

September 19, 1962

Memo to Senator

cc: Bill  
Win  
Julie Cahn

From John Stewart

re: Quarrell between IAAF and AAU

I have talked with Ira Walsh of the Hearst Corporation regarding your proposal for nationwide olympic competition and your press release calling for a settlement of the feud between rival U.S. athletic groups.

✓ First, regarding the latter, Ira thinks it would be very effective for you to consider the possibility of getting the President to issue a call for the executives of both these groups to come to Washington and settle the feud that is going on between them. He feels that they will never do this voluntarily and that somebody has to forcefully crack their heads together before the whole thing gets further out of hand. It might be that you would want to publicly ask the President to issue this call. In any event, Ira feels that some forceful statement along these lines would be very effective and also very helpful at this point in what is becoming a rather grandiose mess.

Second, regarding olympic competition, Ira feels this is very important. But he also has another idea that could be geared into this very effectively. Ira would like to promote the notion of group calisthenics throughout the United States as a means for better physical fitness. As a matter of fact, this makes good sense to me. While the olympic competition might include only those persons with some athletic skill, the group calisthenics could include all types of students, whether or not they were skilled in athletics. And as you know, group calisthenics for many years has been an important part of all physical education in Europe and other countries around the world.

✓ Ira proposes that the President make an annual award called the President's Cup to the outstanding high school selected through a nationwide competition of high schools on the basis of group calisthenics. To be eligible,

*John Stewart*  
*& Julie!*  
*Julie*  
*Working file*  
*Olympics*  
*Exercises -*  
*Physical Fitness*

Memo to Senator Humphrey  
Page Two

a high school would have to get 75% participation of all students in the high school. There would of course have to be local contests, state contests, regional contests, and finally the national contest leading to the award of the President's Cup.

It seems to me that this is a potentially great idea. Ira has already talked to Randy Hearst and the Hearst papers are primed to push this on their own. But Ira also thinks that if we could beat them to the punch, the Hearst people would go along with us as the originators and themselves as the sponsors of it. yes

This is still quite sketchy, but it seems to be basically an idea worth exploring and I wanted to get it to you for your reaction.

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COORDINATOR

William Randolph Hearst Foundation

United States Senate Youth Program

October 17, 1962

Dear John:

Enclosed you will find some information on your Olympic situation. I am almost afraid it will be too late by the time you fellows get rolling. Bitter lines are forming and I personally think I had better stay out of it, but the brave and the mighty are our saviors and since I am not brave or mighty I will still pass you the scuttlebut that I get.

I haven't heard a word from Vice President Johnson. I am writing to Ray Nelson and to Colgate Prentice to find out what they have done about inviting the President to address the dinner either Wednesday or Thursday the last week in January.

I will probably get fidgety and call by the time you get this letter but if you will, old boy, check it out for me.

Sincerely,



Ira P. Walsh

P.S. I notice they call you the Senator's secretary.  
What a promotion!

Mr. John G. Stewart  
Legislative Assistant to  
Senator Hubert Humphrey  
U.S. Senate Building  
Washington, D.C.

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Chairman Advisory Council  
Past Supervisor of Athletics  
L. A. City Schools

Oct. 9, 1962

Dear Ira:

The list of names that I gave you before is just about the right number of people to have at a meeting with the United States Senators and the President or Justice White. However, it might be wise to include Avery Brundage of Chicago and Santa Barbara, who is president of the International Olympic Committee; J. Lyman Bingham, executive-director of the United States Olympic Committee, and the most-level-headed track and field coach in the country, Payton Jordan of Stanford University.

Brundage would be able to provide the answer as to just what damage this fight between the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the AAU will do to our country in international competition and in the Olympic Games.

I have been told by reliable people that a similar jurisdictional fight has been going on in Ireland for several years and that athletes affiliated with the insurgent group are not able to participate in international or Olympic Games competition. This same thing WILL happen here unless the problem is resolved. The contract for a renewal of the dual meet competition between the USA and Russia undoubtedly will be renewed. Under existing circumstances we will be represented by our weakest team in history.

I think it would be wise for you, Payton and I to sit down and work up an agenda and program a week or so before the meeting in called in Washington, D.C. Then the three of us should meet with the participating Senators and Justice White a day or two before the general meeting to brief them properly on the situation.

The secretary to Senator Humphreys wrote in his letter to you that they are not too well informed on the sports situation. They know it is in a helava mess and that is all.

Actually, I doubt that there is anyone in the State Department who knows as much about the sports program or situation.

