

# Ancient Greek Athletics Miller

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presenting a survey of sports in ancient greece this work describes ancient sporting events and games it considers the role of women and amateurs in ancient athletics and explores the impact of these games on art literature and politics

from the informal games of homer s time to the highly organized contests of the roman world miller has compiled a trove of ancient sources plutarch on boxing aristotle on the pentathlon philostratos on clay dust as an anti perspirant and on the buying and selling of victories vitruvius on literary competitions xenophon on female body building with fully twice as many

texts as the highly successful first edition this new version of arete offers readers an absorbing lesson in the culture of greek athletics from the greatest of teachers the ancients themselves these sources which miller himself has translated provide unparalleled insights into ancient athletic practices and competitive festivals they emphasize the fundamental role of athletics in education and shed light on such issues as the role of women in athletics and the politics and economics of the games ultimately they demonstrate that the concepts of virtue skill pride valor and nobility embedded in the word arete and so closely associated in the modern mind with greek athletics are only part of the story from antiquity

offers an introduction to the many forms that athletics took in the ancient world and to the sources of evidence by which we can study it as well as looking at the role of athletics in archaic and classical greece this book also covers the periods of the hellenistic and roman worlds the different aspects of athletics are also considered

this engaging and informative text will hold the attention of students and scholars as they take a journey through time to understand the role that history and philosophy have played in shaping the course of sport and physical education in western and selected non western civilizations from mesoamerica and ancient greece to the 2008 olympic games the book touches on religion politics social movements and individuals as they contributed to the development of sport and physical education an extensive array of pedagogical tools including timelines comprehensive lists of chapter objectives suggested websites and discussion questions aids the learning experience

as religious rituals rites of passage and celebrations of the body athletics were deeply woven into the fabric of ancient greek life modeled after physical exercises and competitions that existed in earlier near eastern cultures hundreds of athletic contests were held throughout the ancient greek world in the eighth century b c the games held at olympia began to surpass all others in their fame and glory and gave rise to a sporting tradition that engages and enthralls the world to this day published to coincide with the return of the olympics to greece in 2004 this thoroughly researched book studies sport in ancient greece over a span of a millennium and a half from the earliest mentions of athletics in homer s iliad and other literary sources through the classical age and into the hellenistic roman and late antique periods with more than five hundred illustrations the book tours the monumental stadiums bathhouses temples and other structures built to host the athletic events and to house the wealth of art created to pay tribute to the athletes gods and heroes of the games

some programs include also the programs of societies meeting concurrently with the association

this volume investigates the integral role of heroes in ancient greek art and culture more than a hundred statues reliefs vases bronzes coins and gems drawn from european and american collections illustrate the ways in which heroes were represented why they were important in greek culture and what encouraged individuals to seek them out book jacket

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