Olympic Council of Asia

SPORTING ASIA

Official Newsletter of the Olympic Council of Asia

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TERIMA KASIH INDONESIA

ASIAN GAMES SPECIAL EDITION

OCA MVP
OCA General Assembly
OCA Sports Diary
Inside the OCA

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Inside Sporting Asia's 18th Asian Games Special Edition











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SPORTING ASIA

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Front cover:

Japan's Rikako Ikee became the first female athlete to be named MVP of the Asian Games after winning eight medals, including six gold, in the GBK Aquatic Centre swimming pool.

THANK YOU, INDONESIA, FOR A MEMORABLE ASIAN GAMES



Sheikh Ahmad delights the crowd at the Closing Ceremony. (Photo: Kim Minjae)

Like many people, I was sad to leave Indonesia after the 18th Asian Games.

Jakarta had become my home, and the Asian Games had become my daily life.

There were so many things to do, so many venues to visit, so many sports to see – and the days just flew by.

Then, suddenly, it was September 2, and we were all going to the GBK Main Stadium to gather for one last time, to say our farewells.

The atmosphere on that closing night was extra special. We were one – sharing in the success of the Asian Games and of friendships made.

It was sad to say goodbye but, at the same time, we would be going home with so many happy memories to cherish.

The Asian Games were a success on many levels, not only because they were the first in OCA history to be co-hosted, by Jakarta and Palembang, but because they reflected the spirit and the vibrancy of the people of Indonesia.

This will be my abiding memory – that the Asian Games opened up Indonesia to Asia and the world and showed us a country full of energy and dynamism.

No matter which sport I attended, no matter where the medallists came from, I could always feel the pride and the joy of the local people in hosting our Asian Games.

From the President, His Excellency Mr Joko Widodo, down to the local people in Jakarta and Palembang, Indonesia was a wonderful host of our 18th Asian Games.

I hope sincerely that it will not be another 56 years before we return to your amazing country!

Sheikh Ahmad Al Fahad Al Sabah
President, Olympic Council of Asia
President, Association of National Olympic Committees
Chairman, IOC Olympic Solidarity Commission

OCA PRESENTS AWARD TO INDONESIA VICE PRESIDENT KALLA



Indonesia Vice President Jusuf Kalla receives his OCA Award from Sheikh Ahmad.

The Olympic Council of Asia officially recognised the work of Indonesia's Vice President, Jusuf Kalla, in leading the preparations for the 18th Asian Games at the opening session of the 37th OCA General Assembly on Sunday, August 19.

Mr Kalla, popularly known as "JK", was the chairman of the 18th Asian Games Steering Committee. For his work he was presented with the OCA Award by the OCA President, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, at the Hotel Mulia Senayan. Sheikh Ahmad pointed out that Indonesia had organised the Games in less than three years following the withdrawal of original host Vietnam, and that "JK" had played a leading role in overcoming hurdles and problems in the preparations.

"Yesterday (August 18) we witnessed the first success of the Games – the Opening Ceremony," said Sheikh Ahmad. "There were a lot of difficulties to reach that goal and prepare for the Games but, after the responsibility was given to Vice President Jusuf Kalla, a lot has been changed and problems have been solved. We show our thanks and gratitude by presenting him with the OCA Award.

"The Opening Ceremony was the first whistle for the race of the Games and we are very confident this success will continue."

Vice President Kalla said the 18th Asian Games was a symbol of the commitment of the people of Asia to build a better world and embrace the Olympic spirit, friendship, solidarity and fair play.

"The people of Indonesia are steadfast in support of the Olympic ideals," he said. "I hope these Asian Games will inspire and encourage all the athletes in the build-up to the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo."

OCA HANDS MERIT AWARD TO LONG-SERVING TRIO

The OCA presented the Merit Award to three outstanding members of the Asian sports community for their long and loyal service to the sports movement. They were:

- Dr. Mani Jegathesan of Malaysia, Chairman of the OCA Medical Committee and Anti-Doping Commission.
- Raad Hammoudi, a former Iraqi football captain and goalkeeper and now President of the Iraqi Olympic Committee.
- Lt. Gen Syed Arif Hasan, President of the Pakistan Olympic Association and OCA Vice President.

NOTE: There were also two presentations made by the Sheikh Fahad Hiroshima Asia Fund Sports Science Award to Dr. Frankie Tan, head of Sport Science and Medicine Centre, Sport Singapore, and Qatar's Aspetar Ortopaedic and Sports Medicine Centre. The latter award was picked up by Hussain Sultan Al Jaber, HR manager of Aspetar.







SANYA PROMISES TO SHINE AT 2020 ASIAN BEACH GAMES

Sanya, a pearl of the South China Sea, is ready to shine when it hosts the 6th Asian Beach Games in 2020, city officials promised the OCA at the 37th General Assembly.



At the official signing of the Host City Contract, Chinese Olympic Committee Vice President Yang Shu'an assured delegates from the 45 countries and regions that Sanya would deliver a successful Beach Games.

Boasting a heritage of several thousand years, Sanya - the southernmost city on Hainan Island - is set to welcome more than 5,000 athletes and officials in 22 sports from November 28 to December 5, 2020.

A core city of the Hainan economic zone, Sanya has a population of 700,000. Last year it welcomed 20 million visitors. It has a proud record for hosting major sporting events in recent years – the Volvo Ocean Race and the Clipper Round-the-World race – as well as the Miss World Final last year.

Officials also revealed the city had 237 hotels – 58 of which were five-star and four-star category – with more than 60,000 rooms, while its medical facilities were top-class with more than 200 hospitals and medical institutions around the vibrant city.

The OCA also held a signing ceremony with Nagoya/Aichi Prefecture for the 20th Asian Games in 2026. The presentation included another karaoke performance from the City of Nagoya Mayor, Takashi Kawamura, featuring his desire to have two Komodo Dragons transported from Indonesia to Nagoya Zoo.

The Hangzhou Asian Games in 2022 will be the start of a new chapter for the city, Games officials told the General Assembly. With more than 10 metro lines and two inter-city railways to be completed by 2022, the city is set to be transformed.

The organisers of the 30th South East Asian (SEA) Games gave a presentation on the regional event, which will be held in the Philippines from November 30 to December 10, 2019, with more than 30 sports and 8,750 athletes and officials from the 11 NOCs. The main sports hub will be at Clark New City near Angeles, north of Manila, with Subic Bay and Manila serving as support venue hubs. There will be 12,000 volunteers.

The first Winter Children of Asia International Sports Games will be held in Sakhalin, Russian Federation, from February 8-17, 2019 with 91 events in eight sports at six venues, 1,500 participants and 20 Asian countries.

The 38th OCA General Assembly will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, on March 3, 2019.

PRINCE FEISAL DELIVERS POWERFUL PRESENTATION

HRH Prince Feisal Al Hussein, President of the Jordan Olympic Committee and IOC member, appealed to all sports leaders and officials to join the fight against harassment and abuse in sport.

In a powerful presentation to the General Assembly, Prince Feisal outlined the various forms of harassment and abuse that exist in sport and that can have a "devastating" impact on the athlete concerned, even leading to suicide.

"The abuse and harassment comes in five forms: psychological abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and neglect," said Prince Feisal, a member of the OCA Executive Board.

