



S. Bubka, M. Bulatova

# Olympic Movement in Ukraine: *History and Modernity*

S. Bubka, M. Bulatova

---



Olympic Movement  
in Ukraine:  
*History and Modernity*

---

Kyiv—2021



Published by the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine

UDC: 796.032:930.85(477)  
BBC: 75.4(0)90g(4Ukr)

Olympic Movement in Ukraine: History and Modernity : monograph / S. Bubka, M. Bulatova etc. ; ed. by S. Bubka, M. Bulatova. Kyiv, 2021. 304 p.

ISBN 978-966-2419-36-8

The publication offers an excursion into the origins of the Olympic competitions in the pro-Ukrainian territories and study the formation and development of Olympic sports in Ukraine.

The monograph chronologically tells about the progress of the Olympic movement in the Ukrainian lands. It highlights a special contribution of Ukrainian public figures to the national and international Olympic movement and provides information on participation of the Ukrainian athletes in the Olympic Games.

A particular attention is paid to the landmark Olympic events that took place in the Ukrainian territory (the First All-Russian Olympiad, the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad).

A distinctive feature of the monograph is the organic combination of the text with numerous pictures and Olympic symbols, which significantly illustrate the material and allow the reader to plunge into the time of the described events.

The monograph is intended for children and youth, specialists in physical education, sports and education, a wide range of readers interested in the history of Olympic sports.

ISBN 978-966-2419-36-8

© S. N. Bubka, M. M. Bulatova, 2021



## Dear friends!

The history of the Olympic movement in Ukraine is rich in bright achievements and victories of our Olympians, who glorify Ukraine in the world.

Ukraine is known, respected, and valued in the entire world for its sports achievements. In the history of participation in the Olympic Games, our athletes have gained more than 600 medals.

We remember the outstanding Olympic victories of Larysa Latynina, Borys Shakhlin, Nina Bocharova, Ivan Bogdan, Hryhoriy Kriss, Valeriy Borzov, and many other celebrated Olympians who were at the origins of our sports chronicles. We are proud of the outstanding accomplishments of the talented Ukrainians who continued writing the history of the Olympic movement in the times of Ukraine's independence. Viktor Petrenko, Oksana Baiul, Volodymyr Klichko, Vasyl Lomachenko, Lilia Podkopayeva, Yana Klochkova, Olga Kharalan, Yuri Cheban, the biathlon team of Yulia Dzhyma, sisters

Vita and Valentina Semerenko, Olena Pidgrushna, Oleksandr Abramenko, and many others inscribed their names in golden letters into the history of global Olympism.

He who does not remember his past has no future. Therefore, our society, Ukrainian youth – each of us should know, respect, remember, and take up the lead of sports heroes of Ukraine.

I am convinced that this publication will allow readers to immerse themselves into the glorious and rich sports history of Ukraine, to dip into the most interesting and important moments of its formation and development.

So, Friends, do sports, be healthy and active, gain new knowledge, look up to the strongest, improve yourself, and be ready to move beyond.

Ahead are new victories, professional successes, and loud conquests of life and the Olympic peaks.

Let's create a new Olympic history together!

**NOC of Ukraine, President  
Olympic champion**

**Sergey Bubka**

# Contents

Preface .....	6
---------------	---

## Part I. From the Ancient Times to the Modern Era

Athletic Games in the Proto-Ukrainian Territories .....	10
The Middle Ages and the Beginning of the Modern Era .....	16
At the Dawn of the Olympic Movement .....	22



## Part II. Physical Education and Sports in the Ukrainian Lands in the First Half of the 20th Century

The Olympic Kyiv. 1913 .....	31
Development of Sports in the Ukrainian Lands in the 1920s–1950s .....	38



## Part III. The Olympic Movement in the Ukrainian SSR

Ukrainian Athletes at the 1952–1976 Olympic Games .....	54
Preparing for the Games of XXII Olympiad .....	74
The Ukrainian SSR Picks Up the Torch of the Olympic Flame .....	80
Ukrainian Athletes at the Olympic Games of the 1980s.....	90
The Olympic Legacy of the Games of the XXII Olympiad for Ukraine.....	98



## Part IV. The Olympic Progress in the Independent Ukraine

Establishment of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine .....	116
Performances of the National Team of Ukraine at the Olympic Games.....	122
2004 Olympic Torch Relay in the Capital of Ukraine – Kyiv .....	126
Ukrainian Athletes at the Olympic Winter Games .....	142
Ukrainian Athletes at the Youth Olympic Games .....	150
Ukrainian Athletes at the European Games.....	164
Ukrainian Athletes at the European Youth Olympic Festivals.....	174
Popularization and Educational Activities of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine and the Olympic Academy of Ukraine .....	180
International Olympic Academy in the System of Olympic education in Ukraine ...	228
Visits of Leaders of the International and European Olympic Movement to Ukraine .....	230
Honouring Outstanding Ukrainian Athletes and Sports Personalities. Ukrainian Academy of Sports.....	234
Ukrainians Abroad in Cooperation with the Olympic family of Ukraine .....	252



## Part V. The Olympic Sport in the Ukrainian Arts

The Olympic Sport in Pictorial Art.....	260
The Olympic Sport on Mosaic Panels.....	268
The Olympic Sport in Outdoor and Indoor Sculpture .....	270
The Olympic Sport in Porcelain.....	274
The Olympic Sport in Numismatics .....	278
The Olympic Sport in Phaleristics .....	284
The Olympic Sport in Philately.....	288
The Olympic Sport in Literature.....	292
The Olympic Sport in Music and Songs.....	296
The Olympic Sport in Cinema .....	298



# PREFACE

On 22 December 2020, the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine celebrated its 30th anniversary.

On the scale of world history, a period of 30 years is only an instant, but in real life dimension it is a whole epoch. During this time, not only several generations of sports stars have changed, during this period fundamental changes have taken place – the Ukrainian sport has passed a difficult stage of formation and development in the format of a sovereign state of Ukraine.

In Ukraine, the ideas of Olympism have found fertile ground for development on the basis of the ancient agonistics that reigned in the lands of Olbia and the Northern Black Sea region, the ancient folk cult of a strong, strong-willed, brave, and physically skilful person, the ideal of which was the Cossack knight.

Among the closest associates of Pierre de Coubertin, an outstanding French humanist and public figure who gave the world the modern Olympic Games, was our compatriot General Oleksiy Butovsky – an outstanding theoretician and practitioner of physical education, one of the founding members of the International Olympic Committee.

The pre-dawn lights of Ukrainian Olympism came on more than 100 years ago – in 1913 during the First All-Russian Olympiad in Kyiv, organized by the Kyiv Olympic Committee headed by a well-known specialist in physical education and sports, an active populariser of the Olympic movement, a medical doctor Oleksandr Anokhin.

The debut of 26 athletes of the Ukrainian SSR as part of the USSR national team took place at the 1952 Games of the XV Olympiad in Helsinki (Finland) and turned out to be sensational: 10 gold, 11 silver and one bronze medals – that was the achievement of the Ukrainian athletes.

In subsequent years, a whole cohort of sons and daughters of Ukraine became the beacons of high-performance sports, glorifying its talented people, discovering new, incredible spiritual and physical capabilities of a person.

An important page in the Olympic history was holding in Kyiv of the group football tournament of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad. The capital of the Ukrainian SSR and all its regions made a lot of efforts to welcome guests, who numbered 44,305 (24,781 Soviet tourists and 19,524 foreigners). The Olympic torch relay, which passed through the territory of our republic, became the Olympic prelude. Passing from runner to runner, the fire kindled the hearts of ordinary people, and became a symbol of peace, friendship, and unity.

With the acquisition of independence in the Ukrainian society, an urgent need arose for the representation of Ukraine in the international Olympic movement. Since that time, a new page in the Olympic history of independent Ukraine began.

On 22 December 1990, the General Assembly of the founders of the NOC made a historic decision to create the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine.

On 24 September 1993, at the 101st session of the International Olympic Committee, a significant decision for our country and sport was made on the full recognition of the NOC of Ukraine. With this decision, Ukraine became a full member of the Olympic family.

Under the auspices of the National Olympic Committee during the years of Ukraine's independence, our athletes took part in six Games of the Olympiads and seven Winter Olympics, where they won 129 medals. Young Ukrainian

athletes became active participants of three Summer and three Winter Youth Olympic Games, where they gained 97 medals.

In two European Games, our athletes won 97 medals. Starting since 1993, the Olympic hopes of our country have taken part in 15 Summer and 14 Winter European Youth Olympic Festivals and were awarded 223 medals in individual and team competitions.

In support of the elite sports, the NOC Ukraine is highly active to spread the Olympic values and popularize a healthy lifestyle, especially among children and students. Its many unique cultural and educational projects are dedicated to this objective. For the implementation of its creative programmes, the NOC of Ukraine was recognized as one of the leading Olympic Committees in the world.

During the years of independence, a network of regional branches of the NOC of Ukraine was created. Their fruitful activities contribute to the delivery of the Olympic ideas to every region of our country.

Over the 30 years of its activity, the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine has gained significant authority and respect both in our country and abroad and has become a strong and successful member of the international Olympic movement.

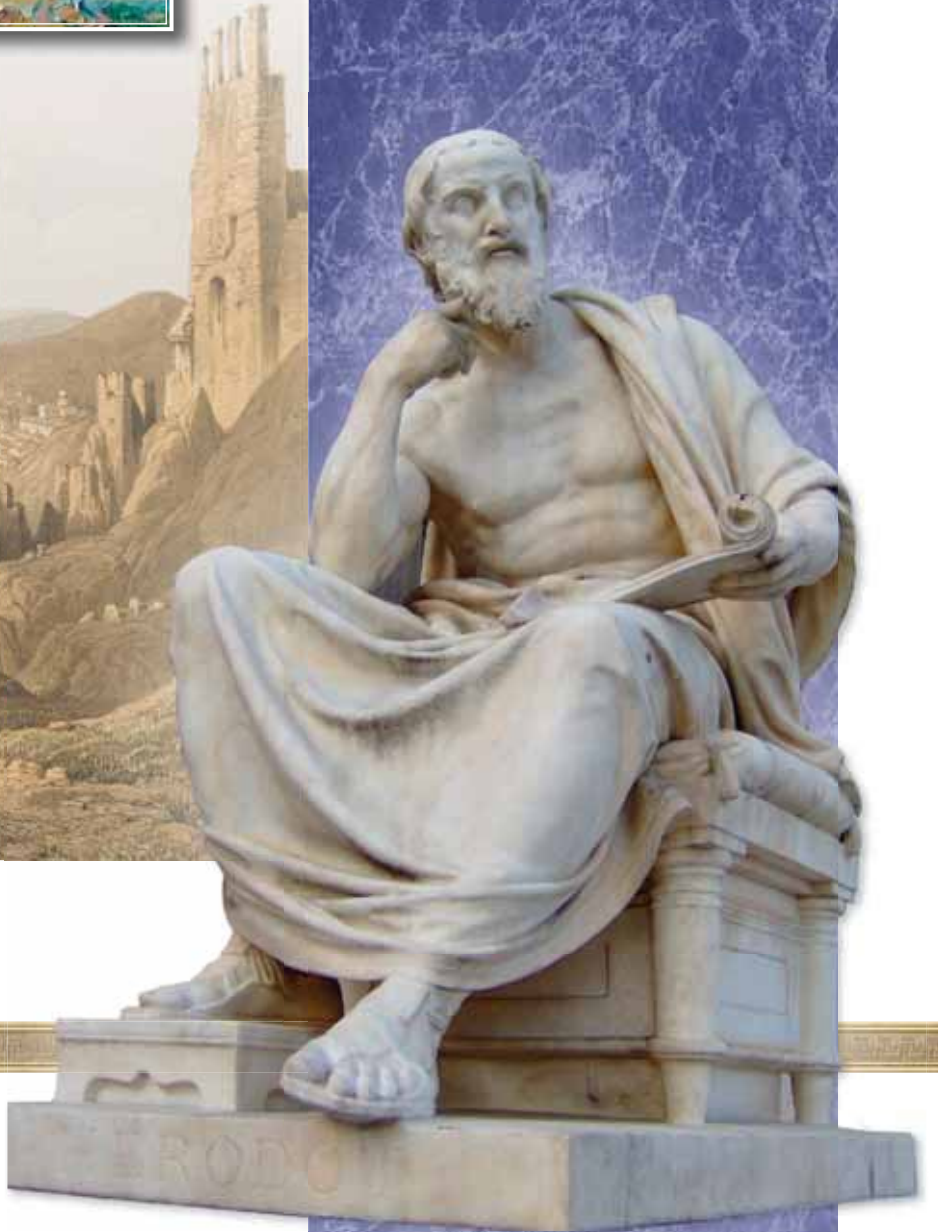
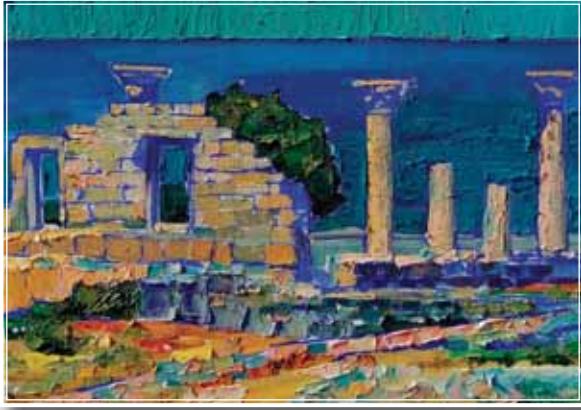
For 30 years, the Olympic family of Ukraine and Ukrainian athletic community abroad have been fruitfully cooperating to unite around the Olympic idea.

We thank all the caring people who have joined in the creation of this book, helped with their memories, and provided photographic materials.





# Part I



Athletic Games in  
the Proto-Ukrainian  
Territories

---

The Middle Ages  
and the Beginning  
of the Modern Era

---

At the Dawn of the  
Olympic Movement

# From the Ancient Times to the Modern Era



# Athletic Games in the Proto-Ukrainian Territories

The Olympic ideas, having stemmed from Ancient Greece, started their spread far beyond ancient Olympia in the 7th century BC. It was at that time that the ancient Greeks were migrating to the northern shores of the Pontos Axeinos (now – the Black Sea). Hellenic cities-poleis began to emerge in the Northern Black Sea region – the modern territory of Ukraine; most known among them were Olbia (the modern territory of Mykolaiv region) on the right bank of the Hypanis (today – the Southern Bug) near its confluence with the Borysthenes (today – the Dniro); Chersonesus (the modern Sevastopol); Tyras (the modern territory of Bilhorod-Dnistrovskiyi), and others.

Having settled in the lands of the Northern Black Sea region, the Hellenic colonists continued the traditions of their metropolises. Therefore, athletic competitions became an integral part of their lives. Admiring above all the beauty of a man (both spiritual and physical), the Hellenes imagined their gods as excellent athletes who were skilled in various competitions: Apollo was an unsurpassed archer and fist fighter; Hermes was a fast runner; and the Dioskouroi brothers – Kastor and Polydeukes were excellent riders. And to honour their gods-athletes, ancient Greeks accom-

panied almost all their religious celebrations by athletic games. Artifacts found during archaeological excavations in those areas provide strong evidence of regular athletic agons dedicated to the Olympic gods held as part of the sacred festivities.

Athletic competitions in the Northern Black Sea region were held in the style of the Olympic Games staged in Olympia.



Infant Heracles Strangling Serpents. Roman fountain statue. 1st century AD. State Hermitage, St. Petersburg



Sculpture of Heracles of Farnese. Imperial Roman copy of Glycon's work from the Greek original work of Lysippos. About 320 BC. Baths of Emperor Caracalla in Rome. National Museum, Naples



Map of the Black Sea by Flemish geographer and cartographer Abraham Ortelius. 1590



Ruins of Olbia – the largest antique polis of the Northern Black Sea region

In Olbia, the Achilleia were founded in honour of the legendary Trojan hero Achilles on the advice of the Delphic oracle – the most famous and most prestigious oracle in Ancient Greece. The Games gained tremendous popularity among the Olbiopolitans.

The programme of the competitions included running, discus and javelin throwing, long jumping as well as horse riding, which took place on the Tendrivska Spit, which was called the Achilles' Drome in those far-off times. The area was associated with the legend of the origin of the Achilleia. It told the story of the Achilles' victory in the naval battle in honour of which he had organized a running competition there.

Another interesting story is about the Island of Leuke (now – Zmiiny / the Serpent Island), which was elevated by the goddess Thetis from the bosom of the sea to perpetuate the memory of her son – the legendary hero Achilles who perished from the

arrow of Paris. It was here, at the highest point of the island, that the temple of Achilles was built in the 3rd century BC. Sea farers from all over the world who set their feet on the island's stony soil made their sacrifices in the hope of gaining favour of Achilles.

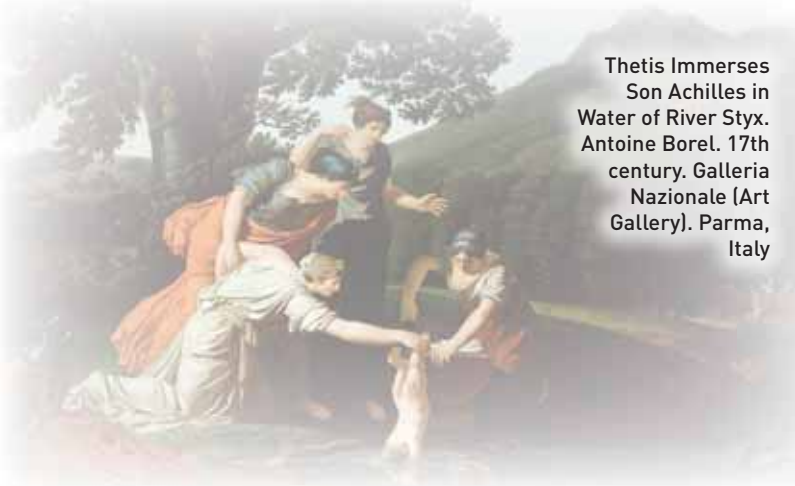
There is evidence that in addition to the Achilleia in Olbia, agons were held in honour of the golden-haired god Apollo – patron of music, prophecy, and healing – whose cult was dominant not only in Olbia but in many other cities of the Northern Black Sea region. In addition to athletic events, the competition programme included musical agons.

In Chersonesus, festivities were held in honour of god Hermes and the hero of the ancient Greek mythology, the son of Zeus Heracles, which were worshiped as the patrons of athletic games, palaestrae, and gymnasia. The unique records of winners of those agons were found in the course of archaeological excavations. Both adult and young athletes committed to their ancestral traditions took part in the Hermeia and Heracleia. Also, the Partheneia – festivities in honour of the city patroness Athena Parthenos – were held in Chersonesus. During them, athletic competitions, including short-distance races with a torch on chariots – lampodromos – were held.



On a coin of ancient Olbia, different types of weapons were pictured. About 310-280 BC



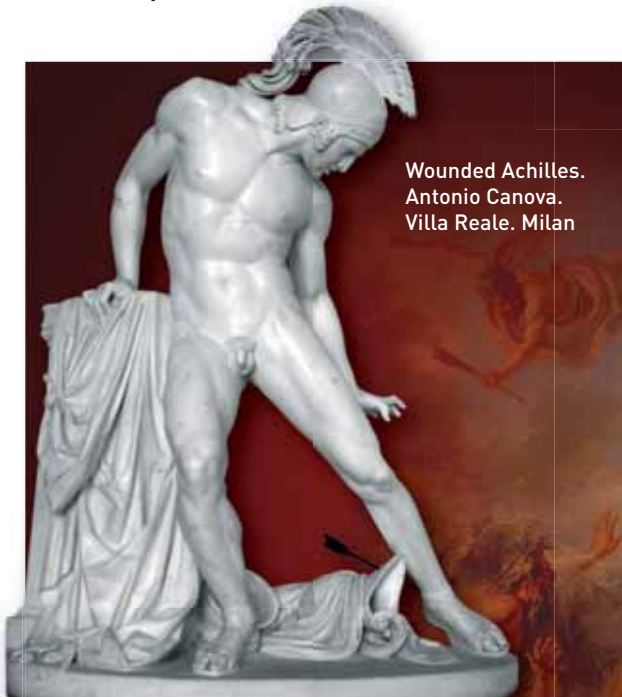


Thetis Immerses  
Son Achilles in  
Water of River Styx.  
Antoine Borel. 17th  
century. Galleria  
Nazionale (Art  
Gallery). Parma,  
Italy

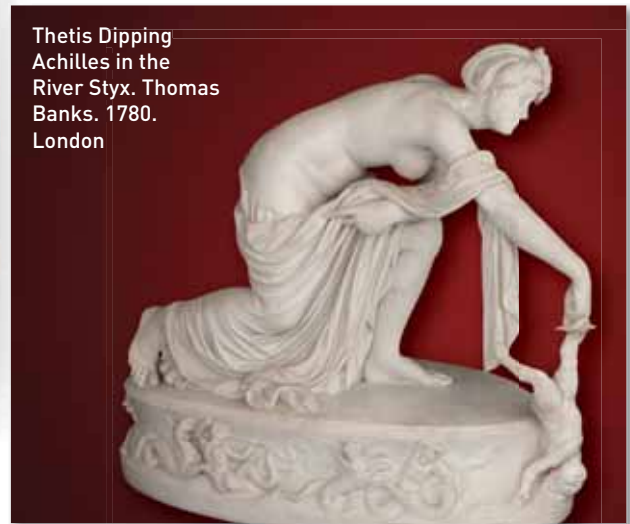
In the 4th century BC, Hellenic colonists from the territories of the Northern Black Sea region participated in many Panhellenic games: the Pythian Games, the Athenian festivals – the Panathenaia, the festivities of Anakia in honour of the Dioskouroi brothers – Kastor and Polydeukes.

They not only adopted the athletic events that were conducted at the Olympic and other ancient Greek Games in the metropolis but were often the creators of new types of athletic events. Ankylomachia – a prototype of modern hammer throwing – was one of such events.

Athletic competitions, akin to the ancient Greek Olympic Games with their distinctive rules, staged in ancient times in the cities of the Northern Black Sea region bear testimony to the existence of the Olympic ideals in the proto-Ukrainian territories.



Wounded Achilles.  
Antonio Canova.  
Villa Reale. Milan



Thetis Dipping  
Achilles in the  
River Styx. Thomas  
Banks. 1780.  
London

At the same time (in the 7th–6th centuries BC) a little further north, in the steppe zone of the Northern Black Sea region, there lived another ancient nomadic people – the Scythians, who had their own traditions. In particular, during a funeral service for a fallen warrior, the Scythians held athletic competitions in horse racing, archery, running, and wrestling to help the soul of the deceased and to placate the spirits of ancestors. Those games were called As. It is believed that they became a prototype of complex athletic competitions.

The legendary era of the Northern Black Sea region has bequeathed not only tacit archaeological evidence and monuments of brilliant culture and art to us. If amalgamated with the genetic code of posterity, transformed into a living historical tradition of Ukraine, the influence of which is felt in the third millennium.



Fury of Achilles. Charles-Antoine Coyppel. 1737.  
State Hermitage, St. Petersburg

On the Zmiiny Island (Leuke) in the 4th–3rd centuries BC, athletic and military competitions – the Achilleia – were held. The island is depicted in a painting created in 1896

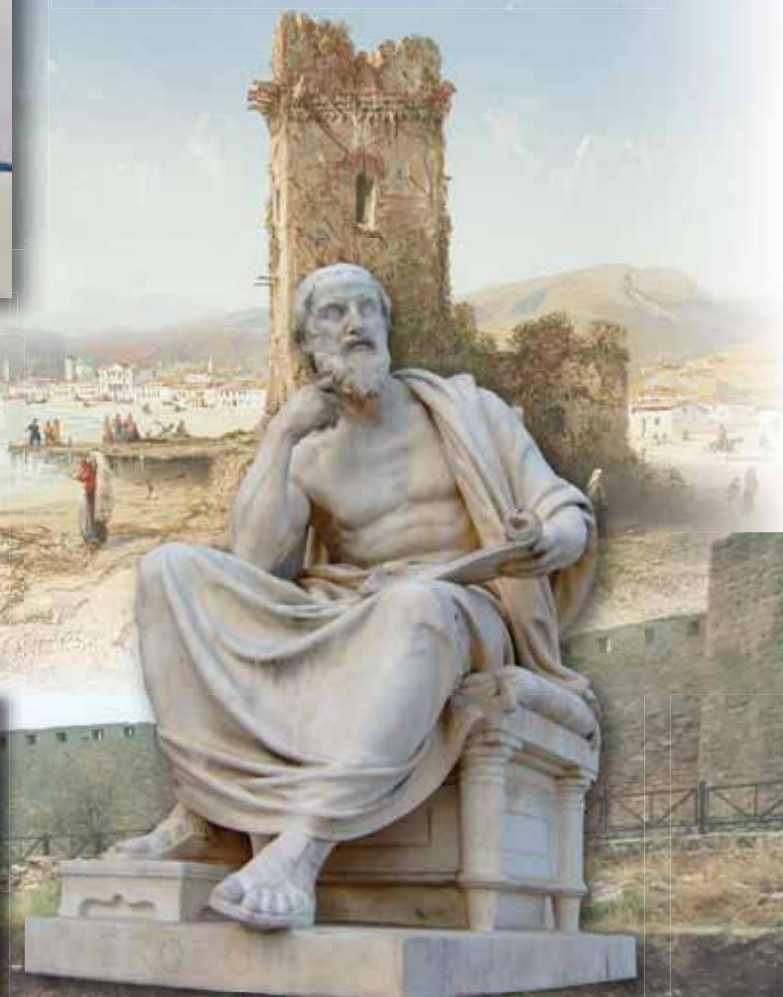


The ruins of Scythian Neapolis (New Town) – the capital of the late Scythian state (3rd century BC – 3rd century AD).  
Simferopol, Crimea



Near modern Bilhorod-Dnistrovskiy there are ruins of the city of Tyras, which was a typical Greek polis, where athletic competitions were held in honour of the ancient Greek gods. The ruins of the fortress-citadel in Bilhorod-Dnistrovskiy were depicted by V. S. Bohdanovskiy in 1974

In the south-western part of the Crimea, the ruins of the city-polis of Chersonesus were discovered. It was famous for holding the athletic festivals of the Hermeia and Heracleia. The ruins of Chersonesus were painted by artist Igor Myrhorod



Ancient Greek historian, scholar-traveller Herodotus travelled the lands of the Northern Black Sea region. In the 5th century BC, Herodotus visited Olbia. One of the monuments to Herodotus was erected near the Austrian Parliament

The Scythian kingdom in the Crimea was at its heyday in 130–120 BC, when the Scythians conquered Olbia and a number of Chersonesus lands. The Scythian kingdom in the Crimea and the lowlands of the Dnipro with its centre in Neapolis existed until the second half of the 3rd century AD and was destroyed by the Goths



Scythian golden comb depicting a battle scene. One of the most significant examples of the Hellenic-Scythian art. 430–390 BC. Solokha Mound, Zaporizhia region

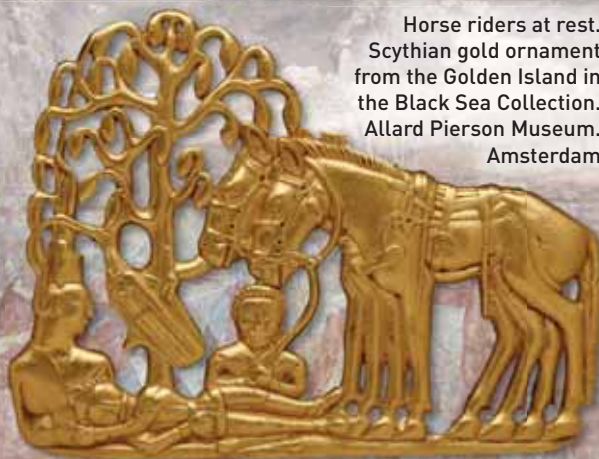
Golden vase. 4th century BC. From the excavations of the Scythian mound – Kul-Oba – in 1830. Eastern Crimea, Ukraine



Silver-gilded bowl with a relief image of Scythian warriors from the ancestral tomb of the Scythian royal family. Around 4th century BC. Found on the territory of the Haimanova Mohyla Mound, Zaporizhia region



A fragment of the golden Scythian pectoral



Horse riders at rest. Scythian gold ornament from the Golden Island in the Black Sea Collection. Allard Pierson Museum. Amsterdam



Golden pectoral (a decoration worn on the chest) of the Scythian king of the 4th century BC. It was discovered during the excavations of the Tovsta Mohyla Mound near the town of Pokrov in the Dnipropetrovsk region. Exhibited in the Museum of the Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra, Kyiv



The Scythians were skilled archers. Gold decoration. 475–450 BC. Kerch (ancient Pantikapaion, Crimea). Exhibited in the Louvre Museums, Paris



Scythian gold ornament from the Golden Island in the Black Sea Collection. Allard Pierson Museum. Amsterdam



Brooch in the form of a dolphin. Gold, mother-of-pearl. Crimea



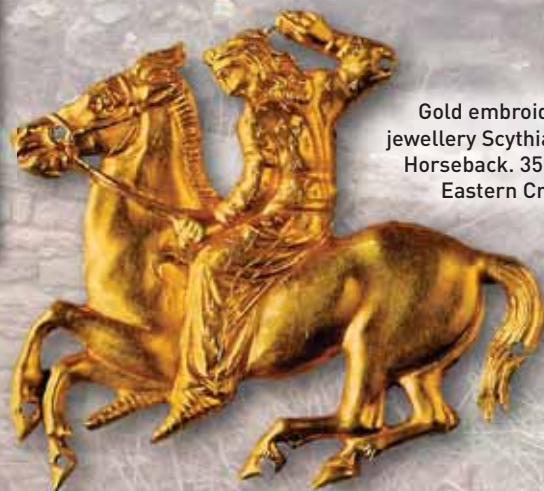
Athena. Gilded garnet. Necropolis of Pantikapaion. 4th–3rd centuries BC.



