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# “SHIRT 1” - THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GOALKEEPER IN SOCCER

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The goalkeeper's work is difficult and entails enormous responsibility, as his work can put an entire team at risk. The errors of this professional are due to technical failures, therefore, subject to correction. Constant correction work is required. Certain physical and moral qualities are essential for success in this position, but flexibility, agility and dexterity are indispensable. This professional must be strong to withstand the shocks common to his work, but only to the extent that muscle mass does not impair his dexterity. Courage, decision and, to a certain extent, tenacity are attributes that are demanded from the goalkeeper at all times. In his exits, in his dives at the feet of the opponents, there can be no shyness and in tackles, the ball has to be his, that is, this position is no place for “cowards”.

A very common and old phrase, “every team starts with a great goalkeeper”. A high-performance team requires security and technique from a great “shirt 1”. But if there is such a strong search for good athletes in that position, on the other hand, they end up forgetting goalkeepers in basic principles.

In modern soccer, the goalkeeper is tactically “forgotten”, especially for people who form an opinion. The fans end up walking in the same line. Have you noticed that when talking about a tactical scheme, they always say: “let’s play in 4-4-2, or in 4-3-3, or even in 3-5-2”. It is a mistake not to consider the goalkeeper in a tactical scheme. The correct thing would be to say instead of 4-4-2, 1-4-4-2. Instead of 4-3-3, 1-4-3-3 and so on. The arguments for this go far beyond a simple “numerical count”. The goalkeeper has an increasing tactical importance. He is part of the teams defensive and offensive organization in many

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## EXHIBIT PLAN

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This collection aims to show the difficult task of goalkeepers and their importance in the results of the soccer teams they defend, through Postal Maximums. In the sports activities in which these athletes are present, they can, at certain times, reach glory and be hailed as heroes, but at other times they can be despised by their teams and even by their fans, for their failures.

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## INTRODUCTION

They say that the profession of goalkeeper is very ungrateful, but a good performance is enough for the goalkeeper to win an entire game. Being a goalkeeper is being a "hero and villain" in a short period of time. It's playing a collective game almost individually and after a great defense, being a goalkeeper is being the heart of the team, even in a game where the main objective is the goal, and he must avoid it.



In 1906, clubs from the city of **Rio de Janeiro** (formerly the Federal District) competed in the first Carioca Soccer Championship. In 1952, it was the turn of the state of **Rio de Janeiro** to hold the first Fluminense Professional Soccer Championship.

**POSTAL TICKET** – this postcard is considered the first "Postal Maximum" in Brazil (only when circulated).

**Issue:** 09/20/1894 - Republican Madrugada Series: "Pão de Açúcar" Mountain, Rio de Janeiro/RJ - 50 réis (RHM#BP-54 of 01/01/1894 - fixed stamp reference - pre-printed) - **Postcard:** Post Office Publisher - **Ordinary Obliteration:** Rio de Janeiro/RJ - 02/06/1902 (2x stamp (7th. Night)), Reverse: stamp of the French Consulate (for Joseph Manuel in RJ).

The country celebrates on April 26, "Goalkeeper's Day", created to honor those who challenge the logic of the lawns. They spend all year being challenged by strikers, cursed by fans, called "short arm" and other derogatory attributions. But what would soccer be without goalkeepers?



**Issue:** 07/14/1986 – Goalkeeper with other players from the Belgium team – Soccer World Cup – Mexico 1986 – Tuvalu - **Postcard:** Goalkeeper – Master File Publisher - **Obliteration of 1st. Circulation Day:** Soccer ball – Nanumaga, Tuvalu – 07/14/1986.

# 1. THE ORIGINS OF SOCCER

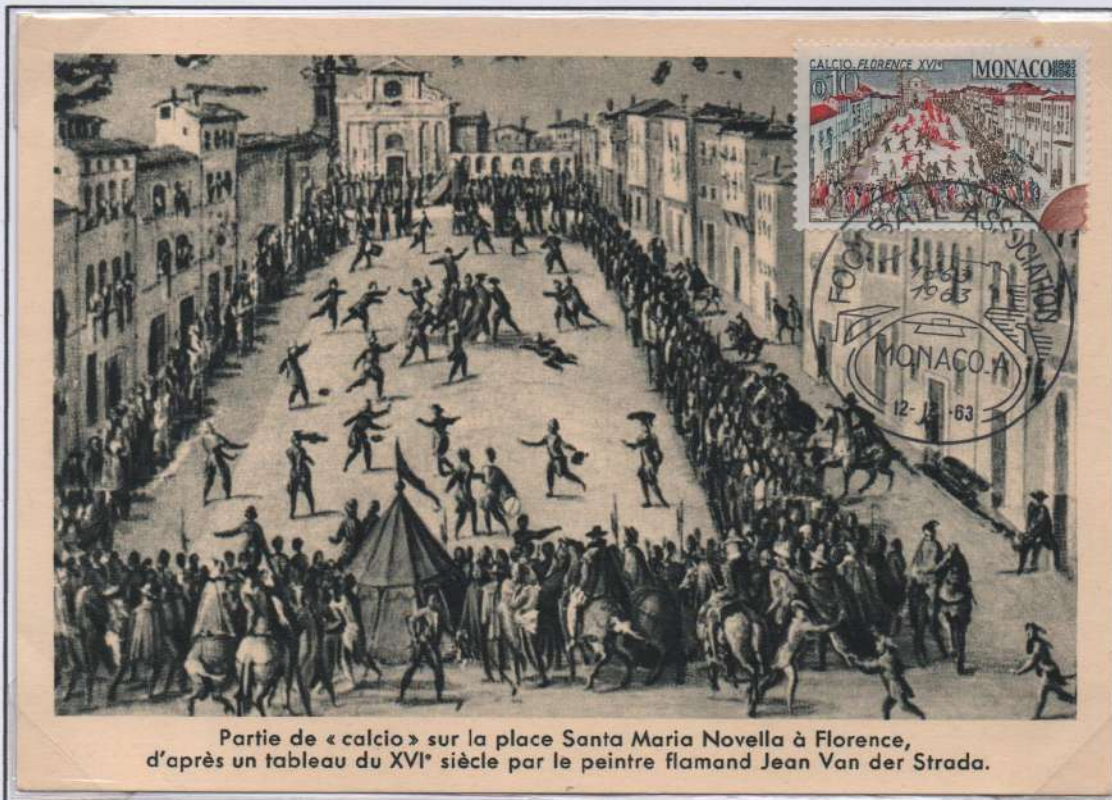
The origins of soccer are elusive. Reports of the use of the ball as a recreational object date back to the first millennium and, in addition, several nations claim to be the motherland of this sport.

