Olympics in particular.

Even though popular sport is and should remain the focus of the RKB, the association is delighted to see its members achieve top sporting performances. Especially the world champion title that artistic cyclist Ramona Dandl recently won in Glasgow.









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### EVERY MOTHER CAN OUR MISSION HAS JUST BEGUN

by Silvana Delia, Barleti University

BARLETI" UNIVERSITY IN TIRANA (ALBANIA) BECAME FOR THE FIRST TIME A PART OF THE MAMANET LEAGUE, AND AS ASSOCIATED PARTNER, MEMBER OF CSIT. THEIR AM-BITIOUS VISION, AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, IS NOT ONLY TO GIVE THE BEST WITHIN THE CONTOURS OF A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION. AS LEADERS, ACADEMIC STAFF, SUPPORT STAFF, COLLABORATORS, PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY, THEY TAKE ON A SPECIAL IMPORTANCE: EDUCATE BY EXAMPLE.

> herefore, inclusiveness in the Mamanet project goes beyond participation in a championship. It is a respect for women as sisters, mothers and devoted friends who in their daily lives prioritize doing the best for everyone except for themselves. We confidently call our participation as associated partners a success story, for representing ourselves decently, winning a match in this event and being a part of the international team that won the silver medal in Beach Volleyball.

Participating in the "European Mamanet Festival 2023" was an impressive event as we experienced

> a welcoming atmosphere, cooperation, understanding and joint efforts for a fair game full of joy and happiness, inside the game and out. Even the efforts of the organizers for the successful realization of this activity with a wide base of participants was an experience to take as an example of our ability to organize and

implement activities that require a wide commitment of many structures in the service of such ambitious projects.

Mamanet is now part of the culture in our university. With the aim of expanding the beautiful emotions, this new network gained will make other partnerships with organizations throughout Albania possible. With more responsibility, we will bring to the whole society, the attention that women are the heart of every family, so her physical and psychological well-being through an active life is the well-being of the whole society. Our call for every girl, mother or sister, their families and communities to join MAMANET, responds to the motto: "Together we can, the mission continues!"

The colorful emotions that Mamanet gives us, many people turn them into verses, into melodies, into new hugs, in setting more ambitious objectives which testify to a better psychological well-being and an increased desire to do the best. As a result of this, we are conveying to you some heartfelt words in verse ...

M ather is unique, the heart of a society

- A simple word of hers is a melody
- M ind and spirit
- that moves the world A leader by example
- not only by the words N ever will stop
- contributing to prosperity E ducating with love,
- full of dignity
- T ogether they express equity and leading .





### Supplement Edition 1/24

International Workers and Amateurs in Sports Confederation



onal Workers & Amateurs orts Confederation





Impressions of the CSIT WORLD SPORTS GAMES 2023 IN CERVIA













































































2023







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Grazie mille per il grande evento



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### DREAMS COME TRUE FOR THE UKRAINE by Andrey Radchenko, AUHHCF

RECENT YEARS HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT NOT ONLY FOR HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT, UKRAIN-IAN SPORTS, BUT ALSO FOR THE ENTIRE SOCIETY IN THE UKRAINE. AUHHCF HAVE FACED A DIFFICULT PERIOD IN HISTORY. IN FEBRUARY 2022, THE WAR BROKE OUT. MANY THINGS WERE "PUT ON HOLD" AFTER THIS DIFFICULT NEWS. AT THE SAME TIME, THANKS TO THE HEROIC STRUGGLE OF THE UKRAINIAN PEOPLE, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND FRIENDS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, THEY MANAGED TO "SURVIVE". AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, TO REPRESENT THE COUNTRY AT ABSOLUTELY ALL SCHEDULED COMPETITIONS.

ur global goal in 2023 was to participate in the World Sports Games 2023, where the sport of handto-hand combat was introduced for the first time. To achieve this goal, the team of the Ukrainian Unarmed Combat Federation did a titanic job in 2022-2023. And despite all the obstacles and difficulties, 45 Ukrainian athletes took part in the World Sports Games 2023 in Cervia.

Yuriy Radchenko, President of the Ukrainian Federation, calls the appearance of his team a dream come true: "The CSIT World Sports Games are a symbol of peace and friendship. This is the idea that all athletes should compete with each other only in sports, not on the battlefield." He says that the enthusiasm at the opening parade made him realize that his dream and the dream of his athletes had come true. This feeling cannot be created artificially. It is only possible in sports."

"The World CSIT Sports Games will be remembered for the impressive opening ceremony with the participation of 5000 people in Garibaldi Square, where more than 44 countries gathered, participation in the competitions, as well as the closing ceremony with the removal of the CSIT flag and its transfer to Greece, the host of the 2025 World Sports Games", says Andrii Radchenko, Secretary of the CSIT Technical Commission. "I would like to thank the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine and CSIT World Sports Games for their help in this difficult time. It is indeed true that a friend in need is a friend, and we are grateful to everyone who lent a friendly shoulder at this moment" he says.

We look forward to further close cooperation on the development of hand-to-hand combat in the big CSIT family.



CSIT news | MEMBERS AND PARTNERS STORIES



# What an exciting year 2023

by Simona Callo, Panathlon International

PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT PARTNER OF THE CSIT FOR MANY YEARS. IT'S A LONG-STANDING PARTNERSHIP WORKING TOGETHER TO SPREAD COMMON IDEALS THROUGH A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT. PI ALSO PRESENTS ITS AWARD AT THE CSIT WORLD SPORTS GAMES TO PEOPLE OF SPECIAL MERIT. IN CERVIA, THE ISRAELI AVI SAGI RECEIVED THIS AWARD. THERE WERE A LARGE NUMBER OF PI EVENTS IN 2023 AND PLANNING IS ALREADY IN FULL SWING FOR 2024.



At the Panathlon International headquarters - Villa Queirolo Rapallo, Panathlon International President Pierre Zappelli and One Ocean Foundation President Riccardo Bonadei, awarded an Ethical Plague to more than ten Maritime Bodies that have signed the Charta Smeralda, based between Sestri Levante and Genoa, for their commitment to share and spread the principles of safequarding the seas and oceans, with particular reference to the ethical values of sports practice in the water. All Panathlon Clubs around the world, close to the sea, lakes and



rivers, will be called upon to mobilize to implement this new initiative.

### MOU SIGNING WITH ISCA

During the PI's institutional meeting at Villa Queirolo there was a live signing between PI President Pierre Zappelli and ISCA President Mogens Kirkeby of the Collaboration Agreement for the partnership between the two Movements. Both Presidents expressed their commitment not only formally but to set up and implement common initiatives and projects.

> PI SCIENCE EDUCATION AND CULTURE COMMISSION MEETING

The meeting of the CCSE (Commission for Science, Education and Culture of the PI), presided by IB Member Eugenio Guglielmino and composed of Antonio



Carlos Bramante (BR) and Piermarco Zen Ruffinen (CH), has taken place in Rapallo. The main topic of the meeting was the discussion and approval of the theme of the next PI Congress 2024 (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Sports for Women), which will be held in Agrigento in June.

