

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

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NOVA ZELÂNDIA



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On the cover: Blair Tuke and Peter Burling, wearing the ceremonial Te Mahutonga Maori Cloaks, lead New Zealand into the 2016 Rio Olympic Opening Ceremonies. Inset: New Zealand Post instant stamp honoring Tuke's & Burling's gold medal. (Photos: Getty & NZ Post)

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Sports Philatelists International is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to the study and collecting of postage stamps and related collateral material dealing with sports (including Olympics) and recreation and to the promotion of international understanding and goodwill through mutual interest in philately and sports. Its activities are planned and carried on entirely by the unpaid, volunteer services of its members.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

SPI Election Results for the term 2016-2018

We had a total of 36 ballots cast in this year's SPI election. The results were as follows:

President: Mark Maestrone	36 votes
Vice President: Norman Jacobs, Jr.	36
Secretary/Treasurer: Andrew Urushima	36
Board Members: Charlie Covell	36
John La Porta	36
Patricia Loehr	36
Joseph Lopreiato	35
Norman Rushefsky	36
Robert Wilcock	35

I want to thank all the members who took the time to cast their ballots. And an even bigger thank-you to our members who are contributing their time and talents as officers or directors.

Fall Issue Delay

I do apologize for the delay in getting the Fall issue of *JSP* printed and into the mail. With the Olympics in Rio not finishing until the third week of August, there has been very little time to gather and analyze the philatelic data from these Games.

The highlight, at least for me, has certainly been the wonderful series of Australian and New Zealand instant stamps honoring their Olympic medalists. Australia once again issued stamps for each of its gold medal winners (8 in all), while New Zealand jumped in with an even more ambitious plan of printing instant stamps for each of their 18 medalists – gold, silver and bronze.

I've also been tracking the stamp issues from non-host countries. So far there are a total of 181

individual stamps from 50 countries (plus the United Nations). In all, 137 stamps were issued by host country, Brazil.

SPI members can access the complete illustrated searchable database of stamps from within the Members Only area of the SPI website. You'll also be able to download a checklist of the stamps. Just head on over to www.sportstamps.org.

AICO Updates

As of 2 August, AICO is now an official member of the IOC Family. In a letter to AICO President Babut from IOC President Bach, he congratulated AICO on its elevation to full "recognized status" following a vote of the entire IOC during its 129th Session at Rio. Kudos to all the member clubs, including SPI, who came together to make the new organization of Olympic collectors possible!

In other AICO news ... we now have a FORUM which is open to all Olympic collectors who are members of any of the AICO member associations. All you need to do is point your browser to "forum.aicolympic.org", click the "SIGN UP" button at upper right and complete the short registration page. If you don't remember your SPI membership number, just enter 1234 and I'll look up your number. (I approve the registrations.)

Second, our Olympic Collecting Library Catalog is now up and operating. The purpose of the catalog is to provide a searchable resource for everything published on Olympic collecting around the world in every language. Right now we have a total of 500 resources listed. We are asking all collectors around the world to help us broaden this catalog with their submissions! Questions/additions can be emailed to me or AICO President Roman Babut (president@aicolympic.org).

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

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Australia vs. New Zealand



Dueling medalist stamps at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games



by Mark Maestrono

Imagine having not one – but TWO – instant stamps attesting to your accomplishments at the Rio Olympics! Such was the thrill for New Zealand paddler, Lisa Carrington, upon crossing the line in the women’s K-1 500m canoeing event.

But I’m getting slightly ahead of myself. Let’s look back to the 2000 Sydney Olympics at which Australia Post introduced the first instant medalist stamps.

In implementing stamp programs for Australia Post, David Maiden, manager of its philatelic division, always tried to interest not only collectors, but the public as well, in the subjects of the stamps.

In recalling the thought process behind the instant stamps, Mr. Maiden explained that the general public “would buy stamps as a memento, a memory of a significant event, but the key was to have the stamps on sale at the time of the event, not several months later. To capture that excitement, and free publicity, the stamps had to be on sale within 24 hours of the medal award. This way, it was not only the medal victory which attracted public attention, but also the process of producing and distributing the stamps themselves. It worked perfectly. We printed 2 million of each medal winner stamp and sold them all. Conservatively, 80%

were sold for collecting by people who wanted a souvenir of the Games, people who were not stamp collectors.”

Australia Post continues to issue stamps for its Olympic gold medalists, including eight for Rio 2016. Stamps were printed in sheets of 10.

The idea has caught on with other countries. New Zealand Post took the idea of medalist stamps one step further: every Kiwi medalist in Rio, no matter the color of their medal, would be honored with an instant stamp.

For New Zealand Post, this was a first and meant that stamps had to be rapidly designed, printed and distributed to Post Shops nationwide.

According to Simon Allison, New Zealand Post Head of Stamps & Coins, it was for this reason they decided not to have an officially “issued FDC nor specify when each stamp was issued.” Generally, stamps were on sale a few hours after the medal was won. An exception, though, was the women’s rugby sevens stamp which required additional approval and was delayed by 2 days.

New Zealand Post issued 18 instant stamps in sheets of six for each medalist. At the end of the Games period, a composite sheet of 18 stamps – one of each medalist – plus two labels was on sale.

Table 1 lists the Rio 2016 medalists stamps issued by both Australia and New Zealand.



Figure 1. In head to head competition, Australia won gold and New Zealand silver in trap shooting and rugby sevens.

Table 1 - Rio 2016 Olympic Medalist Stamps

Sport	Australia Gold Medalists Stamps	FDI*	FV
Swimming	Mack Horton	10-Aug-16	\$1.00
Swimming	Emma McKeon, Brittany Elmslie and sisters Bronte and Cate Campbell	11-Aug-16	\$1.00
Shooting	Catherine Skinner	11-Aug-16	\$1.00
Rugby	Nicole Beck, Charlotte Caslick, Emilee Cherry, Chloe Dalton, Gemma Etheridge, Ellia Green, Shannon Parry, Evania Pelite, Alicia Quirk, Emma Tonegato, Amy Turner, Shari Williams	11-Aug-16	\$1.00
Swimming	Kyle Chalmers	15-Aug-16	\$1.00
Rowing	Kimberly Brennan	17-Aug-16	\$1.00
Sailing	Tom Burton	22-Aug-16	\$1.00
Modern Pentathlon	Chloe Esposito	24-Aug-16	\$1.00

* Australia Post's first days of availability varied for different post offices. Noted here is the earliest date on which each stamp was for sale. For a complete list see: www.sportstamps.org/excelFiles/2016-Australia-Gold-Medal-Stamps.xlsx

Description	New Zealand Medalists Stamps	FDI**	FV
Shooting	(S) Natalie Rooney	8-Aug-16	\$1.00
Rugby	(S) Shakira Baker, Kelly Brazier, Gayle Broughton, Theresa Fitzpatrick, Sarah Goss, Huriana Manuel, Kayla McAlister, Tyla Nathan-Wong, Terina Te Tamaki, Ruby Tui, Niall Williams, Portia Woodman	12-Aug-16	\$1.00
Kayak (slalom)	(S) Luuka Jones	12-Aug-16	\$1.00
Rowing	(G) Eric Murray and Hamish Bond	12-Aug-16	\$1.00
Cycling	(S) Ethan Mitchell, Sam Webster, Eddie Dawkins	12-Aug-16	\$1.00
Rowing	(S) Genevieve Behrent and Rebecca Scown	13-Aug-16	\$1.00
Athletics (shot put)	(S) Valerie Adams	13-Aug-16	\$1.00
Rowing	(G) Mahe Drysdale	14-Aug-16	\$1.00
Canoeing	(G) Lisa Carrington (Women's K-1, 200-meter)	17-Aug-16	\$1.00
Sailing	(B) Sam Meech	17-Aug-16	\$1.00
Sailing	(G) Peter Burling and Blair Tuke	19-Aug-16	\$1.00
Sailing	(S) Jo Aleh and Polly Powrie	19-Aug-16	\$1.00
Sailing	(S) Alex Maloney and Molly Meech	19-Aug-16	\$1.00
Canoeing	(B) Lisa Carrington (Women's K-1, 500-meter)	19-Aug-16	\$1.00
Athletics (shot put)	(B) Tomas Walsh	19-Aug-16	\$1.00
Athletics (pole vault)	(B) Eliza McCartney	20-Aug-16	\$1.00
Golf	(S) Lydia Ko	21-Aug-16	\$1.00
Athletics (running)	(B) Nick Willis	21-Aug-16	\$1.00

** New Zealand issued stamps for each New Zealand medalist (gold, silver and bronze) usually the day following the finals of the event. However, New Zealand Post decided not to produce first day covers, so the exact date of issue is approximate. In the case of the Rugby Sevens silver medal, an additional two days was required for approvals.



Australia vs. New Zealand (Figure 1)

Day 3 of the Games (7 August) saw New Zealand's first medal winner, Natalie Rooney, with a silver in the women's trap shooting event. Australia celebrated its third gold of the Games, as Aussie shooter, Catherine Skinner, edged out Natalie, 12-11 points.

American, Corey Cogdell, got the bronze, but, sadly, not a stamp. While the US Postal Service changed its stamp issuing guidelines in 2011 which now permit a living individual to be honored on a stamp, the policy has yet to be implemented.

Another one-two punch by the Oceania neighbors occurred in the Olympic debut of rugby sevens. The women's final on 8 August pitting New Zealand against Australia resulted in the gold going to the Aussie ladies, 24 - 17. Canada took the bronze.

Both the New Zealand and Australian stamps feature all 12 players on each team.

Navigating Guanabara Bay (Figure 2)

Being an island nation, it's not surprising that New Zealand excels at sailing. Of their 18 total medals at the Rio Olympics, four were in the sport of sailing.

The first of these – a bronze – was won by Sam Meech in the Laser class on 16 August.



Figure 3. Maloney and Meech sailing their Laser 49erFX class dinghy on Guanabara Bay. (Getty Images)

Figure 2. New Zealand and Australian sailors won a total of 2 golds, 5 silvers and 1 bronze.



The Laser is the smallest of the Olympic sailing boats and is better known as a dinghy. It is typically sailed by a single person.

Australia's only sailing gold also came in this event with Tom Burton finishing just 2 points ahead of second place Tonci Stipanovic of Croatia.

Molly Meech, Sam's younger sister by two years, also won a medal in sailing, making these Olympics a family affair! Together with her sailing partner Alex Maloney, they brought home a silver in the women's 49erFX class.

Classified as a "two-handed skiff-type high-performance sailing dinghy," it is perhaps one of the more exciting sailing events to watch as both crew members are equipped with a trapeze that has them sailing the boat while "flying" (Figure 3).

On the men's side of the 49er class competition, New Zealand sailors Peter Burling and Blair Tuke wrapped up the gold medal on 18 August winning by the widest margin of any of the Rio sailing events.

