SPECIAL EDITION

World Schools Championships 2015 - Part 1

#05 | July 2015

“We are school sport”
Since March 2015, nine ISF World Schools Championships took place on four different continents of the world. Each championship was spectacular and unique. This edition cannot contain all the information I would like to share in order for readers to connect with the beauty and power of an international sport event gathering involving so many nationalities. Therefore, this edition and also the one being published in September will only be devoted to World Schools Championships. I hope to see soon even more countries and students taking part in our championships. One of my objectives of my mandate is to give all countries the opportunity to be involved in the ISF events. I sincerely wish it to be a stepping stone to a society based on mutual respect with committed citizens ready to change the world.

If you want to see more, do not forget to follow us on the social networks which actively publish news, results, pictures and videos.

I am also delighted to announce that I have taken the decision to devote a special agenda, viz. to meet all the members per continent from June 2015 to December 2015 to continue the discussions about the vision for ISF started during the ISF Convention. In addition, I am establishing two annual meetings with the continental presidents to include them in the policy discussions of the ISF. I believe ISF should reflect the international spirit conveyed at the World Schools Championships - I am working on it.

See you soon at one of my continental meetings?

Laurent Petrynka
BEST HASHTAGS #ISFWSC2015

Remember #ISFWSC2015 Football with a small difference between players of Denmark & Guatemala ! #MundialEscolarFutbol

"I cannot put into words how happy I am that I got to represent England for the first time at #ISFWSC2015 😍❤️"

5 000 people #ISFWSC2015 #basket #ISFyouth

"Calm before the storm of the friendship match #ISFWSC2015 ISF #ISFWSC2015"

It’s one non stop party at #ISFWSC2015 friendships #basketparty

"Great results for England teams 3 third places, one second and one first position! #ISFWSC2015 #basketboring"

"The girls final France v Germany in a full 5600 capacity stadium #basketball #ISFWSC2015"

"World Schools Orientering Champs Gold Medal vengeland #basketball #ISFWSC2015"

"RT @MartaPE
The girls final France v Germany in a full 5600 capacity stadium #basketball #ISFWSC2015"

"RT @SophiaKirk
Calm before the storm of the friendship match #ISFWSC2015 ISF #ISFWSC2015"

"W11 debut podium for middle distance, congrats to the England team on 2nd place overall #ISFWSC2015 #basketboring"

"French girls win the MundialEscolarFutbol in final against a great Guatemala team! Congratulations #ISFWSC2015"

"A cultural day in a Hospitality School for the girls, cooking, baking and eating! #ISFWSC2015 @basketengland"

"Congrats to our girls winners of @basketengland "
ISF World Schools Championship

Tennis

30 teams from 16 countries met in Doha for the tennis experience of their lives at the world class Khalifa Tennis Centre.

NAME: ISF WSC Tennis
DATE: 08/03 – 15/03/2015
PLACE: Doha, Qatar
ORGANIZATION: Qatar School Sport Association / Qatar Tennis Federation. OC Director: Ehab Awad
ISF DELEGATE: Norbert Kever (Executive Director)
ISF TECHNICAL COMMISSION:
PRESIDENT: Pamela Burrage

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For the 49 players with ITF rankings this was an opportunity to represent their school and their country, to be part of a team and take part in the cultural events. For the nationally ranked players this may be the highest level of competition they will ever experience, the peak of their tennis career. For all the competitors this was an experience of playing at a professional level. All the matches were umpired and there were also line judges for some of the matches. The Official Team, led by Dr. Ashraf Hamouda was outstanding. All umpires from around the world working together with the officials, no long coach journeys to the competitions, good maps, good courses, plenty of time to chill out with new friends and excellent weather for the competitions.

How is the championship arranged?
The World Schools Championship in Orienteering (WSC) is primarily a team competition and in order to rank in the results, teams have to have a minimum of three accredited runners. The categories for the WSCO are divided into school teams and selected teams that are representing their country. If a country enters a school team in a category, then that country may also enter a selected team in the same age category. The selected team members may come from any school in the country and obviously a school team must consist of members who are all studying at the same school. There are two age groups. The younger age group is for 14 and 15 year olds, divided into boys teams and girls teams (teams are allowed a maximum of five runners). This year the age range for the older runners changed, so that teams could include 16, 17 year olds, plus a maximum of two 18 year olds. However, only one 16 year old could be counted for scoring, so that left countries who wanted to send older runners with a selection problem.