Golden hryvnia from the Kul-Oba Mound (fragment). Eastern Crimea



Golden deer from the Scythian royal mound. Eastern Crimea



Gold embroidered jewellery Scythian on Horseback. 350 BC. Eastern Crimea

Entrance to the Kul-Oba Mound. Eastern Crimea



# The Middle Ages and the Beginning of the Modern Era



In the Middle Ages, the legacy of ancient Greece and its colonies in upbringing and education attained in the Northern Black Sea region vanished into oblivion. However, history has preserved some evidence that the ancient Greek Olympic Games were known in the medieval Rus, which was confirmed in the speech of Metropolitan Cyril at the Ecclesiastical Council in 1274, "I've learned that (they) still adhere to the diabolic tradition of the damned Hellenes: whistling, whooping, and screaming, they fight with clubs and stakes during the holy feasts."

The frescoes of the towers of St. Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv, dating back to the 11th century, also tell about the interest that the people of Kyivan Rus took in athletic agons: they depict wrestling of guisers and competitions of acrobats.



The Hippodrome Fresco.  
The South Tower of  
St. Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv



Wrestling of the Guisers. Fresco decorations of the North Tower of St. Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv



The main Christmas festivities were held in Byzantium on the night of January 1-2, when dressed actors, musicians, and acrobats performed

A special attention among the frescoes of the southern tower of St. Sophia Cathedral is deserved by a large multifaceted Hippodrome composition, which depicts the second meeting of Princess Olga with Emperor Constantine Porphyrogenitus at the Constantinople Hippodrome, where she attended equestrian competitions.

It is also known that the army of Kyivan Rus consisted of cavalry (a warrior had to master horseback riding and fighting), infantry, and navy (the skills of rowing, swimming, and diving were required). All warriors had to be skilled in wrestling, to handle a bow, spear, axe, and other weapons.

Speaking of the early Modern Era, we must mention the system of education of the Zaporizhian Cossacks – the guards of the state borders, champions for freedom, faith, and revival of the national statehood, which emerged in the lower reaches of the Dnipro in the late 15th century.

In the Sich school, the Cossacks learned reading, writing, choral singing, and music. The programme of military and physical training of the school comprised folk games, the “hertz” – single combats between the Cossacks, which were accompanied by songs and music. The whole system of education was focused on the improvement of vital motor skills in swimming, running, horseback riding, swordsmanship, and physical fitness in their harmony with moral and spiritual values.

Every spring the Cossacks organized rowing competitions across the fast-flowing Dnipro. Diving and swimming competitions were favourite for the Cossacks.

To become a trusted defender of the borders, the Cossack army paid great attention to the mastery of various weapons: sabre, spear, firearms, and others.



Self-portrait of Shtanko – a Cossack of the Zaporizhian Grassroots Troops. Each Cossack paid great attention to the mastery of different types of weapons

The Cossacks possessed a high-level ability of horse riding, during which a Cossack and a horse coalesced into one creature, became one seamless whole.

Many folk wrestling styles were common among the Cossacks: all-round wrestling, “crosswise”, “on the belts”, but most popular of all were wrestling duels and fist fighting. “Combat hopak” was a highly esteemed martial art in those distant times.

The Cossacks’ favourite pastimes outside their daily duties were moving games and competitions to demonstrate strength, endurance, and agility. Among them were “Kovin’ka” and “Svynka”, which may be considered the prototypes of the modern golf and field hockey.

An important achievement of the Cossack educational system in the Zaporizhian Sich was the implemented harmonious upbringing of an individual through various practices of the folk physical culture (many of which became prototypes of modern sports) as an important component of the overall culture of the people who inhabited the Ukrainian lands.

Later on, the Olympic idea sparked in the 18th and 19th centuries, when the atmosphere favourable for revival of the achievements of the ancient Greek civilization, including the Olympic Games, that had seemed to be lost forever was established in various European countries.

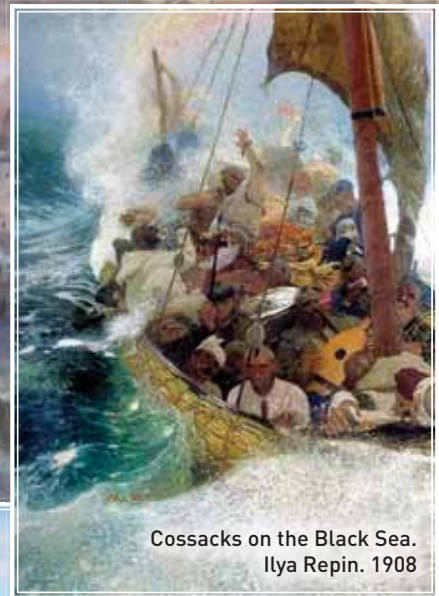


The Zaporizhian Cossacks. Ilya Repin. 1880-1891. The State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg



Boarding battle of Zaporizhian Cossacks with a Turkish ship. Anatoliy Korobkin. 2011

The Cossacks were skilled rowers. On their deckless boats Chaikas ("Seagulls"), they had not only to overcome the Dnipro rapids, quickly sail to Turkey, but also to win in naval battles



Cossacks on the Black Sea.  
Ilya Repin. 1908

Zaporizhian Sich Shipyard. Myroslav Dobryansky. 2009





The skill of the Zaporizhian Cossacks was determined by the skill in various types of folk martial arts



One of the typical scenes of life in the Ukrainian lands in the 18th-19th centuries were vagabond wrestlers – young men wandering from village to village and challenging peasant chaps to match strength: *“It used to happen a long time ago, when wrestlers roamed in our villages...”* wrote T. G. Shevchenko in his poem Tytarivna



Captive Caucasian commander. Joseph Brandt. The end of the 19th century



Recapturing Yasir. Joseph Brandt. 1878



Zaporizhian Cossack during the performance of an element of martial arts – “spas”

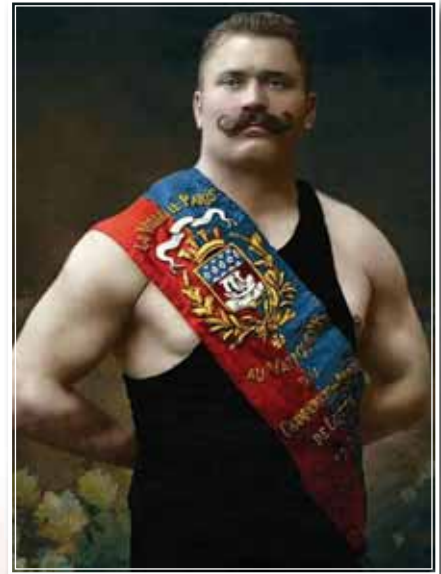
From childhood, the Cossacks learned to ride horses. A well-trained horse helped the Cossack to overcome a long way and was an irreplaceable assistant in a battle



Zaporizhian Cossacks. Joseph Brandt. 1893. Private collection

Remembering prominent athletes of the late 19th-early 20th centuries, one should not overlook the personality of our compatriot – an outstanding wrestler of that time – Ivan Piddubny. The son of the Poltava lands, stemming from the family of a hereditary Cossack, Piddubny was one of the most famous wrestlers of his time – a six-time world champion, a symbol of strength of spirit and body. His name dominated billboards and posters for over 40 years. The outstanding wrestler considered Ukraine to be his greatest pride and love of his entire life. He explained his victories in sport, saying, “Stepping in the ring, I prayed for Ukraine. That’s why I’ve been winning!”

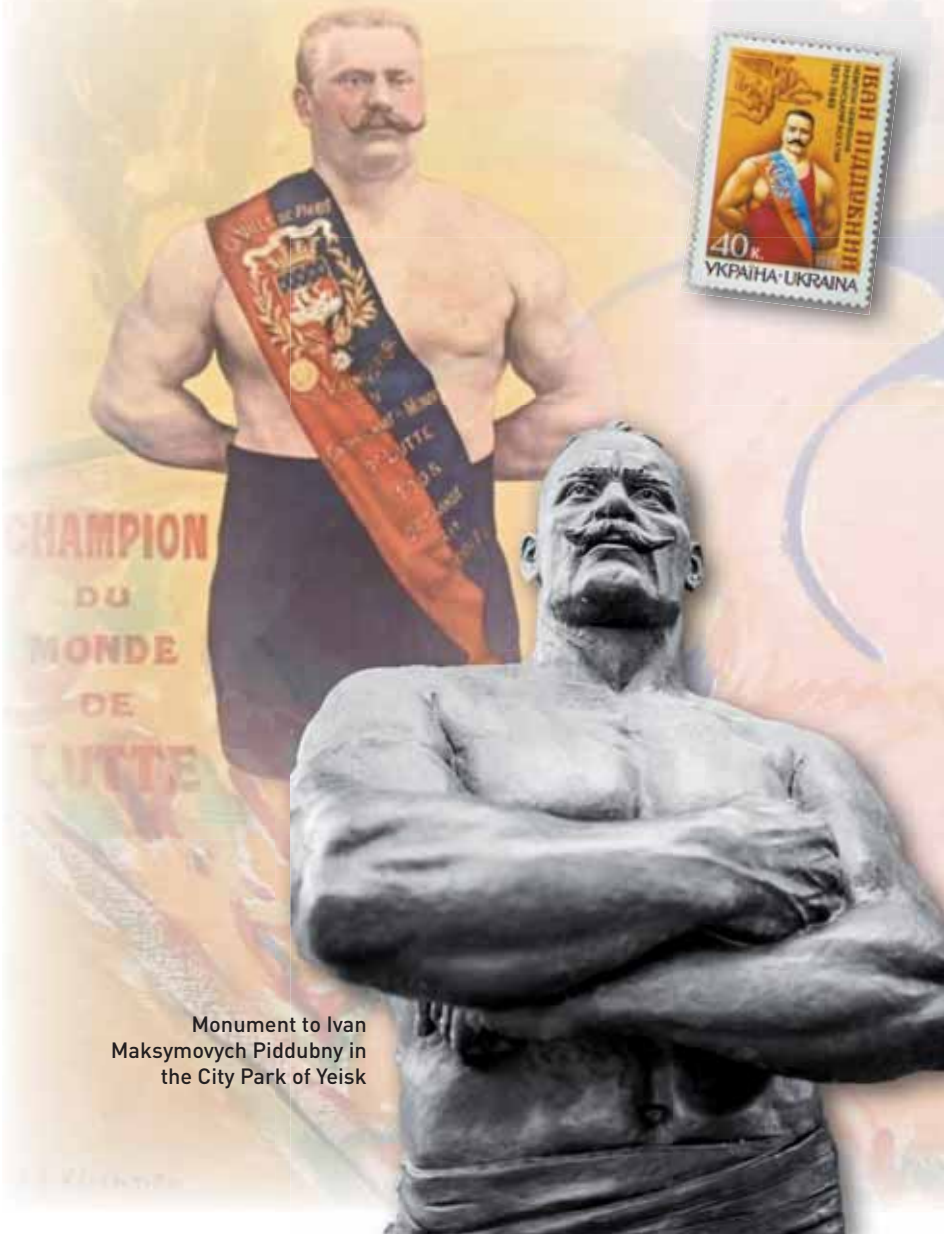
The entire family of Piddubny was distinguished by a powerful physique and tall stature. The strongest of all was the head of the family – Maksym Ivanovych. Ivan Piddubny, a multiple world champion and insuperable athlete, once confessed that the only person on Earth he had not been able to wrestle down was his father.



Ivan Piddubny, a “champion of champions”, a six-time world wrestling champion



IVAN PADDDOUBNY



Monument to Ivan Maksymovych Piddubny in the City Park of Yeisk



Ivan Piddubny dressed as a Cossack. Artist Mykola Strunnikov. 1907. Dnipropetrovsk National Historical Museum named after D. Yavornytsky



Ivan Piddubny with his brothers. The Piddubny Cossack family was famous for their great strength

The great wrestler Ivan Piddubny had three brothers – Mykyta, Omelyan, and Mytrofan and three sisters – Motrya, Maria, and Evdokia. All of them were people of remarkable strength, too. Once, his younger brother Mytrofan easily pulled a trapped ox weighing 18 poods (almost 300 kg) out of the pit; and another time in Tula, he entertained the audience, holding a platform with an orchestra playing Mnohaya Lita (a traditional Ukrainian celebratory song meaning ‘Many Years to You’) on his shoulders.

One of the most famous women-circus wrestlers of that time was Ivan's sister Maria Piddubna. She always tried to remain in the shadow of her star brother; that is why, she used a name of Masha Matlos (after her husband's name - Matlash) for circus posters. The advertisements of her performances announced that Masha invited everyone to the circus arena to try their luck in wrestling against her after she had won all members of her wrestling team. She showed tremendous strength and pinned all local strongmen to the mat as if she were a mighty she-bear. History knows only one case when Masha was defeated by a woman from the audience. She was beaten by a petite lady who turned out to be the famous strongwoman Trefilova-Bubnova, capable of pulling 57 kg at her own weight of 52 kg, which allowed her taking the third place in weightlifting among men of the flyweight class.



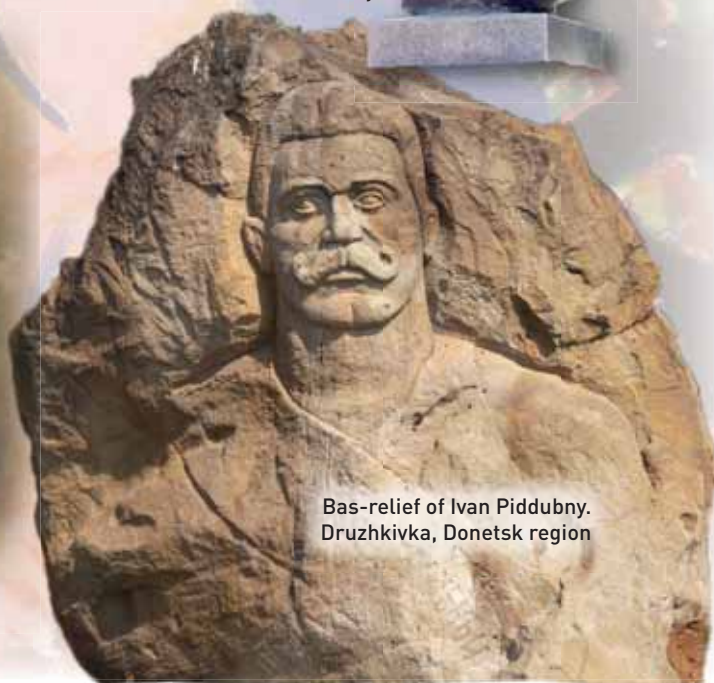
Sculptural portrait of Ivan Piddubny. Ilya Klimovich. 1959



Portrait sculpture of Ivan Piddubny



Maria Matlos-Piddubna (on the right) – Ivan Piddubny's sister, a six-time world champion in women's wrestling



Bas-relief of Ivan Piddubny. Druzhkivka, Donetsk region

# At the Dawn of the Olympic Movement



Oleksiy Dmytrovich Butovsky – our compatriot, associate of Pierre de Coubertin, the founding member of the International Olympic Committee

Ukraine may be proud of the fact that among the first members of the International Olympic Committee, founded in 1894, was a native of Poltava province General Oleksiy Dmytrovich Butovsky.

He welcomed the creation of the International Olympic Committee and the revival of the Olympic Games in the modern world with the words, “The idea of the international games was a happy idea; it met the topical needs of modern humanity, the needs for physical and moral revival of the younger generation.”

A close associate of the initiator of the revival of the modern Olympic Games Pierre de Coubertin, Oleksiy Butovsky put in many efforts to organize the First International Athletic Congress, which founded the International Olympic Committee and launched the modern Olympic movement.

After attending the 1896 Games of the I Olympiad in Athens as a member of the IOC, O. D. Butovsky shared his impressions and analytical reflections on the Games and the situation around that historic event in his publication “Athens in the spring of 1896”, where he detailed a large number of processes and phenomena that later on manifested themselves in the history of the modern Olympic sports. Rightly so, this small publication is recognized by Olympic historians as one of the best descriptions of the events and spirit that prevailed at the 1896 Games of the I Olympiad in Athens.

For his activities, general Butovsky was awarded the highest award of Greece – the Golden Commander's Cross.



Founders of the International Olympic Committee. Seated (from left): P. de Coubertin – Secretary General, D. Vikelas – President, General O. Butovsky. (behind) V. Gebhard, I. Guth-Jarkovsky, F. Kemeny, V. Balk. Athens, 1896

**Monsignor!**

*Monsignor! I feel proud that the choice of the International Athletic Congress fell on me as a member of the International Committee for Russia. For many years I have been devoting my activities to the moral and physical education of young people. That is why I feel obliged to accept with gratitude this honourable mission entrusted to me by an organization with a great future. I have not yet received the report and have not seen Mr. Alexei Lebedev yet, but you understand how impatiently I await the details of the meetings and decisions regarding my appointments as a member of the Committee. I see no reason that could prevent me from being present in 1896 in Athens at the First Olympic Games. Please accept, monsignor, the assurances of my highest respect*

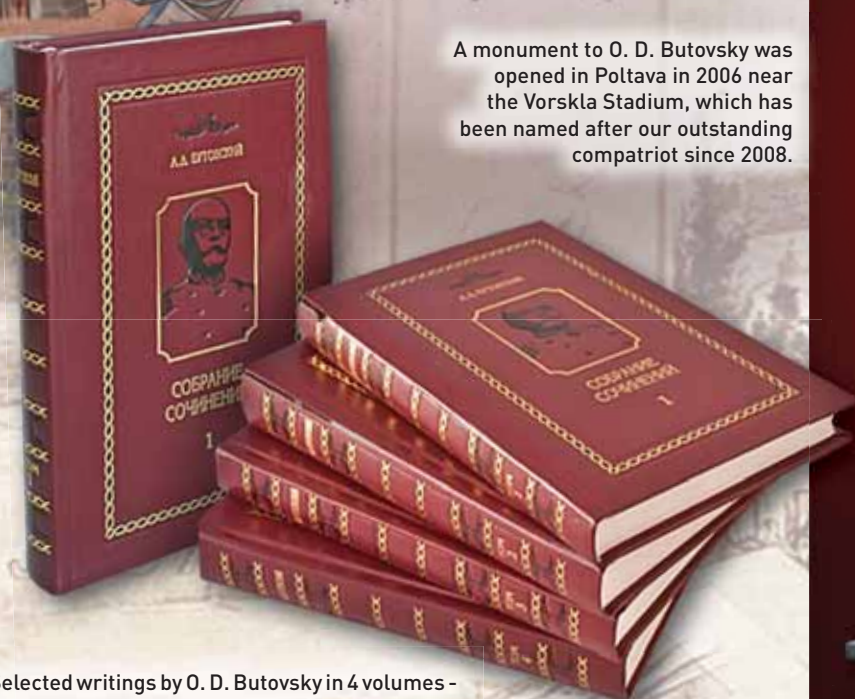
*O.D. Butovsky, Major General, Attaché of the Office of the Military School of Russia, St. Petersburg*



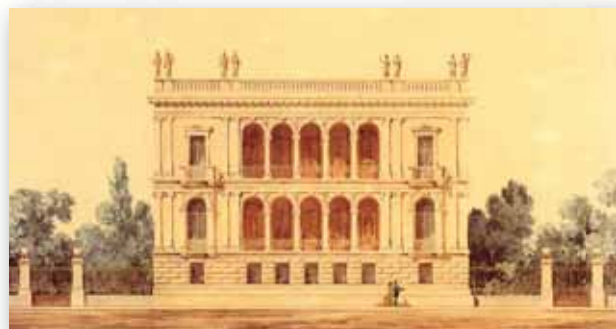
A monument to O. D. Butovsky was opened in Poltava in 2006 near the Vorskla Stadium, which has been named after our outstanding compatriot since 2008.



Selected writings by O. D. Butovsky in 4 volumes - published by the NOC of Ukraine







Schliemann's villa. Athens. 1896

Having left the IOC in 1900, O. D. Butovsky took part in the III Olympic Congress in 1905 in Brussels (Belgium).

The harbinger of the modern Olympic movement, O. D. Butovsky, went to great lengths to establish the Olympic Committee in the Russian Empire and to make it possible for the Russian team to participate in the Olympic Games.

The documentary materials of the 1894 First International Athletic Congress, which are repositied in the Olympic Museum, mention a noble man from Kyiv Dmytro Melenevsky, who supported the idea of promoting the Olympic movement in the Russian Empire, on the list of the honorary members of the Congress.



Mykola Ritter, a participant of the 1896 Games of the I Olympiad in Athens, a reporter of the "Kievlianin" newspaper

Сегодня утромъ, къ удивленію своему, я увидѣлъ свое изображеніе, въ разныхъ позахъ, во всѣхъ большихъ газетахъ. Вотъ и аѣнская пресса! Штуку до 20 газетъ и журналовъ аѣнскихъ, относительно быстроты и подробностей доставляемыхъ свѣдѣній, — являются чѣмъ-то невѣроятнымъ: иногда случается, что черезъ два часа можно прочитатъ въ газетахъ (преимущественно въ вечернихъ) то, что видѣлъ своими глазами. Профессионалы вовсе не допущены участвовать на олимпійскихъ играхъ, а любители-участники есть изъ самаго аристократическаго общества.  
Н. С. фонъ Риттеръ.



A native of Kharkiv province Petro Zakovorot, a fencer, participant of the 1900 Games of the II Olympiad in Paris (seventh place)

At that time, only Kyiv, Odesa, and St. Petersburg were able to prepare their teams for participation in the Games, but the lack of financing prevented athletes from Kyiv and St. Petersburg from going to the Games. The Odessans were able to get only to Constantinople and had to return home also for the lack of funds.

The only person who was lucky enough to make his way to Athens was Mykola Ritter, a native of Zolotonosha, Cherkasy Province. He represented Kyiv as an athlete and a journalist from the "Kievlianin" newspaper at the same time.

In Athens, Mykola Ritter was registered for the Olympic events in Greco-Roman wrestling, foil fencing, and short rifle shooting. In the qualifying competitions, he became the winner among wrestlers, and successfully hit all targets during shooting. However, the following day, he withdrew from the competitions for unknown reasons and began observing the

Games as a newspaper correspondent, sending his reviews of the Olympic events to the editor's office on a daily basis. Thus, Mykola Ritter can be considered the founder of the Ukrainian sports journalism.

Our compatriot, a native of the village Kupyevakha of Bohodukhiv district, Kharkiv province, Petro Zakovorot – as a member of the team of the Russian Empire – took part in the individual sabre event (ranking the 7th) at the 1900 Games of the II Olympiad in Paris. Zakovorot was an outstanding fencer of the late 19th–early 20th centuries. It is also notable that having retired from sports, Petro Zakovorot was the Head of the Fencing Department at the State Institute of Physical Culture of Ukraine in Kharkiv. Among his pupils were outstanding Ukrainian coaches – Semen Kolchynsky and Vadym Andrievsky, who in their turn raised a constellation of Ukrainian Olympic champions in fencing.



Outstanding students of Petro Zakovorot – Vadym Andrievsky (on the top photo the third from the left) and Semen Kolchynsky (in the centre on the photo on the right)



Warm encounter of Olympic fencing champions – the ninth President of the International Olympic Committee Thomas Bach and the Ukrainian sword master Hryhorii Kriss



Mykola Kravchenko, a famous Odesa artist, a fan of martial arts



Vyacheslav Sreznevsky, a well-known personality of the national sports movement, the first chairman of the Russian Olympic Committee

The growing popularity of the Olympic Games contributed to the creation of the Russian Olympic Committee. It happened in St. Petersburg on 16 March 1911 with an active participation of the Ukrainians. The first Chairman of the Committee was a well-known personality of the national sports movement – Vyacheslav Izmailovich Sreznevsky, a descendant of the famous professorial dynasty from Kharkiv. The Committee's first task was to recruit and prepare the Russian team for the 1912 Games of the V Olympiad.

The Ukrainian athletes actively trained for the 1912 Games of the V Olympiad. In particular, the future Hetman of Ukraine Pavlo Petrovych Skoropadsky was a member of commission convened to select and prepare military officers for equestrian competitions (among whom were Ukrainian Oleksandr Rodzyanko and Serhiy Zagorsky). Also, among those sent to Stockholm were Kyiv gymnast Bogumil Honzatko and gymnastics teacher of the Kyiv gymnasium Alois

Kovarzhyk, sabre fencer Apollon Greifenfels, participants of shooting events Borys Byelinsky, Hryhoriy Shesterikov, Oleksandr Tillo, wrestler Terentiy Korin, and others. Among those who were training but did not make it to the Olympic Games were Kyiv football player V. Otten and Kharkiv gymnast P. Pelepeichenko. It is also known that the Austrian team was represented by Western Ukrainian football players Bernhard Graubart and Vladyslav Kurpil, track-and-field athlete Vladyslav Ponursky.

