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The Politics of the Olympics: A Survey provides information on and analysis of the relationship between politics and the Olympic Games. It is argued and demonstrated throughout the book that sport and politics have been and are intimately connected and nowhere is this relationship more apparent than in the Olympic Games.

The essay chapters, including an editorial introduction, are written by a variety of academic experts. They focus on the politics of the Olympic movement, the politics of hosting the Games, the political implications of performance enhancement, and gender, terrorism and physical impairment within the Olympic context. The remaining chapters are case studies that are specific to certain countries or regions – Germany during the rise to power of National Socialism, Eastern Europe in the Cold War era, South Korea and Taiwan. Each chapter is accompanied by a select bibliography.

The A-Z Glossary provides up-to-date and concise information on famous Olympians, presidents of the International Olympic Committee, specific events, boycotts and demonstrations – each of which has been politically significant in the history of the Games. Entries are cross-referenced for ease of use.

A map of the venues for the Olympic Games is also included.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Alan Bairner is Professor of Sport and Social Theory at Loughborough University (UK), having previously worked at the University of Ulster for 25 years. He is co-author (with John Sugden) of *Sport, Sectarianism and Society in a Divided Ireland* (1993) and author of *Sport, Nationalism and Globalization: European and North American Perspectives* (2001). He edited *Sport and the Irish: Histories, Identities, Issues* (2005) and was a joint editor (with John Sugden) of *Sport in Divided Societies* (1999) and (with Jonathan Magee and Alan Tomlinson) of *The Bountiful Game? Football Identities and Finances* (2005). He serves on the editorial boards of the *International Review for the Sociology of Sport* and the *International Journal of Sport Policy*.

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