### KENPO WORLD CUP PARTICIPATION

Panathlon International President Pierre Zappelli attended the Kenpo Karate World Championships held in Lisbon where he introduced the PI Movement.

### EPAS CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Panathlon International participated online in the annual Human Rights Sports Forum organized by the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) in cooperation with the Data Protection Unit. The third edition of



# CSIT news | MEMBERS AND PARTNERS STORIES

the Sports and Human Rights Forum will focus specifically on issues related to the right to privacy and data protection. It is aimed at creating an exchange between specialists from different fields, addressing emerging human rights challenges in a sports context, enabling closer cooperation and exploring avenues for further actions to be taken.

### EUROPEAN WEEK OF SPORT PARTICIPATION

In September, millions of people including athletes, fans, experts and sports associations from all over Europe gathered to participate in one of the world's biggest sports initiatives: the European Week of Sport. Panathlon International also answered the call as a partner. Many Panathlon clubs on European territory, encouraged by the International Board guidelines, organized events to promote mental and physical well-being through sports and healthy lifestyles.



On the occasion of World Fair Play Day on September 7, Pl has created together with the Panathlon Club Wallonie Brussels, a new tool that offers 365 concrete examples that remind us that Fair-Play should be understood as a fundamental value in our daily lives, whether in the context of sports, school, or, more generally, citizenship.

### PAN AMERICAN CONGRESS IN GUAYQUIL

Pres the "Oro Verde" hotel in the presence of more than 100 delegates from around the world, the 15<sup>th</sup> Pan American Congress entitled "El



deporte es más que ganar o perder" began. It was an excellent opportunity to consolidate the already excellent collaborative relationships between members of the Panathletic movement of Europe and America, but also to examine current topics in the world of sports and to agree on further actions to guide the growth of Panathlon International.

#### DISTRICT PRESIDENTS' COMMITTEE

The institutional meeting of District Presidents representing the various countries in which Panathlon International is present took place at the same venue. The new District Argentina was also welcomed. During the meeting the strategic plan for the development of the PI was discussed and, in the conclusion, a final document was produced. It suggests and encourages new plans for the expansion of the movement and the development of new projects.

### MOU SIGNING WITH ODEBO

Among the side engagements at the pan-American congress in Guayaquil, a cooperation agreement was signed with ODEBO, the South American organization for the Bolivarian Games. With this agreement, the first in South America, a new project of participation of South American clubs in the Bolivarian Games is born. During the games, which take place in seven South American countries, will be awarded of a PI Fair Play award.

### **ONGOING PROJECTS**

Panathlon International is one of the partners of SAMF – Sport Against



Match-Fixing (SAMF), an Erasmus+ funded project coordinated by the Portuguese Football Federation (FPF). The SAMF project aims to raise awareness among grassroots athletes from different sports about the dangers of match-fixing and the negative impact it can have on their careers. After the first two meetings that took place in Lisbon and Malta in 2022 and monthly virtual meetings to review the development of the project in 2023, the partners met in Vilnius, Lithuania, from September 28-30, 2023. One of the main objectives of this meeting was to train and educate the Ambassadors (three per partner) for the implementation of Multiplier Sports Events and the presentation of the educational material produced (tool-kits, comics, posters and flyers, movies and interactive game).

### 2024 HAS ALREADY STARTED

The closing event of SAMF-the Final Conference organized by the Portuguese Football Federation-will be held in Lisbon (P) with the participation of internationally renowned stakeholders. The 51st Ordinary and Elective General Assembly will be held in Agrigento (I), which sees the election of the new President and the new International Board. The 22<sup>nd</sup> International Congress entitled "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Sports for Women" is also scheduled. Panathlon International is organizing through its District France for the participation and organization of events during the Olympics in Paris 2024. 👗

SIT news | MEMBERS AND PARTNERS STORIES



### 11<sup>th</sup> National Company Sports Games @REECE

by Aphrodite Alexandropoulou, HOCSH

by Apin ourie Alexandropodiod, noos

THE NATIONAL COMPANY SPORTS GAMES 2023 IN GREECE WERE A HUGE CELEBRATION OF SPORT, ATTRACTING HUGE CROWDS AND RECORD PARTICIPATION. THE GREEK CSIT MEMBER ASSOCIATION HOCSH RECORDED AN INCREDIBLE INCREASE OF 47 PER CENT. AROUND 1,200 EMPLOYEES TOOK PART IN THE 2023 GAMES, COMPETING IN 14 SPORTS AND AGREEING THAT SPORT BRINGS HUGE BENEFITS TO THE WORKPLACE.

he importance of the Games in Greece was also demonstrated by the high level of support from the business community. The event, organised by the Hellenic Organisation for Workplace Sports and Health, was supported by 71 companies, organisations and institutions. The official and exclusive sponsor for air travel was the Greek airline Aegean Airlines and the travel service provider Erasmus Conferences & Events. The event was also sponsored by Coca Cola HBC.

The Company Sports Games were held under the patronage of the Ministry of Education, Religion and Sport, the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and the Municipality of Galatsi. In his speech, Vasilis Spanakis, the Minister of Labour and Social Security, thanked the organisers for their efforts and highlighted the importance of the games in improving the relationship between work and sport. During the closing ceremony at the Galatsi Christmas Theatre, there were a number of awards and glittering performances.

Special mention should be made of the valuable contribution of the many volunteers who enthusiastically supported the event. The organisation, which is certified by the General Secretariat for Sport, carries out many activities to promote health and wellbeing in the workplace. It was founded in 2011 and is an active member of CSIT, the International Confederation of Workers' and Amateur Sports.



# A YEAR of **SUCCESS** and **EXPANSION**

AFTER A FEW YEARS OF REDUCED ACTIVITIES DUE TO COVID-19, THE IAAFL HAS FINALLY RESUMED ITS ACTIVITIES IN ITALY AND ALSO IN THE REST OF THE WORLD. AFTER PARTICIPATING IN THE CSIT CONGRESS IN ROME 2022, THE IAAFL HAD STARTED TO STRENGTHEN THE PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITIES. ESPECIALLY WITH A VIEW TO PARTICIPATING IN THE CSIT WSG2023 IN CERVIA, ITALY.

by Walter Sabbioneda, IAAFL

n 2019, American football was still a CSIT demonstration sport. At the WSG2023, the new status of a CSIT partner championship was introduced. This increased worldwide interest and participation in the CSIT WSG2023 in Cervia, and the number of registrations for the tournament doubled. teams from Morocco were unable to take part due to VISA problems. However, the IAAFL cancelled flag football again due to too few pitches at the WSG2023. At the WSG2025 in Loutraki (Greece), this popular variant will be back in the program.

