



Dear Compatriots and Sokol Members,

I am reaching out to you on behalf of the Czech National Museum. Among our specialized departments is the Department of the History of Physical Education and Sports, which, as part of its mission to preserve Czech national memory, documents the history of physical education, sports, and the Olympic movement not only in our homeland but also abroad.

Our department has a long history and serves as a centre for documenting the history of Czech sports and physical education, including the Sokol movement. Our team's mission is to record, preserve, and permanently commemorate the history of these fields and their legacy for future generations. The Department of the History of Physical Education and Sports at the National Museum collects anything that contributes to preserving the history of physical education organizations and associations, both in the Czech Republic and abroad.

However, we cannot fulfill our mission without your help, support, and cooperation. We believe it is in our shared interest to ensure that the documentation of the Sokol movement's history – both in the Czech lands and within expatriate communities – is as complete as possible, allowing us to record every significant moment, event, or figure that has contributed to its development.

We collect all materials documenting the evolution of the various branches of the Sokol movement and collaborate in this effort with the Czech Sokol Organization. Many of you have likely gathered valuable and interesting publications, archival documents, photographs, and objects that would greatly enrich the National Museum's collections and, more importantly, should be preserved for present and future generations.

Thanks to our collaboration with the Consul General of the Czech Republic in Los Angeles, Jaroslav Olša Jr., we have already received an extensive collection of objects, publications, meeting records, invitations, and photographs from Sokol San Francisco, as well as a small portion from Sokol Los Angeles. However, we are still missing numerous publications and pieces of information valuable for researching the expatriate movement and sports in the United States. You can donate your collections directly to us, or we can arrange their transfer through Consul General Olša, who will ensure they reach the Czech Republic.

Please do not hesitate to entrust us with these materials. They will be professionally processed, restored, and documented, with appropriate acknowledgments to their donors. They will then be securely stored in our archives and appropriately presented through exhibitions, academic publications, films, or television programs. We are also ready to provide consultations and professional assistance in transferring materials to our collections.

By contributing, you will not only help our museum better fulfill its mission, but more importantly, you will prevent the possible degradation, dispersal, or irretrievable loss of these invaluable historical artifacts.

Thank you for your trust and support in our shared effort to preserve and present the history of the Sokol movement. I hope our request will serve as the foundation for future cooperation – please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,



Dr. Zuzana Strnadová

Director of the Historical Museum

National Museum of the Czech Republic
Vinohradská 1, 110 00 Prague 1
Czech Republic
E: zuzana.strnadova@nm.cz
W: www.nm.cz

Contact Information:

Department of the History of Physical Education and Sports

Jan Lomíček, Ph.D.

Head Curator

National Museum of the Czech Republic
Vinohradská 1, 110 00 Prague 1
T: +420 224 497 305 | M: +420 773 775 398
E: jan.lomicek@nm.cz
W: www.nm.cz