How did the event rate amongst the 16 other ISF World Schools Championship in Orienteering?
Answer, absolutely the best ever. Great facilities enjoyed by both, the competitors and the officials, no long coach journeys to the competitions, good maps, good courses, plenty of time to chill out with new friends and excellent weather for the competitions.

Where did the teams come from?
So we saw teams from 21 countries, from all over the world, from Europe, Turkey, Israel, China and New Zealand. Well you would have to look on the official ISF site to see all of the teams, but our friends from down-under (NZ) were back with strong teams. And the USA too were back with strong teams. Well, the 24 medals were divided among 9 countries. Austria, England, Latvia and Sweden, always have strong teams. In the younger age group, Scotland, England and Latvia, always have strong teams. In this year Austria also had some very good teams.

What were the competitions?
The long distance race was close to the hotel, at Tekirova. A quite steep forest, with lots of gullies and small hills. A considerable amount of passable low vegetation tested route choices, with the added excitement of copious beeswax near the start. The middle distance race saw the rocks of Beycik testing terrain running technical skills and detailed map reading skills. The climax of the week, the Friendship team event, was held in Kemer, a coastal tourist town. The race was held in very windy conditions, which caused great clouds of dust and made us double tie the control markers that were on the sea front, to prevent them from being blown away.

And who won?
Well, the 24 medals were divided among 9 different countries. Austria, England, Latvia and Sweden were the big winners, each with 4 medals. New Zealand were awarded the ‘Joy of Moving’ Trophy for their impeccable display of friendliness and fair play throughout the competitions.

NEXT ISF TENNIS EVENTS:
In July 2016 at the Gymnasiade in Brazil
In 2017 at the WSC Tennis in Brazil

NEXT ISF ORIENTEERING EVENT:
In 2017 at the WSC Orienteering in Italy

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ISF World Schools Championship
Swim cup

The 11th ISF World Schools Championship Swimming was held in an amazing new swimming complex (2013) of Poznan, Poland. Poznan only recently staged the 40th European Championship Junior Swimming 2013. The 10 lane 50 meter with all new electronic and competitive equipment.

The championship organisation was led by Marcin Czajko (official organizer), and Ferrando Delgado (President of the ISF Technical Commission of swimming).

The official opening of the 2015 ISF World Schools Championship Swimming was held at the Termy Maltańskie on the east side of the city. 17 countries participating in the championship entered the swimming complex. The first to welcome all those gathered was Wojciech Ziemniak, a member of the Polish School Sports Association, followed by ISF delegate Avraham Zuchman from Israel.

The actual opening ceremony of the Championship was conducted by the President of the Polish Olympic Committee chair Andrezj Krasinski, accompanied by Otylia Jedrzej- zak and Honorary Committee member Jakub Jedrzejewski - Deputy Mayor of the City of Poznan. Following the hoisting of the ISF Flag, all those in attendance watched a show of synchronized swimming, a brief game of water polo and a show of artistic gymnastics.

There were three days of intense competitions - with highlights of both friendships and competitive rivalry. A most original and memorable event occurred on the 5th day of the Championship in Poznan - a Friendship Relay Race in dragon boats. This was held in sunny but windy weather on the Malta regatta causeway. Each dragon boat held 10 participants (guests) of the Poznan Championship and 1 drummer – sitting in as the coxswain. Each of the 4 boats were professionals from Poznan’s «Stomil» sports club. In accordance with Friendship Relay tradition, the composition of the teams was decided by the drawing of lots and so it happened that we saw people from 12 different countries manning a boat together! The dragon boats covered the course altogether some 29 times and more than 300 participants in each of the 4 boats were professionals from Poznan’s «Stomil» sports club. In accordance with Friendship Relay tradition, the composition of the teams was decided by the drawing of lots and so it happened that we saw people from 12 different countries manning a boat together! The dragon boats covered the course altogether some 29 times and more than 300 participants in each of the 4 boats were professionals from Poznan’s «Stomil» sports club. In accordance with Friendship Relay tradition, the composition of the teams was decided by the drawing of lots and so it happened that we saw people from 12 different countries manning a boat together! The dragon boats covered the course altogether some 29 times and more than 300 participants in each of the 4 boats were professionals from Poznan’s «Stomil» sports club.

