



Erasmus+



ORIGIN AND HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF SPORTS AS A COMMON EUROPEAN CULTURAL ACTIVITY



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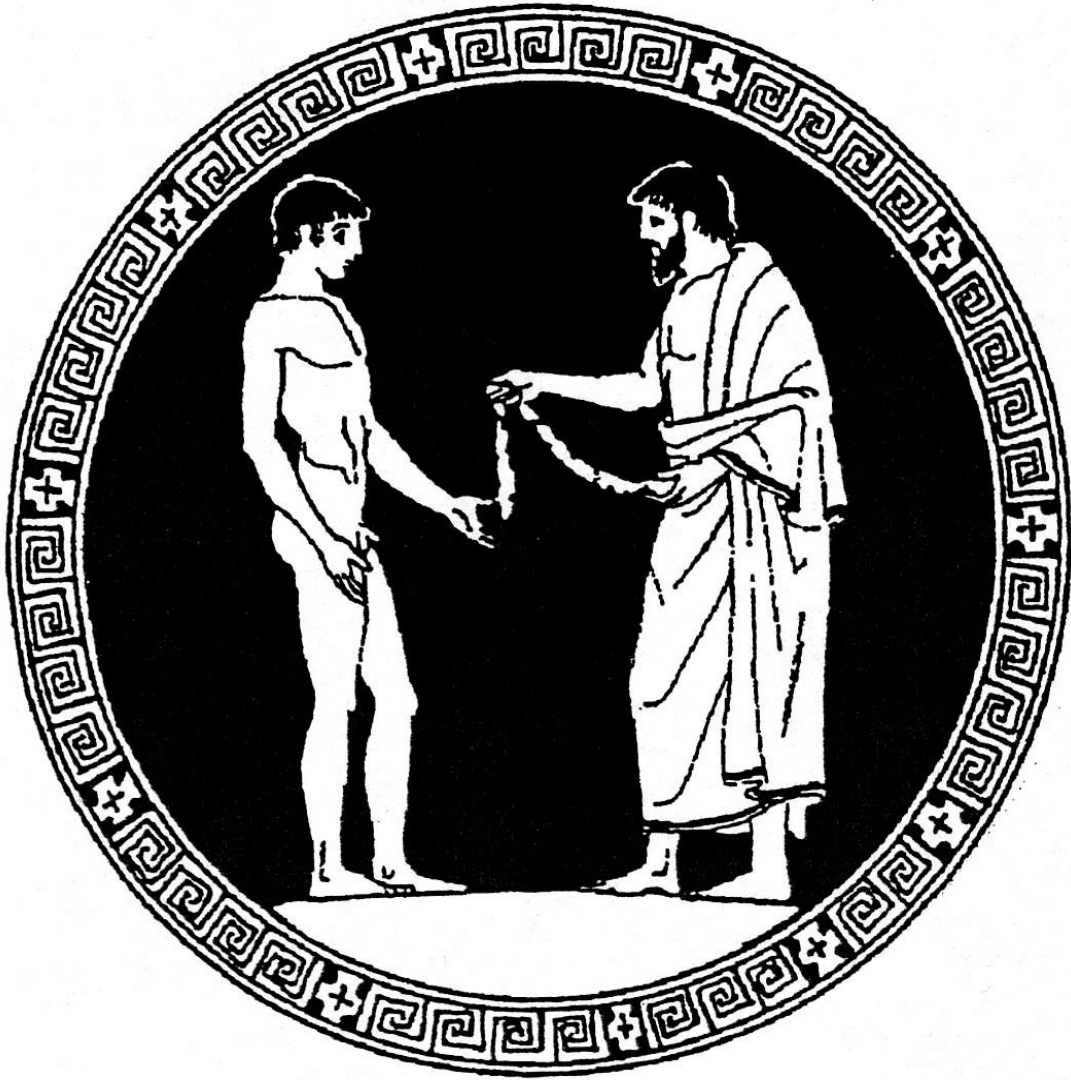
MOLDE KOMMUNE



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The Olympic Games in Ancient Greece



The sporting events at Olympia were the oldest and most important of the four national Greek athletic festivals. The games were held on an official basis every four years from 776 BC, but they probably originated much earlier. Greek myth credited the hero Herakles with devising the running races at Olympia to celebrate the completion of one of his twelve labours. Olympia was the most important sanctuary of the god Zeus, and the Games were held in his honour. Sacrifices and gifts were offered, and athletes took oaths to obey the rules before a statue of Zeus. The games were announced by heralds travelling to all the major Greek cities around the Mediterranean, and hostilities were banned during the period around the Games to safeguard those travelling to and from Olympia.

The games at Olympia continued with minor interruptions into early Christian times and were the inspiration for the modern Olympic Games, first staged in Athens in 1896.



Archaeology at Olympia

Over the centuries the river Alpheios, to the south of the sanctuary, folded and swept away the hippodrome, and the river Kladeios to the west destroyed part of the gymnasium. Following earthquakes and storms, a layer of silt was deposited over the entire site. Olympia lay unnoticed until modern times when an Englishman, Richard Chandler, rediscovered it in 1766.

The German government sponsored full-scale excavations from 1875. The excellent local museum displays many of the remarkable finds, and the German Archaeological Institute in liaison with the Greek Archaeological Service continues to investigate the site to the present day.



Equestrian Events

In ancient Greece only the wealthy could afford to maintain a chariot and horses. Chariots had been used to carry warriors into battle, and chariot races, along with other sports events, were originally held at the funeral games of heroes, as described in Homer's Iliad.



Wealthy citizens and Greek statesmen were anxious to win such a prestigious event. They sometimes drove their own chariot, but usually employed a charioteer. The races took place in an arena called the hippodrome. The most dangerous place was at the turning post, where chariot wheels could lock together and there were many crashes.

