

Shooting: the First Brazilian Olympic Medals

Janice Zarpellon Mazo

Nucleus of Studies in History and Memory of Sport (NEHME)

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS)

gpeo@pucrs.br

Carolina Fernandes da Silva

Faculty of Physical Education

Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina (UFSC)

Gabriel Kessler Merlin

Olympic Studies Research Group (GPEO)

Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS)

Nelson Schneider Todt

Olympic Studies Research Group (GPEO)

Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS)

Abstract

The present study aims to investigate how was the journey of the athletes from Rio Grande do Sul state, who participated in the Olympic Games (OG) of 1920, from the beginning of their sports career, crossing through the participation of the athletes in the 1920 OG, until their return home, after the event. For that, reports from newspapers circulating in the state were analyzed, as well as in Rio de Janeiro, capital of Brazil at that period. The sources revealed that, in Rio Grande do Sul, shooting was among the first sports practices to be insert into clubs, notwithstanding, it was responsible to impelling the creation of Shooters Associations. Two shooters who took part in the 1920 OG came from clubs of Rio Grande do Sul and, although characterized by the unpredictability of their traveled paths, perhaps, the participation and conquest of medals in this edition of the OG was the greatest moment in the sports life of these Olympic shooters.

Keywords

Olympic Games, Olympic Athletes, Shooting, Sport History.

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Introduction

Sport shooting is one of the oldest Olympic modalities, being present in the Olympic Games (OG) since its reinvention in 1896. Along with athletics, cycling, fencing, gymnastics, weight lifting, swimming and tennis, the shooting composed the set of sports practices of the OG. However, in the second edition of the event, in 1900, in the city of Paris (France), the shooting competitions grouped several modalities: target shooting, pigeon shooting, archery, crossbow shooting and fire gun shooting (Müller & Todt, 2015).

The practice of shooting was one of the favorites of the Baron Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the OG. So much so that he devoted particular attention to this sport in the economic planning for the 1908 OG in Rome (Italy). This way, in the first decades of the 20th century, shooting has been established in the OG (Müller & Todt, 2015).

According to Torres (2006), until 1920, Latin-American participation in Olympic arenas was restricted to athletes from six nations, but Coubertin had long been interested in increasing Latin-American participation in Olympic matters. “The dramatic change during the 1920s, from the negligible role that Latin-American athletes and officials had played in the first 30 years of modern Olympic life, can be described as an ‘Olympic explosion’” (Torres, 2006, p. 1089).

Brazil was an important disseminator of this Latin “Olympic Explosion” after the 1920s OG. An example of it was the Latin-American Games in Rio de Janeiro, 1922, event that celebrated the 100’s anniversary of Brazil’s independence (1822-1992) (Vicari, Silva & Mazo, 2015). The event was idealized by the members of the small Brazilian delegation at 1920s OG, motivated by the unexpected results obtained. At the occasion, authorities of the sport decided to create the Latin-American Games Committee with the main purpose of organizing regular editions of the event, which would feed the Olympic Games with athletes from this region of the globe (Torres, 2006).

Shooting was one of the sports that, along with swimming, water polo and rowing, marked the first Brazilian participation in the OG, at the 1920s Antwerp (Belgium) edition. Such initiative reveals that only 24 years after the first edition of the OG of the Modern Era, in 1896, for the first time Brazil sent a group of 24

people, under the organization of the “*Confederação Brasileira de Desportos*” (“Brazilian Confederation of Sports”), to participate in the event in Europe (Comitê Olímpico Brasileiro [COB], 2004). On the 21 shooting competitions played there was no other Latin-American country at the medal table apart from Brazil, 5th place at the final classification of Shooting, marked by the conquest of three Olympic medals (one gold, one silver and one bronze), all conquered in the competitions of target shooting. Thus, this event has a special meaning for Brazilian sports memory.