In the late 19th–early 20th centuries, the Olympic ideas spread around the world and found supporters and popularisers in many countries. Thus, in the Russian Empire, many prominent personalities made efforts in that field. In particular, the figure of artist Mykola Kravchenko, a native of Simferopol, who in his publications repeatedly raised issues of development of the Olympic movement in Russia and spread of Olympic sports should be mentioned.



A group of athletes of the Kyiv Athletic and Gymnastics Clubs. In the middle of the second row is medical doctor Y. Harnych-Harnytsky

The constellation of famous sports functionaries and public figures of that period included Professor of Chemistry, Dr. Yevhen Fedorovych Harnych-Harnytsky – the initiator of weightlifting in Ukraine, who founded an athletics club in 1895 in Kyiv. It was he who supervised the preparation of Ivan Piddubny in French wrestling. Later, in 1908–1916, at his suggestion, championships of the South-Western region in weightlifting, wrestling, gymnastics, and other sports were held. Winners were awarded the Y. Harnych-Harnytsky Silver Cup.

Yevhen Fedorovych's activities were not limited to the development of wrestling. He contributed to the organization and work of the Kyiv Yacht Club, the Free Firefighters Society, the Motorists' Club, and many other sports clubs. As a philanthropist, he spent much money to develop the sports life in Kyiv and to support Kyiv athletes. That is why he is nicknamed the Father of Kyiv Athletics.

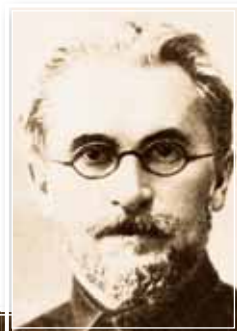
His fruitful work on the development of the Olympic movement culminated in the organization and holding of the First All-Russian Olympiad in Kyiv in 1913. In respect to many years of experience and authority, Y. Harnych-Harnytsky was elected a member of the Physical Education, Sports and Hunting Club of the 1913 All-Russian Exhibition, a member of the Kyiv Olympic Committee and the Sports Commission of the Kyiv Olympic Committee.



Yevhen Harnych-Harnytsky opened the first Kyiv Athletics Club in Ukraine



Y. Harnych-Harnytsky Silver Cup was awarded to winners in various sports



Professor Valentyn Kramarenko was a well-known theorist and practitioner of physical culture and sports



Physical education courses at the Kyiv Educational District were directed by V. Kramarenko (sitting in the centre in a suit). Pictured next to him (from the left) is Dr. O. Anokhin. Kyiv

Y. Harnych-Harnytsky's colleague and fellow-thinker Dr. Valentyn Kostiantynovych Kramarenko deserves attention. Medical Doctor V. K. Kramarenko was a recognized expert in the field of physical culture and sports. He understood how critical the state of health of the younger generation was. So, he joined those promoting the idea of paving own national way in physical education; he actively involved in social and pedagogical activities. In 1908, he founded a school of therapeutic gymnastics in Kyiv followed by the Veritas physical development room in 1910. In the same year, Valentyn Kostiantynovych led summer training courses for gymnastics teachers at the Kyiv Educational District as he understood a great importance of sports personnel preparation.

From 1913, V. K. Kramarenko actively collaborated with the *Krasa i Syla* (Beauty and Strength) magazine, where he published a series of publications dedicated to the First All-Russian Olympiad, which took place in Kiev. He was a member of the Kyiv Olympic Committee from its first organizational meeting until the end of the Olympiad. He devoted lots of energies to hold that significant event with great success.

## Part II



The Olympic Kyiv. 1913

Development of Sports  
in the Ukrainian Lands  
in the 1920s–1950s

# Physical Education and Sports in the Ukrainian Lands in the First Half of the 20th Century





# The Olympic Kyiv. 1913

After the failure of the Russian Empire team at the 1912 Games of the Olympiad in Stockholm (as they ranked fifteenth in the unofficial overall team rankings), understanding of the importance of quality participation in the Olympic Games matured in Russia. It was then that the idea of all-round sports competitions in the form of the National Olympiad – as an effective means of preparing athletes of the country for the coming Olympic Games – was conceived and later materialized.

The idea to hold the First All-Russian Olympiad in 1913 belonged to Kyiv, where a large-scale All-Russian Exhibition was about to take place.

Upon the initiative of the Chairman of the Committee of the 1913 All-Russian Exhibition in Kyiv Oleksandr Tyshkevych, the department of physical development, sports, and hunting was created. In May of the same year, the Kyiv Olympic Committee was founded on its basis. Oleksandr Kostyantynovych Anokhin – a renowned expert in physical education and sports, an active promoter of the Olympic movement, a doctor by profession – was elected the Chairman. The Kyiv Olympic Committee was joined by doctors Y. Harnych-Harnytsky and V. Kramarenko, Colonel G. Kharzhevsky, Poruchik (Lieutenant) G. Kravchuk, P. Bulyubash, T. Komarovych, K. Klechynsky, and B. Honzatko.

The Kyiv Olympic Committee was subsequently transformed into the Olympic Committee of the All-Russian Exhibition and assigned with the preparation for the First All-Russian Olympiad. His Serene Highness Grand Duke Dmitry Pavlovich – a nephew of Tsar Nicholas II, a participant of the Games of the V Olympiad in Stockholm with the seventh place taken in the equestrian competitions – became the patron of that great sporting event.



Count Oleksandr Tyshkevych, the Chairman of the Committee of the All-Russian Exhibition in Kyiv, a master of horseback riding



Oleksandr Anokhin, an outstanding theorist, organizer, and populariser of sports, sports journalist, Chairman of the Kyiv Olympic Committee

Troitsky People's House (nowadays – Kyiv National Academic Musical Theatre), which hosted meetings of the Kyiv Olympic Committee





His Imperial Highness  
Grand Duke Alexei  
Nikolaevich, a patron  
of the 1913 All-  
Russian Exhibition



His Serene Highness Grand Duke Dmitry  
Pavlovich, a patron of the First All-Russian  
Olympiad of 1913.



His Serene Highness Grand  
Duke Dmitry Konstantinovich,  
a patron of the Equestrian  
Exhibition

On 20 August 1913, the Opening Ceremony of the First All-Russian Olympiad was staged on the Sports Field in Kyiv. Grand Duke Dmitry Pavlovich and many other guests of honour graced the festivities with their own presence.

The "Kievlianin" newspaper (Issue 229 of 21 August 1913) described the venue of the main events as follows, "The stadium took on a beautiful appearance. In the centre of the stadium, opposite the middle of the sports field, between the closed and semi-open stands, there was a box set up for the honoured guests. It was elegantly decorated with the state emblem, the national flags, and draped with blue fabric. All the stands, the orchestra altana, the stadium fence as well as all the entrances were beautifully decorated with the national flags..."



The First All-Russian Olympiad demonstrated a high level of preparation and organization of competitions. Out of 24 cities of the Russian Empire, the Ukrainian athletes represented nine Ukrainian cities: Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odesa, Katerynoslav (now – Dnipro), Chernihiv, Rivne, Kamyanets-Podilsk (now – Kamyanets-Podilsky), and Luts'k.

The main venue for the competitions was the Sports Field, which was inaugurated on 27 September 1912 and became the first stationary stadium in the Russian Empire with a seating capacity of 3,000. The event was made possible thanks to eight enthusiasts who established a consortium and took a plot of land on lease from landowner F. M. Yasnohursky in the Lukianivka district of Kyiv (between the streets Monastyr's'ka, Pylypivs'ka, and Dyka (now – Sichovykh Striltsiv). The stadium was designed for competitions in football, track-and-field athletics, cycling, skating, and motor racing.

Particularly important was the decision of the Organizing Committee of the First All-Russian Olympiad to admit women to participation in the track-and-field events. As at that time, the International Olympic Com-

mittee headed by President Pierre de Coubertin disregarded women's participation in the Olympic Games and did not introduce women's track-and-field events into the Olympic programme (women debuted in that sport at the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam), so the First All-Russian Olympiad, where sixty female athletes got a chance to compete, was ahead of the International Olympic Games.



General view of the Kyiv stadium. Parade of athletes before the competitions



Honorary badge of the First All-Russian Olympiad of 1913.

Commemorative badge of the First All-Russian Olympiad of 1913 for its participants



The gold medal of the First All-Russian Olympiad of 1913





The Opening Ceremony of the First All-Russian Olympiad of 1913

The equestrian events of the First All-Russian Olympiad took place at the Pechersk Hippodrome, which had its own history.

As early as 1885, the newly established Kyiv Society of Equestrian Amateurs won the approval to build a hippodrome and a wooden gazebo (as the spectator stands were then called) on the Pechersky Square. The wooden gazebo stood in Esplanadna Street (now – Mykhailo Volodymyrovych Omelyanovych-Pavlenko Street) until 1915. With time, it went to wrack, so it was dismantled, and a true palace designed by architect V. M. Rykov and sculptor F. P. Balavensky was built on the same site. The building was decorated with beautiful sculptures both inside and on the facade.

The events of the First All-Russian Olympiad in swimming and springboard diving took place in the harbour of the Kyiv Yacht Club on the Dnipro. Kyiv's history of those water sports as well as that of rowing and sailing began 26 years before when on 18 April 1887, the first general meeting of the founders of the Yacht Club was summoned in the premises of the Nobility Assembly in Khreshchatyk Street. The idea of creating a Yacht Club on Trukhaniv Island belonged to Professor of Medicine of the University of St. Volodymyr Oleksandr Khrystoforovych Rinek and railway engineer Mykola Ivanovych Maksymovych. By the end of the summer of 1887, a pier was built on the bay bank in the northern part of the island, and a park was laid out around the harbour.

On 24 August 1913 – the closing day of the First All-Russian Olympiad – a solemn award ceremony was staged at the Pechersk Hippodrome in Kyiv to decorate the highest-achieving athletes and teams. The team from Kyiv lost to the athletes of the St. Petersburg Sports Amateur Society and took the second place in the overall team ranking. Athletes from other Ukrainian cities did not take part in the team competitions.

On those days, and namely on 27 August 1913, another remarkable event of global importance took place: aviator Petro Nesterov demonstrated his “dead loop” for the first time in the sky above the Syretsky Aerodrome of Kyiv.

The First All-Russian Olympiad in 1913, which took place in Kyiv, became a highlight in the history of the Olympic sports in our country, retaining its significance more than a hundred years past those significant events.

That same year was marked by another milestone event for the development of sports in Kyiv. In 1913, in Fundukleivska Street (now – Bohdan Khmelnytsky Street), a new Kyiv Cycling Track was opened with honours to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the Romanovs' House. This is one of the oldest sports facilities in Ukraine. It was constructed on the initiative and at the expense of Ivan Bilenko from Kyiv. The territory of the cycling track housed the Polar Star summer theatre with an orchestra. It was also possible to rent and repair bicycles, motorcycles, and cars there.

On the 20 May 2017, the Cycling Track – one of the oldest sports facilities in Europe – was opened after renovation and restoration. The cycling lanes have the length of 285 metres, which meets the international standards. The facilities include locker rooms, showers, a medical centre, stationary bicycles, a repair shop as well as grandstands for 280 spectators.



Solemn prayer before the opening of the First All-Russian Olympiad

Photographs of the Opening Ceremony of the First All-Russian Olympiad of 1913



Fencing techniques are demonstrated by soldiers of the Warsaw Fencing School



The procession of the football team at the Opening Ceremony of the First All-Russian Olympiad



A team of swimmers at the parade in honour of the opening of the First All-Russian Olympiad



Ukrainian girls on the march at the Opening Ceremony of the First All-Russian Olympiad



The Kyiv Olympiad demonstrated a high level of preparation and organization of competitions. So, it was decided to hold such competitions every year for the best preparation for the 1916 Games of the VI Olympiad in Berlin (Germany). In 1914, the Second All-Russian Olympiad was hosted by Riga. It was attended by a large delegation of the Ukrainian athletes from Kyiv (150 people) and Sevastopol.

Unfortunately, the Third and Fourth Russian Olympiads did not take place, neither did the Games of the VI Olympiad, as World War One broke out.



Ukrainian gymnasts demonstrate rake exercises at the Opening Ceremony of the First All-Russian Olympiad



Ukrainian "Sokils" ("Falcons") showed exercises with scythes during the Opening Ceremony of the First All-Russian Olympiad



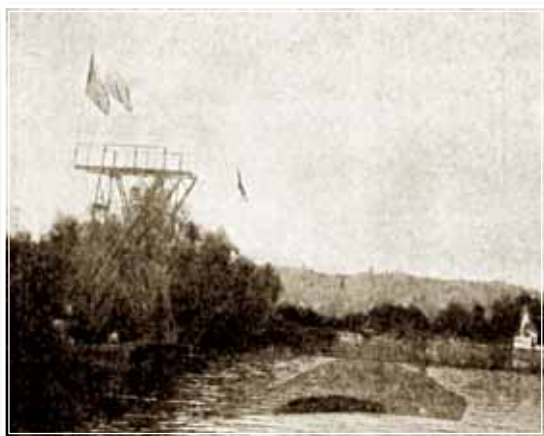
Ukrainian "Sokils" ("Falcons") perform exercises with spears



Ukrainian gymnasts in national costumes perform at the Opening Ceremony of the First All-Russian Olympiad



On the days of the First All-Russian Olympiad in Kyiv, on 27 August 1913, aviator Petro Nesterov demonstrated his "dead loop" in the sky for the first time in history.



Platform diving competitions took place on Trukhaniv Island in Kyiv



Kievite Ratkova was the owner of six medals of the First All-Russian Olympiad, including three gold medals (in the standing long jump, in the shot put, and in foil fencing) and three silver medals (in the 100 m run, the high jump and the long jump)



Kievite Popova was the owner of seven medals of the First Russian Olympiad, including five gold medals (in the 60 m and 100 m race events, in the high jump, in the long jump, in the 4 x 100 m relay race) and two silver medals (in the standing long jump and foil fencing)



Grand Duke Dmitry Pavlovich's Cup, which was awarded to the Kyiv Club "Sport" for the highest achievements at the First All-Russian Olympiad



The team of the Kyiv Club "Sport", which won the 4 x 400 m relay race



Victorious finish

# Development of Sports in the Ukrainian Lands in the 1920s-1950s



In the 1920s, the country's leadership paid great attention to physical culture, which became a matter of national importance, ensuring the physical and cultural revival of the country. Sports and public organizations of a new direction were practically re-created. Back in 1918, Vseobuch (from the Russian "universal military training") – a system of compulsory military training of citizens in accordance with the Decree of the Central Executive Committee of the RSFSR "On Compulsory Military Training" was created."

In 1921, Commissioner of the Revolutionary Military Council M. Frunze approved the regulations on the All-Ukrainian Olympic Committee - VUOK, whose work in Kharkiv (then the capital of the Republic) was headed by a presidium headed by E. Vatsek. A year earlier, the Kharkiv Olympic Committee was established in Kharkiv, uniting all sports organizations in the city and becoming a link between them and government agencies that develop physical culture and sports. Following the Kharkiv model, Olympic committees were established at the Vseobuch branches in Katerynoslav (now – Dnipro), Odesa, Yuzivka (now – Donetsk), and Poltava. The work of the Olympic Committee in Crimea was noticeable and high-quality.

The Kyiv Olympic Committee united all the city's sports organizations. Its activities were based on the principle of representation of leagues and sports associations. In 1922, there were several leagues in Kyiv: football, athletics, weightlifting, gymnastics, as well as a separate yacht club, the Provincial Union of Hunting

Enthusiasts, and a bicycle section. In 1922, the following were elected to the Presidium of the Kyiv Olympic Committee: Chairman – Volodymyr Yosypovych Sarnavsky (a famous sports figure), Deputy Chairman – A. A. Krasnobabenko (Chairman of the Football League), Secretary – V. P. Kolpikov (Athletics League).

The Gelferich-Sade Stadium. Kharkiv. 1920s.





A threat to the development of sports in the USSR in the early 1920s was in the lack of complex stadiums and the insufficient number of sports grounds, gyms, and swimming pools. Therefore, it was immediately decided to remedy the situation. Already in 1919, a territory and funds were allocated to build a comprehensive sports stadium in Kyiv (on the site of the former Sports Field, which hosted the First All-Russian Olympiad in 1913). In 1923, the Red Stadium named after L. Trotsky was constructed on the site according to the design of engineer L. I. Pilvinsky.

An important milestone in the history of sports of the Ukrainian SSR was the All-Ukrainian Olympiad in 1921. It was held on the Gelferich-Sade Stadium in Kharkiv attended by more than 150 athletes from Kyiv, Kharkiv, Zhytomyr, Poltava, and Chernihiv. The competition programme included track-and-athletics, football, weightlifting, wrestling, cycling, and tennis.

The history of that stadium is quite interesting. In the late 19th–early 20th centuries, there lived a German entrepreneur and philanthropist Maximilian Gelferich in Kharkiv. Together with his partner, Belgian merchant M. Sade, they owned an agricultural machinery plant. In 1907–1908, they built the first football field in

Kharkiv not far from the plant in Staromoskovska Street (today, the Kharkiv Department Store is located at this address).

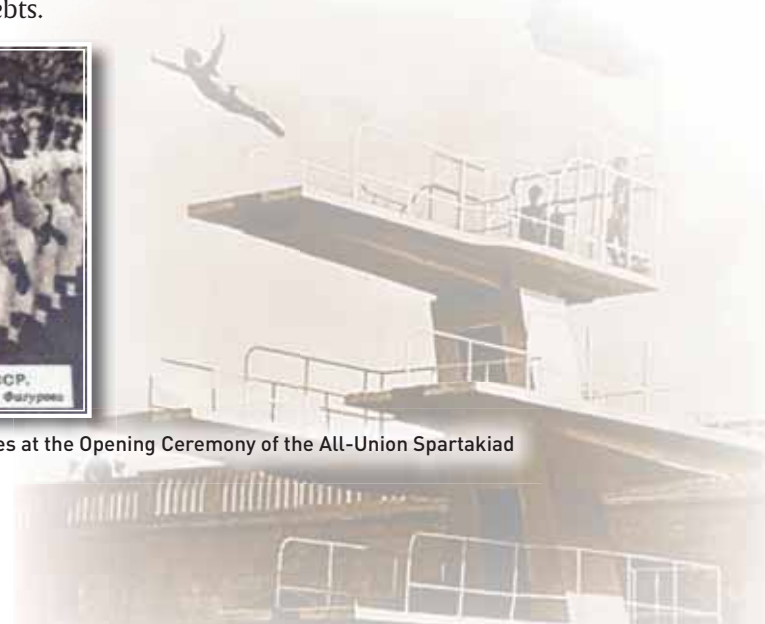
And in 1916, a religious ceremony was held to bless a more modern field planted with grass imported from England. The first compact wooden stands for audience and a locker room with showers for players were constructed near the field. It was here – at the Gelferich-Sade Stadium – that the 1921 and 1922 All-Ukrainian Olympiads took place. In 1923, as the Spartak Society was founded, it was decided to name the events the USSR Spartakiads.

In the 1920s, the stadium was redesigned. Initially, it was called Spartak; and for a period of time, it was the main stadium in Ukraine. Later, it was renamed Silmash, then – Sickle and Hammer, and this name has survived to this day.

In 1920, the Main Directorate of VsevoBuch submitted an application for participation of a team of eight Russian athletes in the 1920 Games of the VII Olympiad in Antwerp. However, the IOC declined the application, disagreeing to recognize the RSFSR as the successor to the Russian Empire due its refusal to pay the latter's debts.



Girls of the delegation of the Ukrainian SSR dressed in national costumes at the Opening Ceremony of the All-Union Spartakiad





The Olympic events in the Ukrainian SSR acquired a systemic nature with Olympiads of various levels hosted by Kharkiv in 1922 (provincial), Cherkasy and Kyiv in 1924 (district); of different military levels all held in 1924: all-Ukrainian in Kyiv, divisional in Cherkasy, and corps-based in Kyiv, etc.

In 1923, the Highest Council on Physical Culture of Ukraine was created in Kharkiv. It united all sports societies. The new governing body was vested with functions of the Olympic Committee of Ukraine, which had ceased to exist by that time.

In 1920, the Main Directorate of Vseovbuch submitted an application for participation of a team of eight Russian athletes in the 1920 Games of the VII Olympiad in Antwerp. However, the IOC declined the application, disagreeing to recognize the RSFSR as the successor to the Russian Empire due its refusal to pay the latter's debts.

In 1923, a member of the IOC for the non-existent Russian Empire, Prince Lev Vladimirovich Urusov, proposed that two Russian teams – one from the Soviet Union and the other – made up of emigrants should participate in the Olympic Games. According to Pierre de Coubertin, that proposal was rejected for 'administrative reasons'.

Poster "Long live the All-Union Sportsman's Day – a Review of the Achievements of Soviet Physical Culture and Sports." Author O. O. Kokorekin. Moscow-Leningrad, 1941

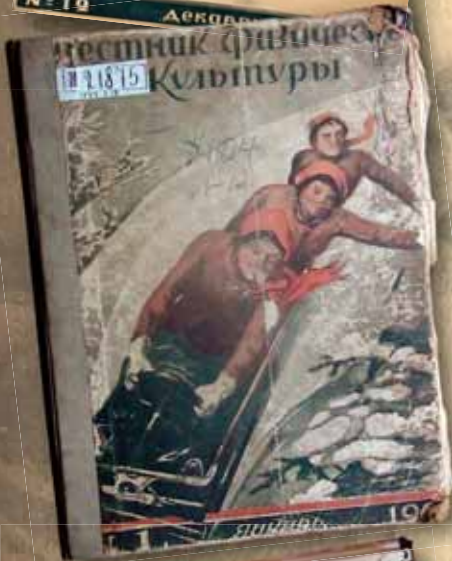


Participants of the USSR Children's Spartakiad



Resolution of the CEC of the USSR № 64, CPC of the USSR № 1087 of 21 June 1936 "On the Foundation of the All-Union Committee for Physical Culture and Sports under the CPC of the USSR"





The leader of the state policy in the field of physical culture and sports, populariser, collective propagandist was the sports press, which performed the function of attracting broad sections of workers to sports. It was the beginning of the 1920s that started the development of the Ukrainian sports journalism. One of the first sports magazines of the Ukrainian SSR was the magazine "Bulletin of Physical Culture" (1922-1929) under the editorial leadership of a prominent journalist Volodymyr Bliakh

If the beginning of the 1920s, physical culture and public organizations of a new kind were practically re-created.

In the pre-revolutionary years, the First Gymnastics Society Sokil (Falcon, Phoenix in Kharkov, as well as the Athletic Society of Kyivites and their Sport Club, and others represented high sports and general culture, intelligence, promoted the Olympic ideals. But many new Soviet-era clubs proclaimed completely different principles under the authorities' pressure. The ideologues of the new culture rejected sporting achievements, disregarded the experience gained by the society previously.

However, in the capital city of Kharkiv, which was a role model for the entire Ukraine at that time, the Girnyk, Osnova, Chervonyi Zaliznychnyk, Metalist Clubs continued to operate. In the Ivanovo-Lysogorsky district and at the Osnova Station, popular sports hubs were the Zheldor, Society of Sports Fans (TSL), Spartak, and Komsomolets Clubs.

Football clubs in Kyiv, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Stalino (now – Donetsk), Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Poltava, and Druzhkivka were the best clubs of the Soviet part of Ukraine at that time.



Hockey players of the Chervonyi Zaliznychnyk Club



Chervonyi Zaliznychnyk handball team. 1923



Dondora handball players. From the left (standing): V. Smetanenko, V. Sokolova, R. Vlasova; (sitting): L. Yakovleva, N. Grynko (goalkeeper), I. Bugrimova, L. Panteleyeva

Sports shooting clubs in Kyiv, Kharkiv, and Zhytomyr were actively developing.

The strongest skaters of that time were trained at sports clubs and societies of Kharkiv, Kyiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Konotop, Kryvyi Rih, Kupyansk, Pervomaisk, and Cherkasy.

The year of 1925 was the year when volleyball started in Ukraine. It began to develop in the Kharkiv House of Physical Culture and the Balabanovets Club. Later, there were more than 100 teams in the city's clubs.

In 1926, the Dynamo sports association came into legal force in Kharkiv. Subsequently, his activities spread to all provincial cities of the USSR.

In 1935, the Ukrainian organization of the Spartak Society was founded. It united even the smallest physical culture teams, whose task was to promote mass physical culture and sports and to enhance the sportsmanship of participants.

In the first days of 1936, the Lokomotiv and Sanitas (Vita, Zdorovya) sports clubs emerged in Ukraine. They united sports centres of higher educational institutions. By the end of that year, there were about 30 voluntary sports associations in Ukraine.

Water polo players of the State Institute of Physical Culture of Ukraine. 1940





The first and second national football teams of the USSR before the test match at the Dynamo Kharkiv stadium. 1935



Female students of the first group of the first enrolment to the State Institute of Physical Culture of Ukraine. 1930

Famous track-and-field athlete, multiple champion, and Soviet record holder in pole vault and decathlon Gavrylo Rayevskiy



The first in the Ukrainian SSR full-time football team of the Dynamo Kharkiv Club. 1926

Female handball players of the USSR national team – champions of the All-Union Spartakiad. 1928



The leadership of the Soviet Union repeatedly rejected endeavours by the National Olympic Committees of some countries to make connections with Soviet sports organizations. For instance, in 1924, the High Council of Physical Culture was invited by the French Olympic Committee to take part in the Games of the VIII Olympiad in Paris. Another attempt was made to involve our athletes into participation in the Games of the X Olympiad in Los Angeles. And more tries to establish contacts with the Soviet sports movement were made by the National Olympic Committees of Japan and Finland, getting ready to host the Games in 1940. However, all those efforts to bring the Soviet Union back to the Olympic family were unsuccessful. In general, due to internal and external reasons, the country's ties with the Olympic movement remained broken for more than 30 years.

Even then, victories in world-class sports events became a matter of prestige for the country. The fact was well understood in the West, and quickly comprehended inside the Soviet state.

The Soviet leadership decided to organize its own monumental sporting events – the All-Union Spartakiad of 1928. A sports event comparable to the Olympic Games was meant to demonstrate the power and achievements of the USSR in the global arena. Those large-scale events summoned prominent athletes from

the union republics as well as participants from twelve countries.

It is worth noting that the programme of the All-Union Spartakiad was almost identical to the programme of the 1928 Games of the IX Olympiad in Amsterdam. The programme also comprised dance competitions; the fact that once again established the similarity of the Soviet Spartakiad with the Olympic Games.

Vain attempts by the Soviet leadership to compete with the Olympic Games through the All-Union Spartakiads did not go unnoticed by Pierre de Coubertin, who was indignant with factual renaming of the grand competitions. The All-Union Spartakiad had much in common with the Olympic Games in terms of its organization, but its ideological content was exactly the opposite.