Reply: 1111 S. Broadway, Los Angeles 54, California. Phone Richmond 8-6241

This is a deplorable situation because so many athletes and coaches are sent aboard on good-will tours. The State Dept. underwrites projects, loans money to our various sports organizations (such as they did two years to get the USA team to Russia for the dual track meet). It seems this should go through somebody who understands the amateur athletic picture.

The AAU in the past has made many grave errors and its officials have assumed dictatorial powers. There is plenty of evidence that top officials have been able to retain their positions decade in and ~~and~~ decade out by parceling out "prestige" trips to influential persons (people who could perpetuate them in power rather than selecting men on the basis of ability). Athletes have been dealt with in similar manners as was the case in regards to little Bobby Cons of Culver City, a poor boy of Mexican parentage who was bumped off the U.S. Olympic team in 1960.

The NCAA has been just as guilty in making arbitrary rules and regulations based on sectional prejudices. One of the most ridiculous rules ever made by any sports organization was the time seven or eight years ago when the colleges made USC and UCLA football players "half eligible and half ineligible". In other words, as you recall, they were declared eligible to play in only five of the 10 games on the schedule.

It appears that the present fight between the AAU and the NCAA boils down to the fact that two different groups of men ~~who~~ want to control the "patronage" system in amateur athletics and the "athletes and the country be damned."

I should have put country before the athletes, because the United States is the greatest place on earth and the athletes, their leaders and everyone of us owe Allegiance to her.

The strength of our nation, particularly in this "cold war", is judged in many cases on (1) our achievements in space, (2) our firmness in international affairs, and #3) our record in international competition.

IF we should back down on competing with Russia, we would be judged as admitting we are too weak to compete on equal terms with the Soviets any longer. Our internal feeding would not be taken into consideration by the countries in Africa, Asia, or for that matter England, West Germany or France. They would only know that we have refused to meet Russia because we were not able to compete on equal terms.

SINCE it would damage us to stop competing with Russia, WE MUST have our BEST Athletes ready, willing and anxious and eligible to represent us in this type of international competition regardless of whether either or both Daniel Ferris and Walter Byers must miss out on the trip.

Ira, it is time that the United States and the athletes come before the Ferrises and the Byerses.

Give my best regards to Edith, Suzie and Denny.

Sincerely yours,

*Ralph Alexander*  
Ralph Alexander

P.S. Perhaps, a couple of former outstanding athletes who



a keen insight on the amateur athletic problems should be included in the conference, namely: Bob Mathias and Jesse Owens. Mathias and Owens probably should be included in any preliminary briefing session.

On a third thought, we should have a couple of non-radical current actively participating athletes at the conference. I would like to recommend Parry O'Brien of Los Angeles and Al Oerter of New York. Both are clear thinking, mature, well-educated men who have represented the United States in recent Olympic Games and international competition.

M E M O R A N D U M

October 17, 1962

TO: Senator Humphrey  
FROM: Julie  
RE: OLYMPIC NEWS FOR MINNESOTA PAPERS

John Stewart conveyed your message, requesting sports news for Minnesota papers.

Here are copies of a draft, angled to the State, exclusively.

JNC:caw  
Enc: Release & Reprint of  
U. of Minn. Coach's Letter

✓ cc: John Stewart

Release: On Receipt

From the Minnesota Office of  
Senator Hubert H. Humphrey

SENATOR HUMPHREY SAYS  
PRE-OLYMPIC DISPUTE  
"HARMFUL TO MINNESOTA ATHLETES"

CITES "HELPFUL" LETTER BY UNIV. OF MINNESOTA ATHLETIC COACH

"Countless" Minnesota and other athletes may not get an equal opportunity in pre-Olympic competition, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.) warned today.

"The feud between rival American athletic groups continues to threaten many of our athletes' chances," the Minnesota Senator said.

Humphrey urged "re-doubling of efforts to patch up the quarrel" between the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the U. S. Track and Field Federation on the one hand, and the Amateur Athletic Union and the National Athletic Inter-Collegiate Association on the other hand.

"Right now," Humphrey said, "Minnesota and other athletes might be disqualified outright from participating on our Olympic team, merely because they had run or jumped in a meet sponsored by a rival amateur group."

"Such arbitrary disqualification would be unfair to the individual and ruinous to our Nation's chances," he continued.

Humphrey said, "new evidence" which he has compiled from the State Department and from private sources, confirms "an all-out drive by the Soviet Union to try to administer a crushing defeat to the U.S. in the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo."

As answer to the Soviet challenge, Humphrey has called for:

establishment of a U.S. Fitness Foundation, expanded city, county, State, and national regional/meets to choose our Olympic team and for a nationwide effort to "upgrade the esteem for our international contestants."

Response to his suggestions has been "virtually unanimously warm and approving," Humphrey said.

