

PHILATELIC NEWSLETTER VOLLEYBALL

Nr. 32 = 2020

The 31st Men's European Championship in Slovenia

Introduction

The state of Slovenia was created in 1945 as part of federal Yugoslavia. Slovenia gained its independence from Yugoslavia on June 25, 1991 and is today a member of the United Nations, European Union (May 1, 2004) and NATO.

Slovenia population is estimated a little over 2,0 million inhabitants. Since January 1, 2007 the Euro is the legal currency in Slovenia.

The capital Ljubljana bears numerous traces of its relations in the past with Italy and Austria. <https://slovenia.si/this-is-slovenia/>

Prominent Slovenian sportsmen are among others Rajmond Debevec (shooting), Primož Peterka (ski jumping), Srečko Katanec (football), Primož Roglič and Tadej Pogačar (cycling) and Tina Maze (alpine skiing).

On September 17, 2017 the national basketball team beat Serbia with 93:85 in the final of the 40th edition of the European Championship in Istanbul (Turkey) by around 7,000 Slovenian fans who had travelled to Turkey by whatever means they could.

This was a dream which came true for Slovenia. They reached the final undefeated, having won all nine of their matches. Slovenia is also the smallest country to win the gold medal at the European Basketball Championships since it started in 1935.

<http://www.fiba.basketball/eurobasket/2017/Slovenia>

European championships volleyball

The men's team from Slovenia had their first presence in 2001 in Ostrava (Czech Republic) with a 12th place in the end. The women's team was 21st in their first championship.

From 2003 till 2013 the best ranking was the 9th place during the 27th championship in Vienna (Austria).

In 2015 they reached the final in Sofia (Bulgaria) but lost this final from France with 25-19; 29-27 and again 29-27.

Two years later the team was eliminated by Russia in the quarterfinal in Krakow

(Poland). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HtpZX082UM0&feature=emb_logo

But last year they reached the final again. Unfortunately this final was lost again.

This time Serbia was the opponent in Paris (France). The first set was won by 19-25 but with 25-16; 25-18 and 25-20 Serbia won the gold medal for the second time.

But before this final there happened a lot in Slovenia.

For the very first time the championship was played with 24 participating teams in four countries (Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Slovenia).

<http://www.sloveniatimes.com/slovenia-confident-as-co-host-of-european-volleyball-championship>

In the Dvorana Stožice in Ljubljana played in Pool C: Belarus, Finland, North Macedonia, Turkey, Russia and Slovenia with 15 matches in total.

Slovenia reached the playoffs as second in that Pool.

The eight-final match against Bulgaria had 8,368 spectators and the quarter-final

PHILATELIC NEWSLETTER VOLLEYBALL

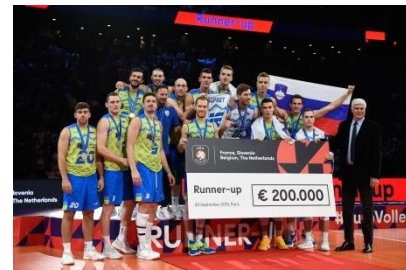
against Russia 11,225. The semifinal match against world champion Poland had 11,425 spectators and was sold out. All matches were won with 3-1. The final in Paris was attended by 12,654 spectators with about 4,000 of them from Slovenia. <https://www.cev.eu/Competition-Area/CompetitionView.aspx?ID=1052>



Semifinal impression



Impression in Paris



Runner Up

There was never so many postal attention for an European Championship volleyball. The reason **WHY** is very simple.

The competition director of the Volleyball Federation of Slovenia is also a member of the Philatelic Association of Slovenia.

It is Branko Maček. He was involved in all issues and the designer of the cancel from Sep 12, the 15 postcards and the author of the exhibition.

"When the Post of Slovenia issued a commemorative stamp for EuroVolley 2019, which a.o. took place in Slovenia, I decided to prepare my first exhibition.

I managed to organize it in a very short time, but I am happy and proud that volleyball and this memorial will send Slovenia an image all over the world." Maček said.

The exhibition was opened by Metod Ropret, President of the Volleyball Federation of Slovenia: "This is a very important and special day for Slovenia. We promoted the Championship in every possible way, a commemorative stamp issued by Pošta Slovenije and this wonderful exhibition is just one of many aspects of our work over the past weeks and months leading up to EuroVolley 2019" he said.

Aleksandar Boričić, president of CEV, attended the opening of the exhibition also.

Source: CEV



Second from right Branko Maček



Presidents of CEV and OZS



**Confédération
Européenne de
Volleyball**



The exhibition (also in English) was to be seen in the City Hall of Ljubljana from Sep 12 till 19.

PHILATELIC NEWSLETTER VOLLEYBALL

The philatelic items

The commemorative stamp from July 8, 2019 and the FD cover with cancel have been published already in VBNewsletter 31.

On Sep 12, 2019 (the first day of the tournament) a commemorative cancel was issued by Pošta Slovenije. Designer is Branko Maček.

After the FD cancel it was the third commemorative cancel volleyball in Slovenia.



On the same date fifteen postcards were issued by the Volleyball Federation of Slovenia. The photos are from Aleš Oblak and Branko Maček was the designer also.

Fourteen of them have the players of the team with the Dvorana Stožice in the background. It will be clear that real maximum cards could be made.



