

# Journal Surveys

## I. United Kingdom

- I-1 McCrone, Kathleen E. "Emancipation or Recreation? The Development of Women's Sport at the University of London," *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, 7, No. 2 (September 1990), 204-229.

University College, London University, was the first in Britain to open all programs to men and women equally, followed by Kings College. However, athletic tradition developed more strongly at the affiliated women's colleges: Bedford, Westfield, and Royal Holloway. Boating, hockey, tennis, and swimming were popular at all five, although each had its favorite. While athleticism was not a cult for women, the fact that educators and students embraced physical and mental activities simultaneously was significant to women's liberation. Based on primary and secondary sources, 89 notes.

—Mary Lou LeCompte

- I-2 Tranter, Neil. "The Chronology of Organized Sport in Nineteenth-Century Scotland: A Regional Study I—Patterns." *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, 7, No. 2 (September 1990), 188-203.

Highland Games and Gatherings, amateur athletics, and 10 club sports became organized in central Scotland (within a 20-mile radius of Stirling) between 1831 and 1900. Curling and quoting actually predated the study, and only five of the activities appeared during the entire period. Soccer clubs arrived in the 1870s and by the 1880s exceeded all other organizations by almost one hundred, a pattern that continued. The various sports experienced different histories and capacities for survival, the reasons for which will be explained in a second article. Based on primary and secondary sources, 66 notes.

—Mary Lou LeCompte

- I-3 Tranter, Neil. "The Chronology of Organized Sport in Nineteenth-Century Scotland: A Regional Study II—Causes," *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, 7, No. 3 (December 1990), 365-387.

The irregular growth patterns of sport clubs in nineteenth-century central Scotland (described in the previous article, *IJHS*, 7, 2) are due largely to public perceptions of a sport's worth, changing tastes (cricket club members

developing a preference for golf and tennis, for example), and availability of venues. The sudden growth of soccer also had a dramatic and negative impact in the struggle for players and spectators. Sports dependent on the working class had the greatest financial problems and the most unstable growth. Based on primary and secondary sources, 105 notes.

—Mary Lou LeCompte

- I-4 Metcalfe, Alan. "Sport and Space: A Case-study of the Growth of Recreational Facilities in East Northumberland, 1850-1914." *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, 7, No. 3 (December 1990) 348-364.

Between 1870 and 1910, recreational areas in the 66 mining towns and villages of Northumberland changed from roads, moors, beaches, and the like to over 170 enclosed sporting grounds, including 50 football fields and three golf courses. Although diverse groups contributed, miners themselves were central to success, sometimes organizing, financing, and managing their own facilities. Development was significantly related to pressures placed on land by economic growth, but more to the concept of community. Based on primary and secondary sources, 20 notes.

—Mary Lou LeCompte

- I-5 Gent, John. "Leisure and Pleasure in Surrey," *Surrey History*, 4, No. 4 (Summer 1992), 194-210.

The history and development of leisure and pleasure activities in Britain is not well documented. The Surrey Local History Council have tried to redress this with a series of symposia to try to generate interest in studies in the subject. This article chronicles horse racing at various venues—particularly Epsom and fox hunting, rowing on the rivers of the county, fishing, skating and cycling. Based on primary sources; four notes.

—Chris Harte

- I-6 Bishop, W. H. "Ashford Grass Track Speedway," *Bygone Kent*. 12, No. 9 (September 1991), 528-540.

One of the most popular and probably most dangerous of British prewar sporting activities was the motor cycling event known as Grass Track Speedway. Tracks proliferated throughout the country with most major towns having at least one track. This article concentrates on the Ashford track, the most popular in Kent. Weekend crowds of up to 5,000 were regular occurrences. Races were usually 20 laps on a half-mile course. Based on primary sources.

—Chris Harte

I-7 Everett, Rosemary. "Merrills in Ryedale," *Yorkshire Dalesman*, 54, No. 6 (September 1992), 70-74.

The ancient Yorkshire board game of Merrills was known and recorded in the first century. The earliest accurately dateable board was found among the possessions of a Viking burial ship of AD 870. The World Merrills Championships, a game similar to draughts or chess, are held annually with skills of play used being those popularized in medieval times. Boards have also been found in a Nile Valley temple and a first-century shrine in Sri Lanka. Based on primary sources.

—Chris Harte