



2018-2019

ICSD

Annual Activity Report

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INTRODUCTION

First, we would like to thank everybody who supported Mr. Kang Chen's candidature for the ICSD Presidency during 2019 ICSD Congress in Italy. Within these two years, in close cooperation with the leaders of the National Deaf Sports Federations from many countries, we have managed to overcome many obstacles in ICSD's management, and we continue to move forward!

After the elections, our main objective was the building of a long-term cooperation with the main sports organization in the world - the International Olympic Committee which included moving the ICSD office to Switzerland, restoring ICSD corporate and financial documents, and ICSD marketing. A lot of work has been accomplished and we are proud to say that we managed to achieve a lot.

DEAF SPORTS MOVEMENT

The ICSD activity is regulated in accordance with the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The ICSD is also governed by the principles set out in the Olympic Charter. The Olympic Charter is a document in which the fundamental principles of Olympism and rules adopted by the IOC are outlined.

Fundamental Principles of Olympism

Olympism is a philosophy of life, exalting and combining in a balanced whole the qualities of body, will and mind. Blending sport with culture and education, Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy of effort, the educational value of good example, social responsibility and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles. The goal of Olympism is to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of humankind, with a view to promoting a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity.

The Olympic Movement is the concerted, organized, universal and permanent action, carried out under the supreme authority of the IOC, of all individuals and entities who are inspired by the values of Olympism. It covers the five continents. It reaches its peak with the bringing together of the world's athletes at the great sports festival, the Olympic Games. Its symbol is five interlaced rings.

The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play.

Sports organizations within the Olympic Movement shall have the rights and obligations of autonomy, which include freely establishing and controlling the rules of sport, determining the structure and governance of their organizations.

The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in this Olympic Charter shall be secured without discrimination of any kind, such as race, color, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Belonging to the Olympic Movement requires compliance with the Olympic Charter and recognition by the IOC, a privilege that has been extended to the ICSD.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF SPORTS FOR THE DEAF

The International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) is the main governing body responsible for the organization of Deaflympics and other World Deaf Championships.

Founded in 1924 and known as the CISS (Comité International des Sports des Sourds), the ICSD is now approaching the century mark of being the organization behind the building, evolving and fortifying the tradition of inviting deaf/hard of hearing elite athletes from all of the world to come together not only to compete in their respective sports, but to also develop comradeships between their countries.

ICSD MISSION

The ICSD is the sole governing body responsible for the global Movement of the Deaf Sports in compliance with the ICSD Constitution and Olympic Charter. The ICSD objective is to cherish the spirit of Deaflympics where Deaf athletes strive to reach the pinnacle of competition by embracing the motto of PER LUDOS AEQUALITAS (Equality through sports) and adhering to the ideals of Olympics. The ICSD owns the rights to Deaflympics. At the same time the Organizing Committee as established by the host country in co-operation with the ICSD, has organizational functions to conduct the Deaflympics.

The main functions of the ICSD are:

1. To supervise the organization of successful Summer and Winter Deaflympics.
2. To promote and contribute to the sport development.
3. To support and encourage educational, cultural, research and scientific activities that contribute to the development and promotion of the Deaflympics.
4. To fully enforce a drug-free sport environment for all Deaf athletes in conjunction with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and to conduct audiology tests.
5. To promote sports for Deaf athletes without discrimination based on one's political, religious, economic, disability, gender or racial attributes.
6. To work with the IOC in areas including the following:
 - Compliance with the rules of transparent management of the organization;
 - Adoption of measures to prevent corruption;
 - Compliance with the Code of Ethics as developed by the IOC;
 - Organizing the tendering process to hold ICSD Championships and the Deaflympics;
 - Maintaining relations with the GAISF and Sport Accord Convention;
 - Collaboration and active interaction with various International Sports Federations.

The current main objects of the ICSD are:

- To constantly raise the level training for Deaf sportspeople.
- To engage young people in sport and in the organization of the first Youth Deaflympics.
- To raise international recognition for Deaf sports.
- To manage the organization, including annual audit of companies.
- To grow our budget, including in marketing, sponsorship and in the sale of license agreements.

DEAFLYMPICS

The Deaflympics is the event at which deaf athletes from 115 countries compete. We were called the World Games for the Deaf until 2001.

The first games were held in Paris in 1924. The event has been held every four years since, apart from a break for World War II.

The first Games were so successful that during its session held 16 August 1924, the delegations of the participating countries created the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (Comité International des Sports des Sourds – CISS). Its main goal was to create the union of National Sports Federations for the Deaf and to develop the Constitution of the newly formed organization. It was also decided that year to conduct the World Summer World Games for the Deaf under the aegis of the ICSD every four years.