Tonček Stern (1)



Alen Pajenk (2)



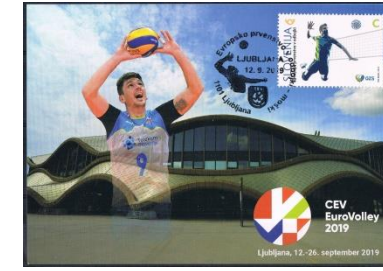
Jan Kozamernik (4)



Alen Sket (5)



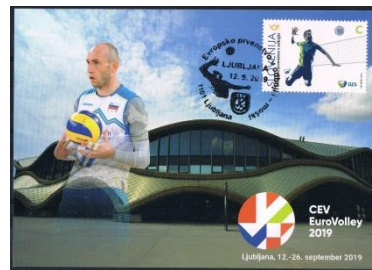
Mitja Gasparini (6)



Dejan Vinčič (9)



Sašo Štalekar (10)

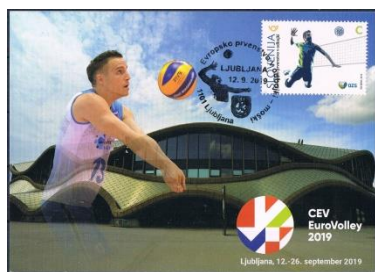


Ziga Stern (11)



Jan Klobucar (12)

PHILATELIC NEWSLETTER VOLLEYBALL



Jan Kovačič (13)



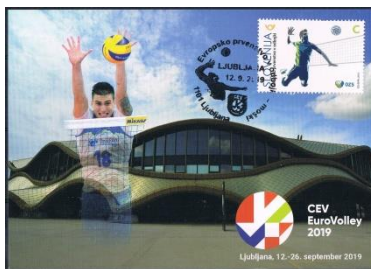
Matic Videčnik (15)



Gregor Ropret (16)



Tine Urnaut (17)



Klemen Cebulj (18)



Postcard

The philatelic exhibition with the title "European Men's Volleyball Championship 1948 - 2019" has 55 pages (in PDF) which can be sent via [wetransfer\(dot\)com](mailto:wetransfer(dot)com) on request.

http://odbojka.si/index.php?st=stran_novice&id_novice=1824

<http://www.fzs.si/en/index.html>

After EuroVolley 2019

In November SPORTO emerged EuroVolley 2019 as the best event of 2019 following an extremely extensive campaign that focused on selling out a major event in Slovenia. SPORTO is one of Europe's leading sports marketing and sponsorship conferences. It connects brands, rights holders, agencies, event organizers, athletes, students and other interested organizations and individuals within the sports business industry. The SPORTO Awards acknowledge and reward outstanding work in the field of sponsorship and sports marketing.

The Jury noted that the Organizing Committee executed their work extremely well and delivered great results. Working on major events of this nature requires tenacity and determination and to achieve all the set goals gave this campaign a strong competitive advantage in the event category.

The competition is open to applicants based in the Adriatic region (i.e. Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, and North Macedonia), as well as from Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary.

It takes place in close cooperation with the European Sponsorship Association (ESA) and a number of national partners.

http://www.volleyball.si/index.php?st=stran_novice&id_novice=2001

And in December the men's national team received the award for Slovenia's team of the year 2019. Viktor Krevsel, the "father of Slovenian Volleyball", presented the award established by the Society of Slovenian Sports Journalists.

PHILATELIC NEWSLETTER VOLLEYBALL

Cyclist Primož Roglič and climber Janja Garnbret claimed the individual awards for the best male and female athlete of 2019. The volleyball team received 95 out of maximum 105 points at stake to determine the team of the year.

"I would once more like to thank the Slovenian nation and our great fans for the enormous support we received during EuroVolley 2019. It was our great wish to deliver a good result in front of the home crowd. Once we saw that we can play on an extremely high level, things became easier. Besides that, it's simply impossible to lose, even against the reigning European and World champions, after more than 13,000 people have sung the national anthem Zdravljica a cappella" Slovenia's captain Tine Urnaut said.
Source: CEV



From left: Primož Roglič, Janja Garnbret and Tine Urnaut

Front page of the exhibition

Evropsko prvenstvo v odbojki za moške
European Men's Volleyball championship
1948 - 2019

I	1948	Italy	Rome
II	1950	Bulgaria	Sofia
III	1951	France	Paris
IV	1955	Romania	Bucharest
V	1958	Czechoslovakia	Prague
VI	1963	Romania	Bucharest
VII	1967	Turkey	Istanbul
VIII	1971	Italy	Milan
IX	1975	Yugoslavia	Belgrade
X	1977	Finland	Helsinki
XI	1979	France	Paris
XII	1981	Bulgaria	Varna
XIII	1983	East Germany	Berlin
XIV	1985	Netherlands	Amsterdam
XV	1987	Belgium	Gent
XVI	1989	Sweden	Stockholm
XVII	1991	Germany	Berlin
XVIII	1993	Finland	Turku
XIX	1995	Greece	Athens
XX	1997	Netherlands	Eindhoven
XXI	1999	Austria	Vienna
XXII	2001	Czech Republic	Ostrava
XXIII	2003	Germany	Berlin
XXIV	2005	Italy / Serbia and Montenegro	Roma
XXV	2007	Russia	Moscow
XXVI	2009	Turkey	Izmir
XXVII	2011	Austria / Czech Republic	Wien
XXVIII	2013	Denmark / Poland	Copenhagen
XXIX	2015	Bulgaria / Italy	Sofia
XXX	2017	Poland	Krakow
XXXI	2109	France / Slovenia / Netherlands / Belgium	Paris

Avtor razstave / Author of the exhibition : **Branko Maček**

MY THANKS GO TO: Branko Maček (Slovenia).