

Coubertin's ideas are still living on

What do we still owe to Pierre de Coubertin today ?

Pierre de Coubertin is regarded as the founder of the Olympic Games of modernity. We owe to him the idea, the entire organization and the ceremonial form of the Games, that have profited from his methodical and clear intellect as well as from his great understanding for young people.

The IOC



Coubertin founded the IOC in 1894. He himself had been its president for almost 30 years. (1896-1925)

citius - altius - fortius

(faster - higher - stronger)

This is the official motto of the Olympic Movement. With that Coubertin understood the permanent striving for human perfection through higher performance.

Olympic Ceremonies



Always a great event: The opening and closing ceremonies. Here: Sydney 2000.

The Flag



1913 Outline of the Olympic Flag

On May 1st 1920 it was waving over the Olympic Stadium of Antwerp for the first time.

Introduction of the Modern Pentathlon (1912 Stockholm)

Coubertin considered the Olympic Games a festival of joy, a peaceful competition and a means of amity and fair play among different countries. These deeply humanistic ideals are to be safeguarded in the third millennium and protected against all threatening dangers.

The Olympic Protocol

The Olympic Oath:

Since Antwerp 1920 an athlete from the hosting country says the Olympic Oath:

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

The Olympic Charta

The Olympic Rings:

"These five rings- blue, yellow, black, green and red- represent the five parts of the world, henceforth completely embracing Olympism and ready to accept its healthy spirit of competition. Moreover, the six colours (including the white background) combined in this way reproduce the colours of every nation without exception. The blue and yellow of Sweden, the blue and white of Greece, the tricolours of France, England, America, Germany, Belgium, Italy and Hungary, and the yellow and red of Spain mingle with Brazil's and Australia's innovative creations, and with old Japan and young China. A truly international emblem."