

Jim Scherr, U.S. Olympic Committee

The native of Mobridge, South Dakota, became the first Olympian in history chosen to lead the United State's Olympic Committee as its Chief Executive Officer. He gained the title in 2005 after serving the organization and leading it through a critical period of reform and reconstruction beginning in 2003. He joined the USOC in 2000 after a superb tenure as executive director of USA Wrestling and a stint as President of the Colorado Springs Sports Corporation. His career at the USOC is marked by his extraordinary commitment to programs and services in support of American athletes and the USOC's national governing bodies of sport. His cutting-edge initiatives as Chief Of Sport Performance at the USOC were directly effective in the medal performances by U.S. Olympic Teams in Sydney, Salt Lake, Athens and Torino. He was a member of the 1988 U.S. Olympic Team in Freestyle Wrestling at Seoul, Korea, finishing fifth in his class. He also won two silver medals and a bronze at the World Championships, earned three USA championships, and two World Cup titles during his remarkable career. Scherr wrestled for the University of Nebraska, his alma mater, and won an NCAA title at 177 pounds in 1984. He earned an MBA degree from Northwestern University's prestigious Kellogg Graduate School of Management.