Flags and Logos of International Sports Federations, Associations and Organizations

Dr Andreas Herzfeld FFIAV

President, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Flaggenkunde

To the Sources

All sports federations that are presented in my book were written to directly. Many sports organizations answered willingly and detailed. Often inquire were needed. Of some associations only a verbal description of the flag exist. In those cases the flag was reconstructed and slight differences from the original might be possible. Whenever a federation did not answer the information was taken from their official website. Also in this case slight mistakes might be possible, because websites are often designed by foreign companies.

To receive any information was a very hard job. Some times nobody knows, how looks like its own flag. Par example, the secretary general of Panathlon International (PI) wrote: "No, we don't have an own flag, our flag is the IOC's one" Fortunately he send me the graphic design manual of PI. In this book a find a lot of flags: the first flag from 1951 (Fig. 1), organizations flag, presidents flags and club flags (Fig. 2).





Fig. 1

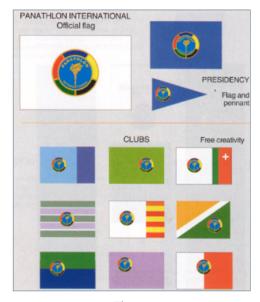


Fig. 2

An other example. The office Manager of World Police and Fire Games send me a replica of the flag and wrote: "After I send you the message, I realized that the replica is not quite like the flag." (Fig. 3)



Fig. 3

Sports Organizations for Handicapped



Fig. 4

CISS – Comité Internationale des Sports des Sourds

Sports clubs for deaf were already in existence in 1888 in Berlin. Nevertheless, the deaf were never involved with other disabilities and organized, and still organize, their own world games; the Silent Games. The International Committee for deaf was founded 24th August 1924.

The flag is diagonally to left divided, dark green over dark blue; above a dark blue bar and below a dark green bar, 1/7 of width high. The letters CI are dark blue, the letters SS dark green. In yellow a world map and rays, the letters CISS are in yellow surrounded. Proportions are 2:3 (Fig. 5).

The design submitted by Mr. Chante (France) at CISS congress in August 1935, first hoist at the opening ceremony of the 6th International Silent Games in Stockholm, 24th August 1937.



Fig. 5

CP-ISRA – Cerebral Palsy – International Sports and Recreation Association

This organization is open for sportsmen with cerebral palsy or paraplegia and was founded in 1979. The flag is the blue logo on a white background and was introduced in 1979. The logo depicts a world map and the letters CP-ISRA (Fig. 6)



Fig. 6

IBSA – International Blind Sports Association

The word "blind" will be always understood as meaning "blind or visually impaired". The goals of IBSA are: To promote and foster sports for the blind and visually impaired, either directly or indirectly, through the authorities of all the nations, the homogenisation of the bodies or entities responsible for this area and the legal treatment that should be afforded to them.

The flag, they are three "waves" in red (Pantone 021), violet (Pantone Violet C) and green (Pantone 326C) The background is white. The date of flags introduction is circa 1981, when the organization is founded (Fig. 7).

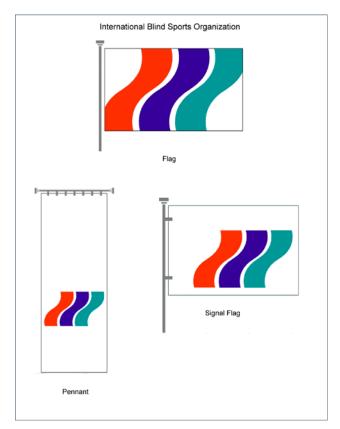


Fig. 7

INAS-FID – International Sports Federation for Persons with an Intellectual Disability

Old Name: INAS-FMH: International Association for Persons with Mental Handicap (from 1986 to 11th March 1999).

The logo is blue (pantone blue 072); and depicts a world map surrounded by a band with the name of the federation, which embraces the world. The flag is the logo on a white background, and was introduced 11th March 1999, when organizations name was changed (Fig. 8).

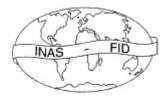


Fig. 8

Old logo and flag: white flag with blue INAS-FMH logo, since 1986? (Fig. 9)

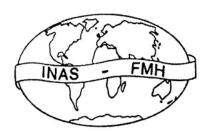


Fig. 9

IPC – International Paralympic Committee

In 1982, the CP-ISRA, IBSA, ISMGF and ISOD created the "International Co-ordinating Committee Sports for Disabled in the World" (ICC). CISS and INAS-FMH joined in 1986, but the deaf still maintained their own organization. In 1989 was founded a new, democratically organized institution, the IPC.

