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World Class Stadiums For Brazil's 2014 World Cup





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On the cover: Poster of Estadio do Maracanã in Rio de Janeiro by Portuguese illustrator André Chiote. Please see page 31 for more on his 2014 World Cup Stadium posters.

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SPORTS PHILATELISTS INTERNATIONAL

President:	Mark C. Maestroni, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122
Vice-President:	Norman F. Jacobs, Jr. – email only: nfjr@comcast.net
Secretary-Treasurer:	Andrew Urushima, 1510 Los Altos Dr., Burlingame, CA 94010
Directors:	Charles V. Covell, Jr., 207 NE 9th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 John La Porta, P.O. Box 98, Orland Park, IL 60462 Patricia Ann Loehr, 2603 Wauwatosa Ave., Apt 2, Wauwatosa, WI 53213 Joseph O. Lopreiato, 1105 Bettstrail Way, Potomac MD 20854 Norman Rushefsky, 9215 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910 Robert J. Wilcock, 24 Hamilton Cres., Brentwood, Essex, CM14 5ES, England
Store Front Manager:	(Vacant)
Membership:	Jerome Wachholz, 1320 Bridget Lane, Twinsburg, OH 44087
Sales Department:	John La Porta, P.O. Box 98, Orland Park, IL 60462
Webmaster:	Mark C. Maestroni, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122

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Editor:	Mark C. Maestroni, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122
Columnists:	John La Porta, P.O. Box 98, Orland Park, IL 60462
Ad Manager:	Norman F. Jacobs, Jr. – email only: nfjr@comcast.net
Circulation:	Jerome Wachholz, 1320 Bridget Lane, Twinsburg, OH 44087

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestroni

SPI Election, 2014-2016

Once again we have successfully concluded our biannual election of officers and members of the board of directors of SPI. I'm pleased to say that the entire slate of candidates was elected. In particular, I'd like to welcome a new director, Joe Lopreiato, and congratulate our new Vice President, Norm Jacobs. Stepping into a board position is our immediate past VP, Charlie Covell. Longtime director, Dale Lilljedahl, is retiring from the board with our thanks for his many years of service to SPI. I would also like to thank SPI member Glenn Estus for serving as this year's Nominations Chairman.

The officers and board members are noted on the inside front cover of the journal; their e-mail addresses are listed at the bottom of this page.

I would also like to thank our membership for their overwhelming response. This year we offered members the option of using an automated online ballot (hosted by SurveyMonkey.com) that took about 2 minutes to complete. Clearly this was popular as 43 members voted electronically and another 22 went "old school" with paper ballots for a total of 65 votes (on average we get 30). Count on us to use SurveyMonkey again in the future.

EXPONET Celebrates Anniversary

EXPONET, an online repository of philatelic exhibits, is celebrating its 10th anniversary. It is also completely remodeling its website to better display the more than 900 exhibits – including a number on sports and the Olympic Games. The site (in English, German and Czech) is free for viewers and exhibitors and actively welcomes new exhibits. For more information, please visit www.exponet.info.

Pim Huurman (1934-2014)

We recently received word that Pim Huurman, a longtime Olympic collector and member of SPI since 1980, passed away at the age of 80 in Laren, The Netherlands. A veteran Olympic Games attendee (19 Summer and Winter Games beginning with Rome 1960 and continuing through to Turin 2006), Pim was also interested in the sports of fencing, athletics and tennis. His collections centered on Olympic books and memorabilia as well as the philately of Olympic host countries. We would like to extend our condolences to his family. Thanks to member Laurentz Jonker for the above information.

Corrections

Since publication of the "Commonwealth Games Stamp Checklist" in the Summer 2014 issue of *JSP*, some corrections and additions have been received as follows:

1970 Edinburgh
Great Britain #639-641 (correction)
1974 Christchurch
Tonga #C140-144 and #CO75-77 (additions)
1998 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia #609-612 (correction)
Malaysia #681F and #681G (additions)
Norfolk Island 659-662 (correction)

Thanks to member Paul Tissington for the updates! A copy of the corrected Checklist (as a PDF document) may be downloaded without charge from the SPI website by visiting the following page: www.sportstamps.org/checklist.html

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

Mark Maestroni: markspi@prodigy.net
Norman Jacobs: nfjr@comcast.net
Andrew Urushima: aurushima@yahoo.com
Charles Covell: covell@louisville.edu
John La Porta: album@comcast.net

Patricia Ann Loehr: (*none at this time*)
Joseph Lopreiato: jolopreiato@comcast.net
Norman Rushefsky: normanrush@yahoo.com
Robert Wilcock: bob@towland.freemove.co.uk
Jerome Wachholz: spimembership@gmail.com

World Class Stadiums for Brazil's 2014 World Cup

by Mark Maestroni

Along with an estimated billion other people around the world, I was glued to my television as Germany and Argentina fought it out for the World Cup trophy on 13 July in Rio's Estádio do Maracanã. It had been a long road for all 32 qualifying teams – not to mention their fans around the world. Over the month-long journey, plenty of stars lit up the field from the USA's amazing goalie, Tim Howard (his 16 saves against Belgium broke the all-time record in a World Cup match), to Argentina's captain, Lionel Messi, winner of the Golden Ball award for outstanding play.

I also found myself admiring the stars "off" the field – the stadiums themselves (Figure 1). The media made much of the vast construction projects, all too frequently in a negative light as it reported cost overruns, delays and setbacks in getting venues ready for the Cup. What they failed to touch on were how form and function were melded to create these showcases for the world's biggest single-sport event. This set me to thinking: what, for example, were FIFA's requirements for World Cup stadiums and how did the architects, many of whom had worked on other World Cup and Olympic projects, satisfy those standards?

The biggest requirement, naturally enough, was seating capacity. For a World Cup final, a minimum of 60,000 seats are required. This was also true for the stadium holding the first game, the new Arena Corinthians in São Paulo.

Sustainability as it pertained to reuse after the World Cup was an important consideration. Some stadiums had solid commitments from football teams, thereby guaranteeing a certain level of financial self-sufficiency. As for other arenas ... well let's just say their plans were a bit more sketchy!

FIFA standards for spectator seating made renovations of older arenas mandatory. For example, individual seats with backs (a safety measure) had to be provided which meant that concrete benches,



Figure 1. Curaçao reproduced six of the twelve World Cup stadiums on this souvenir sheet.

pretty much the standard in the Brazilian football stadiums dating back to the 60's and 70's, had to go. The new or upgraded stadiums also had to include plenty of corporate amenities such as VIP suites, and better facilities for the athletes and media. Spectators also expected, and received, enhanced services: lots of high-tech scoreboards, Jumbotrons and LED "ribbon" boards along the base of stands.

Fortunately for today's stadium architects, new materials are being employed, especially with lightweight, translucent qualities. Used overhead, they provide protection for spectators while allowing some light to pass through. Highly malleable, these polymers help express the individuality of an arena through the design of its exterior shell.

Now let's take a look at the twelve arenas beginning with the primary host venue in Rio.

Estádio do Maracanã ♦ Rio de Janeiro

There was little doubt that Maracanã would be the flagship venue for the 2014 World Cup, a capacity in which it served when Brazil hosted the 1950 World Cup (Figure 2). Designated a natural heritage monument (for its cultural, not architectural, value), the old 1950 stadium needed upgrading before playing host as the primary World Cup stadium (the finals were conducted here).



Figure 2. Estádio do Maracanã built for the 1950 World Cup.

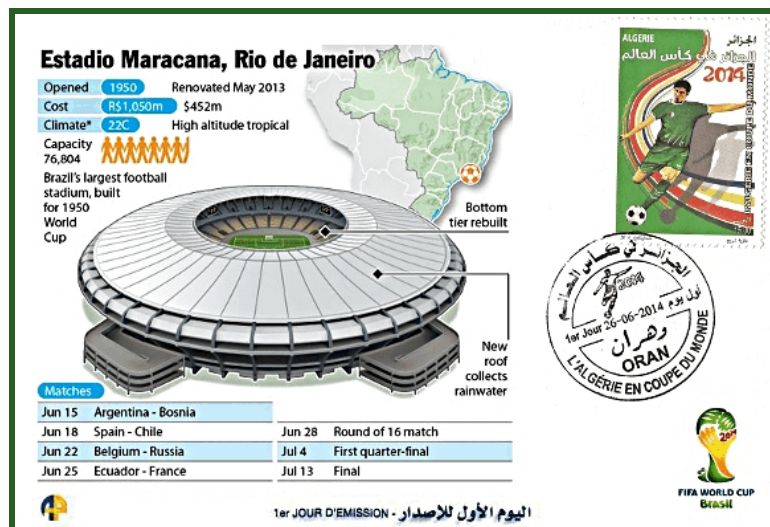


Figure 3. Estádio do Maracanã, renovated for \$452 million, hosted the World Cup final in addition to six other matches (as listed on the Algeria first day cover at left). The new roof covering all the seating is evident when comparing the Curaçao stamp (old roof) with the €50 World Cup coin (above).

An interesting little story about how the stadium got its name. Maracanã is a word of indigenous origin, which refers to certain species of macaw – the Blue-Winged Macaw to be exact. A nearby river was named after the birds, then a district of Rio was named after the river, and, finally, the stadium was named after the district.

Renovation of the old stadium focused on flattening the two-tiers of seating into one which gently rose up the sides of the stadium, thus allowing clear sight lines for all spectators. Plans also called for the roof to be extended to cover 95% of the seating. However it was discovered that the existing superstructure would not support the new Teflon membrane, resulting in the replacement of the entire roof (Figure 3). This unexpected cost caused the budget for this stadium's remodel to skyrocket by nearly 50%! Preserved were Maracanã's very distinctive spectator ramps projecting from the east and west sides of the stadium (easily visible in Figure 2).

Estádio do Maracanã hosted four group play matches -- one each in Groups B, E, F, and H; the Colombia/Uruguay Round of 16 match; the Quarterfinal game in which Germany beat France 1-0; and the World Cup final with Germany victorious over Argentina in a 1-0 nail-biter!

The stadium is no white elephant as it is home to four football clubs in Rio de Janeiro.

Maracanã is also the centerpiece of the 2016 Rio Olympic Games, serving as the venue for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and the primary venue for Olympic football. For the first time in Olympic

history, athletics events will be held in a separate 60,000-seat Olympic Stadium built for the 2007 Pan American Games.

Let us now take a look at the seven brand new stadiums (in order of spectator capacity) built specifically for the World Cup, followed by the remaining four existing arenas which underwent multi-million dollar face-lifts to conform to FIFA standards. All twelve stadiums and their locations across Brazil are shown below.





Figure 4. First Day cover for Brasília's World Cup stamp reproducing the official poster evoking the modernist architecture of the capital's cathedral designed by Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer.

Estádio Nacional ♦ Brasília

This new stadium, with a capacity of 70,000, was designed to replace the original Estádio Nacional, a multi-purpose facility built in 1974.

With its multiple rows of 288 white columns supporting the roof, the new stadium's overall design fits right in with the surrounding modernist architecture of Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer (Figure 4).



Figure 5. German postmark showing the Commerzbank Arena.

The elevations and roof were designed by Hamburg architects Gerkan, Marg and Partners. The firm are well-known for creating some of the world's more notable stadiums and arenas including Frankfurt, Germany's Commerzbank-Arena which hosted the finals of the 2005 Confederations

Cup and 2006 World Cup matches (Figure 5).

This facility was designed with environmental sustainability on display. The stadium's roof is equipped to capture and store in its reservoirs about 10.5 million liters of water which can be treated then reused in the stadium's lavatory system, for irrigation of the field and for cleaning purposes. Roughly three-quarters of the roof's area (162,000 square feet) is fitted with solar panels capable of generating 3,000 MWh/year of electricity – sufficient for 60,000 homes in Brasília.

This was the most expensive of all the stadiums constructed for the 2014 World Cup. Originally bud-

geted at just under R\$700 million, the cost doubled to R\$1.4 billion.

An interesting bit of trivia: the architects of the 70,000-seat bowl are the son and grandson of the architect who built the first stadium on the site back in 1974, keeping the design of Brasília's football stadia "all in the Castro Mello family."

Arena Corinthians ♦ São Paulo

The stadium, designed by CDC Arquitetos of Brazil, was controversial in both its design and function. Rectilinear in shape, critics complained that the sharp angular form lacked aesthetics. The 30-meter wide roof overhangs on both end stands (little more than narrow structural "bridges" between the roof lines on the sides) were completely ineffective in providing protection for spectators (Figure 6).



Figure 6. The rectilinear design of Sao Paulo's new stadium was met with controversy.

When compared with the other more traditionally designed World Cup venues, Arena Corinthians does stand out. The exterior is covered in white cladding: along the west side, it is non-transparent glass; on the east a system of blinds integrates one of the largest LED screens in the world at 170 meters long by 20 meters high (558 feet by 66 feet).

After the World Cup, this stadium will be home to the Sport Club Corinthians Paulista, the biggest of São Paulo's three football clubs. Corinthians celebrated their centennial in 2010, honored by

Brazil Post with a pair of stamps, one of which is shown in Figure 7.



Figure 7. Corinthians Paulista's emblem on a stamp celebrating the club's centennial.

Permanent seating for 48,000 spectators is provided. Because Arena Corinthians was the venue for the opening match of the World Cup, FIFA requirements mandated that the spectator seating be increased to a minimum of 60,000. The 20,000 temporary seats will be removed following the competition. Orig-

nally scheduled for completion in February 2014, delivery of the stadium was delayed by over 6 months due to financing issues and an accident on 27 November 2013 killing two workers.

The Arena Corinthians was the second most costly venue after the stadium in Brasília. Originally budgeted at R\$820 million, cost overruns exploded the bill to a projected R\$1.2 billion. Considered privately funded – as were Arena da Baixada and Estádio Beira-Rio – the reality was that probably 33% of the total actual cost was federally financed with long-term loans from Brazil’s development bank.

In 2016, Arena Corinthians will serve as one of the venues for the Olympic football tournament.



