

---

Rodney Lawrence Hurst, Sr. Stamp Collection

Rodney Lawrence Hurst, Sr. Papers

---

7-6-1990

## 25-cent Commemorative Stamp: Olympic Games

United States Postal Service. Stamp Division

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.unf.edu/hurst\\_stamps](https://digitalcommons.unf.edu/hurst_stamps)



Part of the [African American Studies Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

25-cent Commemorative Stamp: Olympic Games. 1990. Rodney Lawrence Hurst, Sr. Papers. University of North Florida. Thomas G. Carpenter Library. Special Collections and Archives. UNF Digital Commons. [https://digitalcommons.unf.edu/hurst\\_stamps/56/](https://digitalcommons.unf.edu/hurst_stamps/56/)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Rodney Lawrence Hurst, Sr. Papers at UNF Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Rodney Lawrence Hurst, Sr. Stamp Collection by an authorized administrator of UNF Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [Digital Projects](#).

© 7-6-1990 All Rights Reserved



*Olympic Games  
Track and Field*



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Rodney Lawrence Hurst  
Thomas G Carpenter  
Special Collections

The authorized gold stamp replica preserved in this cover is produced under a non-exclusive licensing agreement with the United States Postal Service. Stamp design © U.S. Postal Service.

COVER DESIGN © POSTAL COMMEMORATIVE SOCIETY

Rodney Lawrence Hurst Sr. Papers  
Thomas G Carpenter Library  
Special Collections

# Olympic Games

## Track and Field

**First Day of Issue:** *July 6, 1990*

**First Day City:** *Minneapolis, Minnesota,  
site of the 1990 U.S. Olympic Festival*

**Stamp Designer:** *Bart Forbes  
Dallas, Texas*

---

Olympic track and field, the subject of this U.S. stamp, consists of a variety of running, walking, jumping, and throwing competitions. It is the oldest form of organized sport, dating back to the early Egyptians and several Asian civilizations.

The Greeks gave enormous impetus to the sport. Track and field contests were an integral part of religious festivals. The very first event of the ancient Olympics was the "stade," a sprint of just over 200 yards. Field events including the discus throw, javelin throw, and

long jump were added to the Games in 708 B.C.

Men's track and field events have been an important part of the Olympic roster since the revival of the Games in 1896. Women's events were added in 1928. The sport ranks alongside soccer as one of the two most popular athletic pursuits in the world. Olympic gold medalists have come from many countries, including nations newly emerging in Olympic competition such as Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Because of the different training requirements for the various events, most Olympians are specialists in one of the four major disciplines of the sport. Competing in both track and field is unusual, and rarer still is becoming a champion in both categories. At the 1936 and 1984 Games, two Americans wrote their names in the record books by winning four track and field gold medals—three in running events and one in the long jump.