### DEMO SPORT AT THE 2028 OLYMPICS IN LOS ANGELES

At the WSG2019, the IAAFL developed Tackle Football, a version with contact. Flag football was also considered by the IAAFL for the WSG2023. This variant has become increasingly popular in recent years and was approved as a demo sport for the next Olympic Games in Los Angeles in 2028 shortly after WSG2023.

Teams and athletes from various IAAFL partner countries took part in Cervia, including Italy, Costa Rica, USA, Mexico, France, Ecuador, Spain and Switzerland. Unfortunately, two

### STREAMING RECORD WITH 228,000 VIEWS

A total of 15 matches were played over three days of qualifying matches and one day of finals. The streaming of the final between Sharks International Costa Rica and Team Mexico had a record 228,000 views!!!

During the last CSIT Congress, the IAAFL was promoted to full member. The next big goal is to make American football an official CSIT sport of WSG. IAAFL is also entering into a partnership with an independent organisation in Mexico and is jointly organising a major world tournament in Cancun in September 2024. A whole series of continental events are on the agenda in Italy and Europe.







Further info on http://www.iaafl.eu/



# SUMMER **SPARTAKIADE** 2024 IN ESTONIA



by Taavi Kruut, EESTI

2024, ESTONIA WILL HOST A SPECTACULAR EVENT IN THE STYLE OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES: THE ESTONIAN COMPANY SPORTS FEDERATION OLYMPIC GAMES, WHICH ARE DEEPLY CONNECTED TO THE IDEA OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES AND THE SPORTS HELD THERE. IN ADDITION TO SPORT, HOWEVER, THERE WILL ALSO BE MANY ENTERTAINING SIDE EVENTS. IN 2023, EESTI WILL ATTEMPT TO SET A NEW RECORD WITH MORE THAN 1,000 PARTICIPANTS. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT THE 2024 SUMMER SPARTAKIAD IN HAAPSALU.



t is the flagship event of the Estonian Company Sports Association, which takes place every year in one of the Estonian summer destinations Pärnu, Haapsalu, Kuressaare, Viljandi, Narva-Jõesuu and also in other cities such as Tartu, Elva or Valga. The event usually takes place in June or July and around 1,000 people take part in this threeday multi-sport event!

The variety of sports is particularly attractive and attracts many people to take part in the event. It offers almost everyone the opportunity to find something to take part in.

To keep the traditions alive, there are of course many traditional sports such as basketball, volleyball, football, running, rugby, cycling and swimming. But new sports such as spikeball, pickleball, beach badminton, crossfit and many others are also included in the wide-ranging programme.

The event itself also has an entertaining side and fun events. For example, you can take part in a "wooden horse race", which is very popular with children in Finland, a stand-up paddle board race, carry a woman or even build a tower out of boxes! There's something for everyone!

The Spartakiade is known far beyond the borders because of its colourful diversity and participants are also active internationally. As we are based in Estonia, we have seen participants

from Portugal, Spain, Latvia, Finland and even Brazil and Mexico – although they all came for their own company's event and received an invitation from their Estonian colleagues Next year, however, we have been contacted by Deutsche Bank, which also wants to take part in our event. X











## CSIT news | MEMBERS AND PARTNERS STORIES



# Belgium is READY

BELGIUM (OSTEND) WILL BE THE MEETING POINT OF THE CSIT SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024 AND THE CSIT FAMILY. FROM MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> TO FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OF AUGUST 2024 FROS, AS A MEMBER OF CSIT WILL BE HONORED TO WELCOME AS MANY FRIENDS AS POSSIBLE FOR A BIG SPECTACLE.

by Katja Vranckx, FROS



"Brigitte Becue" further info on https://www.oostende.be/ zwembad

zwembad

**"Vayamundo" further info on** https://www.vayamundo.eu

he venue will be the beautiful 50-meter Olympic swimming pool "Brigitte Becue" in Ostend. The hotel for all athletes and accompanying persons is called "Vayamundo" and is right at the North Sea! Enjoy the beautiful and spectacular view each day!

The competition days of the CSIT Swimming Championships 2024 will be the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of August. The day before is the training day. The big Opening ceremony will be held on the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2024.

The Championships are open for all members of CSIT and will be organized in the spirit of brotherhood, respect and peace. FROS will hopefully have the pleasure of welcoming al lot of CSIT-members!



### It all **began** in WINTERTHUR in **187**4 by Christian Vifian, SATUS

2024 SATUS SWITZERLAND (SCHWEIZERISCHER ARBEITER-TURN- UND SPORTVERBAND SWISS WORKERS' GYMNASTICS AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION) CELEBRATES NEXT SUMMER ITS 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY. SATUS CAN BE PROUD TO HAVE BEEN THE FIRST TO RECOGNISE, SHAPE AND PRACTICE SOME DEVELOPMENTS 150 YEARS AGO THAT ARE TAKEN FOR GRANTED TODAY. SATUS CAN RIGHTLY CALL ITSELF A SWISS SPORTS PIONEER AND BE CELEBRATED AS SUCH. SATUS SWITZERLAND IS LOOKING FORWARD TO CELEBRATING ITS BIRTHDAY ON 17 AUGUST 2024 IN KÖNIZ NEAR BERN.

he Swiss workers' sports movement was of great social and cultural importance in those years. SATUS opened up active sports to other social classes 150 years ago and soon proved to be a sports pioneer in Switzerland. The replacement of rigid strength training with its military commands by rhythmic gymnastics and the fact that women were welcomed as equal partners in SATUS clubs from the very beginning are just two striking examples. Above all, the coexistence of the sexes in SATUS sports and clubs was held against the workers' sports movement by the bourgeoisie ("Women belong at the cooker, sport

is military training and not a gimmick"). Not with SATUS.

### SATUS SWITZERLAND AND THE CSIT

The first international organisation of the workers' sports movement came into being in 1913 with the founding of the "Association Socialiste Internationale d'Education physique" (ASIEP). The "International Workers' Association for Sport and Physical Culture" was founded in 1920 to revitalise the movement, which was also called the "Lucerne Sport International" (LSI) due to its founding location in Switzerland. SATUS





Switzerland was a founding member of this organisation! The name of today's association CSIT, Comité Sportif International du Travail, was created in the course of the revival of international sports activities after the Second World War, on 30 May 1946 in Brussels.