In January 1949 the first-ever Winter World Games for the Deaf were held in Austria involving 33 sportsmen from five countries. In 1955 the International Olympic Committee recognized the ICSD as an International Organization with the Olympic Status and in two years the ICSD started to change the Constitution in compliance with the Olympic Charter. In May 2001, following a decision of the IOC Executive Committee the World Games for the Deaf were renamed the Deaflympics.

Participation in the Deaflympics is restricted to persons who are deaf. This has been defined by a hearing loss of at least 55dB. The use of hearing aids or external cochlear implant aids during any Deaflympics event is prohibited. Every competition is held in compliance with the rules of a relevant International Sports Federation (FIFA, FILA, FIVB, etc.). In some sports (such as swimming, athletics etc.) a light is used instead of sound signals.

The ICSD consists of national independent Sports Deaf Federations from more than 115 countries worldwide combined into four (4) regional confederations (Europe, Asia-Pacific, PanAmericas and the Africas).

WORLD DEAF CHAMPIONSHIPS

The ICSD is the main governing body, which is responsible not only for organizing the Deaflympics, but also World Deaf Championships.

The World Deaf Championships are major international competitions held at least once in four years. The World Championships are the second largest international competitions in different sports after the Deaflympics.

Sport for the Deaf is a competition, self-affirmation, and a way of social rehabilitation. Doing the same sports, sticking to the same rules as other athletes, while being hard of hearing, Deaf athletes achieve the same results and often are even better.

GOVERNING BODY

The powers of the ICSD are exercised by its organs.

CONGRESS

The ICSD Congress takes place before each Deaflympics. It deals with coordination of issues from regional ICSD representatives, from our International Deaf Sports Federations and these issues are addressed in the spirit of promoting the Olympic ideas around the development of sport and physical education among the Deaf and the strengthening of relations in international sports.

Congress is the ICSD supreme body. It is a meeting of ICSD members held every two years before Winter or Summer Deaflympics. The Congress decisions are final.

The ICSD Congress has the following authority:

- To ratify new ICSD Members;
- To elect the President, Vice-Presidents and other members of the ICSD Executive Board;
- To elect the host city of the Deaflympics;
- To approve the annual report.

An ICSD Congress has quorum when there is at least fifty percent of Full Members in good standing. A simple majority makes Congress decisions. To make amendments to the ICSD Constitution requires at least two thirds of the quote.

Every ICSD member has one vote. When counting votes, those who have abstained or submitted blank or damaged ballots are not taken into account. Proxy voting is not allowed. Secret voting occurs only when it is stipulated by the Olympic Charter or by decision of the Chairperson, or if requested by at least one quarter of present ICSD Members. Where the votes are equal the decision is made by the Congress Chairperson.

ICSD has 47th ICSD Congress in Verceia, Italy on 09-11 December 2019.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board is the permanent body that assumes overall responsibility for the administration and management of the ICSD affairs.

The international structure of the ICSD is composed of four regions:

- Asia Pacific Deaf Sports Confederation;
- Confederation of African Deaf Sports;
- European Deaf Sports Organization;
- Pan American Sports Organization of the Deaf

President:

- Mrs. Rebecca ADAM (2017-2019)
- Mr. Kang CHEN (2019-)

Vice President – World Sports:

- Mr. Kang CHEN (2017-2019)
- Mr. Gustavo PERAZZOLO (2019-)

Vice President – Youth Sports:

- Mr. Jack LAMBERTON

ICSD EB Members:

- Mrs. Rebecca ADAM, Member at Large
- Mr. Grigor GRIGORYAN, Member at Large
- Mr. Yakup Umit KIHTIR, Member at Large
- Mr. Marijo LUSIC, Member at Large
- Mr. Mohammad PARGAR, President of the Asia Pacific Deaf Sports Confederation
- Mr. Mohamed MADOUN, President of the Confederation of African Deaf Sports
- Mr. Iosif STAVRAKAKIS, President of the European Deaf Sports Organization
- Mr. Pedro BONNASSIOLLE, President of the Pan American Sports Organization of the Deaf

All members of the Executive Board are elected by the ICSD Congress in a secret ballot, by a simple majority of the votes cast. The duration of the terms of Executive Board members is four years.