Since coming in second at the 2012 London Olympics, Burling and Tuke have completely dominated the 49er class, winning four consecutive World Championships (2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016), a first in this event.

In a prelude to their success on the water, the duo were named co-flag bearers, marching at the head of the New Zealand delegation of 199 athletes. Walking side by side, Peter Burling carried the flag. Both men wore the **Te Mahutonga Cloak**, a traditional Maori feathered textile that confers *Mana* (power, prestige) to the wearer (see front cover).

A final sailing medal went to Team New Zealand sailors on 18 August when Jo Aleh and Polly Powrie brought home a silver in the 470 class.

Jo and Polly, who sometimes go by the linguistic portmanteau “Jolly,” have been sailing partners for some six years, winning the gold medal in the 470 class at the 2012 Olympic sailing events held in Portsmouth and Weymouth, England.

The competition in Rio was harder, with the ladies having to stomach a disqualification in an early race, and some bad luck, to make a dramatic comeback in the final day of regular sailing.

Securing the silver in the final Medal Race, the ladies’ combined feelings of exhilaration following the event were encapsulated by Jo in their online blog:

The incredible feeling of coming into the last mark, seeing there was clear space ahead, that we had made it through the hardest part, that we would win the Silver, is such a clear memory. The elation and incredible sense of accomplishment, the relief, the knowledge that we had worked so incredibly hard for every piece of that medal, makes finishing Rio the proudest moment of our sailing careers to date.

Olympic competition at its finest!

Aquatic Australians (Figure 4)

Australians, too, prevailed in aquatic sports, favoring being *in* rather than *on* the water.

Their first two of three swimming golds came on Day 2 of the Games (6 August).

Mackenzie “Mack” Horton, a.k.a. “Mack the Knife” for his ability to slice through the water, hit the wall at the end of the 400-meter freestyle to take home Australia’s first 2016 Olympic gold medal.



Figure 4. Australia’s three swimming gold medals.



Figure 5. An exultant Kyle Chalmers after winning the 100-meter freestyle event in Rio. (Clive Rose/Getty Images)

A freestyle specialist, Mack also swam in the 4 x 200-meter relay and 1500 meters taking fourth and fifth respectively.

Less than an hour later, Australians were celebrating a second swimming gold medal as the women won the 4 x 100-meter freestyle relay in a world and Olympic record time of 3:30.65.

Sisters Bronte and Cate Campbell joined Emma McKeon and Brittany Elmslie to hold off the USA and Canada in a close finish.

Both Cate (older by two years) and Bronte were born in Malawi, but emigrated to Australia with their parents at an early age.

Cate recalls swimming in a lake inhabited by a killer hippopotamus. “I didn’t know where it was [in the lake],” she explained. “They had to kill it because it was a bit of a rogue. I think it killed someone and ate someone’s legs or something.” Certainly an incentive to be a fast swimmer!

This was Cate’s third Olympic appearance, having won two bronze medals in 2008, followed by a silver in London in 2012. To her 2016 gold in the relay, Cate added a silver in the 4 x 100m medley.

Australia’s third Olympic gold belongs to teenaged sprint phenom, Kyle Chalmers, in the final of the 100-meter freestyle on 10 August (Figure 5). Not since Michael Wenden at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics has an Australian man stood on the top level of the medal podium in what many consider the jewel of the swimming events.

Coming from a background in football – his dad was star Australian Football League player, Brett Chalmers – Kyle had to decide which road to take, football or swimming. Facing the prospect of many more Olympics to come and with an Olympic gold already in his pocket, he certainly chose the right path. Without a doubt, we will see Kyle again in Tokyo in 2020, and perhaps beyond!



Figure 6. New Zealand excelled in rowing/paddling sports with 3 golds, 2 silvers and a bronze.

Rowing, Canoeing, and Kayaking (Figure 6)

New Zealand athletes performed almost as well in Lagoa Stadium, the lagoon for rowing and canoeing, as on the high seas, winning three golds, two silvers and a bronze.

Eric Murray and Hamish Bond stroked to the first of the golds winning the Men's Coxless Pair final on 11 August.

Since teaming up in 2009, Murray and Bond have won six consecutive Coxless Pair World Championships, and are repeat Olympic winners setting a world record at the 2012 London Olympics.

The Kiwi team picked up a second medal the same day: a silver won by Luuka Jones in the women's slalom K-1 held at the Whitewater Stadium. For Jones, the current national champion in the event, this is her third Olympic Games, and her first Olympic medal.

Nearly mirroring their teammates Murray and Bond, the women's Coxless Pair of Genevieve Behrent and Rebecca Scown took the silver medal on 12 August. This was Scown's second medal in Pairs, having won a bronze at London. Behrent was enjoying her first Olympic experience in Rio.

The next day, Mahé Drysdale, won New Zealand's second gold medal of the Games nosing out Croatia's Damir Martin in a photo finish to retain his 2012 London Olympic Games crown in the men's single sculls rowing event.

Mahé has been training and competing in the single sculls since 2004, racking up an impressive

five World Championship titles (2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011), two World Championship silvers (2010, 2014), an Olympic bronze (2008) and, now, two consecutive Olympic gold medals.

An interesting aside: Mahé also enjoys playing canoe polo. Yes, there is such a sport! As you may imagine, it's played with five players a side, all in canoes/kayaks. Ball handling – either passing or scoring – may be by hand or flicked with a paddle.

Finally we arrive at Lisa Carrington, her double medals – and a pair of stamps. She becomes the first New Zealand woman to win two Olympic medals in the same Games.

Lisa's gold medal was in the women's K-1 200-meter canoeing event on 16 August – repeating her gold medal performance at London 2012. Two days later she got a bronze in the K-1 500-meter race.

Our final honoree at Lagoa Stadium is Australian Kimberley Brennan, gold medalist in the single sculls event (Figure 7) on 13 August. Despite the blustery conditions which nearly caused cancellation of the day's races, Kim led from start to finish over the 2000-meter course.

This was her second Olympic Games. At London in 2012, she won the bronze in the single sculls event. Kim has also won two golds and a silver at the last three World Championships (2013-2015).



Figure 7. Kimberley Brennan.



Figure 8. New Zealand's four athletics medals: three in field sports, and one in the track events.

Athletics at the Olympic Stadium (Figure 8)

Top performer on the Kiwi's athletics team was Valerie Adams on Day 1 of the field competition (12 August). Adams, the 2-time reigning Olympic champion in the shot put just missed the gold, won by American Michelle Carter, by a minuscule 8 inches.

Her second Olympic gold medal in the shot put, won at the 2012 London Olympics on 6 August, began as a silver. But when Belarusian athlete Nadzeya Ostapchuk was disqualified a week later for failing two drug tests, Adams advanced to the gold. It took a bit of reassuring on the part of New Zealand's Chef de Mission, Dave Currie, to convince her over the phone that she'd actually won the gold.

Tomas Walsh, Adam's teammate and a fellow shot putter, captured a bronze medal on 18 August. Outgunned by two American's, Walsh missed equaling his personal best by just .42 meters.

Eliza McCartney, at just 19 years old, was the new kid on the block. In the sport for only 5 years, she hadn't expected to make an Olympics until 2020 Tokyo. But under the tutelage of New Zealand pole vault coach, Jeremy McColl, she set a new indoor national record at the 2016 World Indoor Championships and then made the 2016 Rio Olympic team.

Eliza's bronze at Rio makes her the youngest Olympic women's pole vault medalist.

The penultimate day of Olympic competition marked the final athletics medal for New Zealand.

Nick Willis, became his country's only two-time Olympic medalist in the 1500 meters with his bronze medal at Rio. At the 2008 Beijing Olympics, he also won bronze. But following the doping disqualification of gold medalist, Rashid Ramzi of Bahrain, Nick moved up from bronze to silver.

Willis, who had been given the honor of being

New Zealand's flag bearer at the Opening Ceremony of the 2012 London Olympic Games, made the finals of the 1500 only to come in 9th.

Bringing up the rear (Figure 9)

Our final Olympic medalist stamps for New Zealand are for cycling and golf.

The Kiwi's track cycling team of Eddie Dawkins, Ethan Mitchell and Sam Webster, captured a silver medal in the Men's team sprint on 11 August. This was the Olympic debut for all three men, although Sam Webster was a reserve on the New Zealand sprint team at the 2012 London Olympics.

The return of golf to the Olympic Games (after 112 years) ended in somewhat of an upset for the women as New Zealand's Lydia Ko, ranked #1 in the world, was beaten by South Korean pro, Imbee Park by five strokes.

Our final Australian gold medalist is Chloe Esposito in the Modern Pentathlon. Coming from a family of pentathletes (her father competed at the 1984 Los Angeles Games and brother Max was entered in the Men's Modern Pentathlon at Rio), Chloe is a crack shot. With her gold in Rio, she set a new World Record of 1372 points.

The Olympic Games are, after all, about the athletes. I think there's no better way to capture that excitement than through these Olympic medalist stamps. I hope this tradition not only continues with Australia and New Zealand, but catches on elsewhere. USPS, how about it? 🇺🇸

Sources for Australia and New Zealand Olympic medalist stamps:

Australia Post: Stamps are sold in sheets of 10 at: <https://shop.auspost.com.au/stamp-coin-collectables/stamp-issues/australian-gold-medallists-rio-2016-olympic-games>

New Zealand Post: Stamps are sold in sheets of 6 at: <https://stamps.nzpost.co.nz/new-zealand/2016/road-rio>



Figure 9. Two silver medals went to New Zealand for cycling and golf, while a final Australian gold medal was won in the Modern Pentathlon.



