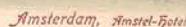


JOURNAL OF

SPRING 2011

Olympic Accommodations

1928 Amsterdam Games





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**Vol. 49, No. 3
Spring 2011**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

SPI Volunteer Opportunity

Our Membership Chairman, Margaret Jones, decided it was time to step aside and let another eager SPI member have a crack at the job. Margaret's been handling the membership duties for many years and her expertise will be greatly missed. A big "thank you" for a job well done! Peg has said that she will continue working on her long-term pet project for SPI which is the Sports-by-Country checklists.

Needless to say, we are looking for a *new* Membership Chairman.

Requirements: you must have a computer, email capability, and know the basics of using Microsoft Excel spreadsheets.

Duties include: process new membership applications, maintain a current membership roster (that's what we use Excel for), create mailing labels (quarterly) for the journal publisher, field inquiries by members and non-members, communicate with stamp show committee requests for SPI exhibit award criteria and diplomas, and assist in developing and implementing a program for existing member retention and solicitation of new members.

This is a volunteer position, however limited direct expenses such as for postage, paper, envelopes, etc. are reimbursed.

While the duties may appear to be many, none takes an inordinate amount of time as computers and email streamline the tasks.

Rather than hoping that someone else will step up to the plate, how about *you*? If the answer is yes, please drop me an email. In the interim, I'll be handling the membership duties – *temporarily*.

WESTPEX 2011 ~ April 29 to May 1

Our 10th International Convention is just around the corner, so if you haven't yet made your hotel and air reservations, don't wait a minute longer!

The convention and show hotel are one and the same – the San Francisco Airport Marriott – which makes this especially convenient for out-of-towners (like me). Fly in. Hop the *free* hotel shuttle to and from the airport. Fly out. Special room rate: \$113 per night, single or double occupancy.

SPI will have its own hospitality room so stop by for a visit. Check at the SPI Booth for info.

Friday night we will gather for dinner ... time and location to be announced. If you wish to join us, please let me have your contact info (hotel or cell phone number) via email.

Our SPI meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Saturday morning. Jim Bowman is our featured speaker with a talk entitled "Germany's Struggles to Host the Olympic Games - 1896-1936".

Saturday night is the Awards Banquet being held at the hotel. The cost is \$58/person with tickets purchased in advance from Judy Jarvis (judyjarvis@westpex.com). Make sure you ask to sit at the SPI table!

On Sunday morning at 11 a.m., there will be a tour of the SPI exhibits by the exhibitors. Meet up at the SPI Booth.

A complete schedule is on page 2 of this issue. We'll also provide updates on the SPI website so check back regularly. For more information, check the WESTPEX website: www.westpex.com.

See you all there!

The SPI web site is located at: <http://www.sportstamps.org>

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SPI CONVENTION AT WESTPEX 2011

Schedule of Events

Friday, April 29
SPI Dinner (TBA)

Saturday, April 30
10 AM: SPI General Meeting with featured speaker:
James Bowman - "Germany's Struggles to Host the Olympic Games - 1896-1936"
6 PM: No-host Cocktails followed by the Awards Banquet at 7 PM

Sunday, May 1
11 AM: Public Tour of SPI Exhibits

APRIL 29 - MAY 1, 2011 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

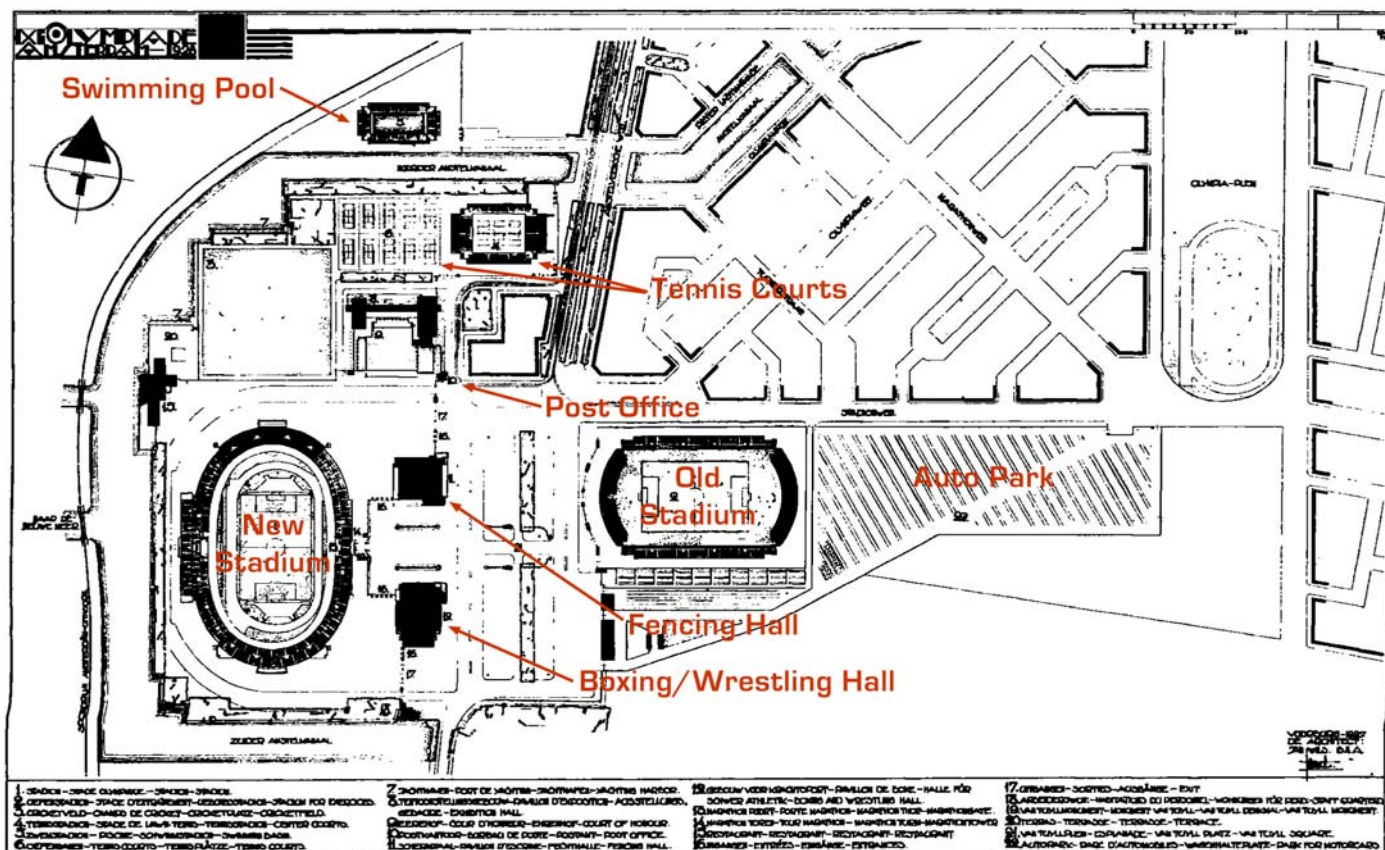


Figure 1. In the final facilities design for the 1928 Olympic Games, a new Stadium complex (at left) replaced the much smaller Old Stadium (center). Unfortunately, the Olympic Village was eliminated from the final plan.

Olympic Accommodations, 1928 Amsterdam Games

by Laurentz Jonker
edited by Mark Maestroni

For nearly the first three decades of the Modern Olympic Games, the participating athletes and their supporting team officials were at the mercy of local innkeepers when it came to finding a comfortable and affordable pillow upon which to rest at night. Athletes from less affluent nations certainly must have been at a disadvantage arriving at the starting line less well-rested than other competitors.

That all finally changed when the Organizing Committee of the Paris Olympic Games of 1924 decided to house the athletes in a centralized village at Colombes. With three athletes per cabin, the accommodations weren't plush, but at least everyone was on an equal footing. The cost for each competitor was 30 francs per day. Full pension (3 meals per day) plus showers, electricity, linens and

service was an additional 25 francs per day. In 2010 US Dollars, that came to about \$60/day/person – not an insignificant amount. Interestingly, the last Games at which athletes were charged a fee to stay at the Olympic Village was at Seoul in 1988. The fee then? \$60.96/athlete/day (in 2000 US Dollars)!

The Organizing Committee for the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games, hereafter referred to simply as “the Comité,” had every intention of continuing this benefit.

Initial plans by the 1928 Olympic Games architect, Jan Wils, included the provision of an Olympic Village for the athletes. The concept centered around a rebuilding of the Old Stadium, including a new cycling track, along with a centralized “Olympic Town.” To be included were a fencing hall, exhibition hall, pavilions for wrestling and boxing, a post office and additional outbuildings. Situated between the proposed tennis stadium and swimming stadium there was an Olympic Village.



Figure 2. Cover with corner card from the 't Koggeschip Housing Bureau responsible for helping find lodging for Olympic visitors. Mailed to Toulouse, France with roller cancel of "Amsterdam Centraal Station, 19.4.28.

The Comité foresaw a big problem: how to transport the many Olympic spectators. Without a solution, paralyzing traffic jams would certainly ensue.

Coming to the rescue, the Amsterdam Town Council made available – at no cost – land adjacent to the Old Stadium to build a brand new Olympic Stadium. Sufficient parking would be provided in front of and behind the Old Stadium. This offer was too good to pass up; the Comité quickly changed their plans (Figure 1).

In the end, the idea for an Olympic Village proved to be unworkable, as much for financial reasons as logistical. It was determined that a village with appropriate amenities could not be provided at a reasonable per-head cost to teams. The area originally projected for the village was eventually relegated to use as a motorcar park.

Olympic Housing Department

The Comité, created a special housing department within the organizing committee. The head of the department, Mr. L.F. Verwoerd, was instructed to assess the number of beds available for accommodating the Olympic family and spectators. Taking into account hotels, boarding houses and other lodgings there were only 2000 beds in Amsterdam.

With a need for accommodations for an estimated 5000 athletes and officials alone, not to mention the Olympic visitors and normal tourists on summer vacation, it was clear that there were not enough rooms.

Another important question was how and where to accommodate large Olympic delegations together under one roof. Ideas included utilizing ships and schools. With state-run schools empty for the summer holidays, this option was possible. Additionally, there were large hotels outside Amsterdam yet still within a 60 km. radius of the Olympic City.

While the organizing committee's housing department was responsible for accommodations for the athletes and Olympic officials, a bureau needed to be created to assist Olympic visitors in securing lodging. The Comité turned to the Town Council of Amsterdam for assistance. They arranged for a Housing

Bureau to be operated by the Touring Association "t Koggeschip" funded by a subsidy of 35,000 guilders. The Housing Bureau operated out of offices located at Reguliersgracht 109 (Figure 2).

Mr. H. D. van Dellen was placed in charge of the 't Koggeschip Housing Bureau. A registry of some 35,000 beds in Amsterdam and an additional 15,000 in the outskirts was compiled. Of these, most of which were located in private homes, fully a third were rejected as not up to the standards necessary for Olympic visitors, demonstrating how seriously the comfort of the Dutch and foreign spectators was taken.

More than 10,000 applications/requests for visitors housing were submitted and honored. That was far fewer than the Comité had expected.

Preliminary information suggested that large groups of spectators from Germany – especially football enthusiasts – would visit *en masse* and require accommodations. This was not to be the case. In the end, Germany spectators for the football matches arrived by train in the morning and returned home at night, so there was never a housing problem.

Nevertheless, a total of some 4,200 German spectators did request accommodations, constituting the largest group. Visitors from the United States (923) were the second largest group for which lodging was found by 't Koggeschip.

During the period of the Olympic Games, the 't Koggeschip offices were relocated to the Central Train Station to be convenient for arriving visitors.

Amsterdam's tourism office, working closely with 't Koggeschip, published a special directory (125 mm x 240 mm in size) with addresses of all the hotels, boarding houses and other lodgings (see front cover of *JSP*).

Athletes Housing

The housing for the Olympic athletes was extensive and varied. In this article I will limit discussion to the most important facilities used to lodge the teams.

It should be noted that there were actually two waves of athletes. The Olympic field hockey and football players arrived early. Their competitions actually took place from 17-26 May and 27 May - 13 June, respectively. The remaining sportsmen weren't scheduled to compete until between 28 July (opening day) and 12 August. Olympic planners were thus able to allocate rooms twice, thereby reducing the number of rooms needed for athletes.

