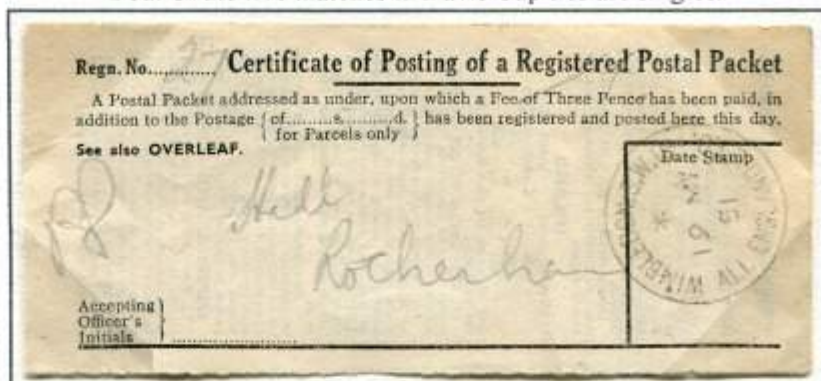
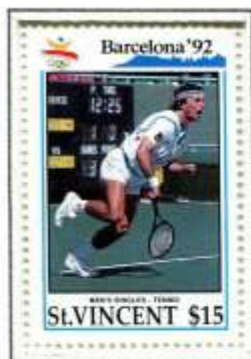


## 2.5 Forms of Play - Men's Singles, a game of one to one.

Singles is the most physically demanding form of the game requiring the greatest athleticism and endurance. The men's singles is regarded as the premier event.

Four of the five matches in Davis Cup ties are singles.



*A mobile post office attended at the Club during the tie. The 'Club' canceller was only used for registered mail. Few examples exist with this 19 May date.*

4th Polish National Championship for individuals.



*This is the only postmark that refers to singles.*

Men playing singles.



*The only postmark that shows two men playing singles.*

Roger Federer, Ch.  
Grand Slam Champion 2009



Novak Djokovic, Serbia  
The World No. 1 in 2011.



**Forms of Play – Women's Singles** are less popular at club level than mixed doubles.

Whilst there have always been ladies who played with determination and even aggression, women's professional tennis has developed from the genteel play of yester-year into a power game producing players with great athleticism and capable of hitting the ball very hard. Women's tennis has had to strive to get the same recognition that the men enjoy.

In the 1920's Suzanne Lenglen, Fr. won 6 Wimbledon and 2 French titles



Angela Mortimer, GB, was the winner of the Wimbledon ladies' championship in 1961.



*This thematically important meter mark is the only example known to have survived.*

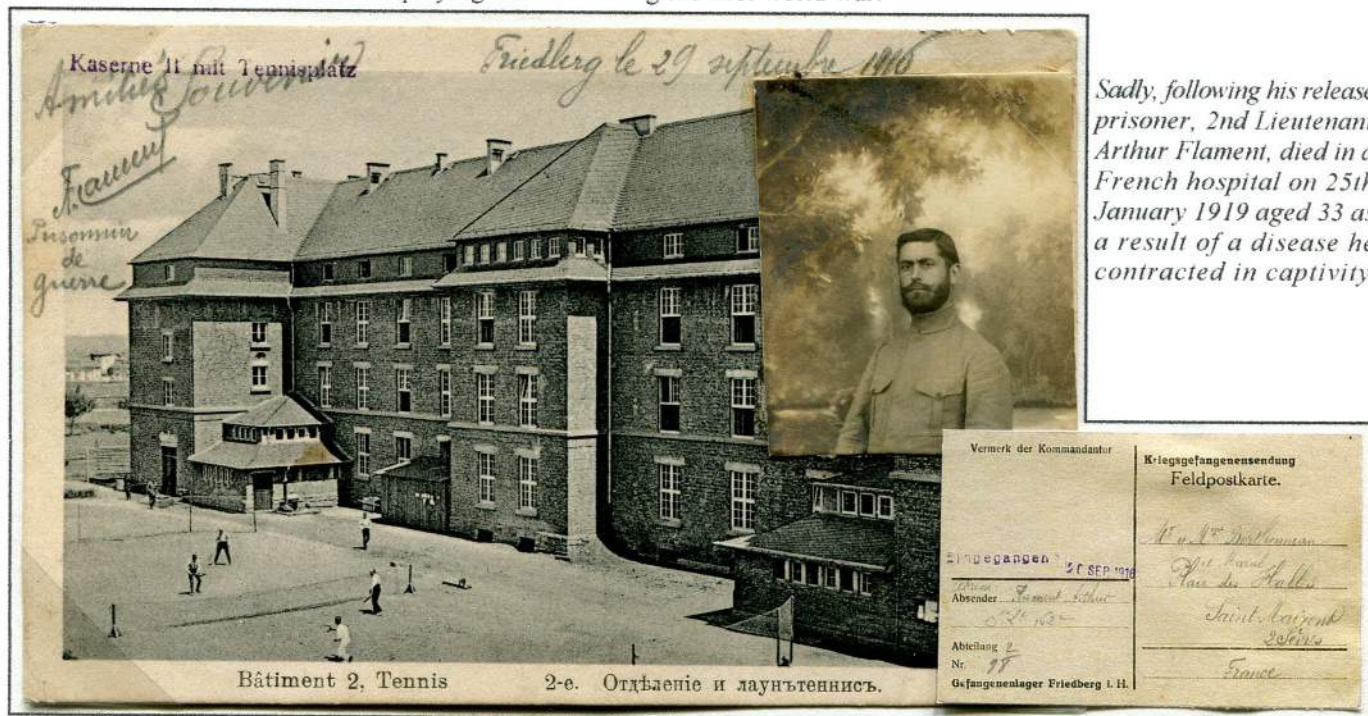
In 1998 Jana Novotna, Cze. Rep. finally realised her dream of winning the Wimbledon title.



