

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

VOLUME 55

WINTER 2016

NUMBER 2



**The IXth Olympic Games,
Amsterdam 1928
~ The Plate Flaws ~**



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On the cover: The 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Stadium and Marathon Tower as they appear today. Inset: registered cover franked with full set of Olympic stamps mailed from Amsterdam Watergraafsmeer on 11.VIII.28 to Zurich, Switzerland. The green 3c football player stamp exhibits the plate flaw from position 65.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestroni

AICO News:

Upcoming World Olympic Collectors Fairs

For those of you interested in attending an upcoming World Olympic Collectors Fair, we have some good news. There have been bids from two groups for the 2017 and 2018 events.

Our newest sister society, the China Sport Philately and Collection Association (CSPCA), has expressed an interest in holding the 2017 Fair in Baotou, Inner Mongolia (about 400 miles west of Beijing). The Fair would be held in conjunction with the China Sports Culture & Sports Tourism Expo 2017 being held at the Baotou International Convention & Exhibition Center (BICEC) in early August.

A bit closer to home, the US-based Olympin Collectors Club, with SPI as co-host, have proposed to hold the 2018 Fair in Los Angeles. The timing will hopefully prove to be propitious especially if Los Angeles is awarded the 2024 Olympic Games, a decision to be taken at the 130th IOC Session in Lima, Peru on 13 September 2017.

The Commission for Culture and Olympic Heritage will be discussing both bids at this year's annual meeting in Lausanne on November 11. If the combined Olympin/SPI bid is successful, we will be counting on plenty of support from the members to help out with the philatelic side of the event. I hope we can field some sport and Olympic philatelic exhibits. Additionally, it's anticipated that the USPS will commemorate the occasion with at least one pictorial postmark for the Fair.

Maurizio Tecardi (1937 - 2016)

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Maurizio Tecardi on October 19, 2016. Maurizio was one of the pioneers of Olympic and sports thematic philately. A friend to so many of us, Maurizio made an invaluable contribution to the development of Olympic collecting thanks to his vast knowledge and organizational talents.

As one of the founders of FIPO, the International Federation of Olympic Philately, Maurizio was an organizer of many Olympic and sports philatelic exhibitions around the world, including the first Olympihex in Lausanne in 1985. In addition, he was also an international juror, serving at numerous major philatelic exhibitions including Olympihex 87 in Rome, and the Olympihex competitions at Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004 and Beijing 2008.

He loved Olympic collecting in its many forms, and never hesitated in assisting other collectors. His monumental Olympic Games postcard collection dating back to the first Games in Athens was donated to the Olympic Museum in Lausanne for everyone to learn from and enjoy.

Maurizio Tecardi will be greatly missed by all of us in the Olympic collecting community. Ciao, Maurizio.



Maurizio (right) was awarded the IOC President's Trophy by IOC President Rogge in 2013.

And yes, it is once again that time of year. So on behalf of the SPI officers and directors, I would like to wish you and your family ...

*Happy Holidays
and best wishes for a
Wonderful New Year!*

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Lot 11109 | start: 980 \$
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C.G.



Figure 1. Stamp 110 (left 1½-cent stamp) in a pair with 3-cent single and 2-cent pair on postcard sent from Leeuwarden on 2.VI.1928 to Hannover, Germany.

The IXth Olympic Games, Amsterdam 1928 Part 2

by Laurentz Jonker

Preface

In the 1980's I began my study of the plate flaws on the 1928 *Olympiadezegels* (Olympic stamps). Philatelic conservator, Kamphuis, of the Dutch Postmuseum encouraged me in this project, providing extensive co-operation and assistance.

My primary reference source was the Postmuseum's three sets of sheets of 200 stamps each; two sets were perforated while the third was imperforate. I was able to compare these sheets with my own large stock of plate flaws.

Twenty years later I met Dirk Wolhuis whose interest in the plate flaws paralleled my own. We often got together to exchange information. For me the plate flaws were but a small part of my collection, and so I did not pursue the minor flaws. Wolhuis, on the other hand, identified nearly 1,000 plate flaws on the Olympic series which he meticulously cataloged and published.

In this second part of my article on the philately of the 1928 Olympic Games, I have selected what I believe to be the 70 most important plate flaws (space limitations prevented me from showing more). These flaws are widely seen outside of the Postmuseum's collection. The term "plate flaw" is used here in a more general sense.

The plate flaws are organized by denomination, and identified by the position in the 200-stamp sheets. For each, I have shown the stamp in its entirety accompanied by an enlargement with the plate flaw circled. Brief text is used to describe the plate flaw.

Normally the printer maintains tight control during the printing process. Initially, at least, this was true. So why, you may ask, are there so many plate flaws? The loosening of controls may have a few possible explanations.

First, when more than one printing occurred, vigilance likely slackened. There is evidence, for example, that the 2-cent fencer stamp was re-touched during the printing process since stamps 18 and 28 exist with and without a plate flaw.

A second reason may have resulted from the tight production schedule. The stamps were first printed on 16 March 1928 and distributed to all Dutch post offices on 27 March 1928. It is not surprising, given the short delivery time, that the printers Enschedé & Sons, were not as careful as they might have been.

A third possible cause may be attributed to the actual printing process. It has been observed that when the ink reservoirs were kept filled during printing, the plate flaws were either minimized or completely vanished.

For whichever reasons, had the printers not been in such a rush, we might have many fewer plate flaws on the 1928 Olympic stamps!

1½-cent Rower



Stamp 2. White stripe below "D" of OLYMPIADE



Stamp 13. White flake on the ribbon



Figure 69. Green scratch below "M" in OLYMPIADE



Stamp 83. Two purple dots to right of the "Y" in OLYMPIADE



Stamp 110. White slash above oar below numeral "1" of 1½ (also see Figure 1)



Stamp 145. White scratch below the "c" of ct

2-cent Fencer



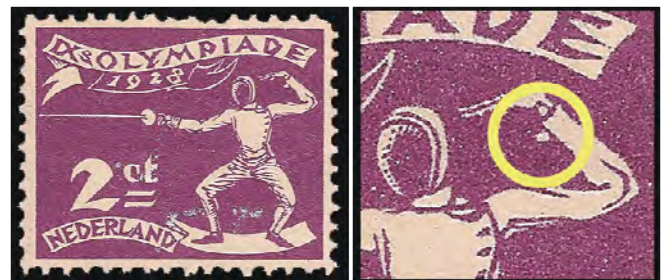
Stamp 28. Wide hazy stripe above and to the left of the ribbon (also see Figure 2)



Stamp 153. White arc-shaped scratch inside the ribbon



Figure 2. Stamp 28 with 1½-, 5-, and 7½-cent Olympic stamps on a cover mailed by tramway with box cancel from Blokzijl - Zwolle on 18.IV.28 to Vienna, Austria.



Stamp 158. White flake below the left hand



Stamp 174. White dot below "P" of OLYMPIADE



Figure 3. Stamp 8 combined with 2c fencer and 5c sailing yacht on postcard from Rotterdam mailed on 1.VIII.1928 to Noiraigue, Switzerland.



Stamp 184. Hazy white flake on the right border nearest the fencer's left leg

3-cent Football Player



Stamp 3. White dot before the "1" of 1928; white dot over the "Y" of OLYMPIADE



Stamp 26. Middle arm of first "E" in NEDERLAND is extended; white dot below "2" in 1928; thickening of "M" in OLYMPIADE



Stamp 8. White dot right of "8" in 1928; white dots to left of right hand and left of shoe (see also Figure 3)



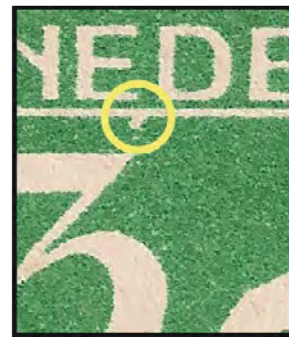
Stamp 27. White flake in curve of numeral "3"; white dot in front of right knee; white dot in "D" of NEDERLAND



Stamp 32. White dot above “O” in OLYMPIADE;
white dot to right of football



Stamp 65. white flake below the line under “ED” of
NEDERLAND (all see front cover of JSP)



Stamp 36. White dot above curve of numeral “3”



Stamp 81. White flake above the “9” in 1928;
broken “9” in 1928



Stamp 43. White dot above and left of “I” of IX;
white dot to left of player’s right shoe



Stamp 91. Two white flakes in front of right knee



Stamp 51. White flake in the “N” of NEDERLAND



Stamp 104. White flake in numeral “3”; white dot to
right of knee





Stamp 108. Two white flakes above “A” in OLYMPIADE



Stamp 191. White flake above right shoulder; white dots to left and inside curve of numeral “3”



Stamp 112. White dot above “I” in IX; white dot below left knee



Stamp 193. White flake below right shoe and above “28” in 1928; white dot on edge right trouser leg and above and between “DE” of NEDERLAND



Stamp 135. White arc on line between “N” and “E” of NEDERLAND; white dot below line and “E”



Stamp 194. Short left leg of “A” in NEDERLAND



5-cent Sailing Yacht



Stamp 183. White dots above right shoulder, in front of face and in front of right knee; white dot below “D” in OLYMPIADE



Stamp 1. Blue flake in numeral “5”





Figure 4. Stamp 90 on official card with Marathon runner sent by registered airmail from Amsterdam, 12. VIII. 1928 to Chur, Switzerland.



Stamp 90. White flake below "D" in NEDERLAND (see also Figure 4)



Stamp 91. Blue flake below right let of "A" in NEDERLAND



Stamp 151. Blue dot in lower right border



Stamp 162. White flake on line below "92" in 1928



7½-cent Shot Putter



Stamp 4. White flake on left leg of "N" in NEDERLAND



Stamp 23. White line on tip of numeral "2" of ½



Stamp 87. White flake above left forearm of shot putter





Stamp 111. Orange flake on left upper thigh of shot putter



Stamp 26. White scratch below "E" of NEDERLAND



Stamp 121. Orange flake on left upper arm of shot putter.



