

The World Championships Zagreb, 21-27 May 2007

The ITTF Museum staged another exhibit, at the World Table Tennis Championships in Zagreb, Croatia. The main exhibits in the 200m2 hall included a mini-theater, where vintage films of World Championship action were shown; the 16m Timeline, showing all World & Olympic Champs; Racket & Ball Evolution, and both a Celebrity as well as vintage Player photo galleries.

One exhibit showed bats signed & donated by Olympic Gold Medalists Yoo Nam Kyu, Hyun Jung Hwa & Ryu Seung Min, and Wang Liqin, who won in Zagreb the World Singles title for the 3rd time. The display case had two more spaces to fill, when Museum Friend Yao Zhenxu (CHN) came in to perform a miracle: he presented bats from 2 Chinese World Champions: Qiao Hong and Lin Huiqing!

Another Museum Friend, Colin Clemett (ENG) kindly donated 2 of the 4 World Championship programmes that are missing from the ITTF Archives: Budapest 1929, and Prague 1936, the latter with meticulous hand written results throughout. Stockholm 1928 & Berlin 1930 remain

A special exhibit celebrated the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Swaythling Club. The top Croatian players were also honored with posters of their career highlights on the entrance walls: Dolinar, Stipancic, Surbek, Primorac, Boros and Batinic.

An online tour of the exhibit is available via the link on the Museum homepage, or directly at:

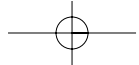
www.ittf.com/museum/ZagrebExhibit/index.html



Above: Zagreb skyline, a blend of old & new.
Left: Postage stamp issued for the event. A postcard & 2 postmarks were also issued.

Below, clockwise top left: Exhibit entrance, with career highlights of top Croatian players; View of left aisle, entrance desk to theater; View of right aisle; and Crowds enjoying the exhibits. Dirtiest display case award (with most fingerprint smudges, a measure of exhibit popularity!): Ball evolution





World Champions visit the exhibit:
 Clockwise top left:
Wang Liqin (CHN), 3-time World Singles Champion: 2007, 2005, 2001, World Doubles Champion, 2001, 2003, Mixed Doubles Champion, 2005, Olympic Gold medalist, Doubles, 2000;
Werner Schlager (AUT), 2003 World Singles Champion;
Liu Guoliang (CHN) 1999 World Singles & Doubles Champion, 1996 Olympic Gold medalist in Singles & Doubles, 1997 World Doubles & Mixed Doubles;
Diane Rowe Schoeler (ENG), 1951 & 1954 Doubles Champion;
Dragutin Surbek (HRV), 1979 & 1983 World Doubles Champion;
Helen Elliot (SCO), 1949 & 1950 World Doubles Champion;
Jorgen Persson (SWE), 1991 World Singles Champion;
Koji Kimura (JPN), 1961 World Doubles Champion, 1963 & 1965 World Mixed Doubles Champion