To train qualified professionals and implement programmes on the development of physical culture and sport, the State Institute of Physical Culture was founded in 1930 in Kharkiv. Vocational schools of physical culture were also opened in Kyiv, Artemivsk (now – Bakhmut), Odesa, Luhansk, and Dnipropetrovsk (now – Dnipro). In 1931, the Research Institute of Physical Culture at the All-Ukrainian Academy of Sciences was opened in Kharkiv, and in 1935 a Higher Coaching School was established at the SIPCU.



The building of the Central House of Physical Culture, opened in 1925 in Kharkiv, in which part of the premises was allocated to the Department of Physical Culture (later – the Ukrainian Research Institute of Physical Culture)



The building of the first State Institute of Physical Culture, established in Kharkiv in 1930.



Poster "All world records must be ours!". Author O. I. Yelagin. 1948

An important element in the spread of sports movement and the promotion of physical culture among the broad layers of population in the USSR were systematic and high-circulation publishing activities of specialized sports press (magazines, newspapers): "Yuzhny Sport" (Kyiv, 1918), "Yekaterynoslavsky Sport" (Katerynoslav, now – Dnipro), 1918), "Sport i Vseobuch" (Poltava, 1922), "Krasny Sport" (Kyiv, 1922), "Vestnik Fizicheskoy Kultury" (Kharkiv, 1922).



Poster "2nd All-Union Spartakiad (sport competitions) of the USSR Trade Unions". Author V. Govorkov. 1935

If in the early 1920's only sports grounds for mass physical culture were mainly built in the USSR, then in the early 1930's large-scale construction of sports stadiums, swimming pools, and gyms was set in motion. For example, in the mid-1930s, the sports infrastructure of Kharkiv was at the level of Moscow, Leningrad, Kyiv: the city had 12 stadiums and 17 complex sports grounds. The main sports facilities of the city included the Dynamo Stadium, a cycling track, a training camp of the Institute of Physical Culture, the Dynamo and Spartak sports societies, a swimming pool, and 14 ski training camps.



In 1933, Ukraine was enriched with two stadiums. In June, the Dynamo Stadium named after Vsevolod Balytsky with a capacity of 15,000 seats in Kyiv and a smaller one – the Stadium named after Mykola Bauman – in Horlivka were inaugurated.

The history of the city stadium in Horlivka is somewhat unique. It was built by the method of the “people’s construction” – in one month – and opened on 7 September 1933 before the All-Union Spartakiad of Coal, Chemical and Metallurgical Industry Workers. Initially, the stadium was named after Mykola Bauman, then it was renamed Stakhanovets, and later – Shakhtar.

In the pre-war years, sports facilities were intensively developing. In 1940, the Ukrainian SSR had 610



Stadium named after M. Bauman in Horlivka hosted a number of competitions of the republican scale

stadiums and complex sports grounds, 2,500 football fields, 1,500 sports halls, and about 15,000.

The leaders of the country radically changed their attitude to the Olympic Games. The 1936 Berlin Olympics deeply impressed Stalin who appreciated the propaganda potential of such a large-scale international sports forum. That led to a 180-degree turn in the ideology of the Soviet sport: it was no longer about the dangers of the record-breaking propensity, but, on the contrary – it favoured the position that all world records had to belong to the Soviet athletes. From that time on, the activities of sports clubs were aimed at training the winners.



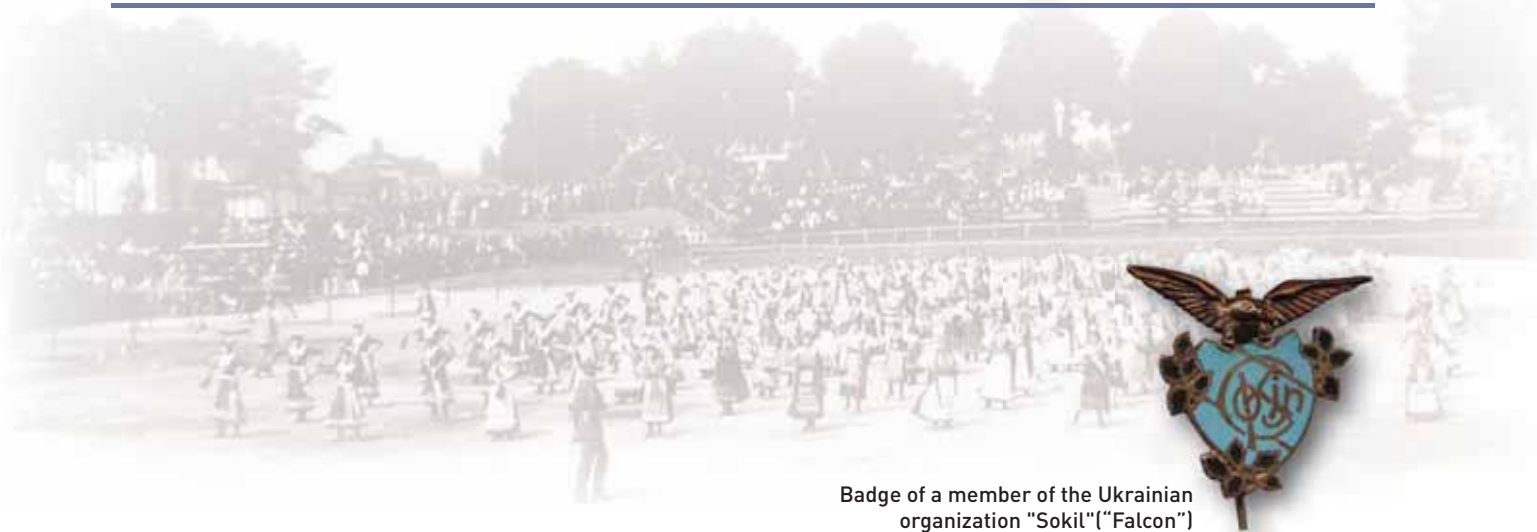
Chateau des Fleurs Park in the Tsar’s Garden, the location where the Dynamo Stadium was built later on. 1913



Dynamo Stadium named after V. A. Balytsky. 1936–1937



In 1937, a part of the Dynamo Stadium was design for walking and recreation



Badge of a member of the Ukrainian organization "Sokil" ("Falcon")

Physical culture and sports took on a somewhat different path of development in the western Ukrainian lands. After the vicissitudes of wars and revolutions, different areas became part of Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Czechoslovakia. Volyn' and Galicia were ceded to Poland (until 1939), Northern Bukovyna was ceded to Romania (until 1940 and 1941-1944), and Transcarpathia was partially ceded to Czechoslovakia (until 1939) and Hungary (1939-1944).

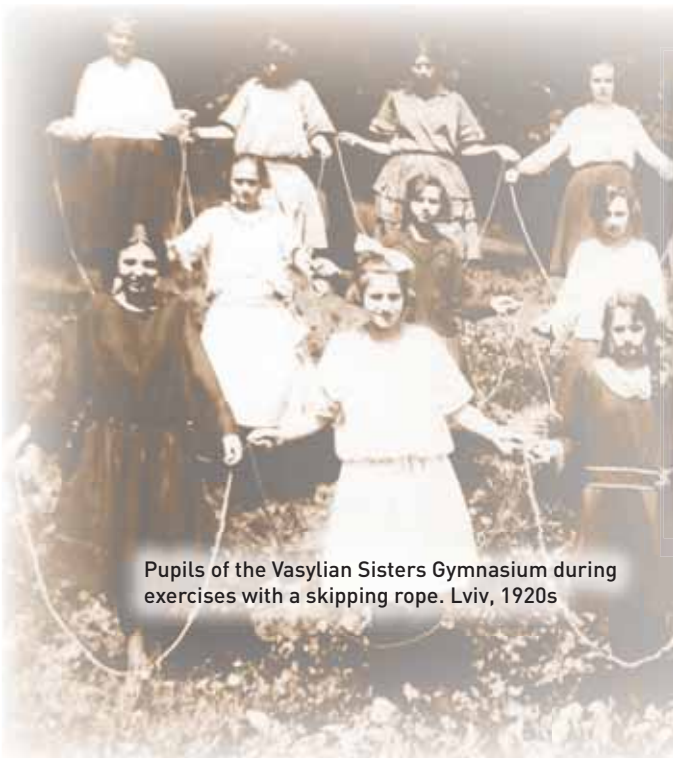
In these western Ukrainian territories, which were part of other countries at that time, people had their particular views on the development of national cultural and educational life.

In the early twentieth century in Galicia, Transcarpathia, and Bukovyna, various sports organizations carried out their activities; a system of sports events was formed. The development of the Ukrain-

ian 'Sokil' movement and a growing interest in sports exerted their pronounced influence on these processes. A peculiar feature was that sports clubs were created on a nationality basis in the western Ukrainian lands. There were Ukrainian, Polish, German, Jewish, and Hungarian sports clubs; among them were Podillia, Syanova Chaika, Chornohora, and Ukraina.

The 'Ukraina' Society founded with a close involvement of one of the active members of the Ukrainian gymnastics movement in Western Ukraine and the Galician system of physical education, Professor Ivan Bobersky, became the first Ukrainian institution to use the name of its native land – 'Ukraina' (Ukraine).

Inspired by the Olympic Games, I. Bobersky initiated the Ukrainian national competitions in Galicia



Pupils of the Vasylian Sisters Gymnasium during exercises with a skipping rope. Lviv, 1920s



Registration card (ID card) of Hryts Luchakivsky, a member of the Ukrainian Sports Club



– the Zaporizhian Games, which organically combined the then young Olympic idea with all-Ukrainian national traditions.

The first Games took place in 1911.

The programme of the first Zaporizhian Games comprised track-and-field competitions. Later, the Games programme was expanded with the events in swimming, cycling, tennis, boxing, and football.

The successful tone to the VI Zaporizhian Games in 1925 was set by the first women's track-and-field events, which had a status of independent competitions. Their programme consisted of seven track-and-field events and basketball.

In the early twentieth century, the Carpathian villages of Slavske and Vorokhta were adapted for doing winter sports. The first ski jumps, skiing runs, and pistes were built in Ukraine.

The traditions of the Zaporizhian Games were not forgotten in the turbulent 1930s. In 1935, the Winter Zaporizhian Games were held for the first time in the mountain town of Slavske. Their programme comprised men's and women's cross-country skiing, ski jumping, downhill and slalom, and ski relays.

About 90 sports clubs of the western Ukrainian lands were ready to participate in the Summer Zaporizhian Games in 1935, but the sports festival so much awaited did not happen. Having realized the degree of impact of such grandiose events on the Ukrainian public, the Polish authorities banned them. Later, the activities of the Ukrainian Sports



Students of the Academic Gymnasia during exercises near the Sokil-Bat'ko (meaning Father Falcon) Gym. Lviv, 1923



Ivan Bobersky was the initiator of the Zaporizhian Games, in Galicia, the Ukrainian national competitions, the populariser of the Olympic sports in Western Ukraine



Union, which organized those challenging and majestic competitions, were banned.

I. Bobersky's interest in the Olympic Games was manifested even before the onset of World War One in his publication "Olympic Competitions" dedicated to the results of the 1912 Games of the V Olympiad in Stockholm. He also expressed hope for the participation of the Ukrainians in those Games. In 1936, I. Bobersky visited the IV Olympic Winter Games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen and the Games of the XI Olympiad in Berlin. His reports on those competitions were published in the Lviv newspapers – Dilo and Sokilski Visti.

It is worth mentioning that he actively corresponded with the Organizing Committee of the Berlin Olympics to obtain permission for demonstration performances of art groups from Western Ukraine in Berlin during the Olympic Games, and accreditation for himself and Stepan Haiduchok as journalists, and participation of the Ukrainian athletes. The requirement to create the Ukrainian National Olympic Committee as a prerequisite for the participation of the Ukrainian team in the events turned out to be an insurmountable problem. Given the situation of the Ukrainian territories at that time, such a task was beyond the powers of Ukrainian sports activists.



Emblems of the 'Ukraina' Sports Society of different times

It should be mentioned that I. Bobersky's endeavours were not the first: during the times of the Ukrainian People's Republic, the National Olympic Committee was founded. It appealed to the International Olympic Committee for recognition as the NOC and admission of the Ukrainian athletes to the 1920 Games of the VII Olympiad in Antwerp (Belgium).

However, it should be noted that in the period of 1920-1936, athletes from Western Ukraine participated in the Olympic Games in teams from different countries – Poland, Romania, Latvia, Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, the United States, and others.

Later, in Western Ukraine, after its integration into the Ukrainian SSR, the local sports societies were transformed in accordance with the organizational forms that were typical of the Soviet Union.

The first badges of distinction and stripes of the Plast (National Scout Organization)



Artistic and gymnastic composition "Tower on the railings" on the grounds near the Sokil's home. Stanislav, 1913



Badge of distinction of participants in the Zaporizhian Games held in 1911 in Lviv



Sich members of the Ukrainian Sich Union perform exercises



Medal of the II Zaporizhian Games

Badge of distinction of participants of the Shevchenko movement. 1914



One of the first "Plast" (Ukrainian scouts) decorations

City "falcons" during exercises



Ukrainian "Sokil" postcards



ОРГАНІЗАЦІЙНА СЕКЦІЯ СОКОЛА БАТЬКА ЛЬВІВ, УЛ. РУСЬКА М.

After World War II, achievements of the Soviet athletes in the international arena began to be gradually acknowledged. In 1946, the Soviet weightlifting, basketball, and football clubs received international recognition; in 1947, track-and-field athletes, wrestlers, swimmers, skaters, and chess players joined the respective International Federations; in 1948 – so did skiers and volleyball players.

In that period, the Soviet athletes had their successful debuts at the European and World Championships in different sports, having demonstrated high results.

In June 1947, the Soviet Union received an invitation from IOC President Sigfrid Edström to take part in the 1948 Games of XIV Olympiad in London.

However, the leadership of the USSR decided to send only a delegation of 13 observers to London, whose task was to study the level of technical preparation of different teams, level of equipment and tactics of athletes, the organization of the competitions.



The conclusions of the delegation were positive and accelerated the entry of the USSR national team into the Olympic family.

In 1950, the USSR received another official invitation to take part in the 1952 Games of the XV Olympiad in Helsinki. The invitation was accepted. And on 23 April 1951, a statutory assembly held in Moscow founded the USSR Olympic Committee. On the same day, a letter was sent to the IOC Headquarters announcing the establishment of the USSR Olympic Committee accompanied by the request for its recognition. The Olympic Committee of the Soviet Union was recognized on 7 May 1951 at the 45th session of the IOC held in Vienna (Austria).



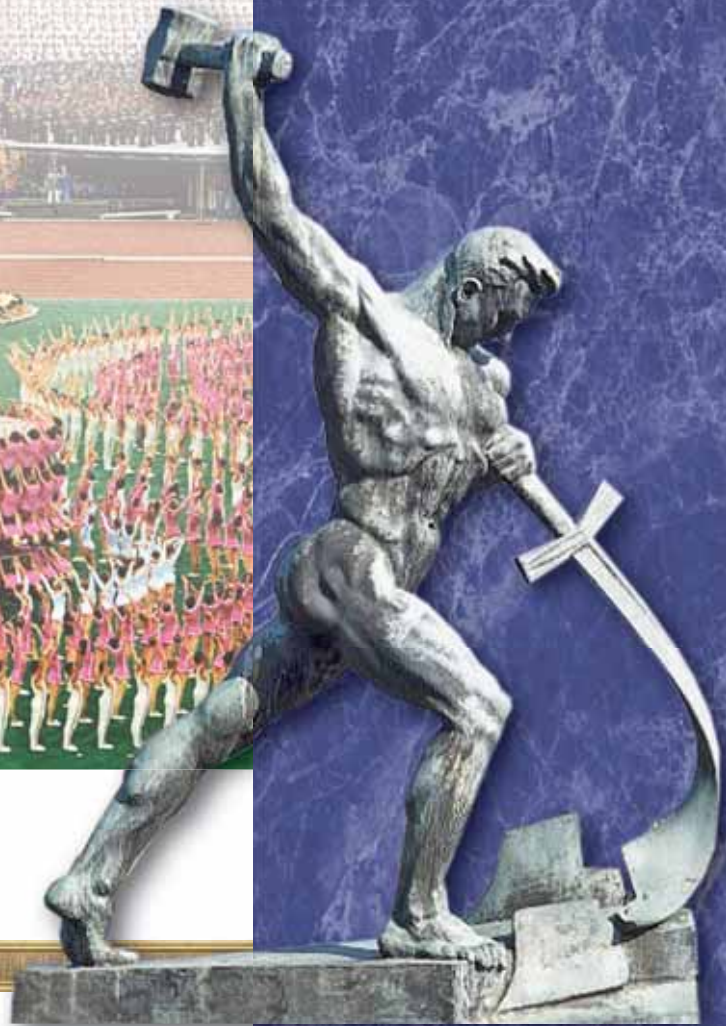
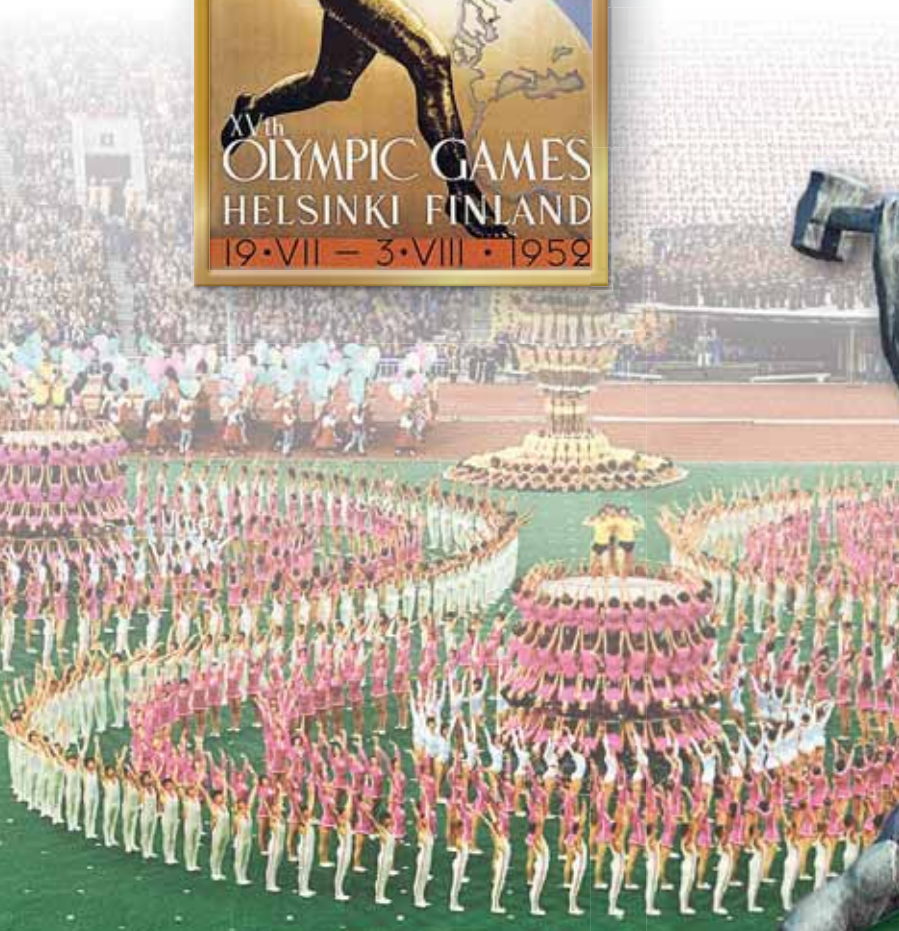
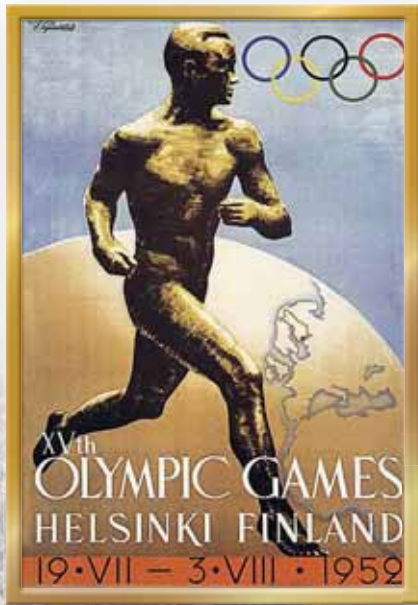
Badge of a participant of the 45th session of the IOC held on 7 May 1951 in Vienna (Austria). That was the session, which decided to recognize the Olympic Committee of the Soviet Union



Table medal "National Olympic Committee of the USSR"



# Part III



Ukrainian Athletes in  
the Soviet national  
team at the 1952–1976  
Olympic Games

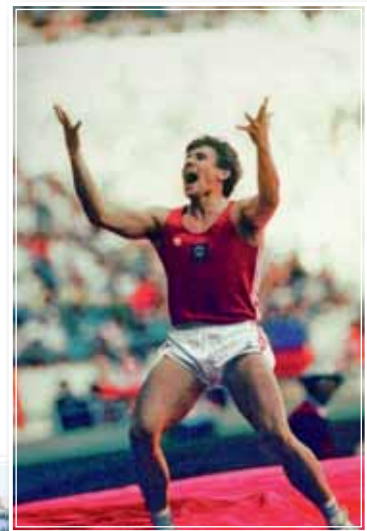
Preparing for the 1980  
Olympic Games

The Ukrainian SSR  
Picks Up the Torch  
of the Olympic Flame

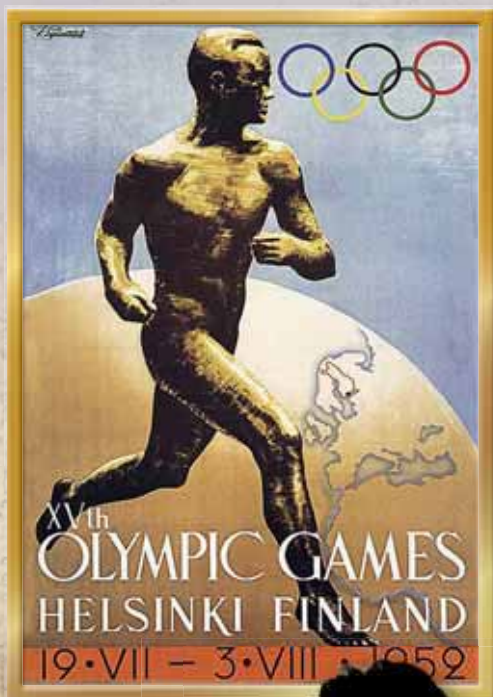
At the Olympic Games  
of the 1980s

The Olympic Legacy of  
the Games of the XXII  
Olympiad for Ukraine

# The Olympic Movement in the USSR in 1952–1991



# Ukrainian Athletes at the 1952-1976 Olympic Games



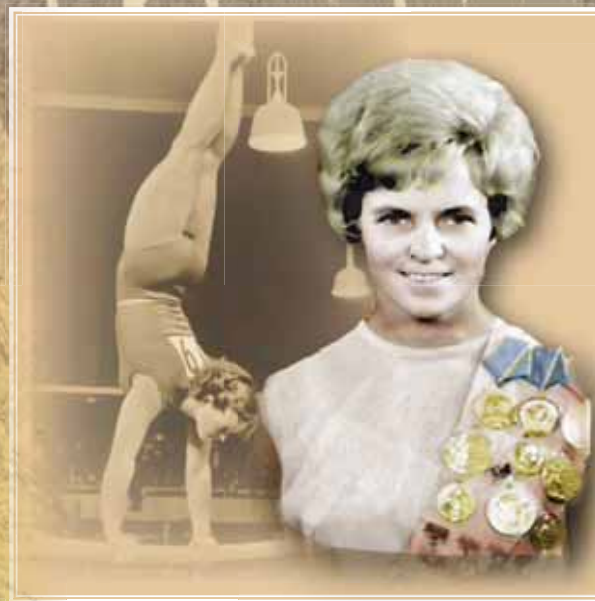
## The 1952 Games of the XV Olympiad (Helsinki -1952)

The Soviet athletes sensationally debuted at the 1952 Games of the XV Olympiad in Helsinki (Finland). The USSR national team took the second place, having won 71 Olympic medals, of which 22 gold, 30 silver, and 19 bronze medals. And a great credit for such a result went to 26 athletes of the Ukrainian SSR who won 10 gold, 10 silver, and 1 bronze medal (a total of 21 medals).

Ukrainian gymnasts Nina Bocharova (2), Maria Gorokhovska (3), Viktor Chukarin (4), Dmytro Leonkin, and Greco-Roman wrestler Yakiv Punkin mounted the highest step of the Olympic rostrum.