The IPC is the international representative organization of elite sports for athletes with disabilities. IPC organizes, supervises and co-ordinates the Paralympic Games and other multi-disability competitions on elite sports level, of which the most important are world and regional championships.

Number of affiliated national federations: 160 and 5 disability specific international sports federation (CP-ISRA, IBSA, INAS-FID, ISMWSF and ISOD).

The logo depicts three Tae-Geuks one in green, red and blue. The flag is white with the colour logo in the middle. Proportions are 2:3. Flag was introduced in 1991 (Fig. 10).

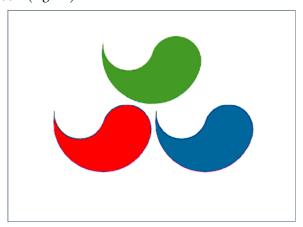


Fig. 10

The old logo incorporated five Tae-Geuks in a configuration similar to the Olympic rings. The flag was white with the colour logo in the middle, and introduced during the Summer Paralympic Games in Seoul in 1988, i.e. this flag is older then the organization (Fig. 11).

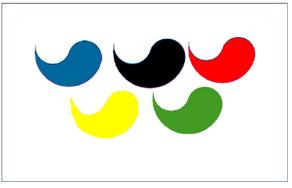


Fig. 11

ISMWSF – International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchairs Sports Federation

On 28th July 1948 was founded the international wheelchairs sports organization. After the Second World War in Europe lived many paraplegics and amputees, sitting in a wheelchair. For their better integration was founded special sports clubs, and later wheelchairs sports organizations.

Sorry, no flag information available (Fig. 12)



Fig. 12

ISOD – International Sports Organization for Disabled

ISOD offered opportunities for those athletes who could not affiliate to ISMGF (now ISMWSF): blind, amputees, cerebral palsied and paraplegics. At the start, 16 countries were affiliated to ISOD and the organization pushed very hard to include blind and amputee athletes into the 1976 Paralympics in Toronto and cerebral palsied in 1980 in Arnhem. It's aim was to embrace all disabilities in the future and to act as a co-ordinating committee. Nevertheless, other disability-orientated international organizations such as CP-ISRA and IBSA were founded later.

The flag is only the blue logo in the centre on a white background an was introduced in 1964 (Fig. 13).



Fig. 13

SOI – Special Olympics International

Special Olympics is an international program of yearround sports training and athletic competition for more then one million children and adults with mental retardation. To be eligible to participate in Special Olympics, you must be at least eight years old and identified by an agency or professional as having one of the following conditions: mental retardation, cognitive delays as measured by formal assessment, or significant learning or vocational problems due to cognitive delay that require or have required specially-designed instruction.

In 1968, Eunice Kennedy Shriver organized the First International Special Olympics Games at Soldier Field, Chicago, IL, USA.

The logo depicts in teal (dark greenish blue) a man and four smaller, flying men; beneath the words Special Olympics in red.

The flag has the colour logo in the middle on a white background. This flag was introduced circa 1968 (Fig. 14).



Fig. 14

International Umbrella Organizations



Fig. 15

CISM – Conseil Internationale du Sport Militaire

The CISM uses the playing field to unite armed forces of countries that may have previously confronted each other because of political and ideological differences. By doing so, and as is outlined by its philosophy and the ideals stated in its mission statement signed by all member countries in 1998, CISM is contributing to building world peace. The CISM was founded on 18th

February 1948 in Nice.

Logo: In gold the hilt of the sword and the palms; in silver or grey the oceans on the map, the five blades of the swords; in white the continents, the mention "Conseil Internationale du Sport Militaire", on royal blue ground; and the five circles in red (Fig. 16a).

The colour logo is located in the middle of the flag. The background is white with a border in royal blue, border is 1/16 of length. Proportions are 2:3. This flag was introduced circa 1950 (Fig. 16).

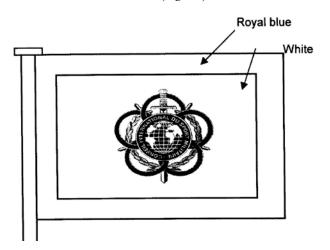


Fig. 16



Fig. 16a

FISU – Fédération Internationale du Sport Universitaire

The Universiades are open for students from 17 to 28 years old.

The official FISU emblem was inspired by the "U" from university accompanied by five stars that symbolise the five continents. The original emblem was created by the C.U.S.I. (Italian University Sports Centre) during the Universiade 1959. And was changed in 1989.

The emblem consists of a black letter U on a white background, centred over five stars divided into two lines. The three upper stars are from left to right respectively: blue (Pantone Process Blue), black (Pantone Process Black) and red (Pantone Warm Red); and the two

lower stars are yellow (Pantone Yellow 109) and green (Pantone Green 355). The "FISU" logotype, in black (process black), is centred beneath the stars.

