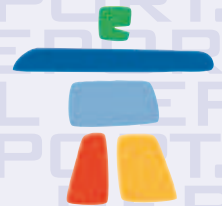


FINAL REPORT



vancouver 2010



OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES  
VANCOUVER 2010



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# SUMMARY



«With glowing hearts» was more than just a slogan for me. The enthusiasm and hospitality of the volunteers, of VANOC and of the spectators really did cause hearts to glow.

## Thank you VANOC, thank you Vancouver, thank you Canada

The organisation on the ground worked superbly. In addition to their palpable friendliness, the volunteers were also very competent and determined to do their best. Just like our Olympic Team, which – starting with the athletes, through to the supporters and team managers – did everything in their power to achieve the set sporting goals. Unfortunately, injuries reduced the size of the team, and this also lessened the chances of success.

In Vancouver, 15 sporting disciplines were staged at 9 different sporting venues. Liechtenstein was regrettably only able to take part in two sporting disciplines, the bob and Alpine skiing. And amongst the 86 contenders, Liechtenstein's athletes were unable to secure any podium places for themselves. Although Marco Büchel came within a fraction of a second of a medal in the downhill competition. The tragic death of the Georgian lugger Kumaratashvili at the start of the Games shows that sporting success can very quickly be pushed into the background.

In overall terms, the Liechtenstein Olympic Delegation made a positive impression in Vancouver. The entire team is very proud to have been awarded an Olympic diploma. The teamwork functioned superbly, and the members treated each other politely and with respect, even at times of heightened tension and excitement. Furthermore, the cooperation with the IOC, VANOC and Swiss Olympic was also straightforward and characterised by cordiality.

For me as Chef de Mission, these were the best and most interesting Games for many years. That is certainly something to be grateful for.

  
Alex Hermann

# PREPARATORY PROJECTS

The LOSV is responsible not just for limiting and organising the delegations to the Olympic Games, but also supports the associations in their efforts to help their athletes achieve this goal.

Thanks to the financial support provided by the Sport Commission and Olympic Solidarity, it proved possible to distribute a total of CHF 110,000.00 to the Ski Association and to the Bob Association. With 15 athletes, this meant that an average of over CHF 7,300.00 per athlete was additionally available.

The preparatory project payments adhered to a clear structure. The weighted criteria here were

1. analysis
2. objective
3. measures
4. budget

The associated content was discussed in each case with the associations in advance, and adjusted if necessary. The project support enabled the associations to take targeted action to achieve the Olympic limits.

We take this opportunity to thank the Sport Commission, the Princely Government as well as Olympic Solidarity together with its director Pere Miro most warmly for their support.



# THE LIECHTENSTEIN TEAM



## The Liechtenstein Olympic Team 2010

Regrettably, the Liechtenstein Pre-Olympic Team was not immune to injury. This meant that two promising candidates were forced to stay at home. Despite this, a total of 7 Liechtenstein athletes, decked out in blue-red colours with the golden crown, were able to represent their country amongst the total of 2632 athletes from around the world.

### Bob team:

Berginz Jürgen, Dürr Thomas, Klingler Michael (Pilot), Lampert Benedikt, Wunder Richard

### Alpine skiing:

Büchel Marco, Nigg Marina

### Coaches:

Hasler Pascal, women's skiing; Kranz Srecko, Bob; Marinac Martin, women's skiing; Ringger Rolf, Bob

### Senior delegates:

I.D. Princess Nora of Liechtenstein, Kranz Leo, Präsident, Wohlwend Johannes, General secretary Hermann Alex, Chef de Mission

### Medical team:

Dr. Christian Schlegel, Team Physician  
Ursina Banzer, Physiotherapist

# RECEPTION-FAREWELL

## Official send-off at Vaduz Castle

The traditional send-off at Vaduz Castle initiated the departure to the Olympic Games. This official act is a great honour for every sportsman and sportswoman, as it underscores the close bonds between the Princely House and its athletes. Hereditary Prince Alois expressed his best wishes to all athletes and supporters. In return, the Olympic Team presented a cheque to the Liechtenstein Red Cross for the earthquake victims in Haiti. The Liechtenstein Red Cross is headed by H.S.H. Princess Marie. The team was consequently signalling its solidarity with people in need.

At the subsequent evening meal, members of the «Special Olympics» presented their thoughts about sport, performance and the Olympic Games in a very congenial manner.