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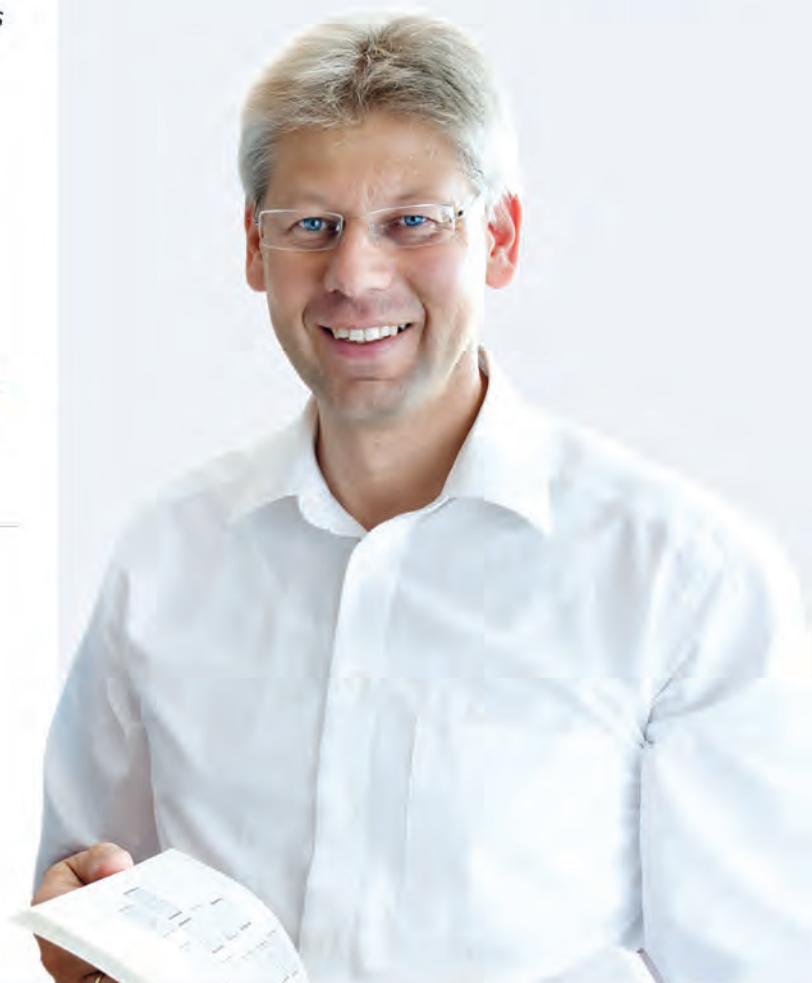
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C.G.



Stamp Issue 1

Issued 27 September 2005, three of the four stamps feature Irish golfers who participated on previous winning Ryder Cup teams (Figure 2). The fourth stamp is of the K Club's clubhouse, host of the event, fronted by a large lake serving as a water hazard for the 18th hole. A prestige booklet is full of information about the event in both Gaelic (Ireland's native language) and English. A first day cover was produced (Figure 1).

Stamp Issue 2

This four-stamp set was issued on 25 July 2006. Unlike the first stamp set having the event insignia in the lower left corner of the stamp, this set has it in the upper left corner. The set is titled "The Mark of the Irish" and described as illustrating the progress of a golf ball through a round on a singularly beautiful course (Figures 3-5). The identity mark on the golf ball is a green shamrock. The stamps were produced both gummed and self-adhesive (peel-and-stick). The self-adhesive stamps (Figure 4) were sold in a box of 100 or in strips of four. The gummed stamps were available in sheetlets of 16 (Figure 5) as well as a souvenir sheet of 4 (Figure 3). First day covers of all three formats were available

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Ireland's 2006 Ryder Cup

by Patricia Loehr

Ireland initiated an extensive philatelic program in preparation for the nation's first time hosting golf's Ryder Cup. Contested every other year, the Ryder Cup is a competition between teams from the United States and Europe. Play alternates between courses in the U.S.A. and Europe.

Ireland is only the second non-United Kingdom country to host the event for the European side, Spain being the first (1997). To commemorate this honor, Ireland issued three sets of stamps: two sets consisted of four stamps each, while the third was comprised of two stamps.

On this 10th anniversary of Ireland's Ryder Cup, it is worthwhile to review their philatelic contribution. For the record, this year's Ryder Cup will be hosted by Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska, Minnesota from 30 September to 2 October. The European team enters the competition as 3-time consecutive winners (2010, 2012 and 2014).



Figure 2. Prestige Booklet pane from the first set featuring the stamp with Eamonn Darcy, Christy O'Connor Jr, and Philip Walton. The stamps were also issued in individual panes of 16.

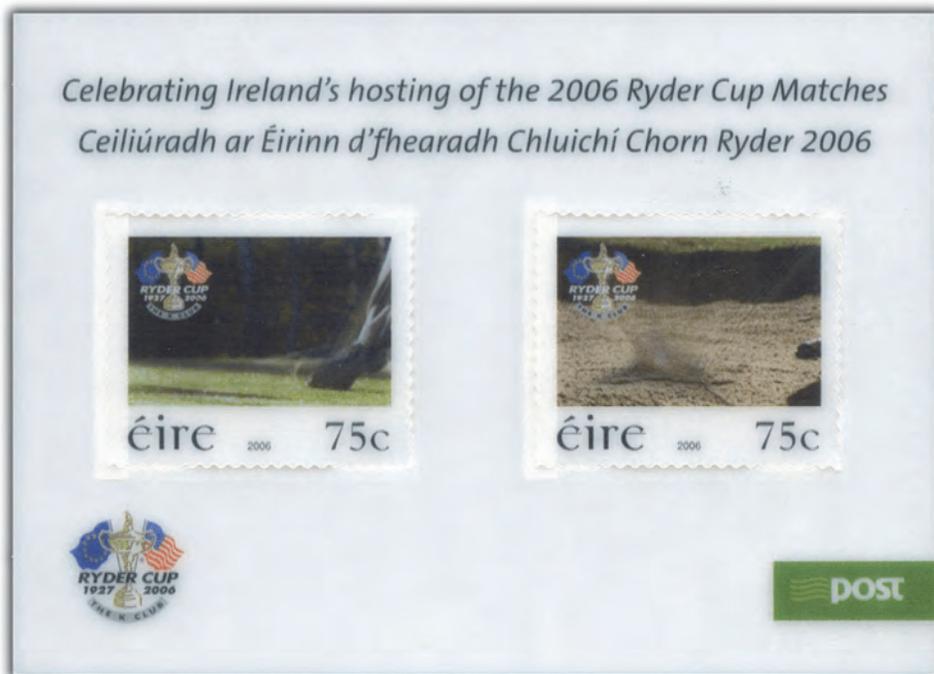


Issue 2
“The Mark of the Irish”

Figures 3 -5. The second issue comprises four stamps depicting the travels of a golf ball over the course of a hole. In the first stamp, the golf ball is shown elevated on a tee. The flagstick indicates the hole's location on the distant putting green. As the ball moves through the rough (second stamp) and a sand trap (third stamp), the flagstick nears. Finally on the fourth stamp, the flagstick has been removed ready for the ball to be putted into the hole.

The stamps were issued with traditional “lick-and-stick” gum (souvenir sheet, above), as well as with self-adhesive glue (First Day cover, upper right). Note that the gummed version stamps are larger than the self-adhesive. The gummed stamps were also issued in sheets of 16 (right) with four rows of 4 se-tenant stamps.





text was rendered in both Gaelic and English.

The 2006 Golf Event

The 36th Ryder Cup Matches were played September 22-24 at the K Club Palmer Course named in honor of the course's designer, and golfing legend, Arnold Palmer. The course opened in 1991. Many golf courses in that part of the world assign names to each hole. For example, hole #5 is named Arnold's Pick, #9 is Eye of the Needle, Half Moon describes hole #17, while hole #18 is Hooker's Graveyard. The event ended in a lopsided score of 18½ to 9½ with the European side victorious. Three Irish golfers were on that winning side.

Figure 6. Pair of lenticular stamps comprising Issue 3. When tilted, the stamps simulate a drive off a tee (left) and a sand shot from a bunker (right).

Stamp Issue 3

Two lenticular stamps (Figure 6) were issued on 14 September 2006. Lenticular images on stamps simulate movement depending on the angle of view. The image on the stamps appears to move when you change their viewing angle.

One stamp is of a golfer driving a ball off a tee and the other stamp is of a sand shot from a bunker. The stamps are self-adhesive and available only as a pair. A first day cover was issued for Ireland's first ever lenticular stamps.

All Together

A 34-page Prestige Stamp Booklet was issued the same day as the lenticular stamps (Figure 7). Within the booklet are eight stamps from the first set of 2005 and eight stamps from the second set. An enlarged minisheet of the "Mark of the Irish" set is also included. A pair of lenticular stamps is mounted to the inside back cover. Similar to the booklet of the first set of stamps, the

Endnote

The Ryder Cup Golf event is included and described in the article "Team Golf" published in the Fall 2012 issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately*.



Figure 7. Prestige Stamp Booklet containing all three sets of issues.

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The IXth Olympic Games, Amsterdam 1928

Part 1

by Pim van den Bold & Laurentz Jonker
English translation by Victor Coenen

Introduction

The Games of the IXth Olympiad yielded a great deal of highly interesting philatelic material in various areas. All the material referred to in this article is from the exhibit of Laurentz Jonker entitled "Amsterdam Olympics 1928" and developed as a specialized general presentation on the Olympic Games. After having set up a thematic (chronological documentary style) exhibit on Amsterdam 1928, the decision was made to instead create a traditional display which included postal history and postal stationery.

Pim van den Bold wrote this article for the philatelic journal, *OPUS VIII* (published in 2008 by the Académie Européenne de Philatélie) in cooperation with Laurentz Jonker and based, primarily, on Mr. Jonker's exhibit.

This version published by SPI has been adapted where necessary by Mr. Jonker and includes additional material from his assortment of over 800 postal items not used in his exhibit.

Contents

- 1 The Olympic Games finally come to the Netherlands
- 2 1928 Olympic stamps issue
 - 2.1 The issue of stamps was not a matter of course
 - 2.2 The design phase
 - 2.3 Particulars and abnormalities
 - 2.4 Plate errors
- 3 Postal usage
 - 3.1 Values and rates
 - 3.2 Incorrect cancellations are a common occurrence
 - 3.3 Proper cancellations
- 4 Special stamps
- 5 Note strips
- 6 Commercially printed Olympic postal stationery cards



Figure 1. Official postcard of the "Marathon Runner" published by Joh. Enschedé and Sons and franked with the "Olympiadezegels" (1928 Olympic stamps) with a first day cancel from the Dutch-Belgian border village: **Putte**, 27.III.1928.

1 The Olympic Games finally come to the Netherlands

Since traditional Olympic Games were reinstated in a more modern form in Athens in 1896, the event had already been held seven times prior to the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam. Although the 1916 Berlin Games were cancelled as a result of the First World War, they were still counted as the VIth Olympic Games. Thus, the 1928 Olympics were referred to as the Games of the IXth Olympiad. The 1928 Summer Games were awarded to Amsterdam; the Winter Games went to St. Moritz, Switzerland. In this article, we will focus exclusively on the Amsterdam Games.

Dutch athletes had taken part in every edition of the Olympics with the exception of the 1896 Athens Games and the 1904 Games in St. Louis. The Nether-



Figure 2. P&T postcard (frontside, above; reverse at right) used to order the Olympic stamps. The card could be mailed postage free. Note that the second column on the reverse – “OPSLAG” – spells out the surcharge for each stamp.

