Dear Members of the CISM Family,
Dear readers,

You are holding the New CISM Magazine!
From now on, athletes, commission presidents, the Presidents of the international federations governing the different sports practiced within CISM and (previously unpublished) memories – as well as a continental section, starting in 2010 – will feature in the official publication of the International Military Sports Council (CISM). Circulation will also be broadened to include the general public and political, diplomatic and economic circles as well as international sports federations.
Thank you for giving it a warm welcome!

Bienvenue

Estimados miembros de la familia del CISM,
Estimadas lectores, estimados lectores,

¡Tiene entre las manos la Nueva Revista del CISM! A partir de ahora, el atleta, el presidente de comisión, el presidente de la federaciones internacionales de las distintas disciplinas deportivas practicadas en el CISM y el recuento del pasado (inédito) figuran en la publicación oficial del Comité Internacional de Deportes Militares (CISM) así como una parte dedicada a los asuntos continentales a partir de 2010. A partir de ahora, se ampliará su difusión al gran público, al mundo político, diplomático y económico así como a las federaciones deportivas internacionales.
¡Gracias por darle una acogida positiva!

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Preparing our future!

The Military Sport Movement is looking at the next years with justified optimism!

The strong success of Rio de Janeiro as host city of the Olympic Games 2016 can be read in several different ways. One of them concerns CISM and the far-sighted vision we had, years ago, to trust on South America and to do our best to exploit its potentialities.

Indeed, it will be the first time that the same city which organizes the Olympics has been entrusted to host, a few years before, the CISM Military World Games. The International Press as well as numerous international sports experts unanimously considered that the organization of the CISM Military World Games in Rio in 2011 was among the different factors having positively influenced the choice of IOC in favor of Rio.

The celebrations, last years, of the CISM 60th anniversary did teach us an important lesson indeed: to face properly its new future challenges, CISM can not forget the meaning of its "legacy" of the past. We need to clearly indicate our future challenges and we need to be proactive in finding the appropriate ways to meet the requirements of a constantly evolving sports world. And we are ready!

In the next few months, inspiring on modern concepts of international sports management, CISM will setup a plan to prepare its structures and activities to face its new challenges. We need a CISM stronger, more visible and acknowledged in its right position in the world. In order to strengthen our organization, CISM shall undergo a series of significant modifications, starting with the review of some rules and procedures, working on the definition of the strategic plan till 2018, among others.

For the first issue, the new rules, a special working group, composed by eminent members of our world and chaired by the Senior Vice President, Col. Kalkaba, has prepared an important basic document, with ambitious objectives, which can be considered a fundamental platform for exchange opinions and taking decisions.

After the first edition of the CISM strategic plan prepared in 2002 in Rio, now we are ready to organize a new strategic forum in 2010 and to use the experience of these eight years for the next long-term strategic main goals: to avoid big mistakes but, above all, to convince all of you, dear members of our family that CISM can get its strategic goals only if all the members of our movement, and not only the leaders, feel to be involved and are ready to assure the full support, in all the continents, in all the countries.

All together!

Military athletes, Sport and Peace through CISM!

Sport, this beneficial practice that unites thousands of athletes, coaches, administrators, technicians and volunteers around the world every day is also a language and a powerful and readily available economic tool to build development and peace.

Since its inception, the International Military Sports Council (CISM) has always provided favourable conditions for sport to become the link that maintains peace among the Armed Forces.

The Armed Forces play a pivotal role in promoting the practice of sport as a basic requirement for human equilibrium. Regrettably, physical exertion is less fashionable among our youth these days. Their health is in danger, as according to the most recent statistics, more than 70% of them fail to do the bare minimum amount of sport needed to stay healthy.

Military athletes are – and must continue to be – examples. Combining military training and physical performance is a daily challenge, which today more than ever it is as the core of our concerns; and CISM exists through and for this challenge. Thus, CISM, the world of military athletes, unites with the sports community to fight all threats to continued peace in the world.

From now on, military athletes are acknowledged stakeholders of the peace process and taking part in international military sport event is delivering a message of peace!

There is just one step needed from Olympic Games to "Games for Peace", i.e. the leap of peace!
Eckernförde enjoys a remarkable maritime competition

During the first week of August, over 70 top athletes from 12 countries and three continents came to the German Naval Base of Eckernförde for the 46th World Naval Pentathlon Championship 2009.

Germany is celebrating this year its 57th anniversary in CISM, what is, of course, an excellent opportunity to highlight this event. The venue at Eckernförde is also the place where the Bundeswehr sports promotion group of Naval Pentathlon is stationed.

The German Chief of Mission would refer to the guests from Poland, Brazil and Scandinavia as the favorites and, being a polite host, refrain from mentioning his team who was the reigning world title holders. However, it was one of his protégés who drew attention to himself right from the first competition. The reigning World Champion in the individual competition, Petty Officer Matthias Wiesemann started the tournament with a bang: he improved the unofficial world record in the special obstacle race of the Naval Pentathlon by almost a second to 1:45.7 minutes.

Watched by a highly interested and knowledgeable crowd of enthusiastic spectators, Naval Pentathlon proved to be as attractive as any other top sport. Since the performance gap is not particularly wide in this sport, the final standings were not decided at all after the life-saving swimming, utility swimming and seamanship competitions. We had to bite our nails and wait until the very last competition to know the overall winners.
Wesemann started the last day of the competition leading his rivals Poland’s Karol Mork and Sweden’s Marcus Danielsson by a mere 35 and 44 points respectively. The challenge ahead of them was the amphibious cross-country race - a mixture of running, shooting, paddling and hand grenade throwing. Though unable to clinch victory in this last competition, which was won by Norway’s Reidar Ammarkrud, Matthias Wesemann managed to defend his lead over his rivals despite finishing only third.

In the men’s individual competition the old and new World Champion is Matthias Wesemann. In the team competition, too, he and his team mates managed to take the title home to Eckernförde again. Concerning his rivals, coach Theis’ expectations turned out to be right as Poland, Sweden, Brazil and Norway came second, third, fourth and fifth respectively.

The ladies competition saw a very close duel between Terhi PYYHTIA-SASSI from Finland and Torunn HAMMERSLAND from Norway. Eventually, but only after a heroic battle, the Finnish athlete took the lead. The Norwegian girls took the teams title.

The Naval Pentathlon competitions do not have the sporting contest as their only objective. Any visitor who came to the Eckernförde Naval Base soon discovered that everybody at the venue was on „sporting” or even friendly terms with each other. Relatives and fans who had come with the athletes and even the athletes themselves did not only cheer on their own team mates but also competitors from other countries that temporarily had to do without vocal support from their own camp. A kind of support, as World Champion Wesemann points out, that certainly spurs on the athlete. „You do hear it and it is a great feeling”, he enthuses.

Everybody knows that Germany is a remarkable organiser and our German hosts surely did not disappoint us this time. Excellent venues, good accommodations and outstanding food were offered throughout the whole event. Col Kruger Chief of the German Delegation to CISM and all those who contributed to the organisation of this event deserve our gratitude for this outstanding performance and for the superb hospitality.

In Eckernförde the competitions and hence this year’s World Championship ended in this spirit of sportsmanship and with the official closing ceremony. This ceremony was held in the center of the beautiful city Eckernförde. A lot of tourists were attracted by this event and enjoyed it together with us. Prior to departing, the “Naval Pentathlon family” had one more day left to enjoy their get-together in Germany.

