

A celebratory note by the publisher

With this 50th volume in Medicine and Sport Science, we have reached a milestone in the history of our book series, and would like to take this opportunity to travel back in time with you to look at how the series has developed over the years.

In the mid 60ies, Prof. Ernst Jokl, Lexington KY, and Karger Publishers together developed the idea to regularly publish volumes on select subjects relating to two different academic disciplines: sports sciences and medicine. Thus was born the book series Medicine and Sport. Its aim was to publish representative volumes detailing scope and nature of a number of academic disciplines whose methodology and theoretical prerequisites are applied in the field of sports medicine. The first volume “Exercise and Altitude” was published in 1968, and for over thirty years, the series was published for and on behalf of the Research Committee of the International Council of Sport and Physical Education of UNESCO.

In the early years, the distribution of the volumes in the US and Canada was handled by University Park Press, but in 1973 Karger took on this task itself.

Ernst Jokl remained Series Editor until 1984, when his responsibility passed to Prof. Marcel Hebbelinck, Brussels, who had already served as Assistant Editor since 1971 and who had helped edit the second volume “Biomechanics” in the series. The name of the book series was changed to Medicine and Sport Science to give more emphasis to its scientific scope. Prof. Roy J. Shephard, Toronto, joined Marcel Hebbelinck as Series Editor in 1986 and remained in this capacity until 1996.

Prof. Jan Borms, Brussels, joined the series as Editor in 1998, but as early as 1978 had already edited a volume together with Marcel Hebbelinck – “Pediatric Work Physiology” (vol. 11). Further Series Editors who have served for shorter periods of time include Prof. Lyle J. Micheli, Boston, and most recently Prof. Andrew P. Hills, Brisbane, who joined the team in 2003.

Forty-nine previous volumes have been published covering many different subjects in the field of sports medicine and sports science. We of Karger Publishers would like to take the opportunity of this 50th anniversary volume to extend our special thanks to all who have contributed to Medicine and Sport Science over the years, and most especially to the Series Editors for their untiring dedication and support, and the good relationship we have always enjoyed with them. We hope to be able to work with them for many more years to come.

Thomas Karger

Steven Karger



Thomas Karger Steven Karger

