

## 6.2 Tournaments For Juniors - There are many tournaments for younger players.

This International tournament for boys and girls under 14 and 16 years has been held since 1970.



The 60th National High Schools Athletics Meeting was held at Tatsunokuchi in 1985.



European Junior Tennis Competition.



The Galea Cup  
An international team tournament for men under 21 held since 1950.



The South American Tennis Championships for juveniles and minors were inaugurated in 1933.

Tarbes has hosted an annual international singles tournament for children, boys and girls under 14 years of age, since 1983.



6.2 Sporting Events - Tennis is often included in athletic meetings.

4th Mediterranean Games  
Naples 1963



10th Far Eastern Games, Manila 1934



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

3rd Ecuadorian Games  
Quito 1975



First African Games  
Brazzaville 1965



South Pacific Games  
Rarotonga 1985



4th South American Games  
Lima 1990



11th Pan Am Games  
Havana 1991



*A printer's proof signed by the stamp designer Jacques Combet signifying that he was content with the colour green to be used.*

All Africa Games  
Cairo 1991



## 6.2 Other Tournaments - Nations vie to attract top players.

1930  
Far Eastern Championships, Tokyo.



The Turkish Intl. Champs. have been held in Istanbul since 1945.



The Romanian Open began in 1993 and is played on clay in Bucharest.



The Swedish Championships are played outdoors on red clay in Båstad. They were given international status in 1948 and went open in 1968.

Björn Borg, Sw.  
Three times champion  
1974, 1978 and 1979.



Mats Wilander, Sw.  
Three times champion  
1982, 1983 and 1985.



The Melkhuisje Championships began in 1957 and are played outdoors on clay. Since 1975 the event has been limited to men's singles and doubles. It is now the Dutch Open and it is played at Amersfoort, Hilversum.



6.2 Other Tournaments - The more important are organized by associations but many are run by clubs

The President's Cup was held 1994 to 2002.



The 51st U A R Tennis Champs. were held in Cairo 1963.



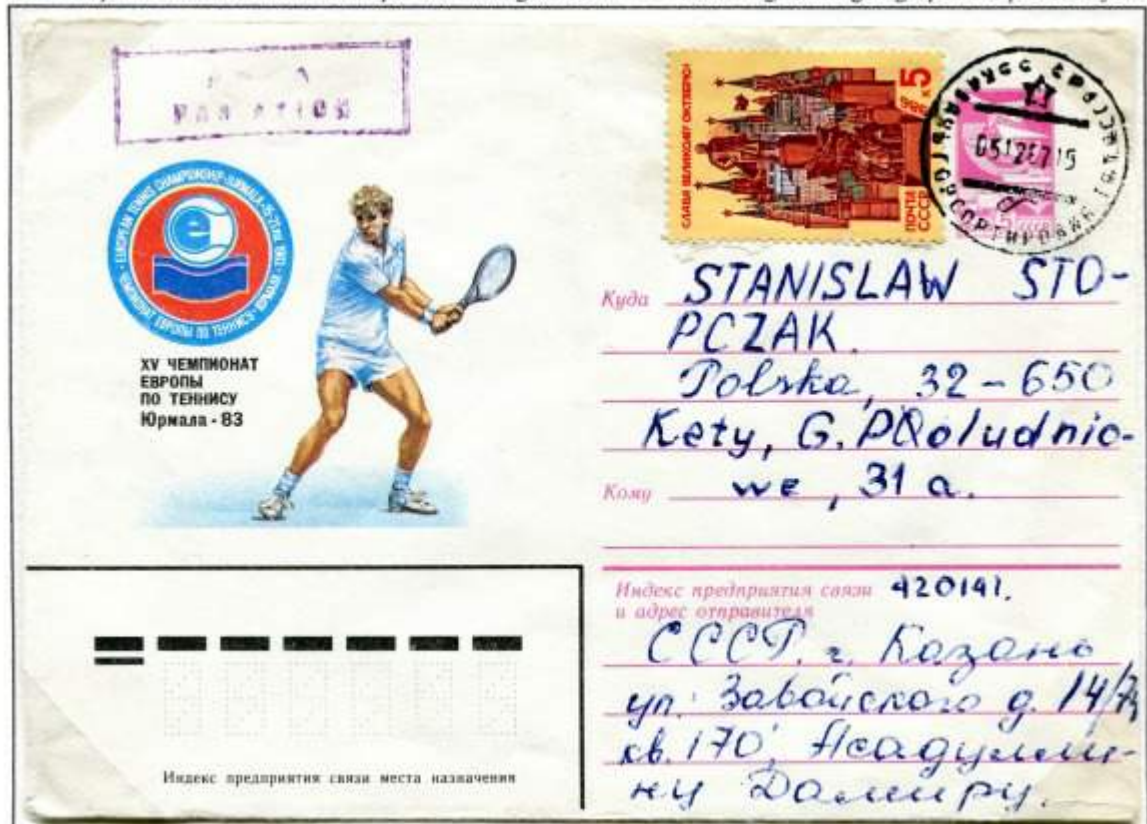
The Dubai Champs. Established in 1993



In June the Queen's Club, London, hosts a tournament on grass for men that is used to prepare for the Wimbledon.



