



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

FOCUS

WOMEN AND SPORT

JUNE 2010

The 2010 IOC Women and Sport Awards

The 2010 IOC Women and Sport Awards falling on Olympic Day on 23 June could hardly be more appropriate. Olympic Day was introduced in 1948 to commemorate the birth of the modern Olympic Games, on 23 June 1894. Its aim is to promote participation in sport across the globe, regardless of age, athletic ability or gender, and these awards are testament to how far the Olympic Movement has come since then in the field of gender equality.

This year, more than 40 per cent of the athletes taking part in Vancouver 2010 were women, a new record for women's participation in the Olympic Winter Games. Last year, women's boxing was added to the Olympic programme for London 2012, making all summer Olympic sports now open to both men and women.

"High priority should be given to the advancement of women both in sport and through sport," said the final report of the XIII Olympic Congress. "The Olympic Movement should at all times seek to promote equal opportunities for women, both in their participation in sports competition and in administration and coaching. Wherever necessary, the Olympic Movement should identify and implement changes to achieve gender equality, and should also provide incentives and appropriate educational and training programmes for athletes, sports leaders and administrators in support of this goal."

The 2010 IOC Women and Sport Awards, and in particular their recipients, are ideal examples of how this goal can be achieved, no matter who you are or where you come from.

The IOC Women and Sport Awards were first introduced in 2000 under the presidency of Juan Antonio Samaranch. Every year, trophies are awarded to a woman or a man (former athlete, coach, administrator or journalist) or to an organisation that has worked to develop, encourage and strengthen the participation of women and girls in physical and sports activities, in coaching or in administrative and decision-making structures, as well as for the promotion of female journalists and women's sport in the media. Each NOC, IF or Continental Association may propose one candidate to the IOC Women and Sport Commission, whose members make the final choice.

World Trophy – Erica Terpstra

Her courage, personality and dedication to the cause of women make Erica Terpstra a role model for many women in the world. Twice an Olympic swimming medallist, participating in Rome in 1960 and Tokyo in 1964, her term of office as President of the Netherlands Olympic Committee has just come to an end. She has also been a board member of the Olympic Truce Foundation and a member of the Executive Committee of the European Olympic Committees.



Throughout her career, Ms Terpstra has supported initiatives targeting disadvantaged communities and people with disabilities in and outside the Netherlands, and has always highlighted the challenges and achievements of girls and women in particular. She supports the NGOs Women Win, which promotes sport and physical activity as instruments for social change and women's empowerment in developing countries, and Lady Fit, a fitness club for migrant women in the Netherlands. Furthermore, she is a member of the National Network for Women in Sport and an ambassador for the Netherlands government programme Women in Sports Structures. Furthermore she managed the Female Managers Network of the Netherlands and helped create the Fanny Blankers Coen Award, which pays tribute to one of the greatest women athletes of all time by rewarding sportspersons in the Netherlands for outstanding achievements, both sporting and non-sporting. Ms Terpstra, a former sports journalist, was a member of the Dutch parliament from 1977 until 2003, including a term as Minister of Sport. She headed the European Year Against Discrimination, opened the first ever Gay Games in Amsterdam in 1998 and made a high-profile stand against age-discrimination by companies and organisations in the Netherlands. As President of the NOC, she used her influence and position to involve all members of Dutch society in sport and promoted a tolerant and equal environment in sports associations throughout the country. Ms Terpstra attends countless events each year, including walks or runs raising funds for women, tournaments for girl athletes, or other related good causes, and her presence invariably attracts greater numbers of participants. An official ambassador for the joint bid by the Netherlands and Belgium to stage the football World Cup in 2018, Ms Terpstra is also the biggest supporter of the "orange" Dutch women's football team. She is frequently asked to address national meetings and international gatherings to speak about women in sport or to share her own experiences, and, for her enthusiasm and dedication to all aspects of women's sport, the panel members agreed that Ms Erica Terpstra had the outstanding profile for the 2010 World Trophy.



THE CONTINENTAL WINNERS OF THE 2010 IOC WOMEN AND SPORT AWARDS



AFRICA
Ms Germaine MANGUET (Guinea)

Few people have made a greater recent contribution to the cause of women in African sport than Germaine Manguet, Chairperson of the Women and Sport Commission of the NOC of Guinea and Vice-President of the Guinean Volleyball Federation. She has created regional branches of the Commission, established the national day of Women and Sport, organised sports administration training sessions and helped integrate women into sports organisations and national policy decision-making. She has ensured that all the Commission's events would be covered by predominantly female journalists and she has organised an annual radio programme on the theme of women and sport. Furthermore, as Minister of Social Affairs and Promotion of Women and Children of Guinea in 2008 and in 2009, Ms Manguet played an important role in the promotion of women at the political level.