Figure 8. The Arena Fonte Nova was one of the venues for the 2013 Confederations Cup, a tune-up event for the 2014 World Cup.

Arena Fonte Nova ♦ Salvador da Bahia

Another new stadium was the Arena Fonte Nova in Salvador. Like its name, which means “new (water) source,” the arena features an open south end overlooking the adjacent lagoon. In keeping with the aquatic theme, the seats are blue. A stage at the open end provides opportunities for the stadium to be used as a venue for non-sports events, making the facility more sustainable following the conclusion of the 2013 Confederations Cup (Figure 8) and 2014 World Cup.

The stadium was designed by another German firm, Schultz Architektur, who were also responsible for the new roof on the HDI Arena (formerly the AWD Arena) in Hannover, a venue for the 2006 World Cup (Figure 9).



Figure 9. The AWD Arena in Hannover.

Arena Pernambuco ♦ Recife

Completed just in time for the 2013 Confederations Cup, the Arena Pernambuco (also known as Itaipava Arena Pernambuco – the Brazilian beer company purchased naming rights) was one of the eight stadia to also host single-elimination matches (Figure 10).

Designers at Fernandes Arquitetos Associados used a rectilinear form rather than the traditional oval for this facility which would anchor a new upscale district of Recife called “Cidade da Copa” (Cup City). Contrasting materials provide interest in the facade with soft and light EFTE panels (EFTE is a high-strength plastic polymer) used in the outer shell and sharp concrete ramps projecting from the corners. The seats have been painted red acknowledging the largest football teams in the region – Nautico, Sport (Figure 11) and Santa Cruz – all of whom use that color in their emblems.



Figure 10. The arena was notable for its unusual rectilinear shape.



Figure 11. Sport Club in Recife is one of 3 area football clubs to occupy the Arena Pernambuco.

The cladding conceals 6 floors of multi-use space including parking. Like the new stadium in Brasília, Arena Pernambuco conforms to FIFA standards for ecological sustainability by employing rain water collection systems and capturing solar power.

Arena Pantanal ♦ Cuiabá

The new facility replaces the old Estádio José Fragelli, the city’s main football stadium. Spectator capacity is 43,000, including roughly 15,000 seats on the ends which will be removed following the World Cup competition.

The architects for this arena, GCP Arquitetos, taking into account the sizzling hot local climate, opened the four corners of the stadium to allow natural ventilation. Inspired by Cuiabá’s setting in Brazil’s agricultural heartland (Figure 12), GCP’s plans called for gardens of trees and other vegetation in these corner spaces. Unfortunately, those proposed designs were not carried out.



Figure 12. Registered first day cover for the stamp honoring Cuiabá as a venue for the World Cup.

The stadium encountered significant construction delays due to late shipments, accidents (one death from an electrical accident and a fire) and financing issues. As a consequence, the stadium was not entirely completed by the time of the first World Cup event.

Another issue involved the legacy of the stadium. Except for the annual 11-day agribusiness mega-trade show, ExpoAgro, there is little future demand for such a large facility.

Arena da Amazônia ♦ Manaus

Of all the locations for a World Cup stadium, the selection of Manaus in the middle of the Amazonian jungle may be the strangest. The only way in or out of this city of 2 million is either by air or boat.

The most famous building in Manaus has been the 700-seat Teatro Amazonas (opera house) inaugurated in 1896 (Figure 13). It is hoped that the new Arena da Amazônia (Figure 14) will challenge the Teatro for fame.



Figure 13. The Teatro Amazonas and diagonal patterns which influenced the new stadium's roof design.

The design of the stadium is simple, reflecting its environs in this tropical rain forest. With an average of 90 inches of rainfall per year in Manaus, the steel hollow core girders supporting the roof function as large rain gutters. The intense heat and high humidity are tamed by the use of translucent fiberglass fabric roof and facade with a coating that reflects the heat and thus offers a cooling effect.



Figure 14. Manaus' new Arena Amazônia.

The outer shell of the stadium was designed to resemble an inverted Amazonian basket with a traditional diagonal pattern (Figure 13) formed by the steel roof trusses. The yellow and orange colored seats give the impression of colorful tropical fruits in the "basket".



Figure 15. gmp Architekten's Warsaw Stadion has a facade that, like the Manaus stadium, exhibits a woven texture.

The architect for the stadium, Gerkan, Marg and Partners (gmp Architekten) of Hamburg, Germany, also designed Warsaw's Stadion Narodowy (National Stadium), one of the four Polish venues for EURO 2012, the UEFA European football championships (Figure 15). I couldn't say

if basket textures are the firm's hallmark, but the facade of Stadion Narodowy certainly has a "woven" texture.

Following the conclusion of the World Cup, Fundação Vila Olímpica, the public operator of Arena da Amazônia, presented to FIFA a 100-page list of damages to the stadium for which, it claims, FIFA is responsible. Included was extensive damage to skyboxes (holes in walls, power outlets and lights removed, damage to floors) and removal of team benches by FIFA, despite these being considered part of the permanent stadium equipment.

Manaus has no local football base to sustain the future of the Arena da Amazônia as a strictly football stadium. The city leaders insist that they will be able to use the complex for other large events, and vociferously dispute the notion that there was ever talk of using the stadium as a local jail – certainly not the kind of legacy FIFA was looking for!

Arena das Dunas ♦ Natal



Figure 16. The undulating roof of Arena das Dunas resembles the nearby sand dunes for which Natal is known.

One of the more innovative of the new stadiums is the Arena das Dunas. Twenty aluminum “petals” fold around the 42,000-seat arena mimicking the undulations of the nearby sand dunes (Figure 16). The outer shell includes deep louvers which allow the stadium to “breathe” as on-shore breezes flow in to cool the seating in the bowl. Another distinctive feature of

the design is that the staircases are exposed to view rather than hidden beneath the stands. Seating is divided into two tiers separated by 40 skyboxes.

The architects for this arena were the well-known firm, Populous, from Australia who have been involved in numerous Olympic projects including the 2012 London Olympic Games stadium (Figure 17).

Four group play matches were conducted at Dunas. Team USA played its first match of the competition against Ghana, winning 2-1.



Figure 17. Arena das Dunas and the 2012 London Olympic Games stadium were both designed by noted Australian architects, Populous.

The final four stadiums to be discussed were all existing facilities that received varying degrees of renovation to meet FIFA World Cup standards.

Estádio Castelaο ♦ Fortaleza

Predating the 20th FIFA World Cup, Estádio Castelaο was opened in 1973. Named for the state’s governor, Plácido Castelo, who was instrumental in obtaining what was then only the fourth stadium in Brazil, the arena has been the venue for many



Figure 18. Pope John Paul II’s appearance at the Estádio Castelaο set an attendance record.

memorable sporting and non-sporting events, including the visit of Pope John Paul II on 9 July 1980 (Figure 18). It was on that notable occasion that the stadium set its own attendance record of 120,000.

The stadium was completely renovated in 2002, adding a second tier of seating. Five years later following its selection as one of the dozen World Cup venues, Estádio Castelaο

was given another facelift. The lower tier of seats was relocated closer to the pitch, increasing capacity, and the roof was extended to now cover virtually all spectators. Skyboxes and other corporate facilities were added at that time. The distinctive curved “fingers” reaching into the sky which supported the new roof are artistically interpreted in the city’s official World Cup poster (Figure 19).

On 17 December 2012, Estádio Castelaο was the first of the twelve World Cup stadiums to be inaugurated. With the Confederations Cup “test” events scheduled for six of the stadiums in June 2013, the stadium’s comple-

tion came none too soon. As reported by the BBC News, FIFA officials had been highly critical of the lack of speed in Brazil’s preparations, quoting General Secretary, Jerome Valcke, as “saying Brazil needed ‘a kick up the backside.’”

Estádio Mineirão ♦ Belo Horizonte

Constructed in the 1950s and 1960s, the stadium’s general appearance was retained during renovations in preparation for the FIFA World Cup. For historical reasons, the concrete shell and facade remained unchanged, while the roof was extended using steel trusses attached to the existing concrete overhang. This served to increase cover for the



Figure 19. The city’s official World Cup poster shows the stadium’s distinctive roof (see arrow).



Figure 20. Estádio Mineirão's facade is just visible (red arrow).

reconfigured spectator seating on the lower level.

The network of steel trusses is visible in the upper right corner of Belo Horizonte's poster featured on the city's World Cup stamp (Figure 20).

With a seating capacity of over 58,000 fans, Estádio Mineirão hosted four Group Play matches, plus a Round of 16 game and the Semifinal in which eventual cup champion Germany demolished host country Brazil, 7 - 1.

Estádio Beira-Rio ♦ Pôrto Alegre

Estádio Beira-Rio (Riverside Stadium) is located on the banks of the Guaíba River in Pôrto Alegre. The southernmost of the 2014 World Cup stadiums, it was constructed in 1969. Hype Studio updated the interior with a new seating tier on the lower level which brought fans closer to the action. Using a special membrane to dissipate heat, the previously open stadium was partially enclosed with a domed structure of 65 leaf-shaped segments arching over the stands as if embracing the spectators (Figure 21).

Designed to seat 60,000, the stadium was actually reduced to around 49,000 for its five World Cup matches. Eventual 2014 World Cup champion Germany barely edged Algeria 2-1 in its Round of 16 match held here on 30 June.

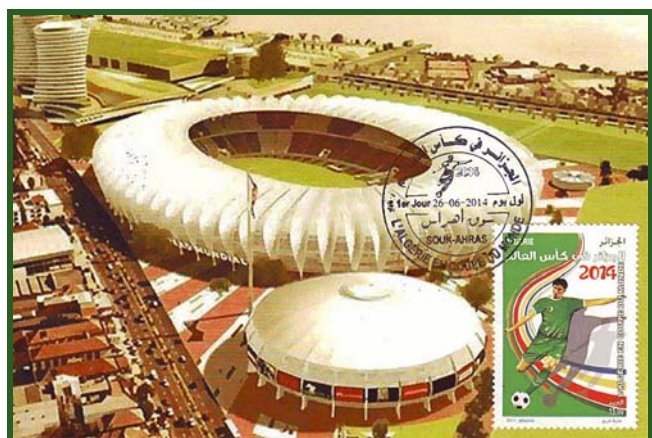


Figure 21. Maximum card featuring the new facade of the Estádio Beira-Rio in Pôrto Alegre.

Arena da Baixada ♦ Cúritiba

Resembling something along the lines of a shoebox (Figure 22), the Baixada stadium was constructed in 1999 following demolition of an older football stadium. What makes this facility quite unusual is its east-west orientation. Before renovation, the south side of the pitch had a very narrow seating area due, primarily, to the proximity of nearby structures. The renovation corrected this by adding a full tier of seating parallel to the pitch, bringing seating capacity up to the FIFA required minimum. A retractable roof over the pitch had not been completed by the time of the Cup.



Figure 22. Arena da Baixada in Cúritiba was the smallest of all the 2014 World Cup venues.

How much did the stadiums cost?

Twelve stadiums were constructed/renovated for the World Cup. Of those, four were built solely with public funds (Arena da Amazônia, Arena Pantanal, Estádio Nacional, Maracanã) while five others were public-private partnerships (Mineirão, Castelao, Arena das Dunas, Arena Pernambuco and Arena Fonte Nova). The remaining three stadia were built entirely with private money (Arena da Baixada, Estádio Beira-Rio and Arena Corinthians).

Not surprisingly, there were significant cost overruns. When taken as a whole, the stadium construction was originally budgeted at R\$6 billion, but ballooned by roughly 41% to R\$8.5 billion. The worst cases were Estádio Nacional, Arena da Baixada and Arena Pantanal which exhibited increases over the original prices of 101%, 95% and 89%, respectively. At the other extreme, Estádio Castelao met its targeted budget of R\$19 million, while the Estádio Mineirão came in *under* budget by 7%, R\$695 million rather than R\$499 million.



Figure 23. World Cup Stadium Price – Average Cost Per Seat in US\$

How do these figures compare to previous World Cups (Figure 23)? For the most part, the costs are comparable when viewed as “average cost per seat.” Brazil’s per seat cost was US\$5,860 versus US\$5,781 for South Africa (2010) and US\$5,531 for the joint Korea/Japan event (2002). Germany (2006) on the other hand kept costs under control by spending only US\$3,755 per stadium seat.

Looking ahead, Russia has projected a per seat cost of US\$11,600 – nearly twice the cost of Brazil’s construction. If we take Sochi’s 2014 Olympic Winter Games venue construction cost overruns as an example, that figure might easily exceed \$20,000 per seat! It would seem that FIFA faces the same “cost inflation” of putting on a World Cup as the IOC does in conducting the biennial Olympics.

White elephant or legacy – are the stadiums economically sustainable?

What kind of epilogue will be written for Brazil’s World Cup venues? It’s too soon to make any predictions, but at least for the present Brazil can boast of having the most modern suite of football stadiums in the world.

In the near term – in fact in just two years – five of these arenas will be in use for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. Maracanã Stadium in Rio hosts the Opening and Closing Ceremonies along with plenty of matches (and the final) in the football competition. Stadiums in four other cities, all used for the 2014 World Cup, will host Olympic football matches: Fonte Nova Stadium, Salvador; National Stadium, Brasília; Mineirão Stadium, Belo Horizonte; and São Paulo Stadium (Arena Corinthians), São Paulo.

Many of the stadiums have at least one football club (some have as many as three) committed to using the facility, making them economically self-sustaining. Stadiums designed for multiple uses also stand a better chance for longevity.

Chris Lamberth, director of sport development at 360 Architecture probably summed it up best:

“FIFA has been saying for awhile to make stadiums that you can kind of downsize. [Estádio das Dunas] is a great example of that. It has legacy mode.” 🐘

Resources

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A Philatelic Gold Mine: 1928 Olympic Games Registered Cover #366

by Laurentz Jonker

In January 2014 there was auctioned a very interesting 1928 Olympic Games registered cover with an “Amsterdam Stadion” postmark mailed to Brussels, Belgium. The starting price was just 99¢. Following a week wherein 26 bids were placed by 13 bidders, the cover was auctioned for \$270.