OLYMPIADE FRANKEERZEGELS					
FRANKEERZEGELS IN ACHT SOORTEN			AANGEVRAAGDE WAARDEN		
WAARDE	OPSLAG	VOORSTELLING	STUKS	PRJIS	TOTAAL
1,5 CT.	1 CT.	ROEIER	10	2,5 CT.	0.25
2 CT.	1 CT.	SCHERMER	10	3 CT.	0.30
3 CT.	1 CT.	VOETBALLER	10	4 CT.	0.40
5 CT.	1 CT.	ZEILJACHT	10	6 CT.	0.60
7,5 CT.	2,5 CT.	KOGELSTOOTER	10	10 CT.	1.00
10 CT.	2 CT.	AFSTANDLOOPER	10	12 CT.	1.20
15 CT.	2 CT.	RUITER	10	17 CT.	1.70
30 CT.	3 CT.	BOKSER	10	33 CT.	3.30
ALGEMEEN TOTAAL					8.75

De aangevraagde zegels worden bezorgd TEN HUIZE van den aanvrager, zonder verhoeging van het verschuldigde bedrag. Aan aanvragen van MINDER dan VIJF GULDEN wordt niet voldaan. Dit formulier kan ten KANTORE der POSTERIJEN worden afgegeven, of ONGEFANKEERD in een der plaatselijke BRIEFVEN-BUSSEN worden geworpen.
(Ook voor andere zegels, briefkaarten, formulieren enz. bestaat deze gelegenheid, en zijn formulieren kosteloos aan alle kantoren verkrijgbaar.)

lands also had a representative on the International Olympic Committee (IOC, established in 1894) from 1898 onwards. The representative was F.W.C.H. Baron van Tuyll van Serooskerken, a friend of Baron De Coubertin, initiator of the renewed Olympic Games in 1896. In 1912, Baron Van Tuyll also became the first chairman of the Netherlands Olympic Committee (NOC) founded that same year.

It was only to be expected that the Netherlands would wish to host the Olympics. The first two attempts (for the 1920 and 1924 Games) failed, with the Olympics going to Antwerp and Paris, respectively. For Paris, 1924 would be the city's second time as host (1900 was the first). This may have influenced the decision to let the Netherlands organize the 1928 Games. The Games were awarded 1921, with preparations commencing soon after.

A key event in this process was the construction

of the Olympic stadium on the southern edge of the city of Amsterdam. A special “marathon tower” was also erected in this stadium, to mark the first lighting of the Olympic flame of the 20th century. At that time, the flame was rather less beset by problems than today. There was no relay; the flame was simply and prosaically lit by an employee of the Amsterdam gas company.

2 The 1928 Olympic stamps issue

After a problematic decision-making process and design phase (to be discussed in greater detail later on) a set of eight different postage values was finally issued (Figure 1). Often referred to as “Olympiadezegels 1928,” the set of stamps were available from 27 March through 15 September 1928.

The stamps were no longer valid as of 31 December 1928 (Figure 3).

The quantity of stamps sold varied from 316,196 (30-cent stamp) to 545,599 (7½-cent stamp).

The total postage value of the entire series was 74 cents, plus 13½ cents surcharge.

An interesting side item is the special postcard printed by the Dutch P&T used for ordering the Olympic stamps (Figures 2). The card could be mailed postage free. Only orders over 5 guilders were delivered free of charge.



Figure 3. Postcard mailed from Doetinchem on the final day of postal validity of the Olympic set: 31.XII.1928.



Figure 4. The full series of "SPECIMEN" overprinted stamps.

Figure 4 reproduces the complete set of Olympic stamps with a "SPECIMEN" overprint. This is the only recorded complete set!

To obtain a full set of stamps required separating singles from each of the 8 sheets – a tedious, time consuming job that would have resulted in long waiting lines at the post offices. In order to avoid this, an idea was put forward, and accepted by the P&T, to create 30,000 glassine envelopes bearing text in red and containing the entire set of stamps. These were produced in advance, especially for collectors (Figure 5). The envelopes, packaged in boxes of 100 and 500, were distributed to the major post offices.



Figure 5. Glassine envelope containing one full set of the Olympic stamps (87½ cents). These were sold at larger post offices.

OLYMPIADE POSTZEGELS

ZIJN VAN **27 MAART** TOT EN MET **15 SEPTEMBER 1928** VERKRIJGBAAR IN DE VOLGENDE FRANKEERWAARDEN TEGEN DE DAARACHTER VERMELDE PRIJZEN IN CENTEN.

WAARDE	PRIJS	WAARDE	PRIJS
1½	2½	7½	10
2	3	10	12
3	4	15	17
5	6	30	33

DE OLYMPIADEZEGELS ZIJN MEDE GELDIG VOOR FRANKEERING VAN STUKKEN IN HET INTERNATIONAAL VERKEER.

NA 31 DECEMBER 1928 ZIJN DEZE ZEGELS NIET MEER GELDIG VOOR FRANKEERING.

Figure 6. Official post office window poster by the Dutch P&T promoting the stamps (only example known).

2.1 The issue of stamps was not a matter of course

Greece issued a set of no less than twelve stamps to mark the renovation of the Olympics in 1896 in Athens. The next issue of stamps wasn't until the 1920 Games in Antwerp. Belgium issued three values to commemorate the occasion. France issued a set of four values in 1924. Only the three Belgian stamps from 1920 were issued with a surcharge (5 cents per stamp). The proceeds from this surcharge went to the war-disabled. As a result of this surcharge, the series sold poorly. The greater part of the issue was subsequently sold in March of 1921 – the surcharged amounts having been blocked out with a printed bar: black on the 10c quadriga value, and a red bar on both the 5c discus thrower and 15c runner stamps.

As stamps had been issued for the two prior Olympic Games, it was only to be expected that the Netherlands would seek to continue this fledgling tradition. This effort was facilitated by a "Royal Decree" issued by the Dutch government before Christmas of 1923 specifying that the Netherlands could now issue stamps with a surcharge on an

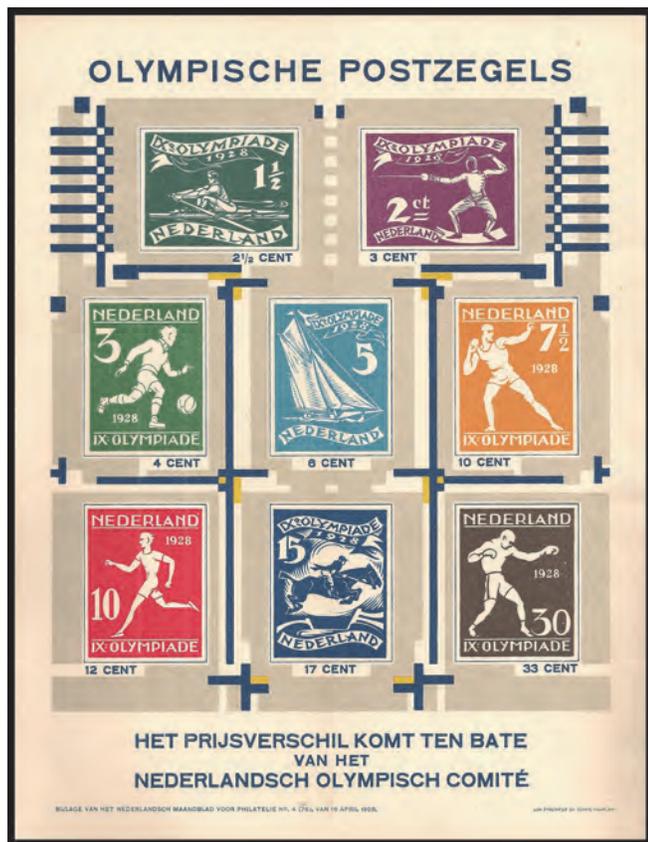


Figure 7. Art Deco promotional folder Dutch philately magazines. The price beneath each stamp reveals the actual cost, including the surtax.

annual basis. Nevertheless, the Minister of Finance opposed the initiative at the Council of Ministers, claiming the sports event could not be regarded as a commonly acknowledged charitable cause. Naturally, proponents of the issue argued that Belgium and France had taken an entirely different view. This argument may have swayed the Council of Ministers into approving the plan.

Despite the limited success of stamps with a surcharge in Belgium, the Dutch issue was finally approved. The Netherlands Olympic Committee (NOC) had proposed the following arrangement to the Dutch Postal Administration: the NOC would bear the manufacturing costs, and receive the surcharge in return. In accordance with Dutch policy at the time, the surcharge was not mentioned on the stamps.

The surcharges, which were clearly spelled out in public announcements (Figures 6 & 7) varied on each stamp and were as follows:

1½c + 1c Rowing	7c + 2½c Shot Put
2c + 1c Fencing	10c + 2c Running
3c + 1c Football	15c + 2c Equestrian
5c + 1c Sailing	30c + 3c Boxing

2.2 The design phase

Two designers were contracted to design four stamps each. The assignment went to artists Fokke Mees (1½, 2, 5, and 15 cents) and Ludwig Oswald Wenckebach (3, 7½, 10 and 30 cents). As a result, the set has a somewhat inconsistent feel to it. This is mainly due to the fact that the two designers chose to depict the words “Nederland” and “IX Olympiad” in entirely different styles. However, they did both opt for realistic depictions of sports rather than stylized designs.

Interestingly enough, the 2-cent stamp was the only one to feature the letters “ct” (the abbreviation for “cent”) alongside the value. Perhaps it would be more accurate to say that this is the only stamp that continued to feature this abbreviation in the accepted design. If we examine the proofs, it becomes clear that many values originally featured the indication “cent,” “ct,” or simply “c”. This is most likely explained by the fact that the 2-cent stamp was the first to be approved, as the color purple had already been determined on 5 September 1927.

The entire design phase saw intensive consultations between the designers, representatives of the postal administration, the NOC and printers Enschedé on almost every imaginable issue. Decisions were yet to be made as to the most suitable printing technique, the nature of the illustrations (whether or not to depict athletes, sporting equipment, or the stadium), the sports depicted on the stamps (some 15 sports were to be selected), the valuation of the various stamps and the colors to be used. All these issues were up for debate.

The various designs were also closely scrutinized, in terms of both the broader concept and the many details. The highest official at the postal administration actively “interfered” with the design of the hand of the runner on the 10-cent stamp!

We do not know the rationale behind the sports that were finally selected as the subjects of each stamp. Why, for example, did one stamp (30c value) depict a boxer? Bep van Klaveren achieved notoriety only after his 1928 Olympic triumph - still the only Dutch gold medallist in boxing.

At the 1924 Games in Paris, the Netherlands won gold in rowing and equestrian events. As one would expect, these sports are depicted on two values from the set (1½c and 15c).

Interestingly enough, an aquatics stamp (scheduled to be included from the start) was dropped during the design phase. Dutch swimmer Marie (Zus) Braun drew further attention to this omission

by winning the 1928 gold medal for the 100-metre backstroke and coming second in the 400-metre freestyle race. The Dutch swimming association protested against the lack of a stamp depicting their sport by issuing their own design.

The omission of cycling, a sport that had earned the Netherlands medals in the previous Olympics, seems strange now, especially in view of Wenckebach's attractive drawings of cyclists.