## 2.5 Forms of Play - Doubles, a game for two players against another pair.

At club level doubles is played much more than singles.

Prisoners of war playing doubles during the first world war.

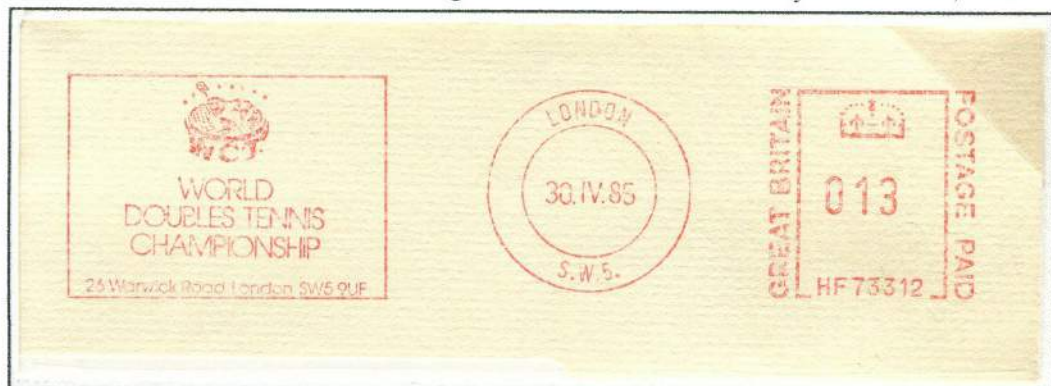


Sadly, following his release prisoner, 2nd Lieutenant Arthur Flament, died in a French hospital on 25th January 1919 aged 33 as a result of a disease he contracted in captivity.

A prisoner of war 'Feldcard' issued 20th September 1916 and written 29th September which would have then been passed to the Red Cross for onward delivery to the addressee in France.

Men's doubles is very fast and entertaining.

World Champion Tennis Inc. staged a series of tournaments for professional men's doubles from 1973 to 1989. In 1985 K. Flach and R. Seguso were the winners in the Royal Albert Hall, London.



Generally, ladies prefer to play mixed doubles at club level.



## 2.5 Forms of Play - Mixed Play, a social game for all.

A social form of tennis played between different sexes and or age groups.

The young can play with their elders.



This 1990 meter mark used by the Gelderland District office of the Royal Dutch Tennis Assn. reads "tennis from eight to eighty plus" year olds.



The only stamp that shows a man and lady playing singles.



A proof on gummed paper in the final colours.

A colour trial from a sheet of ungummed paper with the blue 10c baseball stamps printed on the back.

A photo of the reverse.



In 1996 Shizuoka district used this postal card to advertise that its taxes help keep restaurants clean and contributed 5 yen to the 50 yen postage.



Here, the proof was cut from the sheet leaving the tennis stamp off-set and the baseball stamp in full.