Col Walter Van Velthoven (BEL)
It has been fifty years since Germany joined the International Military Sports Council (CISM). Following the setting up the Bundeswehr back in 1955, initial contacts were made through Commodore Beng Lind af Hageby of Sweden (member of the CISM Committee for International Relations). It was Major Raoul Mollet, CISM Secretary General at the time, who then contacted the German Ministry of Defence in 1957 to initiate the procedure that would lead to Germany joining CISM. Next, the Bundeswehr was invited to take part in several CISM Championships in 1958. And it was at the 12th CISM General Assembly meeting in Lahore, Pakistan, that Germany officially became the 23rd member nation of CISM in 1959.

The first German figurehead within CISM was Otto L.G. Hans Müller, the first Chief of the German Delegation, who later also held a seat in the CISM Executive Committee. Since then, many German officers and NCOS of the Armed Forces of several Asian and African countries have been taking part in a variety of training projects at the Bundeswehr Sports School.

In recognition of its role in organizing logistical support for the delivery of sports equipment as part of several CISM solidarity projects, Germany was awarded the CISM Solidarity Trophy in 1996. Shortly after the 2007 General Assembly meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, the German Delegation handled delivery of sports and other equipment including beds and mattresses to the Boarding football school for street children set up there upon the initiative of the German Ambassador.

The German national military football team also provided a wonderful example of solidarity at the 4th Military World Games 2007 in Hyderabad, India. Following its early elimination from the tournament, it improvised a friendly match with the national military team of Afghanistan. At the end of which the Germans offered their opponents jerseys as souvenirs of the event.

Fifty years of active involvement is something to celebrate. Thus, the Chief of the German Delegation, Colonel Krüger, took the opportunity of its jubilee year to send invitations to several of its events. Starting in February with the 1st CISM Cross-Country Challenge-Cup in Neunskirchen, which some 400 participants including 50 service men and women from seven countries (Serbia, Macedonia, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden, Hungary and Germany) entered within the framework of an international civilian cross-country event. This race was also organized as part of the CISM Day Run. Then, members of the German RFOR and ISAF units were invited to take part in a training run to show their solidarity with the CISM ideals and motto “Friendship through Sport”. So, Austrian, Swiss and German servicemen and women defied the cold of winter in Pinzenn barracks and boldly ran together around the parade ground under the CISM banner.

Also, on 13 February 2009 – the anniversary of the foundation of CISM – 300 soldiers and officers as well as pupils for the local schools took part in a cross run hosted by the Bundeswehr’s Sports School in Warendorf.

As has become tradition, regional CISM tournaments were organized this year in Germany in shooting, beach volley and triathlon. Once again, these events were quite popular among foreign participants.

Another sign of visible commitment was the participation of the German Delegation to CISM in the Open Day organised by the German Federal Government. It was represented by an information and presentation stand that attracted some 4,400 visitors. But the main milestones of this jubilee year were undoubtedly the World Military and Naval Pentathlon Championships held respectively in Eckernförde and Munich military bases. In all, more than 400 athletes from 31 nations gathered for these major events, in which they competed in a great spirit of friendship and fair-play.

Sports Jubilee

Over the past half-century, the Bundeswehr has emerged as a reliable organizer of Military World Championships. For instance, it has hosted 40 Military World Championships in 17 different sports as well as countless and regular regional competitions and clinics. Through the diversity and range of sport events it holds, the Bundeswehr perpetuates its dedication to “Sport for All” while focusing in particular on specifically military sports including notably parachuting, orienteering, cross country and the military and naval pentathlons.

By sending representatives of its Armed Forces to the different international military sport events on offer, the Bundeswehr also fulfills its role as a driver of CISM activities. Every year, it selects some 400 athletes for participation in over ten Military World Championship and as many regional tournaments. In this area, the focus is not only on active participation in and organisation of championships but also - if not more - on promoting women’s participation and specifically military disciplines.

Worth mentioning by way of example in this context is the large contingent sent by the Bundeswehr to the 4th Military World Games 2007 in India. Its delegation was one of the largest with over two hundred participants.

In addition to sport events, the Bundeswehr also initiated many practical CISM activities including for instance the creation in Feldafing at the 1972 Olympics in Munich, of a “CISM Village” which attracted 700 soldiers and officers from 29 countries in the wonderful setting of Starnberg lake affording an unrestricted view of the Alps. Germany also hosted several CISM Symposia. In 1996 for instance, it was held in Warendorf on the theme “Sport for All”. At this event, participants from 34 Nations signed the Warendorf Declaration on which they undertook to promote a pedagogical approach to sports training within the Armed Forces.

Conscious of the strategic objective of CISM in the field of “Sport and Solidarity”, Germany has been quite active in this area too. For instance, officers and NCOS

16 December 2009

La première figure de proue allemande du CISM fut le OTL J.G. Hans Möller, premier Chef de la Délégation allemande qui exerça aussi ultérieurement des fonctions au sein du Comité exécutif du CISM. Depuis, de nombreux officiers allemands ont apporté leur pierre à l’édifice du CISM.

Aspirant pour l’Allemagne à l’époque, le major Raoul Mollet, Secrétaire général du CISM à l’époque, prit contact avec le Ministère allemand de la Défense, lancant ainsi la procédure d’adhésion de l’Allemagne au CISM. C’est ainsi que la Bundeswehr fut invitée en 1958 à participer à plusieurs Championnats du CISM. Et c’est finalement lors de la 12e Assemblée générale du CISM à Lahore (Pakistan), en 1999, que l’Allemagne a accédé au statut de 23e Nation membre du CISM.

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Au fil du demi-siècle écoulé, la Bundeswehr s’est imposée comme un organisateur fiable de Championnats du monde militaires. Elle a par exemple accueilli 41 Championnats du monde militaires dans 17 disciplines différentes et d’incroyables compétitions et stages réguliers. Grâce à la diversité et à l’excellence des manifestations sportives qu’elle propose, la Bundeswehr pérennise son dévouement au sport pour tous tout en mettant l’accent sur les disciplines spécifiquement militaires telles que le parachutisme, l’orientation, le cross country et les pentathlon militaire et naval.

A travers la délégation de représentants de ses Forces armées à diverses manifestations sportives militaires internationales, la Bundeswehr assume également son rôle de moteur des activités du CISM. Chaque année, ceci témoigne que l’Allemagne a continué de participer à plus d’une dizaine de Championnats du monde militaires et à autant de tournois régionaux.

Dans ce contexte, l’accent pèse non seulement sur une participation active et sur l’organisation de championnats mais aussi sur la promotion de la participation féminine et des disciplines spécifiquement militaires.

On citera par exemple, à cet égard, la forte représentation de la Bundeswehr aux 4e Jeux mondiaux militaires de 2007 en Inde puisqu’elle y envoyait l’une des délégations les plus fortes avec plus de 200 participants.

Outre les compétitions sportives, la Bundeswehr a été à l’origine de nombreuses initiatives pratiques du CISM. A titre d’exemple, on citera la réalisation, à Feldhorst, lors des Jeux olympiques de Munich en 1972, d’un « Village CISM » qui accueillit 700 militaires de 29 pays dans le cadre splendide du lac de Sarnberg, offrant une vue imprenable sur les Alpes. L’Allemagne a également accueilli plusieurs Symposia du CISM. Ce fut par exemple le cas du Symposium de 1996,
In Rome the celebration of the 60th anniversary of Italy's membership to CISM

A very successful celebration, honouring the 60th anniversary of Italy's membership to the International Military Sports Council (CISM), was held in Rome on 29 September. 60 years characterized by the constant efforts of the Italian Armed Forces in support of all CISM activities such as the launch of the historic first edition of Military World Games which were held in Rome in 1995.

The celebration, organized by the Italian Delegation, actively involved the highest political and military authorities of the country who showed great interest, during the ceremony, in the speech of CISM President, Gen. Gianni Gola, concerning CISM’s main historical achievements and its major future projects.