The ICSD Executive Board manages the affairs of the organization including the followings:

- Monitor compliance with the Olympic Charter;
- Assume ultimate responsibility for the administrative work of the ICSD;
- Approve the internal structure of the ICSD and all internal regulations relating to its organization;
- Finance management of the ICSD and preparation of reports during the Executive Board meetings;
- Submission to Congress of any report on any proposed rules changes and any official clarifications of these changes;
- Submission of candidates for election to the ICSD;
- Monitor the process of adoption and selection of candidate cities for hosting the Deaflympics;
- Preparation of the agenda for ICSD Congresses;
- Decisions about the terms and conditions of any ICSD employee are made by the ICSD Executive Team in consultation with the Executive Board;
- Archives of the ICSD;
- The Executive Board introduces all documents necessary for the proper implementation of the Olympic Charter and the organization of the Deaflympics in the form it considers most appropriate (decrees, provisions, regulations, directives, basic directions, instructions);
- Performs any other duties as assigned by the ICSD Congress.

SECRETARIAT

The ICSD Secretariat consists of three members appointed by the ICSD Executive Team (President and Vice-President-World Sports). The ICSD Secretariat is engaged in management activities of the organization. The main function of the Secretariat is to conduct and implement policies and decisions of the ICSD President, Vice-President and of the Executive Board.

Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Dmitry REBROV

Doping Control Officer

Mr. Artem BUEROV

ICSD Representative in Lausanne

Mr. Daniel FELLI

ICSD Secretariat functions:

- Implementation of decisions made by the President, Vice-President and by the ICSD Executive Board;
- Implementation of management activities aimed at implementation of decisions and policies of the ICSD to work with sports organizations, federations and associations of the Deaf;
- Administrative control over the compliance with legal rules and mandatory rules, in particular the compliance with the ICSD and Olympic Charter;
- Communication with partners and other organizations that provide resources for the ICSD;
- Information support of ICSD's representatives, other organizations and individuals interested in the ICSD.

ICSD EVENTS

WINTER DEAFLYMPICS

The 2019 Winter Deaflympics, officially known as the 19th Winter Deaflympics was the 19th edition of the Winter Deaflympics, and took place in Italy between 12 - 21 December 2019 in Northern Italy

<i>Location</i>	Valtellina - Valchiavenna, Italy
<i>Opening Date</i>	12 December 2019
<i>Closing Date</i>	21 December 2019
<i>Days</i>	9 days
<i>Nations</i>	34
<i>Sports</i>	4
<i>Sport Disciplines</i>	6
<i>Sport Events</i>	34
<i>Men</i>	17
<i>Women</i>	16
<i>Mixed</i>	1
<i>Participants (including athletes)</i>	923
<i>Men</i>	664
<i>Women</i>	259
<i>Delegates</i>	101
<i>ICSD (Executive Board, Technical Directors, Staff, Guests)</i>	32
<i>Nation - Team Leaders</i>	114
<i>Nation - Team Coaches</i>	143
<i>Nation - Team Interpreters</i>	55

<i>Nation - Team Medicals</i>	52
<i>Nation - Team Media</i>	29
<i>Associate Members</i>	5
<i>Athletes</i>	493
<i>Men</i>	367
<i>Women</i>	126
<i>Youngest - Men</i>	Luca Zennaro (ITA) - 15 years 8 months 10 days
<i>Youngest - Women</i>	Malwina Szewczyk (POL) - 15 years 2 months 13 days
<i>Oldest - Men</i>	Emil Nikolic (CRO) - 82 years 5 months 4 days
<i>Oldest - Women</i>	Ljubov Kireeva (RUS) - 68 years 5 months 25 days
<i>Medals</i>	195
<i>Gold</i>	66
<i>Silver</i>	63
<i>Bronze</i>	66
<i>Medalists</i>	151
<i>Men</i>	111
<i>Women</i>	40
<i>Most Medals - Men</i>	Giacomo Pierbon (ITA) - 32 years 5 months 10 days Total: 5 Gold: 5
<i>Most Medals - Women</i>	Tereza Knochova (CZE) - 29 years 2 months 16 days Total: 5 Gold: 1 Silver: 4
<i>Youngest Medalists - Men</i>	Aleksei Kazantsev (RUS) - 15 years 11 months 29 days Total: 2 Gold: 2
<i>Youngest Medalists - Women</i>	Margarita Noskova (RUS) - 17 years 7 months 13 days Total: 3 Gold: 2 Silver: 1
<i>Youngest Gold Medalists - Men</i>	Aleksei Kazantsev (RUS) - 15 years 11 months 29 days Total: 2 Gold: 2
<i>Youngest Gold Medalists - Women</i>	Margarita Noskova (RUS) - 17 years 7 months 13 days Total: 3 Gold: 2 Silver: 1
<i>Oldest Medalists - Men</i>	Yehuda Gruenfeld (ISR) - 63 years 9 months 14 days Total: 1 Gold: 1
<i>Oldest Medalists - Women</i>	Elena Shagieva (RUS) - 57 years 7 months 1 days Total: 1 Silver: 1
<i>Oldest Gold Medalists - Men</i>	Yehuda Gruenfeld (ISR) - 63 years 9 months 14 days Total: 1 Gold: 1