Maria Gorokhovskaya's performance at the Olympics in Helsinki was sensational. She won seven Olympic medals in gymnastics - two gold and five silver. She won the title of the absolute champion of the Games of the XV Olympiad (in all-around) and a gold medal in team competition



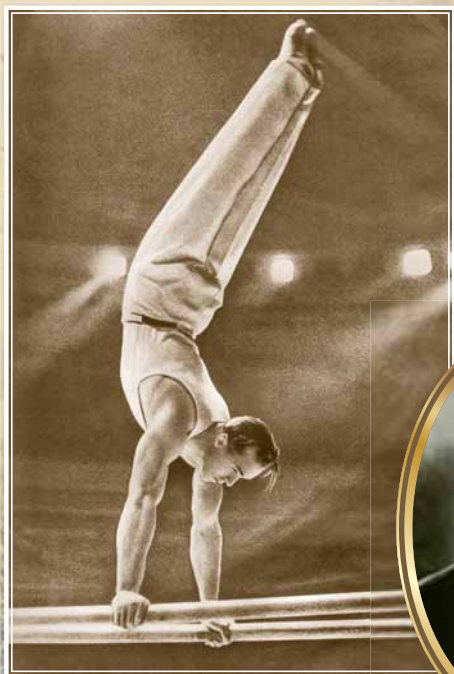
At the Games of the XV Olympiad in Helsinki in the gymnastics competitions, Nina Bocharova became the champion of the Games in the team competitions and in the balance beam; she won silver Olympic medals in all-around and team events with portable apparatus



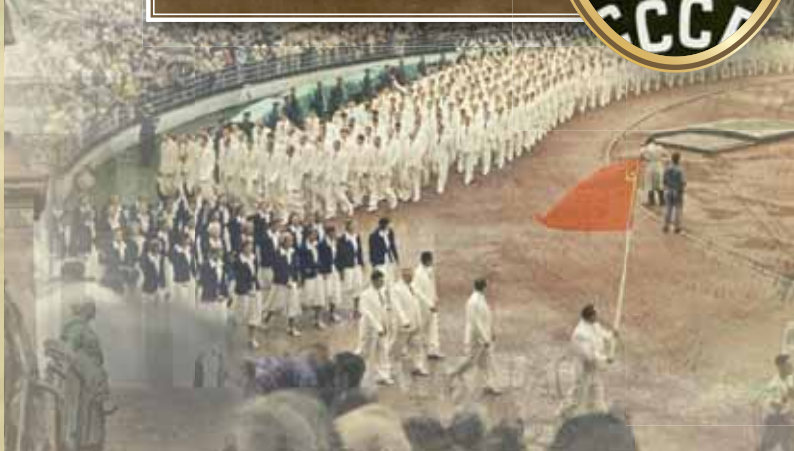
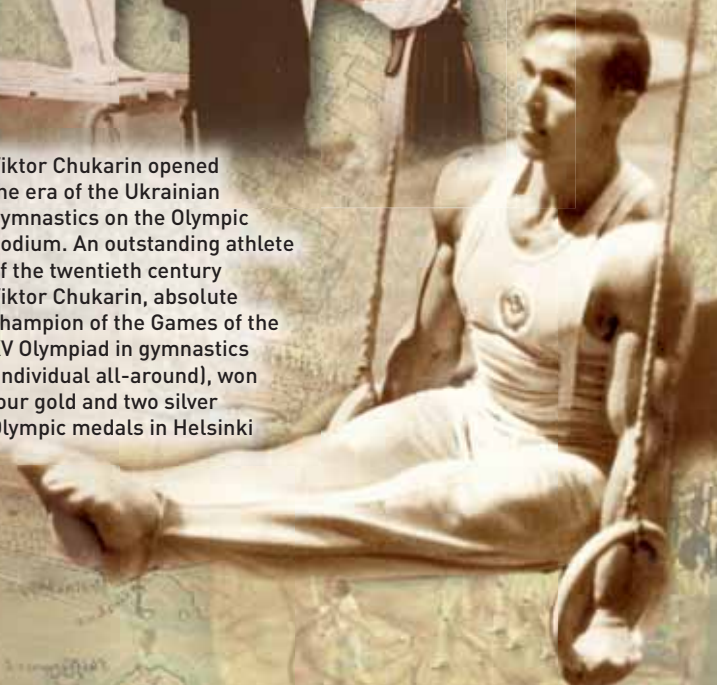
Dmytro Leonkin – the champion of the Games of the XV Olympiad in gymnastics in the men's team competition and bronze medallist in the men's rings event



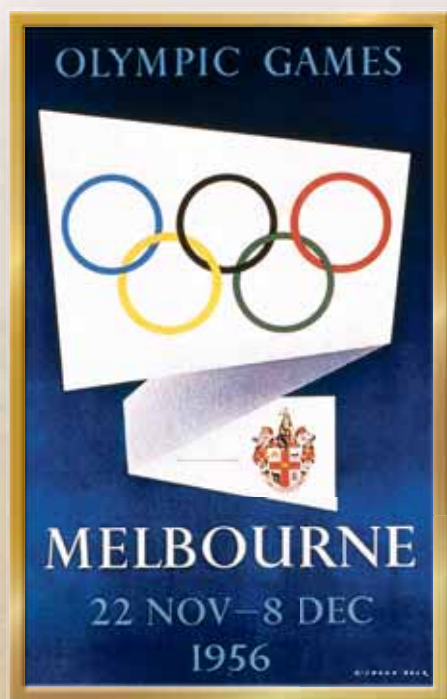
Yakiv Punkin was a legendary Ukrainian wrestler who, after the concentration camps of World War II, mounted the highest step of the Olympic podium in Helsinki in the Greco-Roman wrestling event (in the weight class up to 62 kg).



Viktor Chukarin opened the era of the Ukrainian gymnastics on the Olympic podium. An outstanding athlete of the twentieth century Viktor Chukarin, absolute champion of the Games of the XV Olympiad in gymnastics (individual all-around), won four gold and two silver Olympic medals in Helsinki







## The Games of the XVI Olympiad (Melbourne–1956)

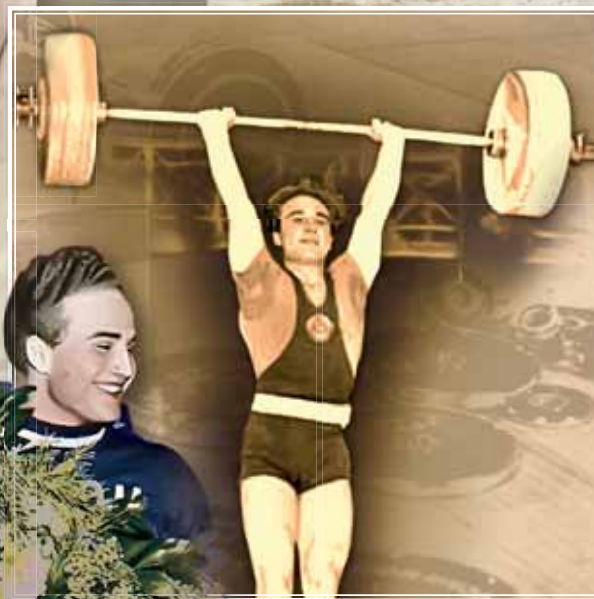
The national team of the Soviet Union made its way to the Olympic Melbourne in one month on Georgia – the best ship in the USSR of that time. It later became a hotel for the team during the Games. That time, the victory was gained by the USSR national team (37 gold, 29 silver, and 32 bronze awards). At the 1956 Games of the XVI Olympiad, the Soviet team included 34 Ukrainian athletes who won 28 medals (14 gold, 4 silver, and 11 bronze) in individual and team events. The champions of the Games were gymnasts Polina Astakhova, Larysa Latynina (3), Yuriy Tytov, Viktor Chukarin (3), Borys Shakhlin (2), weightlifter Igor Rybak, pentathlete Ivan Deryugin, and shooter Vitaliy Romanenko.



Vitaliy Romanenko - the champion and record holder of the 1956 Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne in shooting (men's 100 m running deer). He is a "lifelong" champion in this event: after 1956, the men's 100 m running deer was excluded from the programme of the Olympic Games



Polina Astakhova - the champion and record holder of the 1956 Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne in gymnastics in the women's team competition and bronze medallist in the women's team event with portable apparatus



Igor Rybak - the champion of the 1956 Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne in weightlifting (weight class up to 67.5 kg). He was the first Ukrainian weightlifter to become an Olympic champion





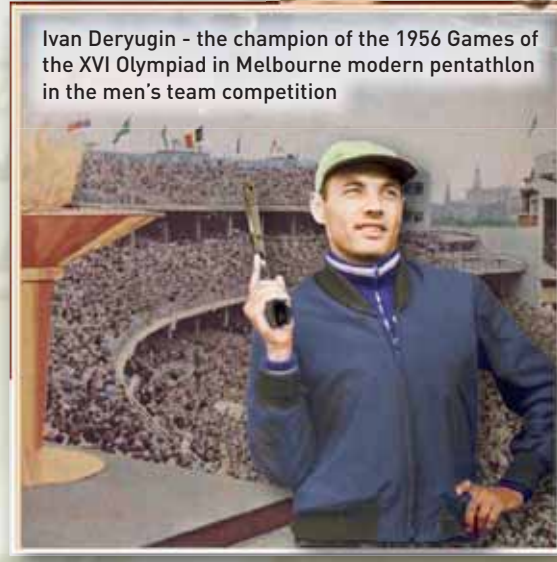
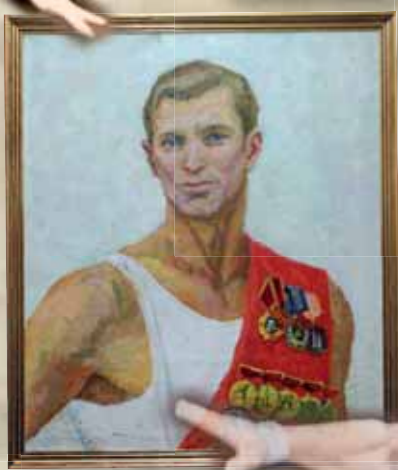
Viktor Chukarin - the champion of the 1956 Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne in gymnastics in the men's individual all-around, the team competitions, and in the parallel bars, silver medallist in the men's floor exercise, and bronze medallist in the pommel horse exercise



Yuriy Titov - the champion of the 1956 Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne in gymnastics in the men's team competition, silver medallist in the men's horizontal bar, and bronze medallist in the men's vault and the individual all-around



Larysa Latynina's unsurpassed talent was opened to the world by the XVI Olympic Games. Melbourne's brightest Olympic star won four gold, one silver, and one bronze medal in gymnastics

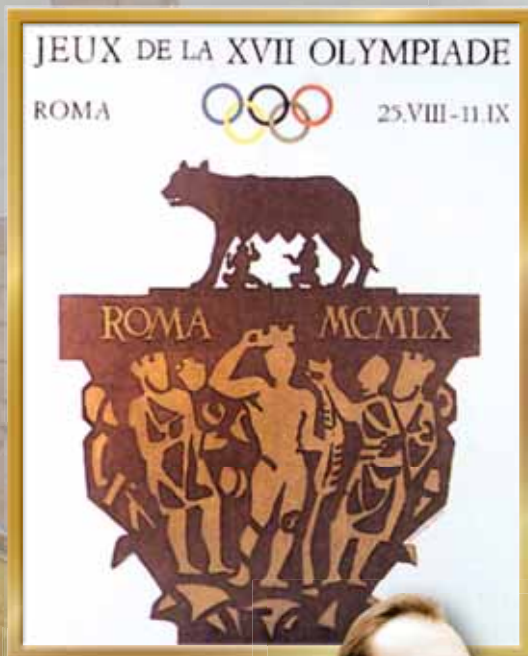


Ivan Deryugin - the champion of the 1956 Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne modern pentathlon in the men's team competition




Borys Shakhlin - the champion of the 1956 Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne in gymnastics in the men's team competition and in the pommel horse event





## The Games of the XVII Olympiad (Rome–1960)

The 1960 Games of the XVII Olympiad in Rome were held in a politically tense environment. Even the Olympic Village resembled a geopolitical map: delegations of capitalist countries were located in its western part; delegations of socialist countries – in its east part; and between them, the teams of neutral countries were accommodated. However, the USSR team was a solid leader, having won 43 gold, 29 silver, and 31 bronze medals. The team included 35 athletes from the USSR. The Ukrainian athletes made their significant contribution to the triumph of the USSR team at the Games of the XVII Olympiad, having won 16 gold, 11 silver, and 6 bronze medals in the individual and team competitions. In Rome, the Soviet women's gymnastics team achieved unprecedented success. "The Aristocrats of Motion" was the name given to them by sports professionals. The day of the gymnastic championship in the individual events went down in history as "the evening of the Soviet anthem." Of the 16 Olympic medals contested at the Games, the Soviet gymnasts won 15! Larysa Latynina, Polina Astakhova, and Margarita Nikolayeva returned from the Games of the XVII Olympiad with twelve Olympic medals, including seven medals of the highest value. The triumphant performance of the outstanding master of gymnastics Borys Shakhlin should not go unmentioned either: he managed to win 4 gold, 2 silver, and 1 bronze medal. Also, the Olympic gold medals were owned by wrestler Ivan Bogdan, track-and-field athletes Volodymyr Golubnychy, Vira Krepkina, Lyudmyla Lysenko, Viktor Tsybulenko




Viktor Tsybulenko - the champion of the 1960 Games of the XVII Olympiad in Rome in athletics in the men's javelin throw. That was his third Olympiad in a row. He debuted in 1952 in Helsinki, where he was the fourth. He won a bronze medal at the 1956 Games in Melbourne. In Rome, he showed the Olympic result of 84 m 64 cm and won a gold medal



Vira Krepkina - the champion of the 1960 Games of the XVII Olympiad in Rome in athletics in the women's long jump. Her result - 6 m 37 cm - became a new Olympic record. "Baby from Kyiv" was the nickname affectionately given to Vira Krepkina by the Italian press



Volodymyr Golubnychy - the champion of the 1960 Games of the XVII Olympiad in Rome in athletics in the men's 20 km walking



Lyudmyla Lysenko - the champion of the 1960 Games of the XVII Olympiad in Rome in athletics in the women's 800 m. The result shown in Rome (2 min 4.3 s) became a new Olympic record





Margaryta Nikolayeva – a two-time champion of the 1960 Games of the XVII Olympiad in Rome in gymnastics in the women's team competitions and in the women's vault

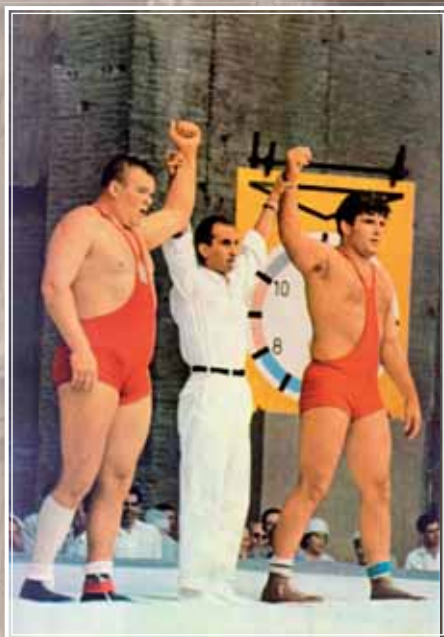


Borys Shakhlin's performance at the 1960 Games of the XVII Olympiad in Rome was truly triumphant. The outstanding master of gymnastics managed to win four gold, two silver, and one bronze medal. The press noted that Shakhlin won more medals than the entire French Olympic team as a whole

Polina Astakhova – a two-time champion of the 1960 Games of the XVII Olympiad in Rome in gymnastics in the women's team competitions and in the uneven bars, silver medallist in the women's floor exercise, bronze medallist in the all-around event



Larysa Latynina – a three-time champion of the 1960 Games of the XVII Olympiad in Rome in gymnastics in the women's individual all-around, team competitions, and floor exercise, silver medallist in the women's balance beam and uneven bars, bronze medallist in the women's vault



Ivan Bogdan - the champion of the 1960 Games of the XVII Olympiad in Rome in Greco-Roman wrestling in the weight class over 87 kg



## The Games of the XVIII Olympiad (Tokyo–1964)

The Olympic Games were held for the first time on the Asian continent in Tokyo in 1964. Nowhere and never before had the state and the people been so unanimous in their striving to showcase their capabilities on the example of the Olympic Games to the whole planet. At the Games of the XVIII Olympiad, the USSR national team gained 30 gold, 31 silver, and 35 bronze medals and lost to the US team. As at the previous Games, a significant contribution to the Soviet team's result was made by 35 Ukrainian athletes, who won a total of 29 medals (13 gold, 12 silver, and 7 bronze) in the individual and team events in Tokyo. The top of the Olympic podium was conquered by gymnasts Polina Astakhova (2), Larysa Latynina (2), Borys Shakhlin; track-and-field athlete Valeriy Brumel; volleyball players Yuriy Vengerovsky, Yuriy Poyarkov, Eduard Sibiryakov; rowers Volodymyr Morozov, Mykola Chuzhikov, and Andrey Khimich; weightlifter Leonid Zhabotynsky; fencer Hryhoriy Kriss, and swimmer Halyna Prozumenshchykova.

Mykola Chuzhikov (R) and Volodymyr Morozov (L) - the champions of the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo in canoeing in the K-4 1000 m

TOKYO

1964





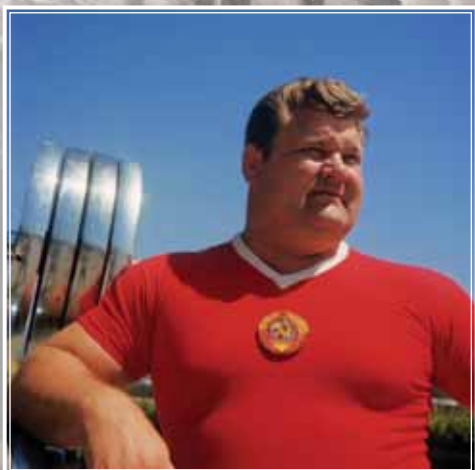
Eduard Sibiryakov - the champion of the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo in volleyball



Yuriy Vengerovsky - the champion of the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo in volleyball



Yuriy Poyarkov - the champion of the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo in volleyball



Leonid Zhabotynsky - the champion of the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo in weightlifting in the weight class over 90 kg



Halyna Prozumenshchykova - the champion of the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo in swimming in the women's 200 m breaststroke

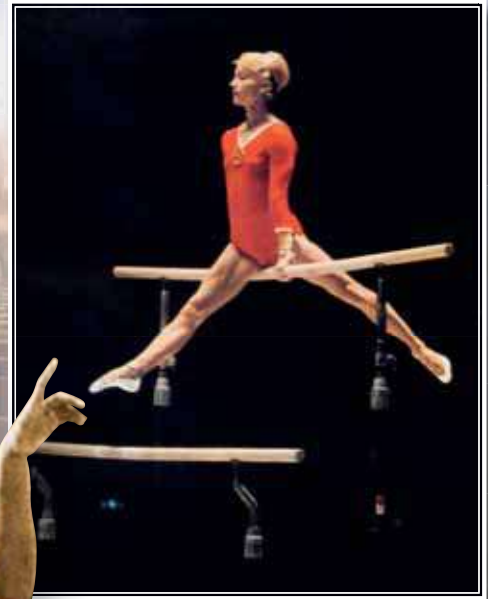




Valeriy Brumel - the champion of the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo in athletics in the men's high jump



Hryhoriy Kriss - the champion of the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo in fencing in the men's epee individual



Polina Astakhova won four medals, including two gold (women's uneven bars and team competitions), one silver (floor exercise) and one bronze (all-around) in artistic gymnastics competitions at the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo



Andrey Khimich - the champion of the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo in canoeing in the men's C-2 1000 m



# AS A GYMNAST

by Boris Shakhlin

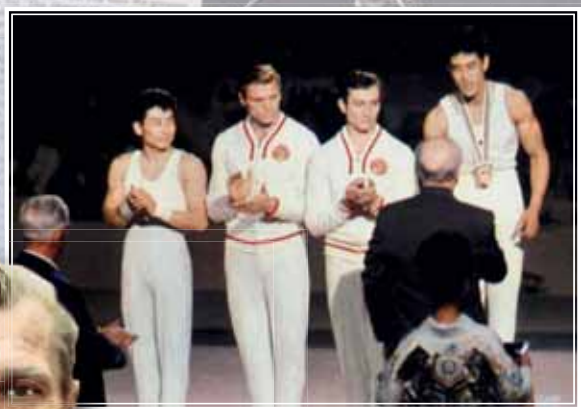
Up to now I have been talking mostly about myself, my friends and my work. I have talked less about training and more about competitions. Of course, for him everything has been said. I have chosen from my experience those things which although they can be of use to others, but since I would like to give some practical advice to my young colleagues, readers of all ages to the readers.

**Can anyone become a gymnast?**  
**Weight and Weight.** - There should be within the body some reserve for a gymnast. One does not fit to be able to achieve good results in gymnastics. Most often, what if all these necessary conditions are present. And, even when they are, it is a sign for them being physical.

Each of us has to be a gymnast. It is not only a matter of physical preparation, but also of mental preparation. One has to be prepared for the moment when the audience will be watching you. One has to be prepared for the moment when the audience will be watching you. One has to be prepared for the moment when the audience will be watching you.



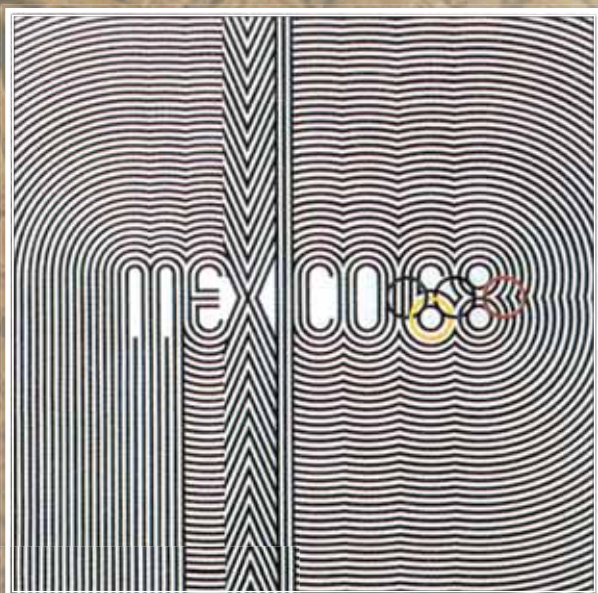
At the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo, in artistic gymnastics competitions, Larysa Latynina won two gold (women's floor exercise and team competitions), two silver (women's all-around and competition), and two bronze (women's uneven bars and balance beam) medals. She won a total of 18 Olympic awards



Borys Shakhlin won one gold medal (men's horizontal bar), two silver (men's all-around and team competitions) and one bronze medal (men's rings) in artistic gymnastics competitions at the 1964 Games of the XVIII Olympiad in Tokyo. That brought the total number of the Olympic medals at three successive Olympic Games up to 13, among which were seven gold medals







## The Games of the XIX Olympiad (Mexico City–1968)

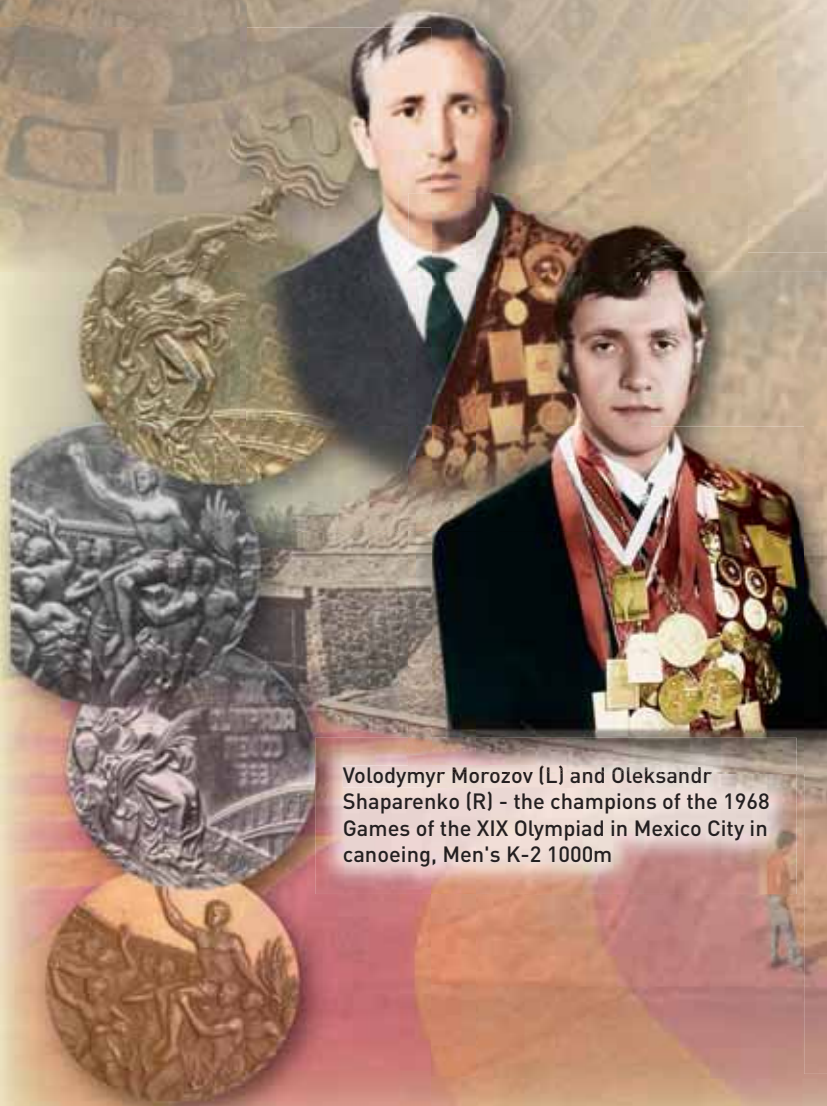
In 1963, Mexico City was lucky to gain the right to host the 1968 Games of the XIX Olympiad. The world's most grandiose events were held at an altitude of 2,240 metres above sea level. That factor required most participants upscaling their physical efforts. The strongest team by the number of medals gained at the Games of the XIX Olympiad was the national team of the USA, having won 45 gold, 28 silver, and 34 bronze medals. The team significantly outperformed the USSR team, which landed at the second place in Mexico City with 29 gold, 32 silver, and 30 bronze medals.

The USSR national team included 52 athletes of the Ukrainian SSR. The Ukrainian athletes made their substantial contribution to the Olympic asset of the USSR national team, having won 7 gold, 8 silver, and 9 bronze medals (a total of 24) in individual and team competitions in Mexico City. The highest Olympic awards – gold medals – were gained by volleyball players Volodymyr Belyaev, Volodymyr Ivanov, Yevhen Lapinsky, Vasilijus Matuševas, Viktor Mykhalchuk, Yuriy Poyarkov, and Borys Tereshchuk; track-and-field athlete Volodymyr Golubnychy; weightlifter Leonid Zhabotynsky; freestyle wrestler Borys Gurevych; yachtsman Valentyn Mankin; rowers Volodymyr Morozov and Oleksandr Shaparenko; fencer Viktor Sydyak.