Among the forthcoming CISM events, great relevance was given to the upcoming Winter Military World Games to be held in Aosta Valley, from 20 to 25 March 2010, another historical sport initiative launched by Italy. This event represents the success of CISM ambitious goal to organize both summer and winter Military World Games.

La célébration du 60e anniversaire de l'adhésion de l'Italie au CISM s'est déroulée à Rome

Une cérémonie très réussie de commémoration du 60e anniversaire de l'adhésion de l'Italie au Conseil international du sport militaire (CISM) s'est tenue le 29 septembre à Rome. Soixante années d'efforts ininterrompus de la part des Forces armées italiennes en soutien de toutes les activités du CISM, à l'instar du lancement, historique, de la toute première édition des Jeux mondiaux militaires, en 1995 à Rome.

Cette célébration, organisée par la Délégation italienne, associa activement les plus hauts autorités politiques et militaires du pays qui, durant la cérémonie, ont suivi attentivement le discours du Général Gianni Gola, Président du CISM, retracant les principales réalisations historiques du CISM et ses grands projets à venir.

Montréal, Québec. The 43rd annual CISM World Swimming and Lifesaving Championships was officially opened in a ceremony held at the McGill University athletic complex today. The opening ceremony was short, but well orchestrated, with music being performed by Montréal’s 34 Canadian Brigade Group band. It began with a parade featuring all 159 athletes from 17 different countries and emphasized the importance of athletic competition as a way to help overcome borders between countries in the global community.

Photos and article by Cpl Jasper Schwartz

An Action Packed First Day in the Pool

The first day of the swimming and pool lifesaving events portion of the 43rd CISM Swimming and Lifesaving World Championships was one of intense action and heated competition.

Many athletes participating in both the pool lifesaving and the swimming events were able to achieve new personal bests, and several CISM World Records came under fire as the day progressed.

Stand-out performances came from both the Italian and the German teams, both achieving a slew of podium appearances. Italy managed victory in the Women’s 4x100m Medley and a 1-2 finish in the Women’s 50m Freestyle, a 1-2 finish in the Men’s 200m obstacle, as well as a record-breaking performance by Marcella Prandi in the Women’s 200m obstacles with a time of 2:17.12. Other Italian gold medals were won by Francesca Segati in the Women’s 200m Back and Laura Letrari in the Women’s 100m backstroke. The German Women’s team managed a Gold in the Women’s 4x50 Obstacles and a 1-2 in the Women’s 100m Maksina tow, with Aline Hurd taking the gold and Katrin Altmann the silver.

Other noteworthy performances included a Gold for Aristidis Grigorakis in the Men’s 100m backstroke with a time of 54.63 and Irmelj Coder’s victory in the Men’s 50m freestyle with a time of 23.15.

The action is expected to continue 11 August with the continuation of both the swimming and the pool lifesaving portions of the competition.
More CISIM Records Fall on Second Day of Competition

The second day of swimming action in Montreal's Parc Jean-Drapeau pool saw a glut of CISIM world records for swimming and lifesaving broken by a group of athletes pushing themselves hard all the way through the competition.

17 CISIM Swimming records have been broken thus far during the tournament, and 15 CISIM Lifesaving Records were set. Some strong performances included Christian Galardo of Italy setting the new CISIM World record for the 100m Freestyle at 49.06, and France's Hugues Dubois setting records in both the 100m and 200m Breaststroke. Greek swimmers also managed CISIM records in both the 1500m Freestyle raced by Spyridon Gianniotis with a time of 15:14.14 and in the 50m and the 100m backstroke, both events won by Aristidis Grigorisidis with times of 25.29 and 54.36 respectively.

Following 22 of 35 Swimming events Italy leads the medal count with 12 gold, 5 silver and 4 bronze. Greece has 3 gold, 2 silver and a bronze, and Slovenia has managed 2 gold, 2 silver, and 2 bronze, despite having one of the smaller teams in the competition. Brazil and Germany are both winning lots of medals (with 12 and 16 medals respectively) but are still searching to win more of the elusive gold.

On the lifesaving side of the competition Italy and Germany were again dominant. In Lifesaving events Italy has managed 12 medals, 5 of which are gold, and Germany has 14 medals, although they have only been able to visit the top of the podium once in the individual events with a gold for Aline Hundt in the Women's 100m Manikin Tow with fins.

However Germany also managed a strong showing in the Women's team events, with victories in the 4x25m Manikin Relay and the 4x50m Obstacles.

Italian athlete Marcella Prandi continues to dominate the women's side of the Lifesaving competitions. Prandi has man-
aged to win 4 medals, three of them gold, even while her teammate Laura Letrari has pulled off 3 Gold in the swimming events.

### Competition ends with a day intensity

The final day of the 43® CISM Swimming and Lifesaving World Championships ended with several intense battles and strong rivalries taking place in the pool.

From day one of the competition Italy was dominant on the medal podium in pool events, with powerhouse female swimmers Laura Letrari and Francesca Segat dominating the medal podium for the women’s swimming events with eight medals between them (four gold for Letrari and three gold one silver for Segat) and Marcella Pratelli having a strong showing in the lifesaving events with five gold and one bronze. At the end of three days of competition the Italian visited the podium 31 times, with 17 of those visits being to pick up a gold medal, 12 of those golds belonging to these three women.

However, the Germans and the Brazilian continued to battle fiercely even during the final day of the event. Jan-Philipp Glania took the 200m backstroke for the German Mens team with a time of 1:58.95. Battling right to the end Jaana Ehkneke won the Women’s 200m freestyle, finishing with a time of 2:01.17, ahead of Slovenia’s Anna Klinar with a 2:01.64, as well as the Women’s 400m freestyle with a time of 4:12.64, again besting Klinar, this time by .10 of a second in a fierce battle to the finish.

On the Brazilian front, Fernanda Alvarenga and Lorena Rezende finished 1-2 in the Women’s 200m backstroke and Tales Corda took the Men’s 200m medley to bring the team’s medal tally to 25 medals, although the golds of Alvarenga and Corda were the country’s only two of the tournament.

Slovenia managed another impressive showing. Bolstered by strong performances by Anja Klinar accounting for six medals, four of which were silver, Slovenia finished the tournament third in the medal count with 10 medals, three of them gold. Jernej Golec and Luka Turk also brought in medals for the Slovenian team, both managing two medals and a gold spade.

Host country Canada performed well in the lifesaving events with a Gold in the Women’s relay race and a gold for Catherine Farish in the Beach sprint, as well as 3 bronze medals going to their women’s relay teams, and two going to Serena Palmer in the 50m and the 100m backstroke.

The meet was extremely fast this year, with 15 CISM World Record being broken over the three days on the swimming side alone. In lifesaving 15 CISM Lifesaving World Records were set, and the times were all extremely competitive.

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**Focus on lifesaving**

I was first exposed to the sport of Lifesaving while attending the 38th CISM Swimming World Championships in Rome, Italy as the Manager of the Canadian Swim Team. I had to borrow fins in order for Canadian Swimmers to compete in a lifesaving event. A little over ten years later, I watched with great pride and pleasure as Montreal hosted the 43rd World Military Swimming and Lifesaving Championship. As the PCSC Swimming/Lifesaving/Hosting a CISM Swimming World Championship on Canadian soil had been a personal goal of mine for a long time. Knowing the popularity of lifesaving, both Lifesaving Beach and events, there were, and were, part of the Program.

Not only is lifesaving very exciting for spectators, it is also a very technical and challenging sport for the athletes. The International Lifesaving Society (ILS) governs Lifesaving championships. In the attempt to mirror the ILS program, the CISM Championship in Montreal included many new events, especially during the women’s program. Beach events are quite unique and very different from those held in the pool. They include beach sprints, relays, run-swim-run races to name only few and the exciting beach flags competition, which works on a premise similar to that of musical chairs.