Stamp 32. Red scratch on runner's left calf



Stamp 141. Orange scratch on upper part of shirt



Stamp 49. Red scratch on Runner's forehead



10-cent Runner



Stamp 4. White dot on left leg of "N" in NEDERLAND



Stamp 54. Red scratch below neckline of shirt





Figure 5. Stamp 174 on postcard from Bussum, 28.VII.1928 (Opening Day of the Olympics) to Dornach, Switzerland.



Stamp 108. Red horizontal scratch in top margin above "RLAND" IN NEDERLAND



Stamp 156. White flake connecting "R" of NEDERLAND with horizontal underscore



Stamp 174. Shirt neckline partially missing (see also Figure 5)



15-cent Equestrian



Stamp 4. White dots above "Y" in OLYMPIADE



Stamp 19. Blue dot on Rider's cap



Stamp 50. White line in lower right corner



Stamp 91. Arched hazy white line above "AN" in NEDERLAND





Stamp 109. White flake near bottom of first leg of "N" in NEDERLAND



Stamp 115. White flake in border above "X" in IX



Stamp 132. Large blue flake in white ribbon at right



Stamp 181. White dot to left of "8" in 1928



30-cent Boxer



Stamp 1. Missing bottom serif on numeral "1" and part of bottom curve on numeral "9" in 1928



Stamp 8. Fine line through "ADE" of OLYMPIADE



Stamp 19. White line through bottom of "X" in IX



Stamp 23. Narrow white line near top of "N" in NEDERLAND





Figure 6. Stamp 26 combined with 75c airmail stamp on cover mailed from 's-Gravenhage on 19.IX.1928 to Pladjoe (Sumatra, Dutch Indies) arriving on 2.10.28.



Stamp 25. White flake on stripe of boxer's shorts



Stamp 26. White scratch at bottom left corner of "E" and white dot to left of "N" in NEDERLAND (see also Figure 6)



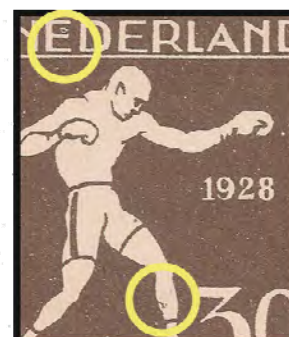
Stamp 33. White bar above "8" in 1928



Stamp 44. Brown scratch below boxing glove



Stamp 88. White flake above middle cross bar of "E" in NEDERLAND; brown scratches on left shin



Stamp 123. White dot between line and "E" of OLYMPIADE



Stamp 157. Brown scratch on right shinbone



Reference: Catalogue "Plaatfouten en Kenmerken, 9e Olympische Spelen 1928," by Dirk Wolthuis

Secondary Plate Flaws

In contrast to the above mentioned plate flaws, there are a number of single (non-repeating) flaws which may be considered printing accidents. Only a few more notable examples are shown.



3-cent: Large white flake below ball



3-cent: Vertical white line above left leg



5-cent: White flake above "D" in NEDERLAND



10-cent: Large white flake below right knee



15-cent: White line above "E" in NEDERLAND



7½-cent: Missing second finger of left hand.



30-cent: Long diagonal white line between legs



7½-cent: Vertical white line between "7" and "½". Registered cover with full series of Olympic stamps mailed from Rotterdam/Maaskade to Dresden, 22.11.1928.



Figure 1. Airmail cover from Monessen picked up by Tri-State Aviation on June 14, 1937, using a new apparatus that grabbed the mailbag with a hook. This red-letter day in airmail transportation coincided with an exhibition baseball game featuring Leo Durocher.

A Baseball Cover from Monessen, Pennsylvania

by Norman Rushefsky

June 14, 1937 was an auspicious day for the residents of Monessen, a town of several thousand residents in western Pennsylvania's Monongahela Valley. This eastern steel town, while considered too small by the U.S. Post Office to have regular airmail pickups, was nevertheless large enough to have two professional baseball teams, the Monessen Redwings of the Penn State League and the "colored" Monessen Franks that played other "colored" teams in western Pennsylvania. The headline several days earlier in the Monessen *News Call* read "Monday Half Holiday Here For the St. Louis Cardinals" and in bold print noted "Dizzy Dean Is Coming"/ "Everything in Readiness for One of Biggest Local Sporting Events in the History of Monessen."

The paper further noted that the "... Cardinals, better known as the 'Gas House Gang,' the most colorful organization in major league baseball, will be the attraction at Tin Plate Field ... A general half holiday has been officially declared by Mayor James Gold and merchants and businesses will close at 2 o'clock." After noting that this was the first visit by the Cardinals to the Monongahela Valley it noted

that the Cardinals featured Manager Frankie Frisch, "Dizzy" Dean, "Ducky" Medwick, Lon Warnecke, "Pepper" Martin and that it would be a treat for young and old to see them compete with the local minor league Redwings, a farm team of the Cardinals. Also playing for the "Gashouser" Cardinals would be Leo Durocher considered the best shortstop in the National League.

The newspaper also reported that the game was not the only outstanding attraction and that "... arrangements have been made to pick-up air mail at the park prior to starting of the contest. Special airmail envelopes (Figure 1) will be distributed here and with airmail stamps available these letters will be placed in a pouch and an airplane will swoop down low on the field and the aviator with patented arrangement will pick up the mail, taking it direct to Pittsburgh for distribution throughout the world."

Unfortunately for the 1200 fans who purchased tickets for the game, the Cardinals arrived a half hour after the scheduled 3 PM game time. The game proceeded to start immediately without opportunity for the fans to enjoy viewing batting practice and team warm-ups. The previous day, Sunday, the Cardinals were in Boston playing a doubleheader with the Boston Bees winning both games. The

team no doubt rushed to make train and bus connections to Monessen as part of their return to St. Louis for their next National League game on Tuesday.

By 3:30 PM the weather had deteriorated with high winds and threatening clouds. The starting pitcher for the Monessen team was John "Scissors" McIlvain who, at the age of 54 and not a team member, had requested the honor of pitching the first inning to the Cardinals.

The first pitch to "Pepper" Martin was "hit on the nose" to the Redwings center fielder. The next batter was hit by the next pitched ball. The following batter came to the plate "when everything broke loose." The game was officially over at 3:45 PM due to rain.

The *Daily Independent* newspaper reported the next day that "the airmail pickup was the only thing that functioned at the game. This had come off perfectly on the first attempt."

The airmail pickup demonstration was part of a program by Tri-State Aviation Corporation to test the practicability of airmail and air express service between Pittsburgh and Charleston, West Virginia.

Dr. Lytle S. Adams, a dentist and inventor, was president of Tri-State. His patented pick-up apparatus would make it possible to pick up mail from locations without airport or landing facilities. The 200-mile route between Charleston and Pittsburgh could thus be covered without stops or take-offs.

The airplane making the successful pickup was piloted by "Hap" O'Bryan who delivered the envelopes from Monessen to the Air Mail Field in Pittsburgh within nine minutes.

The June 12 edition of the *Daily Independent* reported the following about the envelopes:

"Designed Envelopes. The airmail envelopes used in the pickup, each designed on the address side with pictures of the Cardinals' players, have been distributed. The sealed and stamped letters will be placed in a box inside the Tin Plate Field. Two pick-ups will be made on the day of the Cardinals-Redwings game."

To date, I have seen only two of these envelopes. The cover in Figure 1 is postmarked June 14, 1937 at the Pittsburgh Air Mail Field and shows Leo Durocher. The second cover (not shown) features Mayor James Gold and was postmarked June 30, 1937.

Dr. Adams had aggressively pursued his invention for several years prior to 1937 including a demonstration at the 1934 Chicago Century of Progress World's Fair (Figure 2). However, accord-

ing to an article published in the *Social Studies of Science*, May 1992, vol. 22 no. 2 301-315 the following is noted:

"The Airmail Pickup System of All American Aviation: A Failed Innovation?"

By Lewis and Trimble

From May 1939 through June 1949, All American Aviation employed a unique nonstop airmail pickup and delivery system, invented by Lytle S. Adams and modified for commercial use by company engineers after Richard C. du Pont acquired Adams's patent rights. Used to deliver airmail to small communities scattered throughout rugged terrain in western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, the system was also exploited in World War II to tow gliders aloft, and to rescue personnel trapped behind enemy lines. After the war, it lost its economic viability because of the use of mobile postal vehicles on improved highway systems, and also because federal officials would not permit its combination with passenger operations. It was therefore abandoned in 1949, but furnished the basis for still further important military applications. Though a 'failed innovation' in a commercial sense, it nevertheless did have a considerable impact upon future developments, suggesting that 'failure' and 'success' are relative terms."

A demonstration of the Adams pick-up method during this period may be viewed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bDM72Nd1OE8>

The author gratefully acknowledges the research provided by Daniel Zyglowicz, President of the Greater Monessen Historical Society, for the numerous newspaper articles furnished by him. 🐦



Figure 2. Cover from the 1934 "Century of Progress" exposition in Chicago showing a demonstration of the apparatus for hooking mailbags "on the fly."



Figure 1. Postcard of the Boy Scout Camp at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics (left). The reverse of the postcard (right) contains a message from a scout relating his experience volunteering at the 1912 Olympics.

Boy Scouts at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics

by Tony Manson and Hallvard Slettebø

The 2006 Torino Olympic Winter Games have come and gone and there will be many pages of history written about them. The recent find of an old postcard showing Boy Scouts at the 1912 Olympic Games at Stockholm, Sweden has triggered some interest into their participation at these Games, and has led to a trans-Atlantic collaboration in researching and preparing this article.

