



### FIG TOP NEWS



Prof. Bruno Grandi (ITA) and Gennady Aleksenko (BLR)  
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#### AWARD AND OVATIONS FOR PROF. BRUNO GRANDI

Upon invitation by the French Gymnastics Federation, FIG President Professor Bruno Grandi (ITA) addressed the federation's annual General Assembly. Delegates gave the President four standing ovations as he brought his speech to a close, witness of their full support and approval! [Read more ...](#)

In gratitude for his support of Belarusian Rhythmic Gymnastics, FIG President Prof. Bruno Grandi (ITA) was awarded the NOC Belarus Order for outstanding contribution to the development of gymnastics worldwide by the National Olympic Committee of the Republic of Belarus. The Order is the highest sports award in Belarus. [Read more ...](#)

### NEWS FROM THE FIG HEAD OFFICE



FIG Academy  
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#### FIG anti-doping programme

##### Education and prevention first!

The FIG has recently revised its anti-doping programme in compliance with WADA requirements and gained the approval of the Executive Board. Endorsing WADA's activities unqualifiedly and without reservation, the FIG has signed the WADA regulations; these will affect policy, administration and technology. Implementing the WADA requirements is a terrific investment on the part of the FIG.

The FIG emphasises the importance of education and doping prevention, and concentrates its efforts on precluding the use of forbidden, unprofitable and unhealthy products. All FIG Academy courses cover the topic in mandatory medical chapters taught by physicians.

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Olga Kyselovickova, Prof. Bruno Grandi, Laura Viveros, David Gay Pellier and André Gueisbuhler  
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#### Aerobic Gymnastics Judges' Course

##### Well done judges!

The FIG honoured 3 Aerobic Gymnastics judges for exemplary conduct and service over the last Olympic cycle. The ceremony was held parallel to the intercontinental judges' course in Beijing (CHN), January 14 – 20, 2009. In his address, FIG President Prof. Bruno Grandi (ITA) emphasised to what point fair, solid judging helps sport to triumph over the corruption that would overthrow it.

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## FIG EVENTS



HYPOLITO Diego (BRA)  
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### ART: 14th Artistic Gymnastics World Cup Final, Madrid (ESP)

On December 13 and 14, 2008 the 14th Artistic Gymnastics World Cup Final took place in the Telefonica Arena in Madrid (ESP). This last FIG World Cup Final was organised by the Royal Spanish Gymnastics Federation.

The competitions were covered with a live commentary on the FIG website, and for the first time ever the FIG posted a handful of IRCOS (Instant Replay and Information System) sequences filmed during the final.

All information, videos, photo galleries and the results of the 14th Artistic Gymnastics World Cup Final in Madrid (ESP) can be viewed at the official [FIG micro site](#).

## INTERNATIONAL GYMNASTIC EVENTS



### ART: 15th Mikhail Voronin Cup, Moscow (RUS)

In memory of the gymnastics icon from the 60s and the 70s, who is largely known for his elegant style of performance and his innovative contribution to the sport, the 15th Mikhail Voronin Cup of Artistic Gymnastics took place from December 15-19, 2008 in Moscow (RUS).

[Results Teams Men...](#)

[Results Men's All Around...](#)

[Results Men's Apparatus Finals...](#)

[Results Teams Women](#)

[Results Women's All-Around](#)

[Results Women's Apparatus Finals](#)



### ART: 4th Challenge International de Woluwé-St.-Lambert (BEL) and Gymgala 2008 in Gent (BEL)

Parallel to the FIG Artistic Gymnastics World Cup Final, the 4th Challenge International was held in Woluwé-St.-Lambert (BEL) on December 13, 2008. The USA, Romania, the Netherlands and Belgium participated at this four-country competition near Brussels. [Check the results!](#)

Photos of the Gymgala van Vlaanderen 2008 which took place on December 20, 2008 can be viewed on-line at <http://www.gymgala2008.be/>



© Federazione Gimastica d'Italia

### ART – RG - AER: Grand Prix AIA Aequilibrium Cup, Milan (ITA)

A gymnastics Grand Prix, the Aia Aequilibrium Cup returned to Milan's Datch Forum. International gymnasts, some of whom performed at the Beijing Olympics, were giving an excellent show in Artistic, Rhythmic and Aerobic Gymnastics to almost 10,000 enthusiastic spectators. [Check the results!](#)

The Federazione Gimastica d'Italia is preparing to host the next Artistic European Championships planned in Milan from March 29 to April 5, 2009.

# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



© USA Gymnastics

## TRA - TUM: Pan American Championships, Buenos Aires (ARG)

A total of six nations participated at the 2008 Pan American Senior and Age Group Trampoline and Tumbling Championships that took place in Buenos Aires (ARG) December 4-7, among which Puerto Rico and Venezuela were represented for the first time.

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## AER: 1st African Aerobic Championships, Wallis Bay (NAM)

The 1st African Championships in Aerobic Gymnastics was held in Namibia from December 3-7, 2008 in the region of Walvis Bay, a very calm and friendly city.