After the dangers and excitement of the chariot race came the horseracing. This was hazardous because the track was already churned up, and the jockeys rode without stirrups or saddles, which were not yet invented. The winning horse and its owner were given an enthusiastic reception, and riderless horses that came first past the post were also honoured.

Combat Sports

A big attraction at all the Greek games were the 'heavy' events – wrestling, boxing, and the pankration, a type of all-in wrestling. Specialists in the sports could win large sums of money all over the Greek world, once they had proved themselves at Olympia.

Wrestling was a sport of great skill which used many of the throws still seen today. It also featured as part of the pentathlon. Boxing was considered the most violent sport. There were no separate rounds in a match and the



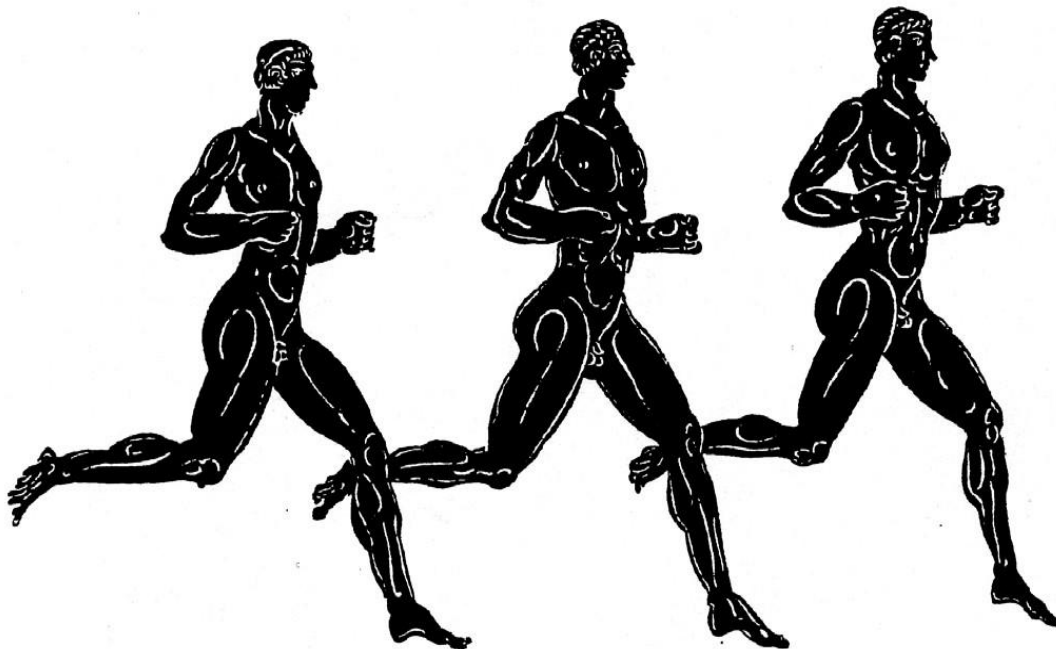
contestants fought until one of them gave in. In ancient Greece thin strips of leather were bound around the boxers' fists to protect their hands. Boxing gloves were eventually developed, and in the Roman period they were weighted with lead or iron to inflict greater damage.

The pankration was a mixture of boxing and wrestling, where almost any tactic was permitted. Only biting and going for an opponent's eyes were illegal.

RUNNING EVENTS

The most ancient and prestigious event at Olympia was the running race along the length of the stadium, a distance of 600 Olympic feet (192.28 metres). The

Olympiad (the four-year period up to the next Games) was named after the winner, and dates were recorded by reference to the list of victors. Besides this equivalent of our 'two-hundred metre' event, there was a race along two lengths of the track, and a long-distance race of twenty or twenty-four lengths. There was no 'marathon' – this was the invention of Baron de Coubertin who revived the Olympic Games in 1896. In all these races the runners made a standing start, from a row of stones laid set in the track that had grooves cut in them to provide a grip for the toes.



Pentathlon

The pentathlon was made up of five events – discus, jumping, javelin, running and wrestling – which all took place in one afternoon. Running and wrestling also existed as separate events.

There are differences between the ancient and the modern contests. Greek discus-throwers did not spin round on the spot: they rarely managed throws of more than 30 metres, less than half the modern Olympic record.

In the ancient long-jump, contestants used jumping-weights. These were swung forward on take-off then backward just before landing, to add thrust and gain extra length. Some kind of multiple jump may have been involved.

Javelin-throwing was similar to today's event, except that a thong was attached to the javelin shaft to add spin and secure a steadier flight.



The Programme of Events

Day One

Morning: Swearing-in ceremony. Contests for heralds and trumpeters. Boys' running, wrestling and boxing contests. Prayers and sacrifices in the sanctuary of Zeus; consultation of oracles.

Afternoon: Speeches by philosophers, poets and historians. Tours of the sanctuary of Zeus. Reunions with old friends.

Day Two

Morning: Procession in the hippodrome of competitors in the equestrian events. Chariot and horse-races.

Afternoon: The pentathlon.

Evening: Funeral rites in honour of the hero Pelops. Parade of victors around the sanctuary of Zeus. Singing of victory hymns. Feasting and revelry.

Day Three

Morning: Procession of the judges, ambassadors, competitors, and sacrificial animals to the Great Altar.

Afternoon: Running races.

Evening: Public banquet in the Prytaneion.

Day Four

Morning: Wrestling event.

Midday: Boxing and the pankration (all-in-wrestling).

Day Five

Procession of victors to the Temple of Zeus, to be crowned by the judges with garlands of wild olive.