Not only marking the first participation in the OG, the event resulted in three medals won in shooting: Guilherme Paraense brought the gold medal in the revolver category; Afranio da Costa won the silver in the individual pistol and; the bronze medal in the pistol team competition, composed by the two previously mentioned, together with Fernando Soledade, Sebastian Wolf and Dario Barbosa. Unlike the others, who lived in Rio de Janeiro, these last two athletes came from Rio Grande do Sul.

Compared to other sports, shooting, along with rowing (Silva, 2015), was one of the most organized sports in the country in the 1920s. During World War I (1914-1918) were created in Brazil the “*Tiros de Guerra*” (“Shots of War”), from associations of shooters that already existed in the country since the second half of the 19th century. In addition, there was already in Brazil the “*Tiro Nacional*” (“National Shot”), an institution created to meet the needs of the Armed Forces and national defense of the territory, promoting the practice mainly for military personnel, but accepting some civilians. Shooting was a significant sport practice in the south and southeast region due to the strong presence of German immigrants and their descendants, identified as “Teuto-Brazilians”¹, who founded the shooting associations. These associations focused not only in promoting the practice of target shooting, but the socialization and maintenance of ethnic-cultural representations (Assmann & Mazo, 2013; Kilpp, Assmann & Mazo, 2012; Mazo et al., 2012; Oliveira Neto, 2010).

The present study has the objective of investigating how was the journey of the athletes from Rio Grande do Sul state, who participated in the 1920s Olympic Games, from the beginning of their sports career, crossing through the participation of the athletes in the 1920s OG, until their return home, after the event. The narrative that follows seeks to develop a version of the history of the Brazilian Olympic Sport based on the unique experiences

1. The expression “teuto” refers to nationality by the rhetoric of common blood, the *jus-sanguinis*, being German all of those who have German blood. While the term “Brazilian” was associated with citizenship, by the conception of *jus-soli*. According to Seyferth (2017), this term is used to designate immigrants and descendants of Germans in Brazil.

of two athletes, who, at the time of this edition of the OG, lived far from the capital of Brazil (Rio de Janeiro), and perhaps did not even consider being part of the team (mostly composed of residents of the south-east region of the country). Although the choice of the study focus on two Rio Grande do Sul athletes, this does not mean that it is indifferent to the historical time and places in which they built their experiences and relationships, especially in the sports field. In this direction, this study also seeks to highlight the cultural representations that emerged from the institutionalized practice of shooting in shooting societies, especially the “*Tiros de Guerra*” (“War Shots”) societies.

Method

The collection of historical data mainly occurred in printed sources, especially newspapers that circulated in the states of Rio Grande do Sul and Rio de Janeiro, namely: “*A Federação*” (“The Federation” - Rio Grande do Sul); *O Paiz* (“The Country” - Rio de Janeiro) and “*Correio da Manhã*” (“Mail of the Morning” - Rio de Janeiro). These were accessed on the “*Hermeroteca Digital*” - website of the National Library - based on the terms used in the period, namely: “*Jogos Olímpicos*” (“Olympic Games”), “*Olympíadas*” (“Olympiads”), “*Bélgica*” (“Belgium” - host country) and other terms that emerged from the reports collected during the research. Another source used was a documentary made from oral testimonies of the descendants of the shooters, entitled “*Ouro, Prata, Bronze e... Chumbo!*” (“Gold, Silver, Bronze and ... Fire!”) (Torero, 2012). For the interpretation of the sources, the documentary analysis technique (Bacellar, 2008) was used. It is also important to mention that the texts taken as historical sources were also produced, in their time, from a place that needs to be understood and deciphered by the researcher (Barros, 2012).

Results and discussion

Shooting societies and the “Tiros de guerra”

Shooting was a well-known sport in the southern Brazilian states and, especially, in the state of Rio Grande do Sul in the 19th century. According to Oliveira Neto (2010), the “Shooters Clubs” (or “Hunting and Shooting Clubs”), date back to the beginnings of German colonization in southern Brazil, when these associations

were created with defensive and social purposes. The Shooting Societies are among the oldest Teuto-Brazilian institutions (Oliveira Neto, 2010).