The postcard (Figure 1) shows scouts at camp, with a caption translated as “The Scout Camp at Djurgården, Stockholm, during the 1912 Olympic Games.” The Royal Djurgården Park, was located roughly 4 km from the Stadion.

On the back, it is cancelled on 10 July, 1912 from Stockholm and has the following hand-written translated message: “I am writing to inform you about how things are. It is quite fun, but we are only allowed to go to Stadion on certain days, and then we have to sell something. I am doing fine, and I hope the same with you. Many greetings to Aunt, Uncle and Jean.”

So, how did Scouts become involved with these Olympic Games?

The full dates of the Games of the Vth Olympiad were May 5, 1912 to July 22, 1912. However, the bulk of the competitions were held June 29 to July 22, with the main events taking place during “Olympic Week” July 6 to Jul 15 at the new Stockholm Stadion. Close to 2500 athletes from 28 nations participated in 102 different events.

It was here that a young Finn named Hannes Kolehmainen excelled in long distance races, and where American Jim Thorpe won both the Decathlon and Pentathlon. Also, a young American Army Lieutenant outscored most of his opponents in four of the five Pentathlon events, but his poor results in shooting dropped him to fifth position overall. Many years later he became famous as General George S. Patton Jr. during World War II. The final results of the Games showed Sweden in first place with 64 total medals, USA in second with 63 and Great Britain in third with 41.

After discussions between Sveriges Scoutförbund (The Swedish Boy Scout Association) and the organizing committee for the Olympic Games, King Gustav V of Sweden invited 1500 Boy Scouts from five countries to pitch their tents next to the Olympic Stadium and offer help in the Olympic Games. It is estimated that 1200 to 1500 scouts participated, coming from Denmark, Norway, Germany, England and France, as well as Sweden. According to the agreement, the Scouts were responsible for the sales of all programs (Figure 2) at the Stadion (which explains the comment in the postcard message). Furthermore, the Scouts were available for service for the officials of the Games at all locations where competitions took place. The officials would requisition for each day the number of Scouts required for the various competitions. Approximately 600 Scouts served at Stadion each day. On the Marathon day, Scouts were posted along the entire 42-km route, signaling orders between the officials.



Figure 2. The Olympic Program sold by the Boy Scouts.

Friday July 12 was the day of the Scout display at the Stadion, starting with a massive Scout gymnastics display. In only half a minute, 1000 Scouts ran onto the field in a huge wave and lined up straight as an arrow to demonstrate high precision gymnastics. After this, various Scouting activities were demonstrated including first aid and ambulance transport with a stretcher between two bikes. The Danish Scouts also gave a show of "fighting" with Scout staves.

There are several philatelic traces from the 1912 Olympics. Postmarks of the hand cancel type were used at the Stadion and these are rather unusual and expensive. The example shown in Figure 3 is an insufficiently prepaid cover sent from St. Petersburg on 14 June 1912 to Stockholm Stadion where it arrived on 29 June (arrival postmark STOCKHOLM STADION on reverse flap). Swedish postage due of 12 öre was paid on 1 July and cancelled with the STOCKHOLM STADION LBR postmark. This is a unique item, showing both types of the rare STADION postmarks.

A slogan machine cancel (Figure 4) was used at the main post office in Stockholm. The text reads:



Figure 3. Cover with the rare STADION postmarks on the envelope flap and top of front side (courtesy Manfred Bergman).

OLYMPISKA SPELEN I STOCKHOLM
OLYMPIC GAMES OF STOCKHOLM
29 JUNI - 1912 - 22 JULI

These are not Scout postmarks, but can be considered Scout related.

There appear to be a number of other scout camp postcards for this event (Figures 5-7).



Figure 4. Postcard with special Olympic Games slogan machine cancel.



Figure 5. The King and Queen (mid right hand side) visit the scout camp (courtesy Leif Nielsen).



Figure 6. Princess Maria presents the gold medal prize to Mr. Robert Anderson of the Swedish water polo team, while a number of scouts stand nearby ready for service.

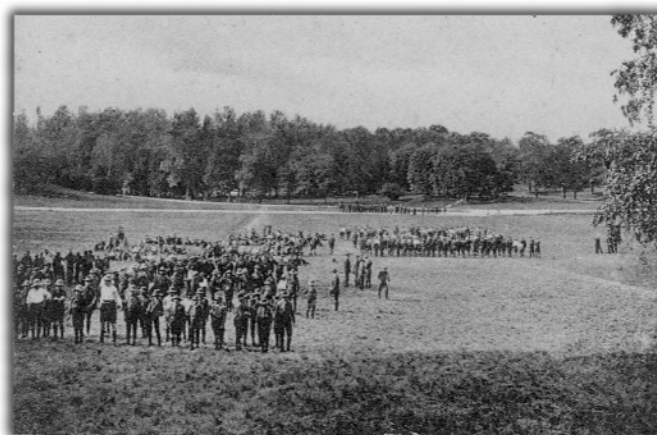


Figure 7. A pair of postcards featuring different views of the scout camp (courtesy Leif Nielsen).

There was also an old book printed called *Den femte Olympiaden. Olympiska Spelen i Stockholm 1912 i bild och ord*, which translates as “The Fifth Olympiad. The Stockholm 1912 Olympic Games in photos and text.” This book is put together from 24 booklets of 16 pages each, on various topics. Part 22 is dedicated to the Olympic Boy Scouts, and after a few pages of text, there are many photos of camp life, including photos of different members of the Royal Family visiting the campsite and of the Scout Gymnastics Exhibit at the Stadion. There are other photos spread throughout the other 23 booklets which show Scouts “doing their duty” at the Olympics. One shows a young Scout selling programs in the Stadion stands. Another shows Scouts sitting by the tennis nets, I assume serving as “ball boys.” Another shows a Scout catching the discarded pole as American Jim Thorpe clears the pole vault bar.

In 1959 Sweden celebrated their 50th Anniversary of scouting and the scout participation at the

1912 Olympics was recalled by privately printing a cachet on two 1959 postal stationery cards (Figure 8). The cards come with 20 öre (grey) or 25 öre (red) postage stamp imprint, while the printed cachet is similar on the two cards.



Figure 8. The 1959 Scout Jubilee postal card.



Figure 9. Postcard of the 50th Anniversary of the Scout Camp at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics (courtesy Leif Nielsen).

The translated text reads “Ebbe Lieberath (1871-1937) Founder of the Scout movement in Sweden 1909. Above, showing attention to the King and Queen, together with participants of the 1912 International Olympic Scout camp.”

Three years later, in 1962, the 50th Anniversary of the 1912 Olympics was celebrated and a postcard (Figure 9) was created reproducing an original view of the Olympic Scout camp. An official (non-scout)

Olympic postmark was used along with a private handstamp with the text “Olympiska Boy-Scout-Lä-gret 1912-1962 The Olympic Scout Camp Stockholm ... with over 1200 scouts from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany and England”.

This camp became known as the first Olympic Youth Camp (OYC) and it was a large undertaking, especially considering that it came only five years after the start of world scouting in 1907 and three years after the founding of the Swedish Boy Scout Association in 1909. OYC has pretty much been a regular feature of the Olympic Games since 1952, with the exceptions of those held in Helsinki, Melbourne and Los Angeles. But it is doubtful there was ever such a successful Scout-related camp as that held in Stockholm in 1912.

*This article first appeared in the May/June 2006 issue of the **SOSSI Journal**, published by the Scouts on Stamps Society International, and is reprinted with the kind permission of the authors and editor. To learn more about SOSSI, please visit their website at: <http://sossi.org>*

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JUDOn't Know Anything

by Ilya Ronin

Let me start by dispelling a common misconception about judo – it has NO kicks or punches! I am a second-degree black belt judoka (i.e. a judo practitioner) with 20 years of experience and a few national medals. In countless conversations in which this fact comes up, the follow-up request is, “Show me a judo kick.” Ugh!

So, I'd like to take this opportunity to use my collection of judo stamps to illustrate what this sport is all about.

You can easily look up judo on Wikipedia, so I won't bore you with textbook details. To me, the true mastery of judo lies in the ability to use your opponent's movement to your advantage.

Judo consists of throws, when you fight standing, and pins, arm locks and chokes, when you fight on the ground. If you managed to execute one of these, it means that you either a) forced your opponent to make a mistake, giving you the opportunity to strike, or b) you anticipated his/her next move and met it with a well-timed response.

Judo, like chess, is strategic and tactical, only more painful for the loser.

Figure 1 shows two stamps that are among the few to capture the intense grappling battle when you probe your opponent's defenses that precedes the spectacular throws that most other stamps portray.

If you want a dramatic introduction to the sport of judo, here's a great video compilation from last year's competitions: <https://goo.gl/X33tyH>

Two simple terms to remember as we dig deeper into the sport: **Tori** is the person performing a throw; **Uke** is the person being thrown.



Figure 1. The intense battle that initiates a match. DPRK (Scott) #2294, Niger #367.



The cover that started it all!

Long-Legged Surprise - Kouchi Gari

The stamp that started me collecting judo also happens to depict one of my favorite throws, Kouchi Gari.

One day, I received some stamps that I purchased from a seller in France. They arrived in the cover shown above (and in Figure 2). A letter addressed to me with a judo stamp on it?! I spent the rest of the day online, researching judo philately and laying the groundwork for my judo collection.



Figure 2. The rightmost throw is Kouchi Gari.

Kouchi Gari is a sneaky throw. In my case it is helped by the fact that I am tall and have long legs. In the diagram below, as uke (in white) steps to his right, tori (in blue) uses his foot to pull the leg from under uke as he's about to step onto it.