The European Amateur Tennis Champs. were inaugurated in 1969 following tennis going open the previous year.



### 6.3 Team Tennis - The Davis Cup, since 1900.

A world-wide nations' competition for men's teams. Each tie comprises 5 five set matches - 4 singles and 1 doubles.

American, Dwight Davis, presented the massive silver bowl in 1900.



The Cup before the silver was added.



The Cup with its silver salver and with the first wooden plinth.



Later, a second plinth was needed to record the names of future winners.

Britain challenged first. The meeting took place at the Longwood Cricket Club near Boston in August 1900. Instead of practising the team had gone sightseeing at Niagara Falls. They were over-confident and ill-prepared and lost every match.

Niagara Falls



Britain won its third challenge in 1903 and beat off annual challenges from six countries until 1907 when Australasia produced one of the great Cup pairings, Messrs Brookes and Wilding. Virtually by themselves they saw off all challengers until 1912.

Sir Norman Brookes, Aus.



He gave a lifetime of service to tennis.

The duo began their Cup careers together in 1905 and won the trophy in 1907, '08, '09 and 1914.

Brookes also played in the teams that won the Cup in 1911 and 1919.

Tony Wilding, NZ



In 1915 he was killed in France by a shell.

### 6.3 Team Tennis - The Davis Cup - US and then French domination.

From 1920 to 1926 Bill Tilden, the all conquering, gave the USA a platform for an unequalled seven straight wins. From 1927 to 1932 France's 'Four Musketeers', Lacoste, Cochet, Borotra and Brugnon beat off all challengers.

'Big' Bill Tilden, USA



A team player for 11 years. He won 34 of his 41 matches.

At the 1927 final in Philadelphia Mme. Cochet fainted in excitement when her husband won the deciding match.



Henri Cochet commemorated at the 1990 French Open. The stamp is for Roland Garros, a pioneer aviator.

Jean Borotra, Fr.



In 1931 he won the deciding singles in the Final against GB

Bela von Kehrling, Hungary



From 1924 to 1934 he was his country's leading player. He won 22 of his 32 singles matches.

In 1932 the Americans came to Paris having won the right to challenge the Cup holders, unfortunately there was trouble! Jean Borotra was facing a fourth match point against him when his second serve was clearly long but the French linesman would not call the fault. The crowd booted. His opponent, Wilmer Allison, was so disappointed that he went on to lose the match. The Americans had been cheated and the French retained the Cup.

8th to 10th May, 1925 on Margaret Island, Budapest  
Kehrling beat Borotra but lost to Lacoste Hungary lost to France 1 : 4.



This is the very first postmark to make any reference to tennis. This set of eight stamps were charity stamps sold at a premium of 100% in aid of the Hungarian Sports Association. An inscription to this effect is printed on the back of each stamp.

### 6.3 Team Tennis - The Davis Cup - Politics cause trouble.

Having become a high profile international competition it could not avoid becoming embroiled in politics.