According to the study conducted by Assmann and Mazo (2012), the Rio Grande do Sul is among the pioneer states in Brazil to host associations aimed at target shooting practice, especially in regions with a strong presence of German immigrants and descendant (Teuto-Brazilians). In the Shooting Societies, the Teuto-Brazilians “practiced the sport, cultivated its roots and affirmed its ethnicity” (Assmann & Mazo, 2012, p. 2). According to the authors (Assmann & Mazo, 2012) the first target shooting association of Rio Grande do Sul was founded in 1863 by German immigrants established in the region.

After the Proclamation of the Republic of Brazil, in 1889, followed a period of wide political and economic movement in the country, in which originated the so-called “*Tiros de Guerra*” (“War Shots”). According to Carone (1989), conflicts and regional revolts, linked to diplomatic matters, generated the need to improve the quality of the Brazilian army. In this way, there was a need for improvement in the training of soldiers in the country, which until then, was carried out abroad. In addition, it was necessary to arrange a group of soldiers trained to form a Sniper Corps, thus constituting the first organized military reserve.

The goal was achieved with the foundation of the first “*Tiro de Guerra*” (“War Shot”) in Rio Grande do Sul, called “*Tiro Nacional*” (“National Shot”), on March 10, 1899 (Brasil, 1889). One of its purposes was to promote the practice of shooting with portable weapons, among army officers and other federal armed forces, also allowing civilians previously registered by the director of the institution (Brasil, 1889). After the founding of the “*Tiro Nacional*” in Rio Grande do Sul, the Minister of War, General Hermes da Fonseca, determined the construction of firing lines throughout the national territory, with the purpose of increasing shooting practice and military training of the Brazilian army.

In this way, the “*Tiro Nacional Porto-Alegrense*”, from Porto Alegre - capital city of Rio Grande do Sul - was installed on February 24, 1906 (“*Tiro Nacional Porto-Alegrense*”, 1906). Being part of the Brazilian firing lines, the Brazilian Shooting Confederation (BSC) was created, having its head office in the city of Rio Grande (in Rio Grande do Sul) place that had the largest international port of the state, where foreign individuals entered the national territory,

consisting of a space that needed to be protected.

The existing associations, having as model the “*Tiro Nacional*”, were linked to the BSC, originating the “*Tiros de Guerra*” (“War Shots”), which would supply with reservists of second category the permanent army (Confederação Brasileira de Tiro Esportivo [CBTE], 2012). This was the case of the “*Tiro Nacional Porto-Alegrense*”, which was known as “*Tiro número 4*” (“Shot number 4”), due to the number of its registration in the BSC, on May 31, 1908.

With the incorporation, the Association configured in “*Tiro número 4*” extended its objectives, aiming to offer instruction of shot for military and civilians in order to form and train reservists for the army. In fact, in the year following the foundation, the institution already allowed non-members to exercise in the practice of shooting (“*Tiro Nacional Porto-Alegrense*”, 1907).

On the occasion of the new conformation, a festivity was held, extending until the dawn. Amid the celebrations, a target shooting contest was made between the members, in which stand out names that would occupy a prominent place in the Brazilian Olympic memory in the future: Sebastião Wolf² and Dario Barbosa³ (“*Tiro Nacional*”, 1908).

The celebrations took place at the headquarters of “*Tiro número 4*”, in Porto Alegre. On the porch entrance of the headquarters, on the upper part, the following sentence was exposed: “A useful sport for the Nation”, with a logo of the BSC (Tiroflu, 2012).

In the following decade, the “*Tiro número 4*” gained more visibility, not only at the local and regional level, but also expanded beyond the state limits, thanks to snipers of this association who participated in competitions in South-American countries. Dario Barbosa participated in the Argentine Centennial Tournament, in 1910, and the Pan-American Shooting Games, in 1912, in Buenos Aires. In this last event, along with Sebastião Wolf and Alberto David Pereira Braga, he conquered a team bronze medal in the revolver category (Federação Maranhense de Tiro Esportivo [FMTE], 2012). It is noticed that, parallel to the Brazilian trajectory, shooting was also present in the Latin-American countries scenario in the referred period. At the end of 1914, Dario Barbosa participated in the Revolver Shooting Championship in Rio de Janeiro, obtaining second place and veteran recognition in the revolver.