As a collector of the 1928 Olympics for over 40 years, this was the first time I had encountered a registered cover abroad with postage due stamps! So let's take a closer look at this fascinating cover which attracted such spirited bidding.

The addressee was unknown at 915 Chaussée de Waterloo in Brussels ①, so the cover was sent back to Amsterdam. A second attempt, this time to 915 Chaussée d'Alsemberg ②, was more successful. Unfortunately for the addressee, he had to pay 3.30 Belgian francs for surcharge/postage due.

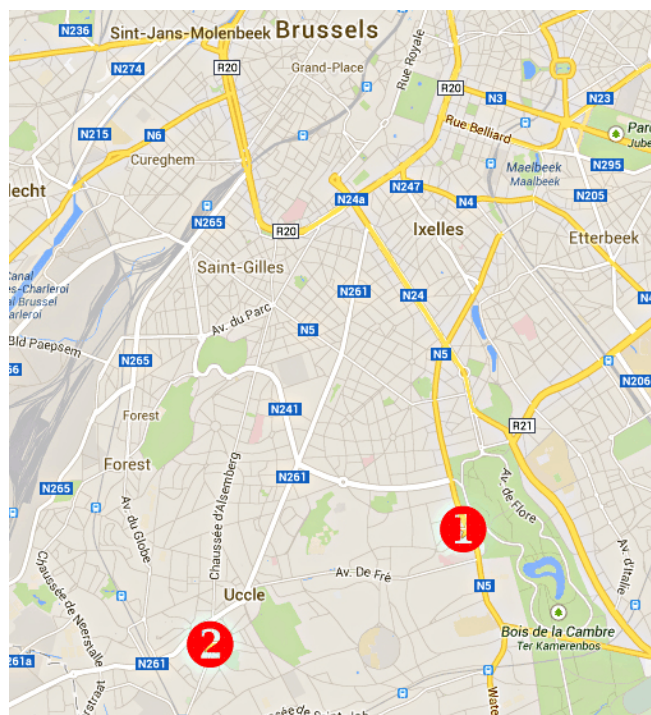
As evident in the map at right, the two addresses were only about 3 kilometers apart in the tree-lined Brussels residential suburb of Uccle.

Despite being somewhat dingy and lightly stained, it's impossible not to fall in love with this beautiful and fascinating cover. First of all, the work performed by the post offices in The Netherlands and Belgium is clearly evident. There is a veritable cornucopia of colorful cancellations, markings, cachets and stickers, enough to interest any Olympic collector. Even more amazing is that the Olympic post office was able to locate the original sender as

there is no indication whatsoever of the mailer's identity anywhere on the cover!

Returning to the cover, it is clear that quite a bit of time elapsed between the time the cover arrived back in Amsterdam on 14 June 1928 and its return to the Brussels suburb of Uccle to attempt a second delivery on 7 July 1928 – nearly one month.

The front side of the cover displays a complete set of the Dutch Olympic stamps from 1928. Following careful examination of the stamps, it appeared



that the postal clerk had used stamp number 11 from the various sheets (this would have been the first stamp in the second horizontal row of the 200-stamp sheets). I was able to find catalogued plate flaws on five of the stamps: 1½c, 3c, 5c, 15c and 30c. The 7½c and 10c have no plate flaws. The only stamp not from position 11 is the 2c value as it does not display the small marks typical of that plate position as stated in Dirk Wolthuis' catalogue *Plaatsfouten en Kenmerken, 9e Olympische Spelen 1928*. More than likely the postal clerks at the Olympic Stadion temporary post office separated the stamp sheets into singles during lulls in business.

The full set of 1928 Olympic stamps has a postage value of 74c. The surtax benefitting the Olympic Games added another 13½c making the total purchase price 87½c.

A cover abroad weighing 20 grams was normally 15c. However, mailing rates to Belgium were calculated differently, with 20 grams costing just 12½c. Registration service cost an additional 15c. Thus the correct postage for this cover to Belgium should have been 27½c. This means that the cover was overfranked by 46½c (74c - 27½c). Of course, once the cover is mailed, that excess postage is rendered useless.

Let's review the postal rates in the reverse direction, from Belgium to the Netherlands. A registered cover at the base weight of 20 grams from Belgium to abroad was, in 1928, 3.50 francs (1.75 postage + 1.75 registration). Just as with Netherlands rates to Belgium, there was a different rate for mail from Belgium to the Netherlands. In this case, the rate would have been 3.25 francs (1.50 postage + 1.75 registration).

It would have been acceptable that the return of a registered cover to its addressee would have been by regular, not registered, mail. This is evident by the value of the postage due stamps which would have been much higher had it been returned via registered mail.

As noted above, the postal rate was 12½c. To determine the amount of the postage due in Belgian francs, the Belgian post office figured that for each 2½c in postage due, 66 centimes would be assessed. However there was a slight twist to the way this was calculated: for the first 2½c in postage due, 66 centimes was rounded up to 70 centimes. For each subsequent 2½c in postage

due, the charge was 66 centimes. Therefore the calculation was: 70 centimes + (4 x 66 centimes) = 3.34 Belgian francs

The odd amount was probably rounded down to 3.30 francs. Small fluctuations in currency exchange rates would have scarcely been of influence.

Summary

The first time the registered cover was mailed to Belgium it couldn't be delivered because the address was unknown. It was returned to Amsterdam.

The second time it was mailed to Belgium, now with the incorrect address "Chaussée de Waterloo" changed to the correct "Chaussée d'Alsemberg," the addressee had to pay 3.30 Belgian francs as postage due.

A registered cover from the Netherlands abroad with a weight of up to 20 grams was 30c (15c postage + 15c registration fee). However, for mail destined to Belgium, a different rate was applied: 27½c (12½c + 15c). The postage due should therefore have been twice the 27½c rate or 55c. But was 55c equal to 3.30 Belgian francs?

For comparison purposes, a registered cover from Belgium abroad was 1.75 francs (postage) + 1.75 francs (registration fee), for a total of 3.50 francs. However Belgium's rate to the Netherlands was calculated as 3.25 francs (1.50 postage + 1.75 registration fee). The postage due would therefore have been twice 3.25 francs or 6.50 francs.





Two early postcard views of the Chaussée de Waterloo (left) and Chaussée d'Alseberg (right).

Let us take a look at all the markings on both sides of the cover to trace the route this letter traveled.

Front side of cover

1st Mailing and Attempted Delivery:

- Olympic series canceled by grey-black Olympic pentagonal handcancel "N2, 9.VI.1928, U15". The reason that the cancel is grey-black is that the postal clerk had sometimes used a violet ink pad, leaving violet ink residue on the cancel when a black ink pad was used..
- Blank registration label No. 366 with text "Amsterdam Stadion" handwritten with a violet aniline pencil (just barely legible).
- Registration label circled with a blue pencil with text below: "retour" (return).
- Address in pencil: Ant De Ridder, 915 Chaussée Waterloo, Brussel 20.
- Registration number of the R-cover with in black "1855" (visible above the "W" in "Waterloo")
- Postman's marking: black circle with number 20 inside (shown upside down over the "d" in "d'Alseberg")

2nd Mailing and Delivery:

- New address handwritten by a pen in dark red ink: 915, Chaussée d'Alseberg, Bruxelles
- Red "Bruxelles" has been deleted in blue pencil and "Uccle I" added.
- Number 715 in black ink written in upper left corner. The significance of this number is unknown; perhaps it was a dealer or collector mark.
- "T frcs 3.30" handwritten in dark red ink and double underlined.
- 30c Belgian postage due stamp affixed and handcanceled "UCCLE-UKKEL / A1A, 7.VII.1928".

The other 3.00 francs in Belgian postage due stamps are affixed to the reverse of the cover.

Reverse of cover

1st Mailing and Attempted Delivery:

- Arrival cancel "UCCLE-UKKEL / C3C, 11.VI.1928".
- Postal label "Inconnu / Onbekend" (unknown) and handwritten text (barely visible) beneath in violet aniline pencil "de l'adresse" and the initials of the postal clerk. The label and markings were all deleted in red ink when the letter was mailed for the second time!

Return of letter to Amsterdam:

- Upon its return to the Netherlands, the cover received a violet postmark of "POSTKANTOOR AMSTERDAM / Afdeeling Aankomst / DE CHEF" (Post office Amsterdam / arrival department/ manager)
- The cover was returned to the temporary "Olympic Stadion" post office where an arrival cancel was applied (very special!): the pentagonal Olympic handcancel "N1, 14.VI.1928, U14" (in gray).

2^e mailing/delivering:

- (At the top) Text in French with red ink pen: "Sur la demande de l'expéditeur, expédiée de nouveau a l'adresse (On demand of the sender, mail it once more to address): 915 Chaussée d'Alseberg Bruxelles"
- Six Belgian postage due stamps of 50c each handcanceled "UCCLE-UKKEL / A1A, 7.VII.1928".

References

Hubert de Belder (Belgium) and Adam van der Linden (for calculating the Belgian postage due rate).

P. Goldsmith Sons and MacGregor sports equipment slogan meters

by Norman Rushefsky

Seventeen-year-old Philip Goldsmith left Austria in 1861, arriving nearly penniless in New York City. He moved around the U.S. before finally settling in Covington, Kentucky just across the Ohio River from Cincinnati where he opened the city's first 25-cent store. He met another shop owner Wolf Fletcher, who was in the business of repairing dolls, and the two began a small doll manufacturing business. To get through the slow season after Christmas they used surplus material from dolls and toys to manufacture baseballs.

Baseballs were composed of a rubber core, a layer of string and a leather cover. Goldsmith invented and patented a machine to wind the string. Workers then stitched on the leather covers by hand.

In 1878 Fletcher sold out to Goldsmith. By 1882 Goldsmith's firm, Covington Industries, was the largest doll company in the U.S. It wasn't long before Covington Industries began to market other sports equipment in addition to baseballs.

Philip Goldsmith drowned in 1894, whereupon his sons reorganized the business around the manufacture of sports equipment. In 1906 the firm's name was changed to P. Goldsmith Sons. The firm was moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, publishing extensive catalogs of sports equipments that they had for sale. An example of a catalog from 1912 is shown in Figure 1. During the late 1930s the firm began the use of pictorial meters to advertise their products on their business mail. An example of a specimen meter is shown in Figure 2.

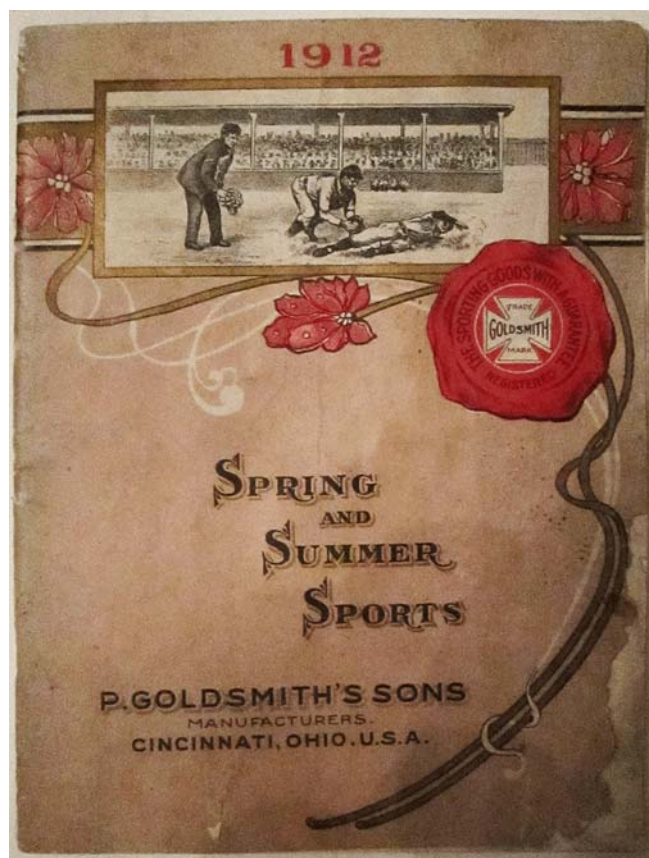


Figure 1. P. Goldsmith Sons 1912 sport equipment catalog (the possessive "s" in Goldsmith came and went).

In the 1930s P. Goldsmith Sons availed themselves of an opportunity to purchase two of the major sports equipment manufacturers in the U.S.

Goldsmith's first acquisition was the Crawford, McGregor and Canby Company, which had begun as a manufacturer of wooden shoe lasts. This firm was able to manufacture these complex articles using a lathe that would turn blocks of wood into the irregular shape of shoe lasts. It was this capability for carving objects with odd contours that led the company to become one of the first manufacturers of golf clubs. Their line drivers, brassies and spoons.

After the sale, the name of McGregor was changed to the more Scottish spelling of MacGregor; P. Goldsmith Sons became MacGregor Goldsmith.

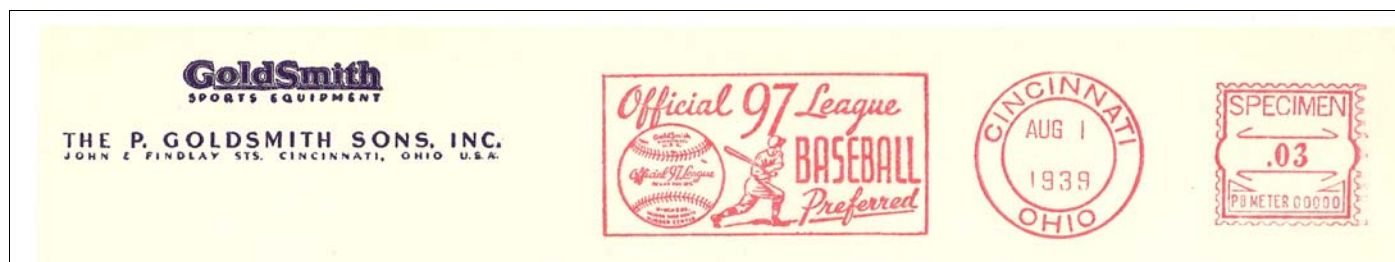


Figure 2. A 1939 "specimen" meter advertising the Goldsmith firm's "Official 97 League" baseballs.