"Harassment and abuse is now in the spotlight at a global level and we must ask ourselves if we are doing everything possible to prevent this. We need collaboration from the entire Olympic Movement right now. Together we can make a profound effect in preventing harassment and abuse in sport."

Opening Ceremony, August 18, 2018



President Joko Widodo stole the show at the Opening Ceremony with his James Bond-style entrance on a motorbike (Photo: Antara News)



A full moon hovers above the striking stage of the Opening Ceremony.



A colourful dance scene from the Opening Ceremony show.



The two Koreas marched under the unification flag at the Opening Ceremony. (Photo: Reuters)



A traditional sailing boat enters the Opening Ceremony.



Fireworks light up the GBK Main Stadium.



The perfect Opening Ceremony on August 18.



The eye-catching opening performance involved 4,000 participants.

YO YO AYO! UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES FROM AN

Indonesia organised and presented a truly wonderful Asian Games in the co-host cities of Jakarta and Palembang.

Played out to a backdrop of catchy Indonesian theme songs, the colourful and compact venues sparkled under glorious sunshine and enhanced the creative, energetic "Look of the Games" branding – better than many an Olympic Games.



In such an exotic setting, and with a huge media presence, the 11,200 athletes from 45 National Olympic Committees were given the perfect platform to showcase their skills.

They responded with six world records – including one record-equalling effort in shooting – plus 18 Asian records and an astonishing 86 Asian Games records. This highlights the rapid rise in standards across the board and bodes well for the future, particularly with the Tokyo Olympic Games just two years away.

Despite the number of sports on the programme, and the use of four competition clusters, there was still an excitable, feel-good atmosphere around the venues.

This was particularly evident at the main hub of the Games, the refurbished and renovated Gelora Bung Karno sports complex, in which the Jakarta Convention Centre housed not only the Main Media Centre for broadcasters and press but also several competition halls for mainly martial arts.

Another master stroke was to convert the Jakarta International Expo Convention Centre, near the Athletes' Village at Kemayoran, into a competition cluster for six sports, reminiscent of the ExCel Arena at the London Olympics in 2012. No need for costly construction; just a matter of fitting out the vast halls with equipment and temporary spectator stands.



Palembang, too, made a major contribution to the success of the 18th Asian Games. Jakabaring Sports City was a one-stop shop, comprising the Athletes' Village and a series of superb venues, including rowing and canoe/kayak, shooting, beach volleyball, sport climbing, tennis/soft tennis and skateboarding/roller sport.



Rollerskating was one of the main attractions in Palembang.



President Joko Widodo greets Indonesian athletes after their successful Asian Games.

N INDONESIAN SUMMER

Well supported by the people of South Sumatra, the athletes in Palembang had their own unique experience of the Asian Games in a tropical setting and in a calm and relaxed environment without transport issues.

It was in this state of euphoria and unity that the Indonesian President, Joko Widodo, expressed an early interest in hosting the 2032 Olympic Games when the IOC President, Thomas Bach, arrived in town for the Closing Ceremony.

Well, as the official theme song "Yo Yo Ayo - Meraih Bintang" says – Reach for the Stars!





The action was top class at the 18th Asian Games - as can be seen here in the men's freestyle 57kg wrestling between China's Liu Minghu (right) and Eko Roni Saputra of Indonesia.

(Photo: Xinhua/Li He)

INASGOC
INDONESIA ASIAN GAMES ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

18TH ASIAN GAMES 2018

Host Cities:	Jakarta and Palembang, Indonesia
Dates:	August 18 to September 2, 2018
Opened by:	HE Joko Widodo, President, Republic of Indonesia
Closed by:	HE Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, President, OCA
Stadium:	Gelora Bung Karno Main Stadium, Senayan, Jakarta
NOCs:	45
Athletes:	11,200
Officials:	5,800
Total:	17,000
Sports:	40
Disciplines:	67
Events:	465
Media:	11,000
Broadcasting:	6,000
Press:	5,000
Slogan:	Energy of Asia
Theme Song:	Meraih Bintang (Reach for the Stars) by Via Vallen
Mascots:	Bhin Bhin – Bird of Paradise (Strategy), Atung – Deer (Speed) and Kaka – Rhinocerous (Strength)
Nine Sports:	made their Asian Games debut: Bridge, Jetski, Ju-jitsu, Kurash, Paragliding, Pencak Silat, Sambo, Skateboarding and Sport Climbing.
OCA MVP:	Rikako Ikee (Japan)



JAPANESE SWIMMER IKEE NAMED OCA MVP

Japan's record-breaking teenage swimmer Rikako Ikee became the first female athlete to be named OCA Most Valuable Player (MVP) for the best performer at the Asian Games.

The 18-year-old Ikee won a staggering total of eight medals, including six golds, in a series of brilliant performances at the GBK Aquatic Centre to be the standout competitor at the 18th Asian Games.

She went home to Tokyo at the end of the swimming competition but returned to Jakarta before the closing ceremony on Sunday, September 2 to receive her trophy and prize money of US$50,000 at a special presentation at the Main Press Centre.

"I'm so happy to win this beautiful award," she said, after being cheered into the press conference arena by media who were taken by surprise at her return to Jakarta.

"I was actually shocked when I heard the OCA was considering me for the MVP award and I am so grateful to win it."

Ikee made the job of the judges that decided the award easy by producing one of the most dominant displays ever seen at an Asian Games.

Her tally of eight medals equalled the all-time record for the most medals won at a single Asian Games set by DPR Korea shooter So Gin Man at Delhi in 1982.

Ikee also became the first woman to win six gold medals at a single Asian Games and broke the Asian Games record in each of her six victories.

With the 2020 Olympics being held in Tokyo, her stunning performances in Indonesia ensures she will be one of the host nation's brightest hopes for gold but said she wasn't putting any pressure on herself.

"The next two years may be short or may be long but I know what I need to do," she told the assembled media.

"With the Olympics being in my home country I will just try to do my best performance."

Rikako Ikee - Medal Machine

Gold Medals (6)	Silver Medals (2)
50m Freestyle	4x200m Freestyle Relay
100m Freestyle	4x100m Mixed Medley Relay
50m Butterfly	
100m Butterfly	
4x100m Freestyle Relay	
4x100m Medley Relay	

MVP Roll of Honour

Year	Host City	MVP	Sport
1998	Bangkok	Koji Ito (Japan)	Athletics
2002	Busan	Kosuke Kitajima (Japan)	Swimming
2006	Doha	Park Tae-hwan (Korea)	Swimming
2010	Guangzhou	Lin Dan (China)	Badminton
2014	Incheon	Kosuke Hagino (Japan)	Swimming
2018	Jakarta/Palembang	Rikako Ikee (Japan)	Swimming



Golden girl Rikako Ikee of Japan.