Since the spring of 1994, SATUS Switzerland has presented itself as a politically, economically and denominationally independent sports organisation that offers all members, regardless of gender, ability, age, social situation and political views, a meaningful, active and attractive range of leisure activities. The new, flat and unbureaucratic structures make it possible to react to modern trends in sport at any time. Tradition in no way stands in the way of the future. X





# MAMANET AUSTRIA BECOMES Catch'n Serve Ball

by Elisabeth Speiser-Havel, Mamanet Austria

OVER THE PAST EIGHT YEARS, IT HAS BEEN IMPORTANT TO USE THE MAMANET NAME TO FOCUS ON MOTHERS AND WOMEN. MAMANET AUSTRIA HAS DONE THIS VERY WELL. AROUND 40 TEAMS TRAINED EVERY WEEK AND PLAYED AT A HIGH SPORTING LEVEL IN THE FOUR REGIONAL FUN LEAGUES 2023. THE FOCUS: FAIR PLAY, FUN, SETTING AN EXAMPLE AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY. WITH A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT PROJECTS FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIFFICULTY ACCESSING SPORT AND WITH A FOCUS ON REACHING WOMEN WHO DO NOT BELIEVE THEMSELVES TO BE SPORTY. ALSO ESSENTIAL FOR THE DIRECT FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE AUSTRIAN MINISTRY OF SPORT, WHICH IS NOW IN ITS EIGHTH YEAR OF FUNDING.

### CIVIL COURAGE AGAINST PARTNER VIOLENCE

"How can sport empower women?" Mamanet Austria drew attention to the issue of intimate partner violence with a joint "tour" in Vienna's parks. The big final tournament of the tour took place in Korneuburg at the beginning of June under the motto "Mamanet shows civil courage against partner violence". Over 80 players rocked the beautiful town of Korneuburg on two indoor pitches. Ten women's teams from all over Austria battled for victory and, above all, for more civil courage against partner violence at the tournament organised by ATUS Cachibol Korneuburg.

### MULTIPLIERS WITH BSPA CERTIFICATES WITH A FOCUS ON INCLUSION

In a jam-packed training day at the Sport University campus in Vienna, 16 future Mamanet Austria coaches completed their basic training and became multipliers for various partner organisations, enabling them to spread the word about Mamanet and the associated added value in their environment. The additional module "Inclusion" was also offered for the first time together with the Bundesportakademie Wien.

### MAMANET GOES INLINE SKATER HOCKEY

As part of the Tigers Stegersbach training camp organised by the inline skater hockey club, children, young people and, above all, the players' mothers got to know Mamanet. Even though mothers are at the centre of Mamanet, the children are also part of it. That's why, in addition to childcare during Mamanet training, there are also numerous activities for them. The Mamanet Kids stronghold is ASKÖ Böhlerwerk Waidhofen, centred around Mamanet veteran Barbara Eichleiter. Barbara has been enthusiastically involved since the very first Mamanet seminar in Austria in 2016 and regularly moves around 150 women and children with Mamanet/Catch'n Serve.

### EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

Another aim of Mamanet is to empower women, strengthen them and give them new perspectives. Women with a history of flight and migration as well as women from socially disadvantaged backgrounds are regularly supported in their training to become Mamanet coaches. They are motivated to take part in the training courses, receive financial support and learn from experienced Mamanet trainers during the weekly training sessions in a "buddy relationship". This creates new prospects for the women. Also for unemployed people with a history of migration.

### FAIRPLAY AS PART OF THE ERASMUS+ PROJECT "LESS4MORE"

The Less4more project aims to address and support women in grassroots sport. Both actively as athletes and as coaches. So it was only natural that fairplay approached Mamanet Austria and asked for their expertise and experience. In addition to Mamanet, football and beach volleyball were also included as sports. 18 participants from Romania, Spain, Greece, Cyprus, Hungary and Austria took part in the Mamanet training programme. It was also a reunion with players from Spain who had taken part in the EU Mamanet2023 project in Tenerife at the end of June and had also partially completed the Mamanet European Coach Basic Level training.

### CALL FOR BREAST CANCER PREVENTION

2023 was the very successful 3<sup>rd</sup> International Mamanet "I am aware Tournament". The slogan, which is primarily intended to draw attention to timely breast cancer screening. The 1st tournament of this kind was overshadowed by Corona, last year some Ukrainian and Russian participants were affected and this year the tournament was influenced by the terrorist action against Israel. 3 teams had to cancel and EU coach Anne Danenberg was also unable to leave Tel Aviv. Instead of the original 12 teams, there were 9 teams, some of them in a colourful mix of formations. Parallel to the tournament, 15 new Mamanet EU coaches were trained in theory and practice under the direction of Elisabeth Speiser-Havel.



### **AWARDS AND HONOURS**

#### European Fair Play Award for Mamanet Austria

This award is a special honour that goes to all Austrian clubs and players who live fair play on a daily basis and put it into practice in sport. The fact that the European Fair Play Diploma in particular is under the patronage of the European Olympic Committee and was presented by them shows how seriously Mamanet is now taken as a sport in Europe.

#### **Certificate of the Austrian Federal Sports Academies**

The associated expertise in a particular sport – not only technically, but also pedagogically – carries weight. 11 women, including a sports scientist, a BSPA employee and former professional tennis player, a football coach and club representatives from Mamanet Absam Tirol were offered the perfect environment for this at the Innsbruck university campus.



by Samuel Szihn, CSIT Administration

# NEW MEMBERS

CSIT IS GROWING EXPONENTIALLY, WITH A NUMBER OF FEDERATIONS BEING AWARDED MEMBERSHIP OF THE CSIT IN 2023. ACCORDINGLY, CSIT IS FIRMLY STEERING TOWARDS A TOTAL OF 100 MEMBERS, CURRENTLY HAVING MORE THAN 80 MEMBER FEDERATIONS OUT OF 60 COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE. CSIT, AS AN UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION, THEREFORE, HAS MORE THAN 230 MILLION SINGLE MEMBERS.

Whether it be sports that have been newly introduced to the CSIT or sports that have been traditionally practiced. Several federations applied to become part of the CSIT in the past year. Especially the recently founded CSIT Dance Movement is contributing with an abundance of new members. In addition, three former CSIT candidate members – Mamanet Austria, Mamanet Italy and the Italian International Amateur American Football – were

accepted as full members by the CSIT at the Congress in Barcelona.



Information about CSIT memberships: https://www.csit.sport/about-us/members

### **INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION**



New Associate Member: INTERNATIONAL TABLE SOCCER FEDERATION @ info@tablesoccer.org

### NEW NATIONAL CANDIDATE MEMBERS

### Morocco-Italy:

A.S.D. ANGELSDANCING EL MAGHRE ASSOCIAZIONE ITALO-MAROCCHINA @ angelsdancing99@gmail.com

**BARLETI UNIVERSITY** 

rector@umb.edu.al



Bulgaria: BULGARIAN DANCESPORT CLUBS FEDERATION www.bdscf.org



### Romania:

CLUBUL DE DANS PHOENIX -ROMANIA

www.danceclub.rodanceclub@gmail.com



danceclub.ra

Slovenia: DANCE - PLESNI FREDI -SLOVENIA @ fredidance.slovenia@gmail.com



### China:

BARLETI Albania:

BEJING UTOBEN EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY- CHINA @ 845226425@qq.com





