

Outstanding athletes of the Republic
of Tatarstan.

Kazan has provided world sports with many outstanding athletes who managed to win medals of the highest dignity at the Olympic Games, World and European Championships.



Until 1947 in Kazan there were only seven masters of sports of the USSR - N. Mityanin, G. Samova, V. Markelov, V. Bekasov, A. Vyaliamaa (all - skiing), H. Kuchushev (weightlifting), I. Lapitsky (small towns). By 1956, their number had reached 38.

Speaking about the development of sports in these years, one cannot fail to mention the successes of such athletes as N. Teterkin, I. Feoktistov, V. Shadrin, K. Safina, N. Popov (rowing). The future Olympic rowing champion Maria Shubina was pleased with the success.

In 1962, Rashit Gibyatovich Nezhmetdinov, a five-time champion of the RSFSR, an international master in chess and checkers, became the honored coach of the USSR. He participated in five finals of the USSR championships. Among his achievements are victories over Mikhail Tal, Boris Spassky, Lev Polugaevsky and other world famous chess players. R. Nezhmetdinov's book "Chess" is still popular with novice athletes.

In 1974, R. Nezhmetdinov died. A year later, a children's chess school was organized in the capital of Tatarstan, bearing his name. There are many famous chess players among her pupils, but the brightest star is Alisa Gallyamova. In May 1987, she won the title of world chess champion among girls under 16 for the first time. Subsequently, she confirmed this title twice more. The athlete became the European champion as part of the Russian national team, a three-time winner of the World Chess Olympiads, and the winner of the 1997 Candidates Tournament in Holland. Alisa Gallyamova's attempt in 1999 to win the title of world champion among women did not bring her success, but the Kazan chess player still has very good prospects for the future.

Rashid Gibyatovich Nezhmetdinov (1912-1974)



Among those who were awarded the honorary title "Honored Trainer of the RSFSR", there are many popular names. D. Vashsh is rightfully considered the founder of the Kazan school of fencing and swimming. The success of footballers cannot be imagined without the name of N. Sentyabrev. For the preparation of the Olympic champion A. Kurynov, the honorary title "Honored Trainer of the RSFSR" was awarded to Vladimir Alexandrovich Pavlov. Among the first to receive this title was the founder of the Kazan school of jumpers-acrobats Boris Yakubchik. Nikolai Teterkin was also awarded a distinction for training a whole galaxy of class rowers.

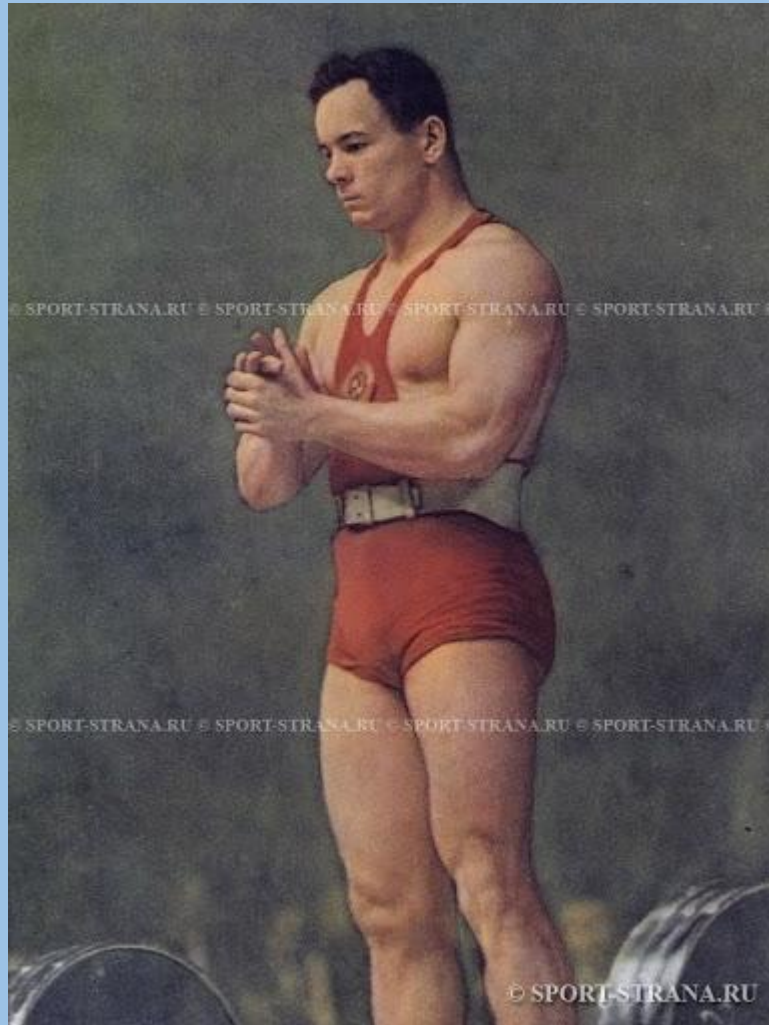
On January 1, 1968, the number of athletes holding the honorary title of "Master of Sports of the USSR" was already quite an impressive figure - 444.