In 1409, King Henry IV, named the modality as "football", as the sport is still called today by the English and countries of the same language, except in the United States where the sport is called "soccer". The rules of soccer were created in 1863 by Richard Mulcaster.



Partie de « soule » en Bretagne d'après une gravure du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle.

**Issue:** 12/12/1963 – Soccer Match – France XIX - British Football Association, 100 years – Monaco - **Postcard:** "Match of "soule" in Brittany from a 19th century engraving" – Bourgogne Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** Football Association - 1863/1963 – Principality of Monaco - 12/12/1963.



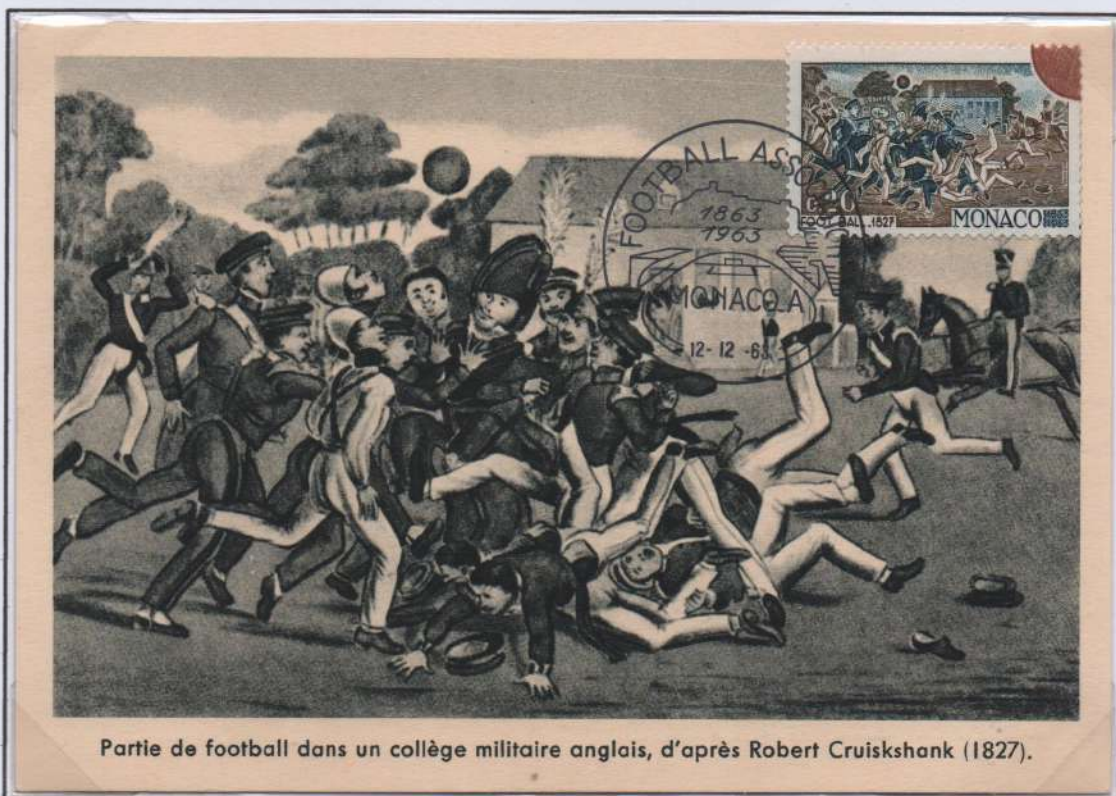
Partie de « calcio » sur la place Santa Maria Novella à Florence, d'après un tableau du XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle par le peintre flamand Jean Van der Strada.

**Issue:** 12/12/1963 – Soccer Match – Florence XVI - British Football Association, 100 years – Monaco - **Postcard:** "Match of "calcio" in Piazza Santa Maria Novella in Florence, after a 19th century painting by the Flemish painter Jean Van der Strada" – Bourgogne Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** Football Association - 1863/1963 – Principality of Monaco - 12/12/1963.

On October 26, 1863, the "Football Association" – English Football Federation emerged, which was responsible for consolidating the sport as an English national symbol. Through this association, the main rule of the sport was determined, the prohibition of using the hand, except for the goalkeeper.

This rule is considered a milestone in the history of the sport. As there was no consensus among those involved in the federation, there was dissent among its members, separating the practice of sports into two rival modalities: the one in which athletes use their hands and feet, known as "Rugby" and the one in which players, with the exception of the goalkeeper, they only use their feet, called "Soccer".

The oldest soccer tournament in the world is the FA Cup (*Football Association Challenge Cup*), held since 1871. Currently, the main London clubs compete in the Premier League, the first division of the national championship, the most profitable league on the planet.



Partie de football dans un collège militaire anglais, d'après Robert Cruiskshank (1827).

**Issue:** 12/12/1963 – Soccer Match – 1827 - British Football Association, 100 years - Monaco - **Postcard:** "Match of football at an English military college, after Robert Cruiskshank (1827)" – Bourgogne Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** Football Association - 1863/1963 – Principality of Monaco - 12/12/1963.



Partie de football, d'après une peinture anglaise par W. H. Overend (1890).

