

SWEDISH ATHLETICISM

The National Swedish Athletic Association was formed in 1895 and since then the sport has grown enormously. Sweden is presently ranked 15th in the world. The motifs are as follows :

1. Women account for about 25 % of the track and field athletes throughout the world. Runner Anne-Louise Skoglund, for instance, won the 400m hurdles of European Championships in 1982.
2. Erik Lemming, winner of several Olympic gold medals, represents traditions that have helped produce world class javelin throwers Kenth Eldebrink and Dag Wennlund.
3. Last year, high jumper Patrik Sjöberg was the recipient of the most prestigious sports award in Sweden. The stamp shows a modern “flop” high jumper as well as an early Olympian executing a “high jump without run-up”.
4. Sweden has also produced top calibre steeplechasers such as Anders Gärderud, winner of the 1976 Olympic gold medal.

The stamps have been designed by Gyula Buvary and engraved by Zlatko Jakus. Printing has been done at PFA. The illustration on the first-day cover was devised by Gyula Buvary.



We send our sympathy to Mr. Jose Maria Vidal Torrens, philately adviser to the IOC, who has just lost his mother.