Country Living

It was clear from the start of planning that the city of Amsterdam could not possibly accommodate all the teams. Fortunately, there were plenty of

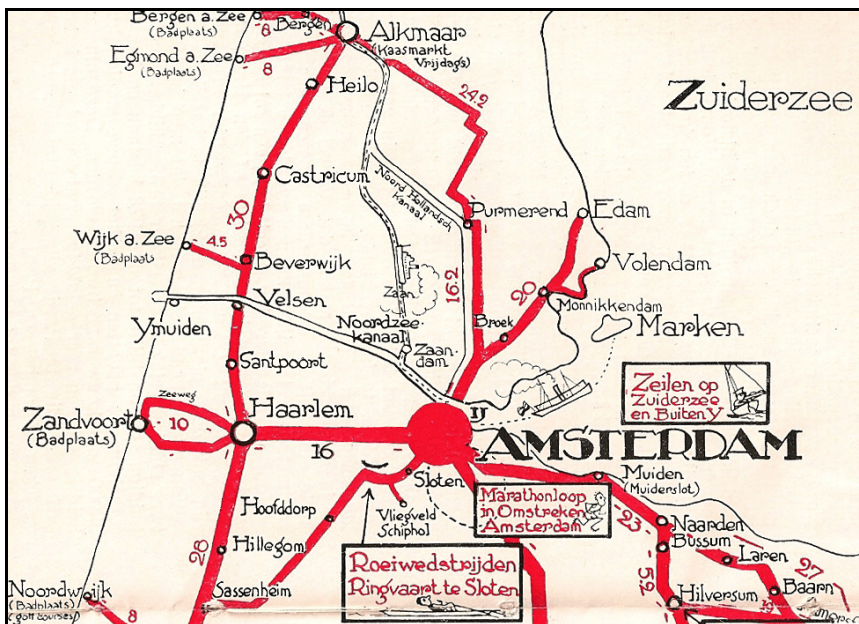


Figure 3. Some teams were housed in facilities an easy driving distance from the city center (distances in kilometers).

options for housing athletes within a reasonable distance from the main Stadium complex.

The German Olympic teams were assigned to facilities in the beach city of Zandvoort, about 30 km. west of the Olympic Stadium. The primary venue was the luxurious Hotel d'Orange right on the seashore (Figures 4-8). It was here during the pre-Olympic period that the German field hockey team and later the German rowing team resided (Figure 10). Later in the Games it housed a large delegation of Argentine athletes, rowers, fencers and weightlifters. No doubt they used the local post office to send postcards and letters home (see front cover).

The Grand Hotel (Figure 9), also located along the Zandvoort beach, hosted the German football players followed by the German athletics team.



Figure 4. Olympic series on cover of Hotel d'Orange to Berlin. Postmarked with double ring cancel Amsterdam 2. VIII. 1928.



Figure 5. The luxurious Hotel d'Orange on the beach at Zandvoort was the headquarters for part of the German team. Later, members of the Argentine team resided there.



Figure 6. When not competing, the teams no doubt found plenty do. Those at the seaside likely took advantage of the beach. The inscription on the picture side of this card reads "Quartier der deutschen Olympia Mannschaft" (Quarter of German Olympic Team).

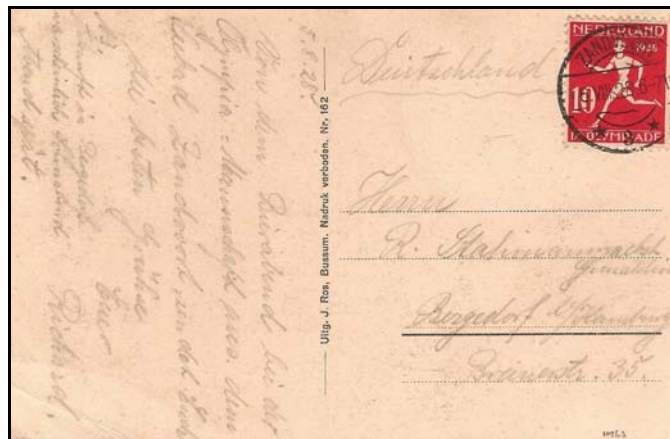


Figure 7. The writer of this card remarks about what a good time he had at the beer-evening party with the Olympic (presumably German) Team. Card franked with 10c Olympic runner stamp and mailed to Bergdorf, Germany from Zandvoort on 6.VIII.1928.

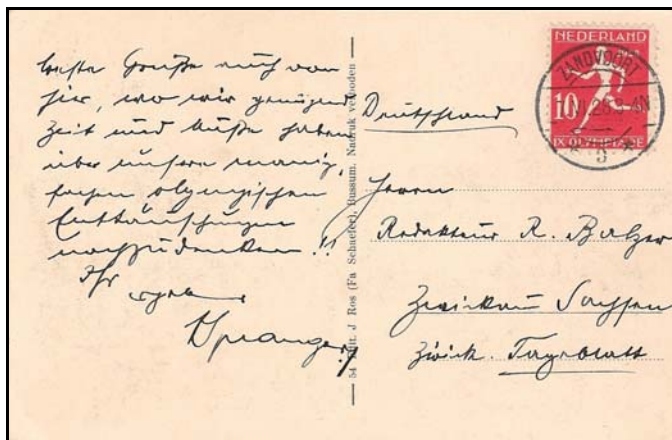


Figure 8. Another postcard from Zandvoort, probably from a journalist to the editor of his magazine or newspaper. The date of 7.VI.1928 coincides with the Uruguay-Italy football match.



Figure 9. Because the German Olympic team was so large, it had to be split into two parts. The football players stayed at the Grand Hotel in Zandvoort.



Figure 10. The German rowers were also at Zandvoort. An Olympic Weenenk & Snel postcard #88 with Olympic stamps cancelled by a Zandvoort 10.VIII.1928 postmark. While the text is not entirely clear, the name of German Olympic rower, Erick Hoffstätter, can be made out.

Uruguay's famous football team, winners in Paris in 1924 and again in Amsterdam, resided in Velsen, also on the coast and roughly 31 km. northwest of the stadium. They were lodged at the Huize Velserbeek (Figure 11). This mansion on the Velserbeek country estate has an interesting Olympic connection. The Dutch International Olympic Committee member, Baron Frederik van Tuyll van Serooskerken, a good friend of Baron de Coubertin, was raised there. Baron van Tuyll was also the person most responsible for bringing the 1928 Olympic Games to Amsterdam. Unfortunately he died in early 1924.

Following the departure of the Uruguayan football team, the Australian delegation took up residence at the mansion.



Figure 11. The Huize Velserbeek, ancestral home of Baron van Tuyll who was instrumental in winning the 1928 Games for Amsterdam. The Uruguayan football team and later the Australians, luxuriated in this genteel manor house.



Figure 12. Uruguayan arch football rival, Argentina, were surrounded by beautiful countryside at the Hotel Duin en Daal (Dune & Valley) in Bloemendaal.



Figure 13. Lovely cover from the Hotel Duin en Daal bearing the full set of Olympic stamps and postmarked with the Amsterdam N1 Olympic cancel on 24.V.1928 (a field hockey day) and mailed to Burgdorf, Switzerland.



Figure 14. Postcard from the Hotel Duin en Daal with the Olympic series, canceled at Bloemendaal, 4.VIII.1928 (Day 2 of the Decathlon) to Karlskrona, Sweden. The sender was runner Björn Kugelberg of Sweden (semi-finalist in the 200m and 4th in the 4 x 400m relay).

The Uruguayan's big rival were the Argentine football team who were well taken care of among the beautiful coastal dunes and park land of Bloemendaal (23 km. northwest of the stadium) where the Dutch millionaires and jet set maintain grand homes. The footballers were lodged at the prosaically-named Hotel Duin en Daal (Hotel Dune and Valley). As at Velserbeek, the hotel was situated on a large country estate (Figures 12-14).

The first Olympic inhabitants were the Swiss field hockey team. Also housed here later in the Games were the Swiss fencers and the athletics team from Sweden.

The Olympic delegation from Japan occupied two hotels in Zaandam, a nice industrial town dotted with windmills about 21 km. north of the stadium on the North Sea Canal.



Figure 15. Registered letter to Belgium from Hilversum the hub for equestrian activity during the Olympics.



Figure 16. The Centraal Hotel der AMVJ (now the Golden Tulip Amsterdam Centre Hotel) housed some of the British team as well as other IOC notables during the Games.

The equestrian teams found housing in the area of Hilversum, about 37 km. southeast of the stadium (Figure 15). The area had long been a hub for equestrian activity with ideal stabling facilities for horses. Today, this is Holland's center for the media and broadcast industries.

Some of the Olympic equestrian events, particularly the "Grand Prix de Concours d'Hippique" on the closing day of the Games (12 August 1928) were held in the Olympic Stadium. The horses were transported by railway from the Hilversum Station to the Amsterdam-Willemsparkweg Station near the stadium.



Figure 17. Cover from the Hotel AMVJ with Olympic franking and Amsterdam pentagonal cancel N3 on 9.VIII.1928 mailed to England.

Urban Chic

Back to Amsterdam. A part of the British team was accommodated at the new Centraal Hotel der AMVJ (AMVJ: Amsterdam Society for Young Men). Some IOC members including Georges Averoff of Greece and Comte Clary of France chose to stay here, as did André Chevalier of the Haitian Olympic Committee (Figures 16 & 17).

Another portion of the British team was housed at the Hotel Lloyd in Amsterdam's harbor (see front cover of *JSP*). The building was owned by the Koninklijke Hollandsche Lloyd (Royal Dutch Lloyd) shipping company. Also staying here were the Olympic teams of New Zealand and South Africa.

The American Hotel, renowned as a meeting place for everyone from Dutch artists to aristocrats, served as an Olympic hotel (Figures 18 & 19).



Figure 18. Cover with corner card of the American Hotel and set of Olympic stamps canceled with Olympic pentagonal cancel N2 on 30.V.1928, U (hour) 17. This was 2 hours before the football match Uruguay-Holland 2-0. As the Dutch football team was housed at the American Hotel, perhaps a member of the Dutch team made this cover?



Figure 19. Postcard of the Amsterdam-Leidscheplein with the American Hotel at left. Olympic stamps and Amsterdam Centraal Station machine cancel, 6.VIII.1928.



Figure 20. The Amstel Hotel where most of the IOC members stayed during the Olympic Games.

The British women lived there during the Games. In the pre-Olympic period, this was the home to the Swiss team's hockey and football squads. The Dutch football team and French field hockey team were also housed here.

Early on in the Olympic period, the American Hotel was the domicile for a large delegation of French participants. They also had the company of some Swiss Olympic Committee members: Hirschy, Wagner and Messerli.

Built in 1867, the *grande dame* of Amsterdam's hotels was (and still is) the Amstel Hotel at 1 Professor Tulp plein (Figure 20 and front cover of *JSP*). On the square facing the hotel was the post office where the Comité posted its mail. The head office of the Dutch Olympic Organizing Committee was on the Weesperzijde, a mere 100 meters away.

As one might imagine, this hotel was reserved primarily for the more distinguished members of the International Olympic Committee: IOC President Baillet-Latour of Belgium, General Sherrill (USA), Lord Rochdale (England), Godefroy de Bloney (Switzerland), Marquis de Polignac (France), Comte Clarence de Rosen (Sweden), etc.

Also finding space here was the French football team

The Hotel Schiller on Rembrandt Square was the place for the Italian footballers to congregate (Figure 21). Later it housed the Olympic delegation from Norway (except for the yachtsmen) and IOC member Guth-Jarkovsky of Czechoslovakia.

Those yachtsmen from Norway were ensconced at the Hotel L'Europe along with members of the team from Argentina (Figure 22).

Other "Olympic" hotels included the Hotel Suisse, Hotel Polen, Hotel Holland, Hotel Krasnaposky, and Hotel Doelen (Figure 23).



Figure 21. Cover with corner card of the Hotel Schiller, headquarters of the Italian football. Later, it housed much of the Norwegian team.



Figure 22. Another fine old hotel in Amsterdam – the Hotel de l'Europe – lodged the yachtsmen from Norway and some members of the Argentine Olympic team.



Figure 23. A recent photograph of the Doelen Hotel which was also used during the Games.

Alternative Lodging

It was thought area public schools would play an important role in housing teams, yet only 18% of athletes were assigned such accommodations. Part of the Dutch team was lodged in a school as were the teams from France, Hungary, Poland and Sweden.

Other Olympic delegations arrived in Amsterdam by ship which also served as a “hotel” for them during the Games. The ships were moored in the harbor behind the Amsterdam Central Station. The S.S. President Roosevelt provided both transportation and a residence for the U.S. team (Figure 24).