FINAL MEDAL TABLE

Rank	NOC	🥇	🥈	🥉	Total
1	China	132	92	65	289
2	Japan	75	56	74	205
3	Korea	49	58	70	177
4	Indonesia	31	24	43	98
5	Uzbekistan	21	24	25	70
6	Iran	20	20	22	62
7	Chinese Taipei	17	19	31	67
8	India	15	24	30	69
9	Kazakhstan	15	17	44	76
10	DPR Korea	12	12	13	37
11	Bahrain	12	7	7	26
12	Thailand	11	16	46	73
13	Hong Kong, China	8	18	20	46
14	Malaysia	7	13	16	36
15	Qatar	6	4	3	13
16	Mongolia	5	9	11	25
17	Vietnam	4	16	18	38
18	Singapore	4	4	14	22
19	Philippines	4	2	15	21
20	United Arab Emirates	3	6	5	14
21	Kuwait	3	1	2	6
22	Kyrgyzstan	2	6	12	20
23	Jordan	2	1	9	12
24	Cambodia	2	0	1	3
25	Saudi Arabia	1	2	3	6
26	Macau, China	1	2	2	5
27	Iraq	1	2	0	3
28	Korea	1	1	2	4
28	Lebanon	1	1	2	4
30	Tajikistan	0	4	3	7
31	Laos	0	2	3	5
32	Turkmenistan	0	1	2	3
33	Nepal	0	1	0	1
34	Pakistan	0	0	4	4
35	Afghanistan	0	0	2	2
35	Myanmar	0	0	2	2
37	Syria	0	0	1	1

Legend 🥇 : Gold Medal 🥈 : Silver Medal 🥉 : Bronze Medal

World Records at 18th Asian Games



Liu Xiang (China) – swimming - women's 50m backstroke, 26.98 seconds (27.06)



Sohrab Moradi (Iran) – men's 94kg weightlifting - snatch – 189kg (188kg)

So Chaewon/Choi Yonghee (Korea Republic) – archery, mixed team compound 50m - 1,412 (1,382)

Oh Jin Hyek/Kang Chae Young (Korea Republic) – archery, mixed team recurve 70m – 1,364 (1,333)

Wang Xiaojing/Du Yu (China) and Lin Yi-Chun/Yang Kun-Pi (Chinese Taipei) - shooting, trap mixed team - 146

Equal World Record

Yang Kun-Pi (Chinese Taipei) – shooting, trap, men - 48 (48)

1: PRESIDENT JOKOWI REVELS IN ASIAN GAMES ATMOSPHERE

From his James Bond-style entrance at the Opening Ceremony to his moving message of unity and solidarity from quake-hit Lombok during the Closing Ceremony, Indonesia's popular President, Joko "Jokowi" Widodo, proved to be one of the stars of the Asian Games show.

His appearance at any Games-related event turned into a media frenzy, and the people responded to his charismatic presence with equal amounts of enthusiasm and delight: Jokowi the Rock Star President!

There was another headline-grabbing moment at the pencak silat competition when Jokowi and his political rival in the 2019 presidential race, Prabowo Subianto, ended up having a group hug with gold medal-winner Hanifan Yudani Kusuma.

A photo of the so-called "bromance" on Jokowi's Instagram account attracted over 1.2 million Likes in the days following the event.

If the 4th Asian Games in Jakarta in 1962 left a permanent legacy for Indonesia's first President, Soekarno, then Jokowi will be remembered as the face of the 18th Asian Games.



Jokowi and Prabowo Subianto embrace pencak silat champion Hanifan.

(INASGOC/ANTARA)

2: HISTORIC GOLD FOR UNIFIED KOREA IN DRAGON BOAT RACING

Who would have thought it just a few months ago - the two Koreas not only competing as a unified team but winning a gold medal!

In one of six events from three sports for the unified team, Korea (COR) sent the distinctive Unification flag flying high at the Jakabaring Sports City Lake in Palembang on Sunday, August 26, as the melodic Korean folk song "Arirang" floated over the venue.

This historical success came in the women's dragon boat 500 metres - a discipline under Canoeing - and followed a bronze medal in the 200 metres the previous day to put COR on the medals table.

"It's very emotional," said Korean rower Jang Hyun-jung. "I'm surprised, but we trained so hard and this is the result of that training. We deserve it."

The gold medal win capped an incredible showing for a team that only started training together less than a month before the Asian Games began.

"Because we won the gold medal we want to do this again and I think we can get together again as a unified team," said Jang. "It's something we all want."



Golden celebrations for the unified Korea team in women's dragon boat racing.

3: KUWAIT BAGS GOLDEN HAT TRICK ON RETURN TO OLYMPIC FAMILY

Just two days before the Opening Ceremony of the 18th Asian Games, the IOC Executive Board provisionally lifted the suspension of Kuwait NOC on August 16.

This enabled Kuwaiti athletes to compete under their own flag for the first time in almost three years, following the IOC-imposed suspension on October 27, 2015, due to the need to protect the Olympic Movement in Kuwait from undue government interference.

The news was greeted with joy by the OCA, as this meant there was a full house of 45 National Olympic Committees in Jakarta and Palembang.

Kuwait responded with six medals, including a hat trick of gold for Ali Abdulaziz in karate (men's -67kg), Ali Al Khorafi (equestrian – individual jumping) and Mansour Al Rashidi (shooting – men's skeet).



Ali Al Khorafi flies the Kuwaiti flag after his brilliant win in the individual jumping competition.

(Getty Images)

4: HOME HERO JOJO PULLS OFF SENSATIONAL VICTORY

Going into the 18th Asian Games in badminton-crazy Indonesia, there seemed little hope of success in the singles.

Then along came Jonatan Christie, the 21-year-old home hope who romped to a sensational gold medal by defeating Chinese Taipei's Chou Tien-Chen in the final. The famous GBK Istora was rocking as Jojo triumphed 21-18, 20-22, 21-15.

Jojo further delighted his army of fans by removing his shirt to reveal his highly-toned torso. It was Indonesia's first gold in men's singles since Taufik Hidayat in Doha 2006.

Chinese Taipei won gold in the women's singles through top seed Tai Tzu-Ying, who defeated India's Rio 2016 Olympic silver medallist PV Sindhu 21-13, 21-16.



Jonatan "Jojo" Christie celebrates his badminton gold.

5: MARGIE'S MAGIC SKATEBOARD

It didn't take long for Skateboard to find its first Asian Games superstar as the Philippines' Margie Didal rode her magic skateboard all the way to the top of the podium.

In a scintillating performance that combined tricks and technique with amusing showmanship, the 19-year-old Margie had the judges eating out of her hand at the new skateboard park in Jakabaring Sports City in Palembang.

The Cebu-born fireball easily won the women's street event and, along the way, chatted to the audience, danced and joked with her fellow competitors at the start line and, at one point, even skated down the course and sat next to a fluffy sound microphone, stroking it like a cat. The crowd could not get enough.

What a character!

Judging by her skills here, Margie Didal is most certainly ready for the Tokyo Olympics in 2020. But is the Olympics ready for Margie and her Magic Skateboard?



Golden smile: Margie Didal won skateboard gold for the Philippines.

(Photo: Philippine Sports Commission)

6: JAPAN'S HOCKEY SUCCESS IS PERFECT TIMING FOR TOKYO 2020

What better way to promote hockey in Japan ahead of Tokyo 2020 by winning both gold medals at the Asian Games?

That's exactly what Japan did on two successive nights of drama, tension and emotion at the GBK Hockey Field.

First, the women beat India 2-1 in the final to win Japan's first ever hockey gold medal in the Asian Games.

Still buoyant from this success, the men followed up the next evening by beating Malaysia in an incredible final, 3-1 in a penalty shootout after a swashbuckling 6-6 draw.