THE DRAPER-MAYNARD CO.
400 YORK ST. CINCINNATI, OHIO



VANCAMP HARDWARE & IRON CO.
401 WEST MARYLAND ST.
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA



THE DRAPER-MAYNARD CO.
400 YORK ST. CINCINNATI, OHIO



THE DRAPER-MAYNARD CO.
400 YORK ST. CINCINNATI, OHIO



Figure 3. Three slogan meters used on Draper-Maynard stationery advertising the company's softballs, baseballs and footballs. The softball and football slogans use Pitney Bowes meter number 59125, while the baseball meter is PB #58801. Note the image of Nick, Maynard's bird dog, used in the company logo.

The second purchase was that of the Draper-Maynard Company (D&M) of Plymouth, New Hampshire in 1937. D&M in the early 20th century sold products directly to the Boston Red Sox. Players such as Babe Ruth would regularly visit to select their own equipment.

D&M began in 1881 as a glove manufacturer formed by the partnership of Jason Draper and John

Maynard. One year later the firm began making baseball gloves. By the 1920s, D&M was one of the largest sports equipment manufacturers in the country. It is said to be the first company to design gloves for specific fielding positions.

The company adopted the trademark (Figure 3) depicting Maynard's bird dog, Nick (the "Lucky Dog"). Production of baseball equipment reached

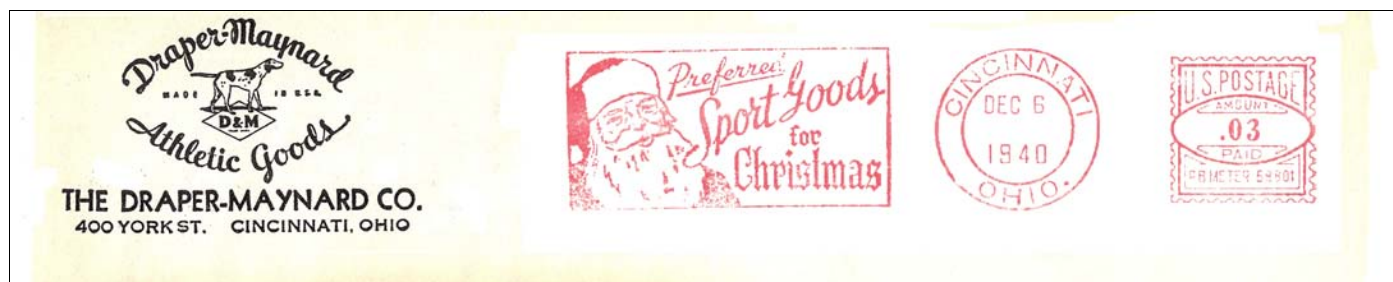


Figure 4. D&M also used seasonal (Christmas) and patriotic ("Buy United States Savings Bonds") slogans in PB 58801.

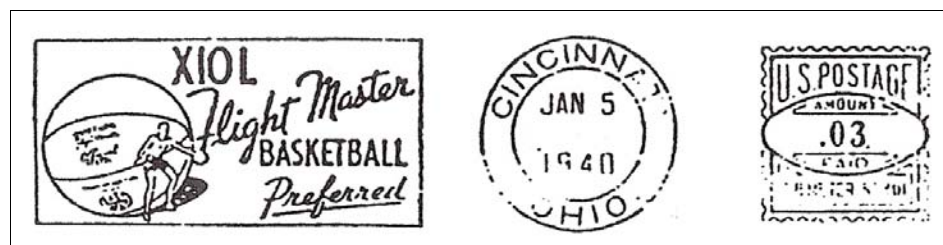


Figure 5. A basketball slogan meter, probably from PB meter #58801.

three slogan meters advertising softballs, baseballs, and footballs, respectively, on D&M stationery. The slogans were used on Pitney Bowes meter 59125. The baseball slogan was also used on an earlier PB meter, #58801. It is also known on a 1942 Pitney Bowes eagle meter from Escanaba,

a peak in the 1920s when D&M claimed that over 90% of Major League players used D&M gloves. The firm supplied all types of sports equipment including uniforms.

The business closed in 1937 after the death of Maynard and in that year was sold to P. Goldsmith Sons Company.

It is not clear from those examples I have seen whether mailings for two or all three companies might have been done from a central facility. This might explain why, during the 1940s, there were instances of identical slogans with the same meter numbers on the stationery of P. Goldsmith Sons Inc., D&M and MacGregor Goldsmith Inc. Figure 3 shows

Michigan.

Slogans celebrating Christmas and promoting the buying of U.S. Savings Bonds during World War II appeared on PB meter 58801 (Figure 4).

A 1940 basketball slogan meter (Figure 5) is also known and was probably used with PB meter 58801.

In 1947 a later PB meter 59874 was used to advertise the Official 97 League Baseball (Figure 6).

MacGregor Goldsmith was eventually sold to the Brunswick Corporation known for bowling equipment and other products.

The meter slogans featured in this article are among the most attractive of all sports related meters.



Figure 6. A MacGregor Goldsmith slogan promoting its "Official 97 League" baseballs (PB meter 59874).



One of the 15 known Registered covers posted at the STADION special Post Office.

by Manfred Bergman

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is split as to the status of the 1906 Athens Olympic Games. The official position (supported by the majority) denies them the status of "Olympic Games," accepting, instead, the designation of "Intercalated Games" (IOG). A minority persists – so far unsuccessfully – in having them categorized as an "Official Games." A difference of opinion persists to this day; the more than "hundred years war" continues.

Yet, the IOG were significant in more than one respect. For the first time an official opening and closing ceremony was celebrated, a precursor of an Olympic Village was operational and three temporary post offices (TPO) were at the disposal of participants and visitors. We know today that a significant amount of mail was posted, but for many years it was kept in collections, lofts and cellars. (Can you guess the reasons why?)

The following review of the literature should not be considered in its usual context, nor as an introduction, but my opinion that this "Olympic First" was dealt with for almost a century in an irresponsible and cursory way, with an imprecision undignified from a philatelic point of view. This lack of accuracy and dearth of real (genuine) documents, was the oxygen for manipulators and forgers. Far be it from me to blame the authors of the treatises (mentioned hereinafter); they described a wide breadth of material and could not, most probably, describe the 1906 TPO's correctly (perhaps due to a lack of material?). My only criticism is that they

THE FIRST SPECIAL OLYMPIC POST OFFICES



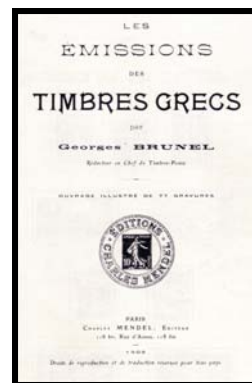
1906 INTERCALATED OLYMPIC GAMES

(PART 1)

should have mentioned the inexactness of the reproductions, asking for further research.

The irony of this story is that genuine material was available (though scarce) as evidenced by some well-crafted forgeries which did not differ appreciably from the genuine cancellations. These certainly were not made from the images shown in most of the literature. We will talk more about this at the end of this review of the available literature.

1. 1909: *Les Emissions des Timbres Grecs* (Georges Brunel – Editions Manuel)¹ The author states that the low denominations were sold out during the first days of May 1907! I suppose that he meant 1906? However, for the first time we see a STADION postmark (below). The author correctly cited the post office next to the entrance gate. However, no mention was made of the other two post offices.

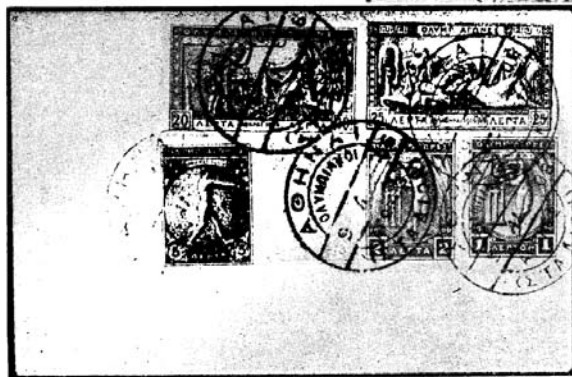
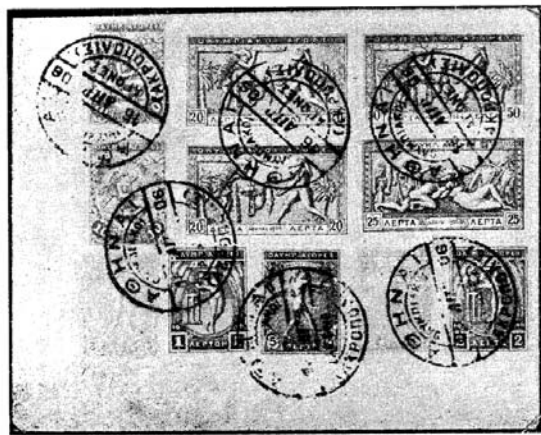


Ces timbres eurent cours jusqu'au épuisement
Un bureau de poste avait été installé à la porte du stadion et les lettres étaient oblitérées avec le cache spécial que nous reproduisons ci-contre.



The first time the 1906 Stadion postmark was reproduced was in Brunel's 1909 publication.

2. 1916: It seems that World War I affected neither philately, nor the French philatelic dealer and publishing company, Yvert & Tellier. They printed *Etudes Sur Les Obliterations Greques* (*Study of the Greek Postmarks*) by A. Lavenir. The author describes what he calls “the last postmarks of Athens” (until 1916). The “last one,” in this case, referred to the special postmark used during the 1906 Olympic Games (above). It exists with two “varieties” (surely he meant two additional different cancels): one was inscribed ZAPPEION, where a sport exhibition took place (he was evidently not aware of the real use of the Zappeion Hall); the other was used at the AKROPOLIS, primarily for visitors. The STADION postmark depicted here is identical to that shown in Brunnel’s 1909 publication.



Bura’s 1957 publication was the first time that all three postmarks were shown on covers (although untraveled).



Clockwise from top left, the postmarks are Akropolis, Zappeion, and Stadion.

3. 1920 (-1931): The *Kohl Briefmarken-Handbuch* (updated by Dr. H. Munk), mentioned a “small post office inside the stadium, where a special commemorative postmark was used on mail.” In reality, the “small post office” was outside the stadium next to the gate. There is no mention of any other post offices, and no image of the STADION postmark was included.

4. June 1955: P. Th. van der Heuden (*Les Jeux Olympiques*), mentions (no images) two special cancellations: STADION and AKROPOLIS. By the way, this Dutch author was the first one to describe the 1940 Finish non-issued proofs.

5. May 1957²: It was Fabian Bura,³ the great Polish philatelist, who published a series of seven articles on Olympic philately, describing, amongst others, the 1906 postmarks.⁴ Unless I am mistaken, this was the first time covers (untraveled) with postmarks from all three special TPO’s were reproduced (shown top right – I apologize for the poor quality, but remember that it was produced in Poland in 1956). The covers were originally in the collections of Lasny (France), Penatti (Italy) and Agryropoulos (Greece).

NOTE: I am not analyzing the nature or the authenticity of the above documents. However,

unless proven otherwise, it shows conclusively that it took half a century before documents with cancelled stamps were shown, though on untraveled covers.

6. 1957: The *Catalogo Sport* (Edizione Landmans) mentions and illustrates a special postmark as being RRR (triple rare). Only the STADION postmark is represented, which is far from reality. You may judge for yourself. Notable is the perfect “λΠΡ” which has never been seen on a 9.4.06 postmark. Additionally, there is a hyphen (-) between the 9 and λΠΡ, which is also unknown. Do note as well that instead of an “A” the drawing shows a “λ”.



The first edition of this publication in 1955 did not show any of the postmarks. Landmans was a close friend of Count Bonacossa (IOC member from 1925-1953), the first known Olympic philatelist and sponsor of Olympic philately. Landmans, who handled the disposal of Bonacossa’s Olympic collection and medal for the best annual Olympic philatelist, did not show an authentic postmark in the first edition which indicates that even Bonacossa probably did not own an example.



It is more than certain that the authors of publications 1 and 2 were inspired by documents (shown above and at left) identified by me (1968) and mentioned by Raftopoulos (1968). We know that this cachet is a forgery, which proves that forgers went to work as early as 1906/1907.

7. 1958: *Sport und Briefmarken* (Dr. Gerhard Schmidt and Günter Schneider). The catalogue mentions the 3 special postmarks; no images are shown.

8. 1958 (1959): *Olimpiady a Filatelistyka* (the Polish original) translated into German, *Die Olympische Spiele auf den Briefmarken der Welt* (Fabian Bura). (The handbook is based on Bura's articles – see #5 above – and was also translated into Swedish, English and French). To the best of my knowledge, this is the first time that the illustrations are an accurate representation of the true postmarks. I do wonder, though, why Bura did not use the postmarks shown in his Polish articles, including instead drawings of the cancels all dated April 8, the first day of the Games. Was it due to technical difficulties, or did he wish to show all three postmarks from the first day? Furthermore, note the misshapen “ΛΠΡ” from his earlier articles now rendered almost perfectly as “ΑΙ.”. Finally, the STADION postmark shown here is Tsironis Type 2⁵ – showing the widely spaced “N” in “STADIO N”. I must admit that I have

no idea where Bura got the drawings since the only catalogue showing identical postmarks appeared years later. I must have missed something.

9. 1960: *A Philatelic History of the Olympic Games* (Ernest Trory). The images of the postmarks are identical to those in Bura's book (#8 above). It seems, then, that Trory did not possess or had not seen the original postmarks.