Oldest Gold Medalists - Women

Tetiana Baklanova (UKR) - 47 years 1 months 15 days
Total: 2 | Gold: 1 | Silver: 1

WORLD DEAF CHAMPIONSHIPS

2018

11-19 June 2018

3rd World Deaf Cadet and Junior Greco-Roman & Freestyle Wrestling Championships in Vladimir, Russian Federation

11-19 June 2018

5th World Deaf Senior Greco-Roman & Freestyle Wrestling Championships in Vladimir, Russian Federation

07-14 July 2018

U21 World Deaf Basketball Championships in Washington DC, USA

12-22 July 2018

2nd World Deaf Handball Championships in Caxias do Sul, Brazil

21-28 July 2018

World Deaf Golf Championships in Dublin, Ireland

22-29 September 2018

World Deaf Team Tennis Championships: Dresse and Maere Cups in Antalya, Turkey

22-29 September 2018

1st World Deaf Sailing Championships in Puck, Poland

2019

27 June – 06 July 2019

5th World Deaf Basketball Championships in Lublin, Poland

11-22 July 2019

5th World Deaf Badminton Championships in Taipei City, Chinese Taipei

03-12 August 2019

4th World Deaf Bowling Championships in Taoyuan, Chinese Taipei

17-24 August 2019

World Deaf Orienteering Championships in Olomouc, Czech Republic

25-31 August 2019

5th World Deaf Swimming Championships in San Paolo, Brazil

12-19 October 2019

2nd World Deaf Tennis Championships in Antalya, Turkey

26 October – 02 November 2019

14th World Deaf Cycling Championships in Gaziantep, Turkey

09-16 November 2019

4th World Deaf Futsal Championships, Winterthur, Switzerland

ICSD ANNUAL ACTIVITY

2018

24 February 2018

ICSD establishes Women in Sports Commission

ICSD has taken a major step towards empowering our deaf women in sports with the creation of its ICSD Women in Sport Commission. The role of the ICSD Women in Sport Commission will be to:

- advise the ICSD Executive Board on the development of policies related to promoting deaf women in sport;
- co-ordinate efforts to increase participation of women in world sports;
- develop ideas and initiatives to promote the role of women in world Deaf sports;
- ensure representation of women within ICSD governance structures;
- deliver advocacy on gender issues in World Deaf sports; and
- be active in raising awareness about gender equality in their respective domains.

The ICSD Executive Board has approved the initial members of the ICSD Women in Sport Commission as follows:

Rebecca ADAM (Australia): Chair of the ICSD Women in Sports Commission, Chair of the ICSD Legal Commission, member at large of the ICSD Executive Board since 2011.

Dawn Jani BIRLEY (Canada). Dawn has played competitive sports for many years and has represented Canada at numerous international sporting events. She took on taekwondo at age seven and represented Canada at an international level between 1992 and 1999. She was also voted MVP of the 1995 Canadian Taekwondo Championships — a first time ever for any female athlete in this sport. ICSD awarded Ms. Birley with the Sportswoman of the Year award in 1996.

Nadezhda SHAKHBAZYAN (Russia). Nadezhda has an involvement in Deaf Sports that spans 21 years. She is currently the Head of Deaflympics for the Russian Federation and is responsible for the delivery of the Russian Deaflympic team for each Deaflympic Games. Her campaign in Samsun, Turkey was the most successful ever for the Russian Committee of Deaf Sports, when the Russian team brought home over 198 medals.

Shirley KEOAGILE (Botswana). Shirley comes to the commission with impressive credentials in sports. Shirley is currently the Secretary General of CADS and is a founding member for the Botswana Deaf Sports Federation and has previously served as President of the Botswana Paralympic Commission. Her involvement in deaf sports has resulted in strong partnerships for deaf sports with similar-minded organizations including the IWG and with the Botswana's Government having served on the Executive Board of its National Sports Commission.

