



Calling all Sports Fans with Memories of the Western Powers

The Allied Museum in Berlin's Zehlendorf district needs your help. Please share your experiences and knowledge with us!

In the Olympic year 2012 the Allied Museum will be showing the temporary exhibition "Fair Play: The History of Allied Sports in Berlin."

In the exhibition we intend to explore the many aspects of the history of Allied sports in Berlin and follow the traces of the Allies in the Berlin sporting landscape. More than just a leisure pursuit and a form of fitness training, sports were and are always political, a means of creating community and identity and a virtually universal vehicle for mutual understanding across national boundaries.

For the soldiers stationed in Berlin, sports mainly meant fun and a change from everyday life on base. In inter-Allied competitions they got to know each other and developed a sense of their shared mission. Sports also offered an unconstrained means of creating and cultivating contacts with the people of Berlin. This also applied to youth work, of which the German Youth Activities program was an early example. The Allies were also present in sports in other ways, however: in training in shared facilities, sports festivals, and sometime also in the founding of German-Allied associations and clubs.

We would like your help for our exhibition project. Do you have any memories of Allied sporting activities and events in Berlin? Did you take part in competitions or sports festivals or perhaps play sports with the Allies? This could have been in the immediate postwar period or in the 1980s. If you did, please contact us! We would be pleased to receive personal stories, mementoes, and photos as well as sports apparel, equipment or any objects that you associate with sports and the Allies.

For questions and further information, please contact Corinna Schmidt by telephone at 030 / 818199-50 or by e-mail at schmidt@alliiertenmuseum.de

We look forward to your stories and thank you in advance for your support!