10. 1962: *Die Poststempel der Welt zu den Olympischen Spielen 1906-1960* (Günter Schneider). Here again we see the similarity of the illustrations to those of the previous authors (mostly Bura). It does seem curious that publications at this level, and considering the philatelic importance of the 1906 postmarks, were written without actually possessing authentic material. At the very least the authors should have acknowledged that the images being shown were not taken from traveled postcards or covers.

11. 1964: *La Filatelica Ellenica nel Regno Olimpico* (Raftopoulos). The images are only approximate representations, which is surprising given the expertise of Raftopoulos, and therefore not taken from real items. They are similar to previous publications, but with one significant difference: the



month designation “ΛΠΡ” is not misshapen. Moreover, for the first time in more than a half century, an illustrated postcard with a “STADIO N” postmark is shown.⁶

12. 1968: The Greek edition of the Raftopoulos book of 1964 (see #11) shows at long last postcards and loose stamps with the special cancellations (again, I refrain from showing or analyzing them at this point).

13. Virvilis: The author shows a drawing of the AKROPOLIS postmark (shown below) and describes all three special postmarks, though the AKROPOLIS postmark receives special attention (copy from Raftopoulos).





Από 9-19 'Απριλίου 1906 έτελέσθησαν εις τὸ ἐν 'Αθήναις Παναθηναϊκὸν Στάδιον Ἀθλητικοὶ ἀγῶνες, πρὸς ἐορτασμὸν τῆς δεκαετηρίδος ἀπὸ τῆς τελέσεως τῶν πρώτων συγχρόνων 'Ολυμπιακῶν 'Αγῶνων κατὰ τὸ 1896.
Τυχ. γραφεῖς: ΑΚΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ
ΖΑΠΠΕΙΟΝ α' ἡμέρα-μην-ἔτος
β' μην-ἡμέρα-ἔτος
γ' μην καὶ ἡμερομηνία ἀνεστραμμένοι καὶ ἀνεστραμμένοι, ἔτος κανονικῶν
ΣΤΑΔΙΟΝ

AKROPOLIS postmark as shown in Virvilis.

14. 1981: *Olympic Stamps* (V. Furman – Progress Publishers, Moscow). Furman, the great researcher of Olympic stamps and in particular on the 1896-1906 Greek issues, shows a drawing of the ZAPPEION postmark while discussing Evangelis Zappas. Unlike other postmarks shown in Furman's book, it is (alas) a drawing and not a reproduction of a real postmark (drawing copied from Bura).

15. 1984: *Post, Philately and Olympism* (S. Fioretti, S. Vila, Vidal Torrens – Publisher IOC). And ... again, the same drawings (below) instead of real reproductions.

16. 2000: These representations were shown in the *Vlastos Catalog*. I must admit my astonishment; Mr. Vlastos was a reputable dealer, auctioneer and expert. Many pieces of the 1906 Olympic mail

Ἀναμνηστικαὶ σφραγιδεὶς Ὀλυμπιακῶν ἀγῶνων 1906
Commemorative postmarks of the 1906 Olympic games



passed through his hands and received his expertise. Now, in his catalog, he only presents approximate, imprecise and forged postmarks (above)! (I believe that after you have read this entire article you, too, will be able to point your finger at the inaccuracies and forgeries.)

17. 2007. *1906 – the Olympic Issue* (Michalis E. Tsironis). Finally, after a century, the first comprehensive work on the 1906 Olympic issues, including a large section on the three temporary post offices. The book, in my opinion and shared by Olympic philatelists, is the best study ever published on any Olympic subject. It was Michalis' life work. I shall discuss it at length in later parts of this article, so do be patient.

My conclusions from the review of the literature:

1. It is deplorable that for an entire century no precise reproductions or technical data were published on the first special Olympic postmarks and post offices.
2. The excuse of the authors was the scarcity and non-availability of bona fide items. Is this a fact? The forgeries (known today) must have been based on some real documents!
3. Imprecision is the oxygen for falsifiers which, as we shall see later, prospered (prices sky-rocketing to over \$1000 per item) and even fooled reputable experts. For a century only one author described a forgery!
4. Lack of precision and the appearance (early in my opinion) of forgeries started a new "war" between philatelists. Some condemned the forgeries (based on certain experts' opinions and inconclusive evidence), while other philatelists (a minority, but reputable) considered the forgeries to be genuine items.

This cannot last! A plethora of material has surfaced (normal in philately) resulting in Tsironis establishing his landmark study. I therefore propose to review the situation in light of available documents and endeavor to propose a consensus on the genuine and false material.

I do hope that the above review did not stretch your patience and, more so, stimulated your interest (especially if you are an owner of 1906 items) in the upcoming detailed article on these postmarks. 🐼

ENDNOTES:

1. Documents 2 and 3 are from the Tecardi Archives.
2. The documents were graciously supplied by Roman Babut, Warsaw.
3. Bura was the only Polish accredited participant at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games.
4. The articles were published in *Filatelista*, the journal of the Polish Philatelists Society since 1956.
5. This postmark will be discussed at length. For now, just take note of it.
6. To be shown in a later part of this article.

COLLECTORS SHOWCASE

James Jeffrey, Professional Football Player

by Trevor Bevan

Back in the late 1980's, a lot in a cinderella auction in the UK caught my eye. The lot's description pertained to a 1912 Scottish court summons notice concerning a "Professional Football Player."

Although I was aware that UK players were being paid to play in the early 20th century, I was intrigued that an official document would describe a player's occupation as "professional." Certainly at that time I would have guessed that playing football was more a part-time occupation.

Upon receiving my purchase, I discovered, much to my surprise, that attached to the official summons was a philatelic item! While I recognized it as a Royal Mail form, it's actual function was not immediately clear. I carefully stored it away until I had time to research it more thoroughly.

Then in 2003 while attending a New Zealand National Philatelic Exhibition in Wellington, I came across an entry with several examples of this philatelic item. As it turned out, what I had was a Royal Mail "A.V. Official Receipt."

As part of Royal Mail's registration procedure, the dated receipt was attached to the original document (shown at right) and a copy presented to the sender as proof of mailing. This receipt was the only way the Post Office would recognize any compensation claim if that item was lost or stolen.

A few years pass. Then in 2011 a philatelic friend asked if I would enter an exhibit in London the following year. I agreed and began arranging the pages of my exhibit, "Association Football."

It was at that point that I remembered my summons document. I knew its philatelic significance, but what of its thematic connection? So began my quest for the story behind one James Jeffery, Professional Football Player.

The summons provided valuable information. It stated, in part: "Whereas it is humbly complained to me, by Mrs. Mary Taylor or Jeffrey, Widow, Reform Street, Blairgowrie, Pursuer, That James Jeffrey, Professional Football Player residing in

Upper Allan Street, Blairgowrie, Defender, is owing the Complainer the sum of Nine pounds, two shillings Sterling of aliment"

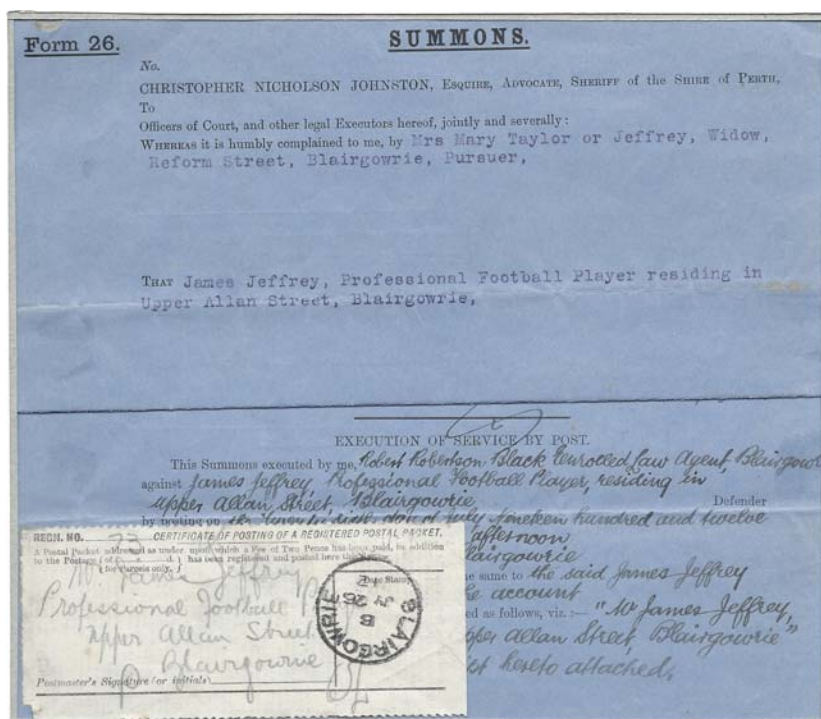
In Scots law, "aliment ... is the sum paid or allowance given in respect of the reciprocal obligation of parents and children, husband and wife, grandparents and grandchildren, to contribute to each other's maintenance" (from 1911 *Encyclopedia Britannica*). Clearly, James' mother, Mary Taylor, was claiming that her son, James Jeffrey, owed her aliment money.

Lower down on page one, the document states "Execution of Service by Post" (i.e. the summons was executed by mail) which is where the philatelic item comes into the scenario.

Over the ensuing two months, after exchanges of emails hither and yon, I discovered additional details about James Jeffrey's life including that he had moved to London around 1907.

Uncovering specifics on his football career was more problematic as I had to contact every club in London. My efforts paid off; James joined the London football team Millwall FC as a defender and, for a time, the team's captain. Retired from playing after the 1913-14 season, James did a spell as a referee.

While we may never know how the suit between mother and son was resolved, as Scottish court records were mislaid or otherwise unavailable, I do have a fascinating philatelic document giving us a peek at the life of a "professional football player" in early 20th century England. 📬



Court summons from Blairgowrie, Scotland in 1912 with Royal Mail registration label at bottom verifying execution of the document.



Figure 1. The two booklets of 1st Class stamps with self-adhesive panes. Note how the Olympic and Paralympic stamps alternate differently between the panes. The booklets were issued 5 January 2012

Looking Back at London 2012

Part 3: 2012 – Definitives, Torch Relay, and Welcoming the Games

by Bob Wilcock

The dawn of the Olympic year itself saw the launch of Olympic and Paralympic definitive stamps depicting the logos in red with 1st Class indicium for standard mail and in blue for “Worldwide up to 20g.” Self-adhesive, they were printed in panes of 25 alternate Olympic and Paralympic stamps by De La Rue, and the 1st Class stamps in booklets of six stamps, printed by Walsall Security Printers (but indistinguishable from the sheet stamps). There were two booklets with slightly different covers, one with a label showing key dates, the other with a label bearing a message from Lord Coe (Figure 1). Seven first day postmarks were available for use (Figures 2 & 3).

The Olympic Torch Relay

12 January saw the next pair of cards with the pictogram cancels, described and listed in Part 2, and these continued at monthly intervals until the last cards released in August.

The next big event for Royal Mail was the Torch Relay, and boy did they get their knickers in a twist! The marketing department decided there would be four (expensive) covers, marking the overnight stops of the relay in the national capitals of Cardiff (Wales), Belfast (Northern Ireland), Edinburgh (Scotland), plus the arrival in the English capital, London, at the Stratford Olympic Stadium. Each cover was to be cancelled by a triangular cancel, in a design that was never explained, and looked en-



Figure 2. The two worldwide stamps with FD postmarks.



Figure 3. The remaining 5 January 2012 FD postmarks.

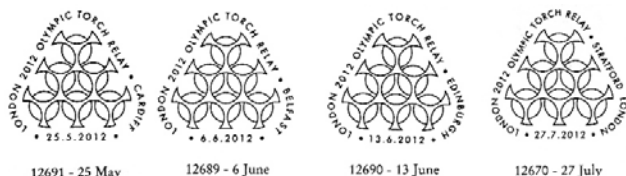


Figure 4. The four Torch Grille postmarks.

tirely non-Olympic. It was later revealed to be a representation of the London 2012 Torch grille.

The problem was they never told the Philatelic Bureau! Responding to requests from the public and the trade, the Bureau, at rather the last minute, launched a program of 70 cancels to mark the start, each overnight stop, and the arrival of the Flame at the Olympic Stadium. But they did not have time to properly organize the handstamping in the Special Handstamp Centers, which, apart from London, are normally staffed by one or two part-timers (the

Welsh guy comes in one day a month). The result was a massive backlog of work in the handstamp Centers, which extended into the Olympic period and beyond—the Torch Grille postmarks weren't even announced philatelically until 10 August, two weeks after the relay had been completed! Factor in the phenomenally successful Gold Medal stamp FDCs, and it is perhaps no surprise that the handstamp Centers did not finally clear all the Olympic covers and cards to be cancelled until January 2013! Figure 4 shows the four Torch Grille cancels, and Figure 5 just two of the 70 overnight cancels. These are all in the same format, showing a map of the Torch Relay route. Table 1 lists all the cancels organized chronologically by date. There was no cancel for 2 June since the Torch was in the Irish Republic. Names in **red** are venue towns (soccer and sailing).

