

Règles du Comité International  
Olympique sur les conditions  
d'admission aux Jeux Olympiques

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Eligibility Rules  
of the  
International Olympic Committee

1964



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## THE OLYMPIC GAMES ARE RESTRICTED TO AMATEURS

The Olympic Games are held every four years. They assemble amateurs of all nations in fair and equal competition.

No discrimination is allowed against any country or person on grounds of race, religion or political affiliations.

Only persons who are amateurs within the definition laid down in art. 26 of these Rules may compete in the Olympic Games.

### ARTICLE 26

*An amateur is one who participates and always has participated in sport as an avocation without material gain of any kind. He does not qualify :*

- a) If he has not a basic occupation designed to insure his present and future livelihood ;*
- b) If he receives or has received remuneration for participation in sport ;*
- c) If he does not comply with the Rules of the International Federation concerned, and the official interpretations of this Rule number 26.*

### OFFICIAL INTERPRETATIONS

The official interpretations referred to in Rule 26 follow. It is the intention that additional interpretations will be issued from time to time as required. Violations of these regulations will be referred to a special committee appointed by the Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee for investigation and report with a view to action.

*The International Olympic Committee reserves to itself the right to make exceptions to these rules in the case of sports or individuals, provided that the basic principles that an athlete does not make a profit or livelihood out of his sport is not infringed.*

### **Among others, the following are not eligible for Olympic competitions**

Those who have participated for money, or who have converted prizes into money or, without permission of the National Federation within the Rules of the International Federation concerned, have received prizes exceeding 50 Dollars in value, and those who have received presents which can be converted into money or other material advantages.

Those who have capitalized in any way on their athletic fame or success, profited commercially therefrom or have accepted special inducements of any kind to participate, or those who have secured employment or promotion by reason of their sport performances rather than their ability, whether in commercial or industrial enterprises, the Services or any branches of the Press, Theatre, Television, Cinema, Radio, or any other paid activity.

Any employment must be bona fide and not a cover for excessive opportunities for training or competition in sport.

If an athlete is paid for the use of his name or picture or for a radio or television appearance, it is capitalization of athletic fame as described above.

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An athlete who becomes a professional in any sport or who indicates his intention of becoming a professional or who plays in a professional team with a view to become a professional.

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Those who are paid for teaching or coaching others for competition in sport.

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Anyone awarded a scholarship mainly for his athletic ability.

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An athlete who demands payment or expense money for a manager, coach, relative or friend.

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Those who have received payment of expenses in excess of the actual outlay.

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Those whose occupation (studies or employment) has been interrupted for special training in a camp for over three weeks.

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### **A competitor is permitted to receive**

Travelling and living expenses corresponding to the actual outlay during a very limited period of training (no more than three weeks), and during the Olympic Games subject to approval of his National Olympic Committee.

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Clothing and equipment as required for practicing his sport from his amateur sport organization.

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Pocket money to cover petty daily expenses during the Games but only from his National Olympic Committee.

### **Contribution because of loss of salary**

The International Olympic Committee in principle is opposed to payments for broken time which it considers an infraction of olympic amateurism.

However, when a competitor can prove that his dependants are suffering hardship because of his (or her) loss of salary or wages while attending the Olympic Games, his National Olympic Committee may make a contribution to those dependants, but under no circumstances may it exceed the sum which he (or she) would have earned during his (or her) actual period of absence, which in turn must not exceed 30 days.

### **Other decisions**

An athlete paid for teaching elementary sport (beginners or school-children) on a temporary basis without abandoning his usual occupation remains eligible.

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An athlete may be a full time professional journalist, radio or television reporter or a full time manager of or worker in an athletic facility without forfeiting his amateur status.

## **Doping of athletes**

The use of drugs or artificial stimulants of any kind is condemned and any person offering or accepting dope, in any form whatsoever, cannot participate in the Olympic Games.

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So far as the Olympic Games are concerned these rules must be complied with, even if they appear to conflict with the rules of any other bodies.

## **PSEUDO AMATEURS**

Individuals subsidized by governments, educational institutions, or business concerns because of their athletic ability are not amateurs. Business and industrial concerns sometimes employ athletes for their advertising value. The athletes are given paid employment with little work to do and are free to practise and compete at all times. For national aggrandizement, governments occasionally adopt the same methods and give athletes position in the Army, on the police force or in a government office. They also operate training camps for extended periods. Some colleges and universities offer outstanding athletes scholarships and inducements of various kinds. Recipients of these special favours which are granted only because of athletic ability are not amateurs.

## **POLITICAL USE OF SPORT**

The International Olympic Committee notes with great satisfaction that its efforts are universally approved, it rejoices in the enthusiasm which the Olympic Movement has encouraged among different nations and it congratulates those which, with a view of encouraging popular sports have adopted vast programs of physical education.

It considers, however, as dangerous to the Olympic ideals, that, besides the proper development of sports in accordance with the principles of amateurism, certain tendencies exist which aim primarily at a national exaltation of the results gained instead of the realization that the sharing of friendly effort and rivalry is the essential aim of the Olympic Games.

## **THE OLYMPIC GAMES ARE AMATEUR**

No one is permitted to profit from the Olympic Games. If it were not for the voluntary service given by thousands of men and women who are members of the International Olympic Committee, the International Federations, the National Olympic Committees and the National Federations, there would be no Olympic Games. It would be impossible to pay for these services, which are so gladly contributed by those who believe in amateur sport. The Games rest on this splendid and solid foundation and all are determined that neither individuals, organizations or nations shall be permitted to profit from them, politically or commercially. That is why Olympic Rules provide that all profits, if any, from the Olympic Games must be paid to the National Olympic Committee of the country holding the Games and be used for the promotion of the Olympic Movement or the development of amateur sport.





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