In many cases, Lifesavers were and are competitive swimmers. After swimming for years, athletes when first introduced to lifesaving are faced with combining their speed with new technical skills. From swimming under gates to clipping legless and armless mannequins, lifesaving competitors have to quickly learn to manage stress while manipulating the very unique equipment required for the event. This sport is so technical that DJ’s are a frequent occurrence in Lifesaving, the ability to stay calm, composed while maintaining speed and accuracy is a must and exciting challenge faced by the athletes.

I strongly believe in a very promising future for lifesaving in CISM because this skillful discipline really matches the requirements of military personnel serving in the Armies all over the world.

By Lt-Col Elizabeth Wein, President of the CISM Swimming Committee, General Presidium of PCSC

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Montreal, Québec – Le 43® Championnat du monde militaire annuel de natation et de sauvetage s’est ouvert officiellement aujourd’hui lors d’une cérémonie organisée au complexe d’athlétisme de l’université McGill. La Cérémonie d’ouverture a été brève mais bien orchestrée au son de la musique du 34® Groupe-Brigade du Canada de Montréal. Elle a commencé par le défilé des 139 athlètes des 17 pays participants et a mis en exergue l’importance des compétitions sportives pour aider à surmonter les obstacles entre pays dans une communauté mondialisée.

*Photos et article par le Cpl Jasper Schwartz*
Swimming

Men

100m Butterfly
1. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 53.62
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 55.09
3. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 55.40

200m Butterfly
1. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 2:14.46
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 2:15.69
3. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 2:16.15

50m Back
1. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 25.53
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 25.75
3. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 25.84

100m Back
1. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 56.27
2. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 57.31
3. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 58.34

200m Back
1. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 2:06.42
2. JONES, Lewis USA 2:07.06
3. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 2:07.61

100m Breast
1. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 1:05.20
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 1:05.94
3. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 1:06.08

200m Breast
1. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 2:17.55
2. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 2:18.27
3. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 2:20.88

100m Freestyle
1. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 53.62
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 55.09
3. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 55.40

200m Freestyle
1. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 2:04.68
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 2:06.33
3. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 2:06.54

1500m Freestyle
1. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 16:14.12
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 16:14.14
3. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 16:14.17

Lifesaving

Men

100m manikin carry
1. HOWARD, Cameron CANADA 33.35
2. CROOKS, Craig CANADA 34.78
3. ROMAN, Lukasz SWEDEN 41.99

100m manikin carry with fins
1. GUEDEV, Djivo BULGARIA 1:43.59
2. CROOKS, Craig CANADA 1:48.79
3. ROMAN, Lukasz SWEDEN 1:53.92

100m manikin tow with fins
1. GUEDEV, Djivo BULGARIA 1:50.28
2. CROOKS, Craig CANADA 1:52.96
3. ROMAN, Lukasz SWEDEN 1:53.92

100m rescue medley
1. NGOC, Tien MINH VU 1:04.55
2. CROOKS, Craig CANADA 1:07.94
3. GUEDEV, Djivo BULGARIA 1:10.05

200m obstacles
1. NGOC, Tien MINH VU 2:01.56
2. ROLL, Lewis CANADA 2:05.89
3. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 2:06.68

200m super lifesaver
1. NGOC, Tien MINH VU 2:23.37
2. ROLL, Lewis CANADA 2:26.00
3. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 2:26.68

4x200m manikin carry
1. CROOKS, Craig CANADA 3:15.05
2. ROY, Martin CANADA 3:15.89
3. ROMAN, Lukasz SWEDEN 3:20.79

4x200m obstacle
1. NGOC, Tien MINH VU 4:30.71
2. ROLL, Lewis CANADA 4:31.91
3. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 4:31.91

100m Breast
1. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 1:05.77
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 1:06.08
3. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 1:06.68

200m Breast
1. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 2:16.05
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 2:17.76
3. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 2:18.27

100m Back
1. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 55.75
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 57.31
3. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 58.57

200m Back
1. BECHER, Andreas GERMANY 2:05.69
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 2:07.06
3. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 2:08.27

100m Freestyle
1. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 53.19
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 54.37
3. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 54.38

200m Freestyle
1. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 1:57.59
2. MELIA, Jan FRANCE 1:58.08
3. SCHURGER, Arndt GERMANY 1:58.08

20km swim
1. DE GRAAF, Joop NETHERLANDS 2:37.48
2. STAMM, Tobias GERMANY 2:37.86
3. RENAUDET, Jean-Luc FRANCE 2:38.44
Swimming

Women

50m Butterfly
1. LETOIZ, Laura ITA 26.58
2. ZEAM, Yanina ITA 26.63
3. REAIZ, Cintia BRAZIL 27.03
4. BIBBI, Amanda BRAZIL 27.04

100m Butterfly
1. SEGEL, Francesca ITA 59.17
2. NAGY, Dorina ROU 1:00.07
3. ALUÉ, Aiba SLOVENIA 1:00.27

200m Butterfly
1. NGIO, Francesca ITY 2:09.04
New CRM Record
2. KUNAR, Anita SLOVENIA 2:13.96
3. BRUŽE, Jana GERMANY 2:14.32

50 Back
1. LETOIZ, Laura ITA 28.81
2. BIBBI, Cintia BRAZIL 29.27
5. ALUÉ, Aiba SLOVENIA 29.72

100m Back
1. LETOIZ, Laura ITA 1:02.20
2. ARUÍGENDO, Fernanda BRAZIL 1:02.67
3. ELEZER, Lorena BRAZIL 1:03.60

200m Back
1. ARUÍGENDO, Fernanda BRAZIL 2:16.07
2. REAIZ, Cintia BRAZIL 2:19.22
5. ALUÉ, Anita SLOVENIA 2:21.85

50 Breast
1. DÖMÖCZI, Veronika HUN 32.36
3. MÁRTO, Júlia BRAZIL 32.56
PÁLMER, Serena CANADA 42.48

100 Breast
1. DÖMÖCZI, Veronika HUN 1:01.33
3. MÁRTO, Júlia BRAZIL 1:01.54
4. PÁLMER, Serena CANADA 1:02.73

200m Breast
1. KUNAR, Anita SLOVENIA 2:25.58
2. DÖMÖCZI, Veronika HUN 2:25.57
5. MÁRTO, Júlia BRAZIL 2.37.58

50 Freestyle
1. LETOIZ, Laura ITA 25.80
2. FERRAOI, Erika ITA 26.25
2. ÁRTOLI, Cintia BRAZIL 27.19

100 Freestyle
1. PERKÓ, Lóránt HUN 56.51
2. FERRAOI, Erika ITA 56.76
2. ÁRTOLI, Cintia BRAZIL 56.77

200m Freestyle
1. ERNENZO, Jana GERMANY 2:03.17
2. KUNAR, Anita SLOVENIA 2:03.18
3. FLORIO, Simona ITA 2:03.93

200m Breast
1. BIBBI, Cintia BRAZIL 2:13.84
2. KUNAR, Anita SLOVENIA 2:13.79
3. CEDÁK, Jana SLOVENIA 2:13.94

4x100m Freestyle
1. ITA 4:01.01
New CRM Record
2. BRAZIL 3:59.36
3. GERMANY 4:03.15

Life-saving Women

50m manikin carry
1. PINA, Marina ITY 2:25.19
2. CARMAN, Kartia NETHERLANDS 3:02.10
3. FERNANDO, Clara BRAZIL 3:05.95