This arrangement had its up and downs. Ernest Carter, the U.S. team’s 1,500-meter man, remembers living on the S.S. Roosevelt this way:

When we arrived they docked the ship by the pier, they had planned to leave it there. Of course, everybody got off the boat as quick as they could to walk around. Everybody had “sea legs” from being on that boat for 7 days, rocking all the way across.

In this country (the U.S.) we had Prohibition and a lot of us had never seen a bar. [When team officials] caught two or three athletes in one of [Amsterdam’s] bars or saloons ... they got scared and the administrators on board ship panicked. They decided to pull the ship out in the middle of the harbor. It must have been a mile away from the pier. We had to go back and forth by launch. You couldn’t go whenever you wanted, you had to wait for a group. You had to be chaperoned.


The boat rocked the whole time we were there. So, we never got rid of our “sea legs.” We only won one running race outside of the two relays ... I always felt that it was caused by staying on board that ship and having it rock all the time.



Figure 24. The S.S. President Roosevelt served as not only the transport vessel for the U.S. Olympic team, but also the team’s floating hotel during the Games.

Even some European teams availed themselves of using their own transport ships as floating hotels: the Italian team onboard the S.S. Solunto, and the Finns on the S.S. Oihonna. The S.S. Oranje Nassau hosted the Irish team and part of the Belgian team.

Although the German and Polish teams arrived by ship – the S.S. Ukena and S.S. Polonia, respectively – both stayed on dry land with the Germans in various hotels and the Polish athletes in a school.

In conclusion, the Housing Department, managed to find accommodations for all its Olympic family members with the vast majority in hotels (20% in Amsterdam and 28% within a short driving distance of the city). The remainder were assigned to schools (18%), boarding houses (9% in Amsterdam and 3% outside the city), or private lodging (4%). Shipboard accommodations provided room for the remaining 18%. 

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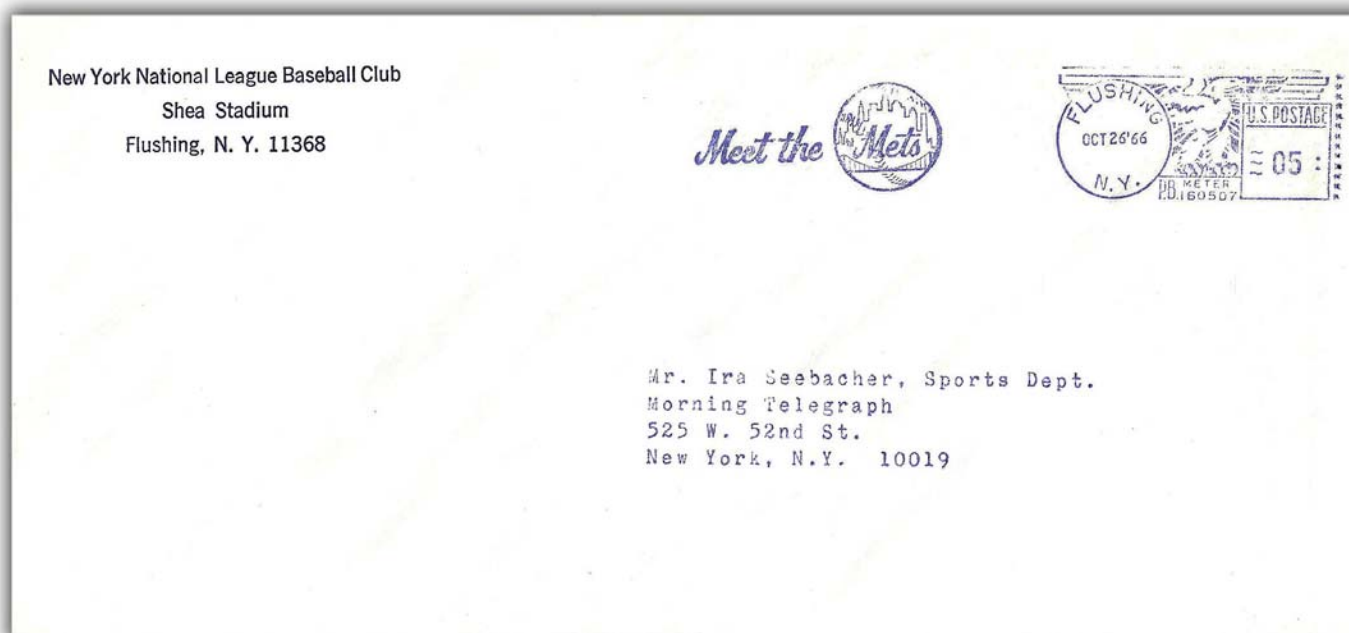


Figure 1. "Meet the Mets" plus team logo pictorial meter used intermittently from 1963 into the 1980s from both the New York and Flushing offices.

The Amazin' and their meters

by Norman Rushefsky

In 1957, the Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Giants relocated from New York to California, leaving the largest city in the United States without a National League baseball franchise. With the threat of a New York team in a third league, the National League expanded, adding the New York Mets.

The new team took as its primary colors the blue of the Dodgers and the orange of the Giants. Blue and orange are also the colors of New York City, as seen on its flag. In the team's primary logo (Figure 2) shown in many of the meters, each part of the



Figure 2. The blue and orange logo of the Mets.

skyline has special meaning: at the left is a church spire, symbolic of Brooklyn, the borough of churches; the second building from the left is the Williamsburg Savings Bank, the tallest building in Brooklyn; next is the Woolworth Building; after

midtown comes the Empire State Building; at the far right is the United Nations Building. The bridge in the center symbolizes that the Mets, by bringing National League baseball back to New York, represent all five boroughs.

For the first two years of its existence, 1962 and 1963, the team played its home games at the Polo Grounds, the historic home of the departed Giants, in Upper Manhattan. It was from there in 1963 that Mr. Met, the official mascot, was first introduced on the cover of game programs (Figure 3). His image appears on some Mets meters.

In 1964, the team moved into newly constructed Shea Stadium in Flushing Meadows, Queens, where the Mets stayed through the 2008 season. In 2009, the team moved into Citi Field, located adjacent to the former site of Shea Stadium.



Figure 3. Mr. Met, the team mascot.

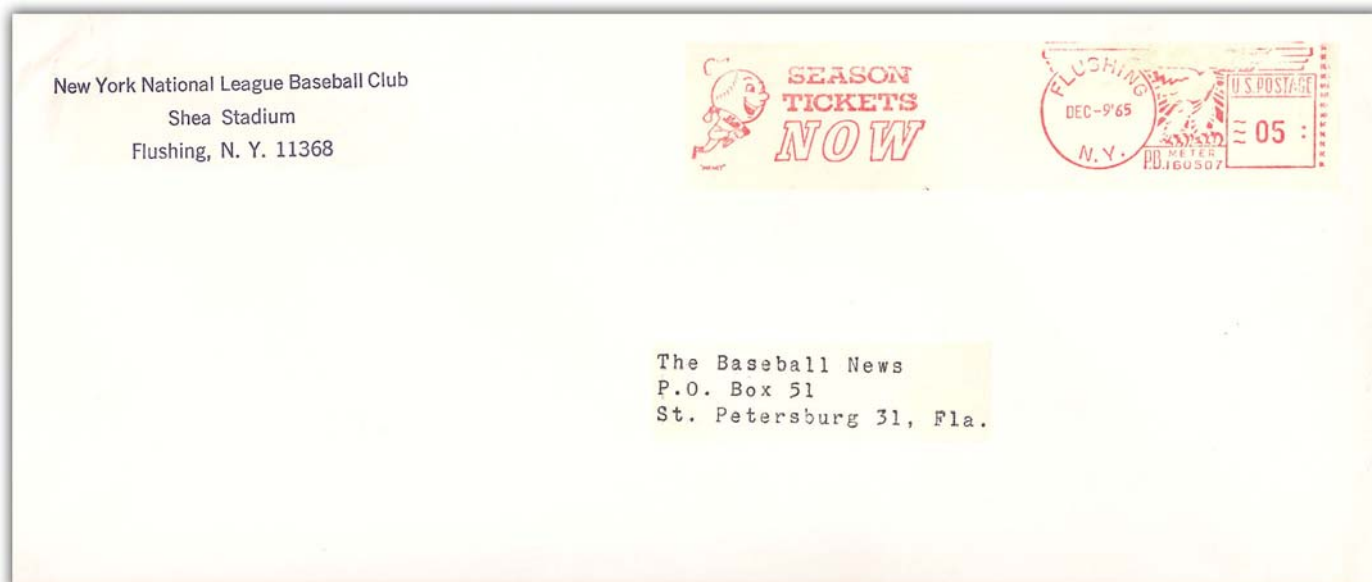


Figure 4. Another frequently used meter was the “Season Tickets Now” with Mr. Met slogan from the Flushing office.

The 1962 Mets posted a 40 - 120 win/loss record, one of the worst in major-league history, and the most losses in one season since 1899. Charles Dillon “Casey” Stengel, known as “The Old Professor” for his sharp wit and his ability to talk incoherently and at length on anything baseball-related, was hired as the Mets first manager.

Stengel had had a very successful career managing the New York Yankees but, after losing to the perceived inferior Pittsburgh Pirates in the 1960 World Series after a ninth-inning game-winning home run by Bill Mazeroski, Stengel was involuntarily retired from the Yankees, because he was believed to be too old to manage. Stengel remarked that he had been fired for turning 70, and that he would “never make that mistake again.”

The Mets proved to be so incompetent that they gave Stengel plenty of fresh Stengelese material for the New York City newspaper writers. “Come see my Amazin’ Mets,” Stengel said. “I’ve been in this game a hundred years, but I see new ways to lose I never knew existed before.”

Though his Amazin’ Mets finished last in a ten-team league all four years he managed them, Stengel was a popular figure nonetheless, not least due to his personal charisma. The Mets themselves somehow attained a “lovable loser” charm that followed the team around in those days. Fans packed the old Polo Grounds (prior to Shea Stadium being built), many of them bringing along colorful placards and signs with all sorts of sayings on them.

While the team headquarters was located in Manhattan the team used three different meter

machines, PB 371087, PB 375045 and PB 155412. After moving to Flushing the team used four different meter machines, PB 160507, PB 635933, PB 315219 and PB 195692.

Two meters are seen most frequently. Figure 1 shows the “Meet the Mets” plus team logo pictorial known used on meters: PB 371087 (New York) January 22, 1963 (Blue); PB 375045 (New York) January 2, 1963 (Red meter strip); PB 155412 (New York) January 23, 1964 (Blue); PB 160507 (Flushing) November 15, 1965 (Red), October 26, 1966 (Blue), July 7, 1970 (Blue) and blank date (Red); and PB 635933 (Flushing) September 18, 1985 (Blue).

Figure 4 pictures the “SEASON TICKETS NOW” meter with Mr. Met also found in either red or blue on meters: PB 315219 (Flushing) January 22, 1965; PB 160507 (Flushing) December 9, 1965 (Red), February 7, 1968 (Blue); PB 635933 (Flushing) February 25, 1983 (Blue), April 2, 1985; and PB 195692 (Flushing) January 14, 1971 (Blue).

Other slogans (Figures 5-10) were used for very short durations particularly for specific upcoming events or games. The meters on the next page are from my collection or listed in monographs published by the Federazione Italiana Baseball Softball (FIBS). Meter color is identified where known.

A meter slogan (Figure 11) used by radio station WJRZ in Hackensack, New Jersey features the Mets logo. WJRZ carried New York Mets games from 1967 until 1971, with the classic Mets broadcasting crew of Lindsey Nelson, Bob Murphy, and Ralph Kiner. Station personality Bob Brown hosted the Mets pre- and post-game shows.