He released the full text of a "helpful" letter received from Ike Armstrong, Director, Department of Physical Education and Athletics of the University of Minnesota.

The letter presents the N.C.A.A. position in the dispute with the A.A.U.

(The letter follows)

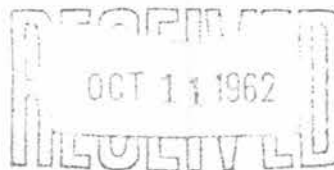


OCT 11 1962

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND  
ATHLETICS • MINNEAPOLIS 14

Office of the Director

Hon. Hubert H. Humphrey  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.



Dear Senator Humphrey:

Your excellent message in support of American sports and Youth Fitness was appreciated by athletic and physical education leaders throughout the state of Minnesota. Enclosed you will find a list of the Athletic Directors of the colleges in Minnesota as well as the secretary of the High School League who heads up the athletic program for all of the high schools in the state.

I think it would be well if you would mail to each of the leaders a copy of your wonderful message.

Tom Hamilton expresses very well the concern of the college and high school athletic leaders for the future of the American Olympic competition. Undoubtedly something will have to be done by the leadership before the next Olympic games.

Mr. Walt Byers, secretary of the NCAA, Mr. William Reed, commissioner of our Big 10 Conference, as well as the committee from our Conference and other interested people in the colleges, are putting forth every effort to bring about some amiable solution to the argument between the AAU and the newly formed federations.

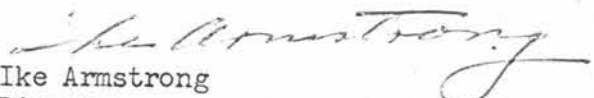
By way of background the present problem stems from these simplified facts: Olympic sports in the great majority are controlled by international federations which have sovereign power in OKing the competition in Olympic events. At the start, when these federations were formed, they were made up entirely of AAU representatives throughout the world. The majority of the countries have their international athletic program through athletic clubs and their local AAU organizations. The United States is unique in that we have 48,000 high schools and approximately 500 colleges and universities which now develop the majority of the athletes in track and field, swimming, gymnastics, basketball, wrestling. As a matter of fact, the survey made several years ago shows that over 90% of these Olympic participants received training in high schools and colleges.

The NCAA has felt for sometime that they deserved an equal place in the International Control and consequently, when this was refused, they organized their sports federations with a view of showing the world that since they produced the athletes and had the greatest part of responsibility in developing them they should have the control internationally. They have been consistently rebuffed by the international group. Gymnastics and track and field refused to admit them even for a hearing. Basketball has been a little more successful and its case will be decided in late October at the International meeting.

This all-out fight for power and control has caused the International Federations to state that the AAU is recognized as the governing body, that the United States Sports Federations can have their own competition as long as it is within strictly a closed meet basis but if they invite back for participation any man who is out of school, in an open meet capacity, this would cause this man's ineligibility for the Olympics. No foreign athlete also is allowed to compete in the Federation meets, which poses a great problem as there are some 70 high ranking athletes from various countries of the world in NCAA schools. They have served notice to all countries that if their athletes compete in the United States in Federation meets they will lose their eligibility for future Olympic competition.

Also enclosed you will find information on the U. S. Track and Field Federation furnished to me by Mr. Walt Byers, secretary of the NCAA. I thought this information would be helpful to you.

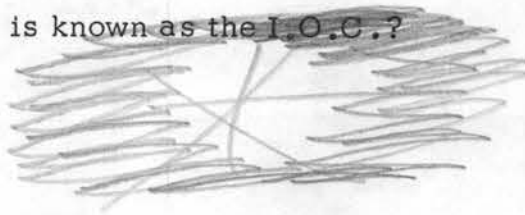
Sincerely yours,

  
Ike Armstrong  
Director

IJA/A

Dear John:

Attached is a list of people that your good Senator should definitely invite to your Washington meeting. Have you noticed the press lately on the subject of the International Olympic Committee, which is known as the I.O.C.?



mm

for

S. 1099

Sept. 26, 1962

Ira:

Following are the men who should be called to Washington, D.C., if a discussion of the amateur athletic program in the United States is necessary to see that our ~~xxx~~ position in the world sports competition is to be maintained on its present level:

AAU representatives:

- 1-Louis Fisher, national president.
- 2- Don Hull, national director.
- 3- Steve Archer, secretary.
- 4-.J.B. (Cap) Haralson, national track and field chairman.
- 5-Pincus Sober, national chairman of legislation and legal committee.

U.S. Olympic Committee:

- 1-Kenneth L. (Tug) Wilson, president.