100m manikin carry with fine
1. PINA, Marina ITY 5:55.58
New CRM Record
2. CARMAN, Kartia NETHERLANDS 6:04.84
3. FERNANDO, Clara BRAZIL 6:06.24

100m manikin tow with ball
1. PINA, Marina ITY 1:35.43
2. ALUÉ, Aiba SLOVENIA 1:35.79
3. PINA, Marina ITY 1:45.54

100m rescue medley
1. PINA, Marina ITY 1:59.02
New CRM Record
2. SCHRODER, Edna SWEDEN 1:59.06
3. FERNANDO, Clara BRAZIL 2:01.55

200m obstacles
1. PINA, Marina ITY 2:37.62
New CRM Record
2. ALUÉ, Aiba SLOVENIA 2:37.62
3. FERNANDO, Clara BRAZIL 2:38.37

200m super wenman
1. PINA, Marina ITY 3:15.82
New CRM Record
2. ALUÉ, Aiba SLOVENIA 3:16.07
3. PINA, Marina ITY 3:18.68

200m manikin relay
1. GERMANY 4:42.88
New CRM Record
2. BRAZIL 4:53.82
3. CANADA 5:16.61

4x100m medley
1. GERMANY 4:44.44
New CRM Record
2. CANADA 4:59.95
3. BRAZIL 5:00.01

4x100m obstacle
1. GERMANY 4:49.40
New CRM Record
2. CANADA 4:55.00
3. BRAZIL 4:55.06
34th World Military Parachuting Championship

31 nations got together for the 34th World Military Parachuting Championship (WMPC) hosted by the Slovak Armed Forces in Lucenec between 14 & 23 August 2009. It was the second time that DUKLA military club held this event in the same venue – following its successful organisation of the 28th WMPC in 2000. And as for championship manager Major Marian Sluk, it was his sixth experience masterminding a civilian or military world championship, so the more than 200 participating athletes, men and women, were confident as they gathered for what was to be a feast of military sport parachuting.

Article by Col Jean Dermine
Opening Ceremony

Held on Lučenec town square, it was enhanced by the presence of Slovak Defence Minister Jaroslav Baska himself, to whom the Official CISM Representative presented the CISM Medal of Honour before officially declaring the Championship open. The Ceremony ended with the traditional Jump of Nations, each parachutist carrying the national standard.

Competition Venue

A first rate reception awaited at the small airport adjoining the town, including a CISM club, restaurant, cybercafé and even a swimming pool to cool down between jumps. Every team had its own separate tent. The air fleet too, was impressive with as few as six aircraft – which made it possible to complete all events a day ahead of schedule. Thanks to fine weather, the pace of the timetable and activities made for competitions that were dynamic yet quite challenging for participants and organisers alike due to the prevailing heat.

Competitions

Coming to sport itself, the events were very interesting for contenders and spectators alike, with world-class performances and fierce battles between individual and team finalists: three new CISM records were set.

Men’s competition:
In Accuracy Landing (AL), after the eight standard individual rounds, Russia’s D. Maximov and France’s R. Henaff were both in the lead, so an extra jump was needed to decide the winner. The Frenchman scored a measly centimetre more, which cost him the gold medal. In the team event, the thriller lasted until the last of the 10 AL jumps. Indeed, France and the Czech Republic had accumulated the exact same score until then: 35cm. And the thriller continued until the very end: as the last member of the French team landed, he could not afford to score even a single additional centimetre or the Russians would catch up with them and they would lose AL bronze, and consequently also the top spot in the combined nations’ rankings – which was their main objective. But François Martozoff produced a magnificent “dead centre”, i.e. a perfect jump carrying no penalty at all and restored France to a position it had not held in several years. The AL team title went to the Czech Republic, bagging the much coveted gold and finally rewarded with a title after several places lower on – and next to – podiums since the beginning of the decade.

Following several years of German domination in Style, Philippe Vakolis’s clean and flowing performances gave the French a renewed taste for gold in this discipline — traditionally a French special.

In “formation skydiving” (FS), the Belgian team – known for the world over for their performances – dominated the field and gave us an opportunity to bear the Brabançonne (the Belgian national anthem) once more during the Closing Ceremony. Behind them, it was a fierce struggle down to the last jumps for the remaining places of honour. Eventually, Switzerland bagged silver while Spain conquered bronze and Germany and Lithuania were left at the foot of the podium.

THE MI-24 “HIND”

Without doubt, one of the top stars of this championship was the legendary MI-24 used for the drops in the style event. This Soviet-developed attack helicopter – NATO codename “Hind” – is a veritable flying battle tank. It shocked the western world when it made its first appearance. Capable of transporting eight commandos in full gear and able to conquer and control land, its standard equipment includes a machine gun turret as well as a weapon-pylon-carrying anti-tank missile or rocket containers. Pitched in many armed conflicts since 1975, it is still part of the inventory of over 40 different armed forces. Its use for parachuting was an opportunity to shed its violent allure and become a great symbol of “Friendship through Sport”. The organizers even gave anyone who took the opportunity to jump from a Hind after the official events were completed.
Women’s competition:

Russia dominated the field in the AI event with Olga Mikhailchuk prevailing in the individual competition and the Russian team beating the Chinese by a meagre 3 cm after ten jumps. And while Irina Avdeeva got the Slovenian anthem to be played thanks to a 4 hundredths lead after five style jumps, she could not prevent Olga Mikhailchuk from winning the combined rankings and get another performance of her own national anthem.

In the team formation skydive, it was a major upset when the US girls — who so cleanly dominated the event at the Military World Games in India — were defeated by a brand new and talented French team — so talented in fact, that they also managed to improve the CISM world record with a 28-point jump. Many teams of both genders choose to favour this more modern discipline these days, so competitions should become even more interesting and contested in future. It is a fun event that has become more accessible thanks to the use of wind tunnels, which free athletes from poor weather conditions and the need to use costly air transport resources.

Closing Ceremony

The participating nations returned to Lucena town square in uniform to honour the winners of the overall classifications. In the individual rankings, the Russians monopolised the top spots on podiums with D. Maximov in the men’s and O. Mikhailchuk in the women’s. France managed to win the men’s overall combined nations’ rankings, thereby preventing Russia from completing a grand slam despite the impressive regularity of the Russian women’s domination overall.

The last Official CISM Representative Colonel Marques de Brazil could do in his closing address was to thank the Slovak organisers on behalf of all participants for the exceptional technical quality of their performance and the warmth of their reception. He then handed the CISM flag over to our Swiss friends, with whom we have an appointment in July 2010 for what should be yet another vintage event in an eminently military discipline that perfectly embodies our motto: “Friendship through Sport”.

Records

The smaller target used from this year on in accuracy landing (2 cm instead of 3) provided an opportunity to start a brand new CISM record list. An opportunity that Germany’s Stefan Wiesner (five consecutive “dead centres”) in the men’s and China’s Ye Xiaoli in the women’s (four “dead centres”) did not miss. Stefan Wiesner “dead centre” a jump. In Formation Skydiving, the surprising French team improved the CISM record by two points, bringing it to.