During these years, a lot of Kazan citizens became champions of the RSFSR. In table tennis, the names of S. Kunypina, R. Sharipov, Y. Babushkin were well known. B. Bazarevich became the owner of the Cup of the country. In 1967 swimmer E. Ushakov became the champion of the RSFSR. There were many awards on the account of the fighters R. Safin, V. Sergeev, V. Zhuravlev.

Boxers, including champions V. Fuzeev, G. Sevastyanov, A. Bardin, V. Shabanov, E. Erkin, did not lag behind. Vadim Yemelyanov, a pupil of the Kazan Suvorov School, won the bronze medal at the Olympic Games in Tokyo.

But the brightest star of those years was undoubtedly the Honored Master of Sports Alexander Kurynov, who brilliantly won the Olympic Games in Rome, where even the legendary, previously invincible American Tommy K. And Kurynov became a kind of pioneer of the Olympic movement, the representatives of the Kazan school of fencing literally burst into the galaxy of the strongest foil fencers in the world and settled there for a long time. Honored trainer of the USSR Vladimir Zhitlov opened the world to Valentin Nikonov, Nail Gilyazov and Olga Knyazev. They became multiple world champions in team competitions and were awarded gold medals at the 1976 Olympic Games, and Valentina Nikonova and Nailya Gilyazova also won individual world championship tournaments.

Alexander Pavlovich Kurynov (1934-1973)



The victorious traditions were taken up by the young pupils of the Kazan school. Among the saber fencers, Elbrus Boyanov became a prominent figure. The baton of the famous trinity was intercepted by Olga Voshakina.

Of those who in the 90s were part of the national team, one can name the saber fencer Ayrat Abdulmanov. Honored Master of Sports Alexander Fadeev, who managed to win the title of world champion in single skating in figure skating, flashed as a bright star in the sky. And a ticket to big sport was given to him by the coach of a specialized figure skating school in Kazan, Gennady Tarasov.

"Queen of Sports", as athletics is called, has not lost its popularity today. Denis Kapustin, Honored Master of Sports of Russia in triple jump, won the prestigious Golden League tournament in 1998, where he beat world record holder Jonat Edwards from England.

Svetlana Demina, Honored Master of Sports of the USSR, continues to delight for many years with her high achievements, who is rightfully the first number in the national clay pigeon shooting team. A participant in the Olympic Games in Seoul and Atlanta, she has more than twenty awards of the highest dignity in her piggy bank.

A notable page in the history of Tatarstan boxing was written by two outstanding athletes - Ayrat Khamatov and Foat Gatin. Khamatov was the first of the pupils of our republic to win the title of world champion, and Gatin conquered the highest step of the European podium. The success of their students was shared by their mentors - Honored Coach of the USSR Viktor Krasnov and Honored Coach of Russia Sergei Romadanovsky. In 1991 Kazan became the venue for the USSR Championship. Here Khamatov confirmed his high class and became the champion.

Participants of the Olympic Games from Kazan were also trained in rowing. So, the honored coach of the USSR, Sergei Ulyanov, gave a ticket to big sport to Lydia Averyanova, who, in the crew of the eight, took fourth place at the Seoul Olympics. In addition, she has three gold medals at the 1983, 1985 and 1986 World Championships. Alexander Ustinov, who had taken part in the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, also became the world youth champion.

Airat Kasimovich Khamatov Svetlana Demina



If we talk about the participation of Kazan athletes in the Olympic Games, then their largest representation was in 1976 in Montreal. Then at the XXI Summer Olympics Sergey Timofeev (freestyle wrestling) took sixth place, Alexander Plyushkin and Vasily Potapov (rowing) in the eight were seventh, Olga Knyazeva, Nailya Gilyazova and Valentina Nikonova became champions in foil fencing.

A pupil of Kazan football, Viktor Kolotov, who had already played for Dynamo Kiev, was awarded a bronze medal as part of the USSR national team, and a native of Kazan, Lyudmila Shubina, who moved to Baku, became the Olympic champion in handball.

If we talk about team sports, today Kazan is second only to Moscow in the number of Super- and Major Leagues teams. Thus, the capital of Tatarstan is successfully represented by the masters of "Raketa", who have already become one of the strongest clubs in the country in bandy. In recent years, Sintez's water polo players have been victorious in European cups. In women's basketball, the Technological University team is well known. Strela rugby players dominate the Russian championship and represent Kazan with dignity in the national teams of Russia. The field hockey masters, who have defended Dynamo's banners since 1999, delight with victories.

