

### III. Europe

III-1 SCHWARTZ, JOSHUA. "Ball Playing in Ancient Jewish Society: The Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine Period." *Ludica, annali di storia e civiltà del gioco* 3 (1997): 16–39.

This article concerns Talmudic sources and the traditions in Israel concerning the practice and function of small ball games. Ball games were played by people of all ages. The article discusses rabbinic and the general Jewish population's attitudes, and facilities and sites of games. Illustrated; 46 notes.

—JODIE POEPELMA

III-2 PEDERIN, IVAN. "Athletic Sports in Dalmatia from the Middle Ages to the Industrial Era." *Ludica, annali di storia e civiltà del gioco* 3 (1997): 80–90.

The sporting events that evolved in Dalmatian Croatia during the Middle Ages and the Industrial Era were similar to the current athletic sports with respect to the equipment used and goals of the game. The people of Dalmatia expressed interest in boxing, rowing, stone throwing, and hunting. Falconry was a favorite sport due to the rich natural reserve forest for the falcons at the time. The competitive aspect of the sporting events shifted from entertainment toward a more business-like approach. Illustrated; 41 notes.

—JODIE POEPELMA

III-3 ORTALLI, GHERARDO. "The Origins of the Gambler-State: Licenses and Excises for Gaming Activities in the XIIIth and XIVth Centuries (and the Case of Vicenza)." *Ludica, annali di storia e civiltà del gioco* 3 (1997): 108–131.

The disapproval of gaming has been traced to ancient Roman law. The general approach was to censure these activities. A different approach evolved in the thirteenth century. The development of regulations soon followed. The expansion of gaming houses in certain parts of Europe erupted in the fifteenth century. Social discipline, control of deviance, and maintenance of public order were some of the benefits observed through the awarding of gaming licenses. The authorities discovered that gaming activities could be controlled so as to protect the public. Illustrated; 49 notes.

—JODIE POEPELMA

III-4 KUSUDO, KAZUHIKO. "Open Shooting Festivals (Freischießen) in German Cities, 1455–1501." *The International Journal of the History of Sport* 16 (1) (Mar. 1999): 65–86.

In the second half of the fifteenth century, German cities held "king's" and "open" shooting festivals. Letters of invitation for the open competitions specified weapon (cross-bow and/or musket), dates, target sizes and distances, entry fees, prizes, rules of competition, and penalties. Some festivals also held lotteries and physical contests for shooters and others, including races for women. The festivals increasingly emphasized entertainment values and friendship among cities rather than military practice. Based on primary and secondary sources; 54 notes.

—RICHARD V. MCGEHEE

III-5 BONDE, HANS. "Sports and Anti-Communism: Danish Gymnastics' Encounter with Stalinism in Its Formative Years." *The International Journal of the History of Sport* 16 (1) (Mar. 1999): 137–147

In 1921 Niels Bukh led a group of 25 young Danish gymnasts on a foreign tour that included three weeks in the Soviet Union. A book written by one of the gymnasts and commentary by Bukh and other group members described their observations and impressions of conditions in Stalinist USSR, including Soviet propaganda efforts and the miserable state of many peasants. Against their hosts' wishes, the gymnasts displayed the Danish flag in their exhibitions. Based on secondary sources; 18 notes.

—RICHARD V. MCGEHEE

III-6 GORI, GIGLIOLA. "Supermanism and Culture of the Body in Italy: The Case of Futurism." *The International Journal of the History of Sport* 16 (1) (Mar. 1999): 159–165.

In early twentieth century Italy, Supermanism was fostered by some intellectuals. FT. Marietta extended Supermanism to his Futurist movement, which advocated an independent and creative spirit, glorified machines, and promoted virile and practical education in which physical activities were prominent. Mussolini's Fascist movement modified the international and individualistic ideal and sport and physical aspects of Futurism to support its own goals of national prestige and war readiness. Based on primary and secondary sources; 33 notes.

—RICHARD V. MCGEHEE