Kouchi Gari is not as spectacular visually as the other throws I mention here, but its beauty lies in its speed and lack of apparent effort on the part of the tori. It epitomizes judo's key principle of using your opponent's energy against him. Done right, it requires minimal effort on the part of tori. Your opponent simply takes a step and ends up flat on his back in a split second.

Have a look at this short video for an incredible example of this throw: <https://goo.gl/mked4d>



Figure 3. Kouchi Gari (Syria #887).

Notice how little effort the Russian judoka had to exert to execute the throw, how effective it was, and how, despite being called a "small throw," it knocked the wind out of his Romanian opponent.

Kouchi Gari is not a popular throw on stamps. I've found it on only two issues: the French stamp (Figure 2), and a Syrian one (Figure 3).

Banned Beauty - Kata Guruma

Kata Guruma, or Fireman's Throw, in its original form has been banned from competitive judo since 2010, a casualty of a rule change designed to make judo more spectator-friendly by limiting leg attacks using hands or arms, such as leg grabs. This was done to make judo more exciting to watch and to differentiate it from wrestling by emphasizing the upright posture found in traditional Japanese judo.



A magnificent throw and one of the original ones developed by judo's founder Jigoro Kano, it became a casualty of this rule change. Called Kata Guruma, it is shown in the schematic, above.

While technically, yes, there's contact between the tori's hand and the uke's leg, it is quite minimal and not where the emphasis of this throw lies. The first stamp issued depicting judo is from Japan in 1953. The throw shown is Kata Guruma (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Kata Guruma (Japan #590).

The stamp was issued to commemorate the 8th National Athletic Meet in Matsuyama, Japan held from 22-26 October 1953.

Kata Guruma does survive in its original form outside of competitive judo, in Kata, meaning "forms" in Japanese. From Wikipedia: "Kata are pre-arranged patterns of techniques... practiced with a partner. Their purposes include illustrating the basic principles of judo, demonstrating the correct execution of a technique, teaching the philosophical tenets upon which judo is based, allowing for the practice of techniques that are not allowed in competition, and preserving ancient techniques that are historically important but are no longer used in contemporary judo."

Here is a video of what "modified" Kata Guruma looks like: <https://goo.gl/YMPjDK>

Not surprisingly, the original Kata Guruma can be found only on a few older stamps (Figure 5).



Figure 5. Kata Guruma (Senegal #368, Mongolia #1116, and Rwanda #267).

There is a modified version of Kata Guruma, performed from a kneeling position, instead of standing, and without the hand-to-leg contact. It hasn't made its way onto any stamps, yet, and I could not find a nice diagram to illustrate it, but here is a video of what it looks like: <https://goo.gl/cvQrLh>

Sacrifice to Win - Tomoe Nage

Tomoe Nage, a sacrifice throw, is quite often seen on judo stamps. It's a throw that's very distinctive and judo-specific, so I can see why stamp artists select it for their designs, as opposed to some other throws that judo shares with wrestling (Figure 6).



Figure 6. *Tomoe Nage* (Spain #1269, Grenada #734, and Brazil #2140).

Its execution relies heavily on your opponent's forward momentum, for example if he is pushing you or has bent so far forward that his balance has moved from the middle of his feet to the toes. It is one of the original judo throws developed by judo's founder, Jigoro Kano.



It is one of the riskiest throws to use in a competitive match. First, it's fairly easy to counter, if you can stop your momentum early enough so that you end up on top of your opponent who tries to throw you with it, instead of rolling over past his head. This way, you can immediately turn the tables, transforming your defensive posture into an opportunity to pin your opponent with his back to the mat. Also, if you fail to execute this throw and simply fall on your back, it's very easy for the referee to perceive it as a false attack. Do that a couple of times in a match, and you're guaranteed a penalty.

Videos of Tomoe Nage: <https://goo.gl/Vtjcqu> and <https://goo.gl/vmsJWi>

The Throw of the Kings - Uchi Mata



I saved the best for last. Visually, Uchi Mata is probably the most spectacular throw in judo. Of all the judo techniques depicted on stamps, this one is the most common. The diagram at left shows the steps of the throw. Look at the step next to last - that's

what you usually see on stamps that show this throw. It's the high point of the throw and its most visually impressive moment.



Figure 7. One of my favorite stamps is this 1964 issue from Japan featuring *Uchi Mata*.

These also happen to be some of my most favorite judo stamps, exquisitely designed and capturing the beauty of this throw (Figures 7 and 8).

Uchi Mata is a relatively hard throw to execute on a well-prepared opponent. If you get thrown with it, it means that you were sloppy in your fighting posture and weight distribution, and your opponent took advantage of your mistake. Trust me, I know; that's how I lost one of the most important matches of my judo career.

Here's a great collection of *Uchi Mata* examples: <https://goo.gl/7f8prb>



Figure 8. Stamps from New Caledonia (#377) and France (#1105) illustrating *Uchi Mata*.





Figure 9. An unfortunate design decision has the Israeli athlete being thrown.

for Israel Post, I understand the desire to depict an athlete from Israel, but NOT in the worst possible light. The stamp is visually well-designed, but this seemingly minor detail does a disservice to the Israeli judokas who have brought home several Olympic and World Championship medals over the years, including two bronze medals from Rio. For that, the artist gets a shido - a minor penalty in judo, usually for passivity or, in this case, for sloppy technique.

Kudos to Uzbekistan for executing the same idea correctly back in 2013 (Figure 10).

Shido!

In judo, "shido" is a light penalty given by the referee for minor violations by a judo player during a match.

Returning to Uchi Mata, if you are a collector of Israel, you have probably seen this stamp already (Figure 9). It is part of an Israeli set celebrating the 2016 Rio Olympics.

Clearly, this stamp depicts one judoka throwing another with Uchi Mata. Unfortunately, the judoka with the ISR on his back is the one BEING THROWN!

Now, if you're the artist



Figure 10. An Uzbek judoka in the winning position.

Femme Fatale

In 1943, Joshi-goshinhō (methods of self-defense for women) was developed on the order of Jiro Nango, the second Kodokan president. (Kodokan was the school/dojo that was opened by judo's founder, Jigoro Kano, in 1882.)

It was not until 1980 that Women's World Championships were introduced. Initially, it was a separate event from the male version. The two were merged in 1987, to create an event that takes place annually, except for the years in which Olympic Games are held.

While (male) judo joined the pantheon of Olympic sports in 1964 (at the Tokyo Olympic Games), the female contests were introduced as a demonstration sport at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul. Four years later at Barcelona, they became a full Olympic medal sport for women.

Figure 11 shows one of the few stamps depicting female judokas.

While attending San Jose State University, I had the privilege to train with some of the finest female judokas in the world. You did not want to mess with these ladies. I never practiced with girls until I got to college. My freshman year was one long, non-stop thrashing by the more senior girls on our university judo team.

Figure 12 is a colorful cover from Japan franked by stamps issued by Japan for the 1995 Judo World Championships. On the back is an autograph by one of my old teammates, Liliko Ogasawara, a bronze medal winner at that event.

If you are interested in seeing Liliko in action, here is a video of her at the 1993 World Championships, where she took a silver medal. Watch for a well-executed Tomoe Nage at the 1:08 mark. (<https://goo.gl/hgGRzb>).

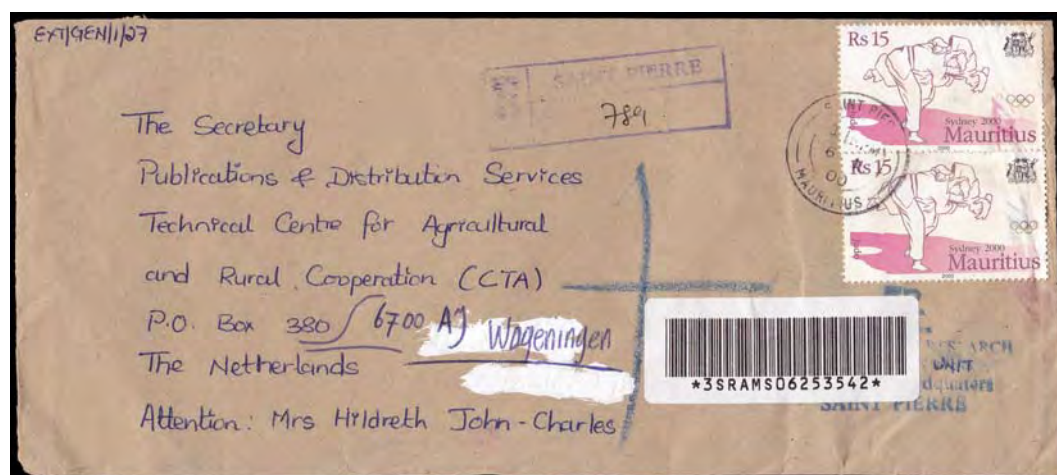
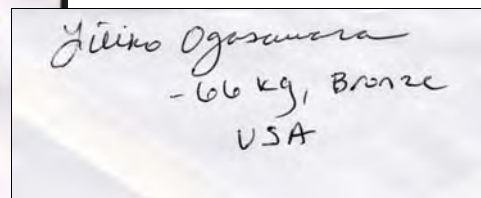


Figure 11. Mauritius issued one of the few stamps picturing female judokas (Mauritius #905).



Figure 12. This colorful cover franked with 6 of the 1995 Judo World Championships stamps is a great piece. What makes it special for me is that it is autographed on the reverse (inset below) by one of my old teammates, Liliko Ogasawara, a bronze medal winner at that event.



While I don't closely follow other countries' judokas, I keep an eye on the US team. In Rio, US Judo achieved a new milestone. I am referring to the now two-time Olympic gold medalist Kayla Harrison. At the 2012 Olympic Games in London, Kayla became the first US judoka ever, male or female, to win an Olympic gold medal. And she made her Olympic judo record even harder to beat when she repeated as gold medalist in Rio this past August.

