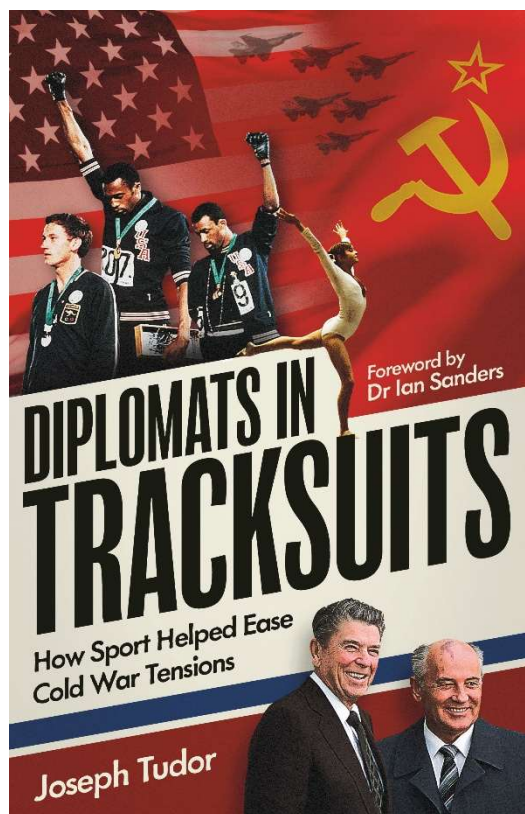




Title information



Diplomats in Tracksuits

How Sport Helped Ease Cold War Tensions

By Joseph Tudor

Key features

- Uncovers the intriguing stories behind athletes who unwittingly became diplomats, bridging divides between superpowers through the universal language of sport
- Explores how iconic Cold War sports events, like Nixon's ping-pong diplomacy and the 'Miracle on Ice', helped ease global tensions and foster dialogue
- Learn how renowned athletes like Olga Korbut and Zhuang Zedong unintentionally became diplomats
- Reveals the crucial role of events such as the 1980 Moscow Olympics, and how leaders like Jimmy Carter and Leonid Brezhnev navigated these international stages
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

Description

There was a time when every goal, point and finish line was more than just a sporting achievement – it was a statement of ideological dominance. What do a chess match in Iceland, a bloodied pool in Melbourne and the last three seconds of an Olympic basketball final have in common? These events, like many others, are sporting occasions influenced by the international geopolitical dynamics of the Cold War. During that era, sports were not merely games but battlegrounds for promoting political ideologies and asserting the supremacy of the two superpowers – the United States and the Soviet Union – and their allies. *Diplomats in Tracksuits* explores the intricate relationship between sport and politics during the Cold War through meticulous research and a selection of major sporting events that influenced international relations at the time. The book also examines how the athletes were not just medal hunters but, unwittingly, true ambassadors of their countries, with all the inevitable consequences that such a role entailed.

Details

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Telephone: 01256 302692
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