In addition to Dario Barbosa, Sebastião Wolf was also one of the “*Tiro número 4*” shooters and he had a good accomplishment in

2. Born in Germany on March 15, 1869, he first came to Brazil as a child, where he worked as a biscuit maker. He learned to shoot at the age of 11, with his stepfather, who was a biologist and shot birds in order to stuff them. He was 51 years old when he participated in the OG (Torero, 2012).

3. Born in Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, on July 21, 1882, he worked as a doctor. He took part in the 1920 OG, at the age of 38. He learned to shoot with his father, hunting ducks and partridges, but it was in shooting clubs that he started practicing for sport purposes (Torero, 2012).

the competitions. In 1915, he won the Brazilian Championship of Revolver, promoted by the BSC, establishing a new national record. At the time, he was recognized as an excellent sniper of short guns and rifle, since it conquered several state and national titles (FMTE, 2012).

Apart from being an athlete, Sebastião Wolf also served as manager of “*Tiro número 4*”. It is also important to notice that he was not born in Brazil, but became a Brazilian citizen and settled in Rio Grande do Sul state (Rubio, 2004).

The Rio Grande do Sul Shooters on the National Team

The athletes Dario Barbosa and Sebastião Wolf, as previously mentioned stood out in the national shooting competitions, but this did not guarantee their invitation to join the Brazilian team (Tiroflu, 2012). They participated in qualifying events, which were conducted by the Brazilian Sports Confederation. The first contest played was among revolver shooters in Rio de Janeiro. Other rounds were held not only in Rio de Janeiro but also in Porto Alegre (“O Brasil em Antuérpia”, 1920).

In Porto Alegre, the contests were held at “*Tiro número 4*” headquarters and a significant number of people attended the event to watch the best shooters of the state, among them Dario Barbosa and Sebastião Wolf, who were competing for a chance in the National team. In Rio de Janeiro, the contests took place at the headquarter of the Revolver Club of *Fluminense Football Club* (“Eliminatória para as Olympiadas de Anvers”, 1920, p. 6).

After the revolver contest, eleven shooters were classified, however, only seven were the number of shooters that could be entered by each country in the OG. Even so, the commission decided that the eleven should continue to practice, under their supervision, until the event, when the choice of the seven country representative shooters (in their best physical form) would occur. After this stage, the shooters who represented Brazil in the OG were chosen, with the presence of the two Rio Grande do Sul athletes on the list.

Another deadlock in the period was the silence of the Brazilian government that did not manifest itself after receiving the invitation for the country’s participation in the OG. Some newspapers took a position, for example, the newspaper “*O Paiz*”, from Rio de Janeiro. While praising the efforts of the Brazilian Sports Confederation, that was working for “our representation to achieve complete success in the Antwerp Olympics,” it criticized the government that “has done

nothing so far to support our representation, as do all European and American countries “(“As Olimpíadas de Anvers”, 1920a, p. 2).

In this way, Roberto Trompowsky, who would become the head of the Brazilian delegation in the 1920s OG, sent a correspondence entitled “The appeal of the Brazilian Sports Confederation” to the Metropolitan Sports Federation and the Rio Grande do Sul Sports Federation. The correspondence, published in the newspaper “*A Federação*”, describes the invitation that the National Olympic Committee received from the Belgian government, so that Brazil could be represented in the 1920s, where the Brazilian Sports Confederation would be responsible for the organization of the Brazilian delegation.

The Brazilian Sports Confederation, dissatisfied with the delay in organizing the delegation due to the slow return of the state’s representatives, published in its column in the newspaper “*O Paiz*” a public call: “As the person in charge of this part, I invite all Brazilians who wish to test their abilities on the sports below discriminated, in order to determine their conditions “(“Sports: Foot-ball, Turf, Rowing e Outros”, 1920, p. 9). This initiative reveals indications that, for the sporting entities of the time, the OG did not have the representation it has nowadays, perhaps due to the difficulties of moving from Brazil to Europe and the financial expenses with travel and stay.