Accuracy Ind.
1. Maximov, D. / RUS 0.05
2. Maximov, S. / RUS 0.55
3. Wiesner, S. / GER 0.75

Style Ind.
1. Kuzmin, A. / RUS 70
2. Maximov, D. / RUS 67.5
3. Kuzmin, A. / RUS 67.5

Overal Ind.
1. Maximov, D. / RUS 4
2. Maximov, O. / RUS 1
3. Wiesner, S. / GER 10

Team Acc.
1. Czech Republic 0.17
2. Slovakia 0.39
3. France 0.40

Form. Skydive
1. Slovakia 206
2. Switzerland 216
3. Spain 209

Overall Team
1. France 10
2. Czech Republic 11
3. Russia 19

Women

Accuracy Ind.
1. Mikhailchuk, O. / RUS 0.03
2. Maximov, O. / RUS 0.03
3. Wiesner, S. / GER 0.55

Style Ind.
1. Kuzmin, A. / RUS 70
2. Maximov, D. / RUS 67.5
3. Kuzmin, A. / RUS 67.5

Overall Ind.
1. Maximov, D. / RUS 4
2. Maximov, O. / RUS 1
3. Wiesner, S. / GER 10

Team Acc.
1. France 0.50
2. Spain 0.53
3. Bulgaria 0.79

Form. Skydive
1. Spain 177
2. UK 161
3. Spain 161

Overall
1. Bulgaria 26
2. Spain 19
3. Italy 11
Interview
Col. J. DERMIN
(FRA)

Jean, you are a figurehead of international military parachuting, could you quickly go through your personal record and career?

I started sport parachuting as soon as I joined the École des officiers de l'Air ("Air Force Officers' Academy"), back in 1971. When I joined the French military team in 1976, I immediately won a CISM title and then the civilian world title in accuracy landing - the very first one contested with the new wing-shaped parachutes. I pursued an athlete's career within the Bataillon de Joinville until 1989, winning another 6 individual CISM titles and two more FAI world titles with the French team, in 1982 and 1986. That was when I took over as manager of the French military team until 2006. During that time, I also became involved in the French Parachuting Federation and I was a member of the governing bodies of the FAI (Fédération Aéronautique Internationale), the world's Air Sports Federation and CISM since 1985.

You've been President of the CISM Parachuting Committee for almost eight years now (1999), what are your fondest memories in this position?

Well, whenever Parachuting is selected for the Military World Games, it is clearly a source of great joy for me. There are no air sports at the Olympics, but there's parachuting within CISM.

How many jumps to your credit?

I have jumped more than 9,500 times. The last one from an MI-24 "Obelix" in Lucerne!

Isn't it too hard to keep your feet on the ground when you spend so much time in the air?

No, not at all! Ever since putting an end to my competitive career as a parachutist in 1988, I have been an orienteering enthusiast. And orienteering is about as down-to-earth as it gets: there's mud in marches and thorns in the underbrush... and it too, is a non Olympic event and a military special.

Switzerland in 2010 and the 11th Military World Games in 2011... That's a full schedule in years to correct or is a sign of the good health of Parachuting within CISM, despite the substantial financial burden it imposes on organisations?

Well, contrary to other sports, we've been lucky enough to find hosts for our event in 2010, and I’m deeply thankful to the Swiss Armed Forces for that. Organising a parachuting championship may seem expensive because of the air transport capacity it requires, but if you consider that it is part of an overall package allocated for a year and that it is sourced from the line dedicated to extra training and flightworthiness, it doesn't actually generate any extra cost. Dropping parachutists at a CISM event is an excellent drill scenario for an aircraft or helicopter squadron that needs to be able to adjust to any kind of mission.

How do you see the future of Parachuting within CISM?

Parachuting is a high-level discipline and a fully- fledged military sport with clear interactions between its sporting and operational sides. There is no reason not to believe in its future within the CISM military community.

Jean, vous êtes l'une des figures emblématiques du parachutisme militaire mondial, pourriez-vous nous dresser un rapide rappel de votre Palmarès et de votre parcours ?


Vous êtes le président du Comité CISM de parachutisme depuis bientôt huit années (1999), qu’est-ce qui vous fait les plus beaux souvenirs à ce poste?

Chaque fois que le parachutisme est retenu pour les Jeux Militaires, c’est une grande joie pour moi. Il n’y a pas de sport aérien aux Jeux Olympiques mais il y a le parachutisme au sein du CISM.

Combien de saut à votre actif ?

J'ai effectué plus de 9 500 sauts dont la dernière à Lucerne à partir du MI-24 « Obelix » !

Avec autant de temps passé dans les airs, n’est-il pas difficile de rester sur terre ?

Non pas du tout ! Depuis que j’ai repris une activité en tant que consultant par le CISM, je m’adapte à la course de l'orientation qui est un sport au ras de la terre, de la bonne santé et des règles de sous-bois... c’est aussi une discipline non olympique mais éminémement militaire.

La Suisse en 2010 et les Jeux Mondiaux Militaires de 2011... Un calendrier complet pour les années à venir ! Est-ce un signe de bonne santé du parachutisme au CISM, et ce malgré les coûts importants pour les organisateurs ?

Nous avons la chance d’avoir une année organisatrice pour 2019 contrairement à d’autres disciplines et l’en suscite vivement la Délégation Suisse. L’organisation d’un championnat de parachutisme peut parfois coûter des milliers de euros, mais nous sommes en mesure de le faire dans les années à venir, avec des organisateurs qui sont déjà confirmés pour l’année prochaine.
52nd World Military Aeronautical Pentathlon Championship
16 - 22 Aug Uppsala, Sweden

Finnish dominance in the Championship

Military Aeronautical Pentathlon is designed to resemble the types of situations an air force pilot has to be capable of dealing with. The sport was created in 1948 by Commander Edmont Petit of the French Air Force. His aim was to create a competition to test the physical fitness and improve the general condition in terms of personal protection and of professional improvement. Military Aeronautical Pentathlon consists of five disciplines - shooting, obstacle swimming, fencing, ball contest and escape, obstacle run and orienteering. In addition to the pentathlon competition there is a flying contest where the competitor acts as navigator.

By Hanna Jungwallus and Ulrika Kogge
The sun returned at long last on Saturday afternoon after an extremely rainy morning. The prize and closing ceremony ended an intense and eventful pentathlon week in style.

During a solemn and grand closing ceremony with music and speeches, Finland was the dominating country on the winner's stand for both individual results as well as team results. It was a hard-fought competition between Turkey and Brazil for their respective second and third places. Finland proudly brought back the team prize trophy and scored first place among the individual results as well displaying impressive skill and bulldog spirit throughout the competition.

**Introductory contests**

After the flying contest, which was performed outside the official pentathlon competition, Colonel Ramón Madrid, OCR representative declared the World Military Aeronautical Pentathlon Championship of 2009 opened while the rain was relentlessly pouring down on the participants.

It was Finland that once again pulled off the win in this introductory warm-up to all the five events of the week. A miscalculation of the third check-point meant that Sweden lost second place to Spain. This year the shooting contest was carried out with air pistols which meant the marksmen could use the new air pistol shooting range at the Fryshov Sports Centre in Uppala. Despite the fact that Romania had to use borrowed weapons, they did well in the individual results, but it was Finland's Ville Rosenlund who won, though with extremely slim margins to Dragi Jips from Romania.

**Swimming – a technical and tactical event**

The swimming contest is both a technical as well as a tactical event. It isn't only your skill as a swimmer which is put to the test - after 50 metres of swimming, the competitors must hoist themselves up on the edge, get around a cone and dive back into the water.

During the second half of the race, the swimmers have to swim under two obstacles that are placed twenty-five metres apart. The obstacles look a bit like wide ladders and it's allowed to use them to pull yourself forward under water. Both strength and stamina are needed to be successful. Planning your race well from a tactical point of view is also important. Precious seconds can be lost both in the water as well as out of it.

The Finns had a strong team in swimming as well. Ville Ojell and Mikko Honkasalo came first and third place respectively with Norway's Magnus Lorentzen batting in on second.

**A long day of duelling**

Friday turned out to be a very long day indeed for all those involved in the fencing competition - the 32 pentathletes as well as all judges and officials. Brazil, Spain and Finland were all favourites in this gentlemen's event.