Valentyn Mankin - the champion of the 1968 Games of the XIX Olympiad in Mexico City in sailing, men's Finn class



Volodymyr Morozov (L) and Oleksandr Shaparenko (R) - the champions of the 1968 Games of the XIX Olympiad in Mexico City in canoeing, Men's K-2 1000m





Viktor Sydyak - the champion of the 1968 Games of the XIX Olympiad in Mexico City in fencing, men's sabre team

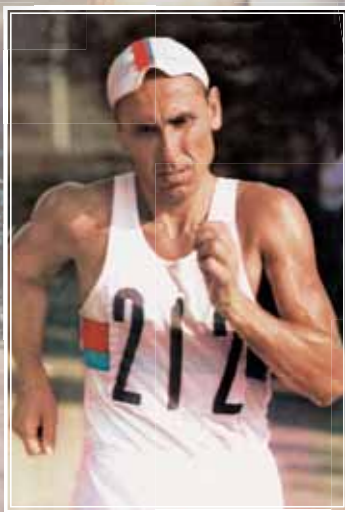


Олімпійська збірна 1968 р. в Мехіко. Вераній рід: Ю.М. Каліной – головний тренер (Москва), Г. Бугаченко (Рига), Г. Монахмелевський (Москва), В. Беляєв (Луганськ), В. Кравченко, О. Антропов (Алма-Ата), Б. Терешчук (Київ), М.А. Барський (Одеса). Нижній рід: С. Лапінський (Одеса), В. Іванов (Київ), В. Матусевич (Харків), Е. Міхальчук (Одеса), В. Попряков (Харків), Е. Слібріков (Москва)

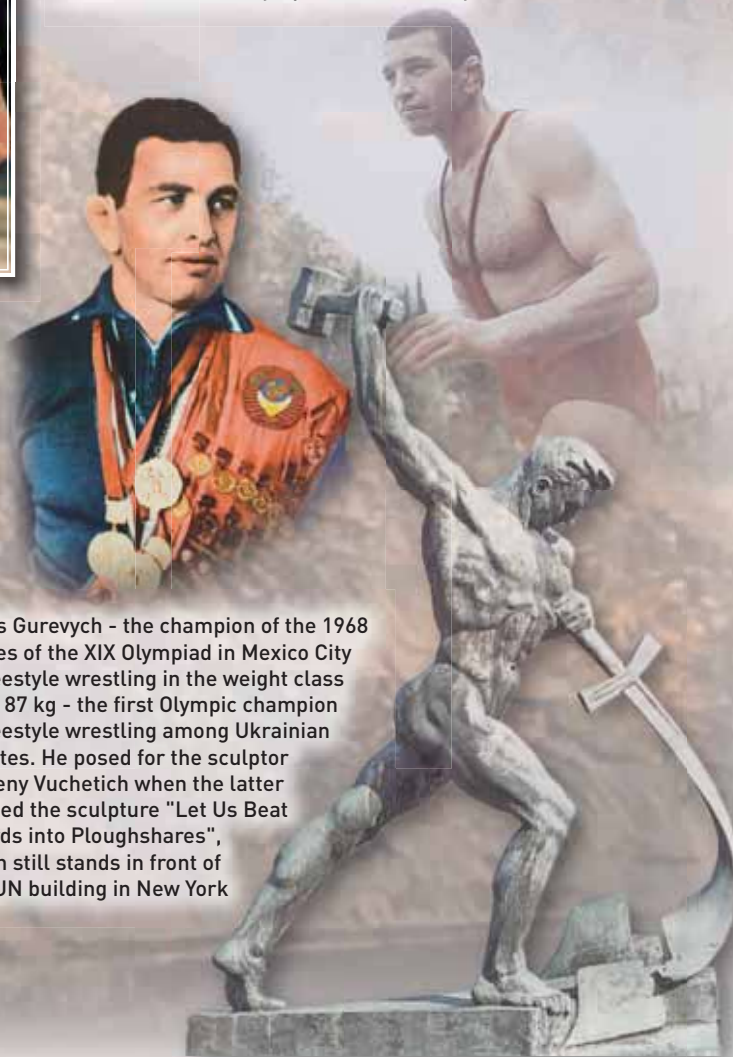
Ukrainian volleyball players V. Belyaev (Luhansk), B. Tereshchuk (Kyiv), E. Lapynsky (Odessa), V. Ivanov (Kyiv), V. Matushevas (Kharkiv), V. Mykhalchuk (Odessa), Y. Poyarkov (Kharkiv), and coach M.A. Barsky - as part of the USSR team, which became the champion of the 1968 Games of the XIX Olympiad in Mexico City



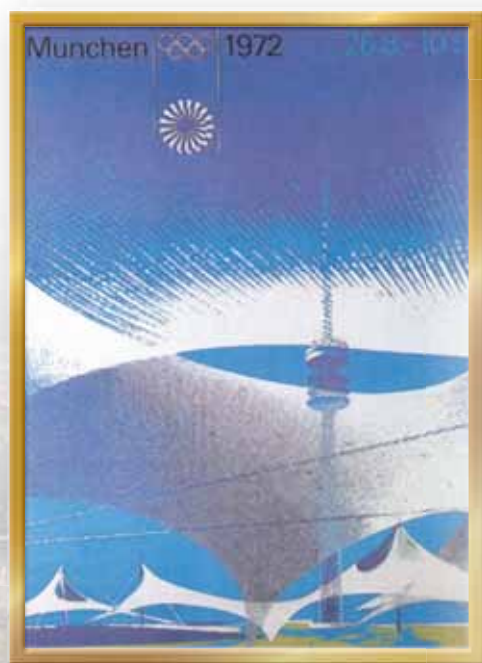
Volodymyr Golubnychy - the champion of the 1968 Games of the XIX Olympiad in Mexico City in athletics in the men's 20 km walk



Leonid Zhabotynsky - the champion of the 1968 Games of the XIX Olympiad in Mexico City in weightlifting in the super heavyweight class (over 90 kg)



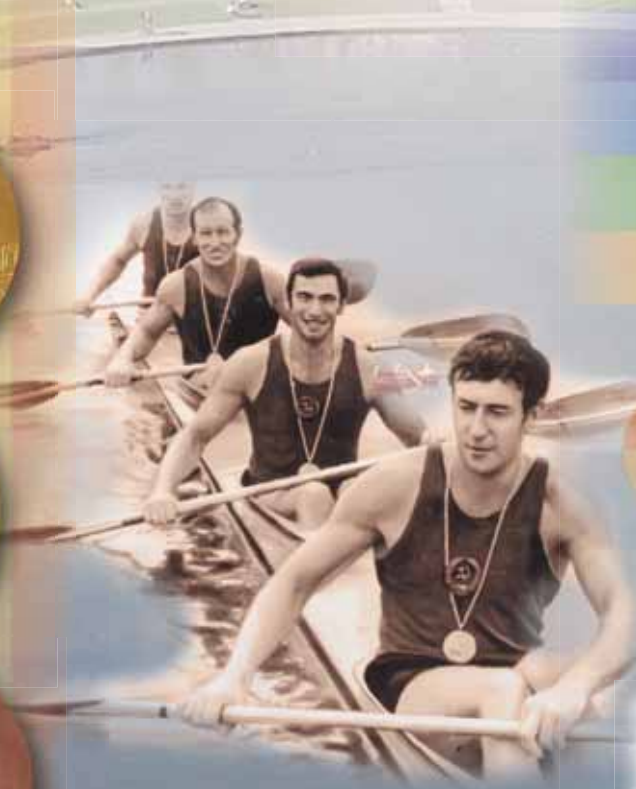
Borys Gurevych - the champion of the 1968 Games of the XIX Olympiad in Mexico City in freestyle wrestling in the weight class up to 87 kg - the first Olympic champion in freestyle wrestling among Ukrainian athletes. He posed for the sculptor Yevgeny Vuchetich when the latter created the sculpture "Let Us Beat Swords into Ploughshares", which still stands in front of the UN building in New York



## The Games of the XX Olympiad (Munich-1972)

After a 12-year interval, the Olympic flame returned to Europe again: the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad were hosted by Munich, which created excellent conditions for the events. Unfortunately, the festival of the world sports was blighted by the bloodstained tragedy that claimed the lives of 11 Israeli athletes and coaches who died in a terrorist attack by radical Islamists from the Black September extremist organization. The terrorist act was condemned by the global community.

The USSR national team was a confident leader by the number of the Olympic medals won in Munich, with 50 gold, 27 silver, and 22 bronze medals. The Olympic medals honoured a large group of outstanding Ukrainian athletes in the USSR national team – 71 athletes. They contributed 15 gold, 9 silver, and 6 bronze medals (a total of 30) in individual and team events to the asset of the USSR national team. The highest step of the Olympic podium was reached by 20 Ukrainian athletes: Valeriy Borzov (2), Mykola Avilov, Anatoliy Bondarchuk (track-and-field athletics); Oleksiy Barkalov (water polo); Vitaliy Dirdyra and Valentyn Mankin (sailing); Yakiv Zheleznyak (shooting); Sergiy Kovalenko and Anatoliy Polyvoda (basketball); Kateryna Kuryshko, Volodymyr Morozov, Yuliya Ryabchynska, Yuriy Stetsenko, Yuriy Filatov, and Oleksandr Shaparenko (kayaking and canoeing); Pavlo Lednyov and Borys Onyshchenko (modern pentathlon); Volodymyr Semenets and Igor Tselovalnykov (cycling), and Viktor Sydyak (fencing).



Yuriy Filatov, Volodymyr Morozov, Yuriy Stetsenko (L–R) – the champions of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in rowing as part of the men's K-4 1000m kayak fours

# THE 1972 OLYMPICS

## THE MUNICH MASSACRE



Vitaliy Dirdyra – the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in sailing, the men's Tempest class



Kateryna Kuryshko - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in the women's K-2 500m kayak pairs

Oleksandr Shaparenko - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in the men's K-1 1000m kayak singles



Yuliya Ryabchynska - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in the women's K-1 500m kayak singles

Valentyn Mankin - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in sailing, the men's Tempest class





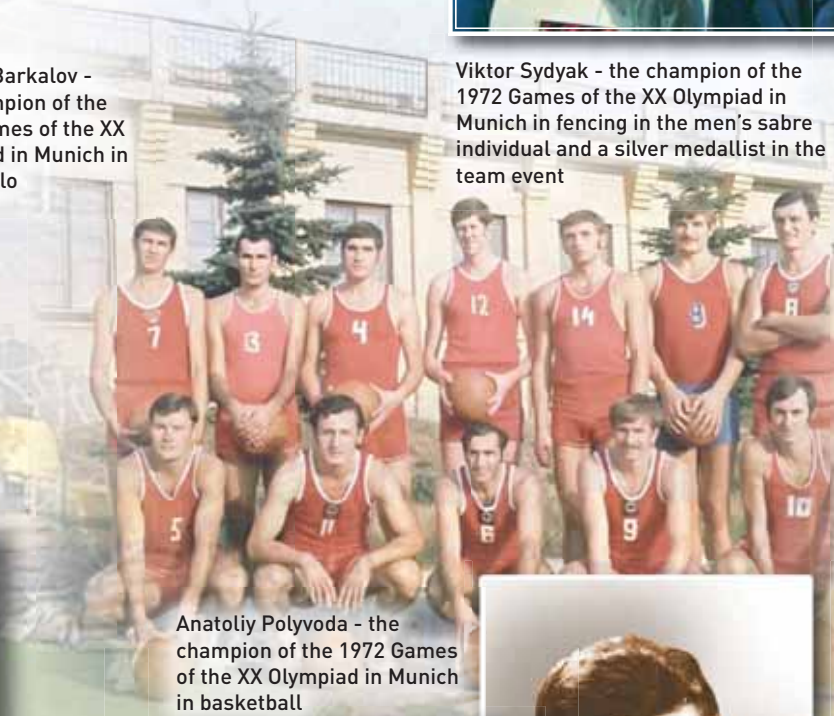
Volodymyr Semenets and Igor Tselovalnykov - the champions of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in cycling in the men's tandem



Viktor Sydyak - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in fencing in the men's sabre individual and a silver medallist in the team event



Oleksiy Barkalov - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in water polo



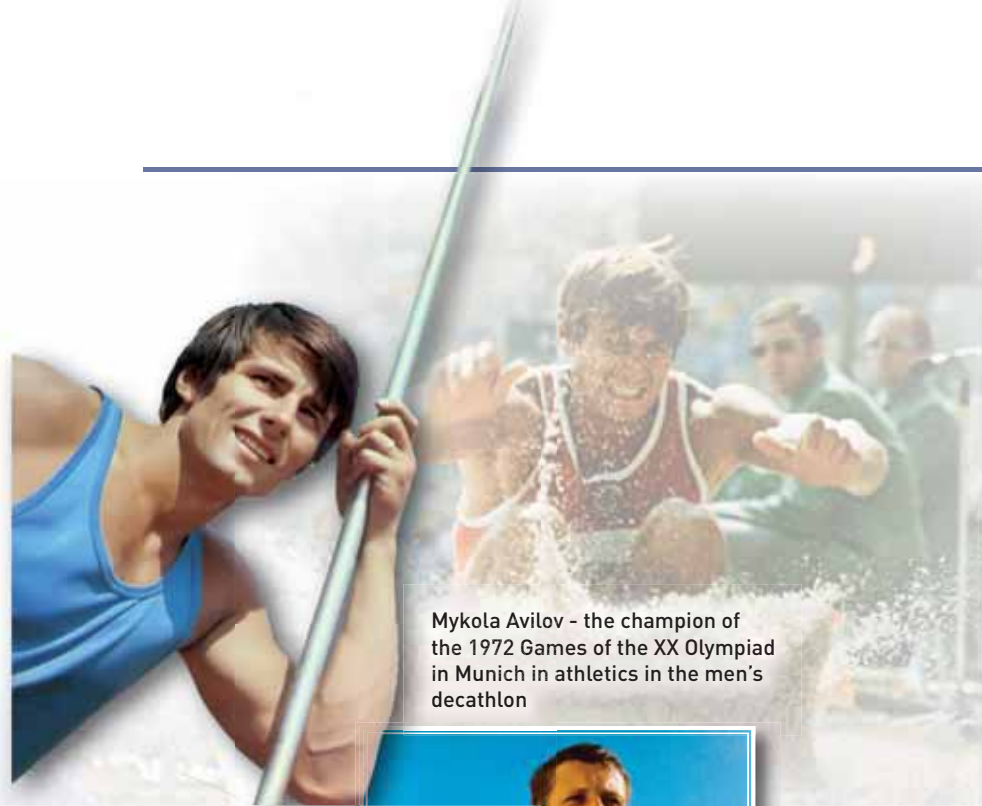
Anatoliy Polyvoda - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in basketball



Yakiv Zheleznyak - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in shooting in the men's running target



Sergiy Kovalenko - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in basketball



Mykola Avilov - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in athletics in the men's decathlon



Anatoliy Bondarchuk – the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in athletics in the hammer throw

Pavlo Lednyov - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in the modern pentathlon in the men's team competition and bronze medallist in the men's individual competitions

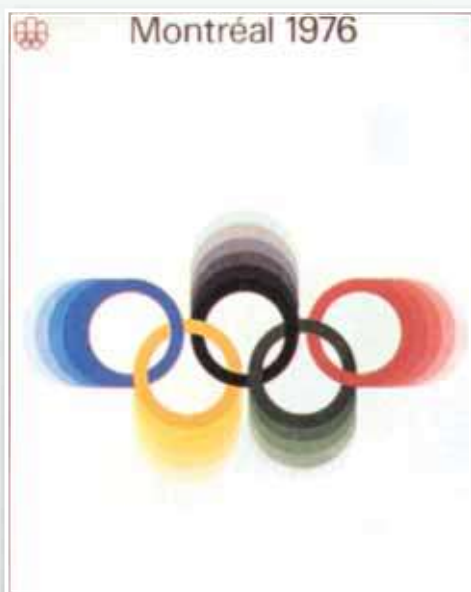


Valeriy Borzov – a two-time champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in athletics in the men's 100 m and 200 m



Borys Onyshchenko - the champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich in the modern pentathlon in the men's team competition and silver medallist in the men's individual competitions





## The Games of the XXI Olympiad (Montreal-1976)

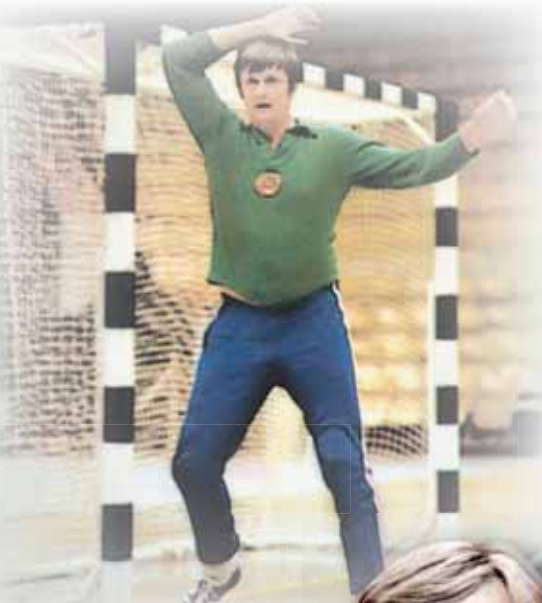
The right to host the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad was granted to Montreal (Canada). For the first time ever, the Olympic flame lit in Olympia was sent to Canada by a laser via a space satellite. By the number of medals won in Montreal, the USSR national team gained a spectacular victory with 49 gold, 41 silver, and 35 bronze medals. The Soviet team comprised 94 athletes from the Ukrainian SSR. Many of them worthily joined the Ukrainian constellation of the Olympic champions. At the Games of the XXI Olympiad, Ukrainian athletes contributed 13 gold, 12 silver, and 9 bronze medals (a total of 34) in individual and team events for the USSR national team's asset. The winners of the Olympic gold medals were 27 Ukrainian athletes: Lyudmyla Bobrus, Tetyana Glushchenko, Halyna Zakharova, Larysa Karlova, Maria Litoshenko, Nina Lobova, Tetyana Makarets, Lyubov Odinkova, Lyudmyla Panchuk, Zinaida Turchyna, and Nataliya Sherstyuk; Sergiy Kushniryuk, Yuriy Lagutin and Oleksandr Rezanov (handball); Nataliya Klymova and Raisa Kurvyakova (basketball); Oleksandr Kolchinsky and Pavlo Pinigin (wrestling); Petro Korol (weightlifting); Sergiy Nagorny, Sergiy Petrenko (2), Yuriy Filatov and Sergiy Chukhrai (kayaking and canoeing); Sergiy Novikov (judo); Yuriy Sedykh (athletics), and Anatoliy Chukanov (cycling).



Raisa Kurvyakova - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in basketball

Nataliya Klymova - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in basketball

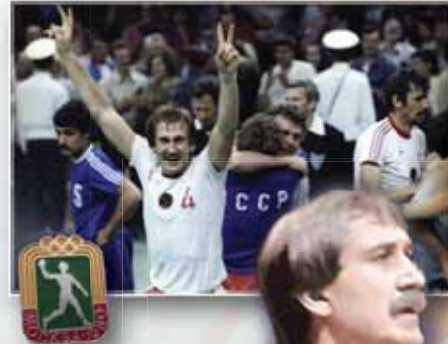




Mykhailo Ishchenko - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in handball



Oleksandr Ryezanov- the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in handball



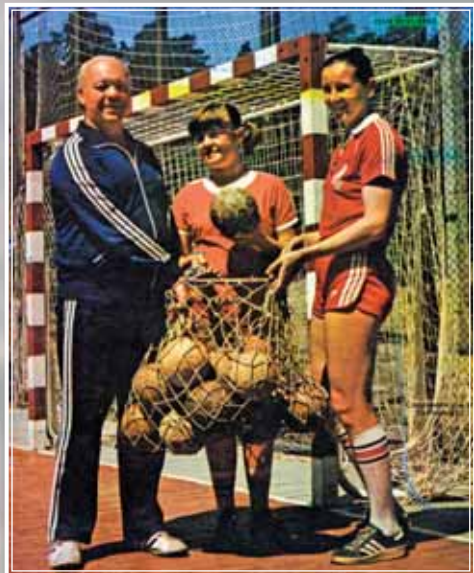
Sergiy Kushniryuk- the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in handball



Yuriy Lagutin- the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in handball



Lyudmyla Bobrus, Larysa Karlova, Tetyana Makarets, Halyna Zakharova, Nataliya Sherstyuk, Tetyana Glushchenko, Lyudmyla Panchuk, Nina Lobova, Maria Litoshenko, Lyubov Odinkova, and Zinaida Turchyna - the champions of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in handball



JEUX DE LA XXI<sup>E</sup> OLYMPIADE MONTREAL 1976







Pavlo Pinigin - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in freestyle wrestling in the weight class up to 74 kg



Sergiy Novikov - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in judo



Anatoliy Chukanov - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in road cycling, the men's team time trial



Oleksandr Kolchinsky - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in Greco-Roman wrestling in the weight class over 100 kg



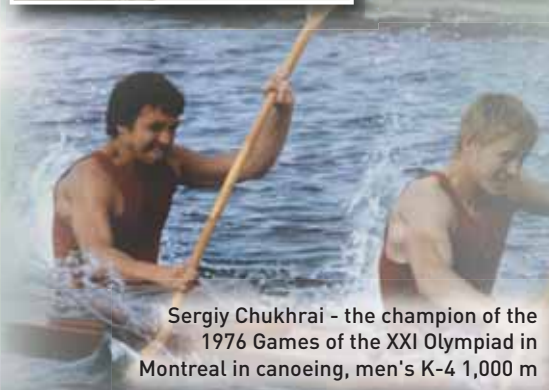
Petro Korol - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in weightlifting in the weight class up to 67.5 kg



Sergiy Petrenko – a two-time champion of the Games of the XXI Olympiad in rowing canoe two at distances of 500 and 1000 m



Sergiy Nagorny - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in canoeing, men's K-2 1,000 m, a silver medallist in canoeing, men's K-2,500 m



Sergiy Chukhrai - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in canoeing, men's K-4 1,000 m



Yuriy Filatov – the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in canoeing, men's K-4 1,000 m



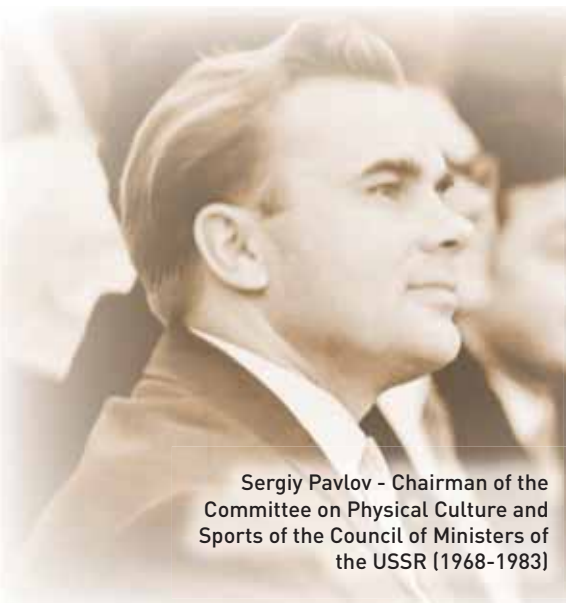
Yuriy Sedykh - the champion of the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in athletics in the hammer throw



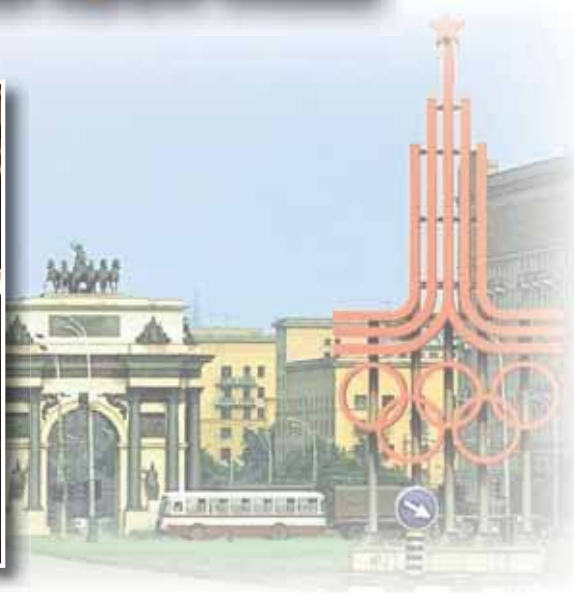
# Preparing for the Games of XXII Olympiad



The idea of holding the Olympic Games in Moscow came to the Chairman of the USSR Sports Committee Sergiy Pavlov in April 1969. That time the voting ended in favour of Montreal, which hosted the 1976 Games of the XXI Olympiad. A few years later, S. Pavlov persuaded the Soviet leadership to nominate Moscow as candidate-city again. The authority of Sergiy Pavlov in the international sports arena, the interest of the Olympic community in the Soviet country and its athletes, and friendly relationships with members of the International Olympic Committee, especially Baron Eduard von Falz-Fein (Liechtenstein) and Willi Daume (Germany).



Sergiy Pavlov - Chairman of the Committee on Physical Culture and Sports of the Council of Ministers of the USSR (1968-1983)





Baron Eduard von Falz-Fein (1912-2018) was a philanthropist, whose heart belonged to the international Olympic movement

An interesting fact is that Baron Eduard von Falz-Fein – a public and sports functionary of Liechtenstein, philanthropist, activist of the European Olympic movement – was born on 12 September 1912 in the village of Havrylivka of the Kherson region. His paternal uncle was the founder of the Askania Nova Nature Reserve, which is now a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site. Being a wealthy man, he spent a lot of energy and money on finding and returning unique historical and artistic artifacts to his historic homeland. He invested huge sums into the restoration of the Askania Nova Nature Reserve, erected a monument to its founder, and established a museum of the Falz-Fein family – great contributors to the prosperity of the Kherson region. Baron Eduard von

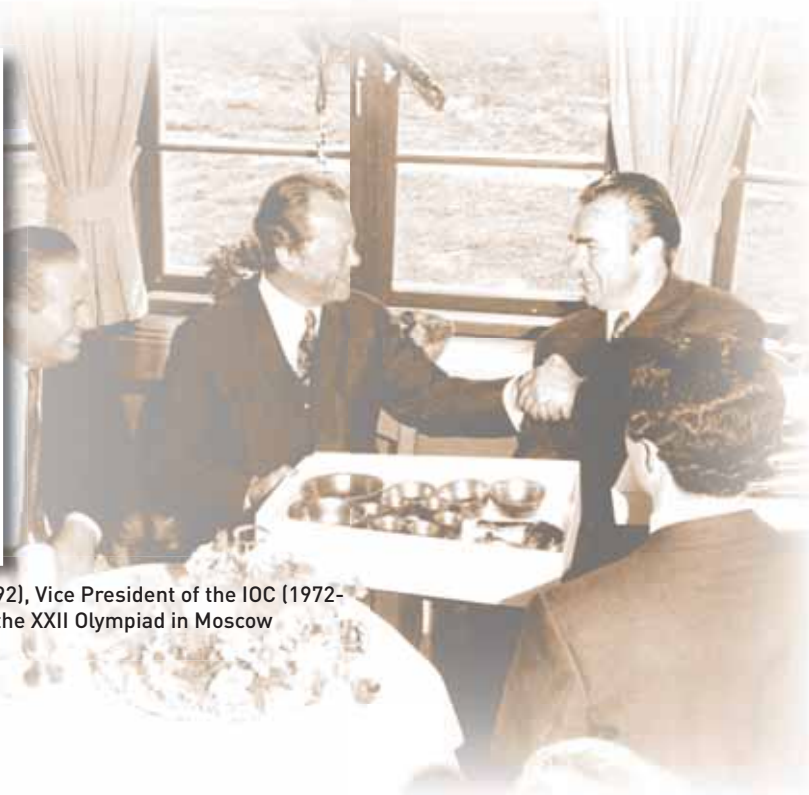
Falz-Fein was awarded many state awards in Ukraine for his significant personal contribution to enhancing Ukraine's international prestige, popularizing its historical heritage and modern achievements.

Eduard Falz-Fein's input to the development of the Olympic movement cannot go unnoticed either. In 1936, he created the Olympic Committee in Liechtenstein, facilitated the participation of the country's team in the IV Olympic Winter Games in 1936. He himself participated in the Games as part of the two-man bobsleigh events.

As President of the Olympic Committee of Liechtenstein for a long time, Baron Falz-Fein repeatedly expressed his positive attitude to the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow.



Willi Daume - President of the NOC of Germany (FRG) (1961-1992), Vice President of the IOC (1972-1976). He was an opponent of the boycott of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow





1974 Olympic block on a registered letter sent by the Organizing Committee of the 1980 Olympics

Airmail departure from Vienna with a special stamp "75th session of the IOC". At this session, a decision was made to hold the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow



The first Soviet issue of the 1974 postal block on the official envelope of the Preparatory Committee "Moscow-80", which was the predecessor of the Organizing Committee of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow

At the last stage of voting with 39 votes being "for" and 20 being "against", Moscow outran Los Angeles.

In 1975, the Organizing Committee of the Games of the XXII Olympiad was established. It was headed by Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Ignatyi Novikov.

The 79th session of the IOC held on 15-18 June 1977 in Prague (Czechoslovakia) approved the programme and schedule of the Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow.

Most Olympic events were held in the capital of the USSR – Moscow; group football tournaments were hosted by Kyiv, Leningrad (now – St. Petersburg) and Minsk; Tallinn hosted sailing competitions; Mytishchi near Moscow held shooting events.