Faced with so many difficulties, besides the manifestations of the newspapers, other actions in the sense of seeing Brazil represented in the 1920s OG were headed by governmental authorities. Senator Mendes de Almeida requested the President of the Republic to assist the government, also requesting, on behalf of the Brazilian Sports Confederation, the assignment of a ship to conduction and staying of the Brazilian representatives (“As Olimpíadas de Anvers”, 1920b). In addition, the “*Correio da Manhã*” newspaper demonstrated, at the time, against the attitude of the Chamber of Deputies, which delayed the discussion of the project that provided credit for Brazil to participate in the OG, also reporting that the amount, which could be reduced by half, would put Brazilian athletes in very difficult conditions (“O Brasil em Antuérpia”, 1920). Despite the challenges encountered, the delegation embarked for Antwerp on July 1, on the steamship donated by the Brazilian government.

According to Cardoso (2000), the “tickets” were supposed to be first class, but upon arriving at the ship the athletes were informed by the commander Reis Júnior that they could only use the

accommodation of the third class. However, in the documentary “*Ouro, Prata, Bronze e... Chumbo!*” (“Gold, Silver, Bronze and ... Fire!”) (Torero, 2012), historian Eduardo Ferreira stated that the ship was for cargo and passenger transportation, and the accommodations of the athletes were near the basement, as well as small, tight and warm. Both sources alleged that the commander allowed the delegation to sleep in the ship’s restaurant, where they extended their beds in the dining hall after the last customer left. However, the salon was not released early, since an English passenger was used to have a glass of redcurrant every day at 11 pm (Cardoso, 2000) and, according to Oziris Paraense, the son of Guilherme Paraense, the man used to drink whiskey until midnight (Torero, 2012). In addition, the delegation had to wake up early, before the arrival of the first customer, an Englishman who, at 6 o’clock in the morning, was there to drink the first dose of gin of the day (Cardoso, 2000).

Due to the athletes’ late departure to Antwerp, the ship’s commander informed the delegation’s chief, Roberto Trompovsky, that it would only arrive in Antwerp on 5 August. In this way, if they persisted in going to Belgium by ship, they would not arrive in time for the competition, as the OG would begin on July 27. Seeking for a more immediate solution, the head of the delegation, via telegraph, sent a message to the Organizing Committee in Antwerp requesting the postponement of the disputes, which has never been answered. Another message was sent to Brazilian Sports Confederation, in Rio de Janeiro, requesting a reinforcement of funds: also remained unanswered (Cardoso, 2000). These were some of the problems that the delegation faced before the 1920s OG.

The solution to arrive in time to participate in the OG was found by the delegation itself on the ship. Thus, the delegation landed in Lisbon (Portugal) and traveled by train to Brussels (Belgium). On the Brussels scale, while waiting for the train to be connected to Antwerp, the athletes of Shooting were stolen, having part of their ammunition and targets taken (Torero, 2012). A providential loss, since the material was not of good quality, as was reported later. Despite the tribulations, the athletes arrived at the destination, where they would still face problems due to lack of money and due to improvisation in every step that was taken (Cardoso, 2000; “*O Brasil em Antuérpia*”, 2012).

Finally, on August 2, 1920, the team formed by Afrânio Costa, Guilherme Paraense, Sebastião Wolf, Fernando Soledade and Dario Barbosa went to the site of the free pistol competition, flanked by

the Americans and the South Africans. The event counted on 94 shooters and 17 teams, being the Brazilian team the first to carry out the target shooting contest, with only one weapon, which had been lent. In this first contest the Brazilians were not well classified and the USA team took the lead, with 1,309 points.