Table 1: Torch Relay Postmark Program

*RM#	Date	Place	*RM#	Date	Place	*RM#	Date	Place
W12559	19 May	Penzance	S12557	12 Jun	Dundee	L12501	6 Jul	Chelmsford
W12560	19 May	Plymouth	S12558	13 Jun	Edinburgh	L12502	7 Jul	Cambridge
W12561	20 May	Exeter	N12534	14 Jun	Alnwick	L12503	8 Jul	Luton
W12562	21 May	Taunton	N12535	15 Jun	Newcastle	L12504	9 Jul	Oxford
W12563	22 May	Bristol	N12536	16 Jun	Durham	L12505	10 Jul	Reading
M12523	23 May	Cheltenham	N12537	17 Jun	Middlesbrough	L12506	11 Jul	Salisbury
M12524	24 May	Worcester	N12538	18 Jun	Hull	L12507	12 Jul	Weymouth
W12564	25 May	Cardiff	N12539	19 Jun	York	L12508	13 Jul	Bournemouth
W12565	26 May	Swansea	N12540	20 Jun	Carlisle	L12509	14 Jul	Southampton
W12566	27 May	Aberystwyth	N12541	21 Jun	Bowness	L12510	15 Jul	Portsmouth
W12567	28 May	Bangor	N12542	22 Jun	Blackpool	L12511	16 Jul	Brighton
W12568	29 May	Chester	N12543	23 Jun	Manchester	L12512	17 Jul	Hastings
M12525	30 May	Stoke-on trent	N12544	24 Jun	Leeds	L12513	18 Jul	Dover
N12532	31 May	Bolton	N12545	25 Jun	Sheffield	L12514	19 Jul	Maidstone
N12533	1 Jun	Liverpool	N12546	26 Jun	Cleethorpes	L12515	20 Jul	Guildford
S12548	3 Jun**	Portrush Co Antrim	N12547	27 Jun	Lincoln	L12516	21 Jul	Walthamstow
S12549	4 Jun	Derry/Londonderry	M12526	28 Jun	Nottingham	L12517	22 Jul	Bexley
S12550	5 Jun	Newry	M12527	29 Jun	Derby	L12518	23 Jul	Wandsworth
S12551	6 Jun	Belfast	M12528	30 Jun	Birmingham	L12519	24 Jul	Ealing
S12552	7 Jun	Moorfields	M12529	1 Jul	Coventry	L12520	25 Jul	London
S12553	8 Jun	Glasgow	M12530	2 Jul	Leicester	L12521	26 Jul	London
S12554	9 Jun	Inverness	M12531	3 Jul	Peterborough	L12522	27 Jul	Stratford London
S12555	10 Jun	Lerwick	L12499	4 Jul	Norwich	* Royal Mail postmark number ** There was no 2 Jun postmark		
S12556	11 Jun	Aberdeen	L12500	5 Jul	Ipswich			



Figure 5. Two of the 70 Torch Relay cancels. As an alternative to Olympic stamps, pictorial town stamps could be used en route, as here for Edinburgh.

The Society of Olympic Collectors produced a computer-generated SmartStamp depicting a scene from the Handover Ceremony in Athens. Covers were mailed from Much Wenlock, the spiritual home of Olympism in the UK (Figure 6), and from some of the venue towns for which there was no overnight cancel, such as Greenwich (equestrian) and Hadleigh (mountain bike). Another was produced to mark the passage through Bicester (Figure 7), and is invariably found on a maximum card.

27 June 2012: Souvenir Sheet

One month before the Games, Royal Mail issued a souvenir sheet comprising sixteen 1st Class Olympic and Paralympic definitives and four worldwide, each stamp with a label depicting one of the Olympic stadia, ten in all, used twice (Figure 8). In a hideous garish red, the sheet is very unattractive, and even Royal Mail seemed ashamed of it for it did not feature in the main sales brochure issued just before the Games. However, individual stamps

and labels are quite pleasing. Figure 9 shows an example postmarked with a special cancel for the day of issue. This was initially announced as one of the 27 July cancels, causing considerable confusion for collectors, and a problem the handstamp centers could have done without.

Olympex 2012

The official IOC sponsored philatelic exhibition was staged in the prestigious British Library from two days before the Games, 25 July, until the end of the Paralympic Games on 9 September. The official opening was on 24 July in the evening, and a special handstamp was available from that date until 9 September. There was also a Royal Mail SmartStamp, available potentially every day, but in practice only during the first three days, with occasional printings after that period. An exhibition cachet, applied in violet, and a postcard with images including one of the Olympic stamps issued on 27 July (cycling), were also available (Figure 10).

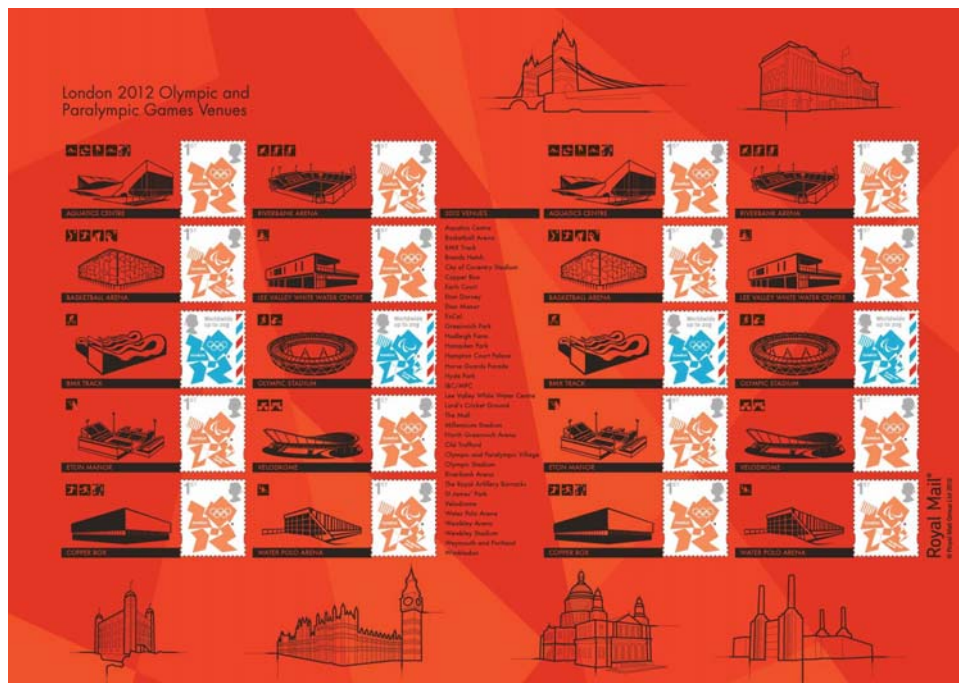
The Olympex exhibition (Figure 11), smaller than in previous years, was non-competitive and by invitation only. It comprised a limited number of displays covering the Games held in London in 1908, 1948 (including unaccepted stamp designs courtesy of the British Postal Museum and Archive) and 2012. There was a section on Pierre de Coubertin supported by stamps from 1896 from the Samaranch collection held in the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, displays relating to each of the Olympic sports featured in the 2012 Games, and likely



Figure 6. Torch Relay SmartStamp used at Much Wenlock.



Figure 7. Bicester Torch relay SmartStamp.



Figures 8 & 9. The souvenir sheet issued on 27 June 2012 (left), and first day postmark (above).

the finest display of Paralympic Games material - ever seen. The exhibition was aimed at introducing the sporting public to Olympic collecting. A significant part of the budget went towards making the

display area as inviting as possible, and in photographing all the exhibits plus some supporting material in very high resolution for interactive touch-screen displays to appeal to the young and young at heart. All these images can be made available for future exhibitions (Figure 13).



Figure 10A. At left the front of the Olympex postcard from the British Library reproducing images from past and present London Olympic Games along with the Olympex logo.

Figure 10B. At right, the reverse of the Olympex postcard which bears a special Royal Mail SmartStamp from the British Library with Olympex 2012 cancel and cachet in violet.





Figure 11. General view of Olympex 2012 inside the British Library.

Olympex 2012 was also the only place that visitors and collectors could obtain special handstamps. For many years now, Royal Mail has supplied handstamps by mail-in service only, the cancels being applied in special handstamp centers around the country. Covers and cards are returned in transparent plastic envelopes so that they do not pick up unwanted postal cancellations or other markings. They do travel through the post, but never pick up fluorescent routing codes.

For Olympex, special arrangements were made with the London Special Handstamp Centre. In a Collectors' Cabin on the forecourt of the British Library were boxes for cards and covers to receive either the Olympex cancel, or the stadium cancel (Figure 12), or the medal-winners cancel for any day. These were taken to the handstamp center daily. They were at first mailed on very quickly, but as the handstamp center became overwhelmed, long delays ensued.

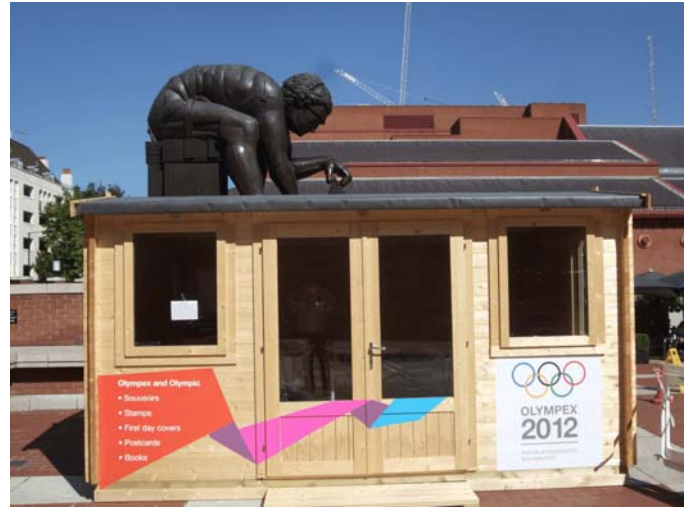


Figure 12. The Olympex "Collectors' Cabin" on the forecourt of the British Library.



Figure 13. Sir Philip Craven, President of the International Paralympic Committee (seated) and Gerhard Heiberg, member of the IOC (standing at right), being shown the interactive touchscreen display at Olympex 2012.



Figure 14. Miniature sheet of four stamps issued on opening day of the 2012 London Olympic Games.

To coincide with the Opening Ceremony, Royal Mail issued a miniature sheet with four much-praised designs (Figure 14). The two first class stamps depict athletes on the track and the Olympic Stadium, and a fencer juxtaposed with Tower Bridge. The two £1.28 stamps (world-wide rate) depict a diver and Tate Modern Art Gallery, and a cyclist riding into the London Eye. The stamps – water-activated, not self-adhesive – were not issued in sheet form. Despite repeated requests Royal Mail failed to supply a European-rate stamp. (Interestingly they have produced a European-rate stamp for the Commonwealth Games issue, despite the fact that the only European countries in the Commonwealth are the small islands of Malta and Cyprus, plus the Channel Islands and Gibraltar!)

Also on 27 July Royal Mail issued a Prestige Booklet “Keeping the Flame Alive,” the stamps interleaved with pages giving facts about British successes at past Olympic Games. The first page incorporates a pane of nine – eight Olympic definitives plus a central vignette. The stamps differ from those issued in January in that their gum is water-activated rather than self-adhesive. The official first day covers for this pane are a disaster because the black selvage has been left on rendering the post

Figure 15. First Day postmarks (27 July) on the Prestige Booklet pane. Collectors should take care to obtain covers without the attached black selvedge which masks the postmarks.



marks illegible, so look out for privately prepared covers where the selvage has been removed (Figure 15). Three other panes incorporate vertical se-tenant pairs of the sports stamps: football over track athletics, aquatics over field athletics, and Paralympic archery over Paralympic equestrian. The se-tenant arrangements are new, but the stamps are the same as the original issue.

There were not too many first day postmarks. In addition to those illustrated in Figure 16, the two Torch Relay postmarks for 27 July could be used, as could the Olympex and the 2012 athlete postmark introduced on 5 January (Figure 3). The handstamp depicting the stadium was available on 27 July, and remained in use throughout both the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Part four (the final part) of this article will deal with the challenging postal arrangements during the Games, the spectacularly successful Gold Medal Winner stamps, the Paralympic Games, and the final “Memories” issue.

For parts 1 and 2 of this article, please see the Fall 2013 (Vol. 52, #1) and Summer 2014 (Vol. 52, #4) issues of *JSP*.



Figure 16. (Below) The variety of postmarks available for use on the miniature sheet and Prestige Booklet stamps of 27 July.



Figure 1. Composite sheet of stamps from the Cook Islands honoring the IIIrd South Pacific Games in 1969. The 15c golf stamp is shown at lower right se-tenant with the boxing stamp.

Golf at the South Pacific Games in the 20th Century

by Patricia Loehr

In 1961 development of regional multi-sport games for the South Pacific began. Similar to the Olympic Games, medals are awarded in gold, silver, and bronze for each event, and countries vie for the most total medals.

The 1st South Pacific Games were held in Suva, Fiji in 1963 from 29 August to 7 September. Thirteen nations participated in nine sports. Golf did not make its debut until the 3rd South Pacific Games at Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea conducted from 13-23 August 1969. Twelve nations participated in thirteen sports, one of which – golf – was held at the Lae Golf Course.

Cook Islands issued a set of ten triangular stamps for those games. The stamps were produced

in two formats: souvenir sheets and a single composite sheet (Figure 1).

The souvenir sheet stamps were printed two sports to a sheet. Golf and boxing are together, each with a value of 15c (Figure 2, Scott 258a & b)¹. Pairs of the stamps (one of each sport) were oriented vertically tête-bêche (the bottom margins of the stamps are connected) forming a square. The souvenir sheets contained five pairs plus two non-denominated labels.



Figure 2. Golf and boxing se-tenant pair of stamps from the souvenir sheet.

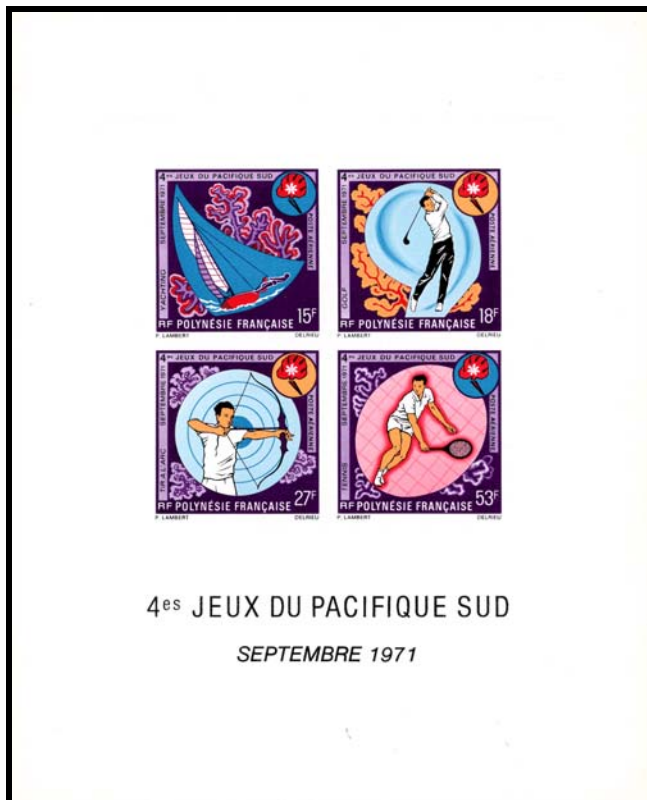


Figure 3. Imperforate souvenir sheet showing the four stamps from French Polynesia commemorating the 4th South Pacific Games. The golf stamp is at upper right.