### Italy:

### DANCE SPORT HERITAGE ITALY

🕨 Dancesport Heritage

- https://dancesportlive.info/nova/ dancesport.php
- office@dancesportheritage.com



#### Canada: DANCESPORT GRAND PRIX

CANADA www.dancesportgrandprixcanada.com info@dancegrandprixcanada.com



### Japan: DANCESPORT HERITAGE JAPAN

https://www.dancesport.asia/ info@kitamaki.com



### India: **DR B R AMBEDKAR SPORTS** FOUNDATION INDIA

http://sportsfoundation.ind.in/ @ masterbkbharat@gmail.com

**ESTONIAN COMPANY SPORTS** 



### Estonia:

### **ESTONIAN DANCE SPORT** ASSOCIATION www.dancesport.ee

info@dancesport.ee

Estonia:

**FEDERATION** 

www.firmasport.ee info@firmasport.ee



### Wallonie: FÉDÉRATION WALLONIE

**BRUXELLES DE DANSES** http://www.fwbds.be/ Office@fwbds.be



### **Greece:** HELLENIC DANCE AND SPORT **UNION - HDSU** secretariat@hocsh.org



### Iran: HUMANITARIAN GAMES INSTITUTE

http://www.humanitariangames.ir/ humanitariangames.official@gmail.com



#### USA: AMERICAN DANCESPORT **FEDERATION**

americandancesportfederation.org

katrinadancega@gmail.com



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MALTA

### **Italy:** https://www.legaginnastica.it/



### LITTLE ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA

https://www.littleathletics.com.au/ admin@littleathletics.com.au



### Moldova: **MOLDOVA DANCE SPORT** ASSOCIATION Moldovadance@mail.ru

### **Taiwan:**

### E RHYTHMEAST

**TAIPEI CITY DANCE & TECHNIQUE PROMOTE ASSOCIATION** 

- www.danceworld.com.tw
- stevenkyhum@gmail.com

### **Hong Kong:**

THE SICILY GROUP **INTERNATIONAL - HONG KONG** @ giovannivirgitto@gmail.com

### **Ukraine:**

**UKRAINIAN DANCERS** ORGANISATION tatiananozdrina73@gmail.com

### CSITnews 37

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Australia: (LAA)









# DANCE as a new CSIT sport



by Samuel Szihn, CSIT Administration

DANCE SPORT IS ON THE RISE WORLDWIDE – ALSO IN THE CSIT MOVEMENT. IN A WORLD WHERE MOVEMENT HAS BECOME AN ART FORM, THE SPORT OF DANCE HAS BEEN DEVELOPING STEADILY AROUND THE GLOBE FOR YEARS AND HAS BECOME A CAPTIVATING BLEND OF ATHLETICISM AND ARTISTIC EXPRESSION. THIS DYNAMIC DISCIPLINE, WHICH IS CHARACTERISED BY ITS FUSION OF ACROBATICS AND FITNESS, HAS RECENTLY ALSO BEEN INCLUDED IN THE CSIT AS A SPORT IN ITS OWN RIGHT..

ance sport has its roots deep in the cultural fabric of different nations. Over the years, it has transcended borders and evolved into a universal language of grace and rhythm. The creative choreography, breathtaking lifts and synchronised movements of the performers create a symphony of colourful dancers that truly captivates the audience.

The CSIT is always at the forefront when it comes to picking up on trends. In recent months, many dance associations from all over the world have therefore been accepted into the CSIT. Associations from Morocco, Italy, China, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovenia, Canada, Japan, Estonia, Belgium, Greece, Malta, Moldova, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Ukraine and also from the United States of America. The large number of new CSIT members has also made a separate Technical Commission necessary and emphasises the global importance of dance sport. The CSIT Technical Commission is headed by Davide Cacciari as Chairman and Fabio Bosco as Secretary.

The inclusion of dance sport in the CSIT sports family is a spectacular addition to the already large repertoire. This new dimension is fully in line with the ethos of the CSIT movement, enriching the offer enormously and giving enthusiasts another opportunity to discover and live out their passion for the sport. The first CSIT dance championships have already been held at the WSG 2023 in Cervia to great interest and applause from the audience. The event captivated both enthusiastic dancers and numerous spectators with its rhythmic expression. X









## **CSIT** PARTNERSHIP with HLA for Youth Camps

by Raimund Fabi, CSIT Media Officer

### FOR THE FIRST TIME A PARTNER ORGANISATION IMPLEMENTS AN EU PROJECT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF CSIT. DURING THE CSIT WORLD SPORT GAMES IN CERVIA, THE CROATIAN CSIT MEMBER ORGANISATION HLA HEALTH LIFE ACADEMY AND CSIT HAVE SIGNED A FAR-REACHING CONTRACT FOR THE ORGANISATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EU CO-FINANCED INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CAMPS.

SIT already has many years of experience with youth camps and is available to HLA with its know-how as an umbrella organisation. In return, HLA undertook to comply with CSIT standards and will seek an amicable and joint solution to all issues related to the implementation of the project.

Since 2018 CSIT projecting office, under the lead of Mrs Valerina Gherardini and Vice President and Coordinator of CSIT Youth & Young Leaders Activities, Mrs Anu Rajajarvi, established the Youth Academy of Grassroots sports organisations, by involving youngsters coming from CSIT members. Four editions of EU co-funded projects were developed, thus enabling CSIT and several CSIT members to develop skills on sports management on grassroots sport the of young adults in many EU Countries in the perspective of a new generation of sports managers and executives.

In 2022 CSIT projecting office established the CSIT working group on EU projects, whose members were appointed by several CSIT members. The aim of the working group is to enlarge the capacity of the partner-

ship CSIT – CSIT members to organise international Youth Sports Camp as a service to provide to young associates in Europe, by designing, preparing and submitting project proposals to National Agencies of the European Commission where CSIT members are based.

HLA team agreed to be the first CSIT member to submit to its National Agency a project proposal of the Youth International Sports Camp, under the supervision of CSIT projecting office for the design, preparation and submission of the application. The application of the "International Youth Sports Camp", submitted by HLA team, was ultimately approved by Croatia national agency AMPEU in May 2023.



HLA team agreed to be the first CSIT member to submit to its National Agency a project proposal of the Youth International Sports Camp, under the supervision of CSIT







# EU co-funded projects within CSIT

by Dariya Sharafan, CSIT EU Project Coordination

CSIT HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN TRENDY AND VERY IMPORTANT EU CO-FINANCED PROJECTS FOR MANY YEARS. AS A PARTNER OR AS AN IMPLEMENTING ORGANISATION. THE MOST RECENT PROJECTS ARE CURRENTLY VERY IMPORTANT TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL SPORT. "SGS – SPORT FOR ALL GENDER AND SEXUALITIES", THAT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT, "E-YOUACA E-LEARNING", AN ONLINE COURSE FOR MANAGEMENT IN GRASS-ROOTS SPORTS AND "PLAYS EU", ADVANCING YOUTH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND WELL-BEING.