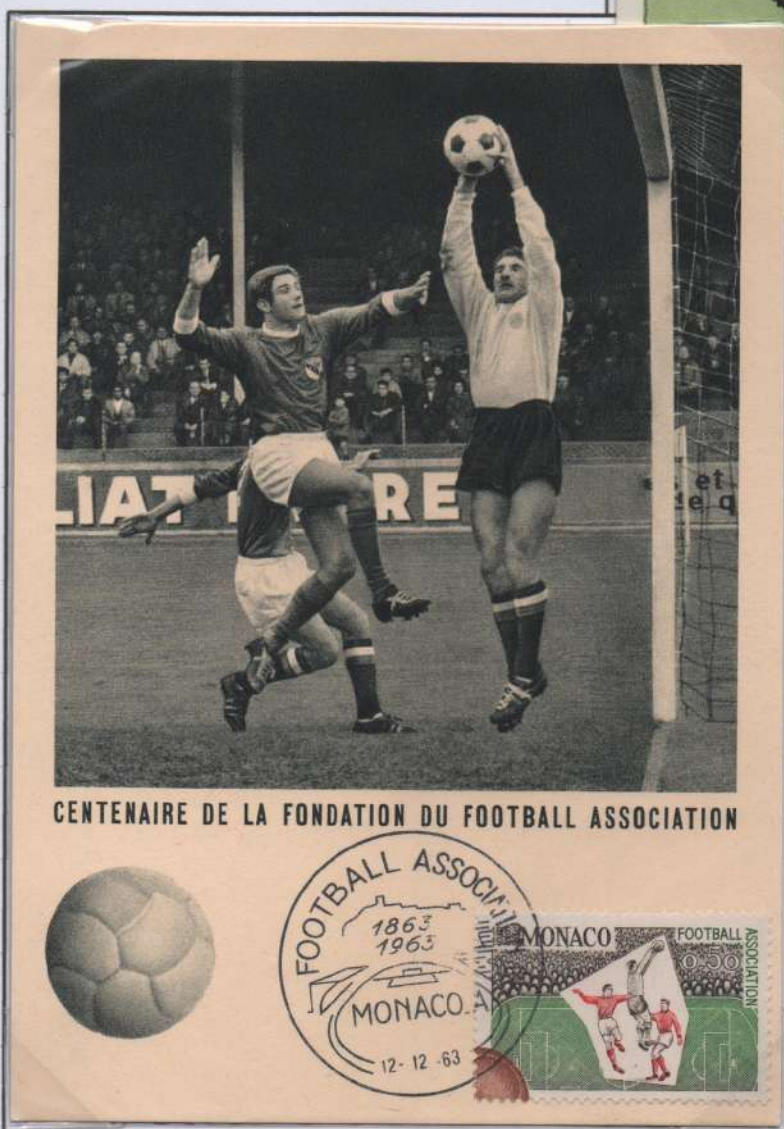
**Issue:** 12/12/1963 – Soccer Match – 1890 - British Football Association, 100 years – Monaco - **Postcard:** "Match of football, after an English painting by W. H. Overend (1890)" – Bourgogne Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** Football Association - 1863/1963 – Principality of Monaco - 12/12/1963.

The first countries to have their own soccer associations outside the British Isles were the Netherlands and Denmark in 1889, New Zealand in 1891, Argentina in 1893, Chile, the Swiss Confederation and Belgium in 1895, Italy in 1898, Germany and Uruguay in 1900, Hungary in 1901, Norway in 1902 and Sweden in 1904. The height of soccer worldwide led to the creation of FIFA on May 21, 1904.

## 2. THE GOALKEEPER'S ROLE

The goalkeeper's main function is to prevent the opposing player from scoring. Among the 11 players, the goalkeeper can be considered the most difficult role on the team and above all the most important, since his position allows him to closely observe the match. Since the creation of the goalkeeper's position, in 1871, several modifications have been made because of him, for example: they limited his time of possession of the ball inside the goal (*only six seconds*) and prohibited him from holding a ball back with his hands feet by his own player.

**Issue:** 05/19/1998 - *Goalkeeper (Cartoon)* - Nederland - **Postcard:** *Goalkeeper - Soccer (Cartoon)* - Amsterdam Publisher - **Ordinary Obliteration:** Zeist, Nederland - 05/19/1998.



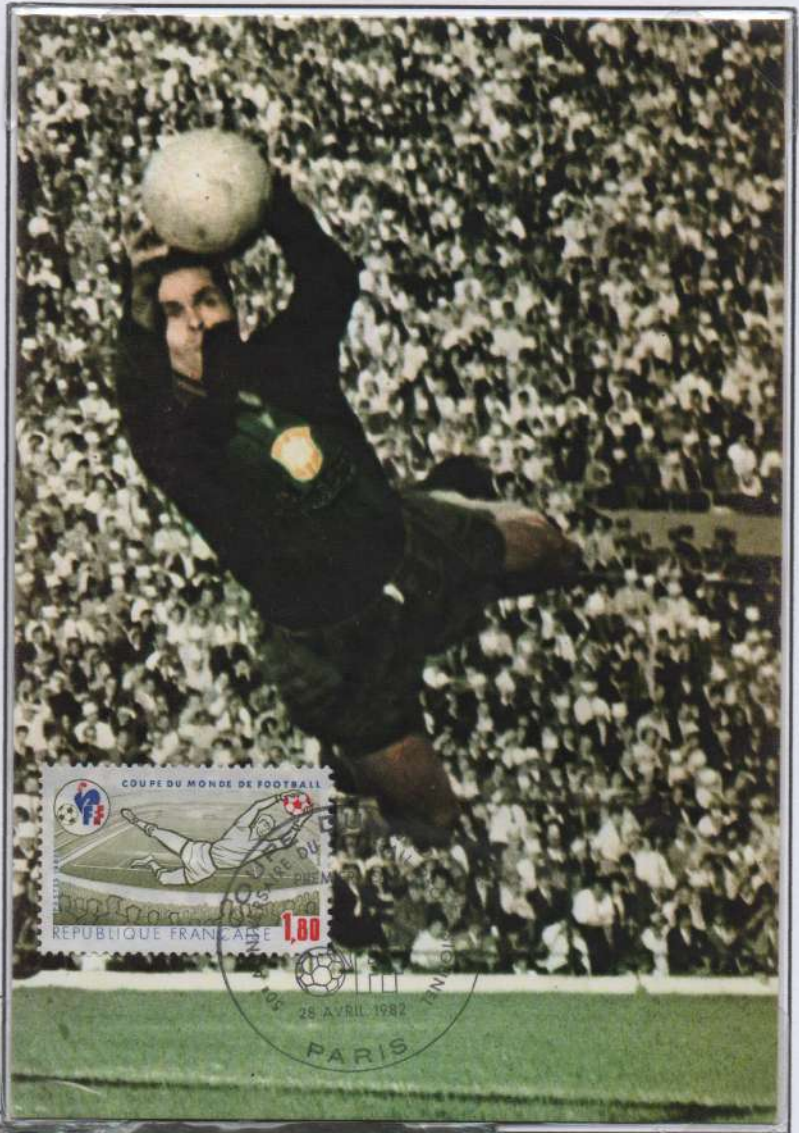
Due to these changes in the rules and principles of soccer, for a goalkeeper to be considered good, he must know, in addition to defending well with his hands (*since he is the only one who can catch the ball with his hands*), how to play very well with the feet too. A goalkeeper's training is totally different from that of other players precisely because he performs different functions on the pitch.

