

I've ever seen.)

What are the chances of getting MX approved as an Olympic sport, and if that's possible, how is it done? MX ACTION was curious, so we wrote a letter to the U.S. Olympic Committee to find out.

Here's how C. Robert Paul, Jr. of the Committee replied:

... Yours is the sixth request for information on how this sport might be introduced into the Olympic Games. However, this is the first comprehensive letter which has been written outlining the steps to be taken if you would wish Motocross considered for the Olympic Games as early as 1986 or perhaps, more realistically, 2008 or 2012.

First of all, you must be concerned with a sport which is widely practiced in a minimum of 40 countries on three continents.

Second, there must be a world governing federation (as in all Olympic sports) dedicated to the amateurs in the sport; not partly for amateurs and partly for professionals. This world federation must submit copies of its by-laws which should contain the aims and goals of the federation.

Third, the federation must have a satisfactory record of conducting world and/or area championships under a common set of rules of competition, which rules of competition must be offered with any application for the consideration of the International Olympic Committee.

At some point in the development of this package the world federation should seek recognition of the General Assembly of the International (World) Federations which meet and discuss periodically mutual problems to arrive at common denominators while making plans to carry on their regular programs.

Finally, the proper time must be selected and all arrangements made to have hearing before the International Olympic Committee at which time this world federation would only seek "recognition" as a world federation conducting its sports programs within the rules laid down by the International Olympic Committee—currently a body of 75 men selected without regard to nation.

The steps may sound simple and easy to attain. They aren't.

You also have the added burden of trying to introduce a sport which

appears to be in the formative stage and does not have any real following outside of certain sections of the United States of America. There is a general antipathy about accepting sports which emanate from the USA; therefore it might be a smart policy to have Motocross introduced and developed in central Europe from which there is a fighting chance to score a success under a 30-40 year imposition.

Very truly yours,
(signed)

C. Robert Paul, Jr.

Please note Mr. Paul's comments in the last paragraph concerning central Europe. Please excuse his oversight, but we forgot to tell him about Joel Robert, Ake, etc. ●

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