The ISF young athletes, their coaches and their Head of Delegation came with a purpose – to win as many medals as possible. Hungary emerged as overall winners with 26 medals (including 13 gold medals). Germany won the second position with 11 medals and Chinese Taipei, often on the Swim Cup podium, won 16 medals but ranks in 3rd position, as they have fewer Gold medals than Germany. For more information, please click on the Official Magazine made by the Organizing Committee summarizing the content of each day.

ISF World Schools Championship
Football

The competition took place in the city of Retalhuleu (south-western of Guatemala) with almost 600 young football players representing 15 countries.

The organization of the 24th ISF World Schools Championship Football run by the General Directorate of Physical Education (Guatemala). The Logistics and the Organising Committee worked in 2012 when District was designated by the General Directorate of Physical Education to bid for the organization.

Supervised by 19 commissions; 11 stadiums completely full with both students and football fans, from the departments of Retalhuleu, Quetzaltenango and Suchitepéquez – hosting the 86 games.

The football players showed outstanding skills, the level was very high, but their courage must be underlined - as they played often in stadiums at high altitude and in tropical climatic conditions.

France and Turkey won the title of the 24th edition of the World Schools Championship. In the School Team Girls category, France won 3-1 against Guatemala. In the School Team boys category, Turkey won the final 2-1 against Brazil in the Mario Camposco de Xela in front of 10 000 people!

The Turkish team won for the second consecutive championship the boys title making this its fourth championship win (1997-2003-2013-2015); whilst France wrote history by winning for the first time in the Girls category.

See you in 2017 at our next ISF World Schools Championship in the country of Brazil.
ISF World Schools Championship
Basketball

The famous Palais Beaublanc hosted the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the 23rd ISF Basketball World Schools Championship. The Opening Ceremony included a spectacular animation show made by local sport associations that reflected the cultural heritage of France all staged in front of 6000 people. A new initiative during the championships was the unified basketball games of Special Olympics. Pascal Robert, his colleagues on the organisation committee and all the volunteers combined their best efforts - to organize an unforgettable World Schools Championship for 28 different countries and more than 1000 participants based on the motto Education through Sport. In addition to the high level sporting performances, youngsters had the opportunity to exchange and learn more about other cultures during the Night of Nations.

With the presence of Laurent Petryk, Julia Boyanova, President of the ISF Technical Commission of Basketball, all the Technical Commission members, the ISF Delegate, Nicos Megalemos, and Eric Micoud, former player of the France team, the finals were held in Palais Beaublanc. The Girls Final (France 1 – Germany) was a close-game, nevertheless Finland played a remarkable final. In the boys category, Israel won the 3rd place as for girls, Serbia ranked third.

School Boys Podium
1. Turkey  
2. Finland  
3. Israel

School Girls Podium
1. France  
2. Germany  
3. Serbia

NAME: ISF WSC Basketball
DATE: 17/04 – 25/04/2015
PLACE: Limoges, France
ORGANIZATION: Union Nationale du Sport Scolaire

ISF World Schools Championship Basketball
Limoges 17-25 April 2015

ISF Delegate: Nicos Megalemos (Continental President of Europe)
ISF Technical Commission President: Julia Boyanova

OC Director: Pascal Robert

Next ISF Basketball Events:
In June 2016 at the WSC 3X3 in Estonia
In April 2017 at the WSC Basketball in Croatia

If you are basketball fans, save the date for the 3X3 Basketball in Tallinn, Estonia in 2016 and as for Basketball in Porec, Croatia in 2017.