Sonu Anand SHARMA (India). Sonu shares her birthday with the International Women's Day and it is no surprise, that she has always been passionate about supporting the participation of women in sports

through specialized training and coaching programs throughout India. She has also developed pathways for these women to participate in international competitions in badminton and in athletics.

28 March 2018

The ICSD Doping Control Officer, Mr. Artem Buerov attended the WADA Symposium, which is the main event on the global anti-doping calendar.

Compliance, funding and capturing the athlete's voice were among the main topics at the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA's) 14th Annual Symposium held last week in Lausanne, Switzerland

The WADA Symposium 2018 gathered a record 900 delegates from the global anti-doping community for three days of presentations, interviews, panel discussions, practical workshops and networking sessions. Athlete representatives, International Federations, government representatives, National and Regional Anti-Doping Organizations, Major Event Organizers, WADA-accredited laboratories and Athlete Passport Management units, as well as more than 50 international media and other stakeholders gathered together at the Swiss Tech Center under the theme "Shaping the Future of Clean Sport".

WADA then gave an update on the topic of safeguarding doping control process with sustainable security bottle supply following the bottle manufacturer Berlinger Special AG's decision earlier this month to withdraw from the doping control business after experiencing serious integrity issues with some of its bottles.

23 April 2018

ICSD and more than hundred federations join this outstanding event in the Kingdom of Thailand which is focused on driving positive change internationally and dedicated to engaging and connecting rights holders, organizing committees, host cities, press and media, businesses and other organizations involved in the development of sport.

The next day was the opening of the Sport Accord exhibition and Dr. Rukhledev and his team started their work. Within five days they had ongoing meetings with the host cities and sport business leaders. Those meetings with ICSD included:

Holding of the Summer Deaflympics 2025 and World Deaf Youth Games 2013 have been subjects for substantive discussions.

The 2021 and 2025 Summer Deaflympics have been discussed in detail with the representatives of the cities of Jyväskylä and Tampere of Finland; Welsh Government; Detroit Sports Commission; Sports Event Acquisition of Melbourne; Denmark; Los Angeles Sports Council; Singapore; Japan Sport Council; Catalan Olympic Committee; New Zealand; Malaysia Major Events; India and other major destinations.

27 May 2018

Valery Rukhledev in his capacity as President of the All-Russian Society of the Deaf is currently under investigation by the Tverskoy Court of Moscow (Russia) in regard to allegations of embezzlement. The All-Russian Society of the Deaf in Moscow. Rukhledev has been placed under home arrest for the next two months while these investigations continue. These matters bear no relation to the ICSD.

While the ICSD Executive Board understands the importance of respecting the principle of the presumption of innocence for any person involved in a criminal investigation, the ICSD Executive Board is also actively engaged in strategic planning to ensure that our work continues in advancing ICSD's mission for deaf athletes throughout the world.

28 May 2018

The ICSD announced the appointment of Kang Chen as the ICSD Acting President with immediate effect for 2 months until the conclusion of the investigations into Valery Rukhledev's matters that is currently before the Russian courts. This appointment will be in addition to his responsibilities as the ICSD Vice President - World Sports.

22 July 2018

Taking the allegations against Valery Rukhledev seriously, the ICSD is in contact and working with the IOC Ethics Commission to address this matter appropriately and in the spirit of IOC ethics framework. Every necessary measure will be taken to protect the interest of the ICSD in order to keep focusing on being the only worldwide Deaf multi-sports organization and to further develop, protect and promote the interests of the deaf international sporting community.

The ICSD Executive Board is convening in Yerevan, Armenia where the priority will be to discuss the current situation and the strategy to be followed to insure a sustainable future of the ICSD. Kang Chen and the members of the Executive Board have launched a series of initiatives that are intended to focus on the concerns raised by members.

31 July 2018

The ICSD Executive Board is hereunder sharing the first results of its executive meeting in Yerevan, Armenia on the 30 July 2018. First

After 5 years of faithful duty, the ICSD President, Dr. Valery Rukhledev, took the serious decision to retire with immediate effect from the ICSD. The ICSD Executive Board wishes to thank Rukhledev for taking this step and hopes that all matters against him will be resolved in his favor.

Following the statement of Dr. Rukhledev, there was an unanimous decision by the ICSD Executive Board members to appoint Mrs. Rebecca Adam as the new ICSD President from the 01 August 2018 until the next ICSD Congress scheduled for 2019.