Malaysia had led 4-1 and 5-2 and thought they had won the match when they regained the lead, 6-5, at 58:17, only for Japan to equalise with just 13 seconds remaining. Astonishing!



Japan's men's team begin their celebrations.

(INASGOC)

7: PENCAK SILAT PROVES TO BE GOLD MINE FOR INDONESIA

Coming into the 18th Asian Games, Indonesia's target was 16 gold medals and a Top 10 finish – but, with Pencak Silat on the programme for the first time, this goal always seemed modest. So it proved.

With 16 gold medals up for grabs in this traditional Indonesian martial art, the home country knew that a strong showing here could ease them towards the 16 gold target and beyond.

In the end, Indonesia claimed 14 of the 16 gold medals on offer, enabling them to win 31 gold medals in total and finish fourth in the final medal rankings, behind Asia's three sporting super powers China, Japan and Korea Republic.

Indonesia's previous best performance was 11 gold medals when they hosted the 4th Asian Games in Jakarta in 1962.

Vietnam collected the other two gold medals in pencak silat.



Indonesian pencak silat duo Ayu Sidan Wilantari and Ni Made Dwiyanti celebrate gold in the women's artistic doubles (INASGOC).

8: CHINA'S UNSTOPPABLE DIVING MEDAL MACHINE

Individual or synchronised; 1 metre, 3 metre or 10 metre; springboard or platform; men or women…..you name it, China won it.

In another epic display of poise and precision, grace and athleticism, China went home with all 10 diving gold medals on offer and added another six silver medals just for good measure.

Watch out world in Tokyo 2020 – the Chinese have no intention of loosening their iron grip on a discipline they have made their own.

The highlights at the GBK Aquatic Centre included gold medals in the 10m platform for Yang Jian and Si Yajie and double gold for Shi Tingmao, who won two gold medals at Rio 2016, in the women's 3m springboard and women's synchronised 3m springboard.



China's Yang Jian on his way to gold in the men's 10m platform competition. (Photo: Yue Yuewei/Xinhua)

9: LIFE-CHANGING GOLD MEDAL FOR KOREA CAPTAIN SON

There was something extra special about South Korea's 2-1 victory over Japan in the men's football final.

For captain Son Heung-min and his team-mates, the gold medal meant exemption from military service that is compulsory for all able-bodied men before they reach 28 years old.

Thanks to this success, Son, 26, is now free to concentrate on his career with Tottenham Hotspur in the English Premier League, having recently signed a new five-year contract.

The final was as tight as expected and remained goalless after 90 minutes, forcing extra time. Lee Seung-woo lashed in the first in the 93rd minute and a towering header from Hwang Hee-chan doubled Korea's lead eight minutes later.

Japan replied with a header from substitute Ayase Ueda in the 115th minute – but the evening belonged to Korea.



Son Heung-min attacks the Japan defence.

(Photo: AP)

10: SPORT CLIMBING WILL BE AN OLYMPIC WINNER

Jakabaring Sports City in Palembang had the honour of hosting Sport Climbing – and what an amazing success it was.

The venue itself was striking, with the imposing climbing walls and related infrastructure setting the scene for a wonderful evening's entertainment. There was tension, joy and despair in equal measures, and the packed gallery lapped it up.

No doubt, the Olympic Games is on to a winner when Sport Climbing makes its debut at Tokyo 2020. Gripping stuff!

Even better for the organisers, Indonesia won three gold medals including two for "Spiderwoman" Aries Susanti Rahayu, 23, in women's speed and women's speed relay.



Aries Susanti Rahayu won two gold medals for Indonesia.

(Photo: Bola)

11: IRAN REPLACES INDIA AS KABADDI SUPER POWER

It's incredible to think that kabaddi made headlines around the world during the Asian Games when India – the land of its birth – failed to win either of the gold medals.

This illustrated how much the popularity and profile of the sport has grown in recent years, thanks to the exposure of the Asian Games, and how the changing landscape proved to be such a talking point in Jakarta.

Iran is the new super power, winning both gold medals and beating India along the way, in the semi-finals of the men's event and in the final of the women's event.

India's women's team coach L Srinivas Reddy admitted: "The game has been globalised. Other teams will also fancy their chances now. It is becoming an Olympic sport."



Indian players move in on an Iranian raider in the women's kabaddi final.

(Photo: PTI)

12: BILLIONAIRE BAMBANG BAGS BRIDGE BRONZE

Indonesia's richest man, Bambang Hartono, attracted wide publicity on being named in the Bridge team – at 78 years old.

Bambang, along with his brother Budi Hartono, has topped Forbes Magazine's list of Indonesia's 50 richest people for 10 years in a row. The brothers own the Djarum clove cigarette company and BCA Bank and have a combined net worth of more than US$34 billion.

He still has goals, however, and his aim coming into the Asian Games was to win a gold medal. In the end he had to settle for a bronze in the super mixed team event, but his presence at the Jakarta International EXPO was one of the highlights of the Asian Games.

"I play bridge to keep my memory sharp. My other hobby is tai chi, which helps me stay focused," said Bambang, who started playing bridge at six years old.

Bambang Hartono won a bronze medal in bridge.

(Photo: ANTARA/INASGOC)





India's Swapna Barman, 21, is on her way to winning gold in the women's heptahlon. (Photo: AP)



China beat Unified Korea in the women's basketball final by 71-65.



Singapore 49er FX sailors Kimberly Lim and Cecilia Low on their way to gold at Ancol. (Photo: Singapore Sailing)



Mongolia's Bolor-Erdene Batmunkh, 15, keeps her eye on the ball during the table tennis competition.



Volleyball action from Indonesia against the Philippines.



Iran's Hediye Kazemi and Arezou Hakimimoghaddam compete in the women's kayak double 500m.

13: JU-JITSU'S JESSA IS PRIDE OF CAMBODIA

At 16 years of age, Jessa Khan wrote herself into the sporting history of Cambodia by winning the first gold medal on offer in the ju-jistu tournament at the Asian Games.

Competing in the women's -49kg Ne Waza (ground technique) competition, Jessa kept her focus and her strength on an exhausting day to win five fights in a row and become only Cambodia's second gold medal-winner in Asian Games history.

"I am so proud to win the gold medal for my family and for Cambodia," said Jessa, who has a Cambodian father and Mexican mother and lives in Newport Beach, California.

She admitted to visiting Cambodia for the first time earlier this year and that she could not speak Khmer – but her performance spoke volumes for her talent, having taken up ju-jitsu in 2009 in Hawaii.



Jessa Khan with her gold medal

(Photo: Reuters)

14: THE SWEET SOUND OF SUCCESS FOR MACAU'S 'IRON LADY'



Hoi Long on her way to bronze in the women's triathlon

(Photo: Sports Bureau of Macau, China)

Sometimes, a bronze medal is as good as gold. That was certainly the case for Hoi Long, the 34-year-old triathlete from Macau, China.

Showing remarkable determination and stamina in the 10km run, Macau's "Iron Lady" picked off her opponents from 10th place after the swim and bike and found a place on the podium of the women's triathlon at Palembang.

Hoi, who was competing in her fourth Asian Games, is already a celebrity in Macau sport, as she is deaf and lip reads – and speaks – in English, Cantonese and Mandarin.