*The Olympic Team presented the Olympic Mascot to the children of the Hereditary Prince and his wife.*



*The bob team with Hereditary Prince Alois from left: Thomas Dürr, Richard Wunder, Benedikt Lampert, H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois, Jürgen Berginz, Michael Klingler.*



*The ski team with H.S.H. Hereditary Prince Alois, Marco Büchel and Marina Nigg*



*Martin Marinac receives its accreditation from the hands of Hereditary Prince Alois.*



## MEDICAL STAFF

The Liechtenstein Team was supported by the Olympic physician provided by Swiss Olympic, Dr. Christian Schlegel. He is simultaneously the team physician of the LOSV Medical Team, which greatly simplified our team's medical care; faces were familiar. Dr. Schlegel oversaw performance tests at Bad Ragaz during the preparatory phase. Information was also provided about important topics such as the prevention of infections or acclimatisation. In addition, each member of the delegation received an athlete's pharmacy kit to treat minor cases.

We take this opportunity to thank Dr. Schlegel most warmly for his expert support and personal dedication to the members of the Liechtenstein Team. It was due to his prudence and foresight that it proved possible to secure accreditation for the physiotherapist Ursina Banzer via Swiss Olympic. She was then responsible solely for the Liechtenstein Team. Her work and her personality were greatly valued. We also thank Ursina most cordially.

The crash suffered by the 2-man bob on the first day of the competition underscored the importance of having good and above all dedicated team medical support.



*Team Physician Dr. Christian Schlegel and General Secretary Johannes Wohlwend.*



*Physiotherapist Ursina Banzer with the bob athletes Benedikt Lampert, Thomas Dürr and Coach Rolf Ringger*

# COMPETITION RESULTS

## Alpine skiing

Marco Büchel (Büxi) was the Liechtenstein delegation's hottest contender for a medal. Even though his training performances fell short of expectations, he remained within reach of a medal in the downhill discipline. At 38 years of age, still amongst the world's top skiers, Büxi achieved an excellent 8th place, only 5/10 sec. behind the winner Defago. His reward was consequently a praiseworthy Olympic diploma. Things did not go entirely to plan for him in the Super G competition. He was firstly handicapped by the high start number 30, which was an absolute disadvantage in the prevailing snow conditions. The competition was then interrupted for over 20 minutes when Frederik Nyberg, who started just before him, crashed out. The recovery operation was protracted. Büxi subsequently missed a gate, and consequently a result which could be counted. The photo opposite shows that this did not unduly undermine his sense of composure. Büxi was integrated in the Swiss ski team for many years, and was consequently supported by the Swiss in this competition as well. The LOSV is grateful for this special concession and most friendly gesture.

Marina Nigg took part in the Olympic Games for the first time. Unfortunately, she was unable to realise her goal of finishing amongst the top 15. Was she perhaps a little distracted by the whole "Olympia" kerfuffle, as she herself said? She is certainly capable of more than is suggested by her 22nd placement. She admitted that she tackled the first run too cautiously, and was then unable to improve sufficiently in the second. Nevertheless, taking part in the Olympics was certainly a valuable experience for the future.





*The four-man bob team (from right): Thomas Dürr, Jürgen Berginz, Michael Klingler, Richard Wunder with Coach Srecko Kranz and Chef de Mission Alex Hermann.*



*Olympic victor Dario Cologna, Liechtensteins' Sports Minister Hugo Quaderer.*

*A group of downhiller specialists: Klaus Kröll, John Kucera, Marco Büchel*



*Marina Nigg and Marco Büchel discuss their experiences*



## Bob

For the first time in over 50 years, Liechtenstein was once again able to send a bob team to the Olympic Games, and did so with a two-man bob as well as a four-man bob. The mood amongst the Association and within the bob team was correspondingly euphoric. The participation of the Liechtenstein bobs also generated a positive international response. The young athletes travelled to Vancouver highly motivated and correspondingly well-prepared. Pilot Michael Klingler and his brakesman Thomas Dürr completed all 7 test runs successfully in the two-man bob. The team then entered the competition on 21 February with high expectations. In the first run, however, the bob crashed on the notorious "fifty/fifty" curve. Michael Klingler suffered a concussion, which meant he was forced to pull out of the competition, including in the four-man bob. Sport can be tough. Within seconds, the preparations of many years were dashed. This was also a tremendous disappointment for the other two athletes and the substitute who had been scheduled to take part in the four-man bob competition. Nevertheless, they behaved with dignity and sporting fairness. Despite dropping out, the team headed by Trainer Rolf Ringger and Coach Srecko Kranz gathered important and valuable experiences in terms of the future of Liechtenstein bob sport. On the subject of substitute athletes: FIBT and IOC rules state that substitutes cannot receive accreditation, and are consequently excluded from training, meaning they are also prevented from entering the Olympic village. This situation is plainly ludicrous and extremely unsatisfactory, and urgently needs to be reviewed.



