

WORLD MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Compiled by John Roake - As at 31.12.2008

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
ARGENTINA	253	242	252	264	186	174	182	230	249	223	120	165
AUSTRALIA	3139	3089	2976	2785	2725	2673	2606	2637	2575	2444	2460	2436
AUSTRIA	3990	3965	3928	3817	3790	3692	3690	3687	3598	3481	3466	3458
BELGIUM	1557	1570	1591	1530	1520	1472	1916	1877	1850	1760	1743	1713
CANADA	1319	1321	1313	1290	1350	1297	1232	1134	1103	1101	1140	1075
CHILE										147	148	152
CHINA							120	117	50	48	67	61
CROATIA							270	272	149	150	161	148
CZECH REPBL	3540	3591	3190	3142	3114	3206	3246	3249	3196	3121	3198	3240
DENMARK	1984	1927	1950	1892	1875	1841	1766	1756	1783	1738	1740	1683
FINLAND	2670	2474	2602	2814	2600	2548	2493	2442	2446	2329	2132	2244
FRANCE	12554	11813	11100	11510	12020	12155	13582	12829	12471	12375	12214	11643
GERMANY	36724	36768	36687	36414	35852	35650	35236	34642	33196	32229	31279	30792
GREECE	49	49	51	52	53	60	60	83	82	85	85	95
HUNGARY	1881	1664	1664	1628	1637	1643	1602	1450	1001	1063	1020	892
ICELAND	96	96	101	80	70	68	49	55	57	55	59	52
ISRAEL	189	190	190	183	184	175	180	176	170	175	175	170
IRELAND	79	81	85	94	98	111	118	111	119	112	116	85
ITALY	2120	2135	2125	2110	2122	2129	2129	1749	1641	1742	1807	1734
JAPAN	697	686	675	663	684	670	643	640	670	630	655	663
KENYA							7	9	8	13	23	12
KOREA							10	9	8	8	10	8
LUXEMBURG							49	35	35	38	46	35
LITHUANIA		471	469	472	494	510	526	532	540	527	510	475
NTHRLNDS	4046	4125	4079	4065	4088	3816	3617	3952	3949	3857	3822	3825
N. ZEALAND	1017	987	889	867	901	917	919	893	875	861	871	797
NORWAY	1701	1599	1574	1550	1578	1760	1760	1513	1528	1435	1411	1332
PAKISTAN		23	25	28	29	28	27	25	24	27	22	19
POLAND	2808	3062	2902	2892	3048	3058	3058	2996	2587	2362	2394	2274
PORTUGAL							64	64	62	58	64	59
RUSSIA	369	326	326	326	357	360	360	349	350	333	331	250
SERBIA							143	130	127	120	115	130
SLOVAK REPLB	925	846	774	736	699	729	675	652	680	624	662	715
SLOVENIA	885	874	861	872	924	949	949	598	579	624	593	557
STH AFRICA	641	688	728	579	597	613	635	598	628	590	596	582
SPAIN	490	493	498	496	435	436	560	561	550	526	520	514
SWEDEN	3249	3013	3025	2700	2950	2700	2912	2776	2678	2567	2391	2321
SWTZRLND	3647	3666	3680	3145	3040	2977	2871	3154	2995	2745	2794	2813
UNTD KNGDM	9225	9225	9164	8802	8848	9166	8341	8242	8105	8079	7950	7811
U.S.A.	32399	32645	32133	31592	31148	31146	30125	30222	30186	30136	29513	29192
	134243	133704	131607	129390	129016	128729	128728	126446	122900	120538	118423	116222

Commentary on World Membership * Year 2008

Where are our members going? Since 1999 we have lost, world wide, 15,385 flying members or 11.69%.

During the 12 months ended December 31, 2008, our losses have been 2201, (2%). The consoling factor is that we are not the only sport to be losing members at this rate, but that is no reason to ignore the problem. Most that I have been in communication with compiling this year's report, do not seem to share my concern, with most giving me the impression that it is some one else's problem to worry about it. All agree that there is no magic wand that will solve our falling membership.

Argentina: Fluctuates widely

Australia: Lost 600 members over the past 10 years but has stabilised.

Austria: Lost 1500 members over the past 10 years but has stabilised

Belgium: Small loss this year but up 122 members over the past 10 years

Canada: Lost 65 members this year - down 238 over past 10 years.

Chile: Contact established for the first time and last three years figures provided. Static.

China: Figures suspect -static.

Croatia: Now static but down 45% in six years.

Czech Republic: Very static over past 10 years. Up 42 members this year.

Denmark: Down 57 member for the year but reasonably static.

Finland: Up 108 member this year. Down 13.75% since 1999..

France: Down 7.55% for the year but up 543 members since 1999.

Germany: Down 4.5% for the year. Down 16.06% since 1999.

Greece: Up 86% over the past 10 years, but very small numbers.

Hungary: Down 772 members since 1999. (46.3%). 12.54% for the current year.

Iceland: Figures officially unsubstantiated.

Israel: Reasonably static

Ireland: Despite drop of 27% this year, currently no change with 1999 total.

Italy: This year - lost 73 members (4%) Down 18.4% since 1999.

Japan: Little or no change since 1999

Kenya: Numbers very small.

Korea: Numbers very small.

Luxemburg: Down 24% this year. Numbers small.

Lithuania: Down 6.8% this year, but no change since 1999.

Netherlands: No change this year. Down 6.2% since 1999.

New Zealand: Down 8.5% this year. Down 10.3% since 1999.

Norway: Down 5.5% this year. Down 15.37% since 1999.

Pakistan: Numbers very small.

Poland: Down 5% this year. Down 21% since 1999

Portugal: Numbers unsubstantiated.

Russia: Down 24.4% this year. Down 23.3% since 1999.

Serbia: Up13% on small numbers.

Slovak Republic: Up 8% for the year. Down 7.6% since 1999.

Slovenia: No response received. This year's figures based on world average.

Sth Africa: Static for the year. Down 20% since 1999.

Spain: Very static for current year. Also since 1999.

Sweden: Down 3% this year. Down 23.2% since 1999..

Switzerland: Up 17 members for the year. Down 23.5% since 1999.

United Kingdom: Figures not available at print time. World Average applied. Down 14.7% since 1999.

U.S.A. Down 1% for the 2008 year. Down 9.01% since 1999.

John Roake