The Olympic Victors

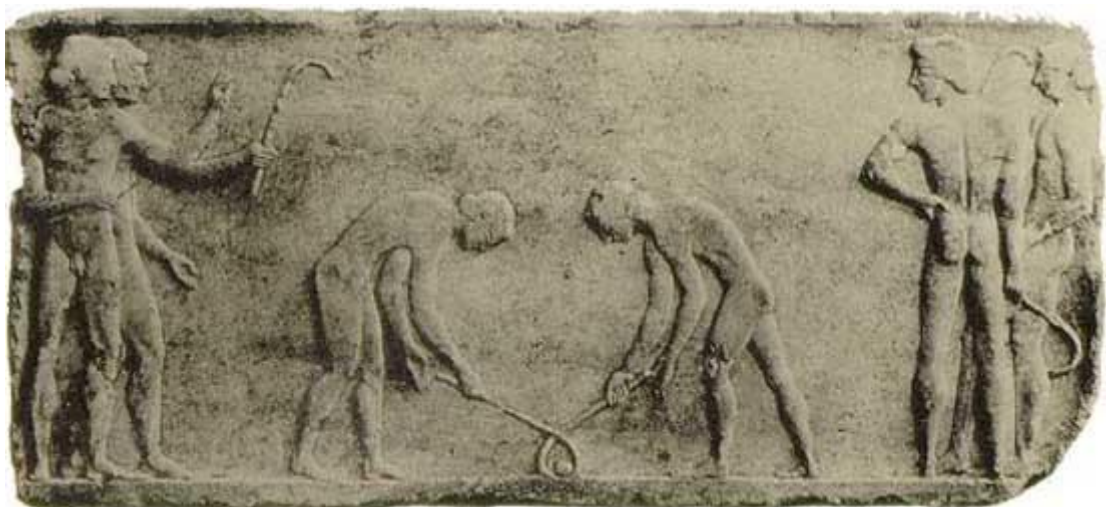
Valuable prizes could be won in athletic contests all over the Greek world, but victory at Olympia brought the greatest prestige. Winning contestants were allowed to put up statues of themselves inside the sanctuary of Zeus to commemorate their victory; many bases for these statues survive. Statues of athletes and statesmen were a prominent feature of Greek cities and sanctuaries. Athletes tied a woollen band around their forehead, and sometimes around their arms and legs, as a sign of victory. Winners at Olympia received crowns of wild olive, just as Herakles was said to have done when he had run the first races at Olympia with his brothers. In this scene he receives a garland from Nike, the goddess of Victory. With them is Herakles' father, Zeus, holding a thunderbolt, his symbol of power.

2-Ancient Roman Sports and Activities



The youth of Rome, as in Greece, had several forms of play and exercise, such as jumping, wrestling, boxing, and racing.

The Romans also had several forms of ball playing, including one resembling handball. Dice games, board games, and gamble games were popular pastimes. Women did not take part in these activities.



In the countryside, pastimes for the wealthy also included fishing and hunting.



Gladiators

A popular form of entertainment was gladiatorial combats. Gladiators fought either to the death or to "first blood" with a variety of weapons in different



scenarios. These fights achieved their height of popularity under the emperor Claudius, who placed the outcome of the combat firmly in the hands of the Emperor with a hand gesture. Contrary to popular representations in film, several experts believe the gesture for death was not "thumbs down". Although no one is certain about what the gestures were, some

experts conclude that the emperor signaled "death" by holding a raised fist to the winning combatant and the next ending his thumb upwards, while "mercy" was indicated by a raised fist with no extended thumb.



A gladiator (Latin: gladiator, "swordsmen", from gladius, "sword") was an armed combatant who entertained audiences in the Roman Republic and Roman Empire in violent confrontations with other gladiators, wild animals, and condemned criminals. Some gladiators were volunteers who risked their legal and social standing and their lives by appearing in the arena. Most were despised as slaves, schooled under harsh conditions, socially marginalized, and segregated even in death.

Irrespective of their origin, gladiators offered audiences an example of Rome's *Marti* athletics and, in fighting or dying well; they could inspire admiration and popular acclaim. They were celebrated in high and low art, and their values entertainers were commemorated in precious and common place objects throughout the Roman world.

The origin of gladiatorial combats open to debate. There is evidence of it in funeral rites during the Punic Wars of the 3rd century BC, and there after it rapidly became an essential feature of politics and social life in the Roman world. Its popularity led to its use in ever more lavish and costly spectacles or "gladiatorial games".

The games reached their peak between the 1st century BC and the 2nd century, and they finally declined during the early 5th century after the adoption of Christianity as state religion in the 390s, although "beast hunts" (*venationes*) were continued into the 6th century.

Animal shows were also popular with the Romans, where foreign animals were either displayed for the public or combined with gladiatorial combat. A prisoner or gladiator, armed or unarmed, was thrown into the arena and an animal was released.

Circus Maximus



The Circus Maximus, another popular site in Rome, was primarily used for horse and chariot racing, and when the Circus was flooded, there could be sea battles. It was also used for many other events. The Circus could hold up to 385,000 people; people all over Rome would visit it. Two temples, one with seven large eggs and one with seven dolphins, lay in the middle of the track of Circus Maximus, and when the racers made a lap, one of each would be removed. This was done to keep the spectators and the racers informed of the race statistics.

Other than for sports, the Circus Maximus was also an area of marketing and gambling. Higher authorities, such as the Emperor, also attended games in the Circus Maximus, as it was considered rude to avoid attendance. The higher authorities, knights, and many other people who were involved with the race, sat in reserved seats located above everyone else. It was also considered inappropriate for emperors to favour a team. The Circus Maximus was created in 600 BC and hosted the last horse-racing game in 549 AD, after a custom enduring over a millennium.

3-Middle Ages: tournaments, the Knight ideal, sports as a way to train skillful warriors



What was sport in the Middle Ages?