## Sporting summary

Marco Büchel was the ideal contestant for the Liechtenstein delegation. Despite ending his career, there remains potential for the future. The bob team is still very young and, insofar as it stays together in its present constellation, has every chance of closing the gap with the world's elite. Marina Nigg and the injured Tina Weirather are also very promising candidates for the next Games in Sochi 2014. By then, though, other outstanding skiers will likely have drawn attention to themselves. The Association's plans for the next Olympic Games will need to be drawn up accordingly.



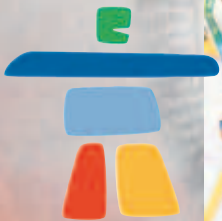


*BC Place in Vancouver. This is where the opening and closing ceremonies were staged.*



*Spectators awed by the atmospheric opening ceremony.*

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*Sport Minister Hugo Quaderer in conversation with Federal Councillor Doris Leuthard and LOSV President Leo Kranz*



*Small talk before the Liechtenstein lodgings. H.S.H. Princess Nora, Minister Hugo Quaderer and Leo Kranz with the downhill ace Marco Büchel.*



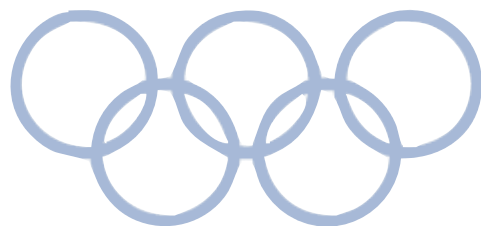
*The snowboarder jumps through the rings.*

# ORGANISATION & LOGISTICS

Olympic Games entail a tremendous organisational and logistical workload for everyone involved. This is determined by factors such as e.g. the large number of participants, the accreditation rules, security, advertising regulations and not least the materials and equipment, which in the case of Vancouver had to be shipped in from overseas. The two bobs, the skiing equipment and the administrative material weighed a total of 2000 kg. Thanks to the constructive cooperation with Swiss Olympic, LOSV was able to limit its logistic overheads. The high cost of accommodation and food was unwelcome. It would appear that hotels and private operators exploited the one-off opportunity presented by the Olympic Games. The meal coupons which can be bought for guests in the Olympic village are not exactly cheap either. The same goes for so-called rate card products, such as the internet, vehicles, parking permits etc. By contrast, the local volunteers were extremely helpful. They helped with the organisation, obtained information, and are highly valued helpers, in particular in conjunction with the allocation and return of rooms, vehicles and equipment. We take this opportunity to thank in particular Jennifer, Sabina, Klaus and Ralf for their tremendous support.



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# THANKS



SPORTKOMMISSION  
FÜRSTENTUM  
LIECHTENSTEIN

The Liechtenstein Olympic Sport Association needs good partners and sponsors in order to operate efficiently and cost-effectively. These contribute a great deal towards the sporting and organisational success of the event, as well as towards Liechtenstein's image and international profile. This is because many eyes register the manner in which our delegation acts as a representative of Liechtenstein. Our Sports Minister Hugo Quaderer was well aware of this during his visit to Vancouver. For this reason, thanks are owed first and foremost to the Princely Government and to the Sport Commission, which contributed the financial resources needed to send the team to the Games.



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VANOC, das Vancouver Organising Committee successfully oversaw this huge project with great care and attention.

Olympic Solidarity deserves thanks for supporting the sportsmen and sportswomen during the run-up to the Games.



Strict advertising rules mean that equipment suppliers and sponsors play a particularly important role. New clothing and equipment is required. At the same time, the profile for sponsors without advertising is relatively modest. We thank the following companies most warmly for their support:

Swiss Olympic is a reliable partner when it comes to logistical preparation and forwarding. Thank you very much!

Last but not least, we thank the IOC sponsors from the Top Programme.





THE WORLDWIDE OLYMPIC PARTNERS



## PUBLISHING INFORMATION

### Publisher:

Liechtenstein Olympic  
Sports Association  
Im Rietacker 4 · 9494 Schaan  
Tel: 00423 232 37 57  
Fax: 00423 232 16 73  
E-Mail: sekretariat@losv.li  
Internet: www.losv.li

### Editor:

Alex Hermann

### Layout:

Fri-Grafik, Schaan

### Printing:

BVD Druck+Verlag AG, Schaan

### Photos:

Ernst Hasler, Maurice Shorout