Although the 1928 Games were the first Olympics to feature women's athletics, generally regarded as an important step in the emancipation of the Olympic Games, we can find no indication that the depiction of a female athlete was even considered during the design phase.

Essays¹

The development of the stamps in the many different phases is a complex and lengthy story all by itself. Suffice it to say that examples of various essays show that many details were changed over the course of planning and design.

The two stamp designers approached the concepts for the design of their stamps quite differently. Let us first look at some essays for stamps by Fokke Mees who designed the 1½ cents, 2 cents, 5 cents, and 15 cents stamps.

Comparing a 1½ cents rower essay (Figure 8) to the stamp as issued (Figure 9). It's clear that many



Figure 8. Brown essay.



Figure 9. 1½ c as issued.

Essay	As Issued
typography value 15c "cent" "15" in circle brown rower wearing cap shirt with sleeves boats in background many waves	offset printed value 1½ c no cent only "1½" dark green rower without cap shirt without sleeves no other boats fewer waves
end of ribbon under "IX" is shaped differently differences in shape of boat and oars	



Figure 10. Purple essay.



Figure 11. 2c as issued.

Essay	As Issued
typography value 2 "cent" purple flag below IXe ribbon over "ADE" "NEDERLAND" longer fencing mask lighter fencing suit differences	offset printed value 2 "ct" purple ribbon below IXe no ribbon over "ADE" "NEDERLAND" shorter fencing mask darker fencing suit changed

changes were made in the design before the final designs were approved for printing.

Figures 10 and 11 reveal the differences between an essay and the issued 2 cents fencer stamp. It is worth noting that the proofs for Mees stamps are printed on small sheets of about 128 x 91 mm (Figure 12). Note the crown punch in the margin applied by the printing house.

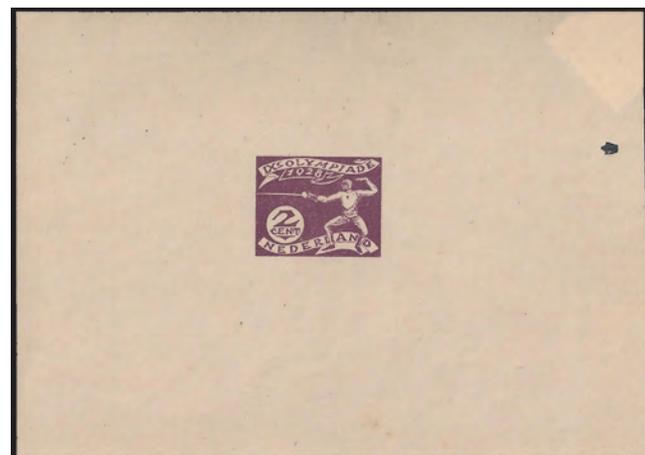


Figure 12. An essay of the 2-cent fencer stamp on a small sheet. Note the crown punch in the margin. A cropped enlarged image is show in Figure 10.

The 15-cent equestrian stamp provides an opportunity to look at two quite different essays and compare them to the stamp as designed. The most notable difference is in the value: 5 cents for both essays, but 15 cents on the final design. Both essays are also quite different from each other, with the gray essay, a woodblock, closely resembling the final design of the stamp as printed (Figures 13-15).



Figure 13. Brown essay.



Figure 14. 15c as issued.

Essay	As Issued
typography	offset printed
value 5 cents	value 15 cents
"cent"	no cent
"5" in circle	only "15"
brown	blue
long curved horse tail	shorter horse tail
white space only above horse	white space above and below horse*
fir tree at lower left	no fir tree

*The printer, Enschedé, requested the additional white space to prevent printing problems.

Now let us look at two of L.O. Wenckebach's stamps. Figure 16 is a color proof of the 3-cent football player. The stamp as issued is in Figure 17.



Figure 16 (above) is a color proof in green-blue. Note both the designer's signature and the printer's crown punch marking.



Figure 17 (left). The 3-cent stamp as issued in a light-green color.



Figure 15. Gray essay. Except for the difference in value, the design of this essay is a close match for the stamp as issued (compare to Figure 14).

The 3c, 7½c, 10c and 30c color proofs are printed twice on a sheet in each of four colors: red, reddish-brown, green and greenish-blue.



Figure 18 (above). Reddishbrown color proof of the boxer. Designer L.O. Wenckebach's signature and crown punch also appear in the margin.



Figure 19 (right). The 30-cent stamp as issued.

2.3 Particulars and abnormalities

The Olympic set has many known particularities and abnormalities, both in terms of the stamps themselves and the sheet margins.

2.3.1 Printing process

Vibration printing

Vibration printing is caused by flyback of the steel cylinder at the end of the paper roll. The result is shadowing or a double image (Figure 20).



Figure 20. An example of vibration printing on the 15-cent equestrian stamp. Note the shadows created to the right of lettering in the word “Olympiade,” on the number “1,” and to the right of the horse’s front legs.

Mirror printing

Also known as a “set-off,” this occurs when no new sheet of paper is fed into the printing press and



Figure 21. Mirror printing on the gummed side.

the stamp image is instead printed on the printing roller. When new sheets of paper are subsequently fed into the printing press, the image will then be printed on the reverse, in a mirror image. Mirror printing can also result when two sheets that have not fully dried are placed on top of one another. Figures 21 and 22 show stamps with mirror image printing on the gummed or face sides of the stamps.



Figure 22. The only two known stamps with mirror printing on the face.

Abnormally bold or fine lettering and numbers.

The use of less or more color ink results in clearly visible variations in the numbers and letters (Figures 23 & 24).



Figure 23. Thinner lettering and numerals (left); thicker lettering and numerals (right).

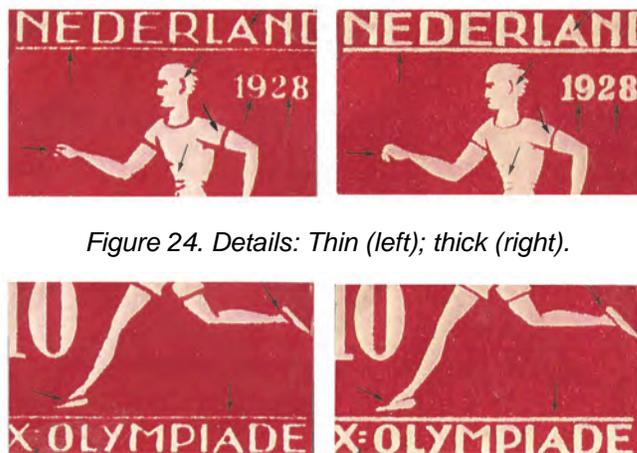


Figure 24. Details: Thin (left); thick (right).



Figure 25. Color differences between values.

Color differences and color smudges

There are some pronounced differences in terms of color in this set (Figure 25). There are also some highly smudged colors (Figure 26).



Figure 26. Color smudges.

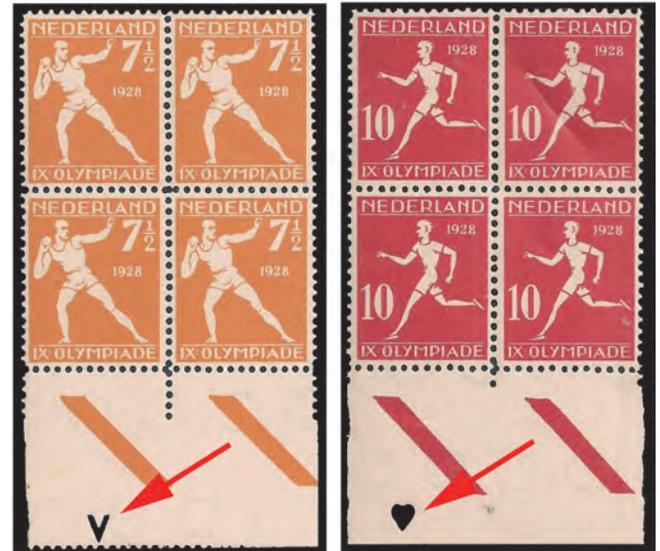


Figure 27. Margin blocks of four with post office hole punches.

7½ cents: #11
10 cents: #13
30 cents: #15



2.3.2 Sheet edge abnormalities

Punch holes

In order to prevent improper use, all sheets in the Netherlands were punched by the responsible post office after having been counted and prepared for distribution.

This practice was applied between 1906 and 1956 (Figures 27 & 28).

This issue features 8 different punch holes:

1½ cents	#6	7½ cents	#11
2 cent	#7	10 cents	#13
3 cent	#10	15 cents	#14
5 cent	#9	30 cents	#15

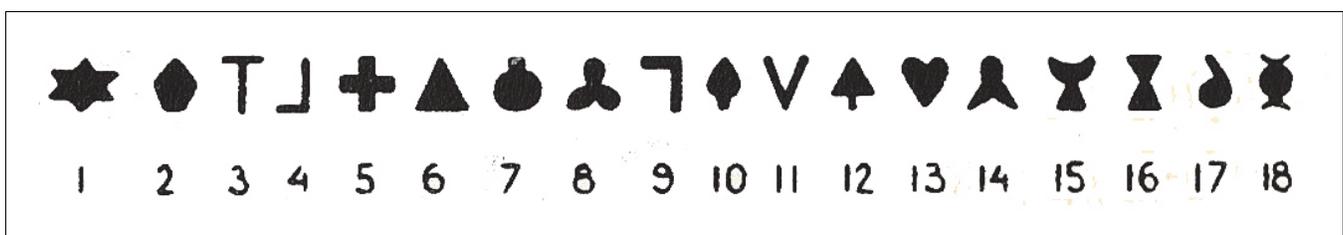


Figure 29. 18 different punch holes used at various post offices in the Netherlands.

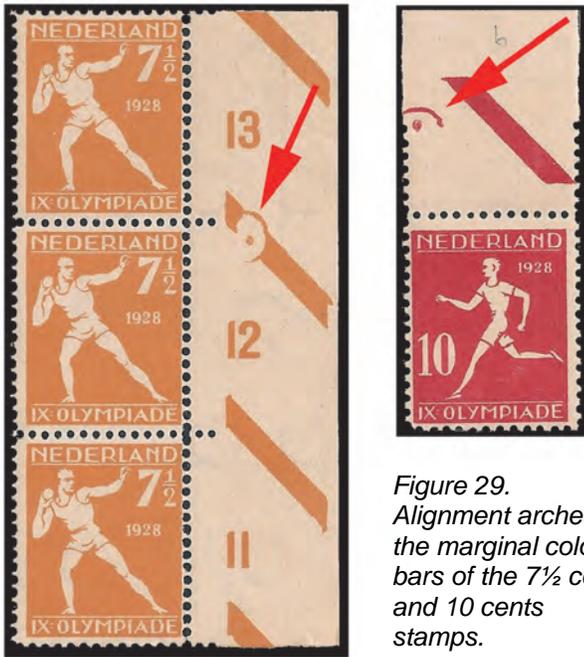


Figure 29. Alignment arches in the marginal color bars of the 7½ cents and 10 cents stamps.