A photo of the reverse.



## 2.6 The Strokes - Each point commences with service.

The server begins by deciding on the intended force, spin, direction and trajectory of the service.



This postal card (issued in two colours in 1997) promoted a sports event held at Bruchsal. It was organised by the police to raise funds for a home for handicapped children founded in 1922. The cost of each card contained a D. Mks. 0.50 donation.

The server has the first opportunity to control the point. Possessing a powerful and accurate serve is an advantage.



An Ace - A Winner



Richard Krajicek, Ned., is shown tossing the ball high into the stamp above.



**The Strokes** - Since rackets were introduced in 16th century the ways to hit the ball have changed little.

The forehand stroke is the most common stroke used in social play.

*A sunken die proof on soft paper from the archives of the printers, the American Bank Note Company, New York.*



*A steel plate was engraved by hand to make a die to produce a roller to print sheets of 200 stamps by the recess method. The engraver was Arthur Volgel.*



*One of a set of stamps marking Ecuadorian successes at the first Bolivarian Games which were held at Bogotá in 1938. The stamp was issued in 1939.*

*It was left to the printers to decide the design and colour. Documents from the archives show that the picture of the player was based on photos of two different tennis players.*

The running forehand provides the widest reach.



*From 1978 to 2004 a similar machine postmark was used to advertise the French Open.*

*Three colour trials on gummed paper and the stamp issued.*



*An earlier colour trial.*



*The issued stamp.*



2.6 The Strokes - The forehand stroke is the most natural way to hit the ball.  
It can be used to generate great pace and put spin on the ball.



Shortage of materials resulted in different printings of this postal envelope appearing with variations of paper, colour shades and the sealing flap being either pointed or rounded. The example above has a pointed flap.

A right-handed forehand.



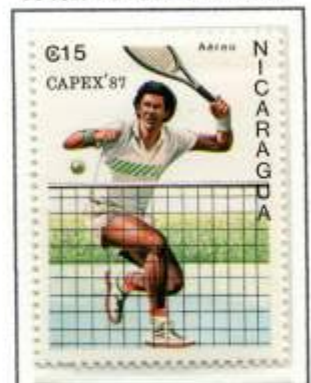
It offers greater control.



A left-handed forehand stroke with a high follow through to give the ball top spin.



A left-handed forehand.



Navratilova was left-handed.



2.6 The Strokes - The backhand is found by many to be more difficult to execute than the forehand. Once mastered it is a formidable weapon.



This meter mark depicts Ivan Lendl and advertised a national exhibition for young philatelists held in Ostrava in 1990.



The single-handed grip.



A low drawback to induce back spin.



The double-handed grip.



A postal letter, (incorporating a 1966 stamp) issued to promote the University Games that were held in Moscow in 1973.



1.6 **The Strokes** - The smash is a forcefully hit overhead stroke. It is often used when volleying a high returned ball. Success is generally achieved by pointing at the ball with the free hand and smashing the ball when it is right overhead.

Keep the eye on the ball.



Strike down on the ball.



## 6 The Strokes - Options include the lob, drop shot, passing shot and the volley.

The lob is usually hit with top spin from the back of the court over and out of reach of the opponent(s) standing at the net.



The stroke begins with a low back swing to strike the bottom of the ball and then sweeping upward to induce top spin to send it high over the opponent to drop quickly and kick forward.

The passing shot is a stroke that returns the ball wide and beyond the reach of the opponent who has approached the net.

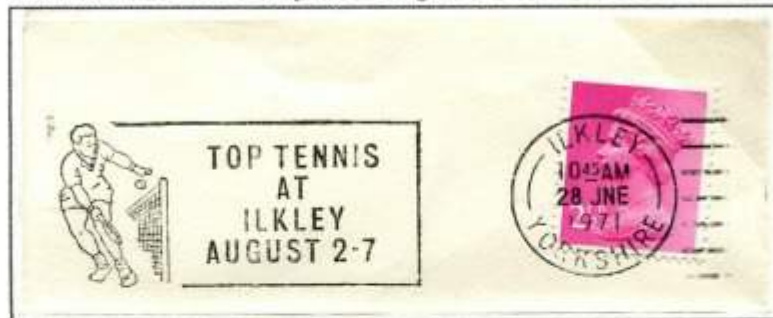


An effective stroke for both attack and defence



Retrieving the lob needs quick reactions and skill.