Separately, it must be said about the three dominant sports today. These are ice hockey, football and basketball. And the story should begin with the masters of the puck, who have managed to win the highest title of all Kazan representatives of team sports.

The holiday came to the street of hockey fans in the spring of 1998, when Ak Bars, having won at home against Dynamo Moscow, became the champion of the country two rounds before the end of the tournament. This is an extraordinary event, because not all Russian clubs have managed at least once to rise to the

~~The hockey club of the republic has been going to this success for more than a dozen years.~~ The first team of masters in Kazan - "Leninsky District" - was formed in 1955 by Anatoly Muravyov, a famous Kazan footballer and ball hockey player in his time. In the next season, A. Muravyov and a number of leading players of the Leninsky District moved to the physical education team of the engine building plant, where a new team was created - Mashstroy (later the Uritsky Sports Complex and Itil, and now Ak Bars).

Muravyov Anatoly Vasilievich (1923-2010)



Over the years spent in the First League, our team has developed its own playing style, which was expressed primarily by powerful attacking actions. The handwriting of the Uritskiy SK could not be confused with the game of any other team, largely due to the actions of three bright figures who became almost symbols of the club. We are talking about Gennady Maslov, Sergei Stolbun and Valery Shalakhin. In 1989, the Uritsky Sports Complex made its debut in the strongest league for the second time in its history. Already in the fourth round, the Uritsky Sports Complex beat the permanent champion of the USSR (up to that season for 13 years in a row) and the leader of the championship - CSKA team with a score of 2: 1 at the small sports arena Luzhniki. Of course, goalkeeper Sergei Abramov can be called the leader of the team of the 90s, who played for the club for almost seventeen years, and then became the team's coach. And it is quite symbolic that it was Abramov, the only Kazan hockey player, who managed to compete at the Olympic Games. The CIS national team, which included Sergei, took fourth place in Lillehammer.

Among the leading players of Ak Bars who made a significant contribution to the victory in the championship, it is necessary to name Alexei Chupin, Mikhail Sarmatin, Eduard Kudermetov, Sergey Zolotov, Almaz Garifullin, Ilnur Gizatullin, Igor Stepanov, Yuri Gunko, Dmitry Balmin, Rafik Yakubov, Yachanov. This is the backbone of the team - the 1998 Russian champions.

The well-known coach Yuri Moiseev, who knew the way to the podium as a player, led Ak Bars to success. Moiseev, being a tough and demanding coach, paid great attention to the athletic training of hockey players and brought the features of modern power hockey to the team's game.

Basketball appeared in Kazan in the first half of the 20s - it was cultivated in the societies "Dynamo", "Lokomotiv" and others. Since the beginning of the thirties, Kazan teams began to travel to other cities for friendly matches. A. Vinogradov, who organized the first championship of the city back in 1934, can rightfully be called the "father" of basketball in Kazan.

The predecessor of today's UNICS, the Burevestnik basketball team (later called the University) was established in 1957 on the basis of Kazan State University and since 1961 has represented the republic at the Russian and all-Union levels. Well-known specialists, honored coaches of Russia - Igor Poznyak and Leonid Arslanov worked with the team. The revival of Kazan basketball began in 1990 by the team already bearing the name UNICS (university-culture-sport). Several years were spent on the formation of the young team, and since 1994 a sharp rise began - the team consistently from season to season began to move from league to league of higher rank. Since 1997, UNICS has been playing in the Super League and in two seasons has taken a high fifth place.

There are many experienced referees in Kazan, three of whom have an international category - G. Mukhametzyanov, L. Arslanov and N. Saitgaleev.

Kazan loves football, at the top of which is Rubin, leading its biography since 1958, when the team was still called Iskra. Before her, our republic on the all-Union arena was represented by Dynamo footballers who have played in the national championships since 1936.

The success of the team was largely determined by the position of the mayor of Kazan Kamil Iskhakov. It so happened that the mayor decided to return the old football traditions, to revive the glory of Rubin. In the 1999 season, the team was tasked with winning a ticket to the top division.

The Mayor of Kazan believes that by the 1000th anniversary of the city, Rubin will not only successfully play in the top division of the Russian championship, but will also be storming the heights of European cups.

A separate page in the sports life of Kazan is the round-the-world voyage of the yacht "North Star". In August 1997, five brave seafarers moored in the river port of the capital of our republic and set off to sail the World Ocean. The travelers returned home on May 8, 1999. For the first time in the history of Russian navigation, Oleg Tyurin (crew commander) and his comrades - Alexander Onegin, Vladimir Tyurin, Ivan Polikasov and Alexander Toshchev - managed to navigate the round-the-world route. All participants of the circumnavigation were awarded the high titles "Honored Master of Sports of the Republic of Tatarstan" and "Master of Sports of International Class".