

# SPORTS ON STAMPS IN BARCELONA



**O**n 3rd October last, the third series of the Barcelona'92 pre-Olympic issue programme went on sale.

Three new stamps have appeared, corresponding to the ninth, tenth and eleventh of the general programme. In alphabetical order, as always, the first stamp, with a value of 18 pesetas, illustrates fencing, and depicts a swordsman on the attack. Two players are competing for the ball on the second stamp, devoted to football and worth 20 pesetas. The third stamp is for international postage and is consequently worth 45 pesetas. Illustrating gymnastics, it shows an athlete on a piece of apparatus. All three designs in this series are the work of the Barcelona-born artist Robert Llimos y Oriol (46).

*By José Maria Vidal-Torrens (AIJP)*



## 3RD PHILATELIC PRE-OLYMPIC SERIES



A surtax of five pesetas, which goes to COOB'92, is charged on each of the stamps, as with the two previous series (see O.R. No. 254 and 259). The printing remains unchanged at 2,200,000 sheets of each stamp, but the format of the sheets has been reduced from 30 to 12 stamps, which has resulted in some speculation on the part of collectors.

On the day the series went on sale, there was a special first-day cancellation in Barcelona and Madrid, featuring Cobi, the mascot of the Games, and a flame around a gymnast in action on the apparatus.