Famous Judokas

Take another look at the first day cover in Figure 7 showing the uchi mata judo stamp issued by Japan for the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games.

The coolest part about this piece is on the reverse side – an autograph by one of the greatest judokas, Isao Okano, a gold medal winner at the Tokyo Olympics (when judo was first introduced as an Olympic sport), world champion the following year, and a two-time winner of the All-Japan Judo Championships. That last competition has no weight classes, so a 250-pound judoka may be matched up against a 170-pound one, truly putting to the test judo's basic principle of skill over brute force. At 80kg (176lbs), Isao Okano, along with Shinobu Sekine, remain the two lightest competitors ever to win this competition.

Shinobu Sekine is also one of the very few judokas to be honored with a stamp (Figure 13).

Another judoka recently honored in similar

fashion (Figure 14) is a Dutchman, Anton Geesink, the first non-Japanese judo world champion (1961) and a gold medalist at the Tokyo Olympics (in the Open weight category).

How did I get Isao Okano's autograph, you ask? His son was my judo teammate in college and my business partner in a startup a few years back. That's what I find to be the most lasting benefit of judo - unbreakable, lifelong friendships. 🥇



Figure 13. A stamp from Ajman honoring Shinobu Sekine, of Japan.



Figure 14. More recently, Dutch judoka, Anton Geesink's gold medal at the Tokyo Olympic Games of 1964 was commemorated on a stamp.

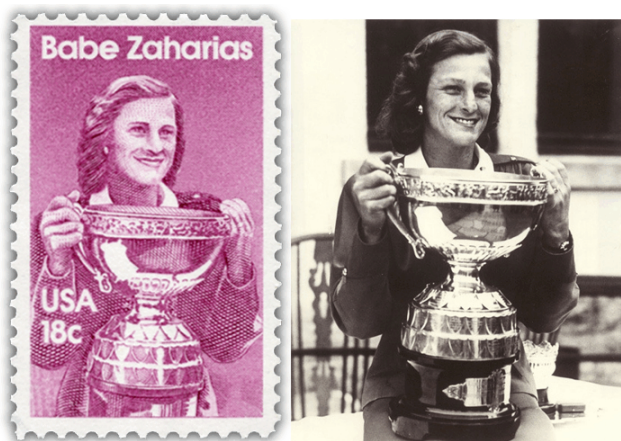


Figure 1. Babe Didrikson Zaharias on Scott #1932 issued 22 September 1981 (left). At right is the photo from which the stamp was modeled.

Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Inscrutable Stamp

by Timothy Kirk

It all started, as these things often do, with eBay and the Internet. And, by the way, I am not really Sherlock Holmes – that was just to get your attention. I am in fact a collector of Olympic stamps, subsection gold medal winners, subsection “cheap” – not me, you understand, but the stamps.

So browsing on eBay the other day, I stumbled upon a stamp (Figure 1) depicting Babe Zaharias holding a tennis trophy, or so the description read. Now the only Babe I knew was Babe Didrikson, a double Olympic gold medal winner at the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics. Could they be one and the same?

Exploring further, Google led me to Mildred Ella “Babe” Didrikson Zaharias including a section of images picturing this young woman holding a rather magnificent trophy just as on the stamp. But search as I might, not one picture provided a clue as to the event for which the trophy was awarded.

Now for those of you who do not know about Ms. Zaharias, née Didrikson, she got the nickname “Babe” in her younger days playing baseball with the local kids. The connection to the legendary Babe Ruth should be self-evident!

Now if this young lady had ever been a tennis player I am sure that she would have been more

than capable of winning a trophy as huge as this one. I dismissed the idea that this trophy was for one her athletics achievements, of which she is best known; in those days you didn’t even receive bus fare for turning up to compete! Knowing that she became a champion golfer – arguably the best female golfer of her era – I reasoned that the trophy was for playing golf.

Carefully examining the photos of the cup, it was clear that it had been awarded multiple times over several years as commemorative name plaques marched their way around the base. This must have been a trophy for winning a golf event of major significance. For further evidence of its importance, Babe looks extremely pleased with herself.

This very talented lady won many golf trophies in her lifetime so I settled in for the long haul with Google and a stiff drink. It was only half a bottle later, having viewed every American golf trophy awarded in ladies events without success, that I changed countries. And there, at long last, it was: the trophy was awarded to the winner of the British Ladies Amateur Golf Championship. In 1947, Babe became the first American to win.

Two additional photographs served as corroboration that I had indeed solved the mystery. The first image was one of Babe standing on the deck of the famous trans-Atlantic ocean liner *Queen Elizabeth 2* in New York harbor wearing a kilt, sporran and berry, and holding the trophy (Figure 2). The second photo, which confirmed the trophy’s identity (Figure 3), was of Julia Engstrom, the youngest ever champion in 2016, holding the same trophy some 69 years later.

As to the Case of the Inscrutable Stamp, it was, as I used to say, “Elementary, my dear Watson.” 🍷



Figures 2 & 3. Two generations apart: winners of the Ladies British Amateur Golf Championships. At left, Babe Zaharias (1947), and at right, Julia Engstrom of Sweden (2016). Note that two tiers of winners plaques have been added to the trophy’s base in the ensuing 69 years!

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ABUSIVE, or just overpriced?

by Mark Maestroni

Shortly after the conclusion of the 2016 Olympic Games, I began seeing a rather tantalizing series of sheets from Japan Post honoring their Olympic gold medalists at Rio. In all, there were 12 sheets. Each sheet carried the logo of the Japanese Olympic Committee and reference that each sheet was a “JOC Official Licensed Product.” After completing my article on the Australia Post and New Zealand Post medalist issues (Fall 2016 *JSP*, pp. 3-8) I wondered if these new Japanese stamps might be included.

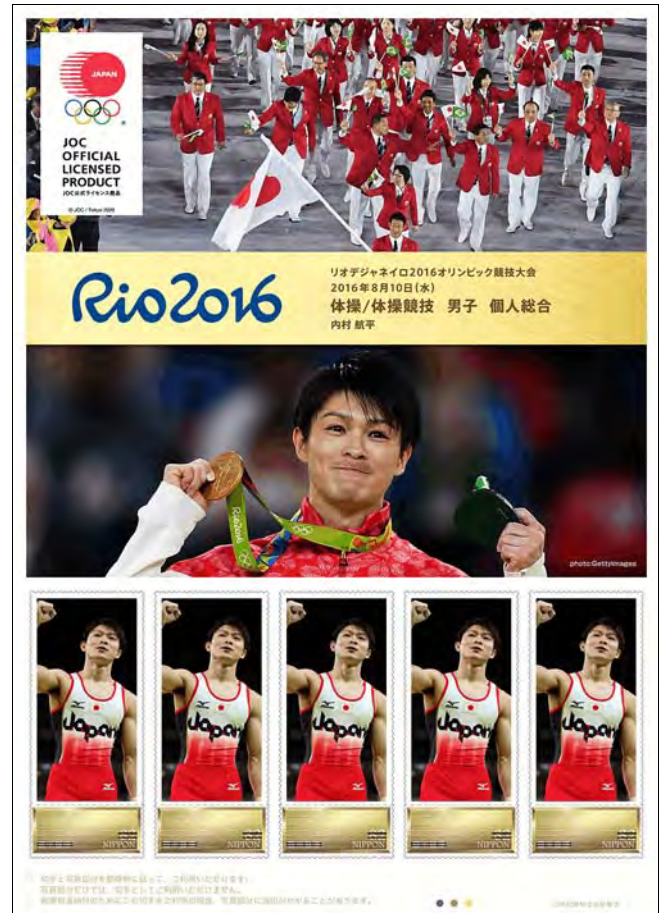
Something bothered me though: why were sheets of five stamps with a cumulative face value of about \$3.99 (410 ¥) being sold on eBay and Delcampe for fixed prices of between \$30 and \$49.99? The normal catalog price would be about twice face, or \$8, so I would expect to pay, at most, about \$10 for these in the marketplace. Could they be that scarce?

Information was minimal. *StampNews.com*, an online philatelic news source, published a brief article on these items dated 23 August 2016 announcing that “Japan Post Co. introduced a new series of stamps to honor all Japanese gold medalists.” The final sentence added: “A total of 1,000 sheets of commemorative stamps went on sale at Tokyo Central Post Office ... A sheet of five 82-yen stamps is priced at 1,400 yen, including tax.”

Not only were the number of sheets printed minuscule in number, but Japan Post itself was selling these sheets at a huge markup of nearly 250%! Furthermore, these medalist stamps were not on Japan Post’s schedule of stamp issues.

Puzzled, I contacted the International Society for Japanese Philately. Their president, Ron Casey, promptly responded, explaining that these were “Personalized stamps or ‘P-Stamps’ ... in Japan they’re called ‘Frame Stamps.’ Organizations can provide their own personal pictures and pay for the postal authority to provide them with valid-for-postage stamps (in as large a quantity that the customer is willing to pay). In this case the client was the Japanese Olympic Committee.”

Casey goes on to say that “Japan Post muddies the waters by not only selling copies of many of



these Frame stamps through its retail outlet ‘Kitte Shop’ (Stamp Shop), but also actively advertises that they are available for sale (either by mail or over the counter). This causes a lot of confusion.”

Someone (Japan Post?) has created what purport to be cacheted first day covers for each stamp. The postmark is a very simple Tokyo round dater without any “first day of issue” text.

What is a new, or for that matter even an experienced, collector to make of these?

Discussing them with two noted international philatelic judges who are well-versed in thematics, I came away with the impression that using these stamps in an exhibit could be a risky business if a judge recognized the stamps for what they were. They were characterized as being in a class similar to a CTO (cancelled-to-order) stamp.