15 September 2018

ICSD announced the formation of the new ICSD Reform Commission following the ICSD Executive Board's endorsement of the Terms of Reference. The new ICSD Reform Commission is responsible for the co-ordination and oversight of the ICSD Reform Program and will play a very important role in the changes taking place in ICSD. The following appointments to the ICSD Reform Commission have been confirmed by the ICSD Executive Board:

Chairperson:

Rebecca ADAM (President)

Members:

Dr Donalda AMMONS (Honorary Life Member)

Jean-Pierre PEMHA (Cameroon / Africa)

Norbert HENSEN (Germany / Europe)

Mark KUSIAK (Canada / Pan-America)

Yutaka Osugi (Asia Pacific)

The appointments recognize the importance that the ICSD Executive Board attaches to equitable representation across our regions, believing that this provides a range of skills, experience, and perspective that better enables ICSD to support all deaf athletes and members. ICSD received more

expressions of interest than there are places available on the Commission and I would like to convey my appreciation to everyone who took the time to apply.

20 August 2018

ICSD situation with the IOC. On 19 July 2018, the IOC Executive Board decided to suspend their financial payments to ICSD due to concerns about the possible misappropriation of these funds following embezzlement charges raised against former ICSD President Valery Rukhledev in Moscow, Russia.

Since then, ICSD has been working with the IOC Ethics and Compliance Office to provide the following information:

- ICSD financial reports
- ICSD accounts
- ICSD reform documents

Discussions with the IOC have been proceeding well and I shall be meeting with the IOC on 12 September 2018 for a progress update.

11 September 2018

The President of the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf, Rebecca Adam, met with the President of the National Deaf Sports Federation of Switzerland (Schweizerischer Gehörlosen Sportverband "SGS"), Mr. Anton Koller, at the ICSD office in Lausanne.

Rebecca and Anton had a fruitful dialogue about developing Deaf sport in Switzerland and in the spirit of ensuring continuing opportunities for our deaf athletes to compete at elite level, the two leaders also discussed the possibility of the SGS hosting future ICSD events including the Deaflympics and World Deaf Championships in Switzerland.

ICSD Vice President-World Sports, Kang Chen and ICSD CEO, Dmitry Rebrov were also in attendance at this meeting.

12 September 2018

We have just had a 2 (two) hour long joint meeting with representatives from the IOC and ICSD in attendance.

Representing the IOC there were the following representatives:

- IOC Sports Director, Kit McConnell
- IOC Head of Winter Sports and International Federations, Irina Gladkikh
- IOC Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer, Paquerette Zappelli

On the ICSD side, there were the following representatives:

- ICSD President, Rebecca Adam
- ICSD Vice President-World Sports, Kang Chen
- ICSD CEO, Dmitry Rebrov
- ICSD Doping Control Officer, Artem Buerov
- ICSD Advisor, Daniel Felli

In the spirit of our long-standing partnership, the sentiment from the IOC was such they are committed to support ICSD in its reform journey towards a strong and sustainable future for our deaf athletes.

The first is the clear commitment on both sides to work in a partnership for the benefit of our deaf athletes.

This includes the following opportunities:

ICSD Women in Sports Commission: IOC was receptive to our request for supporting with accessing best practice in empowering women in sports including having our representatives access IOC programs.

Deaflympics hosting: we identified common areas for collaboration in securing hosts given the challenges being experienced by the IOC and the ICSD in lining up candidates for our games.

Governance: we acknowledged that given there were opportunities for improvement in our governance, it was also agreed that we would continue to work together so that we could benefit from the IOC's deep expertise in sports governance.

Athletes Commission: following our commitment to establish an Athletes Commission at ICSD, the IOC was again, receptive to our suggestion that we have ICSD representatives participate in relevant IOC programs to ensure that our commission benefit from best practice in ensuring that the voice of our athletes drives our work.

IOC Commissions: we also agreed that we continue with the arrangement for ICSD representatives participate in IOC commissions.

Secondly, we also touched upon the topic of our funding. The feedback from the IOC was that they were very pleased with our work to date and that they would be putting forward a recommendation to the IOC board at their upcoming meeting in October that our funding be reinstated.

22 October 2018

ICSD President, Mrs. Rebecca Adam and WFD President, Mr. Colin Allen has met in Melbourne, Australia on 21 October 2018. They have been discussing how both international deaf organizations work with members across the world. WFD's work is focused on advocacy for sign language, the deaf community and the place of deaf people in society whereas ICSD's work is in deaf sports. It has been a real privilege to spend time and to obtain insights about the key elements that makes an organization successful on the international stage. This is the importance of open and transparent communication because from this, new ideas and better ways of doing this can be discovered and explored for the benefit of the communities that we serve.

