

Oina

ALL ABOUT THE TRADITIONAL ROMANIAN SPORT

EXCLUSIVE NEWS

OINA – BASEBALL ANCESTOR!

What is OINA?

The name "oină" is derived from the Cuman word *oyñ* "game".

Oină was first mentioned during the rule of Vlaicu Vodă in 1364, when it spread all across Wallachia. (the southern part of Romania)

At the end of the nineteenth century the P.E. classes meant difficult exercises.

A Romanian Minister of Education, Spiru Haret, famous for his many school reforms, decided to add pleasant games to the difficult exercises, and oina was the main children's game which was transformed into a sport. Thus, the game gained strict regulations.

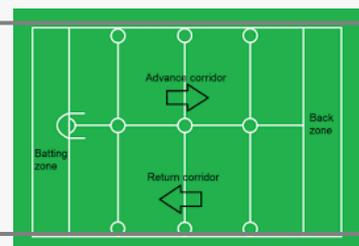


Romanian stamp from the beginning of the XXth century

Spiru Haret organized the first annual oină competitions. The first official game of oina was played on 10th May 1898, in Cismigiu (a famous park in Bucharest), by teams from different schools.

Field

The pitch is a rectangle, 70m long by 32m wide divided into: the in game area, which is 60x32m, the batting zone - 5m long, the back zone - a 5m long and the safe zone.



DO YOU KNOW THAT

- It is very similar to baseball?
- It was played by a lot of Romanian writers, in their free time?



TEAMS

There are two teams of 11 players, one attacking side or "at bat" and one defending side or "at catch". The roles switch at half time.

The ball is round, weighing 100-140 grams, with a diameter of 7-8 cm. Besides the ball, there is no equipment.

How are you playing oina?

The game begins with the team at bat, with one of the players throwing the ball while another player of the same team has to hit it with a wooden bat and send it as far as he can towards the adversary field. After that, if the ball is caught by the adversaries, the player can run the advance and return

If he stops the ball with his palm, it is not considered a hit. If the player doing a run is hit he goes out of field.

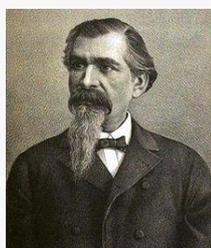
At catch players score 2 points for each player hit with a ball, unless the ball touches the palm or the back of the palm. At bat players score by batting beyond certain lines.

Some facts

- Romanian Federation of Oina was founded in 1932
- There are both, women and men teams
- It is a National Championship, with juniors and seniors teams
- The competitions are taking place under the patronage of our former King Michael I



ROMANIAN PERSONALITIES WHO PLAYED OINA



Petre Ispirescu
(1838-1887)

A Romanian editor, folklorist, printer and publicist. He is best known for his work as a gatherer of Romanian folk tales, recounting them with a remarkable talent.



Elena Farago
(1878-1954)

A Romanian poet, translator and children's author. It was the first woman referee for oina!



Elie Carafoli
(1901-1983)

Romanian engineer and aircraft designer. He is considered a pioneering contributor to the field of Aerodynamics.