### **EYOUACA**

### EDUCATING YOUNG LEADERS THROUGH INNOVATIVE LEARNING METHODS "

Following the launch of the EU co-funded eYOUAca project in 2022, the project has reached important milestones. Most notably through the development of a curriculum, an innovative e-learning



platform and the facilitation of internships to develop and train the next generation of sports managers and decision makers.

#### ELEARNING MODULES' STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

The foundation was laid thanks to intensive coordination meetings where the eYOUAca learning modules were assigned and crafted. The project partners from AiCS (Italy), KALEV (Estonia), TUL (Finland), UCEC (Spain), Health Life Academy (Croatia), Pinocchio - Fondazione Nazionale Carlo Collodi (Italy), together with CSIT contributed their expertise, delineating topics ranging from leadership and finance to project management and communication. These modules, created under the guidance and feedback of EurEthICS ETSIA and the European Platform for Sport Innovation, encompass a comprehensive curriculum tailored to aspiring sports managers.

### MEETING IN BARCELONA AND ESTONIA

The project gained considerable momentum during the dynamic 2<sup>nd</sup> international meeting in Barcelona. Aall project partners presented their proposals for the e-learning modules for which they were responsible. CSIT for "Hard Skills and Specific Knowledge",

AiCS for "Project Design", Health Life Academy for "Project Management and Business Planning", TUL for "Financial Management", UCEC for "Leadership Skills", KALEV for "Communication Skills", the Carlo Collodi Foundation for "Management of a sports event addressed to children". In addition, AiCS, as the responsible partner, presented the newly designed eYOUAca website and e-learning platform. The meeting in Estonia focussed on fine-tuning the platform. The partners conducted a pilot test of the lessons and discussed possible internship activities.

### UPCOMING GRAND FINALE IN 2024

At CSIT's 45<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Congress, the partners' project leaders presented the results of their internships, which were completed in October. Reports in which they emphasised their successes and the achievements of their trainees. All of the project leaders have emerged from former YOUAca Young Leaders projects. The project will be finalised in 2024. Promotional materials, a project handbook, a brochure and a promotional video will be developed and presented to a wide audience. The final conference will also take place in 2024, to which all project partners and interested parties will be invited.





Year. The 75-page report contains a wealth of practices on gender inclusive sport in Spain, Italy, Austria, Germany and the Netherlands. The report is intended to serve as a guide for sports organisations around the world who have recognised the urgent need for a genuine inclusion policy.

### REGIONAL WORKING GROUPS: CATALYZING CHANGE

The Regional Working Groups (RWGs) have proved to be powerful catalysts for change in grassroots sport to deepen discussions on the inclusion of the LGBTQI community. The main objectives are to share and discuss the progress of SGS actions, to receive general relevant information on developments in the respective LGTBIQ sports sector, to provide feedback on concepts and materials, and to identify clubs or sports federations willing to implement the pilot activities or act as implementing organisations themselves.



### RISING TOGETHER CAMPAIGN: RAISING AWARENESS AND INCLUSIVITY

The "Rising Together" campaign, which was launched as part of the European Week of Sport, aims to raise awareness of the issue and spread important knowledge. Through social media actions and stories from transgender and intersex athletes and allies, the campaign aims to advocate for everyone's fundamental right to participate in sport, regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation.

### "TRAIN THE TRAINERS" SEMINAR

A training and education initiative took place in Seville, Spain, aimed at improving inclusion in sports clubs and non-formal sports initiatives, specifically addressing different genders and sexual identities. The programme focused on strengthening participants' skills by expanding their knowledge base, refining their understanding, boosting their

### SGS

#### DRIVING INCLUSIVITY IN EUROPEAN GRASSROOTS SPORTS

The SGS (Sport for all Genders & Sexualities) project is making remarkable strides in fostering an inclusive sports culture across Europe. Co-ordinated by the Vienna Institute for International Dialogue and Cooperation in Austria, this initiative boasts a collaborative partnership including CSIT, the German Sports University, the European Gay and Lesbian Sport Federation in the Netherlands, AiCS in Italy, Diversport in Spain, and Landessportbund Nordrhein-Westfalen in Germany.

Throughout 2023, the project partners have taken substantial measures to assess the current state of grassroots sports, aiming to promote inclusivity and encourage sports organizations to perceive individual differences as strengths rather than weaknesses. In September 2024, the project will be completed and reveal its achievements to support future similar efforts.

### GOOD PRACTICES REPORT: A BLUEPRINT FOR INCLUSION

The SGS team has reached an important milestone with the completion of a comprehensive report on best practice just in time for the New









self-confidence and equipping them with practical tools to effectively implement inclusive practices in their respective sports environments.

### RESEARCH FINDINGS: THE STATUS-QUO IN EUROPEAN GRASSROOTS SPORTS

The German Sport University conducted a scientific study focusing on providing insights into the situation of women and LGBT+ people in organised grassroots sport in Europe. The main objective was to identify and understand the prevailing gender norms and stereotypes in organised sport and their impact on the discrimination and exclusion of girls, women and LGBT+ people in grassroots sport. The research revealed several critical findings,d including high levels of discrimination in organised sport, the need for greater promotion of gender and sexual diversity and even the persistence of discriminatory language and actions within the sporting world.

### THE STAKEHOLDER SEMINAR AT THE CSIT AMATEUR SPORTS FORUM

The CSIT Sport Forum in Barcelona provided an ideal platform to present the project to a wide audience. The presentation team covered various aspects, from explaining the concept of gender and sexuality equality to

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outlining current challenges and the core tasks of the project. The presentations stimulated meaningful conversations and encouraged dialogue about overcoming barriers to gender equality within grassroots sports organisations.

### PLAYS EU

### ADVANCING YOUTH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND WELL-BEING

The PLAYS initiative has made great strides in 2023 in encouraging children aged 6 to 12 to be physically active and do structured exercises for their overall wellbeing. The project, led by the Ovidius University of Constanta in Romania, is a joint project involving CSIT, CPDIS (Romania), VERDE Foundation (Poland), SSNB (Netherlands), ECOS (Italy), Nova Child (France), the Portuguese Swimming Federation and AiCS (Italy).

The main objective is to promote children's active participation in sports and physical activities by developing a dedicated and sciencebased action plan and training programme. This initiative aims to provide children with fun and structured exercises while supporting parents, coaches and educators in promoting regular physical activity for the psychophysical and social well-being of these young people.In the course of 2023, the project achieved signifi-

cant deliverables:

### BEST PRACTICES REVIEW & MAP

A comprehensive study was conducted to identify and evaluate



SQS sport for all genders & sexualities



### Co-funded by the European Union

effective strategies to increase physical activity in school-aged children. It included a variety of approaches, including interventions during recess, after-school programmes and physical activity breaks in the classroom. The aim was to identify, evaluate and recommend best practices for promoting physical activity in children.

