

## Olympic Scholarship for Sochi 2014: A Helping Hand to Olympic Hopefuls Shotlist

IOC Olympic Solidarity Films - VNR Transcript

Peter Adam Crook - Ski Half Pipe - British Virgin Islands

TIME

CODE DESCRIPTION TRANSCRIPT - English

00:00 INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

PETER ADAM CROOK

00:03 Q. Explain your involvement with the Olympic Solidarity Scheme and what it has done for you?

00:06 Peter Adam Crook

Sound byte

(English Lang) Yeah it's a real honour to be able to compete in the 2014 Games for my home country, the British Virgin Islands, and without the Olympic Solidarity it would be a lot harder

The thing about my story that it was that appealed to the IOC was it's just very different, obviously there's not many skiers that come from the Caribbean

So I received my scholarship from the Olympic Solidarity Programme and that allowed me to hire on a private coach which has helped a huge amount, it's also helped with expenses with travel and accommodation and bonus training camps and just about everything, it's covered pretty much across the board.

Olympic Solidarity has meant the world to me, it's given me most opportunities that I wouldn't have had otherwise and without it I'm not sure where I'd be.

00:50 Q. Do you receive many comparisons to the Jamaican bobsleigh team and the film Cool Runnings?

00:53 Peter Adam Crook

Sound byte

English Lang) I think I do receive a lot of comments about Cool Runnings, it's almost everyone's first comment when I tell them where I'm from and what I do and I have a huge amount of respect for those guys, I don't even want to compare myself to them just because I think they're on a whole other level I mean they were able to train in Jamaica with their roller carts and things and I haven't had the opportunity to really train in the Islands so I have a huge amount of respect for them and kind of don't really want to put myself on their level.

01:19 Q. How do you hope to use your story to inspire others?

01:23 Peter Adam Crook

Sound byte

(English Lang) I just want to let kids know and let everyone know that it doesn't matter where you're from or what background you have, anyone can achieve anything and you just have to set goals for yourself and work hard for it.

I try and make myself out to be the biggest role model for the Virgin Islands that I can; I just really want to inspire kids and let them know that they can do literally whatever they want they just need to set goals and work hard towards that.

01:43 INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

LUKE ALLEN "OCHO" - HEAD SKI COACH – BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

01:48 Q. How has the Olympic Solidarity Scheme helped out the British Virgin Islands team?

01:52 Luke Allen

Sound byte

(English lang) Yeah, I definitely think, I think that the Olympic Solidarity Programme helps the athletes that are a little less fortunate financially because there's so many athletes out around the world that have talent and just being able to use that talent to achieve their goals and not have any problems financially just makes it way easier on them and get to see more of a solid competition that way.

02:17 Q. Talk about your history with Peter?

02:21 Luke Allen

Sound byte

(English lang) I definitely saw a lot more improvement out of his skiing just because we are able to work way more closely with the athletes now and we're just able to do more on a daily basis rather than just kind of working with, you know, 15 different athletes, you can't give, you know, 15 athletes as much attention and the things that they need.

02:44 INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

OLIVIER NAIMKEY - HEAD OF ATHLETES SECTION, IOC

02:49 Q. What is the central mission of Olympic Solidarity

02:53 Olivier Niamkey

Sound byte

(English lang) The Central Mission of Olympic Solidarity is to redistribute the broadcast rights belonging to the NOC from the Olympic Games. And the IOC has decided to redistribute those funds through various programmes dedicated to athletes, to coaches, administrators and the promotion of the Olympic Values. So all the National Olympic Committees can benefit from those programmes and we are working from Lausanne with all the National Olympic Committees of the World to implement different activities for the development of sports.

03:30 Q. What are the challenges athletes face, where the Olympic Solidarity programme can make a real difference?

03:33 Olivier Niamkey

Sound byte

(English lang) It's very important for an athlete to be able to attend competition, those competition happens around the world, there is travel costs, it's very difficult to have a job at the same time so those athletes need funding, need help and for some countries we all know that the sports is not the number one priority and some athletes has absolutely no help, no assistance. So despite the fact that they have the potential to be at the Games they lack the fund and this is where Olympic Solidarity can assist and the majority of the athletes who give us feedback about our programme tell us that without this funding they wouldn't have been able to qualify for the Games.

04:15 Q. How has the programme evolved and are you looking forward to how it's going to work in Sochi?

04:19 Olivier Niamkey

Sound byte

(English lang) The programme has been operational for two Winter season now and we're very happy to see that many more NOCs, more athletes are involved in the Programme. So now we are looking forward to follow their results, see what exactly are the benefit of the Programme and we're really exciting to meet our Scholarship holders in Sochi. Sochi will be also very interesting because there will be new events and we have a few Scholarship holders in those events and we are looking forward to see how, how it works.

04:54 PETER ADAM CROOK

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06:56 END OF VNR