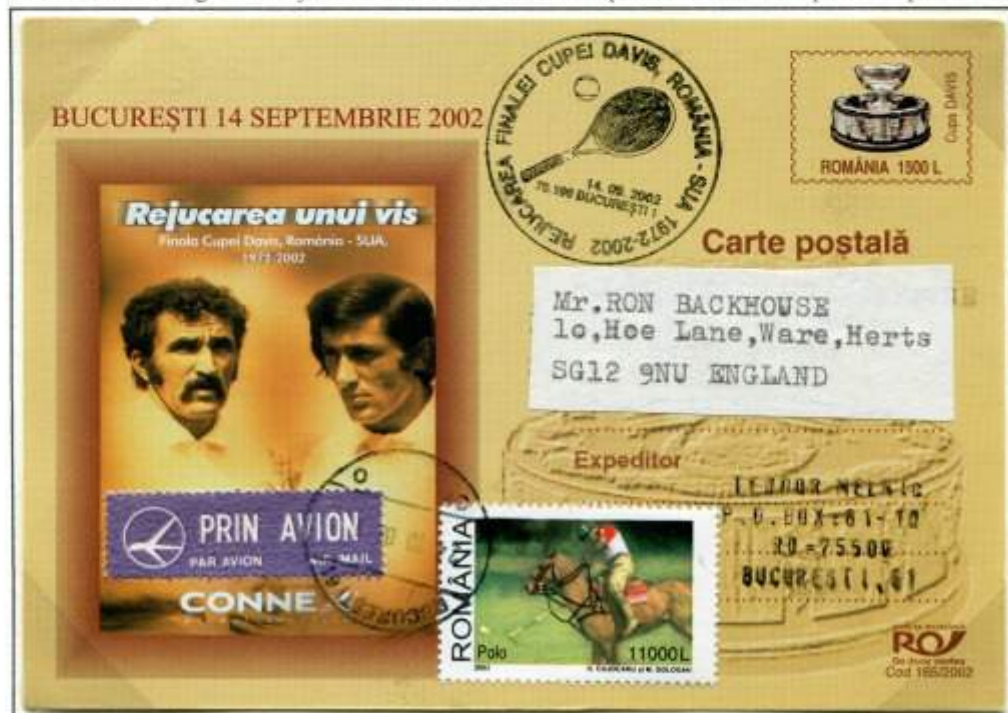


German Cup hero Dr Daniel Prenn became a victim of Hitler's Jewish purge. In 1933 the German LTA submitted to a Nazi dictate and kicked Prenn off the team. Regrettably, not one nation proposed that Germany should be disqualified. Only Austin and Perry spoke out in protest.



In 1969 South Africa refused to give Arthur Ashe a visa because of his colour. It resulted in the Springboks being expelled from the competition and Rhodesia withdrawing.

In 1972 the challenge round system was abolished and the Cup holders had to compete on equal terms.



The Cup holders USA won through to the 1972 final to meet the Romanian cup duo Ilie Nastase and Ion Tiriac in Bucharest. Nastase had boasted they would win but was devastated when they lost 2 : 3.

Fred Perry and Bunny Austin gave Britain four straight wins from 1933 to 1936. Perry then turned professional. Britain has never won the Cup since.



### 6.3 Team Tennis - The Davis Cup - The bar on pro players was lifted.

1973. The popularity of the Davis Cup was waning, it being overshadowed by open tennis elsewhere. Star players were more interested in competing in the bigger international scene and earning prize money. Amateurism was also very blurred. Accordingly, it was decided to allow professionals to participate and the popularity of the cup was immediately revived.

In the 1973 final the old pro, Rod Laver, led Australia to a 5:0 victory over the USA which had held the cup since 1968.



In 1974 Austria defeated New Zealand 3:1 in Vienna. This is postmark is die 2, one of 5 dies numbered 1 to 5.



1974. The year of the cup's saddest episode. In an effort to keep politics out of tennis, South Africa had been allowed back into the tournament after a couple of years and in 1974 it had reached the final. The other finalist was India who defaulted as a protest against apartheid. South Africa became the fourth nation to win the cup.



1975. Björn Borg had begun his cup career in 1972 as a lad of 15. He was now the holder of the French and Italian titles and Sweden had reached the final with Czechoslovakia. Borg won his two singles and doubles to give Sweden a 3:2 victory.



Sweden won the cup for the first time



A booklet issued in 1981 to celebrate Sweden's position in the world. It includes the above stamp depicting Björn Borg.



### 6.3 Team Tennis - The Davis Cup - Politics put the Cup in crisis.

1976. Whilst a record 58 nations entered, politics continued to plague the competition, so much so that it was threatened with extinction. Seven nations withdrew, three more than the previous year. United Nations policy discouraged sporting contact with racist Southern African states.



Rhodesia withdrew to avoid causing trouble.



Egypt let it be known that it would not play Rhodesia.



The anti-apartheid emblem.

Most ties were played. Austria beat Romania 4 : 1.



There were five handstamps used, this being die 3.

In July the USA said it would resign from the competition as governments were now deciding who would play whom and then GB and France said that they would not enter the next year. They were persuaded to relent and agreed to give it another year. However, the cup was in crisis.



Italy was Europe's strongest team.

Only weeks later the USSR refused to play Chile in the semi-final because of the repression of communism by the Chilean junta. The cup committee suspended the USSR for 12 months because of its naked political decision.



Italy and Chile reached the final that was held in Santiago. Before the match began both teams had to withstand political taunts. Amid noisy chanting of "Chee...lay Chee...lay" led by a patriot with his trumpet, Italy were the winners defeating Chile 4 : 1.