My personal opinion is that these fall under the category of “abusive” issues because: (1) they were issued in very limited quantities; and (2) the sheets were sold at such a high mark up over face value that they are virtually guaranteed of never being used for postage on non-philatelic mail.

In conclusion, I believe they serve NO postal value and are little more than very expensive souvenirs. Buy them at your own risk!

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REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestroni

Esprit: Sports et Olympisme: Jean-Pierre Picquot,
172 Bd. Berthier, 75017 Paris, France. [In French]

December 2015 (#78). The 8th Rugby World Cup, held in England and Wales in September and October 2015, provided some exciting play on the field as well as intriguing philately for the collector. England's set of eight stamps, multiple postmarks and even a few special sprayed-on machine cancellations are presented by Dominique Hardy. Stéphan Filanovitch's review of British stamp booklets related to golf concludes with issues from the 1930s. A second article by Hardy examines the little-covered sport of billiards. Concentration is on post cards during the Great War. Jean-Louis Emmenegger presents a quick look at philately related to Baku 2015, the 1st European Games, at which athletes from the 50 European countries contested events in 20 sports.

March 2016 (#79). Portugal's 1928 Olympic stamps are fascinating subject, not least because of their unusual genesis. Manfred Bergman takes a look at how these early Olympic adhesives were born and their use as tax stamps. For the third time, France hosted the 2016 European Cup of Football. René Christin looks back at the philately of the second cup held in France in 1984. In addition to numerous slogan machine cancels from the various cities hosting matches, Christin includes special pictorial postmarks and even a meter cancel. Also explored in this issue: tennis player Rod Laver; golf at Hoylake in 1907; and Olymphilex '85, the first major philatelic exhibition devoted entirely to the theme of the Olympic Games.

Filabasket Review: Luciano Calenda, POB 17126 -
Grottarossa, 00189 Rome, Italy. [In English]

December 2015 (#46). Continuing the project set out in the June issue, editor Luciano Calenda provides Booklet 2 in a series on the European Basketball Championship for Men. Covered in this installment is the period from 1959 to 1969. The separate, slimmed-down issue of *Filabasket Review* provides updates on new items from the past, as well as the most recent new issues.

IMOS Journal: Veiko Brandt, Hauptstr. 8, 98634
Oberweid/Rhön, Germany. [In German]

November 2015 (#168). With the Tokyo Olympic Games just four short years away, it's interesting to begin seeing some articles reaching back to the city's first Olympics in 1964. In this issue, Masaoki Ichimura reviews the philately of the 1964 Torch Relay as it traversed the Ryukyu Islands. Not only was a special stamp issued for the relay, but there were numerous cancellations marking the event. Smaller articles in this issue include: Women's European Volleyball Championships; European Youth Olympic Festival in Tbilisi; 2015 Special Olympics in Los Angeles; Beach Games; 2015 Canoe World Championships, and the 2016 Arctic Winter Games in Greenland.

February 2016 (#169). The big sports philately event covered in this issue is the 8th Rugby World Cup. Peter Leinemann digs deep into all facets including not only the stamps and cancels, but tickets, the competition, and lots of personal experiences. Armin Haug discusses figure skating luminaries such as Tenley Albright and Sonja Henie. Thomas Lippert reviews Hamburg's brief bid for the 2024 Olympic Games.

May 2016 (#170). Traditionally, IMOS produces a major handbook each year for its annual convention. This year's IMOS Congress was being held in Berlin, so a number of articles discuss topics linked to the region. For example, Volker Kluge presents an article on Berlin's contributions to the birth of Olympic winter sports. In other articles, Laurentz Jonker writes about the Huygens private postal stationery cards produced for the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games. Many collectors of the Olympic Games include the two 1936 Berlin Olympic souvenir sheets – one perforated, the other imperforate – in their collections. Manfred Bergman analyzes the imperforate and partially perforate examples of which there are an extraordinary number of variations. A variety of short articles include a brief look at athlete Alfred Kullmann, and the first attempt to introduce judo to the Olympics in 1940 Tokyo.

August 2016 (#171). Stefan Breitfeld examines various pieces of 1936 Olympic philately that are suspect or unexplained in “Rarity! Genuine proof! Random deviation? Or Fake? Other items of the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin.” Peter Leinemann looks back at the life of football player and manager of the West German team, Helmut Schön, on the 100th anniversary of his birth in “Helmut, it was nice - a life with kick.” Additional articles include: 70 years of football betting in Italy; cyclist Gustav Adolf Schur; and early postmarks of German rowing and canoeing races.

Phila-Sport: UICOS, c/o CONI Servizi, Piazza Lauro de Bosis 15, Foro Italico, 00135 Rome, Italy [In Italian]

October 2015 (#96). Sports and Olympic collectors and exhibitors are certainly familiar with the basic types of elements such as stamps and postmarks. Through the lens of basketball, author, editor and exhibitor, Luciano Calenda, reveals the many other philatelic (and non-philatelic) elements that can be used to enhance a collection or exhibit (thematic or display class). Gianni Galeotti writes on “Pearls of the University Games” – 1967 Tokyo track & field star, Tommie Smith, and 1977 Sofia (Bulgaria) basketball great, Larry Bird. Andrea Francesconi reviews usages of the set of stamps issued for the 1906 Athens Olympic Games on postcards and covers. Additional articles include reports on: a new rugby museum in Rome; philatelic news on various ball sports (football, baseball, golf, basketball and rugby); and canoeing world championships.

January 2016 (#97). Alessandro Di Tucci pens an interesting look back at the beginnings of women’s soccer (football) and the issue of fair play. In a nod to Olympic pin collecting, Umberto Caterino presents a colorful display of pins from each of the 205 National Olympic Committees that comprise the IOC.

April 2016 (#98). Alvaro Trucchi’s spread on the vignettes of the Olympic Winter Games takes center stage in this issue. In this first installment, the period from 1920 (Chamonix) to 1972 (Sap-

poro) is covered. Andrea Francesconi continues his series on early usages of Olympic stamps with the 1920 Antwerp Games. A little-known international, multi-sport, gathering of athletes is the Natwest Island Games at which participants are from the 27 small islands located in Europe. Begun in 1985, these games are held every two years. Also covered in this issue are reports on Milanofil 2016, and the Olympic Collector’s Fair in Gothenburg, Sweden.

Torch Bearer: Miss Paula Burger, 19 Hanbury Path, Sheerwater, Woking, Surrey GU21 5RB, U.K.

December 2015 (Vol. 32, #4). Editor Mike Pagomenos discusses the derivation of the word “stade” as an Ancient Greek measurement which eventually came to be associated with the venues in which running events were conducted. Mike also presents an interesting Olympic Christmas postcard sent by the Helsinki 1940 organizers, and examines “a ticket to the first modern Olympic Games in a city square in Athens in 1859.” An overview of stamps, coins and other memorabilia for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games is also provided.

March 2016 (Vol. 33, #1). The editor begins this issue with a correction to an item in the listings of the United Kingdom’s Parliamentary Archives dealing with a ticket purported to be from the 1896 Olympic Games. In reality, it’s a ticket to visit the ground of the Royal Palace

in Athens! Bob Wilcock contributes Part 3 of his series on the British Olympic History, this time covering 1956 to 2008. Included are philatelic listings from or about the British Olympic Association and its sponsors, as well as the 97th IOC Session held in Birmingham in 1991. Stephen Parkinson provides Part 1 of his article on Tory Olympians (members of the Conservative, or Tory Party in the UK).

July 2016 (Vol. 33, #2). The careers of two Olympians who passed away this year, boxer Cassius Clay (a.k.a. Muhammad Ali), and swimmer Carlo Pedersoli (a.k.a. Bud Spencer) are reviewed through philately and other memorabilia. New stamp issues commemorating the Rio 2016 Olympic Games are illustrated.



A 1920 vignette from Alvaro Trucchi’s article on vignettes of the Olympic Winter Games in issue #98 of **Phila-Sport**.

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Mark Maestrone

NEW MEMBERS

Marcus Orsi, 175 Route de Chancy, PO Box 81,
Onex, 1213 Switzerland. **General sports and
Olympics.**

Timothy Kirk, 5 Elm Park, Inverness, U.K.
Summer Olympics.
E-mail: kirktimothy@hotmail.com

RETURNING

Victor Afanasiev, PO Box 8, Minsk 220070, Belarus.
Olympics. Email: vicaf60@yahoo.com

NEW ADDRESS

Trevor E. Bevan, PO Box 303399, North Harbour,
Auckland 0751, New Zealand

EXHIBITING RESULTS

MILCOPEX 2016 (Milwaukee, WI; 16-18 September).
Clemens Reiss received a Silver medal for
"Competitive Rowing: Errors and Oddities" as well as
the SPI Best-in-Show Single Frame award, and ATA
Medal for Best Single Frame Exhibit.

PhilaTaipei 2016 (Taipei; 21-26 October). Andrew
Urushima received a Large Vermeil (88 pts.) and
Felicitations of the Jury for his one-frame thematic
exhibit "Spoiled by War: the Games of the XIIth
Olympiad." Phairot Jiraprasertkun received a Large
Vermeil (88 pts.) for his 8-frame thematic exhibit,
"Olympic Games."

Jerusalem 2016 (Jerusalem, Israel; 13-17 November).
Andrew Urushima received a Gold medal (90 pts.) for
"The 1944 Gross Born POW Olympics." The *Journal of
Sports Philately* was awarded a Vermeil (80 pts.). The
exhibits were judged at FIP standards.