At the end of the day, the three top places were settled between Paolo Porto, Brazil and Ville Rosenlund and Mikko Honkasalo, Finland. Brazil won the duel which gave Finland second and third place.

Fencing is a sport that is perfect for aeronautical pentathlon, says Carlos Leite, the Brazilian coach. The sport captures the spirit of the fighter pilot. It's about creating a chance to attack, to be able to fend off attacks as well as being able to read your opponent. In that respect it reminds you a bit about dog-fighting.

**Record-breaking scores in the ball contest**

Exceptional coordination and explosive speed in the ball contest were put to the test when the ball event took place on Friday. Ville Rosenlund from Finland had all the reason to feel extra proud for scoring the maximum amount of free throws (20 out of 20), an achievement few can boast about. Yigit Ozdemir from Turkey finished second with 16 scored free throws, but the fastest man through the course was Johan Arvidsson, Sweden, who finished third in the event.

**Turkish iron-man**

Three of the four Turkish team-members finished among the top-ten contestants in an event that would suit the Turks well, as basketball is one of the most popular sports in the country. Yigit Ozdemir, 4th...
year student in the Turkish Air Force Officers Academy, came second.

- I did OK today, says Yigit, but I usually run the obstacle course a couple of seconds faster than this. However, I’m quite pleased with scoring 16 out of 20 – the penalty throw is the hardest part.

It is not an easy thing to get accepted to the Turkish Aeronautical Pentathlon team. In tight competition, fifty cadets try out at the Air Force Officers Academy in Istanbul. Ten are selected to begin training and are then scrutinized by the team coach and hand-picked for the national team to represent their country.

Yigit Ozdemir is looking forward to the race on Saturday and has a fitting name for the two events – the obstacle course and the orienteering. His first name means “brave” and his family name “pure iron”.

Outstanding dexterity by Rosenlund

Johan Arvidsson from Sweden wasn’t the only pentathlete performing well in the ball contest. Ville Rosenlund from Finland, the overall leader after three events, reached a higher score than in last year’s championship.

After Friday’s competition he was thrilled.

- I was in the zone today, that’s why I was able to improve my results from last year, he says with a grin.

Wet and slippery on the last event of the championship

The escape event – a skillful combination of obstacle course and orienteering – concluded the championship. The competition was complicated by the rain, which made the hurdles very slippery.

It is about finding the right balance between completing the obstacle course as fast as possible and at the same time finding your footing on the hurdles to avoid slipping and getting penalties of – worst case – getting injured before the orienteering event.

Drago Jipa and Daniel Bădescu from Romania describe how they plan ahead before it’s their turn.

- You have to be careful when it is this wet and rainy, says Drago Jipa. Just before I reach the balance hurdles I stretch my arms out to find my balance. If you don’t do it until you’re on the hurdle you risk slipping off.

When asked about Romania’s performance this week they answer unanimously:

- Maybe Romania doesn’t have such a strong team this year, but the championship is also an opportunity to form new connections and we have made many new friends this week.

The CISM motto “Friendship through sport” is shown particularly well at the obstacle course. Everyone is cheering and supporting everyone regardless of who is currently struggling to get under, over or through the hurdles along the physically very challenging course.

The second part of the escape event is the orienteering. The orienteering race starts two hours after the competitors have finished the obstacle course and are being bussed to the starting point. They set off with three-minute intervals and will not get the map until just before the start.

- The conditions of the different countries can vary a great deal, says Peter Carlsson, team captain for the Swedish team. In Scandinavia, orienteering is a huge sport and there are plenty of opportunities to train and race. But in some countries the sport hardly exists at all.

This is one of the factors that make aeronautical pentathlon an exciting sport for participants and spectators alike – the competition is never completed until all events are done and all contestants have crossed the finish line.

All eyes turned on Brazil...

The eventful week was concluded on Saturday evening with the prize ceremony and closing ceremony. Lastly, the Colour Guards lowered the official CISM flag while the participants already were starting to look forward to the world military pentathlon championships that will take place in 2011 in Brazil.
56th World Military Pentathlon Championship
04 - 10 Sep
Munich, Germany

Great Sportmanship, Connoisseur Fans and Fantastic Friendship

For the German Delegation, hosting the 56th World Military Pentathlon Championship at the Bundeswerte University in Munich was the last sporting milestone on the calendar of events commemorating its 50th anniversary as a member CISM.

In all, the Chief of the Armed Forces Office, Major General Thomas Wolfit welcomed more than 300 representatives of 29 Nations who met between 1 and 11 September 2009 on the campus of Neuherberg, a suburb to the south of Munich.

Over the five days of competitions, some 200 athletes of both genders faced each other in five events: shooting, obstacle racing, obstacle swimming, grenade throwing and cross-country running.

As the reigning European Champions, the German team logically belonged among the favourite nations and were naturally under some pressure to honour their title on the home turf.

In wonderful weather, thousands of spectators watched riveting competitions in the different disciplines and can bear witness to the suspense that characterised this championship.

Thus, the athletes inaugurated their pentathlon with the shooting event held at the Garching-Hochbrück Olympic shooting range near Munich. No trace of nervousness there: the pentathletes' concentration was truly at a peak.
The German team’s initial performance in this edition of the CISM World Military Championship was smooth; its members shot well enough in the range to put their team at the top of the provisional overall Nations’ ranking, ahead of North Korea and Finland. On day two, the obstacle run – the king of military pentathlon events – attracted 5,000 spectators to a course designed in a breathtaking environment that made quite an impression on the athletes. Spurred by this incredible scenery, the South Americans showed great prowess on the 500m course strewn with 20 obstacles. This was how Lieutenant William Warrick (VEN) won the day in the men’s while Major Linna Tian (CHI) prevailed in the women’s event – having already taken the lead of the provisional rankings after the shooting event.

The same perfect weather conditions prevailed over the third event – obstacle swimming – held at the outdoor pool in Unterhaching. Again, an enthusiastic crowd of a thousand or so spectators showed up to watch the event and encourage the athletes to excel themselves. A challenge best managed by the German team under the leadership of Oberfeldwebel Martin Reichart: they bagged individual and team wins in the event and continued to lead the provisional team rankings after three events. In the women’s competition, the Russian and Chinese pentathletes fought passionately for the different places on the event podium.

The next day however, the German Federal military team failed to live up to their status as favourites in the grenade throwing event. In this key specialty requiring both concentration and routine, the domination of the representatives of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea was patent: they finished one and two in the men’s and monopolised all places on the women’s podium.

Thus in the men’s, the final outcome of the pentathlon was again wide open before the start of the final event – the cross-country run –, which heralded a wonderful moment of pure suspense for athletes, trainers and spectators. In the women’s on the other hand, it seemed quite obvious already that victory could no longer escape Major Linna Tian (CHI).

Oberfeldwebel Robert Krawczyk (GER) was almost a minute and a half behind when he started his run. Having left the gate in fifth position under the cheers of hundreds of spectators, the German NCO immediately set a devilish pace for himself. So much so that it only took him a few meters to catch up with the two North Koreans immediately ahead of him. Under thunderous applause from the crowd, the German then struggled ahead like the very devil to achieve the impossible: closing the gap over the 8,000m-course to cross the finish line a winner and become the new world champion. On the ladies’ side, Major Linna Tian easily dominated the opposition both in this event and in the general standings. Eventually, China also bagged the men’s and the women’s team titles, with Germany and North Korea finishing second in the respective team rankings.

To ensure that all performances were achieved honestly, the organisers of the championship conducted a total of 30 anti-doping controls.

After all these efforts – and by way of preparation for the last day of competitions dedicated to the patrol race –, the international guests were taken for a walk through the streets of Munich and given a taste of the kind Bavarian hospitality.