IOC President Michael Maurice Killanin and his wife, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR L. Brezhnev, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 1980 Olympics Ignatyi Novikov at the Opening Ceremony of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow



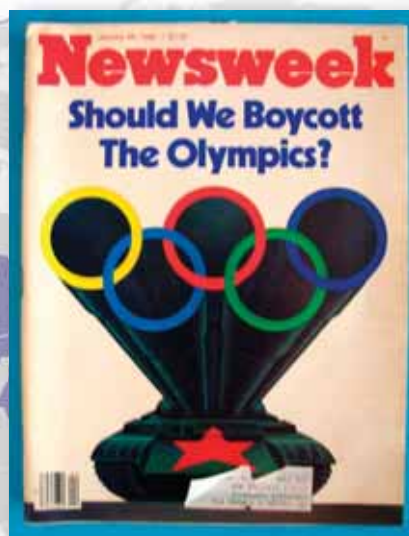
A propaganda poster calling for a boycott of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow

Six months before the Games, the Soviet Union sent its troops into Afghanistan, which significantly spiked tensions in the already stressed international political context. The reaction of the USSR's main competitor in international politics – the United States of America – was resolute and tough. First and foremost, it manifested itself in various sanctions, including a boycott of the Games of the XXII Olympiad. Although the number of countries that supported the boycott of the Moscow Olympic Games reached 62 (including the United States, Germany, Japan, China, Canada, and others), the International Olympic Committee backed by many international sports federations, prominent politicians, and other public figures succeeded to hold the Games according to the Olympic Charter.

Despite the proclaimed boycott, many athletes from Western countries decided to individually participate in the Games under the Olympic flag. In particular, the Opening Ceremony was attended by 14 delegations of athletes (Australia, Andorra, Belgium, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal, Puerto Rico, San Marino, France, and Switzerland). A peculiar fact: the nameplates of some of those countries had the names of the National Olympic Committees. Western European teams from Austria, Greece, Malta, Finland, Sweden, Iceland, and Cyprus marched under the national flags of their countries. The teams of Spain and New Zealand used the flags of their National Olympic Committees. It should be noted that 24 African countries that boycotted the previous Games in Montreal re-joined the Olympic family.



Propaganda posters calling for a boycott of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow





Despite the proclaimed boycott, many athletes from Western countries decided to individually participate in the XXII Olympic Games under the Olympic flag

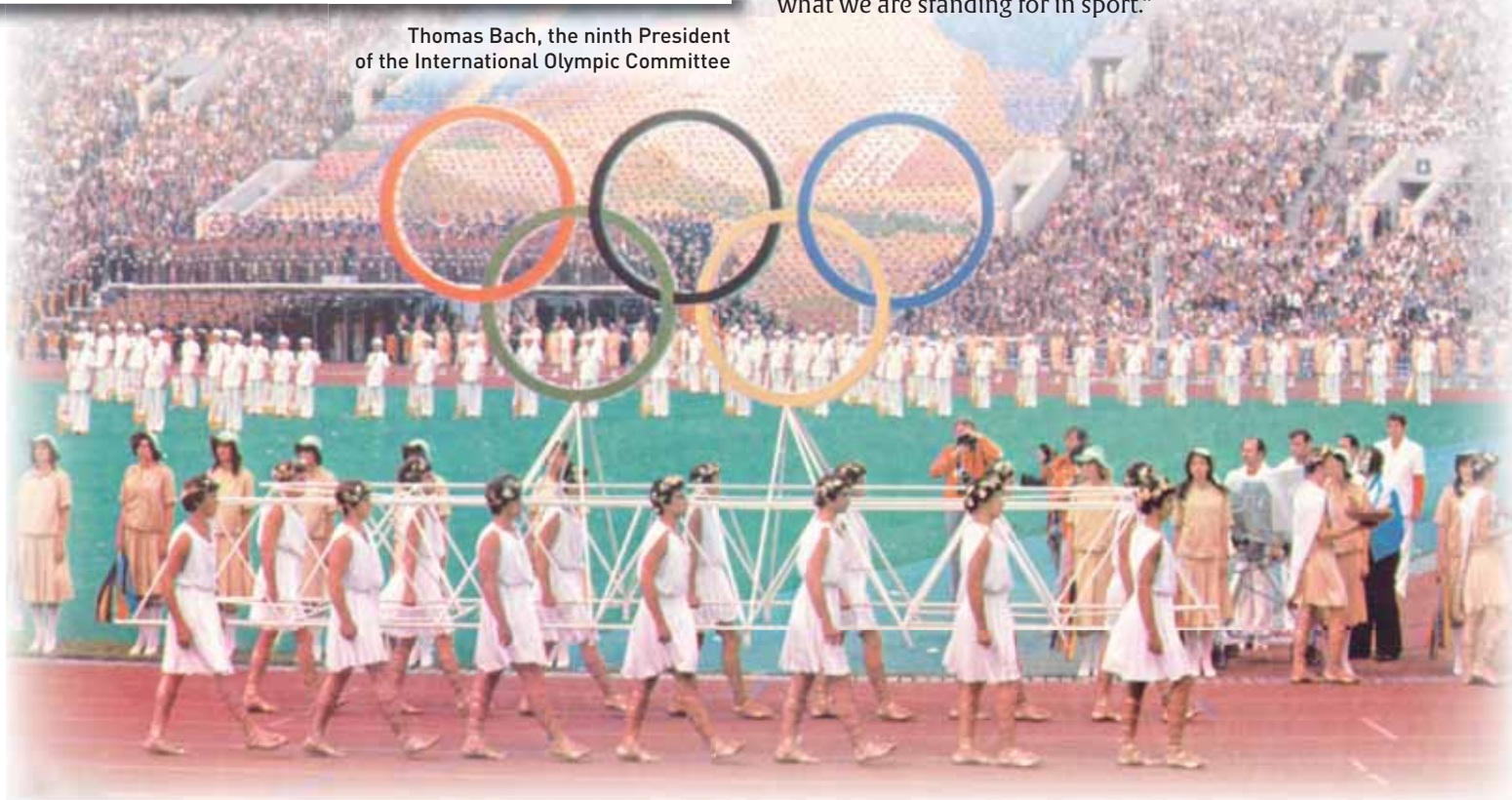


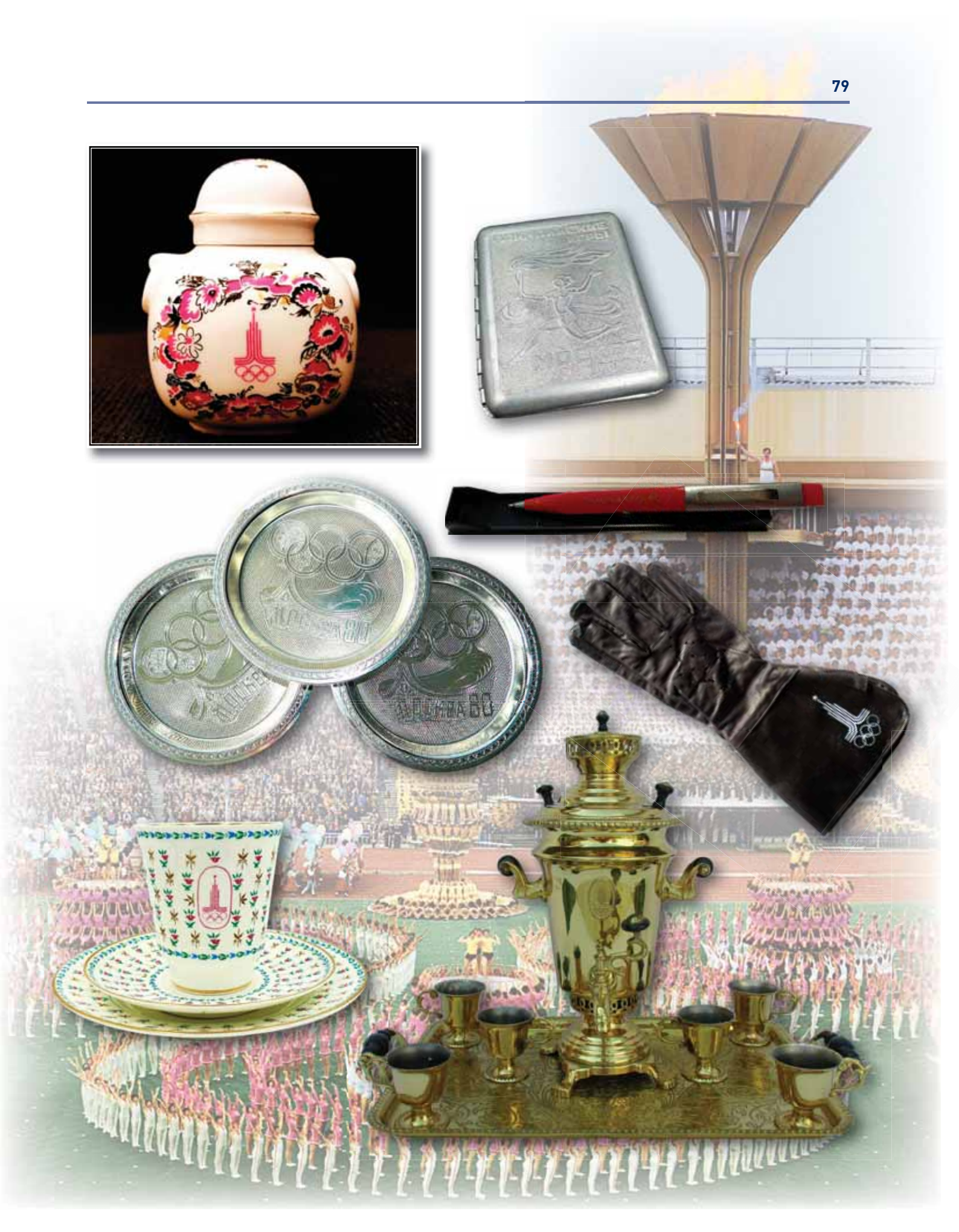
Thomas Bach, the ninth President of the International Olympic Committee

Forty years later, the ninth President of the IOC, Thomas Bach, reflecting on the hallmarks of that time, said, "So we had, in fact, two generations of athletes losing their Olympic dream, having prepared for years for nothing. And being sanctioned and punished for something they had nothing to do with, and that they would never have supported.

So there, anybody who is thinking about a boycott should learn this lesson from history; a sports boycott serves nothing. It's only hurting the athletes, and it's hurting the population of the country because they are losing the joy to share, the pride, the success with their Olympic team.

So, what is a boycott for? It's against all the Olympic spirit. It's against all the values we have in sports and what we are standing for in sport."







# The Ukrainian SSR Picks up the Torch of the Olympic flame

A month before the opening of the Games of the XXII Olympiad on 19 June 1980, the Olympic flame lit according to the tradition near the Temple of Hera in the cradle of the Ancient Greek Olympic Games – Olympia (Greece) – set out on its journey. The honour of lighting a fire from the rays of sun was given to the dramatic actress of the Greek National Theatre Maria Moscholiou. The Olympic flame relay with a total length of 4,992 km passed through Greece (1,170 km), Bulgaria (935 km), Romania (593 km), and the USSR (2,294 km).

On 5 July 1980, the Olympic flame entered the territory of the USSR near the village of Leuseni in the Moldavian SSR and continued its way through Chisinau, Balti, and Edinet.

On the territory of the Ukrainian SSR, the route of the Olympic flame passed through Chernivtsi, Kamyanets-Podilsky, Khmelnytsky, Vinnytsia, Zhytomyr, Kyiv, Lubny, Poltava, and Kharkiv.



The 1980 Summer Olympics torch relay route





# ЭСТАФЕТА ОЛИМПИСКОГО ОГНЯ



ОЛИМПИАДА - 1980

ТАЛЛИН

ЛЕНИНГРАД

КИЕВ

ХАРЬКОВ

КУРСК

ОРЕЛ

ВИННИЦА

ЧЕРНОВЦЫ

КИШИНЕВ

ЯССЫ

ПЛОЕШТИ

БУХАРЕСТ

СОВДИВ



Programme of the Olympic Torch Relay on the USSR territory



Welcome speeches and slogans were prepared to greet the participants of the Olympic Games and the 1980 Olympic torch relay, and guests. They were used in the design of Olympic venues approved by the Organizing Committee of the 1980 Olympiad.

Bukovyna picked up the torch from the Moldavian SSR on July 7. More than 50 torchbearers carried the Olympic flame through its territory. The right to run the debut leg in the village of Mamalyga, Novoselytsky district, Chernivtsi region, was granted to Candidate Master of Sports of the USSR in Athletics Oleksandr Pasaryuk.

On 8 June 1980, the Olympic flame was received by Kamyanets-Podilsky of Khmelnytsky region on the bridge across the Dniester, which connects the village of Ataky, Khotyn district, Chernivtsi region with the village of Zhvanets', Kamyanets-Podilsky district, Khmelnytsky region.

In Khmelnytsky region, Kamyanets-Podilsky – a city steeped in history – was the first to have been visited by the sacred fire. Mykola Khorunzhi, Master of Sports in Athletics, became the first torchbearer in that region.

In total, 332 dignified representatives of various activity spheres of Khmelnytsky region were involved in the Olympic flame relay.



The succession of generations during the Olympic flame lighting ceremony



Torch relay participants of Chernivtsi region



Olympic torch relay participant Hanna Krynina of Khmelnytsky

Forty years later, the relay participant Hanna Krynina recalls, "When I was running and looked at people's faces, I saw joy, but many had tears in their eyes. I understood that those were the tears of joy."

On July 9, on the border of the regions, Vinnytsia region took up the torch from the people of Khmelnytsky. One hundred and sixty participants carried the torch across the territory of Vinnytsia region. Mykola Yavtushenko, Master of Sports of the USSR in Athletics, a bronze medallist of the World Universiade in Rome, a three-time USSR champion and six-time champion of Ukraine, whose record in the 400 m run was unbeaten for 30 years (1973-2003), a graduate of the Department of Physical Education of Vinnytsia Pedagogic Institute, was the first to bring the flame of the 1980 Olympiad into the city on the banks of the Southern Bug.

The solemn reception of the relay took place at the Locomotive Central Stadium in Vinnytsia. The next day, July 10, the Olympic flame carried on its way to the border with Zhytomyr region.



The torch relay procession approaches the "Running Doe" Bridge over the River Smotrych



A solemn moment of handing over the Olympic torch



Participant of the Olympic torch relay Mykola Yavtushenko



Participants of the Olympic torch relay



Khmelnytsky receives the Olympic torch relay

On July 10, Berdychiv received the Olympic torch relay on the border of Zhytomyr region. One hundred and twenty-five torchbearers carried the Olympic flame across the territory, including 30 athletes, 2 milkers, 25 workers, 4 mechanics, 1 head of the collective farm, 11 schoolchildren, 10 students, 15 teachers, 6 doctors, 4 policemen, 6 economists, and several party workers.

History has preserved the names of the torchbearers who passed the Olympic flame from hand to hand, all the way to the Zhytomyr Central Stadium. Nina Sodol was the first one to receive the torch in the village of Ozerne near Zhytomyr. Then, Vasyl Shostenko, Volodymyr Kovalyov, and Olena Kolesnyk carried the flame. The honourable mission to bring the Olympic flame to the central stadium of the city, where the ceremony of the solemn reception of the relay took place, was vested to Master of Sports of the International Grade in Athletics in high jump, participant of the Games of the XX Olympiad Rustam Akhmetov.

On 10 July 1980, the Olympic flame arrived in Zhytomyr



Accompanied by fellow athletes, Rustam Akhmetov, Master of Sports of the International Grade in Athletics, participant of the Games of the XX Olympiad, enters the racetrack of the Zhytomyr Main Stadium and lights the Olympic flame in the stadium's cauldron

On July 11, the Olympic flame continued its journey to Kyiv. At that time, the newspaper "Radyanska Ukraina" wrote, "July 11, 15 hours 45 minutes. Everyone who has gathered at the entry way to Kyiv from Zhytomyr can clearly see how a silhouette of a runner with a torch appears, accompanied by an honorary escort, in the distance of the asphalt canvas. The final metres of the next leg of the relay. The torch is carried by Volodymyr Pinchuk, a sports instructor-methodologist at the Avangard state farm in the Brovary district of the Kyiv region. Here, on the border of Kyiv, Volodymyr Yarovenko, a teacher at one of Kyiv's children's and youth sports schools, is taking over the torch."

The route of the Olympic flame through the capital of Ukraine was divided into 36 legs, which passed through Peremohy Ave., Peremohy Square, Shevchenko Boulevard, and Khreschatyk – the main street of the capital.



The Olympic torch relay is received in Berdychiv



By tradition, Kyiv – the capital of Ukraine – welcomed the Olympic flame with bread and salt

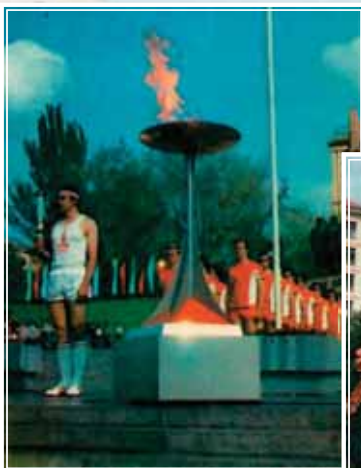


A living corridor to the October Revolution Square (since 1991 – Maidan Nezalezhnosti) was formed along the entire route of the Olympic flame in Kyiv. The Olympic champions of different years welcomed the flame near the cauldron installed there: gymnast Nina Bocharova, pentathlete Ivan Deryugin, shooter Vitaliy Romanenko, thrower Viktor Tsybulenko, wrestler Borys Gurevych, fencer Hryhoriy Kriss, rower Volodymyr Morozov, volleyball players Volodymyr Ivanov and Borys Tereshchuk, female handball players of the Spartak Club, and many other representatives of Ukraine sports.

The Olympic flame was delivered to the main square of the capital by champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in the canoe sprint Yuriy Stetsenko, who lit a fire in a cauldron.



Leaders of the Ukrainian SSR meet the Olympic flame on the main square of the country



Champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in canoe sprint Yuriy Stetsenko lit a fire in a cauldron on the main city square



The Olympic torch relay is welcomed in Kyiv by renowned Ukrainian Olympic athletes



Leonid Litvinenko, a silver medallist of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in track and field decathlon, recalls that he had to carry the Olympic flame twice: for the first time, he ran with a torch from the October Revolution Square to the Dynamo Stadium, and for the second time he lit a flame in the cauldron of the Respublikansky Stadium. where the opening of the Olympic football tournament took place. "Despite the fact that the Olympic torch relay passed through the capital of Ukraine, the Kyiv delegation headed by Vice Mayor Mykola Lavrukhin travelled to receive it in Moscow. According to the established procedure, the flame of the 1980 Olympic Games was officially lit at the ceremony in the Moscow City Council and from there it went to Leningrad, Kyiv, Minsk, where group football tournaments were held, and to the city of sailing regatta – Tallinn. We brought the flame in two closed lamps to the building of the City Council in Khreshchatyk, from where it was taken to the opening of the Olympic tournament."



In the Respublikansky Stadium in Kyiv, Leonid Litvinenko, the silver medallist of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in track and field decathlon, appears with an Olympic torch in his hand

On the same day, July 11, the Olympic flame continued its journey through Ukraine. Its path was along the route Kyiv-Kharkiv. Seventy-four people received the honour of carrying the Olympic flame on the roads of Kyiv region. The relay route passed through Boryspil – the country's air gate.

Petro Bazyuchenko, Volodymyr Borlyts, Olena Korobka, Mykola Kostiants, and Yuriy Pistovnikov were awarded the honorary right to carry the Olympic flame through the city streets.

Seventeen-year-old Olena Korobka handed the torch to Master of Sports of the USSR in weightlifting, director of the Kuchakiv State Pedigree Plant Petro Bazyuchenko, who lit the flame in a specially prepared cauldron at the Kolos Stadium in Boryspil. It is known that the historic moment occurred on 11 July 1980 at 18:30.

Leonid Litvinenko, the silver medallist of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in track and field decathlon, lights the Olympic flame in the cauldron of the Respublikansky Stadium in Kyiv



A theatrical performance on the occasion of the Olympic flame lighting ceremony at the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in the Respublikansky Stadium of the capital of the Ukrainian SSR

Then, the relay continued to Poltava region. In Poltava region, 250 people received the right to carry the flame of the 1980 Olympic Games. The only leg in the Ukrainian SSR when the flame was carried by cars was the leg from Kyiv to Lubny, which was due to a delay in the relay schedule. Among the honoured guests who received the torch relay in Lubny was champion of the 1956 Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne in the men's 100 metre running deer Vitaliy Romanenko.

On July 12, at 9:14 a.m., the procession left for Poltava. It was met by inhabitants of Khorol, Krasnohorivka, Bila Tserkva, and Reshetylivka. The Olympic flame arrived in Poltava at 6:13 p.m. The Olympic flame overcame six legs through the city to the Kolos Stadium (now – the O. D. Butovsky Vorskla Stadium), where the festivities took place.

Mykhailo Novikov received the honorary right to light the Olympic flame in Poltava.

From the memories of M. Novikov, "I received the flame near the City Council. I knew that many people would come to watch the relay, so, I appeared at my leg two hours before the appointed time. In front of the stadium, the escort of runners who accompanied me stopped. When I appeared on the racetrack, I noticed how all the people rose and started applauding as if a warm wave was coming from them. Next to me, a Chaika car with a cameraman was riding around the whole length of the stadium track. I felt like I wasn't touching the ground, as if someone was carrying me to the cauldron in his arms."



Champion of the 1956 Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne in shooting Vitaliy Romanenko received the relay in Lubny



Escort group to the Olympic torch relay from Lubny



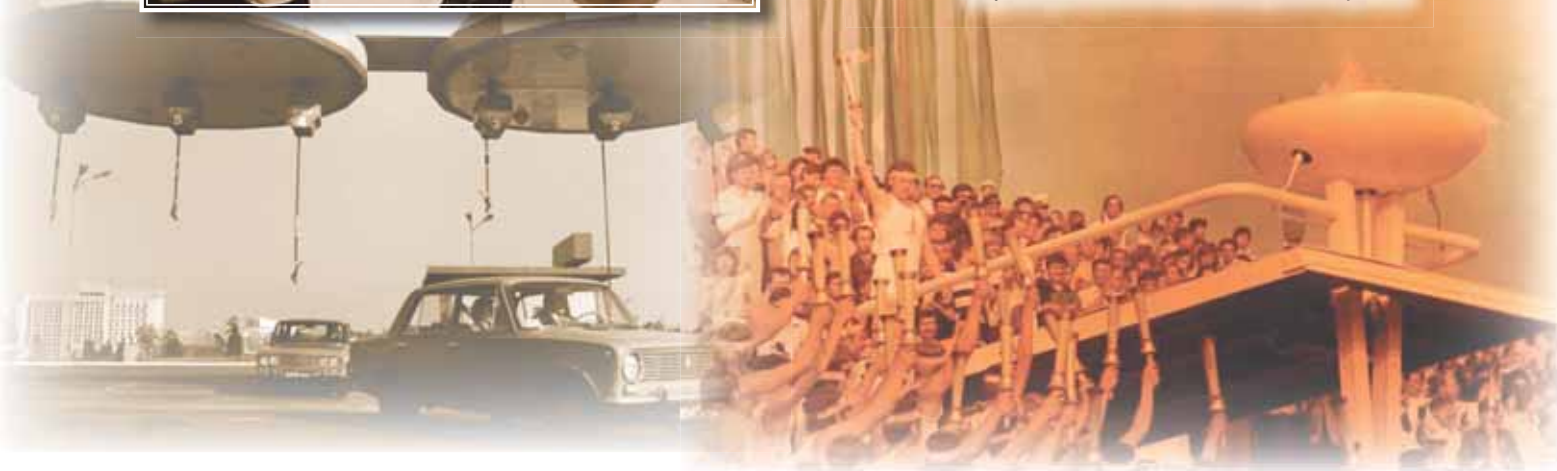
The Olympic flame in Poltava



Torch bearers from Boryspil



Torch bearers from Zinkiv: Hryhoriy Hrushko, Hryhoriy Popenko, Viktor Ponomarenko, Anatoliy Rula







Pioneers welcome the participants of the Olympic flame relay in the Kharkiv land



Kharkiv city residents were the participants of the Olympic flame relay

The stadium hosted a big theatrical celebration "Welcome to the Flame of the 1980 Olympic Games!" It was directed by Mykhailo Zaslavsky, the Director of the People's Theatre of the City House of Culture, and Vasyl Kotlyar, the Editor-in-Chief of the Poltava Regional Radio. About 10 thousand participants were to be involved into the performance. But the work was complicated by the lack of theme-based music. Sound director Leonid Sorokin told how the problem was solved, "I was sent on a business trip to Moscow to find the Olympic music. I had friends from the *Utrėnnyaya Pochta* (Morning Mail) TV show on the Central Television, and I returned to Poltava with a whole set of the Olympic songs. As it turned out, Moscow did not share them with anyone; even the capital of Ukraine did not have those songs. Kyiv colleagues from the *Moloda Gvardiya* Radio Channel came secretly to me to copy the recordings. That was how we helped each other."

According to the schedule, the relay through Chutove reached the border of Poltava and Kharkiv regions. Mykola Lazorenko from Chutove was the last torchbearer to carry the flame of the 1980 Olympic Games in Poltava region.

The Olympic flame arrived in Kharkiv on July 13. Two-time Olympic champion, bronze medallist, two-time world volleyball champion Yuriy Poyarkov, accompanied by 18 honorary escorts, was entrusted to run the last kilometre of the route before the flame arrived at the Maidan Konstytutsii – as the square is now called, where the festivities took place.

The next day at 7 o'clock in the morning the relay continued, the flame went through the streets of Kharkiv and the region to the Hoptivka checkpoint, where champion of the 1972 Games of the XX Olympiad in cycling, Honoured Master of Sports Igor Tselovalnykov handed it over to the next participants.

Participant of the Olympic flame relay in Kharkiv Region Mykhailo Zyma with his assistants – Mykola Vasylyev and Stepan Stanislavsky



M. F. Sumtsov Kharkiv Historical Museum received a rare artifact presented by Kharkiv residents I. I. Stepanova and her husband V. G. Kamchatny

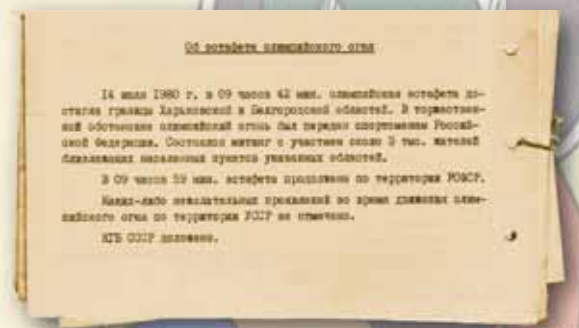


On its entire route through the territory of Ukraine, the Olympic torch relay was escorted by police and ambulance cars, a bus with torchbearers, and a car with a reserve flame – in case the torch went out. Athletes who had already covered their distance were picked up by the bus. Road traffic was completely blocked where the relay was run. Old “Volgas” (a car model – GAZ-21) that had been in use by militia, ambulance, and taxis were replaced with a more modern GAZ-24 model.