05 November 2018

The ICSD Executive Board has endorsed the appointment of Ms. Nadezhda Shakhbazyan to the Chair of the ICSD Women in Sports Commission. Up until now, Nadezhda has had a lifelong role as a leader in sport in Russia. She has served in a number of senior roles including her current role as the Head of Deaflympics in Russia.

Her responsibilities as Chair of the Women in Sports Commission will include the provision of advice to the board on recommended initiatives in the area of gender equality, the delivery of a new Diversity Policy for ICSD and to work with the IOC to ensure that deaf sports benefits from current research and thinking in gender equality.

13 December 2018

ICSD is thrilled to announce the appointment of Martin Bogard to the role of Chair of the ICSD Technical Commission. Martin has been a TD for Badminton for many years and has made significant contributions in a variety of roles at ICSD.

As a former Deaflympian, Martin thus brings the valuable perspective of the deaf athlete as well as wealth of experience to the role of Chair of the ICSD Technical Commission and we are excited about his new role at ICSD.

As of 2019

11 January 2019

The ICSD Board has approved the re-establishment of the ICSD Legal Commission. Its main work will be to provide legal review of the current constitution and bylaws as well the proposed new constitution and bylaws. It is important work that needs to be done.

The Chair will be Mr. Gustavo Perazzolo, whom many of you will know from his work as President of the PANAMDES organization. We also have from the Asia Pacific region, Ms. Kathryn Armfield, a qualified and practicing lawyer. She is the current President of Deaf Sports Australia. From the European region, we have Mr. Phillip Gerrard, whom you will know from his role as member of the EDSO Legal Commission. He is currently the Secretary General for EDSO. ICSD is fortunate to have persons of such high caliber join the commission.

11 March 2019

ICSD CEO, Mr. Dmitry Rebrov has been appointed by the United Nations to sit on their Committee of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The goal of the CRPD is to advance equality and non-discrimination for people with disabilities and is a very prestigious appointment.

14 March 2019

Artem Buerov, ICSD Doping Control Officer, attended the 2019 WADA Annual Symposium. The WADA Symposium, which is the leading fixture on the anti-doping calendar, gathered this year close to 900 delegates from the global anti-doping community for two days of presentations, interviews, panel discussions, practical workshops and networking sessions. Athlete representatives, International Sports Federations, government representatives, National and Regional Anti-Doping Organizations, Major Event Organizers, WADA-accredited laboratories and Athlete Passport Management Units, as well as international media and other stakeholders, gathered on 13 and 14 March under the theme "Towards 2021 – Navigating the Future Together".

14 April 2019

The ICSD Board has been in meetings, ICSD President and ICSD CEO met with the IOC and Sports Accord. The meeting with the IOC was an opportunity to follow up on items discussed at our previous meeting. An example is having ICSD representatives on IOC commissions. This is work in progress. We also agreed to work on strengthening our partnership as per our memorandum of understanding agreement. I also shared my concerns about the lack of awareness about deaf sports within Olympic programs around the world. The IOC agreed to work with ICSD to achieve greater inclusion for deaf athletes. We had the heads of ICSD Commissions present on the activities of their commissions. The board was very pleased with the updates that came out of the Reform Commission, Women in Sports Commission, Youth Commission, Legal Commission and the Technical Commission. It was wonderful to see the good work delivered by these commissions and to see our workload being shared across our commissions.

21 May 2019

SportAccord and GAISF meetings in Gold Coast

This convention has been an eye-opener. The topics they cover are very similar to the topics we discuss at ICSD including governance, gender equality, managing conflict of interest and financial transparency. It certainly shows we are not alone in dealing with these important issues and that we have a whole community of international federations for support and advice.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Presidents of the IOC and the ICSD, Thomas Bach and Valery Rukhledev, in line with the Recommendation No. 7 of the program Olympic Agenda 2020, which requires the strengthening of 'relations with the organizations for persons with disabilities in order to ensure effective joint activities in all possible areas, including technical assistance, communication and promotion of events via the Olympic Channel'. The IOC will also work with the ICSD by supporting the athletes through the educational IOC program IOC Athlete Learning Gateway (Educational portal for athletes) and the program Olympic Athletes' Hub (Portal for Olympic athletes) and through the implementation plan of the Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions.