**Issue:** 12/12/1963 - *Goalkeeper Defense - British Football Association, 100 years* - Monaco - **Postcard:** *Goalkeeper Defense - Bourgogne Publisher* - **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** - Football Association - 1863/1963 - Principality of Monaco - 12/12/1963 (triple visual agreement).

The goalkeeper's role is not only to be good, motivate teammates and act as the last line of defense in the match, but also to organize plays and prevent the other team's shots from becoming goals.

It takes physical and mental strength to endure 90-minute matches (or more, depending on injury time) and the difference between victory and defeat can literally be in your hands. Avoiding the goal is the goalkeeper's function, organizing the defense is part of his role, watching most of the game from afar is practically his destiny. Being a goalkeeper is very unfair, it's going from heaven to hell in a matter of minutes or even shots. He can make a lot of difficult saves in a game, but if he misses his shot will be replayed hundreds of times on television.

**Issue:** 04/28/1982 – Soccer World Cup – Goalkeeper – France - **Postcard:** Goalkeeper – Philatelic Empire Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** Soccer World Cup – Paris, France - 04/28/1982 (triple visual agreement).



**Issue:** 01/22/1987 – Soccer - Goalkeeper - South Africa - **Postcard:** Soccer - Goalkeeper – A.B. Mahomed Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** Goalkeeper – Ga-Rankuwa, South Africa - 01/22/1987 (triple visual agreement).

It's very difficult to say the exact moment you should leave the goal, so it's important to train constantly and take your instinct into account, but the search for knowledge of both the function performed and the best didactics to be applied should be a goal.

### 3. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GOALKEEPER IN THE MATCH



CENTENAIRE DE LA FONDATION DU FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Just as it's important to "close the goal", the goalkeeper has to understand tactical movement, especially with regard to the ball exit, being able to cover the defense (*defensive position*) and have a quick and accurate ball exit. His position within the game is paramount, as in the vast majority of cases, he is the one who frequently guides his team.

*Issue: 12/12/1963 - Goalkeeper - British Football Association, 100 years - Postcard: Goalkeeper - Centenary of the British Football Association - Bourgogne Publisher - Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation: Football Association - 1863/1963 - Principality of Monaco - 12/12/1963 (triple visual agreement).*

The goalkeeper has several responsibilities, such as defending with his feet, fitting the ball perfectly, defending at half height, etc. With the evolution of the position, the "modern" goalkeeper needs to understand more about the tactical part and evolve his reading of the game to solve problems that were not intended for him in the past.

*Issue: 04/28/1982 - Soccer World Cup - Goalkeeper - France - Postcard: Soccer World Cup - Goalkeeper - O.P.P. Publisher - Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation: World Cup - 50th. Professional Soccer Anniversary - Paris, France - 04/28/1982 (triple visual agreement).*



When they were little, all soccer lovers get to know each other on the pitch. Physical, technical and even psychological characteristics shape each one for a role in the team, and with the goalkeeper it is no different, this identification with the defense and with the work under the goalposts is essential to perform well in the position.



**Issue:** 08/28/1979 – Soccer – Netherlands - **Postcard:** Soccer - Goalkeeper – Gebr. Spanjersberg Publisher - **Ordinary Obliteration:** Haarlem, Netherlands - 08/28/1979.



Formerly the goalkeeper was seen only as "Guardian of the Goal". With the evolution of the position, the "modern" goalkeeper needs to understand more about the tactical part and evolve his reading of the game to solve problems that were not intended for him in the past. In the offensive organization, the goalkeeper is one of those responsible for the movement of the ball, with responsibility also for the offensive construction, making passes between the lines, short releases or even direct connections from the defense to the attack, also facilitating the movement of the ball and assisting in its withdrawal, of the pressure zone.

**Issue:** 06/11/1977 – 60th. Anniversary of the French Soccer Cup 1917-1977 – France - **Postcard:** Soccer - Goalkeeper – Steff Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** 60th. Anniversary of the French Soccer Cup 1917-1977 – Paris, France - 06/11/1977 (triple visual agreement).

#### 4. THE MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GOALKEEPER

*Physical* characteristics can be highlighted as essential, which include flexibility, coordination, agility, reaction speed, balance and impulsion. The *techniques*, which include the replacement, the throw and skill with the hands, in addition to the pass, the shot, the takedown and the roll. *Tactics*, which refer to quick replacement, placing and leaving the ball, setting up plays with both feet and hands and their integration with the defense. The *psychological* ones, which concern emotional control, initiative, tranquility, concentration, attention, leadership and courage.

**Issue:** 05/12/1997 – *Spanish Sporting Achievements - Spain - Postcard: World Soccer Championships – Brazil 1950 - Goalkeeper – ASEMA Publisher – Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation: Spanish Sporting Achievements – Bilbao, Spain - 05/12/1997 (triple visual agreement).*



**Issue:** 06/13/1982 – *Soccer World Cup – Spain 82 - Goalkeeper – Spain - Postcard: Soccer World Cup – Spain 82 - Goalkeeper – OFFO Publisher – Commemorative Obliteration: Soccer World Cup Final – Madrid, Spain - 07/11/1982.*

To be among the best in this role, having a good coach is paramount. They are responsible for the preparation schedule, and a good relationship with this mentor can take the goalkeeper's performance to high levels.

## 5. THE TRAINING

Goalkeeper training is going through a time of evolution between the old trends and the new ones, which are supported by the pedagogy of the sport. The goalkeeper, a particular position and different from the rest of the other positions. A position with aesthetics, unique art and with several legends on top of its performance.

To be a good goalkeeper you need to train your body and mind. Cardiovascular strengthening is important, having physical fitness and preparation to run quickly in and out of the goal. It takes great mental strength to overcome the ups and downs of the match.



*Issue: 04/12/2002 – Soccer – Goalkeeper – Norway - Postcard: Soccer Association – Norway BA Publisher – Illustrated Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation: Soccer Boots – Oslo, Norway - 04/12/2002.*



The goalkeeper occupies a position that, from street games to organized training in underprivileged realities, accredited players with less foot skills to defend the goal, forcing them to exercise their motor skills without exclusive instruction. Many goalkeepers emerged like this, but nowadays, the demands are different.