This shows a delicate drop shot being delivered from close to the net.



A volley is an attacking shot made before the ball bounces.

The closer to the net that the volley is struck the more effective it can be.

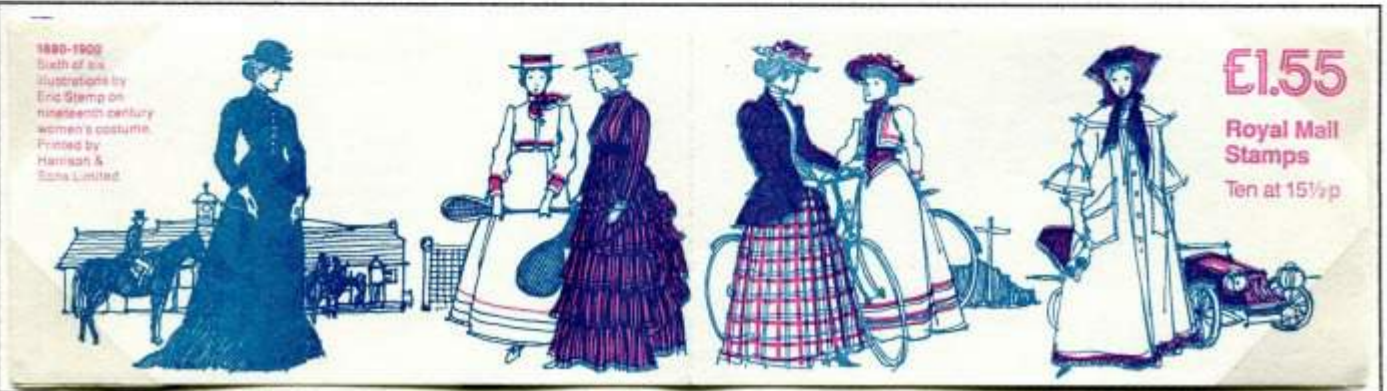


**Court Attire** - The dictates of Victorian ladies' fashion meant concealment.

1880s. Practical and functional dress were not prime requirements in Victorian tennis. They were obliged to play confined in long sleeved heavy ankle length dresses with a high neck and nipped in at the waist. Underneath they wore a bustle, petticoats, a corset, long drawers and stockings.



Ladies in their confining dresses playing singles in 1881.



## 2.7 Court Attire - Etiquette gave way to more practical clothing.

1919. Suzanne Lenglen, Fr. brought liberation from corsets and petticoats and wore a light short-sleeved dress reaching to just below the knee and short stockings up to the knee.

1930. Ladies began to abandon the wearing of stockings.



Suzanne Lenglen in her less cumbersome dress.

Suzanne Lenglen, Fr. During her dominant reign 1919 to 1926 she was renowned for her daring fashion choices.



Helen Wills Moody, USA  
America's greatest player in the 1920s and 1930s played in a knee length skirt.



Simone Mathieu, Fr.  
An outstanding player in the 1930s.  
She dispensed with long stockings!



One of a set of eight privately printed cards showing different sports. They were authorised for use by the French postal authority.

**Court Attire - After the war fashion hit ladies' tennis.**

1950s. Full knee length skirts became popular.

1960s. There was a greater choice of styles and designs.

1970s. Ladies' skirts became shorter and ever shorter.

Today. Fashion is now largely dictated by commercialism.



*This machine cancellation was used from 1958 to 1965.*

1974

Ladies in tennis skirts are not now seen in Iran.



1961



By the 1970s hem lines had risen above the knee.



Mr. Gustaf Sjödén  
Barrsättragatan 46B  
Sandviken,  
Sweden

Mid 1970s

Hem lines went bottom high and stayed there.



Today

Very brief shorts or pants



**Court Attire** - From the 1880s clubs had strict rules governing gentlemen's dress.

Pre WW I. Gentlemen were required to wear white flannels and a white shirt, but the sleeves were soon rolled up.

It is a tradition of the All England Club, Wimbledon that players must wear predominately all-white attire.



Appropriately dressed men playing in the inaugural Monaco Championships that were held in Monte-Carlo in 1897.



The men adhered to the dress code in the first Australasian Championships held in 1905.



A player in 1899 with his trousers tucked into long socks.



A Hungarian player in 1874.



The French 'Musketeers' dominated the scene from the mid 1920s into the 1930s and they were always properly attired.