Macau, China NOC President Charles Lo commented: "This was one of the most courageous efforts I have ever seen. To come back like she did in the run and win the bronze medal was truly remarkable considering the heat and the humidity. She gave it everything. We are so proud of her."

15: SWIMMING SURPRISE SHOWS JOY OF SPORT

Sport never fails to surprise; never tires of showing the sheer joy of success and camaraderie.

The world-class swimming programme produced one such moment at the GBK Aquatic Centre, in the women's 4x100m medley relay.

Japan won easily, China was second and South Korea third, ahead of Hong Kong and Singapore. But something was not right. The Japanese swimmers were celebrating, but the Chinese and Koreans were unsure.

Then, in an incredible sequence of events, the Chinese were disqualified for an illegal changeover. The Hong Kong team went crazy – bronze medal!

But the drama was not quite over. The Koreans were also disqualified for the same reason, promoting Hong Kong to silver and bringing Singapore on to the podium for bronze.

The delirious Hong Kong and Singapore swimmers danced together in delight at the side of the pool – another unforgettable moment at the 18th Asian Games.



The silver medal-winning team of Hong Kong, China.

(Photo: Hong Kong, China NOC)

16: DPR KOREA'S CHEERING SQUAD LIGHTS UP WEIGHTLIFTING HALL



Pyongyang Corner at the JI EXPO weightlifting hall.

Who needs the official cheering squad from DPR Korea when the Pyongyang weightlifting team is in town?

The North Koreans made the weightlifting hall at JI Expo their own, not only by winning eight gold medals, one silver and one bronze but by also creating "Pyongyang Corner" – an area packed with the distinctive DPRK flags, off-duty athletes, coaches and supporters.

It all added to the festive atmosphere inside the 2,000-capacity hall and ensured a constant flow of proud and passionate victory ceremonies, as weightlifting provided eight of DPRK's 12 gold medals at the 18th Asian Games.

DPRK's previous best gold medal haul in weightlifting was four at the 17th Asian Games in Incheon in 2014, but here they capitalised on the absence of the suspended China and Kazakhstan to dominate the event.

17: MALAYSIA'S SEPAKTAKRAW HEROES WIN 'DERBY' HONOURS

Barcelona v Real Madrid? Manchester United v Liverpool? Try Indonesia v Malaysia in sepaktakraw!

For any sports fan looking for a full "derby day" experience – always tense, sometimes hostile and occasionally even intimidating – then the final of the men's regu had it all.

In an incredible atmosphere at the Ranau Hall of Jakabaring Sports City in Palembang, Malaysia came back from what seemed certain defeat to win 2-1 (18-21, 22-20, 21-11).

At one point in the second set, as the home team dominated and looked certain to go on to win comfortably, an Indonesian player produced another savage winner and celebrated by staggering around on court, like a boxer on the ropes waiting for the knockout punch.

The Malaysians turned their back on this gesture, somehow found a second wind and renewed focus and went on to win the second set and run away with the third to complete a famous victory.

The exhausted players collapsed to the ground and the pockets of Malaysian fans swayed their flags from side to side to acknowledge a mighty and memorable performance at the 18th Asian Games.



The Malaysian players on the victory podium.

18: TACKLING, DEFENCE DOMINATES RUGBY SEVENS FINALS

Rugby sevens is often a try-fest, with teams piling on the points from first minute to last.

But tackling and defence were the crucial factors in both the women's and men's finals, during which a total of only four tries were scored.

In the women's final, Japan tackled themselves to a standstill in holding off defending champions China 7-5 and winning rugby sevens gold for the first time thanks to a converted try.

In the men's final, Hong Kong defeated three-time defending champions Japan 14-0 with two converted tries and a clean sheet at the other end – a remarkable achievement against the free-flowing Japanese.

The two gruelling finals proved that tackling is just as important as tries when gold is within reach.



Action from the Japan-China women's final.

(Photo: ANTARA/INASGOC)

OCEANIA PRESIDENT IMPRESSED BY 'TOGETHERNESS' OF ASIAN GAMES



The President of the Oceania National Olympic Committees (ONOC), Dr Robin Mitchell, pinpointed two key reasons behind the enduring success of the Asian Games during his stay in Jakarta.

The first was the high level of competition; the second the unity of the Asian continent.

"I think the competition helps the development of sport in the host country," said the IOC Member from Fiji. "It has also made the OCA countries better prepared for the Olympics - and the results are starting to show."

In general, Dr Mitchell felt there was a "feeling of togetherness", as displayed by the joint march of the two Koreas in the Opening Ceremony and the participation of a unified Korea team in three sports. "It is like a big happy crowd," he added.

Dr Mitchell also praised the OCA for adapting to the environment of the host country and for promoting sports specific to a certain region, such as sepaktakraw at the Asian Games.



Dr Mitchell praised the OCA for introducing regional sports, such as sepaktakraw, to the continent and the world through the Asian Games.

FEI PRESIDENT PLEDGES TO PROMOTE JAKARTA'S NEW EQUESTRIAN PARK



The President of the International Equestrian Federation (FEI), Ingmar De Vos, feels that the new equestrian centre for the 18th Asian Games can play a major role in developing equestrian sport at home and abroad.

During his four-day visit to Jakarta, Mr De Vos was very impressed with not only the Jakarta International Equestrian Park at Pulomas but also the profile and scale of the Asian Games in general.



The grandstand at the new equestrian park.

"First of all I should congratulate the organising committee for doing such a tremendous job," he said. "They had only a very short time to build it up and I am really very impressed with everything.

"I must say when I was driving through the city the branding is fantastic. Especially here at the equestrian venue, the transformation from old race track into a modern equestrian facility is great.

"It's very impressive….fantastic infrastructure with many arenas, covered arenas, fantastic stables, veterinary clinic…so this is really a state-of-the-art facility.

"I really hope that the national equestrian federation will use this facility now to develop the sport further and also, with the help of the FEI, we will promote this venue for the further development of the sport in Indonesia."

Mr De Vos said the Asian Games played a vital role for equestrian sport, as it enabled the national federation to secure support from the NOC and compete for medals.

Out and about with the OCA President



Sheikh Ahmad warmly greets the OCA Media Committee Chairman, Mr Charles Lo.



Sheikh Ahmad is happy to take a selfie with OCA guest Yu Byungjin of Korea.



Sheikh Ahmad presents a set of Asian Games pin badges to Alibaba co-founder Jack Ma, who has pledged the full support of his e-commerce company and 45,000 staff in Hangzhou to the success of the 2022 Asian Games.



Sheikh Ahmad attends the men's football final.

Out and about with the OCA President

Photos: **Kim Minjae** (OCA)



Sheikh Ahmad joins the festivities at Korea House.



Sheikh Ahmad chats with IOC President Thomas Bach and Moon Dae-sung of Korea.



Sheikh Ahmad chats with the Iranian women's kabaddi team in the dining hall of the Athletes' Village at Kemayoran.



Sheikh Ahmad has an exotic setting for a greeting.



Malaysian athletes having fun at the WADA info centre (Photo: WADA).

OCA, WADA CONTINUE FIGHT AGAINST DOPING IN SPORT

The OCA, in conjunction with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), set up an information kiosk outside the Athletes' Village dining hall to continue the never-ending fight against doping.

Athletes, coaches and officials from the 45 NOCs flocked to the centre to learn more about the hot topic by taking a quiz involving 10 questions on an interactive tablet. The quiz is in 40 languages.