Alignment arches

Alignment arches were used to keep the sheets perfectly aligned during perforation to prevent inaccurate perforations (Figure 29).

Numbering & color bars

The margins of the eight sheets contained two different types of markings to assist in both postal accountability as well as revenue protection.

All sheets included numbering on both the left and right side margins. On the left side, the numbers increased from 1 through 20 (top to bottom), while on the right side, the numbers decreased from 20 to 1. (Figure 30). The numbering helped clerks to quickly and accurately count multiple stamps.

The 1½ cents and 2 cents sheets were rotated 45 degrees before the numbering was applied.

This Olympic set featured a first for the Netherlands: after the 2 cents and 5 cents sheets had been printed and delivered, the other values were printed with a pattern of color bars in all four margins of the sheet selvedge (Figure 31). This was done to ensure that no more stamps could be printed on the original gummed paper using the remaining empty space on the wide margins!

Figure 32 reproduces a cover with four of the 3 cents stamps including the sheet's margins.



Figure 30. Margin numbers increased from 1 to 20 on the left margin, and decreased in the right margin. These were used only on the 5 cents sailing and 2 cents fencing stamps.



Figure 31. The margins of six values (1½ cents, 3 cents, 7½ cents, 10 cents, 15 cents, and 30 cents) added colored bars to prevent reuse of the margins as gummed stamp paper.



Figure 32. Upper right marginal strip of 4 of the 3 cents football stamps including both the counting numeral and color bars.

2.3.3 Perforation abnormalities

Line perforation

The entire series features line perforations (2 x 11½, 1 x 11½ x 12, 5 x 12).

The 10 cents stamp (11½) features the more uncommon 12x11½ format (Figure 33).

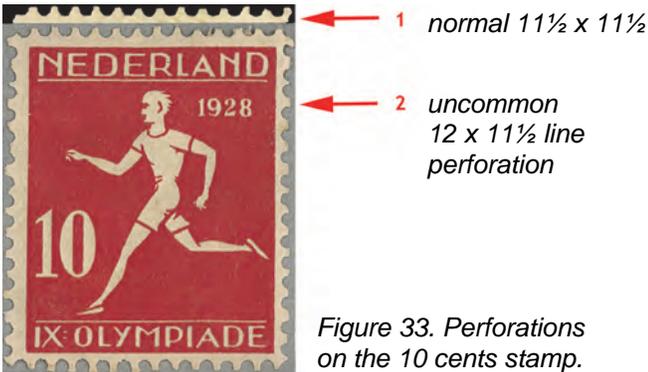


Figure 33. Perforations on the 10 cents stamp.

The 10 cents stamp has two other abnormalities with regard to perforations: an imperforate right side (Figure 34), and a double perforated right side (Figure 35). Five sheets were printed of both abnormalities, which means there were originally 100 of each.

Figure 34. Right side imperforate 10 cents stamp. Only about 65 known to exist.



Figure 35. Double-perforated right margin of the 10 cents stamp in a block of four.

Copies of the 7½ cents and 15 cents with extremely displaced perforations were also printed, clearly showing part of the adjacent stamp's image (Figure 36).



Figure 36. Extremely displaced perforations on the 7½ cents and 15 cents stamps

There are also stamps with missing perforations due to damage to the perforator (Figure 37).



Figure 37. Missing perforations on the 3 cents and 5 cents stamps due to a damaged perforation machine.

Notes:

1. "Essays are designs for stamp vignettes, stamp borders, or both combined, that were never approved and used in the final printing of a stamp. Even though a design is finally adopted with only slight modifications, it is still an 'essay'. To attain the status of a proof, a proposed design, or essay, must be exactly like the issued stamp for which it was submitted." *Linn's Stamp News* [Editor's Note: underline by editor.]



Figure 1. Cultural Issue: FDI, 27 June 2016; rate, 1^o Porte Carta Comercial (R\$1.70); quantity, 45,000 panes.

Philately at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games

by Mark Maestroni

During the final few weeks leading up to the Opening Ceremony of the Games of the XXXIst Olympiad, Brazil Post released its last stamp issues consisting of one sheet of 16 “spirit” stamps, two nearly identical mini-sheets of six reproducing the major Olympic venues, and finally two “Celebration” souvenir sheets commemorating the Opening and Closing Ceremonies for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Issue #5: While this final major sheet of stamps (Figure 1) did not have an official name, “spirit” stamps seemed to capture their theme. Children and adults were asked to submit designs answering the question, “what inspires you in the Olympic and Paralympic spirit?”

The 16 stamps selected for the sheet came from 15 artists of all ages (two designs from one artist were chosen): Alicia Teberga, André Paiva, Anne Beth, Athos Spilborghs, Danielle Martins, Fernando Degrossi, Gabriel Trindade, Girlan Quidute, Hegildo Alencar, Hemilly Pereira, Ivan Mola (2 stamps), Larissa Mazza, Mateus Kuwer, Samara Brum, Valeria Boelter. The designs vary from representations of the Olympic torch and relay, to depictions of young athletes exhibiting good sportsmanship. At least a third included physically challenged Paralympic competitors.

Each stamp, which is die cut into a pebble shape, which is a characteristic of Rio 2016’s visual language, includes the name of the artist, the Rio Olympic and Paralympic logos, and the face value inscription “1^o Porte Carta Comercial” which is equal to R\$1.70 at the time of issue.



Figure 2. Six Olympic venue stamps were issued in two nearly identical mini-sheets: one for the Olympic Games (left), and the other for the Paralympics (right). Each stamp had a face value of R\$3.75. The first day for both was 1 August 2016.

Venue Mini-Sheets: The six Olympic/Paralympic venues chosen to be depicted on these two nearly-identical mini-sheets of “venue” stamps were:

- Estádio Olímpico (Olympic Stadium): athletics and football.
- Velódromo Olímpico do Rio (Rio Olympic Velodrome): cycling (track).
- Arena da Juventude (Youth Arena): basketball and Modern Pentathlon fencing.
- Maracanã: opening/closing ceremonies and football.
- Sambódromo: archery, athletics (start and conclusion of both marathon events).
- Estádio da Lagoa (Lagoa Stadium): canoe sprint and rowing.

The main graphic elements of each stamp are embossed. The background is a panoramic view of Rio with the title of each sheet stamped in hot silver in the upper left corner.

The bottom left corner of each sheet bears the logo of UPAEP, the Postal Union of the Americas, Spain and Portugal. This year the union’s main annual stamp theme for its member countries is the Rio 2016 Games.

The Olympic sheet was issued in a quantity of 150,000 panes, while the Paralympic sheet saw a printing of 75,000 panes.

Celebrations Souvenir Sheets: To commemorate opening day of the Olympic Games on 5 August 2016, Brazil Post issued a pair of souvenir sheets “Celebrating the Olympic and Paralympic Games” (Figure 3). One stamp on each sheet features the different torches used for the Olympic and Paralympic relays. A pair of stamps reproduce the logo images used on tickets to the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of each Games.

The souvenir sheets were issued in differing quantities: 82,000 panes for the Olympic ceremonies, and 42,000 panes for the Paralympic.



Figure 3. Opening/Closing ceremony souvenir sheets for the Olympics (left) and Paralympics (right). Each stamp has a face value of \$R2.65. Both souvenir sheets were issued on 5 August 2016, Opening Day of the Olympic Games.



Figure 4. The Correios Olympic Village post office.

Special Olympic Post Offices

Unfortunately, Brazil Post had no program of venue sports cancellations as has been a matter of course in the past for both summer and winter Olympic Games. They did, however, open special Olympic post offices at four locations.

All four temporary post offices began operation on or before 5 August 2016, opening day of the Olympic Games (a national holiday). It is important to note that the special Olympic postmarks customized for each of the four post offices did not come into use until Monday, 8 August 2016 – the first business day following the opening of the Games. During the intervening 3 days (5, 6, and 7 August) each post office, except the Philatelic Center, used the same round postmark (AC Praça Mauá) in Figure 5A (also see Figure 6).

Philatelic Center (Agência Filatélica): Located inside the main downtown Rio post office at Rua Primeiro de Marco, 64, the Philatelic Center was open Monday-Friday; closed Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. It was closed Opening Day of the Olympic Games, Friday, 5 August.

For the first three days, it used a circular “Ag. Filatélica Rio De Janeiro - Rio De Janeiro - RJ” postmark (not shown). On 8 August it began using the special Olympic postmark (Figure 5B), which remained in continuous use through 1 September.

The special Paralympic postmark (Figure 5F) was used beginning 2 September. The Paralympic postmark measures approximately 1.55 inches wide x 1.60 inches high, which is slightly larger than its Olympic counterpart (1.45" wide x 1.55" high).

Olympic Village (Agência da Vila Olímpica): The Olympic Village post office (Figure 4), which was

open every day throughout the Games, was only accessible to those with accreditation to enter the international zone. The special Olympic postmark (Figure 5C) was used from 8 - 23 August (Figure 8). We know, however, that postal clerks backdated covers upon request as the special Olympic Village postmark exists with a 5 August date (Figure 7). The Paralympic postmark was used 2 - 20 September.

Main Press Center (Agência do MPC): This post office was also open every day from at least 5 August. The special Olympic postmark (Figure 5D) was used from 8 - 22 August (Figure 9). The post office at the MPC was not open to the public.

Windsor Marapendi Hotel (AC Vendas a Distância): This special post office at the Windsor Marapendi (the IOC Hotel) was open every day from at least 5 August. The special postmark (Figure 5E and Figure 10) was used from 8 - 23 August when the special post office closed. The Windsor Oceânico Hotel (IPC Hotel) did not have a special post office.

