

1980 Moscow Olympics Box Set

This is a nice set in any event, but it's of special interest to Sports and Olympics collectors. There are 18 boxes in the set, each measuring 2" x 2", and the text and graphics are on labels, which would make them "skillets." Each box is numbered and features a different sport. This is a foreign set, being manufactured in Finland. The boxes also say, however, "The Cornish Match Co. Ltd.," so I'm guessing that the boxes were exported to Great Britain for distribution there.

The 1980 Olympics, by the way, was especially notable for the absence of the United States. The U.S. government led a boycott of the summer games in Moscow to protest the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Under strong pressure by the Carter administration, the U.S. Olympic Committee voted to boycott the Games, thus depriving the Russians of their chief athletic competition. Although a total of 81 nations were represented in Moscow, some 40 countries followed the U.S. lead (among them West Germany, China, and Japan), thereby making any Soviet medals hollow victories.

Unfortunately, unlike the previous sets I've run over the years, I don't have a complete set of this one. I only have the six pictured here. And, as yet, I haven't been able to find anyone who *does* have the complete set, so I don't know what the topics are of the missing boxes. If you should happen to have the entire set, I'd appreciate receiving a list of all 18 events covered, and then we could share that information with the rest of the membership.

Anyhow, if you like this set, it's certainly worth attempting to search for it. There must be dupes sets available out there somewhere.

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