



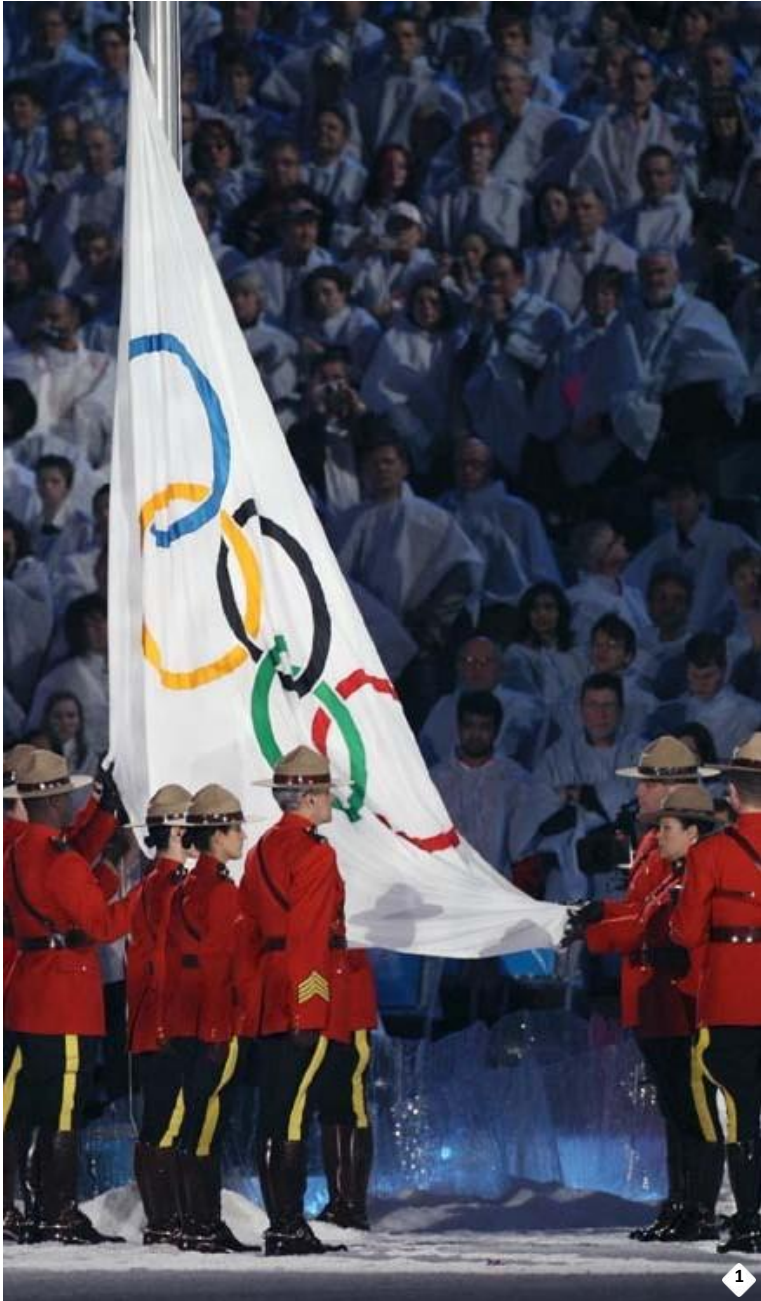
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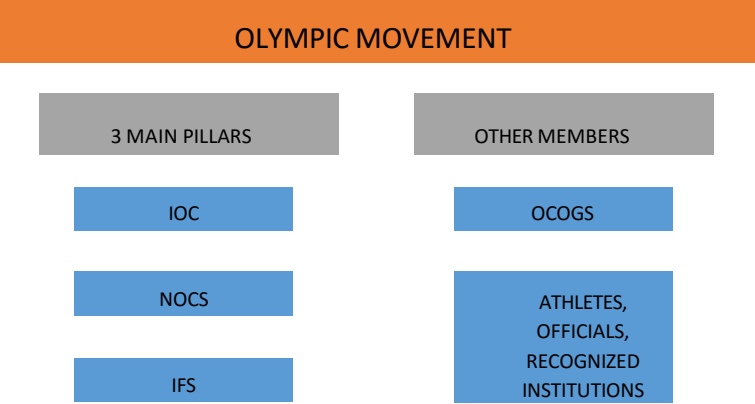
Unit- (II)

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THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT: HOW DOES IT WORK?