Afrânio Costa reminds that Brazilian shooters got a higher score during the qualifying rounds in Brazil, that is, with other conditions the Brazilian team could have performed better in this first round of the OG (“O Brasil em Antuérpia”, 2012). On the next day, Afrânio Costa was going to return the weapons back to the USA team, but the US military did not receive it and asked him to agree to continue firing with the gun, as the Brazilian athlete reports: “My gratitude turned into a deep surprise when he told me to do the honor of continuing to shoot with the gun” (“O Brasil em Antuérpia”, 2012, p. 7).

However, in the documentary “*Ouro, Prata, Bronze e...Chumbo!*” (“Gold, Silver, Bronze and ... Fire!”) (Torero, 2012) the narrative of this fact was different: after the poor result of Fernando Soledade in the first shooting contest in the OG, the Captain Snyders, from USA, presented Afrânio da Costa with two weapons, which were used by the Brazilian shooters in the following competitions.

The action of the head of the USA shooting team, together with the skill of the Brazilian shooters, meant that from that moment the Brazilian athletes began to attend the first places in the competition, overtaking the front of famous shooters of the time. It all culminated with the three medals won, an amazing fact for the time, as they defeated the United States, one of the strongest contenders, and great candidate for success in all shooting events at the Olympic event. On September 15, 1920, the delegation returned to Brazil.

The paths of Rio Grande do Sul athletes after the Olympic Games

On the return, the shooters Sebastião Wolf and Dario Barbosa were received in Porto Alegre at a reception prepared by the deliberative council board of the Club “*Tiro número 4*”, in which were awarded medals commemorating the representation of Rio Grande do Sul on the Brazilian shooting team for the OG (“Tiro 4”, 2012). In addition to this award, the Rio Grande do Sul shooters and other members of the Brazilian team won another prize, this time in cash. According to what was reported in the “*Correio da Manhã*” newspaper, among the amendments approved in plenary concerning the war budget, one is related and directed

to the Brazilian athletes who competed in the Olympic Games in Antwerp in 1920 (“Tiro de Guerra: Orçamento”, 1921).

Another tribute to the Olympic shooters was made by the Brazilian president at the time, Epitácio Pessoa, at the hall of the *Fluminense Football Club* in Rio de Janeiro. At the occasion, all the shooters that were in the 1920s OG received a plaque allusive to their historical achievement, with the exception of Sebastião Wolf, who did not attend the ceremony. No information was found to clarify the reasons for the absence of the Rio Grande do Sul athlete (Fluminense, 2017).

Nevertheless, Sebastião Wolf continued competing in the following years. He participated in the South American Athletics Games, promoted by the Brazilian government, with the purpose of celebrating the Centenary of the Independence of Brazil in 1922, in Rio de Janeiro (Martini, 2013). According to Ferreira (2007a) there are strong indications that Sebastião Wolf represented “*Tiro número 4*” in the contest of war revolver obtaining the fourth place (Vicari & Mazo, 2011, p. 8-9). Vicari and Mazo (2011) affirm that there are doubts about which competition the athlete Sebastião Wolf has participated: whether in the South American Athletics Games or in the International Military Games, because he was military and the events happened at the same time, during the celebrations of the Centenary of the Independence of Brazil.

After the results of the OG, it seems that the Olympic movement began to be boosted in Brazil. In 1923, news was released about the installation of the National Olympic Council in Rio de Janeiro. This entity, which had the support of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Felix Pacheco, would have the function of making the Brazilian representation in a dignified way in the next OG, in Paris in 1924 (“Os atiradores brasileiros”, 1923). It is possible that this initiative has originated due to the big number of incidents suffered by the 1920s OG delegation. In the following editions of the OG no information was found on the participation of shooting athletes from Rio Grande do Sul.