### 6.3 Team Tennis - The Davis Cup - Philippe Chatrier's strong leadership revived its fortunes.

1977. The I T F, appointed Philippe Chatrier President. He assumed the running of the competition providing more authority. To stop the competition being spoiled by politics the Cup committee ruled that every nation who enters must play until defeated by a better team. Those who failed to honour this obligation were not allowed to compete the following year.

**Yannick Noah**  
A stalwart for France. From 1978 to 1990 he won 39 of 59 matches.



In 1978 he played for France against Britain. Britain won the tie 2:3.

**John McEnroe**  
1978 saw his cup debut. He was to become a great Cup campaigner.



In the 1978 final he won his two singles giving the US a 4:1 victory over GB.

**Philippe Chatrier**

He was made President of the ITF in 1977 and under his dynamic leadership the status of the competition was successfully revived.



Few examples of this machine cancellation have survived as it was withdrawn after only a few days owing to inking problems. The cancellation was then transferred to the Paris Louvre office.

John McEnroe's tempestuous tantrums and amazing play raised the profile of tennis and ensured the Cup's popularity.



McEnroe was honoured with this issue in 1984, the year USSR won its Zone giving it promotion to the World Group.

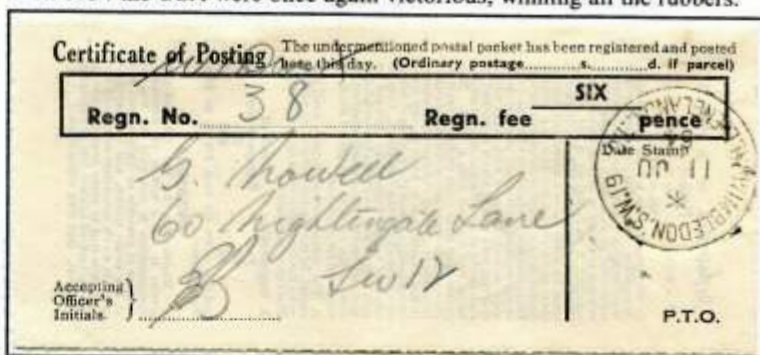
### 6.3 Team Tennis - The Wightman Cup, inaugurated in 1923.

American, Mrs. Hazel Wightman, presented a cup for a ladies' team competition to be held between the USA and GB. The annual event, entitled The Wightman Cup, alternated between the two countries from 1923 to 1989, apart from the war years 1940 to 1945. The event folded in 1990 largely because GB could no longer match the strength of the USA.



She played in the first two matches in 1923 and '24 and also in 1927 and '31.

In 1954 the USA were once again victorious, winning all the rubbers.



A rare example of the 'All England Club' postmark used in the mobile post office at Wimbledon during a Wightman Cup match played on Court No.1.

Friday and Saturday, 16th and 17th June 1950 Court No.1, Wimbledon. USA won 7 : 0



The 'All England Club' postmark was only used at Wightman Cup matches in 1950 and 1954.

The match was held in London at the Albert Hall, 30th October to 1st November 1986. USA won 7 : 0



This meter mark was used by promoters Sterling Public Relations Ltd., in its office in the Albert Hall, London, SW3.

### 5.3 Team Tennis - The Fed Cup, inaugurated in 1963.

An international competition for women launched in 1963 to celebrate the 50th year of the Intl. Tennis Fed.. The inaugural event attracted entries from 16 nations and today about 100 nations compete each year. Each tie comprises two singles, then one doubles and the matches must be completed within a week.

1973, Bad Homburg on clay.

Australia beat South Africa 3:0 winning the the Rose Bowl Trophy for their sixth time.



1980, Berlin on clay.

Evert and Austin both won their singles and the American team went on to beat Australia 3 : 0.



1983, Zurich on clay.

Helena Sukova and Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia beat Germany 2 : 1. They won the tournament again in 1984, 1985 and 1988.

Hana Mandlikova, Cs.



N.B. 'Hanna' is misspelt.



Martina Navratilova led Czechoslovakia win the cup in 1975 then won it again in 1986 and 1987 playing for the USA.



1991, Nottingham on hard.

Spain beat the USA 2 : 1 and won the cup for the first time since their first entering in 1963.



Deputy Adjuster of  
4th.Floor,  
Sun Alliance Intern  
Leadenhall Court,  
1 Leadenhall Street  
LONDON, EC3V 1



**6.4 The Olympics** - Tennis was included in the first Olympic Games which were held in Athens in 1896.

Men's Singles was one of the original nine sports disciplines in the 1896 Games.  
 Women's lawn tennis was introduced in the 1900 Games.