### **NEEDS ANALYSIS**

The project aimed to counteract the decline in physical activity in the context of a technology-driven lifestyle. The focus was on supporting children to play sport and combat the risk of dropping out by developing guidance on nutritional, psychological and biomechanical aspects. The initiative aimed to provide coaches, educators, parents and carers with skills and insights into promoting children's physical, mental and social skills through sport.

### DEVELOPMENT

Two face-to-face meetings were held in the Netherlands and France to discuss the progress made and outline the tasks required to develop the PLAYS programme. Upcoming deliverables of the project include:

- Creation of a PLAYS guide for parents, coaches and sports teachers.
- 2 Development of a sports programme for testing in Italy and Portugal and
- 3 Creation of a digital platform accessible to European stakeholders to be published 2024 X



SQS sport for all minimum and second second





"COME ON GIRLS"

Funded by

the European Union

by Patrizia Cupo, AICS

THIS IS NOT A BATTLE CRY, HOWEVER, BUT A REMINDER OF UNITY AND FUN. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE 350 MOTHERS AND WOMEN OVER THE AGE OF 30 FROM 14 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WHO CAME TOGETHER IN CERVIA, ITALY, FROM 5 TO 10 SEPTEMBER FOR THE EU MAMANET FESTIVAL. THE EVENT WAS PART OF THE CSIT WORLD SPORTS GAMES AND WAS THE CULMINATION OF THE EUROPEAN EU MAMANET PROJECT.

he Project is coordinated in Europe by AiCS and aims to promote Mamanet as a lever for integration and equality. The CSIT world knows very well what Mamanet is: a "pink only" discipline that combines volleyball and prison ball. But the fact that it is not just a sport is immediately apparent. Above all, it is an awareness of women and a deep need to reclaim their space.

Mamanet, or Cachibol, landed in Italy in 2015 through the CSIT World Sports Games. The then CSIT President Harald Bauer and his successor, the current CSIT President and AICS President Bruno Molea, were immediately enthusiastic about it and promoted the project to help Mamanet gain a large international platform. With success. And Bruno Molea's words confirm it: "This discipline has been incredibly successful, and not just in Europe. It is reserved for mums and women who want to get involved by getting back into sport. It's a way of giving women back their role and their free time, and it has great social value".

Valeria Gherardini from the AICS European Planning Office explains that in Italy only one in three women play sport and girls under the age of 14 are the first to stop and not return to sport. Mamanet is necessary for this reason, because it is "a discipline that helps women to return to sport". But it is more than just sport. It is "a social project for mums and women over 30".

Thirty-five teams competed at the European festival in Cervia, often with ironic names, to share a moment of "union and joy". Gherardini is convinced: "We need it. This sport is about promoting health and social cohesion. Throughout Europe, from Albania to Cyprus, from Holland to Germany, from Finland to Latvia and Lithuania, the European project is training coaches to spread the discipline with undeniable success. They convince Mamanet beginners of the simplicity of the game. A game that can be learnt in just 5 minutes and an hour of training.

### MAMANET MEANS "HAVE FUN"

But that's not all. Lilli Totti, an Italian athlete who has been practising Mamanet since 2017, knows the deeper meaning very well. She was also present at the Cervia Festival and her words make the meaning of Mamanet clear: "I really believe in

this spirit that puts competition aside in favour of female self-determination. Women take back their space, perhaps after pregnancy, and form a group and a sisterhood. Because we're not just team-mates, we're friends, a group, and in a historical moment like this, when murders and rapes of women are happening every day, it's even more important to create a feminist alliance."





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# FAIR PLAY closely linked to the CSIT WSG

by Henk Bouchums, CSIT Sports Director

FAIR PLAY IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PILLARS IN SPORT AND THEREFORE ALSO IN CSIT POLICY AND AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CSIT WORLD SPORTS GAMES. FAIR PLAY IS NOT ONLY ABOUT THE BEHAVIOUR OF THE ATHLETES. IT IS ABOVE ALL ABOUT NOT USING PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES, ADHERING TO THE RULES OF THE SPORT AND ALSO RECOGNISING SUCCESSES WITHOUT ENVY. AN OPPONENT MUST BE RESPECTED BOTH DURING AND AFTER A GAME. FAIR PLAY HAS BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF SPORT AND CONTRIBUTES SIGNIFICANTLY TO GREATER SOCIAL COHESION, AND NOT JUST IN SPORT.





t the 2015 World Sports Games, the CSIT finally introduced and formalised fair play at its championships. An entire chapter in the regulations describes how fair play is to be applied and implemented within the organisation. A green card is available for referees, members of the technical commission and other officials to emphasise that athletes have made a clear act of fair play. The nomination and the reasons for it are recorded on a form and submitted to the Fair Play Committee.

### PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EUROPEAN FAIR PLAY MOVEMENT (EFPM)

At the CSIT World Sports Games 2023 in Cervia, the Technical Committees responsible for organising the championships were very active in nominating athletes for the Fair Play Award. On the day of the closing ceremony, a Fair Play Committee set up especially for these games had the task of making a selection from all the nominations.

38 nominations were submitted and, after thorough scrutiny, the winners of the Fair Play Award were selected: One woman, one man and one team. The committee consisted of Henk Bouchoms (Chairman), Boris Borisov (TC Football), Fabio Neroni (Project Manager WSG2023), Marco Marchetti (TC Volleyball) and Katarina Raczova (EFPM Board Member).

### WOMEN'S AWARD TO ANA MARIA ARLETT RANGEL (MEXICO)

In the women's category, the award went to Ana Maria Arlett Rangel (Mexico), volleyball, who corrected the referee's decision in her team's favour during a tied game. For this act of fairness, she was recognised by the opposing team, the spectators and the referee.

### MEN'S AWARD TO ALESSANDRO BELLAVIA (ITALY)

In the men's competition, the decision was not quite so easy. In the end, after much debate, the award went to Alessandro Bellavia. However, the Italian beach wrestling athlete was judged by the jury according to the Italian national criteria and not according to international standards and initially lost his award, which he had won by two points. ASKÖ Austria lodged a protest and was proved right. With the agreement of the Italians, Austria received the award pro forma, but made no claim and left the trophy to Italy in the interests of fairness.

### TEAM AWARD TO ASKÖ AUSTRIA

The ASKÖ swimming relay team received the Fair Play Award for an exemplary gesture. Manual Gunacker, Tony Gschier, Thomas Jäger and Robert Schöttl, led by coach Klaus Brandstätter, returned the bronze medals after discovering that they had received them due to a misinterpretation of the competition rules.

### FAIR PLAY BELONGS IN EVERY SPORT

Fair Play has been firmly anchored at the CSIT

World Sports Games for years. The next logical step, which is currently being prepared, concerns the CSIT partners taking part in the World Sports Games. They should also nominate their athletes for the Fair Play Award. This new rule is to be implemented at the next World Sports Games in Loutraki (Greece) in 2025. Fair Play belongs in every sport, no matter where it is practiced.