SPI Annual Financial Statement: FY 2016 & 2015

		Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2016	Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2015
<u>Income</u>			
Dues		3,012.27	3,549.26
Interest		1.62	0.51
Publications/Advertising/		546.00	1,050.00
	Total	3,559.89	4,599.77
<u>Expenses</u>			
Printing		2,285.56	2,246.22
Postage		1,480.90	1,370.84
Other (supplies, etc)		490.68	437.69
	Total	4,257.14	4,054.75
<u>NY2016</u>			
Receipts		1,535.00	
Disbursements		(1,216.71)	
	Total	318.29	-
Net Income (loss)		(378.96)	545.02
Beginning Fund Balance		18,807.45	18,262.43
Ending Fund Balance		18,428.49	18,807.45

NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Azerbaijan: June 10, 2016. Formula 1 Grand Prix of Europe. Set of four 0.05m stamps depicting race cars. Printed in sheets of two sets. S/s, one 1m stamp, showing race car.

Central Africa: June 20, 2016. 100th Anniversary Death of Thomas Eakins. Sheetlet of 4 900F stamps, paintings depict Swimming oil on canvas 1883; Between Rounds 1898; Baseball Players practicing 1875. Souvenir sheet with one 3000F stamp, painting of Single Sculls on River.

August 22, 2016. Formula 1. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, Michael Schumacher, Grand Prize of the United States 2004, Ferrari F2004; Alain Prost, Grand Prize of Germany 1993 Williams FW15C; Juan Manuel Fangio (1911-1995), Grand Prize of Germany 1957 Maserati 250F; Jackie Stuart, Grand Prize of Germany 1973 Tyrrell 006 Ford. Souvenir sheet with one 2650F stamp depicting Ayrton Senna (1960-1994) Australian Grand Prix 1990 McLaren MP4/5B.

August 22, 2016. Rio Olympics. Sheetlet of four 900F stamps; boxing; weight lifting; women's long jump; women's swimming. S/s with one 3,000F stamp, men's cycling.

August 22, 2016. Table Tennis. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, Ma Long; Liu Shiwen; Viktoria Pavlovich; Marcos Freitas. Souvenir sheet with one 2650F stamps, Timo Boll.

August 22, 2016. 30th Anniversary of Rafael Nadal. Sheetlet with four 900F stamps depicting the tennis star. Souvenir sheet with one 3,000F stamps showing Rafael Nadal.

August 22, 2016. World Soccer Championships. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, Cristiano Ronaldo; Gareth Bale; Igor Akinfeev; Dimitri Payet. Souvenir sheet with one 2650F stamp, Antoine Griezmann.

August 22, 2016. Rugby. Sheetlet with four 900F stamps, Australia-Wales; South Africa-Scotland; New Zealand-South Africa; France-England. Souvenir sheet with one 3000F stamp, Wales-England.

August 22, 2016. The Dakar Rally. Sheetlet with four 750F stamps, Stephane Peterhansel; Toby Price; Marcos Patronelli; Gerard de Rooy. Souvenir sheet with one 2650F stamp, Cyril Neveu.

August 22, 2016. Judo. Sheetlet with four 900F stamps, Koshi Guruma; Ashi Guruma Tomeo Nage; Tai Otoshi. Souvenir sheet with one 3000F stamp, Kano Jigoro 1860-1958, the founder of judo.

August 22, 2016. Golf. Sheetlet with four 750F stamps, Jack

Nicklaus; William Ben Hogan; Arnold Palmer; Bobby Jones. Souvenir sheet with one 2650F stamp, Tiger Woods.

August 22, 2016. 10th Anniversary Len Hutton (Cricket). Sheetlet of four 900F stamps all depicting the cricket star. S/s with one 3000F stamp, Len Hutton 1916-1990.

August 22, 2016. 90th Anniversary of Alfredo Di Stefano (Soccer). Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, all showing the soccer star. Souvenir sheet with one 2650F stamp, Di Stefano, soccer ball, trophy.

Czech Republic: June 22, 2016. Mountain Bike World Championships. Postal card "A" value showing mountain bike.

Djibouti: May 5, 2016. Table Tennis. Sheetlet of four 280F stamps, Fan Zhendong; Liu Shiwen; Ishikawa; Xu Xin. Souvenir sheet with one 960F stamp, huskies.

May 5, 2016. Table Tennis. Sheetlet with four 280F stamps, various action scenes. S/s, one 960F stamp, action scene.

Guinea: June 3, 2016. World Football Championship in Russia 2018. Sheetlet of four 10,000FG stamps, Vladimir Putin; Andrey Arshavin etc. Souvenir sheet with one 40,000FG stamp showing a soccer ball.

June 3, 2016. Sochi Olympics. Champions of the Winter Games. Sheetlet of four 10,000FG stamps, Alexander Legkov, 50km freestyle; Martin Fourcade, biathlon individual event; Vic Wild, parallel slalom and parallel giant slalom with snowboard; Jorgen Graabak, individual Nordic combined and the team. Souvenir sheet with one 40,000FG stamp, Viktor Ahn, short track speed skating 500m and 1,000m.

June 27, 2016. France Soccer 2016. Sheetlet of four 825 FCFA stamps, Didier Deschamps; David Trezeguet etc. Souvenir sheet with one 3300 FCFA stamp, stadium, player.

June 27, 2016. Table Tennis. Sheetlet with four 825 FCFA stamps, Ma Long; Ding Ning; Liu Shiwen; Wang Hao. Souvenir sheet with one 3300 FCFA stamp, Zhang Jike.

June 27, 2016. Rugby. Sheetlet with four 825 FCFA stamps, all action scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 3300 FCFA stamp, action scene.

June 27, 2016. Formula 1. Sheetlet with four 825 FCFA stamps, Fernando Alonso, McLaren Honda; Daniel Ricciardo, Red Bull-Tag Heuer; Lewis Hamilton, Mercedes; Sebastian Vettel, Ferrari.

Guinea-Bissau: May 23, 2016. Tennis Champions. Sheetlet of four 900 FCFA stamps, Andy Murray; Roger Federer; Stan Wawrinka; Rafael Nadal. Souvenir sheet with one 3,600 FCFA stamp, Rafael Nadal.

Maldives: May 23, 2016. Rio Olympics. Sheetlet of four Rf22 stamps, weight lifting; diving; cycling; fencing. Souvenir sheet with one Rf70 stamp, freestyle wrestling.

Mozambique: January 15, 2016. Ice Hockey. Sheetlet of four 66MT stamps, various action scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 175MT stamp, players face off.

May 10, 2016. 100th Birthday Len Hutton (1916-1990). Sheetlet of four 66MT stamps depicting the cricket star in various action scenes. Sheetlet with one 176MT stamps, Len Hutton.

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

Niger: December 28, 2015. World Football (Soccer) Championship Russia 2018. Sheetlet of four 825F stamps, all depict St Petersburg stadium and Russian Bear, Kelim, Player kicking ball, two players.. Souvenir sheet with one 3,000F stamp, Russian nesting dolls.

December 28, 2015. Table Tennis. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, action scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 2700stamp, action scene.

December 28, 2015. Rio Olympics. Sheetlet of four 825F stamps, Athletics, women's hurdles; Maria-Lenk aqua park, sailboats; Stadium of Magalhaes Pinto, high jump; Bele Horizonte, track. Souvenir sheet with one 3300F stamp, Pierre de Coubertin.

April 4, 2016. Ice Hockey. Sheetlet of four 825F stamps, all action scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 3300F stamp, action scene.

May 28, 2016. Rugby. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps depicting various actions scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 2500F stamp, action scene.

May 28, 2016. Table Tennis. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps showing action scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 2500F stamp, action scene.

August 8, 2016. Sochi Olympic Games. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, Alexander Treiakov Men's Skelton Russia, gold; Sage Kotseburg, snowboard slopestyle, USA gold; Darya Domracheve, Biathlon, Belarus, gold; Dara Howell women's snowboard slopestyle, USA, gold. Souvenir sheet with one 3000F stamp, Tatiana Volosozhar and Maxim Trankov, figure skating Russia gold.

August 8, 2016. Rio Olympic Games. Sheetlet with four 750F stamps, high jump; tennis; dressage; gymnastics. Souvenir sheet with one 3000F stamp, basketball.

Norfolk Island: October 1, 2015. Norfolk's Ocean Challenge Canoe Race. Set of 4 stamps, various participants; \$1; \$1; \$1.85; \$2.75.

Norway: January 11, 2016. Youth Winter Olympic Games. Set of two "A" stamps, skier; person on mountain top. Also booklet pane of 10, two of each stamp.

February 2016. World Biathlon Championships. Set of two stamps, 21k skiing; 33k shooting.

Oman: August 14, 2014. Tour of Oman Bicycle Race. Souvenir sheet with one 250b stamp, cyclists.

Palau: December 7, 2015. Dwight D. Eisenhower. Sheetlet of six 65¢ stamps, wearing golf cap; with three men on golf course; holding baseball.

Palestinian Authority: 2013. 5th Anniversary Recognition of First Home Soccer Match. Souvenir sheet with one 1000f stamp, soccer ball.

Paraguay: April 24, 2015. Lorenzo Prieto, Record Setting Bicyclist. 2000g stamp with label, the bicyclist.

Philippines: April 20, 2015. Emmanuel "Manny" Pacquiao. 10p single stamp, boxer in action. Souvenir sheet with on 40p, boxer.

Poland: August 26, 2015. World Championships Optimist Class Sailboats. 1.75zl stamp depicting five sailboats.

January 15, 2016. European Men's Handball Championships. 2.35z handball and a player; 5z handball and hand.

Portugal: February 12, 2015. Extreme Sports. Three stamps. (N) kitesurfing; (A) rock climbing; (E) rafting.

April 17, 2015. Extreme Sports. Set of five stamp, 2c wingsuit flying; 45s kitesurfing; 55c rock climbing; 72c rafting; 80c BMX cycling.

