

GHEORGHE HAGI – THE KING OF ROMANIAN FOOTBALL



Gheorghe Hagi is a former Romanian football player, considered one of the best offensive midfielders in Europe in the ' 80s and ' 90s and the greatest Romanian footballer of all times. Galatasaray's fans called him "the commander" and the Romanians called him "the King". Nicknamed "Maradona of the Carpathians", Hagi is considered a hero in Romania.

Hagi played for the Romanian National team at three world Championships in 1990, 1994 and 1998, and in three European Championships in 1984, 1996 and 2000. He had 125 presentations for Romania and is on the first position of the markers with 35 goals.

Gheorghe Hagi began playing football at the age of 10, at the Constanta Lighthouse, a team to which he debuted in Divizia A, at 17 years old. In his career, Hagi played for Sportul Studentesc, Steaua București, Real Madrid, Brescia, Barcelona and Galatasaray.

Hagi was also an excellent executor of free kicks, scoring numerous goals from fixed positions.

If there was still a need for recognition of his value, Hagi drew on the countless times the appreciation of opponents and the great football people in the world. Pele, Cruyff, Matthaus, Fatih Terim, Maradona, Michel Platini or Eusebio are just some of the personalities who have praised him. „ Hagi is for Romania what is Beckenbauer for Germany ”– Lothar Matthaus, former German international footballer.

SIMONA HALEP – WORLD'S NUMBER 1



Simona Halep is a Romanian tennis player who reached the first position in the WTA world rankings, twice, between 2017 and 2019. Halep ended the years 2017 and 2018 in the world's top WTA rankings.

Halep won the Grand Slam tournaments from Roland Garros (2018) and Wimbledon (2019), previously losing three more finals: two at Roland Garros (2014, 2017) and one at the Australian Open (2018). She played the finals of the Champions Tournament (2014). She has won 19 tournaments as a single player along her career and has played another 17 finals, being the most gifted tennis player in the history of our country.

In February 2014 she received the title of Citizen of the city of Busteni, and in March 2014 the honorary citizen of Constanta County. In June 2018 she received the key of the city and the title of Honorary citizen of Bucharest.

On 26 July 2019, Romania's postal services put in circulation a set of two stamp sheets, one laced and another unlaced, to honor the victory of Simona Halep at the Wimbledon Tennis tournament in July 2019. On July 30, 2019 she was decorated with the National order "Steaua Romaniei" in Knight rank.

NADIA COMĂNECI – THE FIRST 10 IN THE HISTORY OF GYMNASTICS



Nadia Elena Comăneci is a Romanian gymnast, the first gymnast in the world to receive a ten-grade in an Olympic gymnastics contest. It's the winner of five gold Olympic medals. It is considered to be one of the best sport people of the XXth century and one of the world's best gymnasts, of all times, the "Goddess of Montreal", the first gymnast of the modern age that took an absolute 10.

She is the first Romanian athlete to be included in the International memorial Gymnastics Hall of Fame. Nadia Comăneci is vice-president of the Special Olympics Board, honorary chairman of the Romanian Gymnastics Federation, honorary President of the Romanian Olympic Committee, Romanian Sports ambassador, Vice-President of the Council Director of the Association of Muscular dystrophy, and a member of the foundation of the International Gymnastics Federation.

She was awarded twice by the Olympic order, granted by the IOC. Nadia Comaneci: "I would seem very bored to live without doing anything special"(7 martie 2013, Alice Nastase Buciuta, *Revista Tangou*)

OINA –ROMANIAN NATIONAL SPORT



Oina (or Hoina) is a traditional Romanian sport game. The game of the oina was spread throughout the country, with a large number of names and variants: in Banat it was called "small Lopta" or "Pila", in Transylvania "long" or "long Lopta", in the area of Sibiu "Fuga", in Muntenia and in Moldova "Hoina" and then the Wiffle Ball , in Maramureş "Ojerul" or "ostring", in Dobrogea "long", etc. In some parts the Wiffle ball was also played by girls, under the name "Oiniță".

It is similar to sport games common to other countries such as the German Schlagball, the Finnish pesäpallo, the Paume game in France, namely the Irish Cluiche.

The game requires complex sporting qualities (good running speed, quick reflexes in self-defense movements against ball strikes, precision in throwing and hitting the ball with a cane or bat).

The game of the oina is continuously practiced at least from the 14th century according to the chronicles and the hrisocytas of the time, the first documentary was mentioned in 1364, during the reign of Vlaicu Vodă. [1] Another documentary attestation appears in the year 1596, when Italian cosmographer Gian Lorenzo D'Anania mentions the game of the oina in the work of the Universal system of the world under the description of the superior Valahia. The Romanian Oina Federation is founded in June 1932. After the year 1990 the Wiffle Ball met a great setback, which led up almost to the disappearance of the game. In recent years, the Romanian Oin Federation has begun a wide-ranging action to revive this sport. A large part of the tradition centers and included new localities have been reactivated, so today's practice is done in more than 30 counties.