

SPORTSMANSHIP and STOKE MANDEVILLE

the HISTORY of GOODWILL
at the PARALYMPIC GAMES



Bryan Santiago, first-year student
15th Sportsmanship Day Symposium
Thursday, 2 March 2023



SPORTS STUDIES
Minor Program

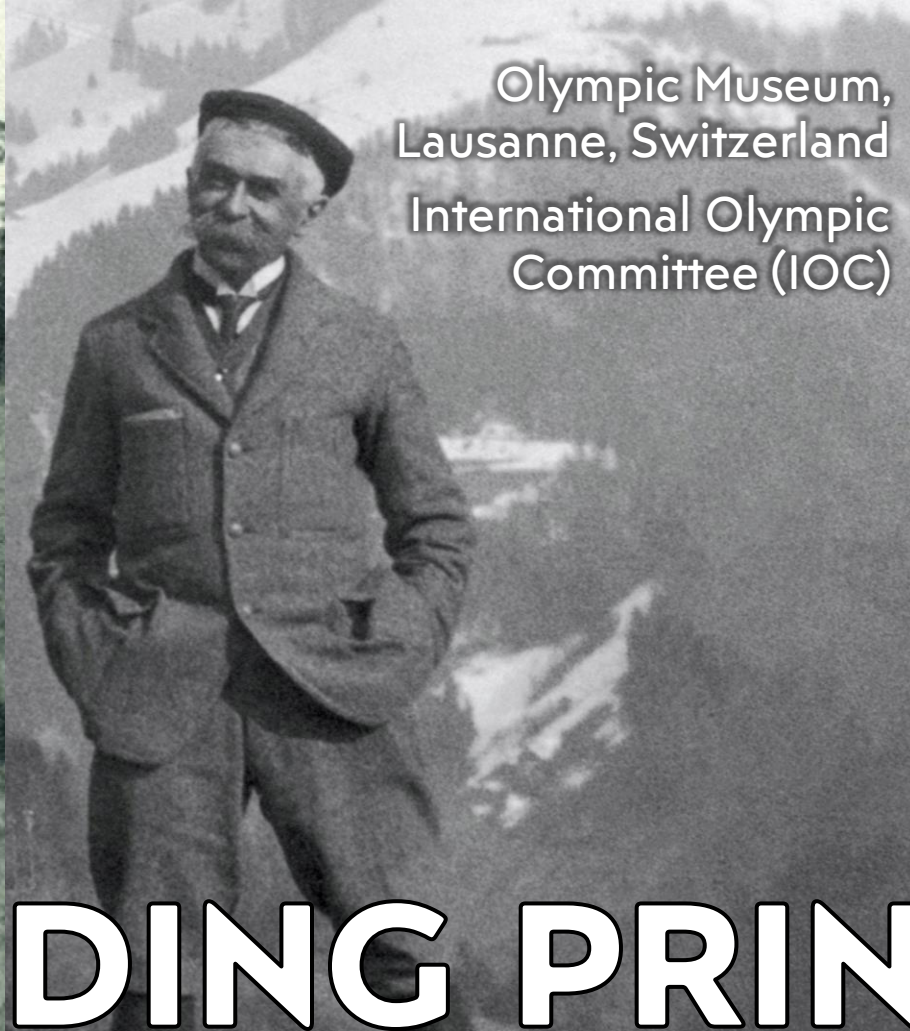


The State University
of New York

WheelPower
British Wheelchair Sport



Olympic Museum,
Lausanne, Switzerland
International Olympic
Committee (IOC)



Wikimedia Foundation
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FOUNDING PRINCIPLES

a spark ignited



Royal Opera House, UK
London 2012 legacy

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WHAT IS SPORTSMANSHIP?

“conduct (such as fairness, respect for one's opponent, and graciousness in winning or losing) becoming to one participating in a sport”^[1]

- Baron Pierre de Coubertin (Pierre de Fredy)’s vision to democratize physical education for all^[2]
- Concept a.k.a. “fair play” has been embedded in the athletes’ oath since Antwerp 1920 (OG) and Rome 1960 (PG)





Belgian athlete Victor Boin (water polo, fencing) recites the Olympic Oath for the first time ever at Antwerp 1920.