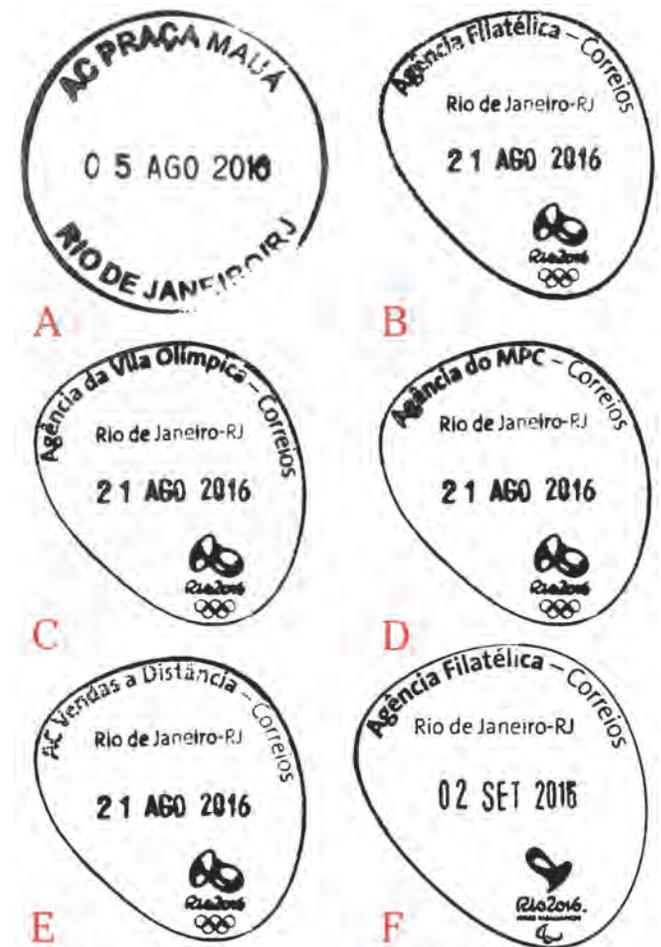


Figure 5. Cancellations used at the special Olympic post offices.



Figure 6. For the first three days of the Olympic Games (5, 6, and 7 August), a generic round date cancel inscribed AC PRAÇA MAUÁ was used at the four special Olympic post offices. Shown here is a postcard mailed from the Olympic Village on 5 August, Opening Day of the Olympic Games.



Figure 7. Although mailed on 11 August, the postal clerk offered to backdate the Olympic Village postmark to 5 August, opening day of the Games. Because the special Olympic postmarks were not placed in use until Monday, 8 August, any postmark date prior to that would, like this one, have been rolled back.



Figure 8. First day of use of the special Olympic Village postmark on 8 August 2016.



Figure 9. Last day of the Main Press Center (MPC) Olympic postmark on 22 August 2016.



Figure 10. Members of the IOC were lodged at the Hotel Windsor Marapendi. A special post office used an Olympic postmark from 8-23 August.

Other Postal Products

Correios (Brazil Post) also produced and sold other postal products including multiple cardboard boxes and envelopes printed with the color scheme of the Games along with the Olympic and Paralympic logos. A special pre-paid aerogram was also available for mailing greetings to Team Brazil.

Personalized Olympic stamps could be created bearing the Olympic and Paralympic logos.

Six picture postcards (not prepaid) were also available for sale at postal outlets.

Olympic Envelope: Shown in Figure 11 is one of the many special side-opening envelope with an Olympic theme. This one measures 9.1 inches x 6.3 inches and sold for \$R3.00. This was not postal stationery as there was no paid indicia. The envelopes were available at many postal agencies around Brazil.

Special Aerograms: Strictly speaking, these were not produced specifically for the Rio Olympic Games and thus did not include any text or graphics in the design referring to the Games. The description of these aerograms on the Brazil Post website notes that they were used previously for the 2015 Pan-American Games in Toronto.



Figure 11. Olympic envelope registered at the Windsor Marapendi Hotel special post office on 21 August.

The aerograms, which bear a prepaid indicia labeled “exclusive use in national territory,” were designed for the public to write words of encouragement or congratulations to members of the Brazilian Team.

After writing a message, the aerogram was folded and sealed. The front includes the logo of the Brazilian National Olympic Committee and the text “Um Time, Uma Nação.” which translates as “One Team, One Nation.” The aerograms were sold for \$R2.60 at various postal facilities around Brazil.

The example in Figure 12 was addressed to Thiago Braz Da Silva, winner of the gold medal for Brazil in the men’s pole vault with an Olympic record jump of 6.03 meters.

Personalized Stamps: Stamps incorporating images of Olympic visitors with Olympic or sponsor branding, have become a regular feature at the Games. Brazil Post made this souvenir available at its special post offices at the Olympic Village and Main Press Center (MPC).

Stamps were dispensed in sheets of twelve, six with the Rio Olympic Games logo and six with the Paralympic logo. In lieu of a specific face value, each stamp was inscribed “1º Porte Carta Comercial” currently equal to R\$1.70. This paid the domestic letter/postcard rate. Each sheet of twelve stamps cost R\$42.40 (discounts were applied for multiple sheets). On at least one occasion, a sheet of stamps was misprinted by the automated system (Fig. 13).



Figure 12. Prepaid aerograms were available to enable Brazilian fans to send congratulations or other sentiments to their favorite Team Brazil athletes. These were not customized for the Rio Olympics, but had been used for the 2015 Pan-American Games in Toronto. This aerogram was addressed to Thiago Braz Da Silva, Brazil's eventual gold medalist in the pole vault, and mailed at the Olympic Village.

Picture Postcards: Six postcards (Figure 14) combined a sport and its matching pictogram with a value that is a source of “inspiration for sportsmen and also for non-athletes.” Three Olympic postcards portrayed volleyball (Friendship); equestrianism (Excellence); and taekwondo (Respect). The three Paralympic Games postcards for athletics, judo and swimming, all carried the same four values of Determination, Courage, Equality and Inspiration.

The postcards were sold for \$R3.10 per card. *Many thanks to SPI members Roberto Gesta de Melo and George Bardosh for contributing both information and philatelic material. Without their help this article would not have been possible!*



Figure 13. Misprinted personalized stamp (upside down).



Figure 14. Six postcards (not prepaid) sold by Correios (Brazil Post) honoring the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Mark Maestrone

NEW MEMBERS

Andrew G. Boyajian, P.O. Box 401, Cranbury, NJ
08512-0401 USA. *Olympics.*

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Alejandro Jaime, PO Box 1349, Andover, MA 01810
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E-mail: mkpanda78@hotmail.com

Rebecca K. Madsen, 1808 Shawan Valley Lane,
Reisterstown, MD 21136 USA. *Gymnastics, Figure
Skating, Olympics.*

John P. O'Hara, 33-17 150 Place, Flushing, NY 11354
USA. *Baseball.*

Ilya Ronin, 52 Castle St., San Francisco, CA 94133
USA. *Judo.* E-mail: ironin@wydly.com

Barry Stagg, 1 Naunton Way, Cheltenham, GL53
7BQ, England. *Parachuting.*
E-mail: bastagg@btinternet.com

Craig Thorpe-Clark, 26 Linden Ave., Red Hook, NY
12571 USA. *Squash.* E-mail: ctc001@aol.com

Nicholas E. Wolaver, 876 Myrtle St. NE, Atlanta,
GA 30309 USA. *Olympics (1932, 1936, 1984, 2016),
Torch Relay.* E-mail: olympiada@yahoo.com

RETURNING

Bill Izso, 54 Elvason Ave., Ottawa, ON K2G3X9
CANADA. *Pre-1960 Olympics, Olympians.*
E-mail: billizso@rogers.com

NEW ADDRESS

Catherine E. O'Connor, 25 Rosewood Road
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DECEASED

Life Member, Brian Kelly, passed away in February
2015.

EXHIBITING RESULTS

COLOPEX 2016 - Columbus, Ohio. Clemens Reiss
received a Vermeil for his single frame exhibit
"Competitive Rowing: Error and Oddities." He also
received the American Association of Philatelic
Exhibitors (AAPE) Creativity in Philatelic Exhibiting
Medal.

APS StampShow 2016 - Portland, Oregon. Conrad
Klinkner received a Vermeil for "Games of the Xth
Olympiad - Los Angeles 1932."

Reudiger Fritz's multi-frame exhibit "The Olympic
comeback - The era of Pierre de Coubertin and the
Games in this time" received Large Gold medals at
both LUBRAPEX 2016 in Viana do Castelo, Portugal
(91 points + special prize); and the 2016 German
Championships in Thematic philately in Essen (90
points + 1st place in the category Sport and Leisure
+ 2nd place in the Grand Prix of all category
winners).

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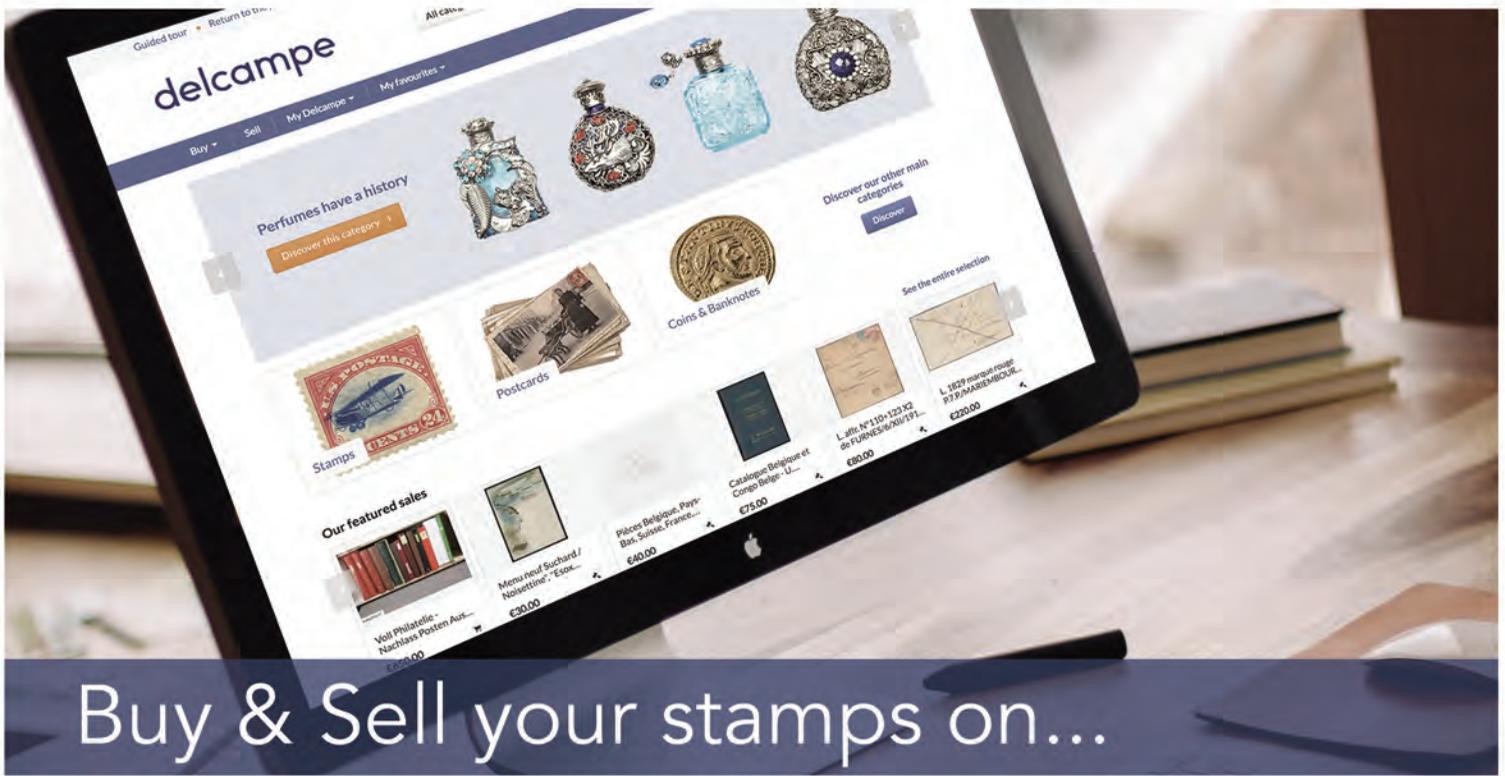
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NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Argentina: May 12, 2014. Brazil World Soccer Cup. Strip of four 10p stamps, Shirts and schedules of Group F teams: Argentina; Bosnia & Herzegovina; Iran; Nigeria. Note: this issue was quickly withdrawn from sale.