Known as a period of stagnation and obscurantism, considered a stage of history capable of preventing development, the Middle Ages had the virtue of awakening in the human being

the need to modify a lethargic state that then existed, giving rise later to the Renaissance.

On the other hand, the manifestations of physical character, such as sports practice and body worship, so celebrated by the Greeks and until a certain period by the Romans, did not find the same stimulus in the Middle Ages.

However, a number of respected historians regard the medieval period as a true source of riches and benefits for Western civilization.

The figure of the knight, physically and spiritually well-prepared, gallant and romantic, outstanding in the act of riding, in the use of the sword would, later give origin to sport modalities of Olympic character, like the equestrianism and the fencing.

In the Middle Ages, therefore, there was no physical education which the Greeks sought by means of a certain primitivism to stimulate, but a physical activity which, leaving aside violence, reveals bravery and loyalty on the part of its practitioners.



The Knight



He was the representative of the nobility within the nobility. He was a landlord, promoted leisure, and displayed good manners.

He respected an elaborate code of chivalry which obliged him to serve first his master, then the Christian religion, and finally the romantically chosen lady, who, may not be his wife.

Their preparation included the practice of fencing, archery, marching, running, riding (such

as training and charges in wars) and games, represented by tournaments and jousts, as well as other evidence of lesser representativeness. To be a knight, it was necessary to acquire all its characteristics.

Tournaments

The tournament was the sport practiced in the Middle Ages with greater enthusiasm and that attracted more spectators.

Its origins are obscure: the Germans claim to have invented it; the same, say the French; but there are no news of tournaments in Germany before the twelfth century.

There was the Primitive Tournament, a small-scale warfare of the medieval wars of truth: two groups, more or less numerous, collided with one another from sunrise to sunset. At the end of the fight, there were dead, wounded and prisoners, a victorious group and a vanquished group.

The battlefield, practically unlimited, was surrounded by obstacles, thickets and ravines. In it was designated a place of refuge, where the combatants could not be attacked; This was the only respected rule. All the weapons were valid: the spear, the sword and the mace. All forms of combat were considered lawful. The fighters carried mail, helmet or helmet of iron and shield.



There were a series of forbidden blows and the rider falling to the ground could not be attacked. Greater protection was given to the disputants, replacing the "chain mail".

There was, however, no deliberate purpose to kill or to wound, and after the battle the contenders of both groups gathered at a banquet, followed by a ball.

Equestrian Games and later tournaments

The free field of the primitive tournaments gave way to the courtyards or squares of arms of the manorial castles, where the lance was carried out, with tribune for the numerous assistants, constituted of a fenced, more long than wide, whose limits were marked by two parallel barriers, separated from each other by four steps, where, in their interior, people took refuge on foot.



In case of necessity, they would help the fighters fouled of their mounted or those who were injured.



Tournaments were scheduled at day and time, when two groups of knights were on the scene. There were also field marshals, who pointed to the beginning and end of the struggle. Those who were shot down, who could not ride continued the fight on foot.

The captain of the winning team received from the hand of the lady of the near castle the brooch or jewel that symbolized the victory and for whose solemn delivery the worldly feast of banquet and finally a dance was

performed.

The knights should be skilled in handling the weapons, considering a timely plan of attack or defense.

Quintana or Giostra

The quintana or giostra of the sarraceno was an exercise of much play and dexterity, in which the knight, wielding a spear, tried to hit a target, usually puppets, representing the enemy (the saracen), in which was fixed a sword or a stick.

There were also the arco races: horse races during which the riders were throwing arrows at a target.



Jousts

The Jousts were disputed between two knights, suitably clad in heavy armor, and protected by special shields. In the early days, the riders rushed against each other and try to overthrow the adversary, reaching him full with the spear.

Sometimes the onslaught was so violent that the spear passed through the head or the chest of the adjusters.



Subsequently, it was no longer a question of overthrowing the adversary, but breaking the spear over his armor or shield. It would win the one whose spear flew, made in pieces, which indicated better aim.

Each pair of jiggers had the right to "run three spears," and to know which of them had won, all we had to do was count the number of spears each had.

The encounter took place in any free space of the cities and it needs a very small lot, for a giostra, so it was disputed by two horsemen.

Caroselo and Bigordo

Another modality, the caroselo, was a spectacle where the riders, while guiding cars or carriages, turn around a central target and play games of dexterity and skill. There was also the bigordo, a more flamboyant manifestation, but less charged with ceremonies and less violent.

It was an exercise among the most popular in Italy, because it allowed the riders to show their mastery and not to ride flaunting clothes, equipment and horses.

Conclusion

There was a physical activity directed to the military preparation of man in defense of the domains of his Lord; and with the aim of integrating himself with the Crusades, a movement used by the Church to liberate the holy places (located in Palestine) occupied by the Muslim Turks.

The practice of the Equestrian Games, represented primarily by the Tournaments and Justas, where the bravery, the loyalty and the chivalrous spirit of the participants were a constant, provoked, centuries later, an enthusiastic manifestation of the Baron de Coubertin:

"The Middle Ages knew a Sporting spirit of intensity and brilliance, probably superior to that which was known to Greek antiquity itself".

Years later this Baron de Coubertin would institute the Modern Olympic Games, combining the Greeks ideal and the Chivalry code of the knights of the Medieval Ages.



Thomas Arnold

The Education Reformer Who Highlighted Values of Sports



Life

- Thomas Arnold was born at East Cowes, Isle of Wight on 13th June 1795.
- He was educated at Winchester and Corpus Christi College, Oxford, where he met his lifelong friend, John Taylor Coleridge. As a brilliant student, Arnold obtained a first-class degree and was granted a fellowship at Oriel.
- In 1818 Arnold was ordained deacon and settled at Laleham, a village on the Thames. While a deacon, Arnold formed a small school where he prepared pupils for university. After nine years at Laleham, Arnold was invited to become a master at Rugby School.
- Apart from education, he also had a deep sympathy for the poor and in 1831 he started a newspaper that advocated social reform. The newspaper failed but Arnold continued to write on this subject for the rest of his life.
- Arnold was also a strong supporter of Catholic Emancipation.