As a reward, they received a pair of flip-flops carrying the "play true" slogan of the WADA Outreach programme.

"All the athletes have to play true and say 'No' to doping," said Iranian high jumper Sepideh Tavakoly Nik. "A big part of the doping problem is education, and this quiz is a fun way to learn more."

Bangladeshi kabaddi player Fatema Akhtar Poly added: "I played the game and it is a very nice way to learn more about anti-doping."

Stacy Spletzer, Senior Manager of Athlete Relations and Communications from WADA's head office in Montreal, Canada, says the Outreach programme would not have been possible without the support of the OCA.

"This is our fourth Asian Games since Qatar in 2006 and it is such a pleasure to work with the OCA," said Stacy.

"The OCA do everything in their power to make sure our information kiosk is in a great location and they support us at all levels. It is very symbolic of their support of the anti-doping issue."



Kazakh athletes visit the WADA information centre.



DPR Korea athletes take the quiz (Photo: WADA).



Asian Games volunteers show their pride and excitement in representing Indonesia.

13,000 VOLUNTEERS LIGHT UP 18TH ASIAN GAMES

One of the big success stories of the 18th Asian Games was undoubtedly the 13,000 volunteers.

Their pride and their passion in representing Indonesia shone through at every level, earning them the title of "perfect ambassadors" from the OCA President in his Closing Ceremony address.

The brightly-coloured uniforms were everywhere to be seen, serving as a beacon for all Games visitors in search of information or assistance.

It was a fitting moment when thousands of volunteers followed the athletes into the GBK Main Stadium at the Closing Ceremony to receive the applause and appreciation their efforts had deserved.

Here are three tales summing up the attitude and devotion of the volunteers:

Akmalia Niama, 22, from Demark in Central Java: "It's awesome…I'm speechless. I wanted to be a volunteer to introduce my country to the world and to contribute to my country. I have finished my degree in physics but will not look for a job until after the Asian Games because the experience I will gain will be useful in my life."

Woro Rati Bawono, 24, from Depok, West Java: "I got married a few days before the Asian Games but we will not go on honeymoon to Japan until September. My husband is really supporting me to be a volunteer at the Asian Games. I want to challenge myself and have this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity at the Asian Games.

"Visitors can expect hospitality and politeness because we really like to host people coming from abroad especially. We like to embrace our cultures. Indonesia has so many different cultures – that is our selling point."

Bagus Adhikara Aryaguna, 21, student at the University of Darma Persada in East Jakarta: "This is a big moment for my country and for this region in Asia. My motivation to be a volunteer is to find experience from other volunteers and from my duties. I want to be a good person in my life and I think this experience will help me and show me team work."



Volunteers take shelter from a tropical storm outside the athletes' dining hall at Jakabaring Sports City in Palembang.

18th Asian Games on Social Media



The Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China celebrates the gold medal of Jacqueline Siu Wing Ying in the Dressage Individual. (SF&OC)



"Congratulations! We've just won one more gold medal – in jetski!" – NOC Cambodia's Lida Tay, with Asian Games ski modified champion Saly Ou Moeut. (Lida Tay)



Sri Lanka NOC's excellent Facebook page kept everyone informed of the progress of their athletes. Here is archer Sajeev Mahamadaachchi De Silva in action. (National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka)



"Thank you for the cake and a hero's welcome!" – The Philippines' weightlifting champion Hidilyn Diaz.



"With a great sportsman, Mr Erick Thohir, President NOC Indonesia and Organising Committee." – A proud moment for Timor-Leste NOC. (Laurentino Guterres)



Qatar NOC was full of praise for the organisation of the 18th Asian Games and the warmth and hospitality of the hosts.



"What a week it was for the team! Thank you everyone for your love and support. Onwards and upwards." – Singapore swimmer Joseph Schooling (Joseph Isaac Schooling). Photo: Simone Castrovillari.



"Two weeks of fine weather in Jakarta but the sky decided to rain on the day of the closing ceremony. Fortunately it stopped halfway through. Nevertheless, it was one of the best Asian Games closing ceremonies I have ever been to because iKON and Super Junior performed in it. Thank you for inviting them!" – Malaysian diver Pandelela Rinong (Pandelela Rinong_Official)



IOC President Thomas Bach visited the Athletes' Village at Kemayoran and Kazakhstan's water polo captain, Rustam Ukumanov, was one of the lucky athletes to meet him. (Kazakhstan Olympic Team)

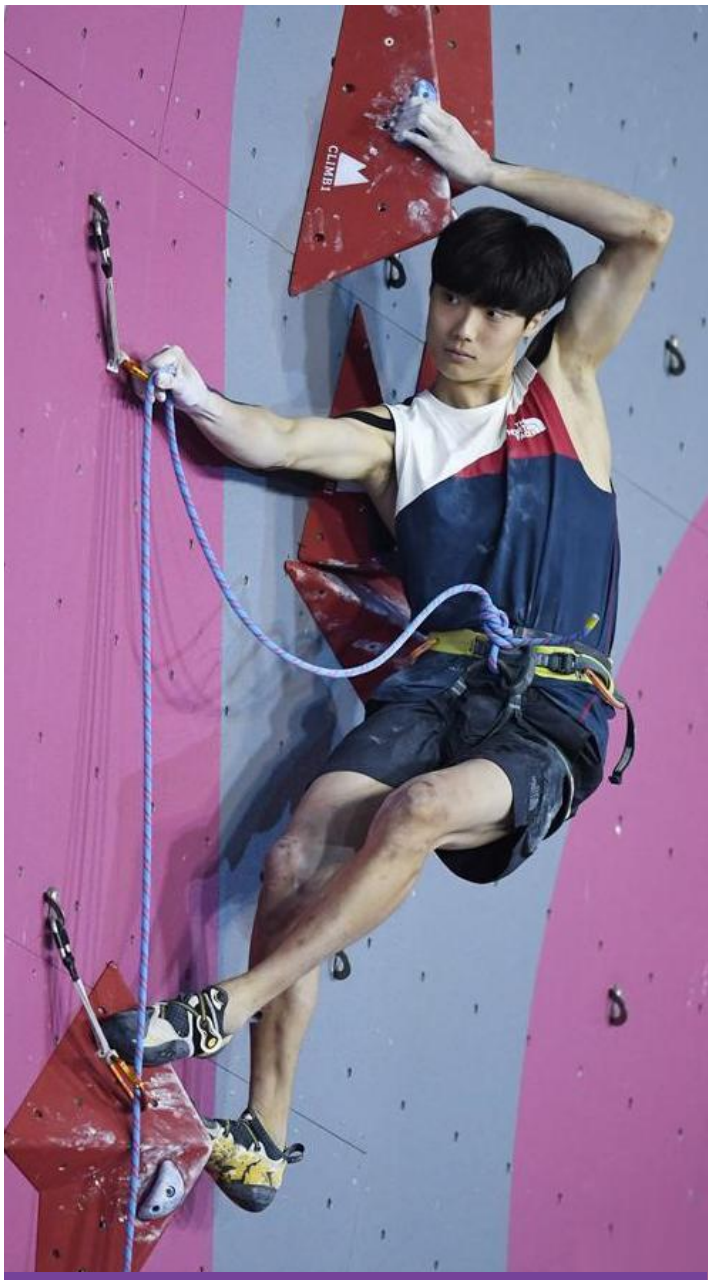
Exciting new sports make their mark



Jet Ski - Ali Allanjawi (UAE) wins gold in the Runabout Limited



Paragliding provided some stunning images for photographers and TV broadcasters alike.