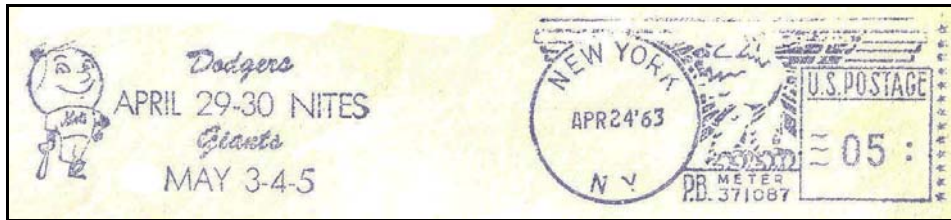


Figure 5. **Dodgers / APRIL 29-30 NITES/ Giants/ May 3-4-5** plus Mr. Met Pictorial; PB 371087 (New York) April 24, 1963 (Blue), April 25, 1963

Figure 6. **DECORATION DAY/ DOUBLE HEADER/ May 30/ Cubs** plus Mr. Met Pictorial; PB 371087 (New York) May 23, 1963 (Blue)

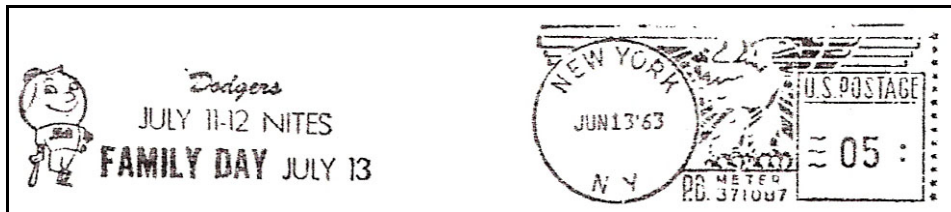
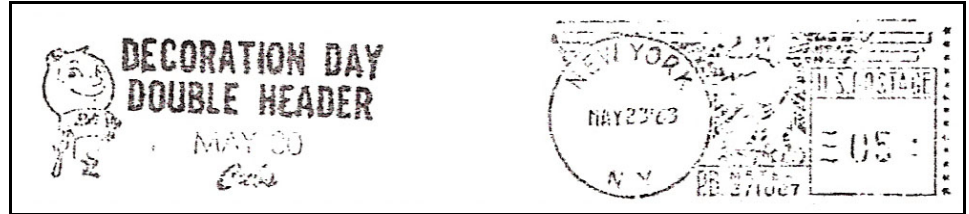


Figure 7. **Dodgers/ JULY 11-12 NITES/ FAMILY DAY JULY 13** plus Mr. Met Pictorial; PB 371087 (New York) June 13, 1963 (Blue)

Figure 8. **OPENING DAY/ APRIL 17/ Pirates** plus Mr. Met Pictorial; PB 160507 (Flushing) April 9, 1964

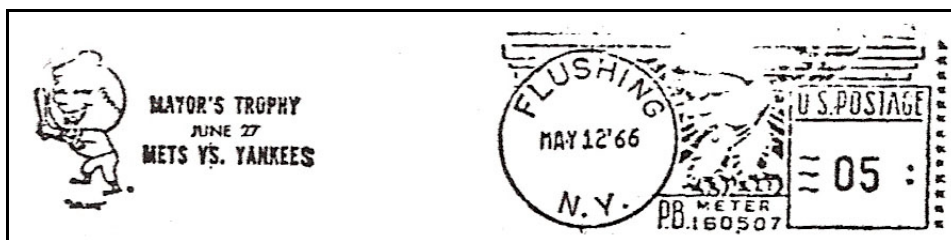
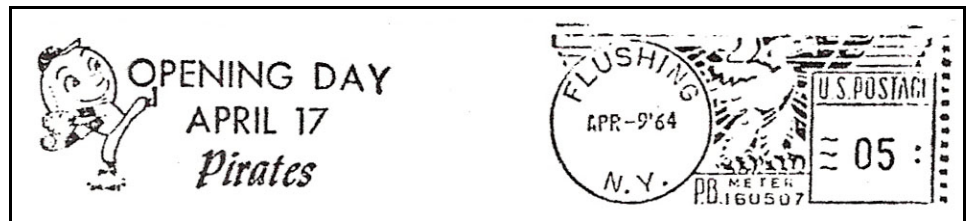


Figure 9. **MAYOR'S TROPHY/ JUNE 27/ METS VS. YANKEES** plus Mr. Met Pictorial; PB 160507 (Flushing) May 12, 1966

Figure 10. **On the way to/ ALL THE WAY!**; PB 635933 (Flushing) November 18, 1982

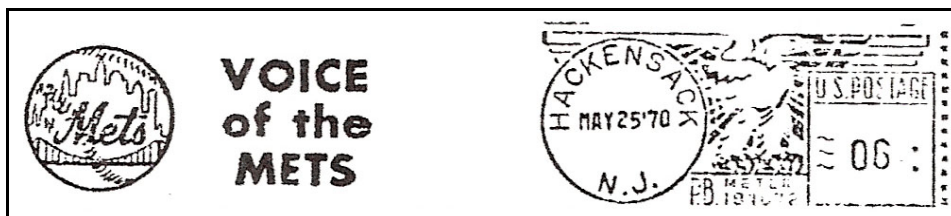
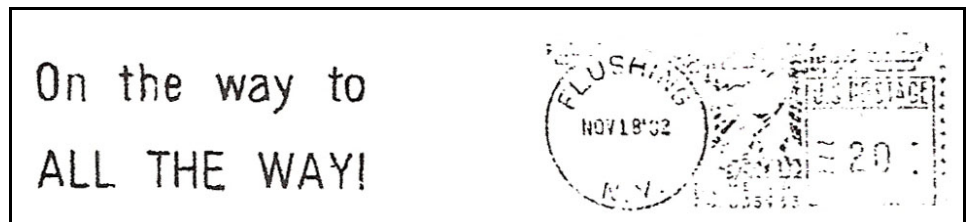


Figure 11. Meter used by radio station WJRZ.

Lady Met Club

Shea Stadium, Flushing, N. Y. 11368

May 21, 21, 41 GIMTS
May 21, 67, (B)M STODS
May 9, 10, 11 REAS
May 19, 20, 21 GARDS
May 22, 23, 24 LODGERS
May 26, 27, 28 (DH) GRAVES
(DH) Doubleheader *Nine Game



Miss Bobbie Beebe
396 Willetts Ave.
Waterford, Conn. 06385

Figure 12. 1967 meter advertising the May 1967 Mets' home schedule mailed by the "Lady Met Club."

Last, but not least, a nice meter in blue (Figure 12) has come to light showing the Mets May 1967 home game schedule used from Flushing on April 4, 1967 (PB 195692). Inside was an invitation to members of the "Lady Met Club" to attend a special film during the intermission between double-header games on May 7 (Figure 13).

In 1967 the Mets acquired Hall of Famer Tom Seaver. Seaver helped the 1969 "Miracle Mets" win the new National League East division title, and then defeat the heavily-favored Baltimore Orioles to win the 1969 World Series. The Mets have appeared in more World Series – four – than any other expansion team in Major League Baseball history. 🍷

Lady Met Club

Shea Stadium, Flushing, N. Y. 11368

March 28, 1967

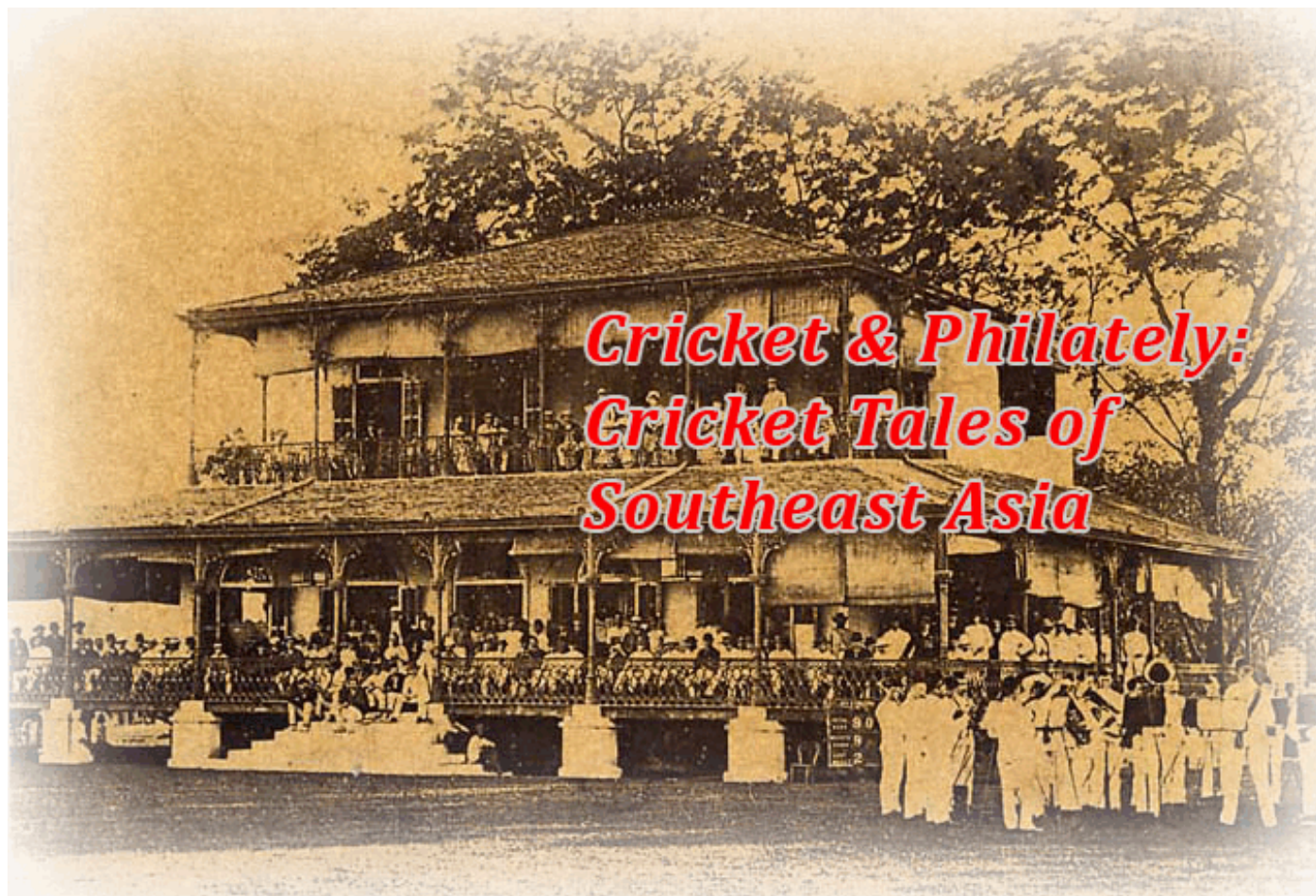


Dear Lady Met:

It's almost time for our favorite sport!

Our first activity of the season will take place on Sunday, May 7th, 1967. We will show the film entitled "THE METS ARE COMING, THE METS ARE COMING" which was made last season. It shows the club's activities and includes the participation of the Lady Mets in the Hot Stove Express trip. May 7th is a doubleheader with Houston and the film will be shown 10 minutes after the end of the first game on the Press Level. I'm sure you will find it interesting and hope you and your friends and family will plan to attend. Kindly fill out the coupon below and mail in your free ticket requests. No one will be admitted to the Press Level without a free ticket obtained in advance.

Figure 13. The contents of the Figure 12 cover was an invitation from the Lady Met Club to a film screening.



by Peter N. Street

To date only four nations have issued cricket related stamps in Southeast Asia. They are Hong Kong, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and Singapore – all with British connections (Figure 1).

As a result of the Opium Wars in the 1840s, the Chinese government ceded Hong Kong to the European powers. In 1898, the British authorities leased the colony for 99 years. When the lease expired in 1997 Hong Kong became a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.

In the aftermath of the defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte in 1815, the Congress of Vienna divided up the European colonial empires and Britain moved into the Malay Peninsula which included Singapore.

Papua was a British territory under Australian administration since 1901. New Guinea was originally a German colony but came under Australian mandate after World War I. The two territories were merged politically in 1949.

As a result of British control, these various political entities were opened up to the military, traders, missionaries, colonial officials and other British expatriates. Once these various groups had settled in, they had to decide what to do with their leisure time. Thus, a variety of sporting activities were introduced, including cricket.



Figure 1. Only four nations in Southeast Asia have issued cricket stamps.

From the mid-1800s to the present day, the game continued to expand to such an extent that by the late twentieth century each nation was admitted to the International Cricket Council (ICC) as Associate members. This allowed them to participate in Asian cricket competitions and the ICC Trophy.

Hong Kong

Initially Hong Kong was a British colony consisting of Victoria Island, the Kowloon Peninsula and the “New Territories” on mainland China.

By the middle of the nineteenth century, Hong Kong had developed into a thriving port which attracted British expatriates. These traders and businessmen together with the military began to organize sports. The Hong Kong Cricket Club (HKCC) was founded in 1851.

Later in the century, matches were being played with teams from Shanghai, Singapore and the Straits Settlements (now part of Malaysia). The game continued to expand and by the twentieth century the island colony was attracting visits from international teams.



Figure 2. Hong Kong Cricket Club ground adjacent to the Hong Kong Bank.

Hong Kong was admitted to the ICC as an Associate Member in 1969.

The original ground of the HKCC was at Chater Road. This is probably the most valuable cricket ground in the world as it is surrounded by the Law Courts, the Hong Kong Bank and Hong Kong Hilton Hotel.