Brazil: 2015. Rio Olympics. Aerogramme R2.60; two large envelopes: 400x280mm R5.50; 353x250mm R4.20 values.

January 30, 2015. Rio Olympics. Transition from 2012 Olympics to 2016 Olympics. Horizontal strip of 3 1.30r stamps, Olympic Rings, London skyline; Tower Bridge; Christ the Redeemer statue. Horizontal strip of 3 1.30r stamps, Paralympics emblem, London skyline; Tower Bridge; Christ the Redeemer statue.

March 24, 2015. Rio Olympics. Sheet of 20. Two each with different backgrounds 1.30r stamps, basketball; Paralympic racing; rugby; archery; weightlifting; cycling; rowing; badminton; aquatic sports; wrestling.

April 16, 2015. World Games of Indigenous Peoples. 1.40r stamp emblem consisting of two interlocking rings.

June 8, 2015. Rio Olympics. Sheet of 20 1.30r stamps, boxing; Paralympic judo; boxing; Paralympic judo; fencing; soccer; fencing; soccer; kayaking; golf; kayaking; golf; triathlon; table tennis; triathlon; table tennis; taekwondo; handball; taekwondo; handball.

Croatia: September 4, 2015. Men's European Basketball Championships. 5k stamp showing a large basketball. Printed in sheets of 8 + label.

Denmark: June 27, 2015. 25th Anniversary Post Danmark Rundt Bicycle Race. Minisheet of five 7k stamps and five 10k stamps, Moreno Argentin; Jakob Fugisang; Cyclists in Flanders; Matti Breschel; Cyclists on Kildesvej climb; Fabian Cancellara; Cyclists on Storebaelts Bridge; Cyclist on Frederiksberg Alle, Copenhagen; Mark Cavendish; Michael Valgren.

Djibouti: March 15, 2016. Rio Olympics. Sheetlet of four 270F stamps, artistic gymnastics; canoe-kayak slalom; beach volleyball; rugby. Souvenir sheet with one 960F stamp, women's 100m run, boxing.

March 15, 2016. European Football Championship. Sheetlet of four 270F stamps, Pierre-Mauroy stadium in Lille Metropole; velodrome stadium in Marseille; Lyon stadium; Bordeaux stadium. S/s with one 960F stamp, France in Saint-Denis.

France: September 25, 2015. Sense of Sight. Booklet pane of 12 68c stamps, one sports Diver and pool (Vue piongeante).

Great Britain: September 18, 2015. Rugby World Cup. Set of 8 stamps, two 2nd class; two 1st class; two £1 and two £1.52. All action scenes. One booklet pane with 10 stamps.

Greece: July 10, 2015. Diving. Set of 6 stamps, Diver and: 10c shipwreck; 50c ancient jar; 80c fish and sponges; 80c Byzantine shipwreck; €1.62 shipwreck; €2 Yellow gorgonians. Booklet pane 10 80c stamps from above set.

Greenland: January 19, 2015. Nuuk 2016 Arctic Winter Games. 11+1k symbolic athletes. Printed in sheets of 4.

Guinea: March 18, 2016. 70th Anniversary Jack Johnson Boxer. Sheetlet of four 10000 FG stamps and depicting the boxer in action. Souvenir sheet with one 40000 FG stamp, boxer in action pose.

March 18, 2016. Rio Olympics. Sheetlet of four 10,000 FG stamps, rugby; soccer; basketball; boxing. Souvenir sheet with one 40,000 FG stamp, judo.

June 3, 2016. Hunting Dogs. Sheetlet of four 10,000 FG stamps, German shorthaired Braque; Labrador retriever; Weimaraner; Whippet. Souvenir sheet with one 40,000 FG stamp, Beagle.

June 3, 2016. 120th Anniversary of the first Olympic Games. Sheetlet of four 10,000 FG stamps, Pierre de Coubertin; Robert Garret (1875-1961) American athlete; Launceston Elliot (1874-1930) weight lifting, wrestler, gymnast and athlete; William Percy Carpmael (1853-1936) rugby player, 100 meters; Thomas Burke (1875-1929) American sprinter; Alfred Hajos (1878-1955) swimming. Souvenir sheet with one 40,000 FG stamp, Karl Schuhmann (1869-1946); Hermann Weingartner (1864-1919); Alfred Flatow (1869-1955) gymnastics artistic.

Guinea-Bissau: December 19, 2015. Rugby. Sheetlet of four 850 FCFA stamps, Adam Shley-Cooper; Richie McCaw; Bryan Habana; Leigh Halfpenny.

February 19, 2016. Rio Olympics. Sheetlet of four 850 FCFA stamps, high jump, javelin; volleyball; fencing; water polo. S/s with one 3300 FCFA stamp, canoeing.

Guyana: March 2, 2015. Skateboarding. Sheetlet of five \$250 stamps all depicting skateboarders in action. Souvenir sheet with one \$800 stamp, skateboarder.

Hong Kong: April 23, 2015. Sports. \$1.70 cycling; \$2.20 table tennis; \$2.90 soccer; \$3.10 track; \$3.70 badminton; \$5 swimming. Also s/s with all the same stamps.

Italy: June 11, 2015. Juventus 2015 Italian Soccer Champions. 80c stamp with shield.

August 19, 2015. Canoe Sprint World Championships. 95c symbolic athletes in canoe.

Japan: August 28, 2015. 70th National Sports Festival. Miniature sheet with 10 82y stamps, kayaking; sailing; basketball; field hockey; cycling; gymnastics; fencing; soccer; naginata; volleyball.

Korea (South): July 31, 2014. 17th Asian Games. Horizontal strip of 6, 300w cricket; wrestling; squash; bowling; 540w gymnastics; mascots. Printed in sheets containing 3 strips + 6 labels.

June 23, 2015. 2015 Universiade, Gwangju. Horiz. Strip of 4 300w, mascot; soccer and stadium; rhythmic gymnastics; Asian Culture Complex; taekwondo, Ipseokdae Rock. Souvenir sheet of 4 same stamps.

September 16, 2015. World Military Games, Mungyeong. Set of 4 300w stamps, skydivers; shooting; mascots; pentathlon competitors scaling wall.

Korea (North): October 20, 2013. Masik Pass Resort. 30w soldier and skiers.

February 7, 2014. Sochi Olympics. Set of four stamps, 30w skiing; 50w speed skating; 70w ice hockey; 90w bobsledding. Miniature sheet with two sets. Booklet with the four same stamps. Post card with 30w skiing stamp imprinted. Envelope with 50w speed skating stamp imprinted.

March 10, 2014. Traditional Sports. Set of 3, 10w restling; 30w archery; 50w horse racing.

June 12, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. Set of 4, 40w dribbling ball; 60w tacking opponent; 80w dribbling ball; 100w player in yellow shirt. Souvenir sheet with one stamp, 110w. Booklet pane of 4.

June 16, 2014. 120th Anniversary IOC. 30w Olympic rings, torch runner, Coubertain.

July 25, 2014. Sports. Set of 4, 30w table tennis; 50w running; 90w weight lifting; 110w judo. Also booklet pane of 4.

Macedonia: April 22, 2015. Men's World Handball Championships. 100d player with ball.

September 4, 2015. European Basketball Championships. 50d players in action. Printed in sheets of 8 + central label.

Mauritius: August 1, 2015. Ninth Indian Ocean Games. 17r stamp, symbolic athletes.

Mexico: October 17, 2015. 75th Anniversary Mexico City Red Devils Baseball Team. 7.50p hitter swinging bat.

Micronesia: March 9, 2015. BMX Cycling. Sheet of six \$1 stamps, various action scenes. Souvenir sheets with one \$3.50 stamp, rider with red shirt.

Moldova: November 27, 2015. Motor Sports. Horiz. Pair, 1.20 motocross; 5.75 autocross.

Monaco: February 3, 2016. 2016 Winter Youth Olympics. €1.25 stamp, downhill skiing, bobsled, women's figure skating.

February 3, 2016. Monte Carlo Rolex Masters Tennis Tournament. €1.60 stamp, tennis court with stands.

March 1, 2016. Ronnie Peterson (1944-1978) Formula I Race Car Driver. Horiz. pair, 80c Peterson; €1 Peterson.

Montenegro: May 8, 2015. Kitesurfing. 95c beach scene with kites in air. Printed in sheets of 8 + central label.

Mozambique: October 15, 2015. World Football Championship Russia 2018. Sheetlet of four 66 MT stamps, Matrioshka dolls; Vladimir Putin and Sepp Blatter, Michael Platini. Souvenir sheet with one 175 MT stamp, Annunciation in Moscow.

October 15, 2015. Rio Olympics. Sheetlet of four 66 MT stamps, high jump; gymnastics; javelin; 100m hurdles. Souvenir sheet with one 175MT stamp, discus throw.

Nepal: August 11, 2015. 60th Anniversary Ascent of Mounts Kanchenjunga and Makalu. S/s of six 10r stamps, Mt. Kanchenjunga; Mt. Makalu; Airplane over mountains; unnamed mountains; Hillary Peak; Tenzing Peak.

Netherlands: May 26, 2015. Volvo Ocean Race. Block of six "1" value stamps; three crew members on boat; wave crashing against boat; sailboats in harbor; four crew members; view from mast of crew on deck; boat with sail inscribed "Vestas."

Nevis: May 4, 2015. 2015 Cricket World Cup. \$4 stamp showing Hagley Oval, Christchurch, New Zealand. Souvenir sheet with one \$10 stamp, Cricket World Cup.



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COMMEMORATIVE CANCELS

by Mark Maestroni

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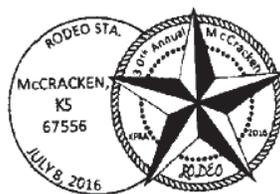
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SPORTS CROSS INDEX JUNE - AUGUST 2016

Baseball: 16712-921; 16724-133.
Boxing: 16709-147.
Football: 16604-101.
Rodeo: 16708-675; 16811-804.



16604-101 New York, NY 4



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