Qatar: January 15, 1015. Men's World Handball Championships. 3r stamp, stadium.

Romania: October 16, 2015. Ion Tiriatic, Tennis Player. 2.10 L Tiriatic. Sheet of 8 with one central label. Souvenir sheet with 9.10 L stamp Tiriatic.

Russia: October 1, 2015. Russian Stamps Commemorating the World Cup Soccer Championships. Sheet of six 26.50r stamps, older Russian stamps.

November 17, 2015. Stadiums of the Soccer World Cup. Block of four 21r stamps, Luzhniki Stadium, Moscow; Fisht Stadium, Sochi; Kazan Arena, Kazan; Spartak Stadium, Moscow.

December 9, 2015. Russian Soccer Players. Sheet of seven 26.50r stamps + 9 labels. Gavril D. Kachalin; Valentin B. Budukin; Yuriy M. Voynov; Valentin K. Ivanov; Sergei S. Salnikov; Eduard A. Streltsov; Lev I. Yarin.

February 20, 2016. Hockey. 19r stamp, ice hockey players and Gagarin Cup.

St. Thomas & Prince Island: December 29, 2015. Cricket. Sheetlet of four 31000 Db stamps and showing players in action scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 96000 Db stamp, Lasith Malinga.

December 29, 2015. Towards World Football Championships, Russia 2018. Sheetlet of four 31000 Db stamps, Roman Shirokov; Andrey Arshavin; Matryoshka-Russian doll; Vladimir Putin. Souvenir sheet with one 96000 Db stamp, Andrey Arshavin.

December 29, 2015. Summer Games Brazil 2016. Sheetlet of four 31000 Db stamps, 100 meter run; rugby; basketball; table tennis. Souvenir sheet with one 96000 Db stamp, 100 meter run.

March 30, 2016. Rio Olympics. Sheetlet of four 31,000 Db stamps, cricket; rugby; judo; equestrian jumping. Souvenir sheet with one 96,000Db stamp, table tennis.

March 30, 2016. Rugby. Sheetlet of four 31,000Db stamps all depicting rugby game in action. Souvenir sheet with one 96,000Db stamp, rugby.

St Vincent: April 13, 2015. Cricket World Cup. Souvenir sheet with one \$10 stamp, Cricket Cup, flags.

Samoa: September 2, 2015. Commonwealth Youth Games. Sheetlet of 9 \$2 stamps, aquatics; tennis; tack and field; lawn bowls; weight lifting; boxing; archery; rugby; squash.

Sierra Leone: November 27, 2015. World Athletic Championships in Beijing. Sheetlet of four Le 6000 stamps, Shawn Barber; Usain Bolt; Lu Xiuzhi; Liu Hong; Piotr Malachowski. S/s, one Le 24000 stamp, Anita Włodarczyk.

December 21, 2015. Joe DiMaggio. Sheetlet of four Le 6500 stamps depicting Joe DiMaggio and Marilyn Monroe. Souvenir sheet with one Le 26000 stamp showing both DiMaggio and Monroe.

December 21, 2015. Africa Cup of Nations 2015. Sheetlet of four Le 6000 stamps showing players in action, the cup and a soccer ball. Souvenir sheet with one Le 24000 stamp, two players in action.

December 21, 2015. Cricket. Sheetlet of four Le 6000 stamps, all stamps depict players in action. Souvenir sheet with one Le 24000 showing player cheering.

December 21, 2015. Tennis. Sheetlet of four Le 6000 stamps, Kasumi Ishawa; Ma Long; Shang Jike; Koki Niwa. Souvenir sheet with one Le 24000 stamp depicting Zhou Yu.

December 21, 2015. Judo. Sheetlet of four Le 6000 stamps showing pairs in action. Sheetlet of one Le 24000 stamps, pair in action scene.

December 21, 2015. Golf. Sheetlet of four Le 6000 stamps, Rory McIlroy; Michelle Wie; Choi Na-yeon; Tiger Woods. Sheetlet with one Le 24000 stamp, Jordan Spieth.

December 21, 2015. Rowing: London 2012 Olympic Games Winners. Sheetlet of four Le 6000 stamps; Wang Min and Zhu Weiwei, China (Women's double scull); Great Britain team (men's coxless four); Mahe Drysdale, New Zealand (men's single scull); USA team (rowing women's eight). Souvenir sheet of one Le 24000 stamp, New Zealand (men's double scull).

December 21, 2015. Tennis. Sheetlet of four Le 6000 stamps, Novak Djokovic; Serena Williams; Maria Sharapova; Andy Murray. S/s with one Le 24000 stamps, Novak Djokovic.

December 21, 2015. Rugby. Sheetlet of four Le 6000 stamps, players in action. Souvenir sheet with one Le 24000 stamp, two players and ball.

December 21, 2015. Scuba Diving and Sport Fishing. Sheetlet of four Le 6000 stamps, scuba diving, sport fishing. Souvenir sheet with one Le 24000 stamp, sport fishing.

December 21, 2015. Horse Racing. Sheetlet with four Le 6000 stamps, riders and horses on race track. Souvenir sheet with one Le 24000 stamp, horse race.

December 21, 2015. Tour de France. Sheetlet with four Le 6000 stamps, Vincenzo Nibali winner of 2014 Tour de France; Christopher Froome winner of 2013 & 2015 Tour de France; Cadel Evans winner of the 2011 Tour de France. Souvenir sheet with one Le 24000 stamp, Bradley Wiggins winner of the 2012 Tour de France.

February 26, 2016. Rio Olympics. Sheetlet with four Le 6000 stamps, badminton; athletics; taekwondo; field hockey. Souvenir sheet with one Le 24000 stamp, swimming.

February 26, 2016. Sochi Olympics. Champions. Sheetlet with four Le 6000 stamps, Martin Fourcade, biathlon; Vic Wild, snowboarding; Michel Mulder, speed skating; Dario Cologna, cross-country skiing. Souvenir sheet with one Le 24000 stamp, Mathias Mayer, alpine skiing.

July 29, 2016 Soccer Russia 2018. Sheetlet of four Le 6500 stamps depicting stylized action figures. Souvenir sheet with one Le 26000 stamps, stylized action figures.

Serbia: September 24, 2015. Serbian Men's Under-20 Soccer Team. Souvenir sheet with one 184d stamp showing a photo of the team, border with flags.

November 24, 2015. Serbian Men's Water Polo Team, 2015 World Champions. One 23d stamp, photo of team.

November 27, 2015. Serbian Women's Basketball Team, European Ch. One 23d stamp, team, trophy, basketball.

Slovenia: November 6, 2015. Alpina Elite ESK PRO Cross Country Ski Boots. 58c stamp showing the boots.

Slovakia: March 31, 2015. Vladimir Dzurilla. 80c + label, the ice hockey goaltender.

January 27, 2016. European Figure Skating Championships. 90c pair figure skating.

April 21, 2016. Peter Sagan Winner of 2015 World Road Cycling Championship. €1 photo of Sagan with gold medal.

Solomon Islands: November 20, 2015. Rio Olympic Games. Sheetlet of four \$7 stamps, canoeing; artistic gymnastic; high jump; basketball. Sheetlet, one \$40.00 stamp, discus.

August 1, 2016. Soccer Russia 2018. Sheetlet of four \$12.00 stamps, Luzhniki Stadium, Dennis Glushakov; Spartak Stadium, Igor Akinfeev; Vitaly Mutko; Tourism and Youth policy. S/s, one \$35.00 stamp, soccer balls, Russian flag.

August 1, 2016. Ice Hockey. Sheetlet of four \$12.00 stamps, all action scenes. S/s, one \$35.00 stamps, hockey scene.

August 1, 2016. Sochi Olympics. Sheetlet of four \$12.00 stamps. Matthias Mayer, Austria, Gold, downhill skiing; Ted Ligety, USA, gold, giant slalom; Adelina Sotnikova, Russia, gold, women's singles figure skating; Vic Wild, Russia, gold, parallel slalom, parallel giant slalom. S/s, one \$48.00 stamp, Elizabeth Yarnold, United Kingdom, gold, women's individual skeleton.

Sweden: May 4, 2016. Vacation Activities. 6k depicts two feet with fishing rod.

Switzerland: May 12, 2016. Swiss Wrestling Festival. 100c showing wrestling pair. Printed in sheets of 12 + 5 labels.

Syria: May 1, 2014. World Soccer Cup. Set of two stamps, £100 three players and ball; £150 three players kicking ball.

Togo: August 1, 2016. Rio Olympic Games. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, boxing; volleyball; javelin throw; wrestling. Souvenir sheet with one 3000F stamp, high jump.

August 1, 2016. Sochi Olympics. Sheetlet with for 750F stamps, medal winners. Alla Tsuper; Dario Cologna; Viktor Ahn; Dominique Gisin. Souvenir sheet with one 3000F stamp, Alexandr Zubkov.

Turkey: June 8, 2015. Women's World Cup Soccer Championships. Set of 4, 1.25 l trophy; 1.25 l mascot holding soccer ball; 2.50 l mascot preparing to kick ball; 2.50 l emblem.

Turks & Caicos Islands: January 18, 2016. Gold Medalists in 1896 Olympics. Sheet of four \$1.40 stamps, William Wells Hoyt, pole vaulter; Launceston Elliot, weight lifter; Leon Flameng, cyclist; Sumner Paine, shooter. Souvenir sheet with one \$4.50 stamp, John Boland, tennis player.

Ukraine: June 5, 2015. European Games. 4.40h stamps wrestlers, high jump, gymnastics, canoeing.

Zambia: July 25, 2013. 2010 World Cup Championship 4050k stamp surcharged 4.05k.

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.



16910-681 Omaha, NE 10-11



16X01-138 Maine, NY 1



16X22-273 Randleman, NC 22



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