

Editorial Preface

It is a pleasure to welcome three new members to the Editorial Board of *Sporting Traditions*: Tara Magdalinski, June Senyard and Bob Stewart. Daryl Adair, who took up the post of ASSH Studies Editor; last year, is another person who has joined the inside cover team for the first time.

I would like to thank Rob Hess for an excellent illustration for the front cover which reminds us again — as did Bill Mandle 25 years ago — that sport plays a significant role in defining national emblems. This is an interesting and original illustration which enhances Rob's article.

The articles in this issue cover a welcome diversity of sports and sporting culture—cycling, swimming, golf, soccer and rugby — some of which have been under represented in previous issues of *Sporting Traditions*.

The notices in this issue contain information — the Conference theme, registration and accommodation details — about the next ASSH Conference to be held in New Zealand in February 1999. This will be the first regular ASSH Conference held outside Australia, though there was an ASSH-NASSH gathering in Hawaii which was not part of our biennial cycle. It's important for a good number of ASSH members to attend and make the Conference a success.

Richard Cashman
School of History
University of New South Wales