Rugby School and forming of his ideas

- Although a prosperous private school, Rugby was not seen as having the same status as schools such as Eton or Winchester. After Arnold had been appointed headmaster in 1828, he successfully regenerated the school.
- Thomas Arnold had a profound and **lasting effect on the development of public school education in England**. Arnold introduced mathematics, modern history and modern languages and instituted the form system and introduced the prefect system to keep discipline. Although Arnold held strong views, he made it clear to his students they were not expected to accept those views, but to examine the evidence and to think for themselves.

Sport to social control

- This was a time of change, both in society at large and in the English public schools. Parliament and criminal laws were changing (for example, laws banning cruelty to animals), transport and communications were dramatically improving (with the introduction of the penny post and the railways) and Queen Victoria was crowned in 1837.
- On joining Rugby he grew to be obsessed by what he saw as the immorality and sinfulness of boys and was determined to reform them, their attitudes and their school lives.
- **Arnold used games as a way of establishing social control, he did NOT value games as an end in themselves. Games kept the boys out of trouble in the day and sent them to bed exhausted.**
- Arnold also **established a more trusting and sympathetic relationship with the sixth form**. His masters gradually **adopted roles of mentor and**

guide, rather than judges and executioners. He then raised the status of the sixth form, increased their powers of discipline, and in return required them to be positive role models and his 'police force' around the school. The sixth formers became the link between masters and boys.

Roles of team games in preparing public schoolboys for leadership

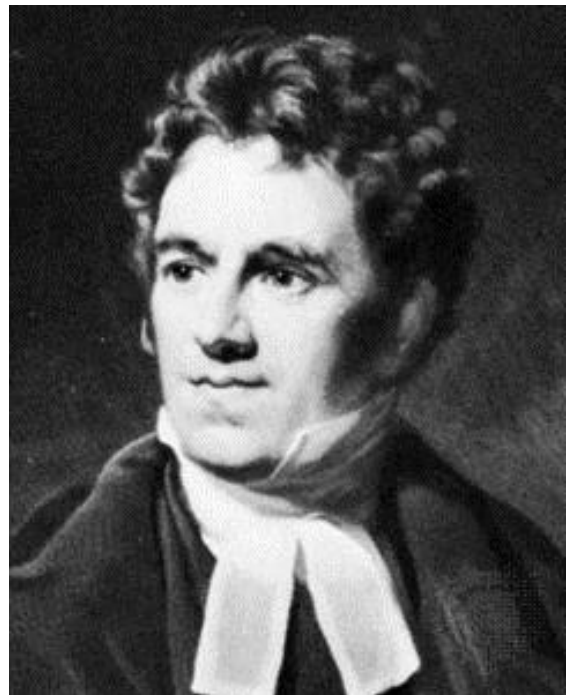
- Teamwork/loyalty to a team
- Captains in sport then captain in industry
- Making decisions
- Organisational experience through committees
- Testing/developing courage/bravery

His Idea of Muscular Christianity

- The combination of godliness and manliness: The belief in having a strong and fit body to match a robust and healthy soul.

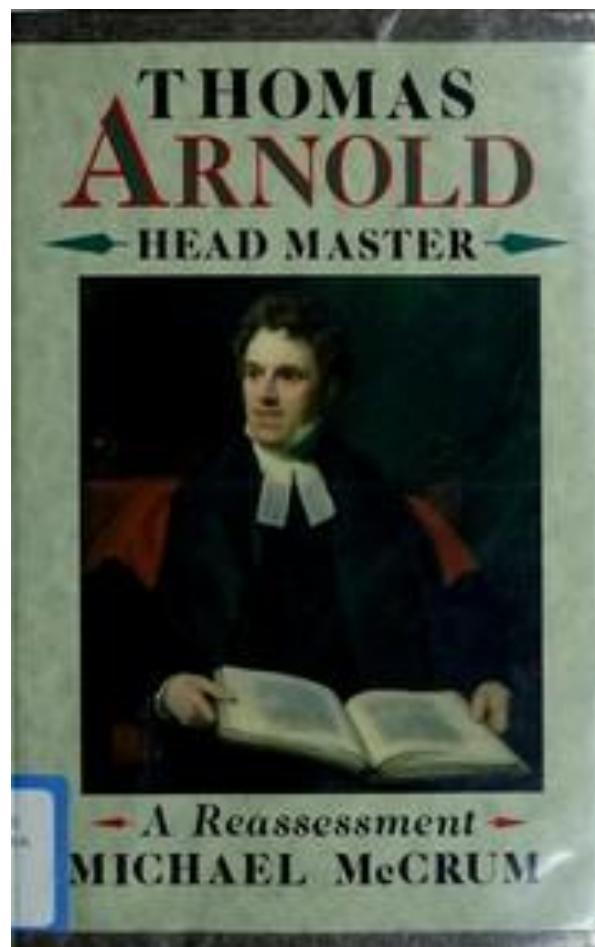
The 'Cult' of Athleticism

- Symbols of athleticism in the the late 19th century English public schools included:
 - mellowed buildings that were more aesthetically welcoming than previous harsh school buildings,
 - Magnificent fields to play games on,
 - The wearing of caps,
 - The awarding of colours to worthy recipients,
- Rules were readily adhered to, with fair play and sportsmanship of key importance in developing 'rounded' gentlemen.
- Links to Muscular Christianity were developed - Win gracefully or lose with honour and bravery
- Athleticism combined physical endeavour with moral integrity