For 150 years it was the headquarters of the club until the expiration of the government lease in 1976.

Hong Kong issued a group of stamps in 1941 commemorating 100 years of British rule. The 25¢ issue features the Hong Kong Bank and in the immediate foreground a corner of the Chater Road cricket ground (Figure 2).

Malaysia

As mentioned, in 1815 the Congress of Vienna divided up the European colonial empires and Britain moved into the Malay Peninsula.



Figures 3 & 4. Selangor CC ground in foreground (above left). Penang Free School playing fields (above right).

Present day Malaysia comprises what were once the Straits Settlements, Malaya, Sarawak and North Borneo (Sabah).

The arrival of the British meant the introduction of cricket in the 1840s. Until the latter part of the century the game was the preserve of the British settlers, planters, colonial officials and the military.

The Selangor Cricket Club (Selangor CC) was founded in 1884.

Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia, was granted city status in 1972. To commemorate this achievement, Malaysia issued two stamps featuring the Secretariat Building. The foreground of these stamps shows the grounds of the Selangor CC (Figure 3). The club was mentioned in former England National captain Sir Pelham Warner's book, *Imperial Cricket*, published in 1912.

Prior to World War II matches between Hong Kong, Singapore and certain Malay states were played on a regular basis. After the war, the game revived quickly and the Malaysian Cricket Association was formed (1948). In the late 1900s international teams began to include visits to Malaysia in their itinerary.

Cricket is also played extensively in Malaysian schools. Malaysia issued two stamps in October 1966 commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Penang Free School. The foreground of each stamp shows the school's playing fields which has been designated a first class ground (Figure 4).

Figure 5. Commemorating the 1986 Malaysian Games which included cricket players in the designs of both stamps.





Figure 6. Official first day cover for the XVI Commonwealth Games included cricket in the cachet.

The ICC granted Malaysia Associate membership in 1967.

The inaugural Malaysian Games were held in 1986. Three stamps were issued in April noting the event. The 20¢ and 40¢ values show figures playing cricket among the many sports portrayed (Figure 5).

Malaysia was awarded the XVI Commonwealth Games to be held in September 1998. This was the first time in the history of the Commonwealth Games that an Asian member had hosted the competitions. For the first time, cricket would also be contested.

Malaysia issued several stamps in advance of the games. The first of these was issued in November 1995. The cachet on the official First Day Cover shows the mascot, Wira, playing various sports, among them cricket (Figure 6).

A second set of stamps was released in 1997 portraying a cricket player on one value (Figure 7).

These two sets were followed by a souvenir sheet issued in February 1998 depicting the stadia used as sports venues for the games. The margins of the sheet portray sports figures. A cricket player is shown in the lower right corner (Figure 8).

Lastly, a souvenir sheet of 16 se-

games to commemorate this historic event. A cricket batsman is on the second stamp in the third row (Figure 9).

The cricket gold medal was won by South Africa who beat Australia by 4 wickets in the final.



Figure 7. XVI Commonwealth Games.



Figure 8. Stadia used as venues for the XVI Commonwealth Games. A cricket player is featured in the right margin of the souvenir sheet.



Figure 9. Sports played in the XVI Commonwealth Games. Cricket is shown on the second stamp in the third row.

Malaysia hosted the ICC Trophy in 1997 to determine which three teams would play in the Seventh Cricket World Cup in England in early summer of 1999 (see *JSP*, July-August 2000).

Three ICC Trophy stamps were issued by



Figure 10. Commemorating the 1997 ICC Trophy played in Malaysia.

Malaysia featuring a bowler (30 sen), batsman (50 sen) and a wicket keeper (1 Rm) (Figure 10).

More recently, Malaysia hosted the 2006 Asian Cricket Council Trophy. Although no stamps were issued in honor of the event, Nepal did produce a commemorative card in August 2006. The flags of the participating nations are arranged at left. A bowler and batsman making a hook shot are shown at center. The postmark also has a cricket theme (Figure 11).

Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea is the eastern part of a large island north of Australia. Originally two separate territories – Papua in the south and New Guinea in

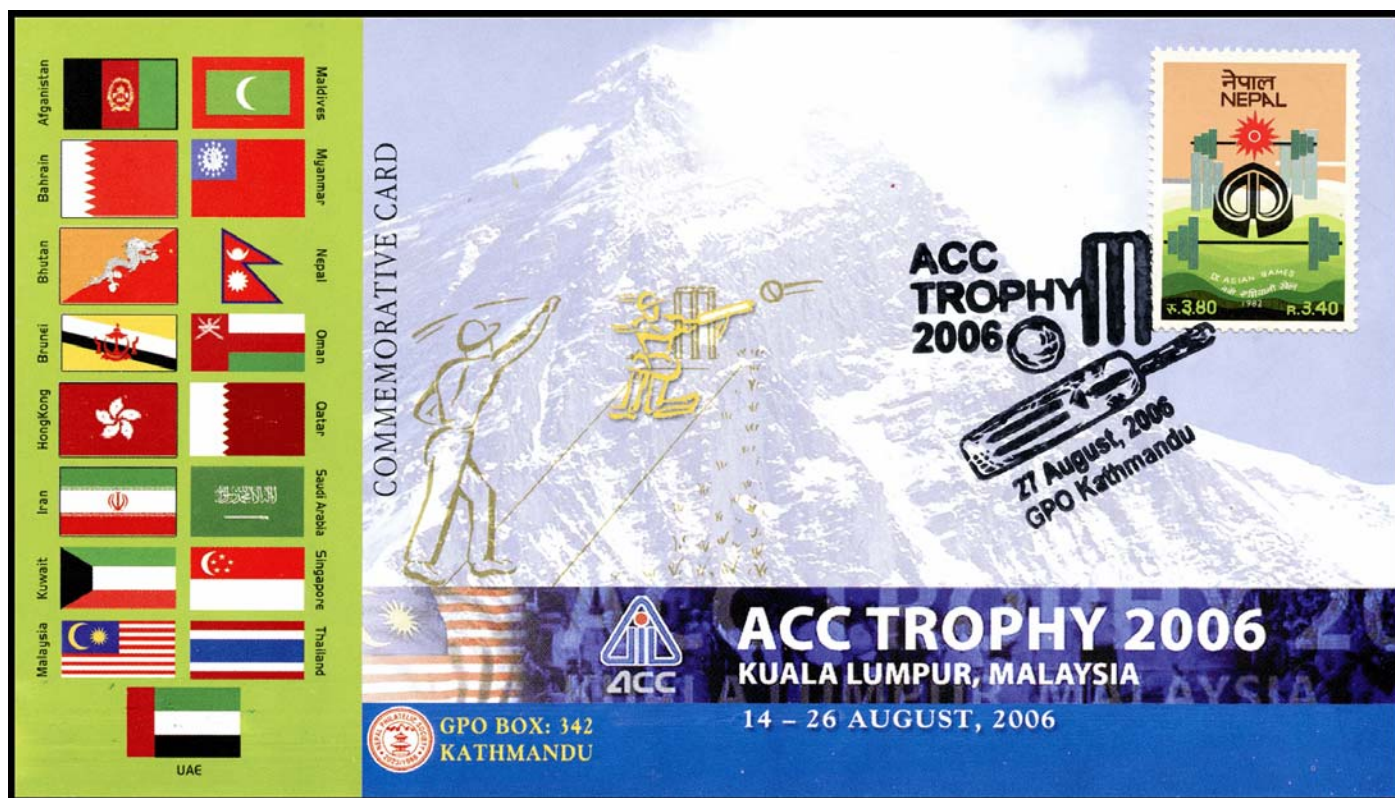


Figure 11. Commemorative card from Nepal for the 2006 Asia Cricket Council Trophy.

the north – they were merged into a single administrative union in 1949.

Cricket was introduced to Papua by missionaries in the 1890s whereas the game did not arrive in New Guinea until 1920 when Australia took over the administration of the territory from the Germans under a League of Nations mandate.

In 1972 the Papua New Guinea Cricket Board of Control was established and a year later the country was admitted to the ICC as an Associate Member.

Papua New Guinea was selected to host the 1991 South Pacific Games in the capital, Port Moresby. The hosts were successful in the cricket competition winning the gold medal.

Four stamps were issued by the host nation in June 1991. The 21 t value shows cricket players in action (Figure 12).

Singapore

Singapore, an island city-state at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula, became a British colony in 1815. It briefly joined the Malaysian Federation in 1962, seceding in 1965 to become an independent nation and member of the British Commonwealth.

The first mention of cricket being played in the colony was in an 1837 letter to the *Singapore Free Press* complaining that Europeans were playing on

the Sabbath.

The Singapore Cricket Club was founded in 1852. It was dominated by the British as Singapore was an agency of the East India Company. The club became the center of social and sporting life of the British community (an early photo of the club is shown at the beginning of this article).

During the latter part of the nineteenth century and early twentieth, matches were played against visiting ships and teams from Hong Kong, Shanghai and the Straits Settlements. By the 1880s, other ethnic groups began to show an interest in the game and in 1883 founded the Singapore Recreation Club for the Eurasian community.

Following World War II, teams from Australia, India and England were visiting on a regular basis. As a result, the Singapore Cricket Association was established in 1948.

The pitches of the clubs were laid out on the Padang, a large parkland similar to the Savannah in Trinidad (see *JSP Winter 2005*).

Singapore issued two stamps featuring the Padang. A four-stamp set from December 1971 reproduces 19th century views of Singapore. The 15¢ value depicts the Padang as it looked in 1851. If you look closely at the top right corner, you can see tiny figures playing cricket (Figure 13a).

"Paintings of Old Singapore" were the subjects



Figure 12. 1991 South Pacific Games.

of three stamps issued in November 1976. The Padang as it looked circa 1905 is portrayed on the 50¢ denomination (Figure 13b).

Another cricket connection to the Padang is mentioned in Mark Maestrone's article, "First Summer Youth Olympic Games debuts in Singapore" in the Fall 2010 issue of *JSP*.

Singapore was granted Associate membership of the ICC in 1874.

Three "Sports for All" stamps were released in April 1981 to celebrate Pesta Sukan or Festival of Sports held annually since 1966. Each stamp features sports pictograms; a cricket batsman and crouching fielder are in the fifth row, far right (Figure 14).

The Future

What will be the future of cricket in Southeast Asia?

In the last few years many of the non-British Commonwealth nations in the area have been granted Associate or Affiliate status by the ICC. However most of the players are British expatriates, embassy staff members, etc. from the major cricket playing nations. Thus, until the indigenous peoples of these countries embrace the game it is unlikely that cricket will expand appreciably.

The possible exception may be China which became an ICC Affiliate Member in 2004. With the support of the Chinese government, the Chinese Cricket Association was formed the same year.

Schools in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou have been ordered to introduce cricket into their curriculums.

Hopefully as these countries show an increasing interest in the game of cricket, they will issue some cricket-related stamps.

We continue to hope!



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Figure 13. Two historical views of the Padang in Singapore.



Figure 14. Festival of Sports stamp which includes cricket.

The America's Cup Returns to California



Figure 1. San Diego yachtsman Dennis Conner's campaign to win back the America's Cup began with the first race on January 31, 1987 in Fremantle, Australia. He then successfully defended it in San Diego in 1988.

by Mark Maestroni

Californians – and San Franciscans in particular – will be looking forward to September 2013 when the America's Cup, yacht racing's oldest and most coveted event, returns to California.

The America's Cup, which dates back to 1851, pits two sailing boats in head-to-head ocean races. Normally held every 3 to 4 years, the Cup, an ornate silver trophy, rested for 132 years in the club house of the New York Yacht Club – the longest winning streak in sports history. Then in a 1983 upset of epic proportions, *Australia II*, skippered by John Bertrand representing the Royal Perth Yacht Club outsailed America's Cup two-time winner Dennis Conner's yacht, *Liberty*, 4 races to 3.

For Conner, winning back that trophy became an obsession. With the help of San Diego, California real estate mogul, Malin Burnham, they put together their own non-profit syndicate, the Sail America Foundation, to build the best boat possible utilizing the most advanced technology. The hard work paid off as four years later Conner avenged his loss. Sailing *Stars and Stripes 87* for the San Diego Yacht Club, he pried the Cup from Australian hands sweeping the best of seven series 4-0.

A special Australia Day Fair postmark on January 31, 1987 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds north of San Diego indirectly marks the occasion of the first race off Fremantle, Australia (Figure 1).