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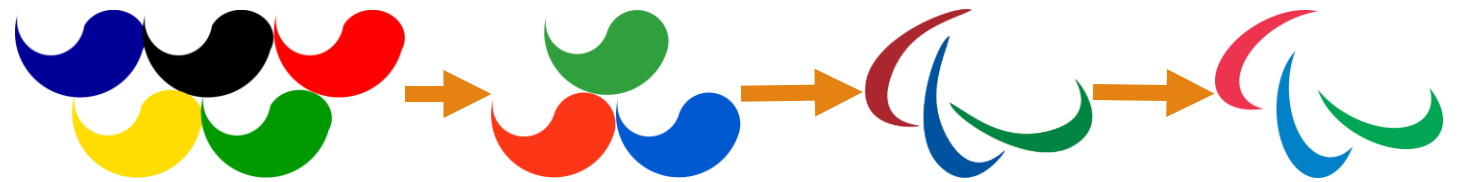
A PROMISE THEN

- The original Oath was written by Pierre de Coubertin in 1913, based on oaths of the ancient Olympic Games
- **ANTWERP 1920:** “We swear that we will take part in the Olympic Games in a spirit of **chivalry**, for the honor of our country and for the glory of sport.”
- **LAKE PLACID 1932:** “We swear that we will take part in the Olympic Games in loyal competition, **respecting the regulations which govern them**, and desirous of participating in them **in the true spirit of sportsmanship**, for the honor of our country and for the glory of sport.”



Athletes Rie Urata (goalball) and Shingo Kunieda (wheelchair tennis) recite the Paralympic Oath at the Tokyo 2020 Opening Ceremony.

©Getty Images (via InsideTheGames)



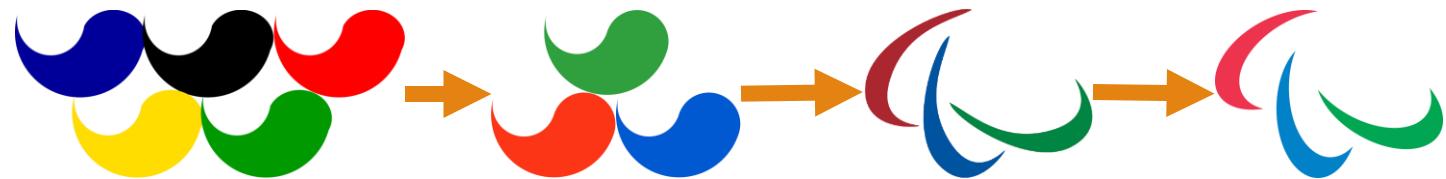
A PROMISE NOW

- Today, the Paralympic Oath still follows the template of its Olympic counterpart:
 - In the 1960s, words and phrases “swear” and “our countries” were replaced by “promise” and “our teams”
 - With the “pa” symbol in use beginning at Seoul 1988, athletes took the Oath holding the Paralympic flag
 - Since Sydney 2000, the Oath includes “explicit” references to anti-doping and cheating
 - Since PyeongChang 2018, athletes take the lead of a united Oath, joined by judges and coaches
 - Since Tokyo 2020, Oath-takers are gender-equal and the Oath includes promises for equality and social justice



Athletes Rie Urata (goalball) and Shingo Kunieda (wheelchair tennis) recite the Paralympic Oath at the Tokyo 2020 Opening Ceremony.

©Getty Images (via InsideTheGames)



A PROMISE NOW

BEIJING 2022: “we promise to take part in these Paralympic Games, respecting and abiding by the rules and in the spirit of fair play, inclusion and equality. Together we stand in solidarity and commit ourselves to sport without doping, without cheating, without any form of discrimination. We do this for the honour of our teams, in respect for the Fundamental Principles of Olympism, and to make the world a better place through sport.”