Chon Jongwon of Korea Republic shows his mastery in Sport Climbing.



Skateboarding provided plenty of thrills - and some spills - on its Asian Games debut ahead of Tokyo 2020.



In this all-Uzbekistan final of the men's -66kg Kurash, Maruf Gaybulloev (green) defeats Ruslan Buriev. Photo: Xinhua/Zhu Wei.



Sheikh Ahmad says "Thank you" Indonesia for a great games.



A golden Asian Games as light streams down over the spectators.



GBK Main Stadium is bathed in light.



The three mascots were popular participants in the Closing Ceremony.



A spot of rain is not going to prevent the athletes from enjoying themselves at the Closing Ceremony.

OCA INFO/STATS COMMITTEE REPORTS PYEONGCHANG FINDINGS

The OCA Information and Statistics Committee discussed a detailed report on the performance of Asia's athletes at the PyeongChang Winter Olympics in Korea in February.

Meeting at the Hotel Mulia Senayan on Friday, August 17, the Committee Chairman, Dr Demchigjav Zagdsuren, produced his findings to the committee members.

Asian NOCs won 10 gold medals at PyeongChang 2018 and 40 medals in total. The percentage of total medals won, 13.03 per cent, was the best performance by Asia at a Winter Olympics, beating the previous best mark of 12.68 per cent at Nagano in 1998.

However, the percentage of gold medals, 9.71, was still behind the best mark of 12.79 from Vancouver 2010.

"Looking at the statistics from Asian NOCs, we can say that Asia was at a high level in four sports – short track speed skating, speed skating, figure skating and skeleton," said Dr. Zagdsuren, President of Mongolia NOC.

"This is based on the criteria of Asia winning over 30 per cent of the total medals available in that sport, or one gold medal."



The OCA Information and Statistics Committee gathered in Jakarta.

The next bracket was mid-level performance, based on winning between 10 and 30 per cent of total medals available for that sport or winning any medal. These six sports were snowboarding, ski jumping, Nordic combined, freestyle skiing, curling and bobsleigh.

The lowest category involved sports in which Asia won below 10 per cent of total medals, or no medals at all. The five sports in this section were cross-country skiing, Alpine skiing, ice hockey, luge and biathlon.

OCA SPORT & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES AWARD WINNERS

The OCA Sport and Environment Committee announced the winners of its first Sport and Environment Awards at its meeting on August 17 – and the awards were presented at the OCA General Assembly two days later.

The Chairman of the Committee, Mr Yu Kyung Sun, conducted the meeting at the Hotel Mulia Senayan and said the inaugural awards had been a big success.

A total of eight nominations were submitted to the committee and the three winners were:



The OCA Sport and Environment Committee meets in Jakarta.

- Green Triathlon of the Japan Triathlon Union
- Ms. Najia Rasool of the Pakistan Taekwondo Federation
- Project Blue Wave of Singapore.

Mr Yu said: "I think this is a very significant moment for the Sport and Environment Committee of the OCA and we are very proud to have our first winners of the inaugural award.

"The aim of this award is to promote sport and the environment at all levels of sports activity around Asia in the hope that it will become one of the most important aspects of any sports event at any level.

"The environmental projects of these three winners have served as a catalyst for Green Sport in their respective region and country."

The three winners received a scholarship prize of USD5,000, funded by the OCA Sport and Environment Committee.

TEQBALL, KHO KHO ADDED TO OCA SPORTS PORTFOLIO

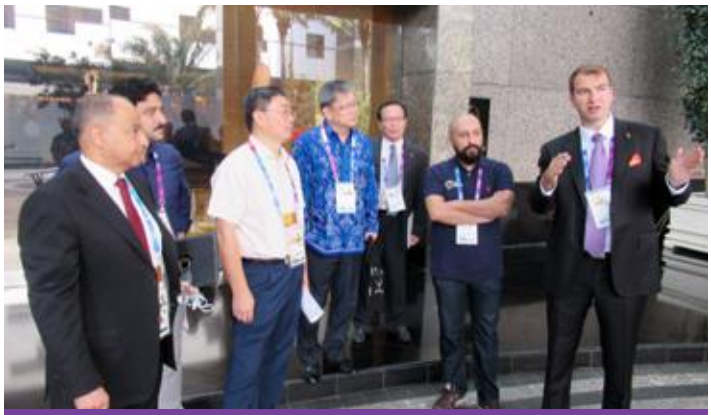
From the land of football greats Ferenc Puskas and Sandor Kocsis, Teqball has been officially recognised by the OCA.

The International Teqball Federation (FITEQ) produced an impressive display for members of the OCA Sports Committee in Jakarta on Friday, August 17 - both on and off the pitch.

Before the committee meeting began, four players gave a demonstration of teqball outside the Hotel Muliya Senayan.

Played on a curved, durable surface the size of a table tennis table, teqball involves serving and receiving, controlling the ball and attacking with head or foot.

It was invented in Hungary four years ago and is being promoted around the world due to the interest and participation on social media of players such as Luis Figo, Ronaldinho and Neymar Jr., who are playing it as a fun way to improve technique in a friendly but competitive environment.



FITEQ Vice President Viktor Huszar (right) explains teqball to OCA Sports Committee members and officials.

After the demonstration, the committee members and FITEQ officials moved into the meeting room for the formal presentation in the hopes of being recognised by the OCA.

Vice President Viktor Huszar said that 40 countries would be competing in the second Teqball World Cup in Reims, France, this October - double the number of teams in the inaugural edition, won by Romania.

"We are expecting six Asian countries to play in the second World Cup as we have teams in Japan, China, India, Malaysia, Thailand and Pakistan, and we feel the game is going to be more popular in the Asian countries. We think the interest in Asia is going to blow up in the next four years," he said.

The OCA Sports Committee also heard a presentation from the sport of Kho Kho by the Asian Kho Kho Federation and the Kho Kho Federation of India.

Kho Kho, like kabaddi, has its roots in rural India and is known as a high-speed, low-cost game of chasing and defending between two teams. The sport displays a lot of agility and speed and is played for fitness and stamina by past and present Indian cricketers, the most famous being Sachin Tendulkar.

The OCA Sports Committee recommended Teqball and Kho Kho be approved by the General Assembly, without any commitment from the OCA, and this was duly passed.



Players demonstrate teqball outside the Hotel Mulia Senayan.

OCA EXPERT PENS PROTOCOL BOOK

The OCA's protocol perfectionist, Abdulla Y. Al Mulla, has published a book about the intricacies and requirements of one of the most important aspects of a major sports event.

Entitled "Perfect Pitch – Sport Protocol and how to get it right", the book is a result of Abdulla's involvement in sports events for more than 10 years and offers advice and guidance in the area of sport protocol.

"In this book I have provided vital information that will assist you in preparing for operational Games Protocol," says Abdulla, who was the protocol expert on the OCA's Coordination Committee for the 18th Asian Games in Jakarta and Palembang.