Conner certainly felt vindicated after the humiliating loss four years earlier. At the press conference following his victory, Conner, not known for his

jocular side, was extending very sportsmanlike condolences to Iain Murray, skipper of the Australia boat, *Kookaburra III*, when the audience began laughing. Puzzled, Conner said, "I'm not trying to be funny." Still clueless as to why the laughter wasn't abating, Conner looked down the speakers' table. Murray's dog, Cliff, had somehow wandered in and, as a good dog will do, took up a position next to his master. Realizing the reason for the laughter, Conner joined in saying, "I've been upstaged by a dog." After a slight pause he added, "I thought I got rid of *Liberty*," referring to the boat that cost him the 1983 race.

So it was that Dennis Conner brought the America's Cup races to San Diego – and California – for three exciting editions.

The first challenge, this time by New Zealand millionaire, Michael Fay, representing the Mercury Bay Boating Club, came out of the blue barely five months after Conner's Australian win. Fay's was a hostile challenge according to the Cup's Deed of Gift which stipulated single-masted boats of no more than 90 feet at the waterline in a best two-of-three match. After a series of suits in the New York courts, Fay's monohull and Conner's catamaran faced off in waters off San Diego on September 7 and 9, 1988 for the 27th America's Cup. Conner shut out Fay winning by over 18 minutes in the first race and 21 in the second. Following more legal skirmishes in the New York courts, San Diego Yacht Club was judged to have successfully defended the Cup.

At the behest of the Sail America Foundation, the USPS selected Jim Parrish, a noted graphic artist, to create a special postmark for the event.

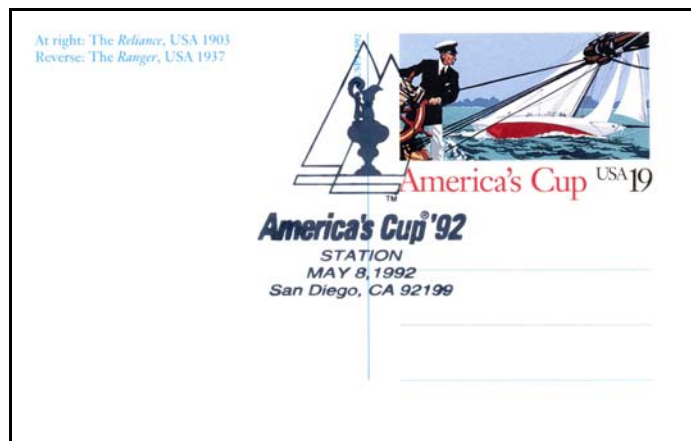


Figure 2. The USPS issued a 19¢ postal stationery card for the 1992 America's Cup on May 6. A special hand cancel was available on May 8, the day prior to the start of racing.

Showing a pair of racing yachts with San Diego's iconic Coronado Bay Bridge soaring above, the postmark was available September 7, 8 and 9 at two temporary post offices (Figure 1).

The 28th America's Cup, staged in 1992, was sailed in new International America's Cup Class (IACC) boats which replaced the old 12-meter yachts introduced in 1958. Defending the Cup for the San Diego Yacht Club was billionaire Bill Koch with his yacht *America*³ (pronounced "America Cubed"). The challenger this time was an Italian boat, *Il Moro di Venezia*, skippered by American sailor, Paul Cayard. Returning to a best-of-seven series, *America*³ won four of the first five races nearly shutting out the Italians.

With plenty of lead time, the USPS issued a special postal card for the occasion showing the 1903 American contender, *Reliance*, as the imprinted stamp, and the 1937 *Ranger* on the picture side (Figure 2). The First Day of Issue for this 19¢ domestic rate postal card was May 6, 1992 at San Diego, California.

The postal service in San Diego commemorated the 1992 race with a hand cancel on May 8 (the five races took place from May 9 through 16). The design reproduces the official logo for "America's Cup '92" featuring the America's Cup trophy in silhouette against the sails of a pair of racing yachts (Figure 2).

The 29th American's Cup, the third challenge to take place in San Diego, was in 1995.

Returning were not only Dennis Conner skippering a new yacht, *Young America*, but the Kiwis ready to avenge their 1988 loss. This time, however, it was the New Zealand boat, *Black Magic*, with Russell Coutts at the helm who shut out Dennis 5-0. After eight years in California, the "Auld Mug" headed back across the Pacific.

On May 16, just three days after the conclusion of the races, New Zealand Post issued a 45c stamp showing *Black Magic* in action with the words "Victory 1995" boldly at top (Figure 3).

In the intervening years, the Cup has been held by the New Zealanders and the Swiss before being won by BMW Oracle Team's *USA 17* in 2010. So what will the 36th America's Cup bring? Stay tuned as San Francisco Bay, with the Golden Gate Bridge as a dramatic backdrop, is the venue for both defenders and challengers in this 162-year-old sporting contest!



Figure 3. On May 16, 1995, three days after New Zealand won back the Cup, their post office issued a special victory stamp to mark the occasion.



Persian illuminated manuscript (17th century).

POLO

THE GAME OF KINGS

BY PATRICIA LOEHR

Polo is actually an ancient game that historians believe may have originated in Persia as early as 600 B.C. It provided not only recreation, but a way to hone military skills for horse and rider. From there it was introduced to Mongolia where it became “pulu,” a Tibet word meaning ball. The first polo club formed in Silchar, India in 1859. India gave polo the word “chukker,” Hindu for each period of play.

Polo first appeared in England in 1869, brought back by British cavalry soldiers who had learned the game while stationed in India.

To play the sport a rider needs a long-handled mallet that is always carried in the player's right hand and horses referred to as “ponies” (Figure 1). The horse tail is braided and tied or taped up so mallets don't get caught in it. A modern player wears boots, a polo shirt and white breeches, riding gloves, and protective knee guards and helmet (Figure 2).

A regulation outdoor polo field of grass is flat and rectangular. Goal posts are at least 10 feet high and positioned at each end 8 yards apart. For horse and rider safety, the goal posts are mounted on dowel pins which easily break away on contact with the horse. The field is surrounded by a safety zone. Across the field at each end are lines. Field lines at 30, 40, 60 feet from and parallel to the end lines are used for penalty hits. Although not required, a field may have sideboards along the length of each long side. Whether a field does or does not have sideboards determines its dimensions. There is also an indoor version of polo known as arena polo.



Figure 1. The polo mallet is always held in the right hand.



Figure 2. Standard gear for the modern player includes polo boots, white breeches, polo shirt and protective helmet.



Figure 3. The polo ball is thrown in to begin play.

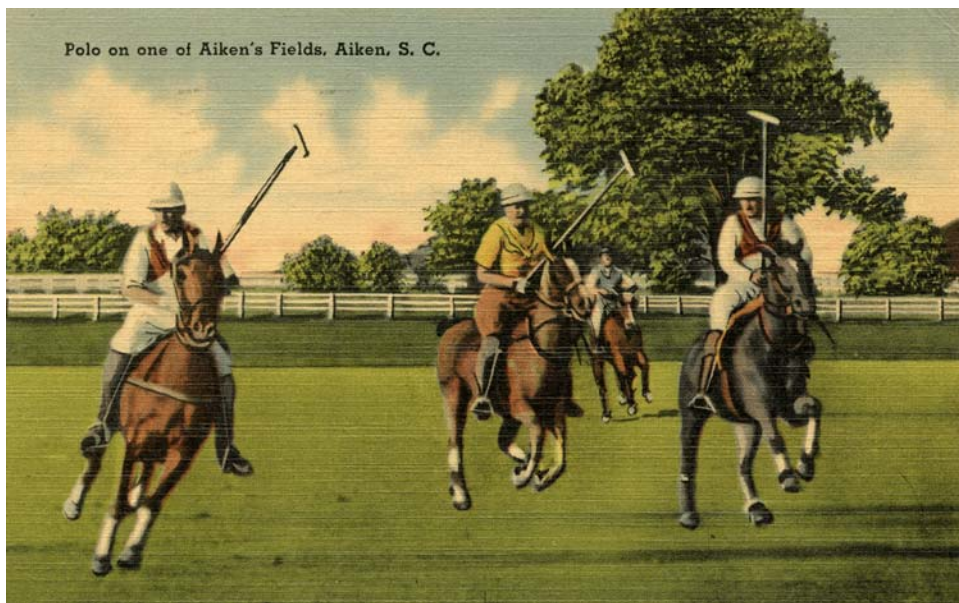


Figure 4. Players carry their mallets in a "rest" or upright position when not playing the ball. Note how umpire, on horseback, follows players. (Linen postcard)

A polo match consists of six chukkers of usually seven minutes with a five-minute rest period between them, except at halftime between the third and fourth chukker when a longer break occurs. At halftime an established tradition allows spectators to be invited onto the field to stomp down turf divots before the second half begins.

A game is played between two teams of four players. Members of each team wear a similar color shirt different from the opposing team. Player One is offensive and plays closest to the opposing team goal and receives passes to score goals. Player Two is offensive and takes the ball to the opposing team's territory. Player Three is both offense and defense, and player Four or Back is defense only and functions as a goalie to prevent the opposing team from scoring goals. Two umpires are mounted and follow the game to watch for infractions of the rules. Another referee known as "third man" is on the sidelines to settle umpire disputes. Umpires can start and halt play, call fouls, and award penalty shots.

Handicaps are assigned to equalize teams. Individual handicaps range from -2 to +10 and are assigned by national committees. A team handicap is the sum of the handicaps of its members. The team with the lower total is given the difference in points at the beginning of the game.

The game and each chukker begins with a throw-in of a polo ball from an umpire. Polo balls are made of plastic and weigh four ounces (Figure 3). Before the throw-in each team lines up in a row side by side at midfield and they wait for the

throw-in holding their mallet in a vertical position also known as the rest position. Players carry their mallet in the rest position unless they are playing the ball (Figure 4). With a vertical mallet position there is less strain to the player's arm and it avoids danger of the mallet hitting other players and interfering with the ponies.

A player takes control of the ball after the throw-in by moving it toward their goal with forehand or backhand strokes using their mallet. Nearside strokes are from the right side (Figure 5) and offside strokes are from the left side (Figure 6). A point is scored when the ball is hit over the goal line between the goal posts. After each goal the teams change ends and play resumes with a midfield throw-in. If the ball is hit out of bounds on an end line the opposing team hits in from where the ball crossed the line. If hit out along a side line, there is a throw in from where the ball left the field.



Figures 5 (left) & 6 (above). Players may move the ball with either right (nearside) or left (offside) strokes.

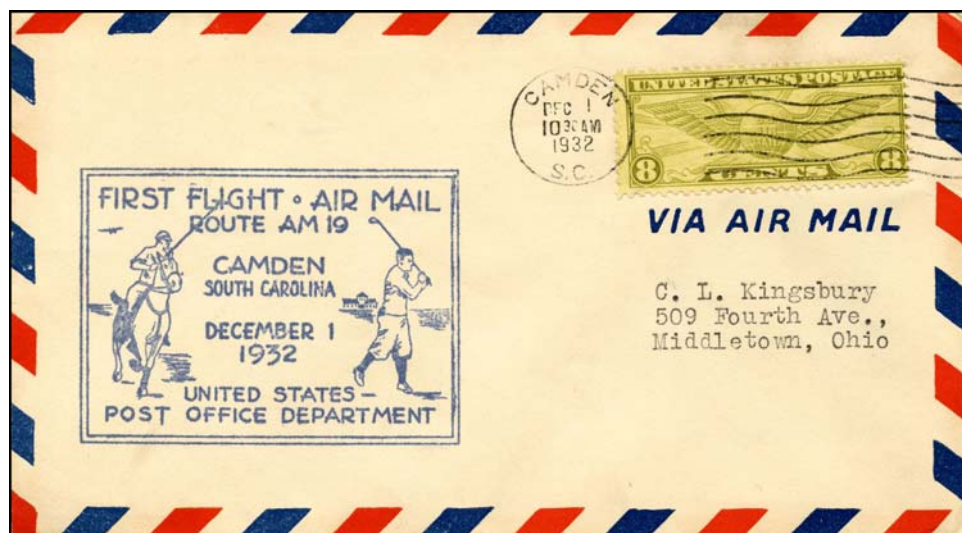


Figure 7. Polo's Golden Years in the U.S. took place between the World Wars. First Flight cover with cachet of polo and golf in South Carolina 1932.



Figure 8. Pictorial postmark for one of the many international polo competitions held each year.

During a match the umpires call fouls and determine penalties to a team violating the rules. Depending on the severity of the violation they may award automatic goals or penalty hits from one of the foul lines against a defended or an undefended goal.

At the end of regulation play the team with the most goals wins the match and each team congratulates the other. As happens at the half, spectators are again allowed onto the field at the conclusion of the match to repair divots and mingle with each other and the players.

