

Design Roland Hirter

Roland Hirter was born in Zollikofen near Bern in 1943. After a one-year preparatory course at the School of Applied Arts in Bern in 1959, he attended the School of Design in Biel from which he graduated as a graphic artist four years later. Following a six-month study visit to Finland, he spent four years working for a design studio in Bern. In 1970, he turned free-lance. Roland Hirter lives and works in Bern. His area of work encompasses logos, pamphlets, brochures, posters and packaging. In 1972, he won the design competition for the «50 years of radio» commemorative stamp. Since then, he has been able to design more than 25 other stamps for the Swiss Post Office and the United Nations, among them a number of sports stamps. Since the mid 1990s, he has designed most of Swissmint's printed matter. He was also responsible for the design of the 2008 «Ice hockey centenary» commemorative coin, the standard reverse side used on the commemorative coins issued since 2004 and the bear medal in the baby coin set. In 2012, he designed two special stamps for the anniversaries of the Tell-Theaters in Altdorf and Interlaken. One of his familiar but probably less popular works is the motorway tax sticker.



Characteristics

Effigy

«Swiss wrestling»

Artist

Roland Hirter, Bern

Technical data

Alloy: Silver 0.835

Weight: 20 g

Diameter: 33 mm

Legal face value

20 Swiss francs

Date of issue

6 June 2013

Mintage

Standard coinage, uncirculated:

max. 50 000 coins

Proof coin in presentation case:

max. 7 000 coins



Coined and issued by

Federal Mint Swissmint

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Official commemorative coin 2013

Swiss wrestling

Swiss national sports



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Swissmint

Official commemorative coins

Each year, the Federal Mint Swissmint issues a small number of commemorative coins featuring carefully selected subjects. The coins in bimetal, silver and gold bear an official nominal value and are available in various minting qualities. The net proceeds from the sale of the coins are used to promote cultural projects throughout Switzerland.

Swiss wrestling – a sport for real men

Wrestling is the quintessential Swiss national sport. Over the years, the local pastime of wrestling has developed into an extremely popular sport that demands intensive training and enjoys great support among the general population. In order to wrestle in a varied and diverse manner, a successful wrestler must learn different throws and their combinations. He will then have the right strategy to wrestle his way to the top against different opponents and gain a wreath or with a little luck even be the winner of one of the smaller – or even larger – wrestling competitions.

The origins of Swiss wrestling are difficult to date with accuracy. A typical wrestling hold can already be seen in a 13th century depiction in Lausanne Cathedral. In Central Switzerland and in the Mittelland, wrestling has long been an integral part of festival culture. Wrestlers competed for a length of trouser fabric, a sheep or other prizes in kind at many Alpine and tavern festivals. The glory of victory was worth much more than the prize itself. In the 19th century notable wrestling festivals and ambitious sports instructors brought wrestling into the towns and cities. In this way, what was once a pastime of shepherds and farmers became a national sport involving all social classes.

Source: Swiss Wrestling Federation