*Issue: 04/28/1982 – Soccer World Cup - Goalkeeper – France - Postcard: Goalkeeper – JF Publisher – Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation: Soccer World Cup – 50th. Professional Soccer Anniversary – Paris, France - 04/28/1982 (triple visual agreement).*

## 6. UNIFORM

The goalkeeper's uniforms must have different colors from the outfield players, both in the shirt and in the shorts. The goalkeeper must have a different uniform so that there is no confusion within the area, for example, if he were the same as the other players, it would be very difficult to distinguish the goalkeeper from the others, in a move where he puts his hand to defend his goal. The goalkeeper uniform consists of:

- ✓ Shirt (with colors and shapes different from the rest of the team), which can have short or long sleeves;
- ✓ Shorts or pants;
- ✓ Socks;
- ✓ Gloves (protect your hands, offering greater cushioning);
- ✓ Cap (the only player allowed to wear it in soccer), as long as the match takes place under strong sunlight.

**Issue:** 05/31/1997 – Goalkeeper - Soccer World Cup - 98 France / Lyon - France - **Postcard:** Goalkeeper - Soccer World Cup – O.P.P. Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** Goalkeeper - Soccer World Cup - 98 France / Lyon, France - 05/31/1997 (triple visual agreement).



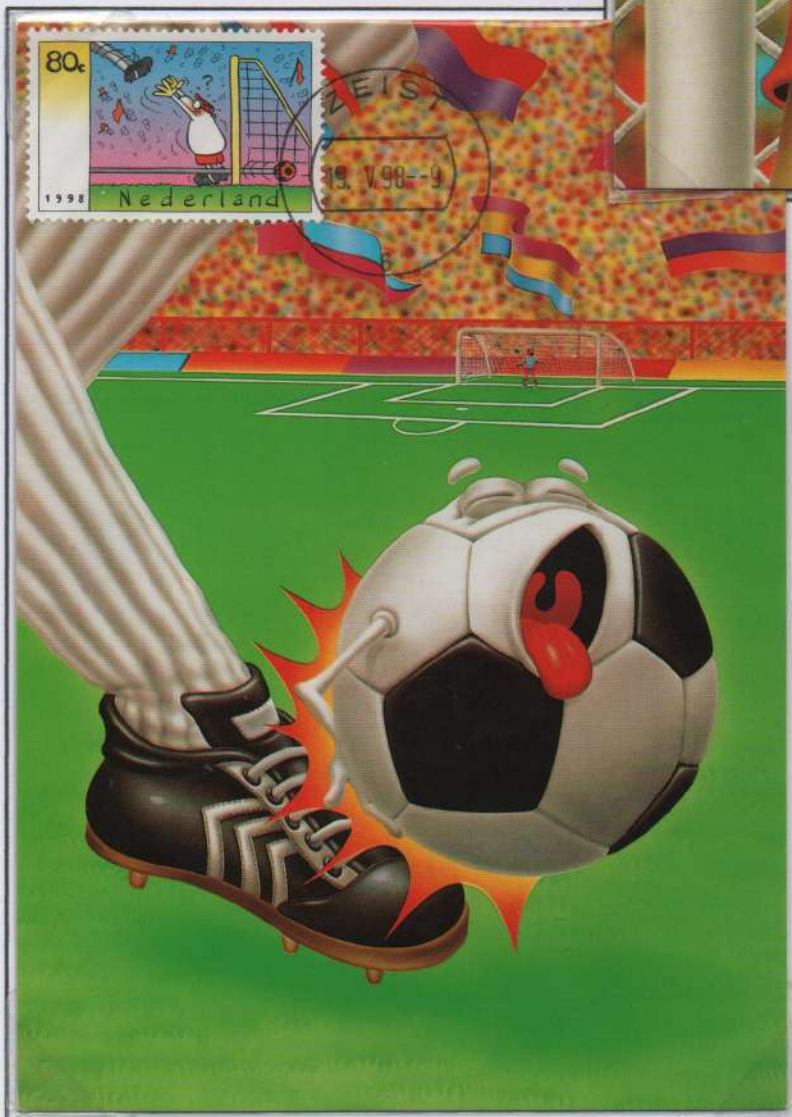
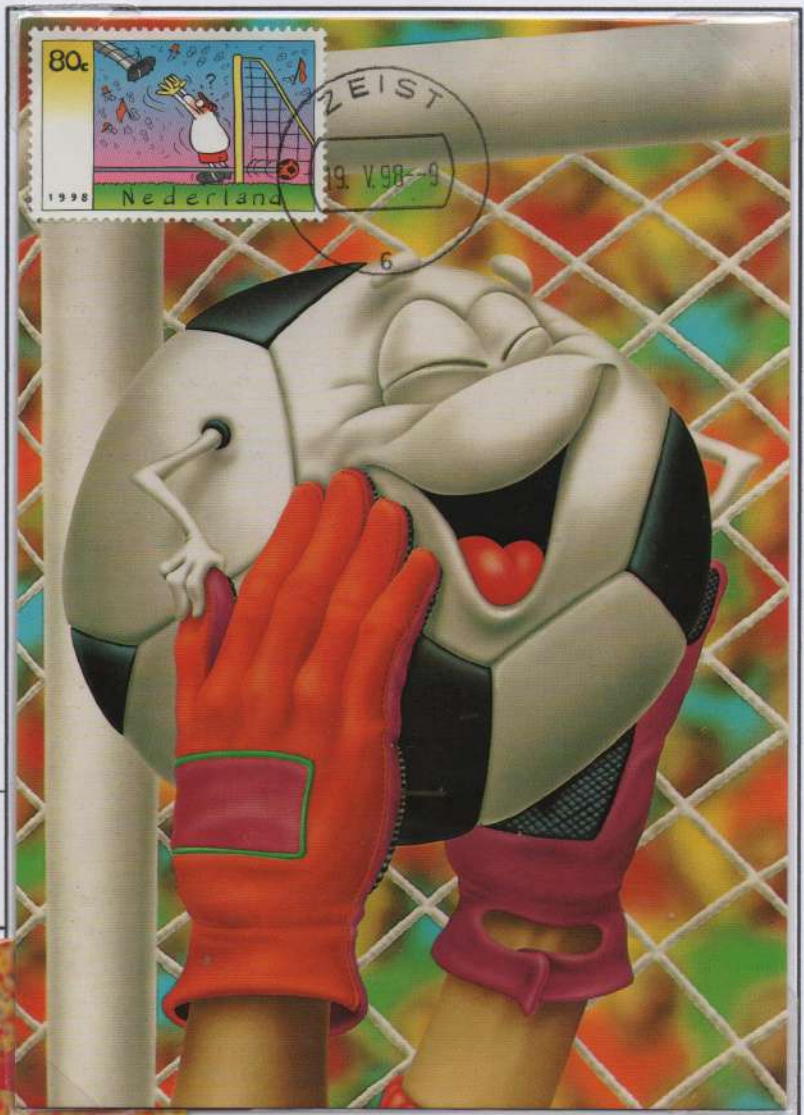
**Issue:** 03/02/1998 – Goalkeeper - Soccer World Cup – France 1998 - Liechtenstein - **Postcard:** Soccer World Cup - France – Close Up AG Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** Vaduz, Liechtenstein - 03/02/1998.

