

## The Boston Committee

In January of 1981, some of the local sports coordinators were informed of the existence of the San Francisco organizers. The monthly newsletter was received from the west coast and on a chilly evening in February, three people met to discuss the possibility of Boston's participation. Joji, a volleyball coordinator, Allan Bligh of Front Runners, and Tony Jasinski, the basketball coordinator, decided to form a Boston Chapter of the Gay Olympics. Since the state's colors of blue and white were already chosen by the San Francisco team, Kelly green and white were chosen in tribute to the championships tradition of the Celtics (who, by the way donated a team autographed basketball for auction). In its first months, the committee decided that a limited scope of fundraising activities and a limited organization would be most beneficial. Little did these people realize that soon over a hundred Boston athletes would be requesting some sort of information and that the committee's activities would soon reach into all segments of the gay community.

Soon, Jay Lubbers had replaced Joji as volleyball representative and had become the person primarily responsible for managing the committee's finances. Allan was replaced by Doug Stenson, another runner who supervised our first benefit (very successfully) at the Boston Eagle on a Monday night. Women were represented by Leslie Tiffany, the coach of the 1270 women's softball team.

The committee successfully raised enough money to pay for all athletes's registration fees and uniforms. A small travel stipend was also raised to help defray the monumental travel expense—not to mention the high California costs of living. Funds were raised through the sales of tee shirts, our now-familiar buttons, and raffle tickets. Three separate benefits were held at Chaps bar. Also, important benefits were held at Sporters and the 1270. Cash contributions were received from Saunatek, Chiltern Mountain Club, Gay Professional Men's Group, and the Front Runners. Most gay businesses in Boston and Provincetown contributed to at least one of the benefits.

The Boston Chapter of the Gay Olympics has maintained high standards throughout this year. The committee wants to represent the Best things in Boston and the committee recognizes that the community (and bar) support is very critical to its existence. Now, gay athletics in Boston has never been better!

134 Hampshire St. Cambridge, MA.  
wine & beer patio

HOMEMADE BREADS - Soups -desserts  
-salads-

Sat./Sun.  
brunch

**MODERN TIMES**  
CAFE  
354-8371