The competitions took place in parallel with the African Trampoline Championships and in the presence of Ms Mireille Ganzin, President of the FIG AER Technical Committee. Ms Ganzin supervised an international judges' course in Namibia to enable the country to be completely involved in this discipline, a step forward for Africa.

[Read more ...](#)

## NEWS FROM FIG MEMBER FEDERATIONS



### BLR: Vladimir Karpovich new President of the BAG

On January 6, the general elections of the Belarus Gymnastics Association (BAG) were held in Minsk. A new president replaces Nikolay Korbut; his name is Vladimir Karpovich, aged 48. Karpovich is the General Director of the company "MTC" – "MobilTeleSystem", one of the largest companies providing GSM network in Belarus. MTC is a partner of the Belarus Gymnastics Association and sponsors many sporting events.



© CBG

### BRA: Maria Luciene Resende elected new President of CBG

Maria Luciene was elected President of the Brazilian Gymnastics Federation (CBG) on December 7, 2008, taking over the post held by Vicélia Florenzano since 1991. Resende was previously the President of the Sergipe Gymnastics Federation and has served as Vice President of the CBG since 2006. She defeated Marco Martins, President of the Brasilia Gymnastics Federation by 13 votes to five.



JOVTCHEV Jordan (BUL)  
© MinkusImages

### BUL: Jordan Jovtchev new President of the FBG

35 year old Artistic Gymnastics World Champion and five-time Olympian Jordan Jovchev is the new President of the Bulgarian Gymnastics Federation. He was elected unanimously at the General Assembly on December 18, 2008. Jovchev took over the post from Nikola Prodanov, who headed up the federation for two terms of office. The newly elected Board of Directors includes 13 people. 1996 Olympic High Bar Silver medallist Krasimir Dunev was elected Secretary General of the federation.

# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



RODRIGUEZ Edwin (DOM)  
© DGF

## DOM: Edwin Rodriguez re-elected President of the DGF

Edwin Rodriguez was re-elected President of the Dominican Gymnastics Federation for the period of 2008 to 2012. He was elected unanimously based on his excellent work at the head of the federation. Rodriguez's goals are to improve the federation's international relations and the development as well as the promotion of sport in the Dominican Republic.



Fédération Française de Gymnastique

## FRA: 184th Federal Congress

*December 1, 2008 (FFGym):* The French Gymnastics Federation elected its new Federal Cabinet: President: Jacques Rey (member of the FIG Appeal Tribunal); Treasurer: Jean-Paul Grasmuck; Secretary: Josette Roux. Vice-Presidents: James Blateau, Michel Bouchonnet, Françoise Dal-Zuffo, Georges Guelzec, Pascal Jourdan, Anne-Marie Lemêtre, Dominique Mérieux, Marie-Chantal Rohée. FIG Vice President Dr Michel Léglise and former Artistic and Aerobic Gymnastics world class champion Isabelle Sévérino have been elected as members of the Executive Board.



GARUFI Giorgio (ITA)  
© FIG

## ITA: President Prof. Riccardo Agabio re-elected and Giorgio Garufi named Honorary President

Professor Riccardo Agabio was confirmed in his function as President of the Italian Gymnastics Federation at the federation's 93rd General Assembly on December 20 in Rome. This will be Agabio's third consecutive term at the head of the FIGI.

Giorgio Garufi, a former member of the FIG Gymnastics for All Committee was recently honoured by the Italian Gymnastics Federation for his service to the federation and was named Honorary President of the sporting region of Campania in December 2008.



MAKKI Adnan (LBA)  
© FIG

## LEB: Adnan Makki passed away

The former Secretary General and President of the Lebanon Gymnastics Federation Mr Hajj Adnan Makki passed away on December 10, 2008.

A leader of sports in his country, Mr Makki played an important role in the development of gymnastics within the Middle East countries, serving as Secretary General and President of the Lebanon Gymnastics Federation. He founded the Arab Gymnastics Federation in 1974.

[Read more ...](#)

# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



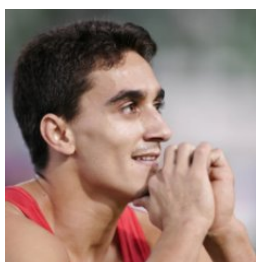
© GFP

## **POR: POR FED authorities re-elected for the 2009-2012 cycle**

The Portuguese Gymnastics Family was called to vote on November 29th and the majority choose to re-entrust Manuel Boa de Jesus and his team with the commands of the POR FED for the next four years.

With more than three quarters of the eligible voters (regional associations) participating in these elections, the new Board of Directors received a higher percentage of expressed support than in the last vote held in 2004 – awarding all the outgoing and on-going members with the satisfying sense of an accomplished task.

This will be the second term in office for Mr Manuel Boa de Jesus and for the majority of the GFP Board of Directors. The transfer of power occurred on December 12, 2008.