The goalkeeper needs to keep in mind that the chosen uniform should be his brand forever. With that, we have in the history of soccer great goalkeepers who are remembered for the shirts they wore in their victorious careers. There are studies carried out by researchers that the colors of the goalkeepers' shirts may have an influence on what happens on the pitch.

## 7. THE EQUIPMENT

The goalkeeper needs to use some extra equipment specific to his position. Goalkeepers must wear a uniform, long socks, shin guards and cleats. The gloves and distinctive uniform help other players to easily identify the goalkeeper during the match. The gloves, made of thick leather, protect the hands when defending the goal, in addition to helping to better grip the ball. The gloves used by goalkeepers in soccer are extremely important for the player's success, in addition to protecting the hands from injuries, they also help to catch the ball during the match.

**Issue:** 05/19/1998 – Soccer Ball - Nederland -  
**Postcard:** Soccer Ball – Goalkeeper Gloves – De Stulp Publisher – **Illustrated Obliteration:** Soccer Ball - Zeist, Nederland - 05/19/1998 (triple visual agreement).



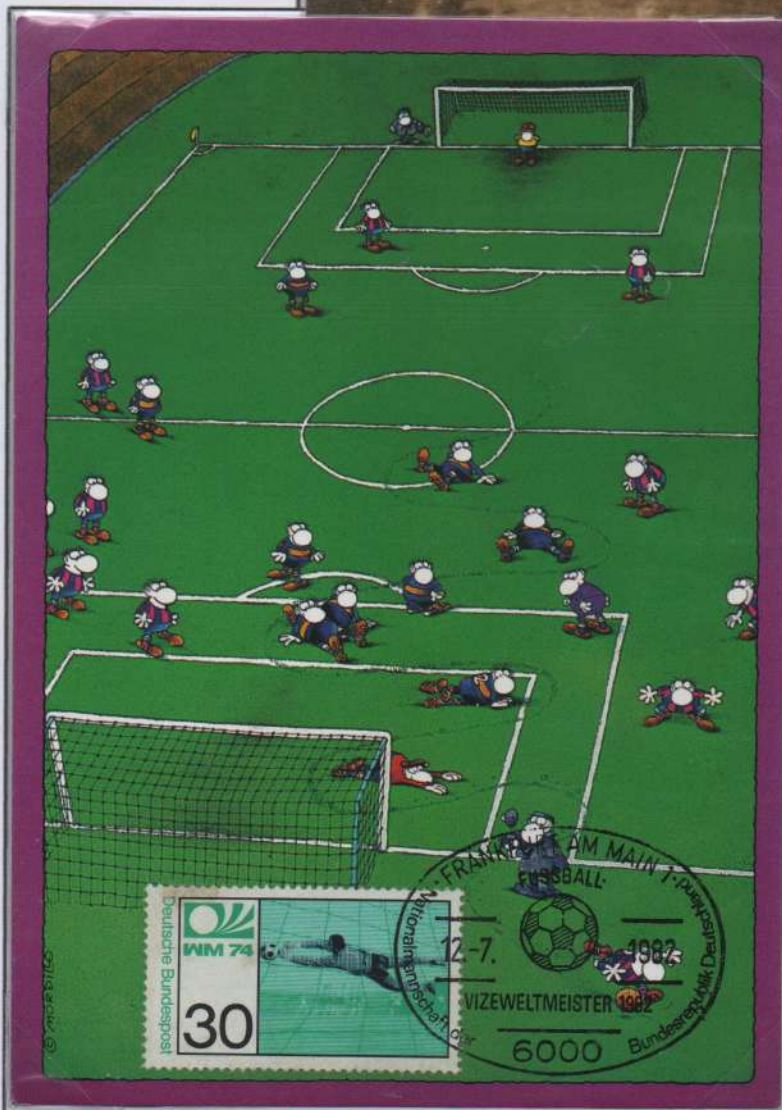
The goalkeeper kit features padding on the elbows and hips to protect you from direct shots. Shin guards protect the leg bones from kicks that, in addition to being painful, can cause serious injuries. Cleats are special soccer shoes. They feature studs on the base that help to better grip the field grass, preventing slips and accidents.

**Issue:** 05/19/1998 – Goalkeeper (Cartoon) -  
**Nederland - Postcard:** Soccer Ball – Goalkeeper – De Stulp Publisher – **Ordinary Obliteration:** Zeist, Nederland - 05/19/1998.

## 8. AREA OF ACTIVITY

Soccer is played on a rectangular-shaped natural or synthetic grass field. Recommended measurements are 100 to 110 meters long and between 64 and 75 meters wide.

The goalposts, also known as goals, are made up of two vertical posts 2.44 meters high located 7.32 meters apart from each other and over the center of each end line. The upper parts of the posts are joined by another horizontal post, known as a crossbar.



*Issue: 05/16/2006 – The Centenary of Soccer in Luxembourg - Goalkeeper - Postcard: Soccer - Goalkeeper – Linden Publisher – Illustrated Obliteration: Soccer Ball - Soccer 2006 – Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg - 05/21/2006.*

Great area is the name given to one of the two areas that precede the goal in a soccer field. It has a rectangular shape and extends 16.5 meters on each side of the goal, and 16.5 in front of it. Inside the penalty area is the penalty spot, 11 meters from the goal line, directly aligned with its center. An arch is located adjacent to the penalty area, demarcating the space 9.15 meters from the penalty spot, this arch known as half moon, is not part of the penalty area, and is relevant only during the penalty kicks. This is the area where goalkeepers work.

