

Major PERSONS



Eugène Paz
The Founder

Eugène Paz founded in 1873 the Union of Gymnastics Societies of France (UGSF) which will become later the French Federation of Gymnastics (FFGym). For him, gymnastics had two goals: stay healthy and prepare men to become soldiers.

It permitted to structure gymnastics in France and develop it by creating the first club, the first magazine talking about gymnastics and, of course, by founding the Federation.

Léon Ducret
The Editor

Léon Ducret is the founder of the official magazine *Le Gymnaste*, more known today under the name of *GymMag*. The first edition was published on July, 15th 1873.

The founder of the revue participated through this to spread gymnastics all over the territory and, also, to structure the federation. Indeed, until the 80s, this magazine helps the clubs to have all the informations such as the results of the gymnasts, but also the dates of the meetings, the reports, etc...



Charles Cazalet
The Committed

Charles Cazalet has been president of the Union of Gymnastics Societies of France for 34 years (1896-1931).

He has organised the first international tournaments of gymnastics, from 1903. He played an important role to train teachers through the opening of a class of physical education. From 1924 until his death, in 1933, he was the president of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG).

Jean-Alexis Latte
The Encyclopedist

Jean-Alexis Latte is the general secretary of the federation and also the chief editor of the federal magazine from 1942 until his death in 1953.

Author of four books including *La Gymnastique*, which lists hundreds of exercises going from the forward roll to the lift between gymnasts. Each exercise is explained and accompanied by schemes, which helps the coach to understand more easily the movements in order to teach them. Jean-Alexis Latte has helped gymnastics to structure and spread.



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Félix Faure

Le Président de la République

Félix Faure becomes president of the "Société Havraise de Gymnastique" in 1872. He then becomes president of the UGSF, ancestor of FFGym, in 1880, by taking the responsibility of the organisation of the 1881 party for national's regeneration in the city of Le Havre. From 1881, he integrates the National Assembly as a deputy, before being named Minister. He is elected as the President of France on January, 17th 1895.

Andrée Jacquot

The innovative

French gymnast, Andrée Jacquot becomes coach for the French national team in the 1950s. Also invested in the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG), she will quickly work for the modern gymnastics, which will become the Rhythmic gymnastics. Indeed, beside the creation of a huge movement called "La Ronde", she will participate to the conception of the sport on international level, but also its spread on the French territory. Andrée Jacquot has been for a long time the main character of the Women Artistic Gymnastics, while working for Rhythmic Gymnastics.



Arthur Magakian

The Technician

Named on June, 1st 1963, Arthur Magakian is the first National Technical Director. Former gymnast, he becomes a pion of the evolution of gymnastics in France. Its goal is to start the renewal of French gymnastics and bring it up towards international elite. He participates in the creation of the magazine "Le gymnaste technique", which permits to spread to all the clubs and French coaches some technical contents helpful for each and everyone's improvement.



Georges Guelzec

The European

Georges Guelzec has taken part of nine Olympic Games, first as a gymnast, then as the coach of French National Team and, finally, as a judge. He has occupied various important fonctions as elected, such as technical president and federal vice-president. Then, he has been president of Gymnastics European Union (UEG) for ten years, between 2010 and 2020. Its objective was to spread gymnastics and make it more modern and attractive.

