

## DESIGNS - QUANTITY

1) 1 DRACHMA : 5.300.000 pieces.

The flag of the Balkan games.

2) 2 DRACHMAE : 3.000.000 pieces.

A medal for the victors.

3) 6 DRACHMAE : 700.000 pieces.

A view of the new stadium at New Phaleron where the Balkan games will take place.

## TECHNICAL DETAILS

SIZE : 26 × 42 mm, in sheets of 40 or 50 pieces.

METHOD OF PRINTING : Litho, offset, multi-coloured.

DESIGNS : By the engraver Mr. A. Tassos.

PRINTED : By "Aspioti - Elka" Graphic Arts Co., Athens.

RATE OF EXCHANGE : \$ 1,00 = 29,85 drachmae.

## FIRST DAY COVERS

The Philatelic Service will sell first day covers picturing the design of an ancient amphora illustrated in this folder. The covers will be cancelled with a special commemorative seal.

There will be no application of the special cancellation on privately prepared covers.

Each cover will be offered at the face value of the complete set of stamps affixed on it, or at 9 drachmae.



G R E E K P O S T O F F I C E  
P H I L A T E L I C S E R V I C E



SET OF STAMPS TO COMMEMORATE  
THE XXIV BALKAN GAMES



**DATE OF RELEASE:** The set will be released on September 11th 1965 and will be on sale till September 11th 1966 unless sold out at an earlier date.

The XXIV Balkan Games will be held in Greece again during the first ten days of September 1965, this time at the new "Karaiskakis" stadium which is modern and perfectly equipped and suitable for serious international Games. In fact the stadium is inaugurated with these Games.

The Balkan Games were initiated by S.E.G.A.S. (Hellenic Amateur Athletic Association) and the constant effort of all its Administrations is the sound evidence of the great importance that SEGAS has attached to them.

The original proposal was made by the President of SEGAS in 1928 during the Olympic Games which were held at Amsterdam. The proposal was unanimously accepted by the representatives of the other Balkan Countries.

In 1929 trial Games were organised and ever since the Greek proposal eventually gave birth to the annual Balkan Games. Today the B.G. are justly considered the greatest athletic feature of its kind in Europe. Since 1930, when the first formal Balkan Games were held, till 1940 the Games were held annually. Owing to World War II they were discontinued in 1941 and were resumed in 1952. Ever since they have been held at the capital of one of the Balkan Countries alternatively. So far Albania did not participate. Its team will take part in the Games for the first time this year. The Games were therefore held 23 times, 9 times in Greece, 5 in Yugoslavia, 4 in Turkey, 3 in Roumania and twice in Bulgaria.

It is generally believed that the fairly high standard of field events in the Balkan area owes much to the Balkan Games which stimulated the effort for the attainment of new records. The Games have not been a mere incident in athletic history and the athletic life of the countries involved. They have mainly been the greatest contribution to athletic progress in the Balkan peninsula. This country is proud of having had the honour of suggesting the idea first; it is also an honour which all the Administrations of SEGAS share.

These close athletic relations, the yearly contact among the athletic Administrations of the Balkan countries, the spirit of mutual friendship and esteem, the relations among athletes, and the atmosphere which has generally evolved have not only contributed to the achievement of higher standards but have greatly helped the development of friendly relations which have been useful in many ways.

Once more (for the 24th time) the fan will enjoy the opportunity and pleasure of attending the emulation for victory among the youths of the Balkan countries. Free from prejudice and chauvinistic motives the former will applaud the truly best. The spirit will be "may the better man win".

**DEMETRIUS N. XIROUHAKIS**

Vice - President of the Olympic Games Committee  
Secretary General of S.E.G.A.S.

Translation: by the Greek Post Office Department