Pierre de Coubertin  
 He was the founder of  
 the modern Olympics.



Athens 1896

John Boland, Irl.  
 He was the first men's champion.



Josef Rössler Orfovsky, Cz.  
 He competed in the 1908 Games held  
 in London and was also a member of  
 the Czechoslovak Olympic Committee.



Stockholm 1912

Heinrich Schomburgk, Ge won the Gold for the Mixed Doubles.



Antwerp 1920

The tennis final was played on the 23rd August,  
 the day of this commemorative machine postmark.

Suzanne Lenglen, Fr  
 She won three medals, Gold for the  
 Ladies' Singles and Mixed Doubles  
 and Bronze for the Ladies' Doubles.



**6.4 The Olympics - Following the 1924 meeting in Paris the game was withdrawn from the Olympics.**

Owing to disputes with the Olympic Committee about control and the definition of an amateur, the International Lawn Tennis Federation officially withdrew the sport from the Games in 1925 at the International Olympic Congress in Prague.



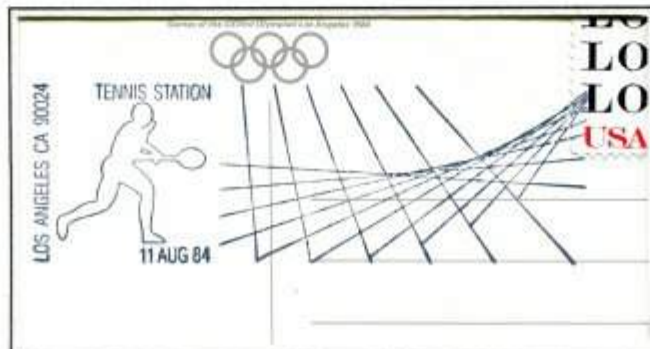
Three stamps were overprinted CONGRES OLYMP. INTERNAT. PRAHA 1925. They were sold at double their normal face value to raise funds for Czechoslovakian participation in the Games. This commemorative postmark was used on the first day of the Olympic Congress held in Prague.



Although tennis was to be absent from the Games for the next 60 years, (apart from the 1968 Games in Mexico when tennis was included as a demonstration sport), it did not stop some postal administrations issuing Olympic stamps featuring tennis, as did Monaco in 1948.



In the 1984 Games in Los Angeles tennis was included as a demonstration sport to promote its reinstatement in the Olympics. Only two tournaments were held, men's and women's singles for 21 year olds and under. Stefan Edberg, Sw. and Steffi Graf, W. Ge. were the gold medal winners.



#### 6.4 The Olympics - In 1988 tennis returned to the Games.

As the distinction between amateurism and professionalism had become so clouded in many sports, in 1988 tennis was reinstated as an Olympic discipline with the proviso that entrants may not play for money during the period of the meetings.

Seoul 1988



Monochrome Proof



A fund raising issue featuring Steffi Graf postmarked with the Games' logo.



Specimen distributed to advertise the issue.



The 1987 postmark promoting the Games.



The stamp was issued on the 11th August 1988.



The postmark used during the Games.

Miloslav Mercir, Cs. and Steffi Graf, Ge. were winners of the gold medals for singles.



6.4 The Olympics - The Games have become the world's biggest sporting spectacle.



After Barcelona, 1992 the Games took place in:-  
 Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000,  
 Athens 2004, Beijing 2008  
 and then in London 2012

Royal Mail employed six printers to produce the Olympic winners stamps. They were located at :-  
 Attleborough, Norfolk, Preston, Lancs.,  
 Edinburgh, Scotland, Swindon, Wilts.,  
 Solihull, W. Midlands, and in London.  
 There were no variations in colour shades.



A new tennis stadium was built in the shape of a lotus flower.  
 The postmark for the tennis venue was allocated number 19 and the cancellation showing die 1 was allocated to the district post office in Beijing.

GMW16 Issue date 6 August 2012 Printer location Attleborough	
GMW16 Issue date 6 August 2012 Printer location Edinburgh	
GMW16 Issue date 6 August 2012 Printer location Preston	
GMW16 Issue date 6 August 2012 Printer location Solihull	
GMW16 Issue date 6 August 2012 Printer location Swindon	



Royal Mail arranged to issue stamps for every Gold Medal winner the day following their win. To achieve this six printers were employed to produce sheets of self-adhesive stamps in panes of six. They were then all sent to Royal Mail, Edinburgh for distribution.