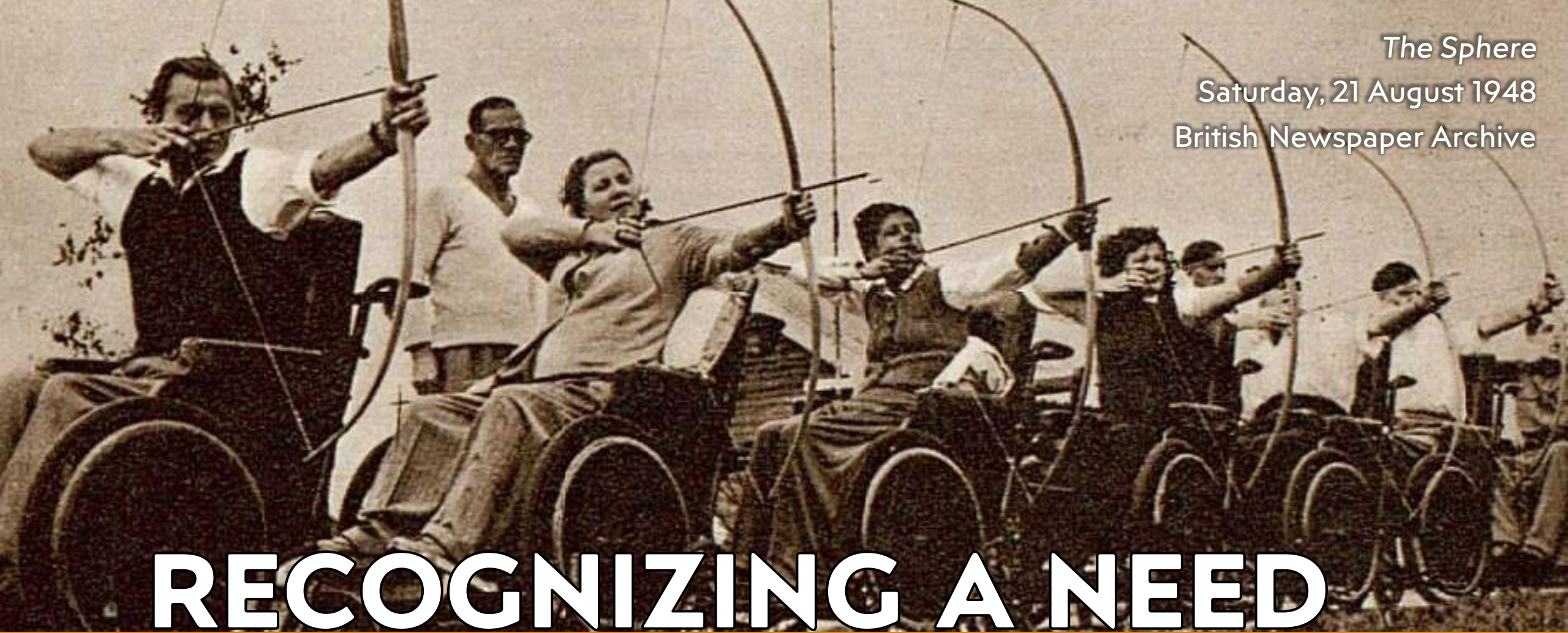
John Harris (para athletics) [GBR] recites the Athletes' Oath for Stoke Mandeville 1984

"In the name of all competitors, I promise that we shall take part in these, the VII World Wheelchair Paralympic Games, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, in true spirit of sportsmanship, for the glory of sport and the honour of our teams."

IWAS / International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation



The Sphere
Saturday, 21 August 1948
British Newspaper Archive



RECOGNIZING A NEED

parallel, NOT paralyzed



Picture Post
Saturday, 3 September 1949
©Getty Images

WHAT ARE THE PARALYMPICS?

- They are a movement comprised of a quadrennial Games, for both summer and winter Para sports, and advocacy to support inclusion for people with disabilities throughout the world
- Fueled by history to set themselves apart and show the world that disabled people and athletes are equal to the able-bodied
- Rooted in the post-WW2 history of Sir Dr. Ludwig Guttmann CBE and the Stoke Mandeville Games for the Disabled at the National Spinal Injuries Centre, Stoke Mandeville Hospital (Aylesbury, England, UK)

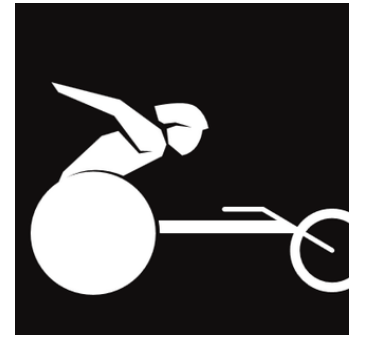


WheelPower
British Wheelchair Sport
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A FIRE STILL BURNING

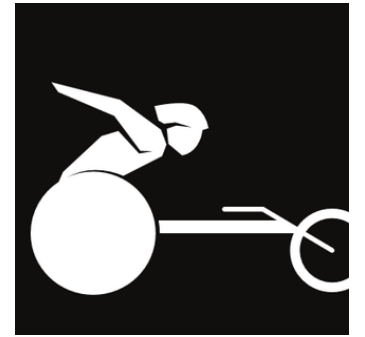
the legacy continues



PARA ATHLETICS (TRACK AND FIELD)

accepting loss: tripping on a mistake

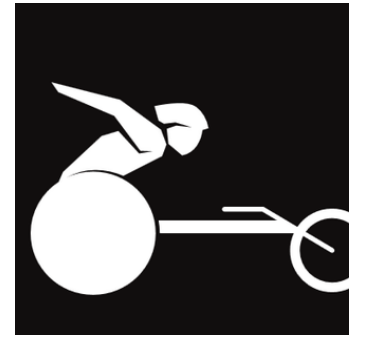
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PARA ATHLETICS