The stamps were also issued in a single composite sheet grouping all ten stamps plus the two labels (Figure 1, Scott 258c). The stamps are paired as in the individual souvenir sheets with golf and boxing again vertically tête-bêche.

A rule had been in place that the games would be conducted every three years, except in an Olympic year when the hosting nation could choose either the year before or after the Olympic year. This

affected the fourth games that were held in 1971, rather than the Olympic year of 1972, at Papeete, Tahiti from 8-19 September. The number of countries sending participants continued to increase with athletes from 14 nations participating in 17 sports.

On 8 September, French Polynesia issued a set of four stamps to commemorate the games; one celebrated golf (Figure 3, Scott C75a). The games' emblem appears in a circle in the upper right corner². The golf events were held at D'Atimaono Golf Course. That course would appear in the design of a future stamp released in 1974 (Figure 4, First Day Cover of Scott 276).

After 1971, the governing South Pacific Games Council decided to place the games on a quadrennial schedule to permanently avoid interference with the Olympic Games. Although stamps were issued for the 1975 and 1979 games, they did not have golf in their designs. Those games were held in Guam and Fiji, respectively.

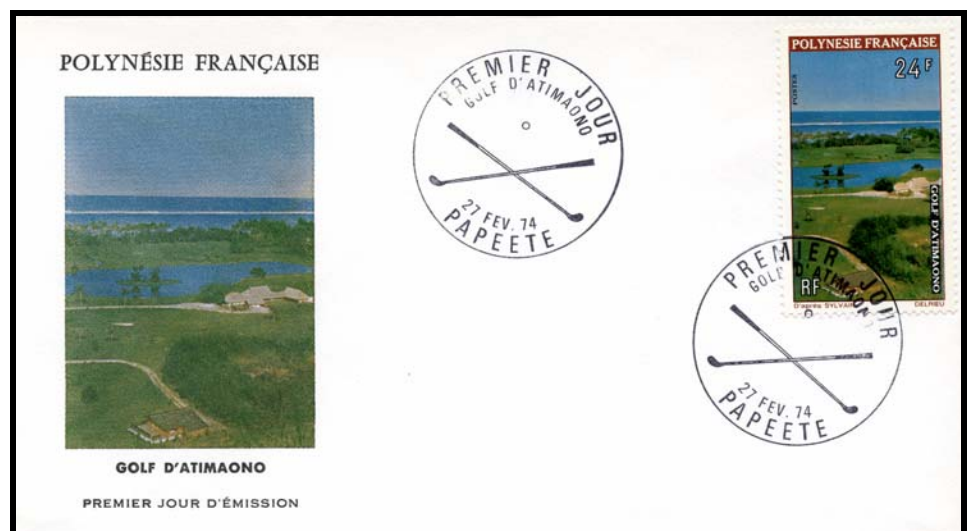
The 7th South Pacific Games in 1983 were held in Apia, Western Samoa from 5-16 September with 20 countries vying for medals in 13 sports.

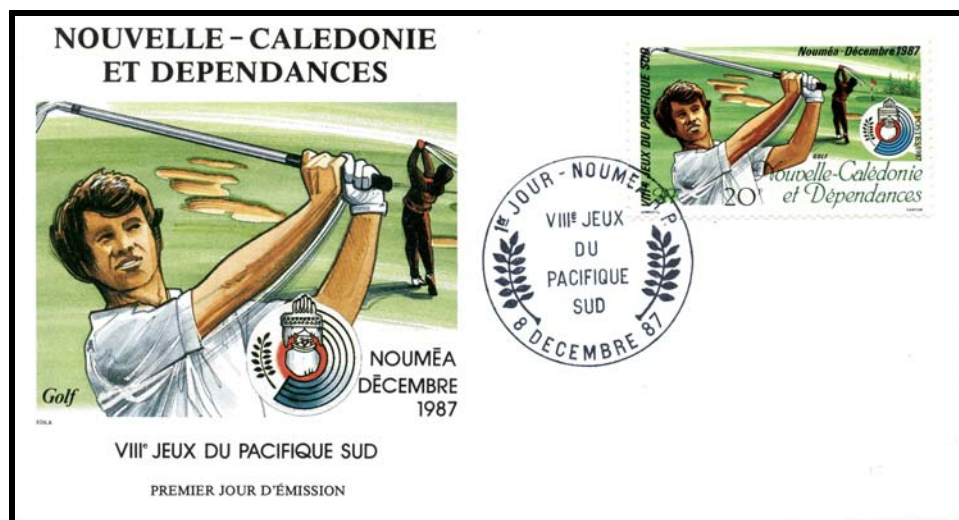
Western Samoa issued a set of eight stamps, one of which honored the golf event (Figure 5, Scott 598) conducted at the Royal Samoan Country Golf Club.



Figure 5. At right, golf at the 1983 games in Apia, as represented by this Samoan stamp.

Figure 4. The D'Atimaono Golf Course, shown on this French Polynesia stamp from 1974, played host to the 1971 South Pacific Games golfing event.





Figures 6 & 7. New Caledonia issued golf-themed stamps for both the 1987 (above, first day cover) and 1995 Games (below).



Of the next four South Pacific Games of the 20th century a golf stamp was issued by New Caledonia for both the 1987 and 1995 games. Golf is one of three stamps released on 8 December 1987 (Figure 6, Scott 568); a single golf stamp was placed on sale 24 August 1995 (Figure 7, Scott 724).

Since the games began, there has been a steady increase in athletes and participating nations. The next Pacific Games³ are scheduled for 2015 at Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

South Pacific Mini Games

After the South Pacific Games had become established, a similar multi-sport competition was introduced for smaller nations of the region which came to be known as the South Pacific Mini Games (now, simply, the Pacific Mini Games). The first gathering for mini games athletes was in 1981 at Honiara, Solomon Islands.



Figures 8 & 9. Cook Islands issued two golf stamps for the 1985 South Pacific Mini Games. The souvenir sheet version (right) has a surtax benefitting the games.



Of the five South Pacific Mini Games conducted in the twentieth century only one golf stamp has been issued. It is Cook Islands Scott 880 (Figure 8) for the 1985 games. A souvenir sheet was also issued with a surtax that would benefit the staging of the games in Rarotonga (Figure 9, Scott 880a). In 1985 16 nations competed in six sports from 31 July to 9 August.

Endnotes

1. In the most recent *Scott Catalog* there are five catalog numbers assigned for ten stamps. Each pair of stamps received one number and an "a" or "b", however five numbers (259 - 263) are unassigned. In one reference source of golf stamps it is listed as 258b and the souvenir sheet containing all 10 stamps (plus two labels) is 258c. Another golf stamp source lists the golf stamp as 263 and the souvenir sheets as 263a and 263b.
2. A stamp with a design of the games emblem (Scott C68) was issued for publicity by French Polynesia on January 26, 1971.
3. In 2006, the South Pacific Games Council adopted a new constitution, changing its name to the Pacific Games Council to more clearly reflect the geographic region of the member nations. At the same time, the governing organization changed the names of the multi-sports events to the Pacific Games and Pacific Mini Games.

Source

Encyclopedia of International Games. Daniel Bell. 2003.

BOOK REVIEW

by Norman Jacobs

The OLYMPICS tell the History through philatelic images by Giuseppe Barion. Full color, softbound, 441 pages. 2nd edition, available in English or Italian, from the Olympic Museum shop for 35 Swiss Francs + shipping (payable with a credit card). By mail: Olympic Museum Shop, P.O. Box, 1001 Lausanne, Switzerland. By e-mail: liliana.paez@olympic.org

At the recent Olympic Fair in Lausanne, I discovered a new, beautifully illustrated book that takes the reader through a 441-page journey into the history of the Olympic movement, featuring stamps and covers to tell the story of the ancient and modern Games.

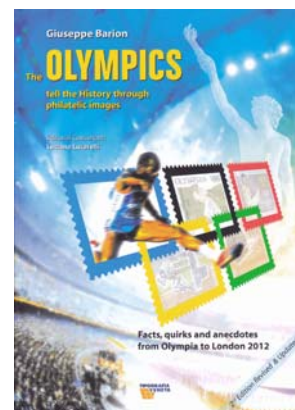
Giuseppe Barion's history of the Olympic movement uses a pictorial approach with detailed captions to highlight the sporting and political back stories, making it appealing both to philatelists and to anyone interested in the Olympics.

At first glance, the pages resemble an exhibit, but the author has used his freedom to ignore the "rules" of exhibiting for the sake of illustrating his story. He sometimes uses entire sets of stamps, and intersperses postcards and maps. In presenting the 1924 Olympics, he includes the entire set of overprinted stamps and all eight of the Pasteur postal cards, which are reproduced in their true colors. However, like a good exhibit, the text of this book stands on its own as a coherent story, a difficult task which he accomplishes well.

For the philatelist, there are many discoveries to make, including beautiful illustrations of stamps, postal stationery, and covers from each Olympiad. For 1896, Barion includes a list of the number of stamps printed and sold for each value. For the 10 drachma stamp, that's only 12,000 stamps sold! The US stamp for Jim Thorpe shows off a perforation shift. For 1944, he illustrates and discusses the Woldenberg and Gross-Born POW camp issues.

The story begins with the Games in Olympia, Athens, Delphi, Corinth, and Nemea. The section on the 19th century Olympic revival includes more about Much Wenlock and Evangelis Zappas than is found in the exhibits in the newly renovated Olympic Museum in Lausanne.

The remainder of the book focuses mainly on the Summer Games. For example, the 19 pages of coverage of 1936 includes only one cover from Garmisch-Partenkirchen. But you will also see stamps and covers from the Popular Olympics and Workers' Olympics held in 1936, which may be new information for many readers.



In a book this size, it's no surprise to find a few errors. For example, about the United States he writes "it was not until the middle of the 19th century that the first states were united with Washington declared as their capital." The first Olympic appearance of China is variably stated as 1980 and 1984 (the latter year is correct). Mary Lou Retton won her 1984 gold medal in artistic gymnastics, not the new Olympic sport of rhythmic gymnastics.

Numerous historical anecdotes enhance the story. For example, in 1952 when Jean Boiteux won a swimming medal for France, his father, who had competed in 1924, dived into the pool fully clothed to congratulate him! In 1964 a riot at the qualifying football match in Lima Peru left 318 spectators dead. A redesign of the 2000 Sydney Olympic medals triggered a controversy over what building had been pictured since 1928 – was it the Parthenon, the Roman Colosseum, or just a generic stadium? Barion discusses political influences on the Olympics such as the boycotts of 1976, 1980, and 1984, and the expulsion and readmission of Indonesia and South Africa.

By focusing on both historical and human aspects of the Olympic story, and including hundreds of beautiful illustrations, Giuseppe Barion succeeds in bridging the gap between Olympic specialists and the general public. I learned many new Olympic stories in a most enjoyable fashion by reading this book.

If you want your family and friends to understand why you love Olympic philately, give them "The OLYMPICS."



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NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Mark Maestrone

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E-mail: gkidwell@pathwayscu.com

Michael McAtee, 1975 Weslet Drive, Folsom, CA 95630 USA. **General Sports and Olympics.**

George Michaels, 20D James Buchanan Drive, Monroe Township, NJ 08831-5657 USA. **Soccer.**

E-mail: geomichaels@aol.com

Catherine E. O'Connor, 72 Rockwood Drive, Sanford, ME 04073 USA. **Ice Hockey, Winter Olympics, 2006 Turin Olympics.**

E-mail: ceoconn@gmail.com

Richard Rosenthal, 140 Uwapo Road, Apt. 17-201, Kihei, HI 96753 USA. **Baseball.**

E-mail: rosenthal@hawaii.rr.com

Lynn Torrance, 1290 Napoli Place, Pomona, CA 91766 USA. **World Cup Soccer.**

Roger Waters, 1405 Sagebrush Drive, Round Rock, TX 78681 USA.

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EXHIBITING RESULTS

OKPEX 2014. Andrew Urushima's one-frame exhibit, "Spoiled by War: the Games of the XIIth Olympiad," was awarded a gold medal. It also received the ATA award and APS 1900-1940 award.

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Norman Jacobs
(nfjlr@comcast.net)

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NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Bahamas: October 29, 2013. 20th Anniversary Bahamas Reef Educational Foundation. Four stamp set, three are sport diving. 50¢ 65¢; 69¢.

Bangladesh: August 19, 2011. Centenary of Dhaka Club. 3t club building, badge.

Bulgaria: March 29, 2013. Centenary of Cherno More Football Club. 0.65lv stamp, club badge and team photograph. Sheetlet of 3 stamps and one label.

April 5, 2013. Centenary of Slavia Football Club. 0.65lv stamp, photograph of championship winning team of 1943. Printed in sheetlet of 3 stamps and one label.

April 23, 2013. 65th Anniversary of CSKA Sofia Football Club. 0.65lv stamp, photograph of CSKA Sofia and Barcelona teams, from a match in 1959. Printed in sheetlet of 3 stamps and one label.

Canada: May 6, 2014. Our Heritage. Booklet of six \$1.20 stamps, two men rowing a boat. Booklet of six \$2.50 stamps, two canoes. Souvenir sheet with all designs, including the two sport items. Also two \$2.50 postcards with the same stamps.