In the Russian Soviet Republic, the Olympic torch relay passed through Belgorod, Orel, Kursk, Tula, Chekhov, and Podolsk.

Each participant of the 1980 Olympic torch relay received a diploma, a pennant, a torch, and a sports kit to commemorate the historic event.

On 7 February 2020, the M. F. Sumtsov Kharkiv Historical Museum received a flag with the emblem of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad, which fluttered 40 years ago on the main square of Kharkiv. The memento was solemnly handed over by Kharkiv residents I. I. Stepanova and her husband V. G. Kamchatny as a gift on the occasion of the Museum’s centennial anniversary.



A new vehicle fleet to serve the participants of the 1980 Olympic flame relay on the territory of the Ukrainian SSR



КИЕВ  
ХАРЬКОВ  
КУРСК  
ОРЕЛ

# Ukrainian Athletes at the Olympic Games of the 1980s



## The Games of the XXII Olympiad (Moscow–1980)

At the Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow the USSR national team confidently led in the number of medals won in Moscow, with 80 gold, 69 silver, and 46 bronze Olympic medals. The Soviet national team included 92 Ukrainian athletes. Our compatriots won 50 Olympic medals (26 gold, 12 silver, 12 bronze) in individual and team events.

Forty Ukrainian athletes became Olympic champions: Oleksiy Barkalov (water polo); Anatoliy Beloglazov, Sergiy Beloglazov, Oleksandr Kolchynsky, Ilya Mate (wrestling); Viktor Burakov, Nina Zyuskova, Volodymyr Kiselyov, Nadiya Olizarenko, Tetyana Prorochenko, Yuriy Sedykh, Nadiya Tkachenko (athletics); Stella Zakharova, Bogdan Makuts (gymnastics); Olga Zubareva, Larysa Karlova, Tetyana Kochergina (Makarrets), Nafaliya Lukyanenko, Valentyna Lutayeva, Lyubov Odinokova (Berezhna), Iryna Palchukova, Lyudmyla Poradnyk (Bobrus), Zinaida Turchyna (handball); Sergiy Krasnyuk, Yuriy Prysekin, Oleksandr Sydorenko, Sergiy Fesenko (swimming); Valeriy Kryvov, Fedir Lashchenov, Yuriy Panchenko (volleyball); Pavlo Lednyov (modern pentathlon); Valentyn Mankin (sailing); Vira Misevych, Viktor Poganovsky (equestrian sport); Valeriy Movchan (cycling); Sergiy Chukhrai (2), Sergiy Postrekhin (kayaking and canoeing); Volodymyr Smyrnov (fencing); Sultanbay Rakhmanov (weightlifting).



Volodymyr Kiselyov – the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in athletics in the men's shot put



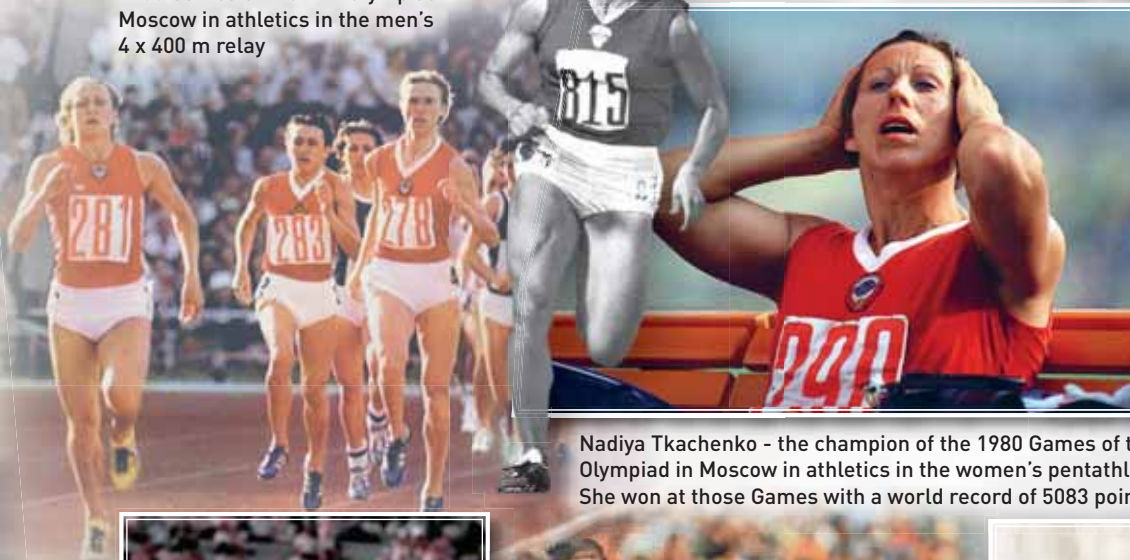
Yuriy Sedykh – the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in athletics in the men's hammer throw



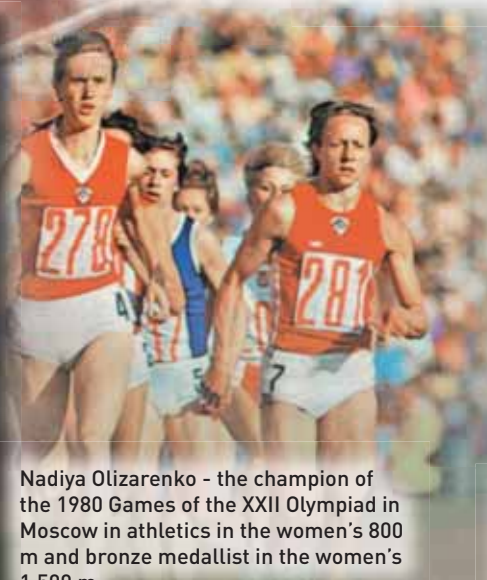


Viktor Burakov - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in athletics in the men's 4 x 400 m relay

Tetyana Prorochenko - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in athletics in the women's 4 x 400 m relay



Nadiya Tkachenko - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in athletics in the women's pentathlon. She won at those Games with a world record of 5083 points



Nadiya Olizarenko - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in athletics in the women's 800 m and bronze medallist in the women's 1,500 m

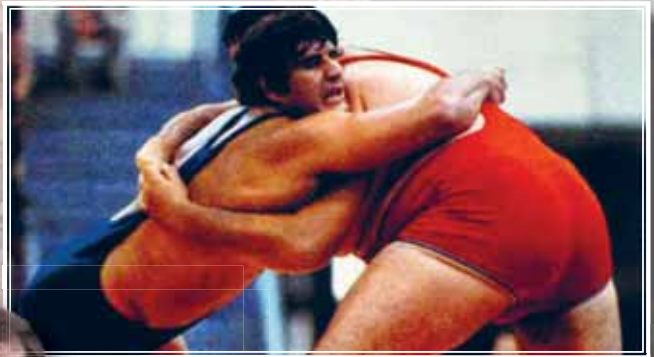


Nina Zyuskova - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in athletics in the women's 4 x 400 m relay

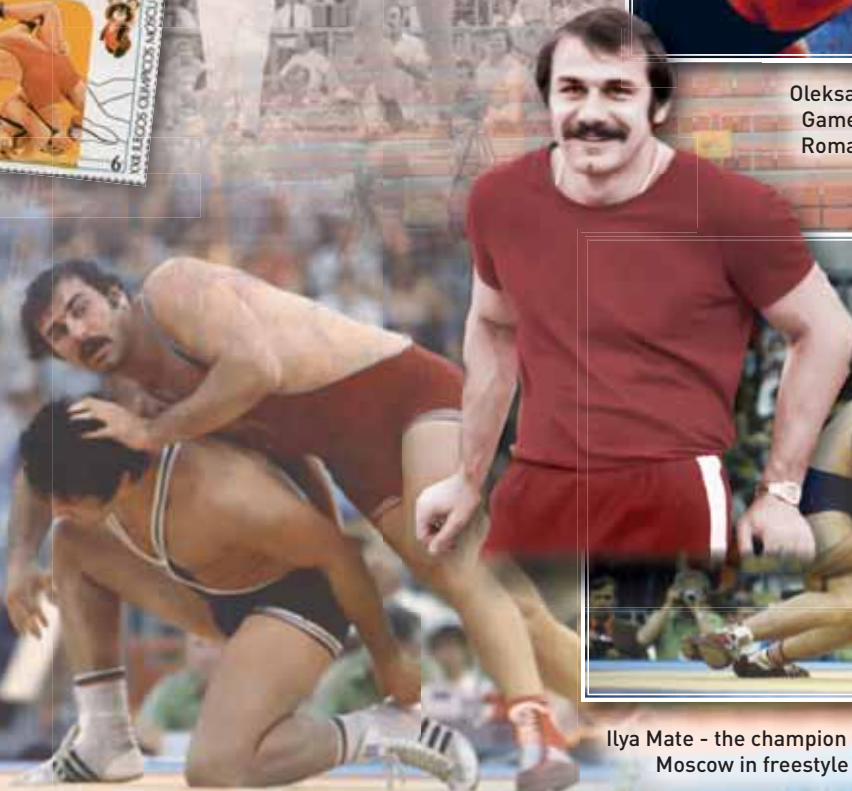
МОЧБА-80  
Olympic rings logo



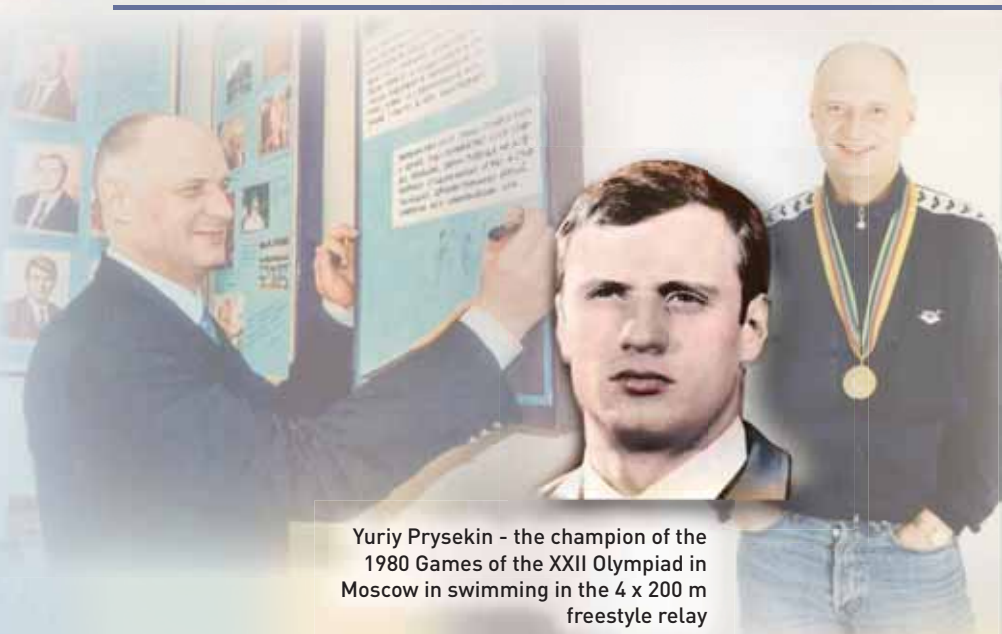
The Beloglazov brothers - Anatoliy and Sergiy - the champions of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in freestyle wrestling (in the weight classes up to 52 kg and up to 57 kg, respectively)



Oleksandr Kolchynsky - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in Greco-Roman wrestling in the weight class over 100 kg



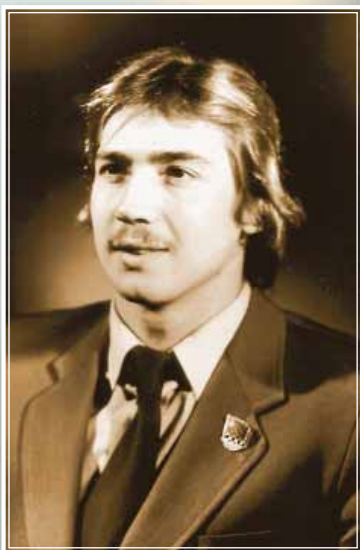
Ilya Mate - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in freestyle wrestling in the weight class up to 100 kg



Yuriy Prysekin - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in swimming in the 4 x 200 m freestyle relay



Sergiy Krasnyuk - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in swimming in the 4 x 200 m freestyle relay and silver medalist in the 4 x 100 m medley relay



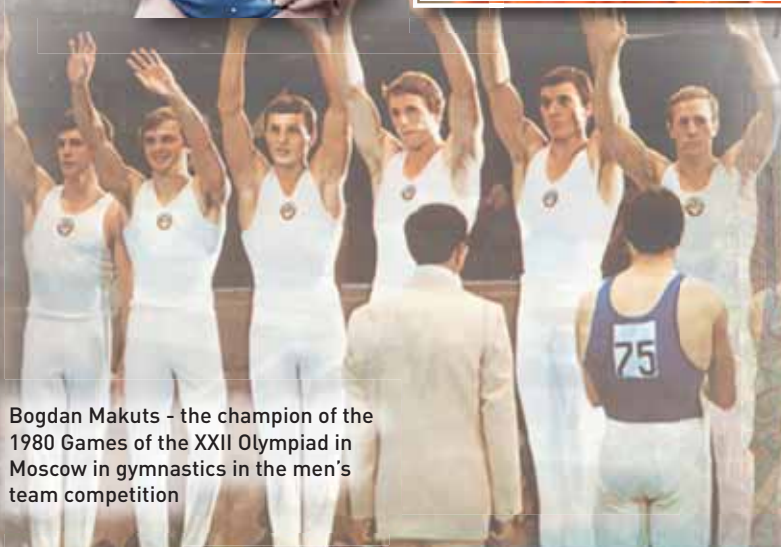
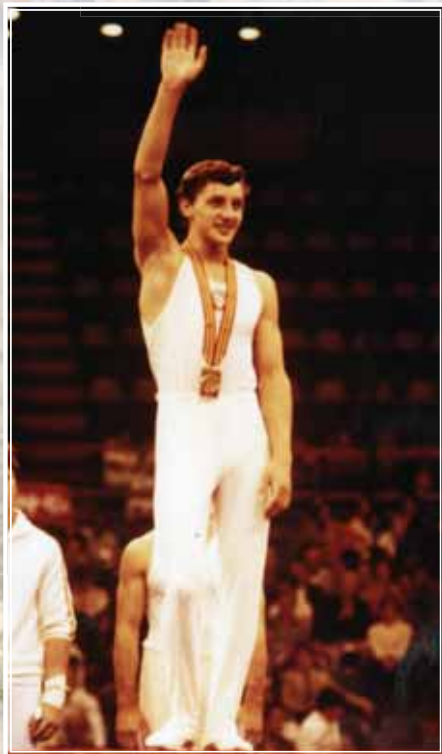
Oleksandr Sydorenko - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in swimming in the 400 m breaststroke



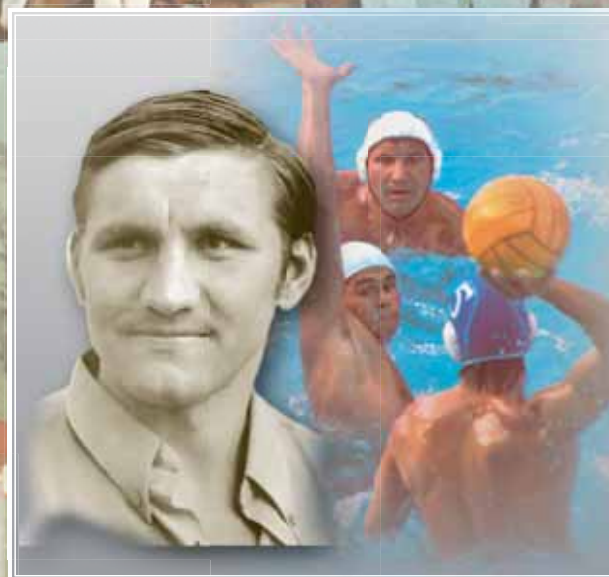
Sergiy Fesenko - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in swimming in the men's 200 m butterfly and silver medalist in the men's 400 m individual medley



Stella Zakharova - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in gymnastics in the women's team all-around event



Bogdan Makuts - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in gymnastics in the men's team competition



Oleksiy Barkalov - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in water polo



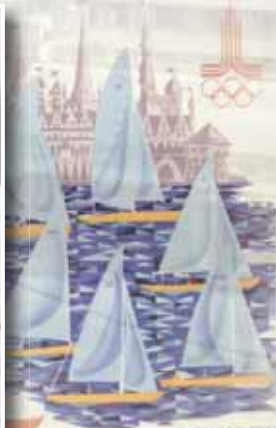
КАЧЕСТВА -  
ВЮ ГАРАНТИИ



Nataliya Timoshkina (Sherstyuk), Valentyna Lutayeva, Nataliya Lukyanenko, Larysa Karlova, Iryna Palchikova, Zinaida Turchina, Tetyana Kochergina (Makarets), Lyudmyla Poradnyk (Bobrus), Olga Zubareva, Lyubov Odinkova (1980) - the champions of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in handball



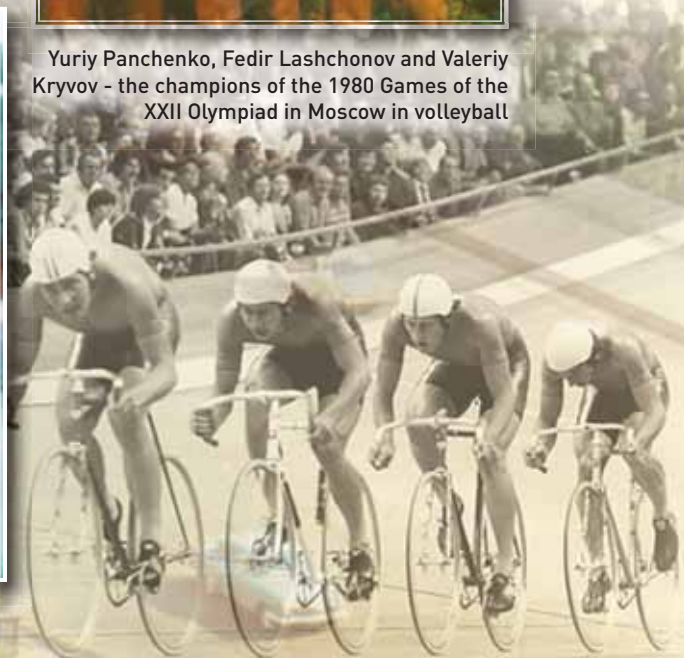
Valentyn Mankin - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in sailing, star-mixed yacht class



Yuriy Panchenko, Fedir Lashchonov and Valeriy Kryvov - the champions of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in volleyball



Valeriy Movchan - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in cycling in the 4,000 m team pursuit







Volodymyr Smirnov - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in fencing in the men's foil individual, silver medallist in the men's foil team, and bronze medallist in the men's sabre team



Sergiy Postrekhin - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in the men's flatwater C-1 500 m (canoe single) and silver medallist in the flatwater C-1 1,000 m (canoe single)

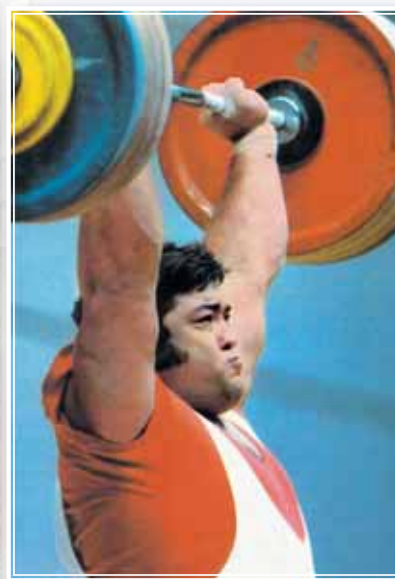


Sergiy Chukhrai - a two-time champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in men's flatwater K-2 500 m and 1,000 m (kayak double)





Pavlo Lednyov - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in modern pentathlon in the men's team event and bronze medallist in the men's individual competition



Sultanbay Rakhmanov - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in weightlifting in the weight class over 110 kg



Vira Misevych - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in the equestrian (team dressage) event



Viktor Poganovskiy - the champion of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow in the equestrian (jumping team mixed) event

# The Olympic Legacy of the Games of the XXII Olympiad for Ukraine

Three years in advance, the capital of the Ukrainian SSR began to prepare for the reception of athletes and guests of the Games. For the residents of the city, the preparation to the Olympic Games was of special importance, because at the same time it created the preconditions for a worthy celebration of the 1,500th anniversary of Kyiv.

To implement the plan, a Republican Organizing Committee to the 1980 Olympics was established. It included 40 officials from different ministries and institutions. Fifteen commissions and operational hubs were created by function. Pavlo Yesypenko, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR (1975-1987), was appointed as Head of the Committee.

Conventionally, the preparation was developing in six directions: the main and training stadiums, the Olympic Village, the Olympic flame route with infrastructure and hotels, cultural institutions and their creative teams, tourism infrastructure, the preparation of

the Olympic reserve and the physical culture and sports training camps in the regions.

In the pre-Olympic years, Ukraine and its capital Kyiv became a continuous construction site. About 6,500 km of roads were repaired in Ukraine for the successful Olympic torch relay! Along the main routes of the Olympic torch relay, 100 hectares of green zones were created and renewed; and more than 5,000 trees and shrubs were planted. In Kyiv alone, the area of green (flower) Olympic panels was almost 10,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

One of the main tasks was to carry out a large-scale reconstruction of the Respublikansky Stadium, which became one of the most modern sports facilities in Europe at the time.

The main sports arena had a long history. In 1923, on the slopes of Cherepanova Hora, where the pavilions of the All-Russian Exhibition had been set up in 1913, on the initiative of the Kyiv Provincial Military Commissar Lajos Gavro, the Red Stadium named after L. Trotsky by the project of engineer L. I. Pilvinsky was constructed.





Grand opening of the L. Trotsky Red Stadium. 1923

In 1934, Kyiv became the capital of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. By its status, the city had to possess a sports arena that would meet the requirements of the time. In 1935, a competition for the design of the renovated stadium was declared. The project of architect Mykhailo Grechyna called the "Ukrainian Respublikansky Stadium" with a capacity of 50 thousand spectators won.

The second grand opening of the stadium, which received a new name – the П. Khrushchov Respublikansky Stadium – was scheduled on 22 June 1941. However, at dawn, German bombs fell on the city – and the opening had to be postponed.

After the liberation of the city from fascist invaders in 1943, thanks to the titanic work of the employees of the construction company "Khrushchovbud" and with the help of the Kievites, the stadium was put in order for in six months. Its festive opening took place on 25 June 1944.

In 1966-1967, the stadium was reconstructed: according to the project of the same Mykhailo Grechyna, the second level of grandstands was built on 80 reinforced concrete supports, which allowed to increase the number of seats to 100,000.

In the late 1970s, one more reconstruction took place, as a result of which the Respublikansky Stadium was prepared for the matches of the group football tournament of the 1980 Games of the XXII Olympiad.

Now, the renovated Kyiv arena could accommodate 100,062 spectators and 4,000 journalists. The central part was upgraded and expanded; in the athletics sectors a number of running tracks was increased (from six to eight) and their cinder cover was replaced with a synthetic one, developed in the laboratories of Ukrainian research institutes, the width of the tracks began to meet Olympic standards. The pitch was equipped with a double drainage system, and the elastic lawn was sown with a mixture of twelve varieties of grass.



Entrance ticket to the football match, which was to take place on the day of the grand opening of the M. S. Khrushchov Respublikansky Stadium on 22 June 1941



Central grandstands of the M. S. Khrushchov Respublikansky Stadium on the opening day. 1944



Installation of supports and bearers of the second tier of grandstands during the second general reconstruction of the Respublikansky Stadium. 1966

The sports arena was decorated with a cauldron for the Olympic flame, new electronic boards, and lighting poles of the original 82 m high structure, each of which carried 132 lamps with a capacity of 3.5 kW, which were manufactured at the Ternopil Vatra plant. A domestic special acoustic system was also developed and installed.

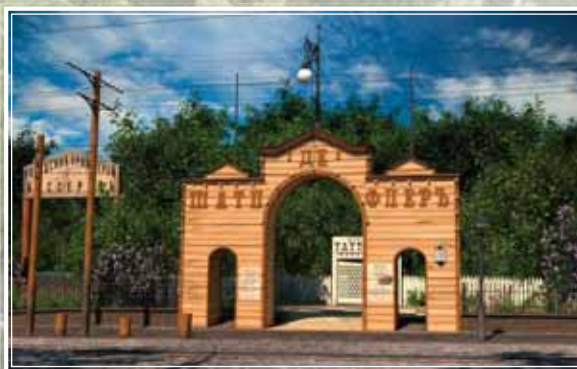
An important task was to provide evacuation routes. Due to the fact that the area around the Respublikansky Stadium was built up, a decision to demolish eight houses, which hindered the evacuation of spectators, was made. The residents were relocated to modern apartments. That allowed, to evacuate 100,000 visitors of the stadium within 10-15 minutes upon emergency.

For the work of representatives of the International Olympic Committee, National Olympic Committees, international sports federations, a decision was made to build a nine-storey building, which now houses the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine.

The state commission accepted the reconstructed Respublikansky Stadium with an assessment "excellent".

The Games of the XXII Olympiad became the stimulus for large-scale modernization of the entire sports infrastructure not only in the capital but in the republic as a whole. In particular, during this period, 47 stadiums were built and reconstructed at the expense of regional budgets. Many Ukrainian towns and villages still use the facilities created in those years.

Project of the Ukrainian Republican Stadium by architect Mykhailo Grechyna



Entrance to the Chateau des Fleurs Park (1913).  
The "Dynamo" Stadium was built on this location in 1933

In Kyiv, in addition to the Respublikansky Stadium, six other city stadiums were reconstructed – "Lokomotiv", "Spartak", "Start", "Dynamo", "Arsenal" and "Pioneer"; they were used for training by the teams participating in the Olympic competitions.

One of the oldest sports facilities in Kyiv, the Dynamo Stadium, acquired a new look. As far back as the 1860s, on the territory of the current stadium the Tsar's Garden ("Tsarsky Sad") was located. It housed the entertainment establishment of Carl Christiani Chateaus-des-Fleurs ("Chateau de Fleurs" - "Palace of Flowers"). Public festivities with concerts, music, and fireworks took place here almost every day, performances were played in the summer theatre, masquerades and other mass events were held in the winter in a special spacious room called the "station".

In 1931, according to the project of the engineer-architect P. Rzhechitsky, the construction of the stadium began. The grand opening took place on 12 June 1933.

Three years later, in 1936, the main entrance to the stadium was decorated with the famous colonnade (architects П. D. Manucharov and V. I. Polishchuk).

During World War II, the stadium, like the whole of Kyiv, turned into ruins; shells and mines were found on its territory for many more years after.

Post-war reconstruction of the stadium began only in 1954. The first major reconstruction of the sports facility designed by architects M. Grechyna and I. Khomenko took place in 1957: the wooden stands were replaced with more modern ones designed for 20 thousand spectators; a sports pavilion with locker rooms and showers was constructed.



A newly built colonnade decorated the main entrance to the Yezhov "Dynamo" Stadium in 1936