DRAGULESCU Marian (ROU)  
© MinkusImages

## **ROU: Marian Drăgulescu retired**

*January 6, 2009:* Marian Drăgulescu officially retired from competitive gymnastics at the age of 28. The six-time world champion on Floor and Vault announced his retirement because of ongoing back issues. He has been diagnosed with acute cervical discopathy.

Drăgulescu is presently working as the coach of a children's group for his club, Dinamo Bucuresti, alongside Marius Urzică. He will also remain close to the national team, and his goal is to produce a national champion in the age category he is now coaching.

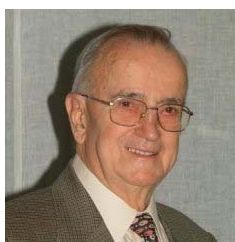


KAESLIN Ariella (SUI)  
© MinkusImages

## **SUI: Kaeslin Swiss Sportswomen of the Year 2008**

*December 12, 2009:* Swiss gymnast Ariella Käslin (21) was named Swiss Sportswoman of the Year 2008. The ceremony took place on Saturday, December 6, in the city of Basel at St Jakobshalle, in a contest sponsored by Crédit Suisse.

[Read more ...](#)



CHABLOZ Pierre (SUI)  
© UEG

## **SUI: Pierre Chabloz passed away**

Founder of the European Gymnastics Union and Honorary Member of the FIG Pierre Chabloz (SUI) died on December 3 after being hospitalised for an on-going illness. He would have celebrated his 92nd birthday on December 9th.

Pierre Chabloz was very active in gymnastics circles around Lausanne, in his native Switzerland. On an international level, he founded the UEG in 1982 and sat as its President until 1993. He was made an Honorary Member of the International Gymnastics Federation in 1994.

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# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



LEHMANN Walter (SUI)  
© FIG

## SUI: Walter Lehmann turns 90!

On January 13, Swiss gymnastics celebrated the 90th birthday of one of its most illustrious icons, Walter Lehmann. Lehmann won his fame at the 1948 Games in London (GBR) where he took a Silver medal in Team Competitions, one in the All-around, and another at the High Bar. He also participated in the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki (FIN).

Walter Lehmann, multiple Swiss champion, is a constant source of admiration not only for his contemporaries, but for the younger generations of gymnasts who look to him as an example of ambition and sportsmanship.

[Read more ...](#)



DANIS Ferdinand (SVK)  
© Anton GAjos

## SVK: 80th birthday of Ferdinand Daniš

*January 16, 2009:* Renowned Czechoslovakian gymnast Ferdinand Danis celebrated his 80th birthday on January 1, 2009! Danis is one of the most well-known, decorated gymnasts of Czechoslovakia. He participated in 3 Olympic Games (Helsinki 1952 – 13th, Melbourne/Stockholm 1956 – 13th, Rome 1960 – 15th) and the World Games of 1954 (Rome ITA – 29th) and 1958 (Moscow RUS – 12th). He would become a prominent coach at the well-known Dukla Prague.

Happy Birthday!

[Read more ...](#)



## TUR: General elections of the Turkish Gymnastics Federation

The Turkish Gymnastics Federation conducted its general elections at the National Assembly in November 2008. Mr Atilla Orsel was re-elected to the Presidency with a remarkable majority.



RETTON Mary Lou (USA) and  
VIDMAR Peter (USA)  
© John Cheng

## USA: Olympic champs Vidmar, Retton elected to USA Gymnastics Board

*December 8, 2008 (USA Gymnastics):* 1984 Olympic Gold medallist Peter Vidmar of Coto De Caza was elected chairman of USA Gymnastics Board of Directors during the inaugural meeting of the newly restructured group in Indianapolis (USA). Mary Lou Retton who vaulted into the hearts of Americans when she won the women's all-around at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, becoming the first American woman ever to win a Gold medal in gymnastics, was elected Public Sector Director of the 20-person Board.

[Read more ...](#)

# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE

## INTERNATIONAL SPORTS NEWS

### New IOC Forum on Sport and Development

On January 15, 2009 the International Olympic Committee (IOC) launched the registration process for the first ever International Forum on Sport for Peace and Development, which will take place at The Olympic Museum in Lausanne from May 7 – 8, 2009.

As a socially responsible organisation, the IOC is engaged in sports development at grassroots level, aiming to increase access to physical activity worldwide as well as to improve social and human wellbeing at large.

[Read more ...](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event Title	Venue	Participants
Jan 19 – 26, 2009	FIG Intercontinental Judges' Course WAG	 BRATISLAVA (SVK)	Senior
Jan 29 - Feb 5, 2009	9th African Championships MAG WAG RG	 CAIRO (EGY)	Senior, Junior and Age Group
Feb 3 – 8, 2009	FIG Intercontinental Judges' Course TRA	 BRATISLAVA (SVK)	Senior
Feb 23 – 28, 2009	18th International Tournament "Stars above the Bug"	 VINNITSA (UKR)	Senior, Junior and Age Group

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For more news and information on international gymnastics please visit <http://www.fig-gymnastics.com>.

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