Men's 100m Relay Final (T42-T46)

Wednesday 5 September 2012, Olympic Stadium



SOUTH AFRICA



CHINA



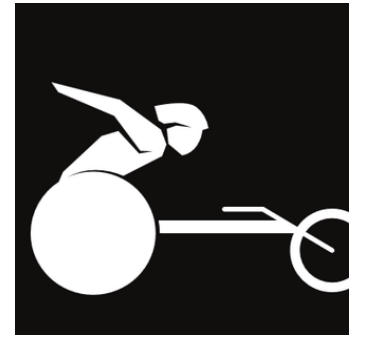
GERMANY

FINISH TIME		NOTES
41.78	G	WR / PR world record / games record
42.98	S	
45.23	B	

PARA ATHLETICS

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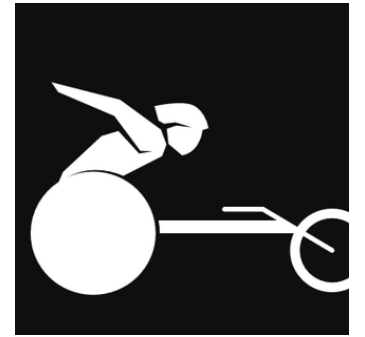


FINISH TIME	STANDING
45.36	4th

PARA ATHLETICS

Men's 100m Relay Final (T42-T46)

Wednesday 5 September 2012, Olympic Stadium



STANDING

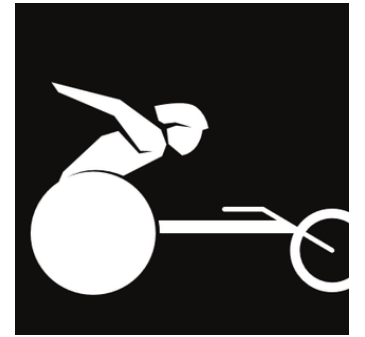


DQ
disqualified

PARA ATHLETICS

Men's 100m Relay Final (T42-T46)

Team USA disqualified due to lane infringement

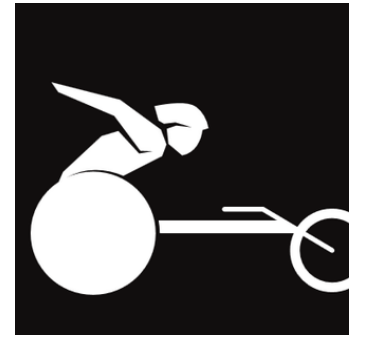


Worldwide Paralympic Partner

“Until you are a part of a race where a world record is set, it’s really hard to explain it.

I was privileged, along with everyone else on that track and in that stadium, to be a part of it, and I wanted people to recognize that.

I also wanted people to recognize that there are moments where you may trip, or face adversity.”



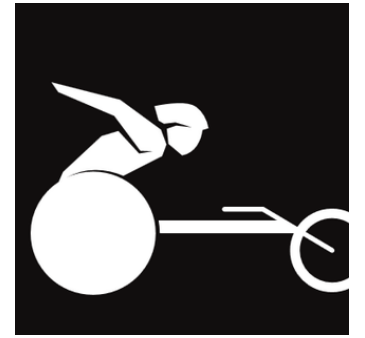
“But it is not the moment or trip that defines you, it is how you react to it that defines you.”

— Jarryd Wallace PLY

Team USA Para Track and Field

100m Relay runner

London 2012 Samsung BTS Vlogger



Worldwide Paralympic Partner



WHEELCHAIR TENNIS

from idol to competitor: a special hug

photo credits: Reuters/ABC Australia (middle), Tennis Australia (top), Associated Press (bottom)

WHEELCHAIR TENNIS

Quads/Mixed Singles Semifinal

Tuesday 31 August 2021, Ariake Tennis Park



DYLAN ALCOTT
AUSTRALIA



NIELS VINK
NETHERLANDS

SET 1	SET 2	SET 3
6 ✓	3	6 ✓
4	6 ✓	4

“That match point save was like a 50-shot rally. He’s 18! I’m just so proud of him, because we’re friends... It’s just awesome to share it with him.

He’s 100 per cent going to win a gold medal in singles, for sure.”





WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HAVE IN STORE?



SPECIAL THANKS TO

Boyd Smith, curator

U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Museum

Colorado Springs, CO, USA



United States Olympic
& Paralympic Museum™



SPECIAL THANKS TO

Susy Goldstone, assistant administrator

Sam Brady, contributing researcher

National Paralympic Heritage Trust

Stoke Mandeville, Aylesbury, UK



NPHT

NATIONAL PARALYMPIC
HERITAGE TRUST

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