What the 'cult' gave

All-round, mind and body - temperament - healthy - leadership - endeavour
teamwork - integrity - cohesion/competition - instrument of education -
sportmanship - muscular christianity



MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES



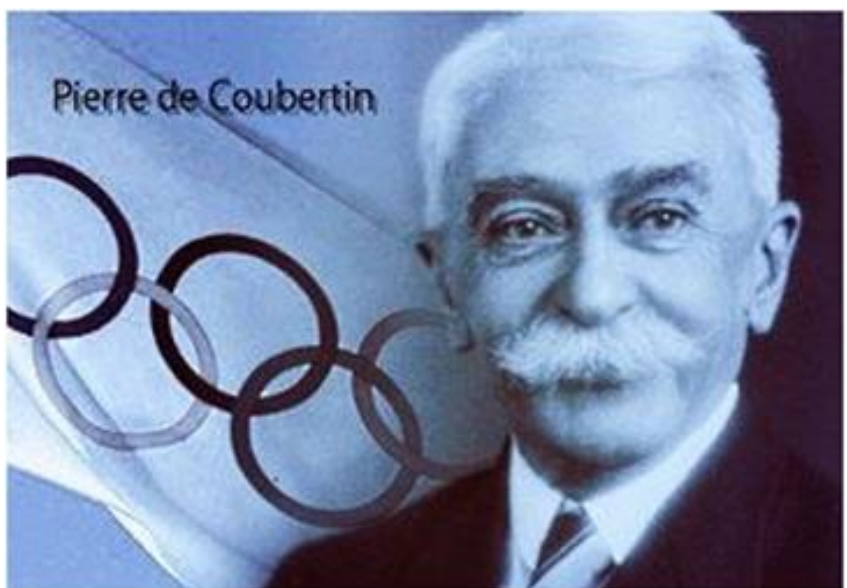
1ST PERIOD:

“A better world could be brought about only by better individuals.” This quote from Pierre de Coubertin shows how life started to change from the mid-18th century until nowadays. When this important man was born in 1863, many things around the world completely changed. First of all, in 1863, servitude was abolished in the United States; in 1864, the I International is created; one year later, 1865, there was a suffrage movement which would led to the female vote in 1920. A significant event occurred in 1870: the Battle of Sedan between France and Prussia, where France was defeated and humiliated. This would result in the unification of Germany and Italy. Afterwards in 1871, the Parisian Commune is founded; in 1872, the I International disappears from Europe. Regarding culture, the Eiffel Tower is constructed in 1889. So as we can see, many relevant events occur until the establishment of the International Olympic Committee in 1894. All these will later influence Pierre and future wars such as World War I.

BIOGRAPHY:

Pierre, baron de Coubertin was born the 1 January, 1863 in France and died on September 2, 1937 in Switzerland. He was a French educator and historian who played a central role in the revival of the Olympic Games in 1896, after nearly 1,500 years of inactivity. He was a founding member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and served as its second president from 1896 to 1925, becoming the father of the modern Olympic Games.

He was born into an established aristocratic family and received a privileged upbringing. His father was a great patriot and does, he passed on these thoughts to Pierre. He was one of the cleverest and top students of his class assisting to a Jesuit school. His early education influenced him a lot as it taught him strong moral values. When he was a child, France was under profound political changes.(1870



Battle of Sedan=French defeat) France's defeat in the Franco-Prussian War greatly bothered every citizen of France, and even though Pierre was just a young boy, he was disturbed by the defeat of his beloved country, too. He postulated that it was the lack of physical education and training that made the French soldiers weak and more prone to defeat at the hands of the more athletic rivals, so at the end he became convinced that athletic prowess could save his nation from military humiliation.

As he belonged to a rich family, he didn't have any problem when choosing from a number of career options. He finally decided to study at the Law Faculty of the Political Sciences School. Pierre de Coubertin was primarily a pedagogue and his foremost aim was to reform education. In 1925 he was one of the founders of the World Pedagogical Union.

From a young age he was really interested in education and its philosophy, so he later became an educator and intellectual. As a teenager he used to read English novels from where he learned of the sports-centered English public school system of the late 19th century. He agreed with the English educational system which promoted many sport values.

Intrigued, he travelled to England and studied its educational system. Influenced by the study of Thomas Arnold's conception and education, in which England had integrated physical education and sports with academic curriculum, he demanded ethical and moral values together with physical training in France which in those days only focused on intellectual development. This implementation triggered in the combination of sports, education and the idea of world-wide peace. The last idea of universal peace was extremely relevant and one of his main objectives, that's why modern Olympic Games were built on three pillars: elite sports, ethics and peace. Coubertin was convinced that peace education could only be effective if theoretical learning was accompanied by personal experience. Olympic sport was the very means to achieve this aim. Sport in the sense should become an instrument to reform economy and politics and thus society as a whole: "The Olympic Games will be a potent, if indirect factor in securing universal peace". Yet, Coubertin was clearly drawn to the medieval period arguing that an unintended Olympism nearly took root in the Middle Ages. He was especially enamored by the esthetic, moral, and, indeed, religious context that informed the athletic instinct during the Middle Ages, and he found in chivalry reified and rhetorical echoes of the romantically conceived ancient Olympic cosmology that so inspired him.

In 1890, he met English educator William Penny Brookes, who had organized British Olympic Games in 1866. Brookes was passionate about resurrecting the Olympic Games on an international level. Deeply influenced by Brookes, Coubertin decided to take up the cause.

Eventually he became the father of the modern Olympic Games by establishing the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 1894 which revived and promoted Olympic Games throughout the world. The IOC is the supreme authority of the worldwide modern Olympic movement.