*Issue: 05/15/1974 – Soccer World Cup – Goalkeeper - Germany - Postcard: Soccer (Cartoon) – Top Gallery Publisher – Commemorative Obliteration: Soccer Ball – World Runner-up – Frankfurt am Main, Germany – 07/12/1982.*

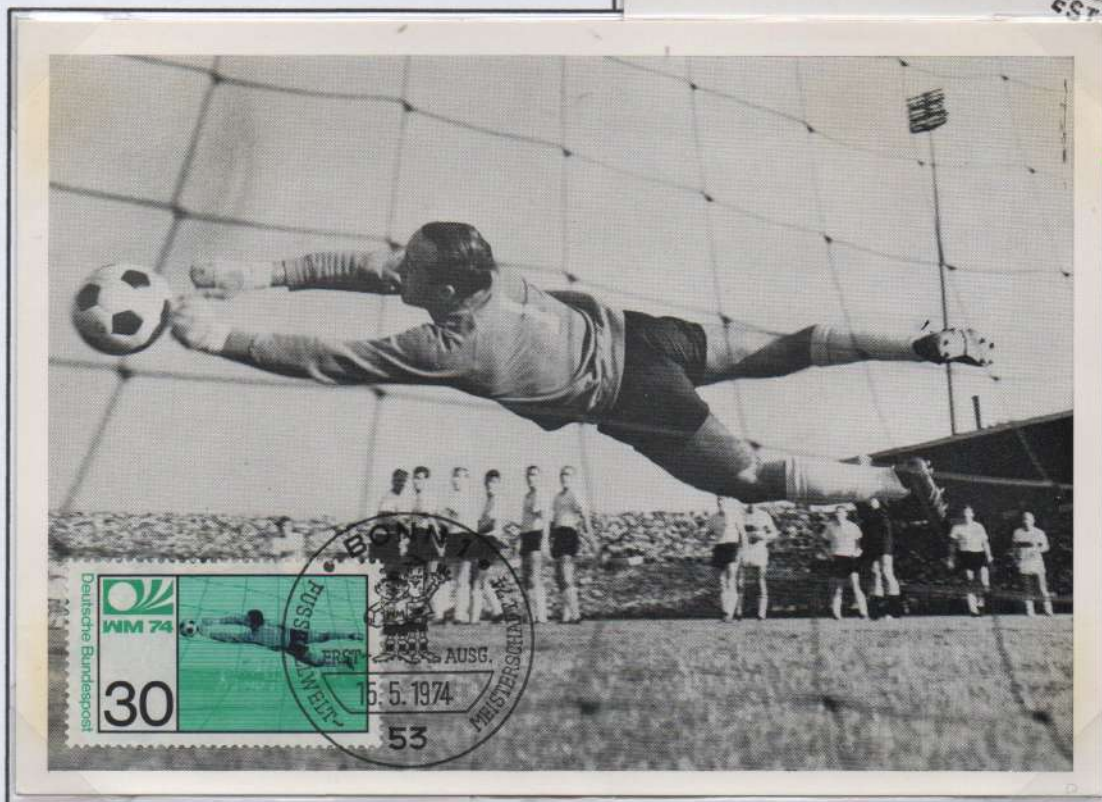
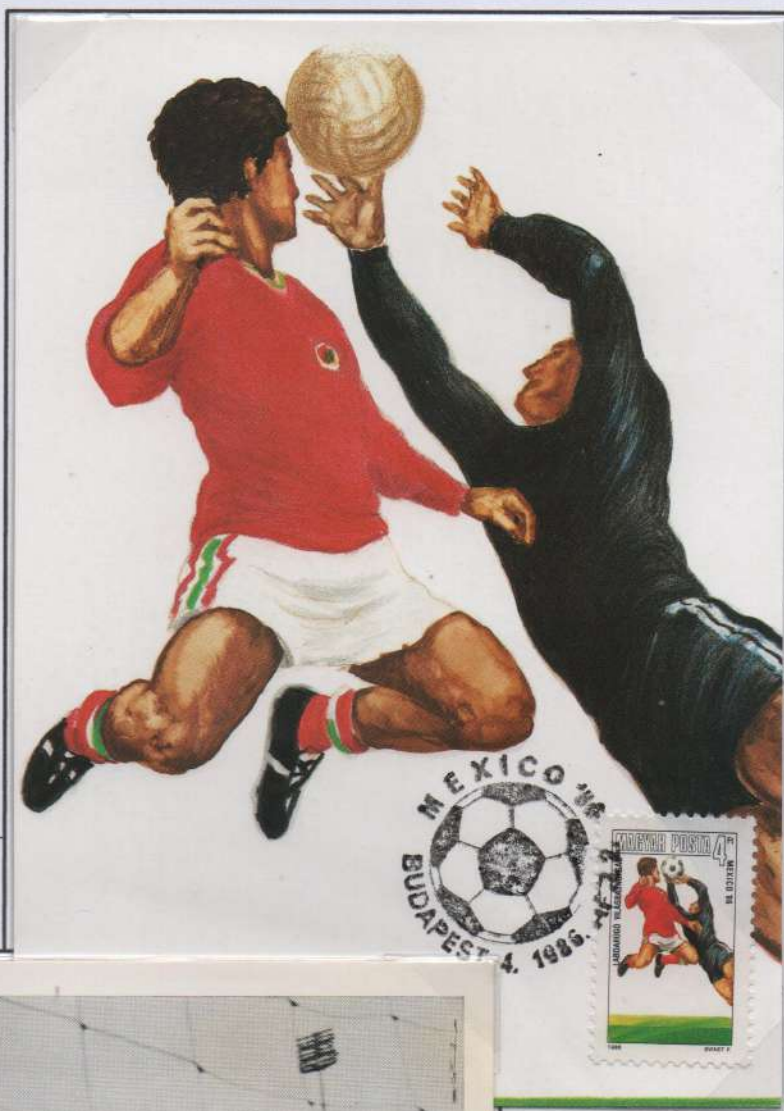
## 9. THE GREAT DEFENSES

The choice of defense strategy will depend on how the ball approaches the goal area. It is important that the goalkeeper catches the ball whenever he can and when he catches it, he must throw it towards a teammate and give him the chance to score a goal. When defending the goal and holding the ball in his hands, the goalkeeper has two options:

1. Throw the ball back to your teammates;
2. Kick it to a colleague who is farther away.

It's not always practical to catch the ball, for example when it is kicked at high speed. In these cases, it is important that the goalkeeper defends it with the palm of his hand or punches it away. Only kick the ball without catching it during an emergency if it is an immediate threat. If the ball is going towards the ground, the goalkeeper must dive and grab the ball, quickly stand up and throw it to a partner.