In 1876 James Gordon Bennett introduced polo to the United States; the U.S. Polo Association began in 1890. The sport enjoyed worldwide growth in the early years of the twentieth century that led to its Golden Years between the World Wars (Figure 7). The first international polo match was held in 1886 between Britain and the United States. Since then many international competitions have been organized and scheduled throughout each year (Figure 8).

Polo was an Olympic sport in 1900, 1908, 1920, 1924, and 1936. Great Britain and the United States

(USA) participated in all of the Olympic polo events with Great Britain finishing first in 1900, 1908 and 1920 and not below third in the other Games. Argentina (Figure 9) finished first at the 1924 Olympic Games and continued a rise to international prominence that led to another first at the 1936 Olympics. Their prominence continues to recent years as Argentine players often dominate international play.

Polo has attracted many players better known for other accomplishments. A young Winston Churchill enjoyed the competition of polo when he was a

soldier stationed in India. Another soldier, General George S. Patton, played polo in the years before World War II. Theodore Roosevelt praised polo for its exercise benefits. Hollywood celebrities such as Walt Disney, Clark Gable and Will Rogers became aficionados of the sport.

In the 1960s and 1970s polo returned to prominence after its decline during World War II and the post-war years. Hollywood stars such as Sam Shepherd, Tommy Lee Jones, Stephanie Powers, and John Walsh became interested in the sport. From the historical home of modern polo Prince Charles of Great Britain became the world's most famous player. Charles' eldest son, Prince William, is also an enthusiastic player (Figure 10).



Figure 9. Argentina is a perennial power in polo having won back-to-back Olympic gold medals in 1924 and 1936 – the last two times that polo was an Olympic sport.

Figure 10. Prince William of Wales, second in line to the British throne after his father Prince Charles, has, like his family, enjoyed playing polo.





Figure 11. Polo was one of many sports promoted on a machine cancel from 1927 for the French Riviera resort town of Cannes.



Figure 12. Polo is a popular sport in South America, particularly Brazil and Argentina.

From its ancient beginning in Asia and Persia polo is now played around the world in Europe (Figure 11), North, Central (Mexico finished third at the 1936 Olympics), and South America (Figure 12), Caribbean Islands (Figure 13 stamps issued May 15, 1959 for a polo match between Jamaica and the Dominican Republic), Australia, and some African countries.

When attending a polo match some years ago one of the ponies lost a "shoe" that flew into the safety zone near where I was a spectator. The umpire stopped play allowing for the rider to change to another pony. Then, instead of dismounting he asked for someone to get the horseshoe. We all sat somewhat bewildered by what had happened and the umpire again asked for someone to retrieve the horseshoe which I did. When I asked, "what should I do with it" he said, "keep it or throw it away." Regardless of whether the superstition of a horseshoe bringing good luck happens, I decided to keep it as a reminder of an enjoyable polo afternoon.

This fascinating and thrilling equestrian sport is sometimes described as "hockey on horse-back" with rider and horse coordinating with each other to play their team position (Figure 14). Many competitions award not only team prizes, but also most valuable player (MVP), best playing pony, and with having spectators repair turf divots it can be a potentially rewarding experience for all.



Figure 13. Polo matches between Caribbean nations included a 1959 competition with teams from Jamaica and the Dominican Republic.

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Figure 14. As a sport, polo requires skill and bravery by both rider and horse. Insert card for South African polo stamp first day cover.

10 x 59¢

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FERGIE JENKINS



Canada Post issued booklets of 10 domestic rate stamps honoring Canadian Major League Baseball player, Fergie Jenkins. The booklet cover, shown above, resembles a baseball game ticket. A publicity photo of the stamp is at right.

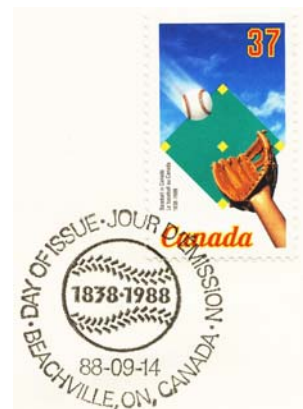
FERGIE JENKINS HONORED ON CANADIAN STAMP

by Kon Sokolyk

Southwestern Ontario is known for its rich baseball history. Beachville is the site of the first recorded baseball game in 1838 (commemorated on a Canadian stamp in 1988, shown at right).

Just up the road is St. Marys, the site of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. And 100 miles west is Chatham, the birthplace of one of the Hall's most illustrious inductees, Major League Baseball pitcher Ferguson Arthur "Fergie" Jenkins.

On February 1, 2011, Canada Post honored Fergie Jenkins with a commemorative stamp (below) and international rate pre-stamped postcard as part of the Black History Month series. Both the stamp and the card feature the same design: on the left side is an image of Jenkins set to release a pitch while on the right is a more recent photo of him. The stamp also includes Jenkins' signature and the Order of Canada, of which he is a recipient.



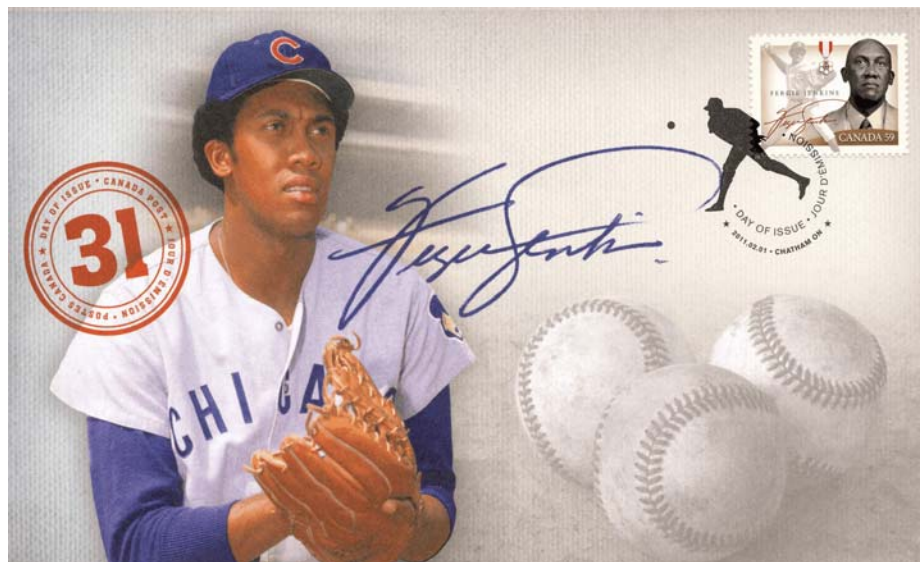
1988 Canadian baseball stamp with first day postmark from Beachville, Ontario, home of Canada's first recorded baseball game.



The self-adhesive domestic rate (59¢) stamp was issued in a booklet of ten stamps. The stamp's print run was 4 million which is above average for a Canadian commemorative. The multi-colored booklet was designed to resemble a baseball ticket.

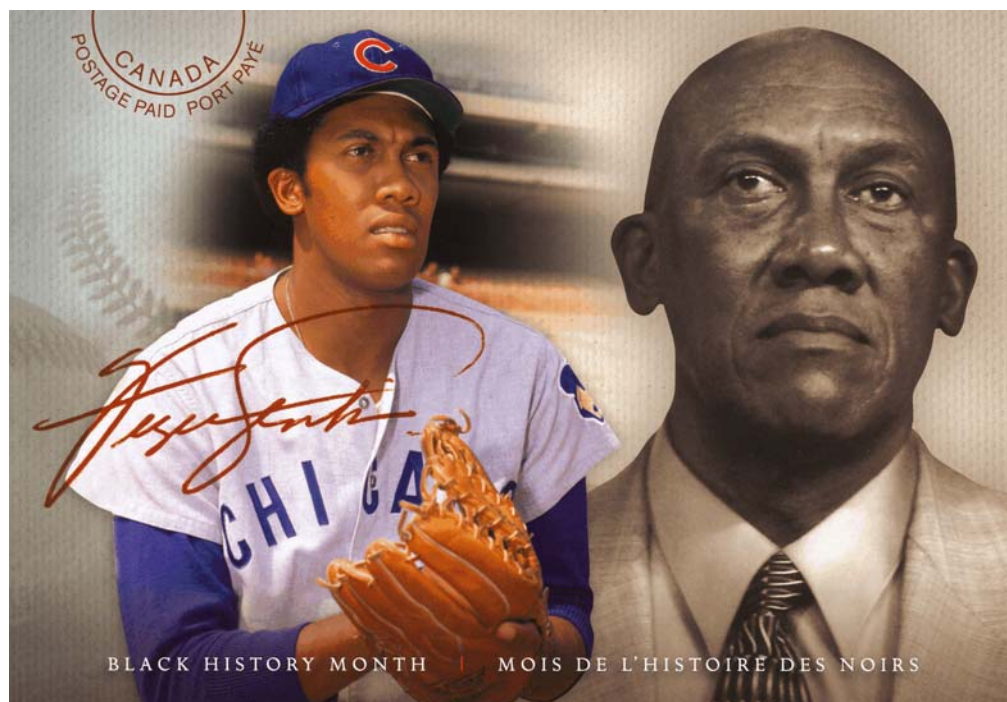
The pre-stamped postcard does not indicate a franking rate but notes "postage paid" and in French "port payé." At the time of issue, the rate to international destinations was \$1.75. The card had a print run of 10,000.

Fergie Jenkins was born in 1942. An outstanding all-round athlete, he was scouted by the Philadelphia Phillies in the early 1960s. His 19-year Major League Baseball career included play for four teams (Phillies, Cubs, Rangers and Red Sox), two seasons leading the league in wins, six straight seasons with 20 or more wins (1967– 1972), and three all-star selections.



The official First Day Cover available from Canada Post. Jenkins' uniform number was 31, since retired by the Cubs.

He was the first Canadian to win the Cy Young Award (1971) and the only Canadian to be inducted into Cooperstown's National Baseball Hall of Fame (1991).



Front (left) and reverse of the Jenkins postal card which is postage paid worldwide.





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<u>Income</u>		
Dues	3,969.30	3,960.92
Interest	21.55	120.88
Donations	500.00	200.00
Publications/Advertising/	1,205.24	516.05
Total	5,696.09	4,797.85
<u>Expenses</u>		
Printing	2,922.80	3,306.40
Postage	2,022.00	2,364.18
Other (supplies, etc)	668.04	717.79
Total	5,612.84	6,388.37
<u>Auction activity</u>		
Receipts	1,638.01	518.98
Disbursements	(1,218.34)	(385.35)
Total	419.67	133.63
Net Income (loss)	502.92	(1,456.89)
Beginning Fund Balance	17,611.58	19,068.47
Ending Fund Balance	18,114.50	17,611.58
Cash and Investments:		
Total Cash and Investments	18,328.28	17,636.78
Payable to Consignors	(213.78)	(25.20)
Fund Balance	18,114.50	17,611.58

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Mark Maestrone

NEW MEMBERS

Keller, Gerd, Forlenweg 13, Karlsruhe 76149, GERMANY. Gerd is both a general sports and Olympics collector.

Address Changes

Keith Bantz, 90 E. 2nd Street, Deer Park, NY 11729-4325 USA

EXHIBIT AWARDS

Minnesota Stamp Expo (July 2010, Minneapolis)

In the AAPE-sponsored youth champion-of-champions competition, Trevor Thomas (12) won the WESTPEX award of excellence for "The Game of Soccer" representing ROMPEX 2009 as well as the WESTPEX entertainment award.

BALPEX (Baltimore, MD)

Martin D. Richardson, Gold, "U.S. Playing Card Revenue Tax Stamps, The Bureau Issues". Also American Revenue Association Gold, and United States Stamp Society Statue of Freedom Award.

MILCOPEX (Milwaukee)

Sherri Biendarra, Youth Silver-Bronze, "The Olympics - Let the Games Begin".

SESCAL (Los Angeles, CA)

David Lu, Silver, "Tennis - A Very Old Modern Sport". Also American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Award of Honor, and American Topical Association First.