Olympism is spread thanks to and by the Olympic Movement. At its head is the IOC, which is the supreme authority governing it. The following diagram shows how the Olympic Movement is structured:



1. OG Vancouver 2010, Closing Ceremony, The Royal Canadian Mounted Police lowers the Olympic flag.
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- › The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is the supreme authority of the Olympic Movement. It holds the rights to the Olympic Games, the Olympic symbol (the five rings) and the other identifying elements of the Olympic Movement.

The IOC's main decisions (including choosing the host cities of the Games, the composition of the sports programme and electing new members) are taken during Sessions, the IOC's general assemblies, which are held yearly and bring together all the 115 IOC members. These members represent the IOC and the Olympic Movement on a volunteer basis in their countries. They are not their countries' delegates within the IOC.

The IOC President represents the IOC and presides over all its activities. He or she is elected in a secret ballot by the Session. In the past there were no limits, but today each President is limited to an eight-year term, and may be re-elected once for a further four-year term of office.

The IOC administration is placed under the responsibility of a director general, who manages it under the President's authority. Around 500 people currently work at the IOC headquarters in Lausanne, in Switzerland.

- › The National Olympic Committees (NOCs) are the representatives of Olympism around the world. There are currently 204 of them:
- 53 NOCs in Africa
 - 41 NOCs in America
 - 44 NOCs in Asia
 - 49 NOCs in Europe
 - 17 NOCs in Oceania

The NOCs carry out many different functions in their respective countries, from the development of sport at all levels, to the creation of educational programmes, to the ongoing training of sports administrators. They are also responsible for sending a delegation of athletes to the Olympic Games and, since 2010, to the Youth Olympic Games.

The NOCs ensure that all the programmes carried out at a national level conform to the principles of the Olympic Charter.

- › The International Federations (IFs) are the experts in Olympic sports. Each IF governs its sport at a global level. It ensures the promotion and development of the sport and the development of the athletes who practise it, at all levels.

1. OG London 2012, Opening Ceremony – Lighting of the Olympic cauldron.
© 2012 /International Olympic Committee (IOC) /HUET, John

During the Olympic Games, the IFs are responsible for the practical organisation of the sports events on the programme. All the technical aspects of a sport are their responsibility: the rules, equipment, venues, judging, etc.

Here are some examples of Olympic federations:

Summer sports

- International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)
- International Gymnastics Federation (FIG)
- International Cycling Union (UCI)

Winter sports

- International Ski Federation (FIS)
- International Skating Union (ISU)
- International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF)

› The Organising Committees for the Olympic Games (OCOGs) are responsible for the practical organisation of the Games. The OCOG's task is enormous. From the moment when the city is selected to host the Games, there are only seven years left to put in place all the necessary arrangements.

Based on the plans proposed in its Candidature File, the Organising Committee must create or update the competition venues, stadiums, training halls and the Olympic Village as well as provide all of the organisational infrastructure necessary for the smooth running of the Games. To do this, the OCOGs work closely with the IFs. It also has to put in place an efficient transport system and medical services for everyone, from athletes to spectators.

Another of the OCOG's missions is to create a cultural programme. Concerts, plays, ballets and exhibitions held leading up to and during the Olympic Games make them different from most other sports events.

During the Games, the OCOG benefits greatly from the assistance of thousands of volunteers who contribute to the success of the Games. The OCOG recruits, then trains people from the host country and also from abroad. The volunteers' activities vary widely: from transporting athletes to hospitality and administration, to give just a few examples. The talents and experience of each individual are taken into account when allocating jobs.

After the Games, the final task of the OCOG is to compile the Official Report of the Games.

The OCOG's challenge in figures!
At the 2012 Olympic Games in London
(Great Britain), LOCOG had to manage:

- around 10,500 athletes
- 70,000 accredited volunteers
- more than 20,000 press and other media representatives
- over 6,000 accredited staff



People often think that the IOC is responsible for organising the Olympic Games. In fact, the IOC has more of a supervisor's role, entrusting the organisation of the Games to the elected host city and the NOC of the country in which the Games will take place.

LIFECYCLE OF AN OCOG

Candidature phase Cities submit their bid files. The IOC studies these and, at a Session, elects the city which will organise the Games.

Planning and preparation phase

Once the city is elected, its OCOG begins planning and preparing for the Games: everything has to be ready for the day of the opening, and there is plenty to do!

Date of the games The city hosts thousands of athletes, journalists and spectators. The whole world is watching.

Post-games dissolution The OCOG writes a report on the Games and concludes its activities before being dissolved a year after the Games.

1. OG Vancouver 2010, volunteers prepare the slope for the Snowboard Cross women event. © 2010 / International Olympic Committee (IOC) / KASAPOGLU, Mine