In the patrol race, the South American athletes distinguished themselves with Venezuela once again displaying its mastery of the obstacles and setting a truly impressive new world record in the process. And the women were not to be outdone either since the victorious Chinese team too, set a new patrol race world record.

Finally, CISM President Major General Gianni Golo (ITA) took the opportunity of the Closing Ceremony to thank the participating and organisers for this successful Military World Championship.

Seldom has the CISM motto – “Friendship through Sport” – been so nicely embodied as during this edition in Munich. Great sportmanship, connoisseur fans and fantastic friendship.

Lieutenant-Colonel Harald Dolmetscher
German Delegate to CISM
43rd World Military Sailing Championship

04 - 10 Sep
Wegorzewo, Poland

Photos by Dirk De Noy
Poland welcomed the best sailing crews to celebrate the 43rd CISM World Military Sailing Championship in Węgorzewo between 22 and 29 August. This year’s regattas took place on Lake Świeciecz in the district Masurian. This part of north east Poland is famous for its multitude of lakes and waterways dotting this green treasure of Central Europe. It is currently in the run for being listed into one of the New 7 Wonders of Nature.

While the scenery is more conducive to rivalry than to pure competition, the 26 crews in attendance had little time to enjoy it, given the busy schedule put together for the event. In all, twelve regattas awaited our best sailors on the cold waters of the lake.

And now they waited...for the wind.
In the morning of the first day of racing, everything was in place for a first class show. Everything...except for the wind, which had decided not to show up. After several unsuccessful attempts, a hopeful breeze started to blow in the – by then fairly impatient – sails. Eventually, by the end of this first day, the Polish women’s crew had played their game so well that they led Germany and Brazil in the provisional women’s rankings while Ukraine led the mixed rankings ahead of Brazil, Turkey and France.

The same teams were to choose each other throughout the championship, each in turn winning regattas and taking the lead in the rankings. The last race alone would decide their final order overall. Eventually, the top spot on the 2009 mixed-crescent podium went to the Ukraine, with Turkey and France finishing second and third and Brazil failing to make it on the podium. In the women’s, the first day’s standings were to remain unchanged: Poland stayed head and shoulders above the opposition throughout the regattas to bag well-deserved gold in front of Germany and Brazil.

Next year, this smart crowd will meet in another part of the world: the hosts of the 44th World Military Sailing Championship next Mars will be Bahrain.
Founding Father and Figurehead of CISM

Major international organisations are often the result of the efforts of a few enterprising pioneers. This is true of CISM, now 130+ Member Nations strong. The International Military Sports Council, formally established in Nice, France on 18 February 1948, was the offspring of the Allied Forces Sports Council (AFSC), itself founded on 6 February 1946 in Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany. Both organisations were the construct of a few young officers – 16 of them in Frankfurt and 15 in Nice. Among these founding fathers, only Squadron Leader Henri Debrus (France) and Lieutenant Raoul Mollet (Belgium) attended both meetings. They were to play an essential role in the growth of CISM. Debrus was the first President of the Council, which he led for 11 years. Mollet was a member of the Board for 38 years between 1948 and 1986. A record that will likely never be surpassed… CISM owes them an eternal debt of gratitude.

The magazine wishes to pay tribute to them.

Let us start with Raoul Mollet (1912-2002), a genuine figurehead.

Thanks to the kindness of Mrs Marie-Louise Collage, widow of Chevalier Mollet, who accepted a lengthy interview, we have learned quite a lot about him. She epitomised “the woman behind every great man”.

Young Raoul joined the Belgian Cavalry in 1931 and our two exceptional souls met the following year. Marie-Louise would be his muse for 70 years. She was philosophical about the five long years of separation he spent as a POW during the Second World War.

Through his 32 years as Secretary General of CISM, she volunteered as his special personal assistant. And she also travelled throughout his long, parallel Olympic career.

Throughout his life, Mollet developed, taught, led, coached and wrote. He had “Mr 100,000 ideas”. His world vision was always focused on the future.

In 1950, he set up the “CISM Academy”, which contributed to the dissemination of physical military training experience through the organisation of study days and clinics.

Under his impetus, “CISM Solidarity” was developed in August 1975. This generous idea – helping the less favoured – was taken over by the International Olympic Committee. The IOC made it one of its main efforts. Mollet had other aims that competitive sport. “Sport for All” was also one of his spearhead issues. His book, Deux heures de santé (“Two hours of health”), was quite successful.

As an athlete, he competed in the Modern Pentathlon in two separate Olympics. First in Berlin (1936) and then again twelve years later in London (1948). He won the sword event in fencing at the 1947 Inter Allied Games. He also ran on the track and played tennis, badminton and golf.

As a leader, he used to say that “you can’t understand sport until you’ve trained so hard that your shirt is drenched, until you’ve been beaten because your coach made a choice and until you’ve felt both the joy of victory and the fear of losing…”

In 1947, Mollet joined the Air Force. He set up a model sports department there and became an Air Force Major. For 23 years, he chaired the Belgian Olympic Committee. Of course, the International Olympic Committee noticed him and notably entrusted him with preparation of Olympic Congress topics. His ideas and work were unanimously appreciated. In recognition, Juan Antonio Samaranch awarded him the Gold medal of the Olympic Order in 1989. His successor, Count Jacques Rogge, was actually coached into this task by Mollet for years. Mrs Mollet showed us a book recently presented to her by President Rogge.

The inscription says “A tribute to Raoul, my mentor.”

Mollet was the first Belgian athlete to be ennobled. King Baudouin knighted him on 21 July 1989.

He paved the way for others including Eddy Merckx, Gaston Roelants and Jacques Rogge.

Chevalier Mollet’s motto is “ad honorem”.

Air Force Colonel (Ret.)
Roger VANMEERBEEK

86 December 2009
Brazil... At the Top of the World

Tension was running high indeed among the four cities that bid to host the 2016 Olympics. As always in competitive sport, there had to be a winner... and history will remember that the deciding ballot went Brazil’s way. CISM congratulates Madrid, Tokyo and Chicago for their great campaigns, the quality of their applications and their fair play.

Back in May 2007 already in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, the 62nd CISM General Assembly and Congress awarded the organisation of the 5th Military World Games 2011 to Rio de Janeiro.

What a rise! In the space of just a few years, Brazil has become a pillar of world sport. The Pan American Games in 2007, the Military World Games in 2011, the Football World Cup in 2014 and, as of a few days ago, the 2016 Olympics. CISM can only be delighted to have made a contribution to the Brazilian ascent. At several press conferences during the Beijing Olympics in 2008, the President himself mentioned our 2011 Military World Games – now renamed the “PEACE GAMES” – as one of the key assets of the bid to host the 2016 Olympics.

So, congratulations are in order for Brazil! A country with a heart whose 191 million inhabitants literally carried the bid through to fruition. Once again, the universal nature of the Olympic Games of the modern era was demonstrated with this selection, obviously a source of unmitigated joy among the Brazilian Delegation to CISM. The 2011 Military World Games will undoubtedly serve to help Brazil perfect preparations for the 2016 Olympics and this is a source of pride for CISM!

We are looking forward to 2011 and the opportunity to experience the Brazilian knowhow in the field of sport and share with all our Brazilian friends this unique mix of respect and Friendship through Sport!

Together for peace... Together for Friendship through Sport...
# CISM World Military Championships

**Championnats Mondiaux Militaires du CISM 2010**

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<td>Ostend, Belgium</td>
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<td>44th World Military Sailing Championship</td>
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<td>45th World Military Shooting Championship</td>
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**www.cism-milsport.org**

CISM World Military Championships: **Championnats Mondiaux Militaires du CISM 2010**

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