International Triathlon Union (ITU), was the driving force behind the introduction of triathlon to the Olympic Games, but his tireless efforts on behalf of women in triathlon are less well documented. In 1975, after his daughter was denied entry to a race, McDonald created a 10km race in Vancouver exclusively for women. He established the first triathlon in Canada to have equal rewards for men and women, which is a fundamental principle of the ITU today; he established a minimum of 50 per cent women on regional and national triathlon bodies; and, as President of the ITU, he introduced the principle of 20 per cent of women on the executive board, which also has to be respected by national federations. After he retired as ITU President, Mr McDonald was succeeded by a woman.



ASIA
Ms Yuko ARIMORI (Japan)

Yuko Arimori became the first Japanese woman to win an Olympic track and field medal for 64 years when she finished second in the 1992 marathon. She won bronze four years later, and since then she has campaigned ceaselessly for women in sport. She is founder and director of Hearts of Gold, a

NGO that assists victims of disasters and helps people in war-torn areas become self-sufficient. In this function she helped women and people with disabilities to enter the Angkor Wat Marathon, Cambodia's first international sports event; as a UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador she promotes empowerment and gender equality throughout Asia; in Kenya, she opened a shelter for women fleeing genital mutilation and infant marriage; and, in Ethiopia, she has helped promote gender equality and HIV prevention. She is an IAAF Women's Committee member and Japan Association of Athletics Federation board member.



EUROPE
Ms Grete WAITZ (Norway)

Grete Waitz is a marathon World Championship gold medallist, as well as a nine-time winner of the New York Marathon. Her contribution to women's sport since those days has been no less impressive. A board member of the Norwegian NOC, she founded the Grete Waitz Run in Oslo for women and girls, and is Chairperson of the New York Road Runners Foundation, which facilitates physical activity and training for schoolgirls and boys. She is a renowned

lecturer on women's training, including programmes for cancer prevention. Her influence on Norwegian and international sport has contributed significantly to a change in society's views on women in sport.



OCEANIA
Ms Susan SIMCOCK (New Zealand)

Affectionately known as the "Queen of Sport" in New Zealand, Susie Simcock was the first woman to be elected President of the World Squash Federation (WSF) and the first to be elected as a council member of the General Association of International Sports Federations, known today as SportAccord. She is also Chairperson of the Women and Sport Committee for the New Zealand NOC. She led the mergers between women's and men's federations in international squash and New Zealand golf, ensuring gender balance at executive level, and, as President of the WSF, she oversaw support for the Brighton Declaration for Women. She has initiated several projects, including a study of gender balance in her own country, and developing guidelines to assist other national sports federations to improve gender balance on their boards.



AMERICAS
Mr Leslie McDONALD (Canada)

Leslie McDonald, Honorary President of the



"In 1980, when Juan Antonio Samaranch was elected IOC President, the IOC was a very conservative, men-only club. During his presidency, the first two women members were elected in 1982. This was one of Samaranch's greatest legacies. Today, that figure has risen to 19 women members. Whilst this does represent a significant increase, it is certainly not sufficient, and all our efforts are still needed in the march towards parity. Since that time, important steps have also been taken to have more women participate in the Olympic Games. It is encouraging to note that, today, approximately 42 per cent of the Summer and Winter Games participants are women, a notable increase from the 21.5 per cent in 1980. Let's build further on this positive trend and take this year's IOC Women and Sport Award winners as an inspiration to us all." **Jacques Rogge, IOC President**

"The Olympic Movement is based on concepts of mutual respect and the pursuit of excellence. The 2010 IOC Women and Sport Award winners are wonderful ambassadors for these values, people who have overcome seemingly insurmountable barriers and accomplished feats that were hitherto barely imaginable. They have challenged the status quo throughout their lives and championed the cause of all women in sport by simply asking: "Why not?" Today we celebrate the men and women who constantly work for better access of girls and women to sport."

Anita L. DeFrantz, Chairperson of the IOC Women and Sport Commission