Jacques Brugnon, Fr.  
In the early 1920s he played with his sleeves buttoned down.



Jean Borotra, Fr.  
In matches he wore a succession of berets.  
*The stamp is for aviator Roland Garros.*



Rene Lacoste, Fr.  
In 1933 he began a sportswear company that became very successful.



**Court Attire** - Tennis was an upper class pastime and gentlemanly attire did not include shorts. Post WW 1. Gentlemen continued to play in white shirts and flannels for 50 years.

1918 Russian Bolsheviks called them 'white flannelled loafers'.



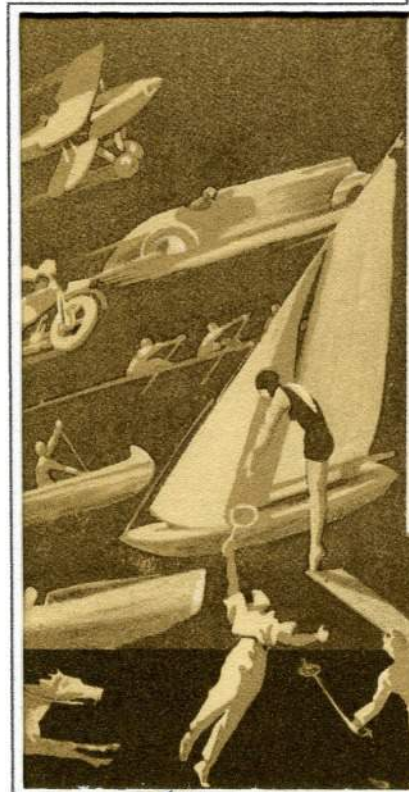
Long flannels were worn by some into the 1950s.



1934, Manchuria's only 'tennis' postmark.

From a set of sports stamps publicising a planned Spartacist in Moscow in 1935 but its organisation broke down and the games never did take place.

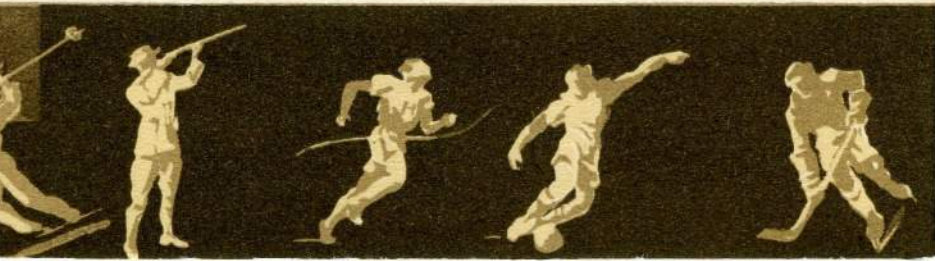
A 1937 Czechoslovakian telegram with a player in 'regulation' whites.



**T**ELEGRAM

Podací úřad \_\_\_\_\_ číslo \_\_\_\_\_ pođán dne \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_ v \_\_\_\_ h  
Došel pod číslem \_\_\_\_\_

Tiskopis 770 Lx 9 č. (IV—1937)



2.7 **Court Attire** - Into the 1930s etiquette still required gentlemen players to adhere to a smart dress code. Pre WW 2. Men were still expected to play in long white flannels and a white shirt.

A player dressed for the Far Eastern Games held in Manila in 1934.

Marcel Bernard, Fr.  
(a top player 1935-36)  
in 'regulation' attire.



Don Budge, USA  
(The top player in the late 1930s.)  
All star players needed to conform.



*This is the very first stamp to depict tennis.*

*Very few examples exist of this catalogued imperforate error.*

A player pictured in his 'longs' in this advert promoting Almagi, Lake Balaton.

**Azzal nyerni fog**

ha

**Balatonalmádiban**

**nyaral.**

**Sport, víz, nap, erdő.**

Mindenről szívesen informáljuk:

**A Budapesti Expositura, IV. Türr István-u. 4.**

**Telefon: 88-3-77**

*A Hungarian post office money transfer receipt form used in the 1930s. It had two detachable parts. When completed with the amount it was date stamped and returned to the payer minus the two detachable parts which were retained by the post office.*

*A reduced copy of the reverse showing the handstamp dated 4th April 1938.*

**NYARALJUNK BALATONALMÁDIBAN**

Magyar Készletgyártó, Tulajdonos: Ké. magy. egyet. nyomda, Budapest

4. APRIL 1938