Storytelling: First ISF Participation of Thailand

Ever since I saw the NZ team at Melbourne airport in 2013 travelling back from the last ISF world school championships I decided that I would do my best to ensure Bangkok Patana School tennis teams would try and represent Thailand in Qatar 2015, little did I know how difficult that journey would become.

I did my initial searches and found that no team from Thailand had ever participated in an ISF event so if I was to succeed we were all going down a path not knowing what the outcome would be. As we are a British International School in Bangkok I asked my government liaison manager to try and make contact with the Sport Authority of Thailand, once we had done this we were told that although Thailand was an ISF member they had never participated because they wanted to enter representative teams selected from different schools, they told me to wait as they wanted to go the AGM in Paris and discuss this option. On their return they contacted me to say would pressed by the team the next step was they wanted to host a qualifying event which I was to host - this I thought was a great idea as not only would be the best selection route it also would open up the idea to other schools to enter ISF events. Unfortunately the qualifying event never materialised due to a variety of reasons but the Sport Authority was happy to nominate both my boys and girls teams to play in Qatar 2015 which for us was great news. The tournament itself lived up to all our expectations and was a wonderful event full of high class tennis in a world class venue. Both my teams finished a respectable 10th but more than that we were the first school from Thailand to play it is possible to send teams to more events from a whole host of schools not only here in Bangkok but from all over the kingdom, the big test though will be carrying this forward which I sincerely hope will be possible.
Interview of two Olympic champions at the ISF WSC Swimming

Otylia J. drzejczak

Did your swimming career begin like these school championship participants, meaning with competitions for students? I must admit that I remember very little about school competitions, except to say that in my youth they weren’t held very often. I learnt, trained and prepared for competitions mainly in my school and at a club, and then pretty soon «jumped» to representation level and started competing with the best in the world. It’s rather a shame really, because I think that school age is the best time to establish international connections and make friends for life. I began to have such contacts with colleagues from other countries a little later, at the junior age. But those have survived to this day, because we have been meeting up at various sporting events for many years now. So I believe that such interschool competitions as this in Poznan are wonderful moments in life and a chance that must be used to establish international connections. Of course, all the students who have come here no doubt have their own dreams, challenges and sports-related goals. Swimming as a career robs one of one’s childhood, but in return it gives one fortitude and determination, and teaches consistency, the rules of fair-play and respect for others, values that remain for the rest of one’s life. If in a few days time everyone leaves Poznan with the attitude that they had a good time and were able to make new friends, they will remember this event for years to come.

Which swimming style did you begin with, which of them did you particularly like, and which if any caused you problems? In the beginning the hardest for me was swimming from the starting board, but my breaststroke was pretty good and in the 12 age category, I was even the Polish record holder. Strangely enough later, in my senior career, this was the worst style for me. My Achilles heel... There has never been any one style that I particularly loved, but each had something I liked, including diving.

Amaury Leveaux

How does one become an Olympic champion? I am very lucky to have the title of Olympic champion, but I don’t really know how it is done. It seems to me however that perhaps the most important thing is hard work and commitment.

What changed in your life after winning this title? After I won the Olympic gold medal, a lot more people began to recognize me in the street, and I have become more “sought after” by various circles. However, as far as myself and my life is concerned, I don’t think I have changed - I still treat people the same way and I have the same friends as before. You must have visited many swimming facilities around the world. How does the swimming complex in Poznan compare? You must have visited many swimming complexes. In many French cities larger than Poznan there are no such multifunctional facilities with an Olympic swimming pool and diving boards. I am glad to see that in Poland, swimming is becoming increasingly popular and that modern sports and leisure centres are being built.

Interview made by Ekspress Magazine – OC of ISF WSC Swimming
Kinder+Sport is a global and responsible project developed by the Ferrero Group, aimed at supporting physical activity among young generations.

The programme stems from the knowledge that an active lifestyle is an essential part of a positive daily routine for children, teens and families. The goal of Kinder+Sport is to increase levels of physical activity among young generations around the world, giving them the possibility to develop a skill-set able to help them acquire proper behaviors and social and ethical attitudes.

We strongly set education at the core of our project, to help children grow up with the most worthy values of sport and life such as honesty, friendship, unity and trust in others.
"We are school sport"