### **VOLUNTEERS** ARE THE HEART OF EVERY EVENT

by Ennio Cornejo, COPADET

### **ESPECIALLY AT MAJOR SPORTING EVENTS. AN INCREDIBLE 28,702 VOLUNTEERS** WERE REGISTERED IN THE VOLUNTEERS PROGRAM OF THE XIX PAN AMERICAN GAMES SANTIAGO IN 2023. WITHOUT THE MANY IDEALISTS, NO SPORTING EVENT WOULD WORK. ONE OF THEM WAS ENNIO CORNEJO, VICE PRESIDENT OF CSIT PARTNER COPADET (CONFEDERACIÓN PANAMERICANA DEL DEPORTE DE LOS TRABAJADORES) IN SOUTH AMERICA AND PRESIDENT OF ADEPET (ASOCIACIÓN DEPORTIVA PERUANA DE LOS TRABAJADORES) AND RESPONSIBLE FOR RELATIONS WITH THE OLYMPIC COMMITTEES AT THE GAMES.

he Pan American Games are one of the most important multidisciplinary international sporting events in America. Being there is as much about prestige as it is about networking. The 28,702 volunteers were from America, Africa, Asia, Europe and Oceania, 26% of them foreigners. Peru was the country with the most registrations (1888 people), followed by Argentina and Brazil. In comparison to the volunteers, "only" 6,916 athletes took part in the Games and qualified in 33 sports for the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. Peru was active with 216 athletes in 32 sports. won 32 medals (10 gold, 6 silver and 16 bronze medals) and ranked 9<sup>th</sup> out of 41 countries in the medal table.

"The volunteers are the heart of the Games, without them this celebration could not take place," said Neven Ilic, President of Panam Sports, the leading organisation for sport and the Olympic Movement in the Americas, which promotes the development of sport and Olympic values in the region. Ennio Cornejo is currently a student of the Certificate in Sports Administration organised by the Panam Sports Academy and supported by the Olympic Solidarity of the IOC organised by the Panam Sports Academy and supported by IOC Olympic Solidarity. A top-level training programme designed to improve the sporting development of professionals and technicians in the Americas.

Ennio's centre of operations was the international zone of the Pan American Village, where he had the opportunity to work directly with Clarence Rolle, the Head of Mission of the Bahamas delegation. "I remembered what I experienced in Lima in 2019," said Ennio. In Peru, Ennio works around the Touring y Automóvil Club del Perú (TACP) and the Kart Slalom project, which is supported by the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) and is aimed at schoolchildren aged 6 to 16. It is also the special legacy pro-ject of the Pan-American and Parapan American Games, affiliated to the to 16. It is also the special legacy pro-Presidency of the Council of Ministers of the Peruvian Government, its main ally, to give young people access to  $\tilde{\xi}$  sport and leisure activities in kart sla-  $\tilde{\delta}$ lom, promoting integration, healthy coexistence, respect and inclusion through motorsport. ¥.









### R.I.P – PROFESSOR KALEVI OLIN

CSIT mourns the loss of one of its companions and its long-time and Honorary President. It is with deep dismay and sadness that the CSIT family has to say goodbye to a great friend and supporter of the CSIT movement. Professor Kalevi Olin fell ill completely unexpectedly with acute pneumonia and passed away aged 77 last May in a Finnish hospital in his hometown Turku.

From 1996 to 2008, Olin was the first Finnish President of CSIT, which elected him Honorary President in 2008. Kalevi Olin was married to Pirre Olin, a teacher of physical education and health. During the CSIT Congress in Barcelona, the CSIT family observed a minute's silence for their patron.

Kalevi Anders Wilhelm Olin (5 October 1945 Pyhäjärvi UL – 26 May 2023 Turku) was a Finnish assistant professor (1987-1997) and professor (1998-2005) at the University of Jyväskylä, who served as SDP MP for the Central Finland constituency from 1995-2007. In connection with this activity, Olin was also a substitute member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg (France) from 2003 to 2007, serving, inter alia, on the Council of Europe's Subcommittee on Science in 2003 and the Committee on Population in 2004-2007.

As a Member of the European Parliament, Professor Olin was a member of the Education Committee, the Grand Committee (EU Affairs), the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Committee on the Future, of which he was also Vice-Chairman. He was also Chair of the Steering Group on Information Management in Parliament from 1999 to 2007 and Chair of the Society of Researchers and Members of Parliament from 2003 to 2007.

Olin was an active debater and a sought-after speaker at various social events and also a great organiser in sport: he was President of the Finnish Workers' Sports Federation (TUL) from 1995 to 2007 and Chairman of the Federation's Council from 1983 to 1995. Professor Kalevi Olin's literary activity includes more than 250 scientific and popular publications in Finnish, English, French and Swedish, which he has written alone or in collaboration with others on the topics of society and sport from the aspects of planning and decisionmaking, politics, administrative management and migration. After leaving politics, Olin continued his literary activities, including editing and co-authoring the anniversary volume 100 Years of CSIT, published to mark the organisation's centenary in Brussels in October 2013.

### R.I.P – GILBERT ELLES

The French CSIT member organization FSGT mourns with the death of Gilbert Elles a long-serving member and the chairman of TC Table Tennis in the CSIT. Gilbert Elles was one of the longest serving members of FSGT and passed away aged just 67.

Until recently Gilbert Elles was Vice-President of the Committee in the French Department of Bas-Rhin, also Coordinator of the Federal Pool of Sports Activity and Culture since 2017, a member and leader of the Federal Commission for Table Tennis for over 30 years and President of the Table Tennis Technical Commission of the International Sports Federation (CSIT) for over 20 years. It is with great sadness that FSGT announces that Gilbert Elles passed away in Lingolsheim, Bas-Rhin, on Wednesday 22 March 2023.

Gilbert was a much-loved friend and collaborator and built friendly and lasting relationships with many in all areas. His goodwill and kindness were at the service of his tireless dedication to the FSGT federation. He loved the history of his own federation and that of the Bas-Rhin Committee, and he was keen to share archives and anecdotes with everyone. Gilbert was deeply humorous and a very sociable contemporary who was always welcome.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Viviane, his daughter Sandrine and his two grandchildren Maxine and Melvin, of whom he spoke so much and for whom he sacrificed much time, and to all his friends inside and outside FSGT. CSIT President Bruno Molea sends its deepest sympathy: "We were deeply saddened to hear that our friend Gilles has recently passed away. I got to know and appreciate him in the past years at many meetings and sessions as a very pleasant and very competent partner. Especially the many very nice and entertaining conversations with him will always be remembered by all of us. As well as his competent work in our organisation as TC Table Tennis. I would like to express my personal and all of our heartfelt condolences to his wife, children and grandchildren."







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