PARIS 2010 (4th European Championship of Thematic Philately, June 12-20, Vincennes)

(*SPI member)

Class 1: Arts and Culture

Vitaly Bankov (Ukraine) "Sport in Art" (80 points)

Class 4: Sports & Leisure

Peter Suhadoic (Slovenia) "The Conquest of the Unprofitable World" (87 and Class 4 Gold)

*Pasquale Polo (Italy) "The Game of Rugby Town" (86 and Class 4 Silver)

Ron Backhouse (U.K.) "Anyone for Tennis" (83 and Class 4 Bronze)

Miecsyslaw Rozek (Poland) "Towards Mountain Peaks" (81)

Konstantin Meller (Russia) "The Olympic Games – Sport and Politics" (80)

Nicolay Penev (Bulgaria) "It's a Long Way to Victory" (78)

Iosakim Chalvatzidopoulos (Greece) "Football" (77)

Vicente Pastor Perdignero (Spain) "The Olympic Games (1896-1952)" (77)

Class 9: Champions' Class

Michel Abram (France) "Encounter with the Horse" (2nd)

FRENCH CHAMPIONSHIP 2010 (June 12-20, held in conjunction with PARIS 2010 Exhibition)

Daniel Herrmann "The Olympic Ideal, the Perpetual Battle of Renewal" (73/Silver)

Christian Conesa "The Evening, 90 Minutes of Football for my Pleasure" (71/Silver)

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(markspi@prodigy.net)

NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Andorra, Spanish: June 1, 2010. World Cup Soccer. €0.78 emblem, Earth.

Antigua & Barbuda: October 18, 2010. World Soccer Cup. Pane of six se-tenant \$1.50 stamps depicting the Uruguay versus the Netherlands match. Two souvenir sheets each with a \$6 stamp, Uruguay's coach and the Netherlands coach.

Angola: January 8, 2010. Africa Soccer Cup. Two 40kz stamps showing stadiums, Cabinda; Benguela; two 50kz Huikla; Luada at night. A souvenir sheet with 150kz stamps, Luada at night.

Australia: November 1, 2010. The 150th Melbourne Cup. Four 60¢ stamps, the trophy; Carbine 1890; Phar Lap, 1930; Saintly, 1996. Souvenir sheet contains the four stamps. Prestige booklet contains the four stamps plus previous stamps that picture Melbourne Cup winners. Sheets of 50 and booklets of 20.

Belgium: August 28, 2010. Tourism/Cycling. Two non-denominated "1" self-adhesive stamps, cyclist on Fietskooppunten route and cyclist on La Ravel route.

Bolivia: December 2, 2010. Organizing Committee of the 16th Bolivian Games. 1.50b, 9b different designs of emblems.

Bosnia Serb Administration: May 25, 2010. World Cup Soccer. Two 1.50m stamps, player with upraised arms; player's legs. Offset in sheet of eight and a label.

Botswana: 2010. World Cup Soccer. Pane of nine circular stamps depicting Zakumi leopard mascot, ball, silhouettes of soccer, players, different flags. 1.10p Botswana; 2.60p Namibia; 3p South Africa; 4p Zimbabwe; 4.10p Malawi; 4.90p Swaziland; 5.50p Mauritius; 6.60p, 8.20p Zambia.

Canada: February 1, 2011. Fergie Jenkins. 59¢ stamp depicting Fergie the baseball pitcher. In booklets of 10.

Cape Verde: 2010. World Cup Soccer. 40esc shadows of players, Zakumi mascot; 50esc two players, emblem; 60esc two players, Zakumi; 100esc players, trophy.

Cuba: November 21, 2009. 30th Anniversary Cuban Federation of Sport Fishing. 15c, 30c, 45c, 65c, 75c, 85c various scenes of men fishing, boats. A souvenir sheet with 65c stamp, tilapia.

March 24, 2010. World Cup Soccer. 15c, 45c, 65c, 75c, different scenes of soccer players, flags.

Czech Republic: September 1, 2010. International Basketball Federation's Championship for Women. 17kc players.

Denmark: August 4, 2010. Rundt Bicycle Race. Pane of ten 5.50k stamps depicting various cycling scenes.

Dominican Republic: November 4, 2010. Tourism. Pane of 10 se-tenant 10p stamps. Flying kites on Cabarele Beach; white-water rafting.

France: October 23, 2010. World Fencing Championship. A triptych of two €0.58 stamps and a central label, two fencers, one in a wheelchair; two fencers.

Gambia: October 15, 2010. World Cup Soccer. Four panes of six 15dai stamps, all depicting teams and players. Four souvenir sheets each contains two se-tenant 35dai stamps. Coaches and players.

Georgia: October 15, 2010. National Rugby Team. Three Time European Cup Champions. 5 laris hand holding rugby ball with national flag.

Germany: November 11, 2010. Alpine Ski World Championships. €0.55 alpine skier. Offset in sheets of 10.

January 3, 2011. Gliding. €0.45 1920 scene of gliding on the Wasserkuppe. Offset in sheets of 10.

January 3, 2011. Welfare/Loriot Cartoons. Two €0.55+€0.25 stamps, one stamp depicts two men, one with binoculars at race track. Offset in sheets of 10.

Gibraltar: October 20, 2010. Commonwealth Games. Souvenir sheet with £2 stamp, emblem.

Guernsey: September 16, 2010. 40th Anniversary Guernsey at the Commonwealth Games. 36p tennis; 45p lawn bowls; 48p shooting; 50p swimming; 58p running; 80p cycling. Also a prestige booklet. Printed in sheets of 10.

Guinea: April 15, 2010: All the following issues are in sheets of six stamps (5,000FG values) and a souvenir sheet of one (29,000FG value). Passion of golf; Sailing & Yachting; Passion of Lawn Tennis; Winter Sports; Passion of Fishing.

Hungary: September 24, 2010. 125th Anniversary Hungarian Gymnastics Federation. 140ft gymnast on pommel horse, symbolic gymnasts.

November 11, 2010. Olympic History/Rome Olympics. Souvenir sheet with 500ft stamp, fencing medalist Rudolf Karpait.

Iceland: September 16, 2010. Singapore Youth Olympics. 165k high jumper. Offset in sheets of 10.

India: October 13, 2010. Commonwealth Games. Four 5re stamps, badminton; archery; field hockey; track and field. Souvenir sheet contains the four stamps se-tenant. December 20, 2010.

Iraq: July 13, 2010. World Cup Soccer. 250d, 500d, 750d, 1,000d various soccer players. Souvenir sheet with 1,000d stamp, emblem, players.

Italy: September 7, 2010. 50th Anniversary of Rome Olympics. €0.60 lighting Olympic flame, Olympic Rings, Romulus and Remus with wolf.

September 11, 2010. National Aero Team. €0.60 planes flying in formation.

September 24, 2010. Men's Volleyball Championships. €0.85 volleyball match.

October 25, 2010. 100th Anniversary Italian Tennis Federation. €0.60 emblem, silhouettes of tennis players, tennis ball.

October 30, 2010. 100th Birth Anniversary Mario Mazzuca. €0.60 portrait, rugby match.

Kosovo: June 29, 2010. World Cup Soccer. €1 map of Africa, map of Kosovo; €2 emblem, map of Kosovo. Souvenir sheet contains two €0.50 stamps, soccer ball; ball in South Africa national colors.

Monaco: January 12, 2011. Juan Manuel Fangio. €0.87 the Formula I driver in car. Sheets of 8.

January 12, 2011. 100th Anniversary Indianapolis 500. €1.35 early and modern race cars. Sheets of 8.

January 12, 2011. 100th Anniversary Monte Carlo Rally. €1.40 early and modern cars in snowy landscape. Sheets of 8.

Mozambique: March 30, 2010. Sheets of six stamps (20MT values) and a souvenir sheets of one (175MT value). Table Tennis (Women); Winter Games (Women I); Football Players of Africa 2010; Greyhound Racing (dogs); Winter Games (Men I); Road Bicycles Racing: Roger Federer (Lawn Tennis); Football Stadiums of South Africa.

June 20, 2010. South American Games. Sheetlet of three 16.00mt and three 66.00mt stamps depicting various sports. A 175.00mt souvenir sheet with cycling stamp.

June 20, 2010. Commonwealth Games. A sheetlet of eight 16.00mt stamps depicting various sports. One 175.00mt souvenir sheet of tennis players.

New Zealand: October 6, 2010. A Slice of Heaven. A sheet of 20 60¢ stamps. Many sports are depicted: Our Nation Games, hand gliding, swimming pools, America' Cup yacht KZ1, a game of bowls, hot air balloons, skiing, golf course, surfing, rugby, horse racing, canoeing, mountain climbing plus others. Issued with a large poster.

Norfolk Island: November 23, 2010. World Bowls Championship. 60¢ women with trophy; \$1.50 male lawn bowler; \$2.20 balls.

Papua New Guinea: September 3, 2010. 19th Commonwealth Games. 1k rugby sevens; 3k boxing; 4.65k net ball; 6.30k hurdles. Pane of four se-tenant stamps 1k power lifting; 3k swimming; 4.65k lawn bowling; running. Souvenir sheet with 10k stamp tennis.

Peru: 2010. World Soccer Cup. Souvenir sheet with four se-tenant 10s stamps, Zakumi, leopard mascot; emblem; trophy cup; player hitting another with head.

2010: Adventure sport. 3s windsurfing.

2010: Soccer Club. 3s Melgar coat of arms.

2010: Soccer Club. \$3 Alianza Lima coat of arms.

Poland: November 5, 2010. 100th Anniversary Widzew Lodz Soccer Club. 1.55z soccer players.

Russia: November 10, 2010. 50th Anniversary European Soccer Cup Victory. 12r soccer player and ball. Printed is sheets of 8 stamps with a label.

St. Kitts: October 6, 2010. Elvis Presley, Four souvenir sheets each with \$6 stamps. Blue Hawaii poster with surfboard.

October 6, 2010. World Cup Soccer. Pane of six \$1.50 stamps Germany & Spain map. Two souvenir sheets each with two \$3.50 stamps, German coach, Spanish coach.

St. Pierre & Miquelon: September 22, 2010. Hunting. €1.65 hunter with gun, boats, birds.

St. Thomas & Prince Island: January 14, 2011. Milan Soccer Club. A sheet of six 25,000db stamps depicting various teams. A 150,00db souvenir sheet showing Javier Zanetti holding trophy.

South Africa: July 19, 2010. Sport Stadiums, pane of 10 se-tenant 2.40r stamps.

Spain: September 10, 2010. Sports. €0.34 soccer ball, emblem of Cadiz Soccer Club.

October 21, 2010. World Soccer Championships. Souvenir sheets with €2 stamps, Jules Rimet trophy.

Togo: November 15, 2010. World Soccer Cup. Se-tenant sheet of four 750f stamps depicting Teams; 3,000f souvenir sheet National Team of Spain.

November 15, 2010: World Soccer Cup. Se-tenant sheet of four 750f stamps depicting soccer players; 3,000f souvenir sheet depicting Iniesta, Van der Var, Stekelenburg players.

November 15, 2010. Africa Soccer Cup: Se-tenant sheet of four 750f stamps Flags and players Egypt, Angola, Ghana, Zambia. 3,000f souvenir sheet depicting Egypt team.

November 15, 2010. Africa Soccer Cup: Se-tenant sheet of four 750f stamps showing Nigeria, Ghana, Algeria, Egypt teams. 3,000f souvenir sheet showing Mohamed Nagy "Gedo".

November 15, 2010. Water Sports I. Se-tenant sheet of four 750f stamps depicting Canoe-Kayak, Dragon Ship, Kayak, Canoe. A 3,000f souvenir sheet showing The Galleys - Roman Warships.

November 15, 2010. Water Sports II. Se-tenant sheet of four 750f stamps showing Yacht race, race offshore, race of hydroplanes, speed water race. A 3,000f souvenir sheet a power boat race.

November 15, 2010. Table Tennis. Se-tenant sheet of four 750f stamps, Wang Hao, Wang Lingin, Guo Yue, Timo Boll. A 3,000f souvenir sheet depicts Ma Linn.

November 15, 2010. Martial Arts. Se-tenant sheet of four 750f stamps, Aikido, karate, tae kwon do, judo. A 3,000f souvenir sheet martial arts.

November 15, 2010. Sumo Wrestling. Se-tenant sheet of four 750f stamps, H. Sho, C. Ryuji, K. Toshimitsu, K. Yasokichi. A 3,000f souvenir sheet shows Asashoryu Aikinori.

Turkish Rep. of Northern Cyprus: July 8, 2010. World Cup Soccer. 50k South Africa flag, elephant, soccer player, Zakumi leopard mascot; 50k trophy, crowd with vuvuzela horns.

Uruguay: September 1, 2010. 100th Anniversary Sporting Club Uruguay. 12p basketball player, athlete, crowd.

November 15, 2010. 100th Anniversary Camiseta Celeste National Soccer Team. Two se-tenant 12p stamps, the team; the team and World Cup emblem. Offset in sheets of 8.

COMMEMORATIVE CANCELS

by Mark Maestrone

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Football: 11116-761; 11206-760.

Martial Arts: 10Y13-945.



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