The current flag includes the colour logo in the middle, on a white background, proportion are 2:3 and was introduced in 1989 (Fig. 17).



Fig. 17

The old flag was introduced in 1959. This is the old logo on a white flag, proportion 2:3 (Fig. 18).



Fig. 18

GAISF – General Association of International Sports Federations

In the 1960's, Roger COULON, president of FILA, felt and expressed the needs brought about by the rapid evolution of the sports movement. The recognition of a more important role for the IFs (International Federations) was needed. For the non-Olympic federations, a forum which would permit them to better express their points of view was necessary. The creation of a stable organization assuring the permanence of relations of the IFs between themselves, Olympic or not, no matter what their statutes might be, thus appeared to a larger number of officials the logical continuation of the meeting which took place frequently but without rules or fixed organization. The common preparation of these meetings with the IOC could thus better assured. It would also permit a constant liaison between the IFs and the outside world. The GAISF was founded in 1967.

The logo depicts five arrows in the Olympic colours and a white map on them (from below to above: yellow, red, green, blue and black).

GAISF don't have a special flag, but the logo is reproduced on flags (Fig. 19).



Fig. 19

GSSE – Games of the Small States of Europe

The requirement to be a member are the following: Any European nation with a population of less then 1,000,000 and has a National Olympic Committee is eligible to became a member.

The logo is a grey torch with a black line, a red flame, and with four interlinked blue rings on each side. The flag is the colour logo in the middle on a white background and was introduced in 1989 during 3rd games (Fig. 20).



Fig. 20

ACNO – Association des Comités Nationaux Olympiques

The Association of National Olympic Committees is founded, to coordinate and represent the needs of the National Olympic Committees. It has five subdivisions, one for each continent.

The logo is very complicate: The Olympic rings, triple each of them, the logo of each continental organization in the centre of one ring, the letters ACNO with light blue shadow below.

ACNO's flag has the colour logo in the middle. In the centre of the blue rings is the EOC logo, black rings—ANOCA logo, red rings—PASO logo, yellow rings—OCA logo and green rings—ONOC logo. The background is white. The flag was introduced in 1997 (Fig. 21).



Fig. 21

Old flag and logo: They are, the black letters ACNO with light blue shadow, a black world map with light blue oceans and white continents and the Olympic rings in white above. The flag was white with the colour logo in the middle, introduced in 1979, when ACNO was founded (Fig. 22).



Fig. 22

ANOCA – Association of National Olympic Committees from Africa

Sorry, no flag information available.

EOC – European Olympic Committees

Logo: on a blue background Europe and the Olympic rings in white.

The flag is simple: the blue/white logo in the middle on a white background. Fortunately introduced in 1959, when EOC was founded (Fig. 23).



Fig. 23

OCA - Olympic Council of Asia

The OCA was founded in 1982, and introduced it flag at the same time. The flag is white with the colour logo in the middle. The logo depicts a red star, a light brown chain, the text in blue and the Olympic rings in colour (Fig. 24).



Fig. 24

ONOC – Oceania National Olympic Committees

The ONOC don't have a flag in use.

PASO – Pan-American Sports Association

The PASO logo includes a brown torch, the flame in red, yellow and white; the rings in blue, red, white, green and yellow. The flag is white, and has the colour logo in the middle. The possible date of introduction is 1955, when the organization was founded (Fig. 25).



Fig. 25

IVV – Internationale Volkssportvereinigung

The International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV) is the international body composed of national associations of popular sports. Popular sports are walking, bicycling, swimming, cross country skiing, skating, snow shoeing etc. which are non-competitive and have no specified time limits or "winners".

The flag was introduced in 1995. It is the black IVV logo on a red world, in black the signs for walking, swimming, skiing and bicycling surrounded by the flags of members countries. The background is white (Fig. 26).



Fig. 26

Old flags: Since 1972 is the current design in use. Only the number of flags was changed in dependence on number of members. From 1968 to 1972 on a white background the flags of the founder countries (Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Liechtenstein) over the IVV logo (Fig. 27).



Fig. 27

FIFA – Fédération Internationale de Football Association

The World Football, or Soccer, Association was founded on 21st May 1904. Now, the FIFA has 204 member federations.

First January 1999 was introduced a new flag (Fig. 28). The flag depicts the new colour logo in the middle, the words FIFA and "For the Good of the Game" in white. The background is dark blue. This design is more a comic then a flag.



Fig. 28

Old flag and old logo were better. The two footballs are in white and the continents in black. FIFA and founded 1904 in yellow, the background is blue (Fig. 29).



Fig. 29

This is only a short trip across the world of sports. In my book you find the flags from more then 125 sports organizations in past and present.