

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Introduction**

Prior to 1894 there was little international sport of any consequence. As a matter of fact there were very few international sports federations and therefore few internationally recognized rules and regulations. All of the vast program of international competition that exists today has developed almost entirely as a result of the revival of the Olympic Games in 1896. Baron de Coubertin's idea that national programs of physical training and sport would prove highly beneficial to the youth of the world and that the Olympic Games in a modern form would contribute to the welfare of humanity has been found to be correct in all countries.

The International Olympic Committee has guarded with great care the principles of the Olympic Movement outlined by Baron de Coubertin and done its utmost to keep the Games free from politics and from commercialism. The Olympic Movement is based on a sound foundation of fair play and good sportsmanship and its great success is a testimonial to the soundness of its founder's views.