"I have cited examples of actual experiences from high-profile sport events and also incorporated samples from various guidelines with references and tips on how to manage the Protocol Division effectively."

The chapters include:

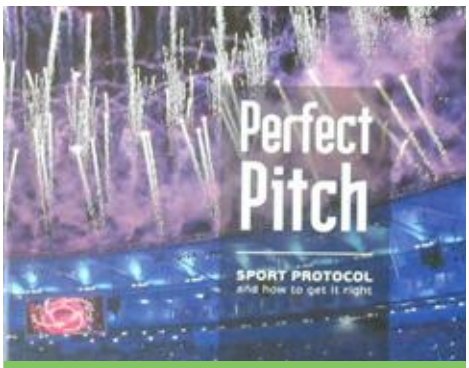
- Why do we need protocol?
- Who are protocol assistants?
- Tips to motivate and retain your volunteers
- Opening and Closing Ceremony protocol
- Medal ceremonies

Abdulla says the book could not have happened without the patronage and support of HH The Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani; HH The Father Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, and HE Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al-Thani, President of the Qatar Olympic Committee.

"They provided the guidance to enrich the lives of the families and children of the Qatari community. Their encouragement showed the importance of the sports community in the growth of this nation," he says.



Abdulla presents a copy of his protocol book to the OCA President, Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, in Jakarta.



The front cover of "Perfect Pitch".



An extract on Victory Ceremonies.



The Chairman of the OCA Media Committee, Mr Charles Lo, gave a welcome speech at the official opening of the Main Media Centre for broadcasters and press at the 18th Asian Games on August 16. He was accompanied by the OCA Hon. Life Vice President, Mr Wei Jizhong, in the ceremonial cutting of the ribbon – on this occasion a garland of flowers.

SPORTS WORLD SHOCKED BY DEATH OF DENIS TEN

Asian sport, and the figure skating world, lost one of its most popular athletes when Denis Ten of Kazakhstan was killed in a tragic incident in his hometown of Almaty. He was 25.



Denis, the Asian Winter Games champion in Astana-Almaty in 2011, made history at the Winter Olympics in Sochi in 2014 when he became the first Kazakh figure skater to win a medal – a bronze. But his life was cut cruelly short on the afternoon of July 19 when he apprehended two thieves trying to steal the wing mirrors off his car parked at the Bayseitova-Kurmangazy crossroads in downtown Almaty. In the ensuing scuffle, Denis received a fatal knife wound in the thigh.

He was taken to the Central City Clinical Hospital by ambulance but, after two hours, at 17:30, he died due to a chronic loss of blood.

The OCA President, HE Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, said Asia had lost one of its most popular and successful athletes who had excelled at the Asian Games and Olympic Games.

"It is truly shocking to receive this tragic news," he said. "We have no words to express our grief at the loss of such a talented and popular young man at such a young age.

"We express our deepest sympathies and condolences to the family and friends of Denis Ten and to the people of Kazakhstan. We have lost a great champion and a great human being."

Hundreds of people visited the Baluan Sholak Sports Palace in Almaty to pay their last respects to Denis. They were carrying flowers and portraits and many of them were in tears. A similar, government-led ceremony took place at Astana's ice palace Barys Arena, with the Japanese and Korean ambassadors to Kazakhstan among the mourners.



Fans were unable to hold back their tears at the funeral of Denis Ten. (Photo: KAZINFORM)

NAT INDRAPANA – IOC MEMBER AND THAI SPORTS OFFICIAL



The OCA President, Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, paid tribute to Dr Nat Indrapana, the Thai sports official who passed away on Monday, August 6. He was 80.

"As a member of the IOC representing Thailand, Dr Nat served the sports movement with great devotion and energy over many years and at many levels," said Sheikh Ahmad.

"He was very active in South East Asia and throughout the continent and was a valuable member of the Olympic Council of Asia's Advisory Committee.

"His knowledge, experience in several sports and his advice all contributed to the work of the Advisory Committee, providing a link between the IOC, OCA and our National Olympic Committees."

Dr Indrapana, who was born on March 6, 1938, joined the IOC in 1990. As well as his work with sports such as taekwondo, muaythai, bowling and trap and skeet, he was also involved in the organisation of SEA Games, Asian Games and Olympic Games.

PHILIPPINES' RIO OLYMPIAN 'YANYAN' PASSES AWAY, AGED 23



Ian "Yanyan" Lariba, a Filipino athlete who represented the country at the 2016 Olympics in Rio, passed away on Sunday, September 2 after a lengthy battle with leukemia. She was 23.

Born in Cagayan De Oro on October 13, 1994, Yanyan played table tennis at a young age before joining the varsity team at De La Salle University. She won three titles during her time with DLSU, was named MVP on three occasions and was crowned UAAP Athlete of the Year in Season 77 and 78.

Her career continued to flourish and she represented the Philippines in the 2013 and 2015 Southeast Asian Games.

The pinnacle of her career came in 2016 when she became the first Filipino to qualify for the Olympic Games table tennis competition. Because of her accomplishments, she was asked to be the flag bearer in the opening ceremony.

Yanyan was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) in May 2017. Several fundraisers were created to help support her treatment. In late August 2018 she had a relapse and was admitted to the hospital.

Her mother Imelda said Yanyan spent the final few months of her life encouraging children with cancer not to give up and to keep fighting.

2018

Buenos Aires, Argentina: October 3 – 4
IOC Executive Board meeting

Buenos Aires, Argentina: October 5 – 6
IOC Olympism in Action Forum

Buenos Aires, Argentina: October 6 – 18
IOC 3rd Summer Youth Olympic Games

Buenos Aires, Argentina: October 8 – 9
133rd IOC Session

Doha, Qatar: October 25 – November 3
FIG 48th Artistic Gymnastics World Championships

New Delhi, India: November 15 – 24
AIBA Women's World Boxing Championships

Tokyo, Japan: November 24 – 25
OCA Athletes' Forum

Bhubaneswar, India: Nov. 26 – Dec. 16
FIH Men's Hockey World Cup

Tokyo, Japan: November 26 – 27
Meetings of ANOC Commissions and Working Groups

Tokyo, Japan: November 27
ANOC Executive Council

Tokyo, Japan: November 27
Olympic Solidarity Commission meeting

Tokyo, Japan: November 28 – 29
XXIII ANOC General Assembly

Tokyo, Japan: November 28
ANOC Awards 2018

Tokyo, Japan: November 30
Tokyo 2020 Venue Tour

Tokyo, Japan: November 30 – December 1
IOC Executive Board meeting

Hangzhou, China: December 11 – 16
FINA World Short Course (25m) Swimming Championships

2019

UAE: January 5 – February 1
AFC Asian Cup

Sakhalin, Russia: February 8 – 17
1st Children of Asia Winter International Sports Games

Bangkok, Thailand: March 3
38th OCA General Assembly

Kathmandu, Nepal: March 9 – 18
13th South Asian Games

San Diego, USA: October 10 – 15
1st ANOC World Beach Games

Clark New City, Philippines: Nov. 30 – Dec.10
30th Southeast Asian (SEA) Games

2020

Tokyo, Japan: July 24 – August 9
Olympic Games

Tokyo, Japan: August 25 – September 6
Paralympic Games

Sanya, Hainan Island, China: Nov. 28 – Dec. 5
6th OCA Asian Beach Games

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