His campaign to promote athletic activities began as a lonely crusade but it slowly gained support among advocates of athletics in Europe and America. Finally in 1888, he proclaimed the Olympic Games reestablishment in the Sorbonne University. Thus, Coubertin was able to organize the first modern Olympics in Athens in 1896 as a symbol of Greek origins. The success of the first Olympic Games marked, for Coubertin, the internationalization of his educational visions, where his main priority at first was as said before, the idea of peace among nations.

After having created the IOC, he became its second president and managed to impose some measures such as: he regulated the games and lead the organization of some Olympic Games (Paris (1900), San Luis (1904), London (1908) and Stockholm(1912).

In addition he was the creator of many different symbols such as the flag, the flame, the anthem, symbols and traditions described afterwards.

After a glorious life, he finally died due to a heart attack on 2 September 1937.

INFLUENCES:

Every detail in his life influenced Pierre:

- His father's patriotism
- Assistance to Jesuit School: strong moral values
- Battle of Sedan 1870: great humiliation
- English novels
- Travels to England (1883): English educational system promoted sports
- Thomas Arnold
- Middle Ages: knight tournaments: moral, esthetic and religious context in medieval athletes



OBJECTIVES:

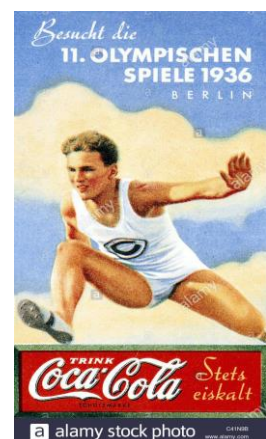
As a result of all these influences, he postulated his own ideas which were:

1. Universal peace and interracial understanding: " The Olympic Spirit is neither the property of one race nor of one age."
2. Avoid military humiliation with athletic power: "Success comprises in itself the seeds of its own decline and sport is not spared by this law."
3. The self-awareness through sports: "The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not winning but taking part; the essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting well."
4. The harmony of physical and spiritual training: " Sport is the habitual and voluntary cultivation of intensive physical effort."
5. the idea of human perfection with the help of physical achievement: "Olympism... exalting and combining in a balanced whole the qualities of body, mind and will".
6. sports deliberately based upon ethics as the leading principle: " In the Olympic Oath, I ask for only one thing: sporting loyalty."
7. respect for and tolerance of competitors: " All sports must be treated on the basis of equality."

HOW IS IT MADE? (1896)

They have an Organising Committee. They have the next main tasks:

- Give equal treatment to every sport and stay in the rules of the Ifs.
- Look for the equipment and to choose and sometimes design the installations.



- They have to take care of the athletes, for example for a place where they can sleep or solve transportation problems.
- Organise medical services.
- They help to give information to the public.
- Organise cultural and social events.
- Write the official report.



DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OLYMPIC GAMES AND OLYMPIAD:

It's essential to differentiate very well Olympic Games and Olympiads, as many people often confuse. Firstly, the Olympic Games are sportive events in which athletes all around the world participate in different disciplines. These Games are held every four years and their location varies. On the other hand, Olympiads is the period between the Olympic Games, that is, those 4 years in which athletes train very hard and when the Olympic spirit is really shown.

SECOND PERIOD

SYMBOLS AND TRADITIONS:

• **Olympic Ring**

The design of the original flag was created by Pierre Coubertin in 1914. The five Olympic rings represent the five major regions of the world (Africa, Europe, Oceania, Asia and the Americas), and are connected to symbolize the good relationship between them on the games. The colors were chosen because at least one of them appeared on the flag of every country in the world.



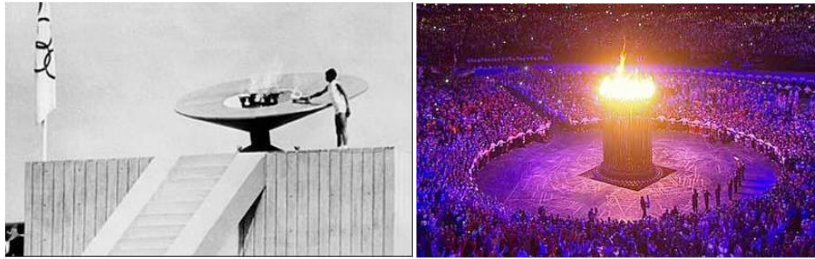
● Olympic Hymn

The music for the hymn was composed by Spyros Samaras and the words added by Greece's national poet, Kostis Palamas. The Olympic Hymn was first played at the 1896 Olympic Games in Athens, but wasn't declared the official hymn by the IOC until 1957.



● Olympic Flame

The idea of an Olympic Flame burning from the start of the games to the closing was first introduced in 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam. It represents a lot of things, the most important are the purity and endeavor. The first torch relay was conducted for the 1936 Berlin Olympics.



- **Medals**

In the ancient Olympics, the first-place winner was given an olive branch to wear on his head. The second and third place winners did not receive anything.



At the first Games in 1896, silver medals were awarded to the winners and bronze to the second place getters. In 1900, most winners received cups or trophies instead of medals. At the 1904 Games in St. Louis, gold replaced silver as the medal awarded for first place.



Since 1928, the front side of every Olympic Games medal was essentially the same: an image of Nike, the Greek goddess of victory, the Olympic Rings, the coliseum of ancient Athens, a Greek vase known as an amphora, a horse-drawn chariot, and the year, number of the Olympiad, and host city. Each host city was allowed to add special details to this design.

Olympiad, and host city. Each host city was allowed to add special details to this design.

1896 MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES

The first modern Olympics were settled in Athens, Greece, in 1896. The IOC (International Olympic Committee) met for the first time in Paris in June 1894 and chose Greece as the place where these events would be held.