However, the pages of the newspaper “*Correio da Manhã*” on June 24 and 26, 1932, reveal that Sebastião Wolf was part of the Brazilian shooting delegation that was sent by the Brazilian Sports Confederation to Los Angeles OG, in 1932. Years later, the newspaper “*A Federação*” (“Sebastião Wolf”, 1936) reinforced the news about the athlete’s participation in the 1932 edition, reporting that, although being part of the delegation, he could not shoot for

motives well-known by everyone. However, such motives remained obscured because they were not located in the sources (“Sebastião Wolf”, 1936). Perhaps Sebastião was no longer able to participate in shooting competitions for health issues, since he died four years after the Los Angeles Olympic Games on March 15, 1936, in Porto Alegre, at the age of 67 (“Sebastião Wolf”, 1936; FMTE, 2012). The Wolf family continued to be represented on the Brazilian shooting scene, as their son, João Conrado Wolf, encouraged by his father, also practiced shooting and became director of “*Tiro número 4*” (Ferreira, 2017b)

Regarding to Dario Barbosa, previous to the note of his death on September 25, 1965, in the city of Porto Alegre, at the age of 83, no sources were found with evidence of his participation in sports events after the 1920s OG.

Final considerations

The present study demonstrates that, in the case of Rio Grande do Sul, it was the newspaper “*A Federação*” that began to publish about the modern OG. Its publications started from 1919, when the first actions were taken aiming for the Brazilian participation in the Olympic event that was going to take place in Antwerp in the following year.

Facing the described scenario, it is notable that the journey of the athletes from Rio Grande do Sul was filled with remarkable experiences. Although both have started their practice with birds hunting shooting, it was due to target shooting that they recorded their most exciting memories.

When the sportive practice of shooting is established in Rio Grande do Sul, through the Teuto-Brazilian clubs and the “*Tiro número 4*”, Sebastião Wolf and Dario Barbosa begin their journey in competitions, collecting a series of prizes and awards, not only at the state, but at national and international level. The sporting trajectories of these two shooters crossed at various times, but when they were put together for the 1920s OG, they reach their career spotlight with the Olympic bronze medal by team, a big surprise for the time, as they faced national teams with more tradition in shooting. The Rio Grande do Sul athletes, as well as the rest of the Brazilian shooting team, faced series of problems, ranging from the trip to Europe, the misadventures in Belgium and even after winning the medal, as the resources to stay in the country were almost non-existent.

When one of the characteristics of the OG was the participation of amateur athletes, unlike today, the paths followed by the athletes after the OG were different, as can be seen with Sebastião Wolf and Dario Barbosa. While the former kept competing, being featured in the pages of the newspapers, including the participation in another Olympic competition (1932 edition of the OG, in Los Angeles); the latter was no longer cited in the news reports. Thus, according to the sources regarding the Brazilian participation in the event, competing in the OG was not only for those who achieved high performance in their sports, but also for adventure and joy seekers, characterizing the spirit of Amateurism still preserved from the Ancient Olympic Games, proposed by Baron Pierre de Coubertin.

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Authors

Janice Zarpellon Mazo is PhD in Sports Sciences at the University of Porto. Full-professor at the School of Physical Education, Physiotherapy and Dance (ESEFID) of the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS). Lecturer at Stricto Sensu Post-Graduation Programme in Human Movements Sciences (PPGCMH/ UFRGS). Leader of the Nucleus of Studies in History and Memory of Sport (NEHME/UFRGS/ CNPq). Researcher of the Olympic Studies Research Group (GPEO/PUCRS/CNPq).

Carolina Fernandes da Silva is PhD in Human Movements Sciences at the School of Physical Education, Physiotherapy and Dance (ESEFID) of the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS). Lecturer at the Faculty of Physical Education of the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina (UFSC). Researcher of the Nucleus of Studies in History and Memory of Sport (NEHME/ UFRGS/CNPq) and of the Olympic Studies Research Group (GPEO/PUCRS/CNPq).

Gabriel Kessler Merlin is Bachelor in Physical Education and Sports Sciences at Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS). Member of the Olympic Studies Research Group (GPEO/PUCRS/CNPq).

Nelson Schneider Todt is PhD in Education at the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS). Master in Human Movements Sciences at the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS). Full-professor at the Faculty of Physical Education and Sports Sciences (FEFID/PUCRS). Post-Doctor in Olympic Studies at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Coordinator of the Olympic Studies Research Group (GPEO/ PUCRS/CNPq). President of the Brazilian Pierre de Coubertin Committee.