National Collegiate Athletic Association:

- 1-Walter Byers, executive-secretary.
- 2-Wilbur Johns, chairman of the committee named to negotiate with the AAU.
- 3- Wm. W. Russell, chairman of the new Track and Field Federation of the United States.
- 4- Henry B. Hardt, president NCAA, Texas Christian U.
- 5- James C. Loveless, NCAA vice-president at large, DePauw U.

National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics:

- 1- Al O. Duer, NAIA headquarters in Kansas City

Communications:

- 1- Ralph Alexander, past ~~xxxxxx~~ president of the Track & Field Writers Association of America.
- 2-Tex Maule, Sports Illustrated
- 3- Clouser, Cleveland
- 4- Tom Harmon, ABC sports

Ralph Alexander



Memo from

IRA WALSH

If this needs any explanation  
let me know. It is a partial  
solution, anyway.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ira", located in the lower right quadrant of the page.

Jill  
Olympics  
Working  
Jill

DEAR Ira:

Have fun. Hope this will be of help

Suggested proposal for reorganization AAU as a solution to the pending problem of management of amateur athletics.

The NCAA, NAIA, NFHSAA each nominate three members to serve on the executive committee of the AAU and the Foreign Relations committee of the AAU.

All other amateur sports organizations in the U.S. not listed above to collectively designate three individuals from these bodies to serve on the above named committees.

The NCAA, NAIA, NFHSAA each nominate three members to represent these organizations on the following committees in the event there is an interest within these organizations to be represented on these committees:

Men's track and field  
Women's track and field  
Men's swimming and diving  
Women's swimming and diving  
Men's basketball  
Women's basketball  
Boxing  
Wrestling  
Men's Gymnastics  
Women's Gymnastics  
Water polo  
Synchronized Swimming  
Law and Legislation  
Finance

NOTE: ALL OTHER AMATEUR SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS SHALL APPOINT TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON THOSE COMMITTEES IN WHICH THEY HAVE AN INTEREST

**Term of Office:**

Each appointee should serve for a period of three years except that in the first period of the appointment, one representative should be designated to serve for a term of one year, a second appointee for a term of two years and the third appointee for a term of three years. Thereafter each succeeding appointee shall serve for a period of three years.

NO APPOINTEE SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO SERVE ON MORE THAN ONE ASSIGNMENT.

EACH APPOINTEE SHOULD BE ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS A CHAIRMAN OF A COMMITTEE AND TO HOLD AN ELECTIVE OFFICE IN THE ASSOCIATION IF DULY NOMINATED.

NO APPOINTEE SHOULD SERVE FOR MORE THAN A THREE YEAR PERIOD UNLESS AN INTERVENING INTERVAL OF THREE YEARS OCCURS BETWEEN APPOINTMENTS.

ALL AMATEUR SPORTS GOVERNING BODIES THUS AFFILIATED WITH THIS ARRANGEMENT MUST CONFORM TO AND ABIDE BY ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION. EXISTING RULES AND REGULATIONS NOW IN EXISTANCE OF THE PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS MUST BE AMENDED TO CONFORM TO THE FORGOING REQUIREMENT.

ANY APPOINTEE WHO MISSES TWO MEETINGS CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF WHICH HE IS A MEMBER WITHOUT THE WRITTEN APPROVAL EXCUSING HIS ABSENCE PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE AUTOMATICALLY FORFEITS HIS MEMBERSHIP ON THE COMMITTEE. THE EXECUTIVE BODY OF THE REPRESENTATIVES ORGANIZATION MUST BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING OF THE DISQUALIFICATION AND THAT BODY MUST DESIGNATE A REPLACEMENT WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF THE RECEIPT OF THE WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE VACANCY.

EACH SPORTS COMMITTEE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING THE NECESSARY PROGRAMS TO SELECT THE TEAMS FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND TO SELECT THE INDIVIDUALS TO COMPETE IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS WHEN INVITATIONS ARE EXTENDED. ALL COACHES, TRAINERS OR OTHER PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING TEAMS OR INDIVIDUALS ABROAD SHALL LIKEWISE BE SELECTED BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES. ALL SELECTEES MUST HAVE THE APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEES BEFORE ANY TRAVEL ABROAD IS PERMITTED. ALL COACHES, TRAINERS OR OTHER PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING TEAMS ABROAD ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REAPPOINTMENT UNLESS A THREE YEAR INTERVAL OCCURS BETWEEN A PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT. ANY PERSON OTHER THAN A COMPETITOR WHO HAS HAD TWO ASSIGNMENTS FOR A FOREIGN TRIP IS INELIGIBLE FOR FURTHER SELECTION IN THIS CAPACITY.





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