Olympic Agenda 2020 is a strategic plan for the Olympic movement development, which was unanimously adopted at the IOC session in December 2014, of which Dr. Rukhledev was one of the experts. IOC President Thomas Bach noticed that working with athletes with different abilities and providing access to sport with all its opportunities and benefits is a fundamental Olympic value. Cooperation with the IOC gives new opportunities to the ICSD to realize the development goals and improve the status of Deaf sports. The Deaflympics become a significant event for any country that hosts them. It is also an indicator of socially orientated politics in different countries, depoliticization of questions of mutual relations between the two countries, and support of the Deaf all over the world who attain great heights in sports.

The opening of the new ICSD office in Lausanne (Switzerland) places the ICSD at the level of the most influential sports organizations in the world. This will also allow ICSD to interact with the IOC and with the SportAccord and SportAccord Convention, which is the umbrella organization for all International Sports Federations and associations.

One of the important steps in the development of the International Deaf Sports is the close cooperation with leading International Sports Organizations and Federations. This cooperation transfers deaf sport to a new level.

The organization of the international tender opens new horizons for the ICSD as it gives the organization an access to work with applications from interested cities from around the globe.

ICSD has become a strong organization in the international sports community. Sporting events always take root in people's hearts. Sport is an idea and its source is the inspiration for peaceful coexistence of people from different countries. This concept reflects the spirit of sports. By providing expert assistance, advocating fairness and social responsibility, promoting sports ideals, building peace the ICSD helps people with disabilities around the world.

MEDIA

ICSD is developing its internet resources, social media and covering a vast range of topics concerning not only the Deaflympics, but World Deaf Championships, the ICSD Executive Board activities, interesting facts about Deaf athletes, health, style, lifestyle and much more as well.

With media development, the ICSD will be able to make Deaf sports an integral part of content interesting to users. Through creating useful content and distributing it, the ICSD ultimately increases awareness and popularity for itself. Having your own media resource not only helps attract athletes, but also to creates new audiences and educates these audiences about your work.

The work of the ICSD Media will be further developed. This will include content incorporating the latest news in Deaf sports, shared experiences, and interviews with experts who will go towards educating and developing supportive audiences.

The production of information materials requires its own production studio. The studio produces photo, video and text materials for media distribution. Your own production allows you to control media products related to the ICSD activities. We hope to achieve this facility in due course.

ICSD content delivery is provided through existing media platforms: the official ICSD website, the organization's pages in social networks and printed materials distributed by the administration during Congresses; and through other resources including the Olympic Channel website and the Deaf media all over the world.

Media content refers to ICSD activities and is valuable for athletes, people interested in sports and healthy lifestyle. It is not just an information service but also essential for marketing and logistics — intangible assets that make the ICSD a respected organization in the world community.

The provision of information is the most useful, relevant and practical information for sponsors, athletes, and people interested in sports and healthy lifestyle, which can be helpful for the Deaf community.

Media content directed at deaf audiences is best accompanied by international signs and subtitles to emphasize the needs of the Deaf community for inclusive e information. This is the same all over the world. Subtitles will be useful for those who do not know sign language.

We want to make ICSD content available on the media platforms on a regular basis. The ideal minimum frequency of publication is weekly

The types of media content:

- Announcements, news
- Information including results of competitions
- Interviews
- Practical and useful reviews
- Documentaries including information about the history of Deaf sports

CONCLUSION

- The whole ICSD team did a great job to ensure that Deaf sports can be acknowledged and known around the world. We are all working on new achievements.
- Preparations are underway for the 1st World Youth Deaflympics in 2023/2024.
- We anticipate a list of two candidate countries competing to host the 24th Summer Deaflympics 2021. The work is continuing.
- According to the Memorandum of Understanding with the IOC, there will be agreements with all International Sports Federations to ensure that they receive support from their NOC.
- The introduction of the new sports in the Deaf sports program is being considered
- Relations with the IOC Olympic Channel is being strengthened
- In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the ICSD and the IOC, there is a proposal before the board to develop a program for Deaf referees and to develop a program for deaf youth sports.
- With the IOC, we are working on seminars to improve Deaf sports.

The purpose of the ICSD is the Deaf sports development and the promotion of a healthy lifestyle. Together we make the world a better place every day. Through the partnership with the IOC we are in the Olympic Family, which unites people of different nationalities, beliefs, ideologies, religions and abilities. We share sports, cultural and moral values with people and strive to attract more media and international sports organizations attention to the development of Deaf sports.

This is the result of incredible work accomplished by the entire ICSD team! I want to thank each member of the ICSD Executive Board, Congress delegates, Head of every National Deaf Sport Federation, each Technical Director, and each person who contributed to the development of the Deaf Sports and every athlete who believed in us and never gave up and achieved excellent results!