*Issue:* 04/02/1986 – Soccer World Cup - Mexico 1986  
*Postcard:* Soccer World Cup – Philatelia Hungarica  
 Publisher – **Commemorative Obliteration:** Soccer World Cup – Mexico 1986 – Budapest, Hungary – 04/1986.



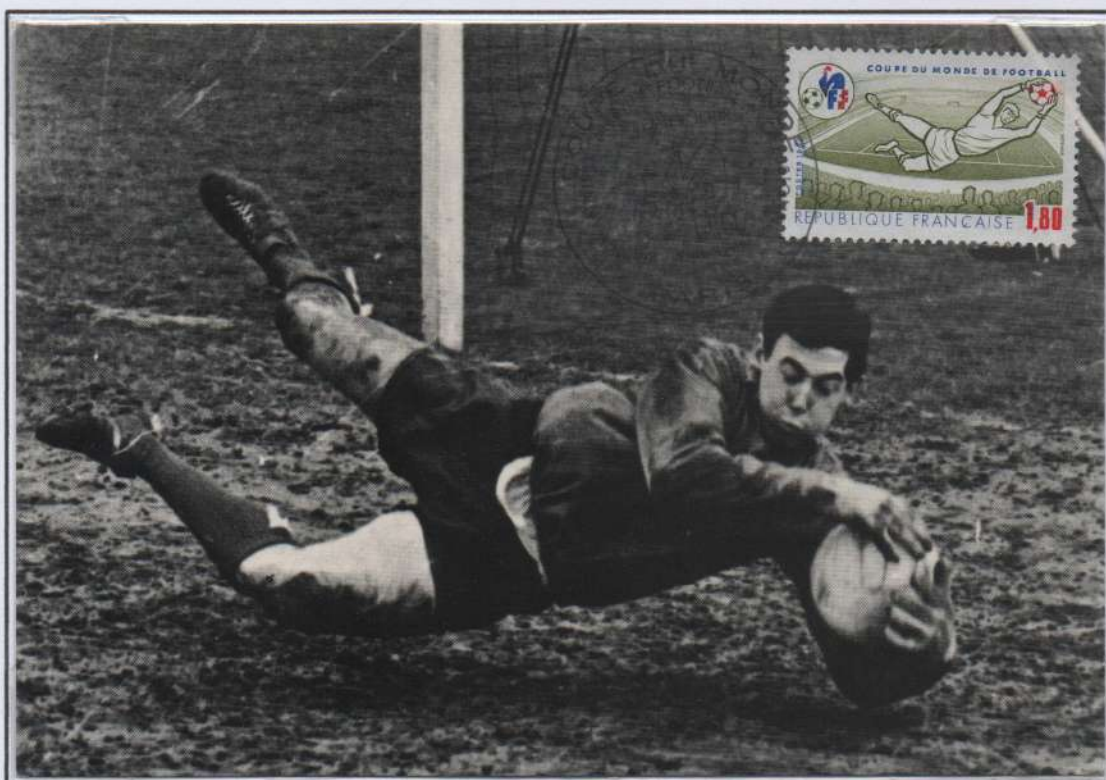
It's important that the goalkeeper always right after his defenses, return to his original position quickly, because you never know when he will need to make another defense, guaranteeing his team's result.

*Issue:* 05/15/1974 – Goalkeeper - Soccer World Cup – Germany - *Postcard:* Goalkeeper - Soccer – Fidacos Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** Soccer - Bonn, Germany – 05/15/1974.

None of the positions on a soccer team has as much responsibility as the goalkeeper. More than his teammates, the goalkeeper always needs to be perfect and safe. For this, it is important that he stick to fundamental techniques to facilitate his defenses. It is important to point out that the good goalkeeper is not known for spectacular jumps, but for his regularity, security and placement. This is a key point for any defense and the goalkeeper needs to make sure his body is behind the ball.

In ground balls, for example, the goalkeeper must pay special attention to the positioning of his lower limbs. The player must bend both legs and touch the ground with one knee. This makes it harder for the ball to pass through the gap between the legs.

*Issue: 04/02/1986 – Soccer World Cup - Mexico 1986 - Postcard: Soccer World Cup – Philatelia Hungarica Publisher – Commemorative Obliteration: Soccer World Cup - Mexico 1986 – Budapest, Hungary – 04/02/1986.*



In kicks aimed at the corner, the goalkeeper must always try to reach the ball with both hands. If this is not possible, the goalkeeper always has the option of palming with just one hand. The positioning of the hands is different for half-height balls. In this case, the goalkeeper should jump with cupped hands and try to hold the ball high.

*Issue: 04/28/1982 – Goalkeeper - Soccer World Cup – France - Postcard: Goalkeeper – JF Publisher – Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation: Soccer World Cup – 50th. Professional Soccer Anniversary – Paris, France - 04/28/1982.*

## 10. THE GOAL

A "Goal" is the most important act in the game of soccer and similar sports, and occurs whenever the ball completely passes an imaginary barrier between the goalposts and under the crossbar, defined by a white line drawn in ink on the pitch, which has regulated measures: 7.32 meters wide and 2.44 meters high.

In soccer, a goal equals 1 point in the scoreboard of each match, the team that scores the most goals by the end of the match wins. In the competition to which the match belongs, a victory is worth 3 points, a draw 1 point and a loss 0 points.



**Issue:** 04/28/1982 – Goalkeeper – Soccer World Cup – **Postcard:** Soccer (Goal) – BOURGOGNE Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** World Cup – 50th. Professional Soccer Anniversary – Paris, France - 04/28/1982 (triple visual agreement).

## 11. THE VICTORY

The goalkeeper is considered a "key player" in the aforementioned sporting activity, but can be criticized when a "Goal" occurs, mainly by teammates and even by fans of his team. But this noble athlete, usually does as much as possible in the match, sacrificing himself in various situations, so that his team can get a good result in the game.

**Issue:** 09/12/1982 – Goalkeeper Holding the FIFA Cup – Italy Soccer World Champion – Italy - **Postcard:** Italy Soccer World Champion – Goalkeeper Holding the FIFA Cup – Golden Publisher – **Obliteration of 1st Day of Circulation:** Italy World Soccer Champion – Goalkeeper Holding the FIFA Cup - Genoa, Italy – 09/12/1982 (triple visual agreement).