In 1896 the Olympics' tradition reborned after 1500 years ago.

Pierre proposed reviving the Olympics in 1892. And it was reborn the April 6, 1896.

The Olympics were from 6 to 15 April 1896.

He became IOC president in 1896. He guided this activity through its hardest years, when it wasn't that popular until 1924 in Paris.

In these activities 14 nations participated and they competed in 43 events in 12 sports, in which included: cycling, athletics, fencing, gymnastics, sailing, shooting, swimming and weightlifting among others. And not only that, the first marathon was won by Spyridon Louis from Greece. In these activities only men could participate and they were 241 athletes.

This four countries had the largest number of athletes: France, Great Britain, Germany and Greece.

The scores were ordered like this:

- In first place U.S with 11 gold medals.
- In second place Greece with 10 gold medals.
- In third place Germany with 6 gold medals.

Greece placed first, second or third place in 46 events, Germany placed in 13 competitions and America in 20 events.

THIRD PERIOD

POLITICAL CONTEXT

The country had financial problems and had a political turmoil. The cost of the Games was 3.740.000 gold drachmas.

When everything started the prospect of making the Olympic Games were in doubt. Coubertin made a campaign to make a movement. They won at the end.

The first regulation voted on by the IOC in 1894 was to allow only amateur athletes to participate in The Olympics.

1936 MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES:

Nazi Germany used the 1936 Olympic Games for propaganda purposes.

German Victories

Germany emerged victorious from the XIth Olympiad. German athletes captured the most medals, and German hospitality and organization won the praises of visitors.

Olympics games

- Nazi Germany used the 1936 Olympic Games for propaganda purposes.
- On August 1, 1936, Hitler opened the XIth Olympiad.
- Forty-nine athletic teams from around the world competed in the Berlin Olympics, more than in any previous Olympics.

1936 Berlin Olympic games

- The Olympic stadium was completed time and held 100,000 spectators.



Racial signs were no longer visible and the games went on smoothly.

- Until the "racially inferior" Owens won four gold medals ;in the 100m, 200m long jump and 400m.
- During the Games Owens broke 11 olympic records and defeated Lutz Lang in the long jump final.

Political context

- The Olympic Games were awarded to Berlin in 1931 with no idea that Hitler was going to take power in Germany two years later.
- In 1933, when Hitler took power and his racist policies led to international debate about a boycott of the games.
- Due to the massive fear of a boycott, the International Olympic Committee pressured German government and assured that Jewish athletes would be a part of the German team and that the Games would not be used to promote Nazi ideology.

However Hitler's government failed to deliver such promises and only one athlete of Jewish descent was a member of the German Team (Helene Mayer)

- The Olympics was the perfect opportunity for Hitler to demonstrate to the world, how efficient Nazi Germany was and to prove reality of the Master Race.
- The Berlin Olympic Games gave the Nazis an opportunity to show off to the world as 49 countries were competing and bringing with them assorted media.

Lutz lang vs. Jesse owen

- **LUTZ LANG**
- Germany's athletic superstar.
- A brilliant long jumper
- Who easily fitted into the image of blonde hair, blue eyed Aryan racial superiority.
- **JESSE OWEN**
- The most famous athlete in America.
- An african american.
- Therefore under Nazi ideology.
- "racially inferior"

How lutz lang and jesse owen changed the Olympics

Hitler was not very fond of Jesse Owens because he was African American. Despite Hitler's views and opinions, Jesse went to the Olympics anyway and won four gold medals. During the long jump competition Jess made friends with a German by the name of Lutz Lang. The two remained friends until Lutz died in World War Two. So how did they changed the olympics? Lutz befriended Jesse, a black man. They showed true Olympic and non racial spirit and remained

friends until death, even though their friendship was looked down upon by Hitler.

Before the Olympics, a boycott started, many people did not want to participate in the games because they questioned Hitler's motives and the mortality of his Olympic games.

- A German paper, the *Völkischer Beobachter* wrote in the strongest terms that Jews and Black people should not be allowed to participate in the Games.... this is what initially started the boycott.

-Before the 1936 Olympic games, Hitler was already rising to power.

-Hitler saw the Olympics as a good way to promote his government and racial ideas and views.

-During the Olympic games, Hitler camouflaged most of his hidden agendas to impress others and make Germany seem peaceful. Incite: How Lutz Lang and Jesse Owen Changed the Olympics Hitler was not very fond of Jesse Owens because he was African American. Despite Hitler's views and opinions, Jesse went to the Olympics anyway and won four gold medals. During the long jump competition Jesse made friends with a German by the name of Lutz Lang. The two remained friends until Lutz died in World War Two. So how did they change the Olympics? Lutz befriended Jesse, a black man. They showed true Olympic and non racial spirit and remained friends until death, even though their friendship was looked down upon by Hitler. Conclusion The 1936 Olympics were one of the most famous Olympics. It differed from any of the others. Through this presentation we have discovered and talked about the political context of this Olympics, Lutz, Jesse, and how this Olympics changed the



world.

The differences between ancient and modern Olympic Games

- In the ancient Olympics the people of Greek descent were allowed to participate, while nowadays a lot of different countries participate.
- In the ancient ones the people were from 13 nations, nowadays 206 countries participate.
- They were at Olympia in 776B.C and they were always held in Olympia, nowadays they always change to other countries.
- In the ancient only men were allowed to compete, nowadays the women can also compete.
- In the ancient these activities were held as a religious events, and nowadays it's a way of putting all the countries together.



Sport After Second World War



Citations

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Pictures

Picture 1:

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/9a/Thomas_Arnold_by_Thomas_Phillips.jpg/220px-Thomas_Arnold_by_Thomas_Phillips.jpg

Picture 2:

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