Central Africa: August 30, 2013. Cricket. Sheet of four 900F stamps, Alastair Cook, Michael Clarke, Mehendra Singh Dhoni, Abraham Denjimin de Villers. S/s with one 3000F value, Abraham Denjimin de Villers.

August 30, 2013. World Athletics Championship, Moscow 2013. Sheet of four 750F stamps, 110-meter hurdles, javelin, high jump, pole vault. Souvenir sheet with one 2650F value, hammer throw.

February 2, 2014. Muhammad Ali. Sheet of four 900F stamps, Ali, George Foreman, Joe Frazier. Souvenir sheet with one 3000F stamps, Ali.

February 2, 2014. Joe DiMaggio and Marilyn Monroe. Sheet of four 750F stamps depicting DiMaggio and Monroe. S/s with one 2650F stamps, Joe and Marilyn.

February 2, 2014. Ayrton Senna. Sheet of four 750F stamps depicting Senna. S/s of one 2650F stamp, Senna.

Cocos Islands: June 4, 2013. 50th Anniversary of Cocos Stamps. Set of five, three are sport related. 5c diver with camera; 60c kayaking; \$1.00 windsurfing. Souvenir sheet with all five values.

Czech Republic: September 18, 2013. Josef Bican. 13kc soccer player in action.

Estonia: January 16, 2014. Sochi Olympics. €1.10 Skiers.

France: October 12, 2013. Stamp Week. Self-adhesive booklet of 12 €0.63 stamps, two which are sport: Souffle du Sport: jogger and trees; Voller: racing yacht.

November 16, 2013. Kick-Boxing World Championships. €0.95 stamp, male kick-boxer.

November 18, 2013. Stamp Day. Designs as Oct. 12, 2013 issue: €0.63 sheet stamp, racing yacht.

Germany: May 8, 2014. Sports. €0.63+€0.30 Pokalmaus: mouse running with trophy; €0.90+€0.40 Jubelmaus: mouse in costume of German flag celebrating; €1.45+€0.55 Siegenmaus: mouse wearing medal on top of victory podium. Printed in sheets of 10, surcharge to sports participation promotion.

Ghana: 2012. Muhammad Ali and His Boxing Opponents. Four 2c stamps in a sheetlet. Photographs from fights between Ali and: Doug Jones; Sonny Liston; Ernie Terrell; Joe Frazier.

February 20, 2014. Soccer players. Booklet stamps. 1st John Charles (1931-2004); 1st Dave Mackay, Scotland. Issued in panes of six, self-adhesive.

Guinea: December 23, 2013. World Athletic Championships. Sheet of three 15,000FG stamps, high jump, 20km walk, 400-meter hurdles, pole vault. S/s with one 40,000FG value, hammer throw.

December 23, 2013. Cricket. Sheet of three 15,000FG stamps, Sachin Tendulkar, Jacques Kallis, Brian Lara. Souvenir sheet with one 40,000FG value, James Hopes.

December 23, 2013. Brazil 2014 World Soccer Championships. Sheet of three 15,000FG values, soccer players in action. Souvenir sheet with one 40,000FG value, soccer players.

December 23, 2013. Sochi Olympics. Sheet of three 15,000FG stamps, ice hockey, figure skating, alpine skiing. S/s with one 40,000FG value, bobsled.

Guinea-Bissau: November 18, 2013. World Athletics Championship Moscow 2013. Sheet of four 800FCFA stamps, Usain Bolt; Sandra Perkovic; Robert Harting; Yelena Isinbayeva. Souvenir sheet with one 2000FCFA stamp Aleksandr Menkov.

November 18, 2013. Football. Circular sheet of four 500FCFA stamps, Lionel Messi; Mario Balotelli; Neymar; Cristiano Ronaldo. Circular sheet with one 2000FCFA stamp, soccer ball.

November 18, 2013. Basketball. Circular sheet with four 500FCFA stamps, Dirk Nowitzki; Tony Parker; LeBron James; Kobe Bryant. Circular souvenir sheet with one 2000FCFA stamp, basketball.

December 10, 2013. Table Tennis. Sheet of four 850FCFA stamps, Wu Yang; Time Boll; Zhang Jike; Li Xiaoxia. S/s with one 2400FCFA stamp, Xu Xin.

Guyana: April 29, 2013. Muhammad Ali. Sheetlet of four \$225 stamps. All depict Ali.

India: November 14, 2013. Retirement of Kachin Tendulka, Cricket player. Two 20r stamps, depicting the cricket player. Souvenir sheet with the two stamps.

Italy: September 21, 2013. Road Cycling Championships. €0.70 stamp, cyclists on road.

October 19, 2013. Juventus, 2012-13 Italian Soccer Champions. €0.70, stamp depicting soccer players.

South Korea: March 29, 2013. Korean Baseball Players. 270w pair, Jang Hyo-jo; Choi Dong-won.

Latvia: February 7, 2014. Sochi Olympics. €0.85 skeleton competitor. Printed in sheets of 10.

Lithuania: Sochi Olympics. January 18, 2014. 2.75L Two-man bobsled; 2.90L Ice hockey.

Maldives: February 20, 2014. Race Car and Ayrton Senna: Sheetlet of four Rf20 stamps, and s/s of one Rf60 stamp. Portraits of race car driver and cars.

Monaco: March 5, 2014. Race Car Drivers. €0.66 Giles Villeneuve; €0.83 Ayrton Senna.

Montenegro: June 7, 2013. Euro Basketball Tournament. €0.80 basketball' €0.95 Emblem of Lovcen soccer team, basketball. S/s with both stamps.

Mozambique: November 11, 2013. Tennis. Sheet of four in circular format, Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal, Andy Murray. S/s in circular format, one stamp depicting the four tennis players in action.

November 25, 2013. Sebastian Vettel. Sheet of four 46MT stamps, all depict the auto racer. Souvenir sheet with one 175MT stamp, Sebastian Vettel.

November 25, 2013. World Athletic Championships Moscow 2013. Sheet of four 46MT stamps, track, javelin; high jump; pole vault; 400m hurdles. Souvenir sheet with one 175MT stamp, 50km walk.

February 25, 2014. Brazil 2014. Sheet of four 46MT stamps, various soccer scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 175MT stamp, soccer player in action.

February 25, 2014. Eusebio. Sheet of four 46MT stamps in circular format (sheet also circular), various soccer players. Souvenir sheet in circular format and stamp in circular format, soccer ball.

February 25, 2014. Muhammad Ali. Sheet of four 46MT stamps, Ali in various poses. Souvenir sheet with one 175MT stamp, Ali.

February 25, 2014. Ayrton Senna. Sheet with four 46MT stamps, Senna and race cars. Souvenir sheet with one 175MT stamp, Senna.

Namibia: August 21, 2013. London Olympics. \$3.10 stamp, Johanna Benson gold medalist at the 2012 Paralympics. Printed in sheets of 10.

New Caledonia: August 19, 2013. World Swimming Championships for the Intellectually Disabled. 120fr stamp, swimmers.

Niger: September 30, 2013. Pierre de Coubertin. Sheet of four 750F stamps, de Coubertin and running; pole vault; judo; rings gymnastics. Souvenir sheet with one 2500F stamp, summer Olympics 1896, IOC.

December 20, 2013. Polo. Sheet in circular format with four 750F stamps, Bartome Castagnola, Adolfo Cambiaso, Mariano Aguerre, Facundo Piers. Souvenir sheet in circular format with one 2500F stamps, depicting the four polo players in action.

April 25, 2014. Joe DiMaggio. Sheet of four 750F stamps, all depict Joe & Marilyn. Souvenir sheet with one 2500F stamp Joe DiMaggio.

April 25, 2014. Ayrton Senna. Sheet with four 750F stamps, all depict Senna or race cars. Souvenir sheet with one 2500F stamp, Senna a race car.

April 25, 2014. Brazil 2014. Sheet of four 750F stamps, all depict various soccer scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 2500F stamp, soccer players with ball.

Norfolk Island: December 18, 2013. Trans-Tasman Freestyle Motocross Challenge. Set of four stamps, 50c Joe McNaughton; \$1 McNaughton; \$1.50 McNaughton; \$1.60 Callum Shaw.

Norway: February 7, 2014. Sochi Olympics. Four inland rate stamps; Marit Bjogen; Tora Berger; Petter Northug; Aksel Lund Svindal.

Palestinian Authority: June 6, 2012. 4th Anniversary FIFA recognition of first home soccer match. Souvenir sheet with one 1000f stamp, soccer ball and flag of Palestinian Authority.

Poland: February 7, 2014. Sochi Olympics. 1.75zl Ski jumping; 5zl cross-country skiing. Sheets of two pairs.

Portugal: February 10, 2014. Extreme Sports. Set of five, €0.40 surfing; €0.50 mountain biking; €0.70 skateboarding; €0.80 canoeing; €1.70 paragliding.

Russia: October 7, 2013. Sochi Olympics. Souvenir sheet of one 50r stamp, Torch Relay, Olympic flame.

November 1, 2013. Sochi Olympics. Set of three 25r stamps, ice hockey; curling; biathlon. Scott # 7484-86. Printed in sheets of 8 with one label. Booklet panes exist in prestige booklet. Scott # 7484b, 7485b, 7486c. Dated "2014" at right; Scott # 7484a, 7485a, 7486a.

November 1, 2013. 75th Anniversary Sambo. One 10r stamp depicting judo.

November 15, 2013. Sochi Olympics Sports Legends. Souvenir sheet with five 15r stamps, Yevgeny Grishin; Lyudmila Pakhomova; Vladimir Melanin; Alexander Regulin; Anatoly Firsov.

November 29, 2013. Sochi Olympics. Happy New Year Mascots of the Sochi Olympics. Set of four 20r stamps, leopard; hare; polar bear; snowflake and light. Printed in sheet of 8 and sheets of 2 each.

November 30, 2013. Sochi Olympics. Venues. Sheet of six 20r stamps, Fisht Olympic Stadium; Laura Cross-Country & Biathlon Center; Bolshoi Ice Dome; RusSki Gorski Jumping Center; Iceberg Skating Palace; Shayba Arena.

December 14, 2013. Sochi Olympics. Sports Legends. Souvenir sheet with five 15r stamps, Klavdiya Boyarskikh; Vsevolod Bobrov; Tatyana Averina; Pierre de Coubertin; Sir Ludwig Goodman.

January 24, 2014. Sochi Olympics. Composite sheet of all 15 sports stamps. Scott # 7486b. Note: stamps are dated 2014 at the right.

February 7, 2014. Sochi Olympics. Medals. Souvenir sheet with three stamps, 25r bronze medal; 50r silver medal; 75r gold medal.

St Pierre & Miquelon: June 29, 2013. Marbles. €0.63 boys playing marbles.

St Thomas & Prince Island: December 10, 2013. Athletics Championship Moscow 2013. Souvenir sheet with four 25000Db stamps, Valerie Adams; LaShawn Merritt; Aleksandr Menkov; Pawel Fajdek. Souvenir sheet with one 96000Db stamp, Svetlana Shkolina.

December 10, 2013. Table Tennis. Circular sheet with four circular 19000Db stamps, Timo Boll; Ma Long; Xu Xin; Liu Shiwen. Circular souvenir sheet with one 75000Db circular stamp, two ping pong paddles.

December 10, 2013. Cricket. Circular sheet with four 19000Db circular stamps, Hashim Amla; Michael John Clarke; Alastair Cook; Sachin Tendulkar. Circular s/s with one 76000Db circular stamp, cricket ball.

Senegal: June 5, 2012. Horses in Sports. 10fr steeplechase; 50fr dressage; 250fr horse and jockey; 500fr horse race.

Solomon Islands: November 22, 2013. Brazilian Football Players. Sheet of four \$7.00 stamps, Lucas Moura; Thiago Silva; Kaka; Neymar. Souvenir sheet with one \$35.00 stamp, Ronaldinho.

November 29, 2013. 150th Anniversary Birth of Pierre de Coubertin. Sheet of four \$7.00 stamps, de Coubertin and track, cycling, women's gymnastics, women's volleyball. Souvenir sheet with one \$35.00 stamp, de Coubertin and Olympic torch runner.

Spain: November 12, 2013. Sports For All. €0.37 strip of three. Long distance races; bicycle touring; hiking.

January 28, 2014. Real Racing Club de Santander Soccer Team. €0.54 team photo, soccer ball.

Togo: February 2, 2014. Ayrton Senna. Sheet of four 750F stamps, all depict the race car driver in various poses. S/s with one 2500F stamp, Senna and race car.

February 2, 2014. Football 2014. Sheet of four 750F stamps, all depict various soccer scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 2500F stamp, soccer players.

April 4, 2014. Muhammad Ali. Sheet of four 750F stamps depicting match between Sonny Liston and Ali. S/s of one 2500F stamps, Muhammad Ali in training.

COMMEMORATIVE CANCELS

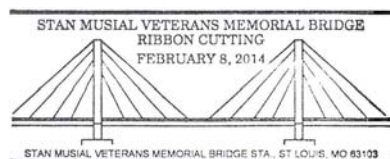
by Mark Maestroni

THE NUMBERING SYSTEM

Catalogue numbers are shown at left, such as 05101-911. In this example: 05=Year [2005]; 1=Month [January]; 01=First day of use; 911=First 3 ZIP code digits. The months of October, November and December are 2-digit months, and are expressed as X, Y, and Z. The place of use is listed next, followed by the dates of use. All cancels are in black unless otherwise indicated.

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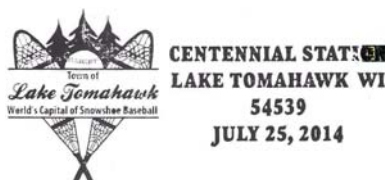
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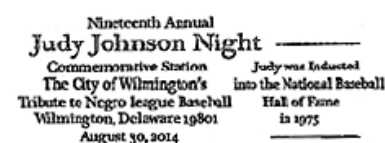
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