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| face value | 10 zł |
| metal | core: 925/1000 Ag plated with 999/1000 Au ring: 925/1000 Ag |
| finish | proof |
| diameter | 32.00 mm |
| weight | 14.14 g |
| mintage | 80,500 pcs |

Obverse: Centrally, an image of the Eagle established as the State Emblem of the Republic of Poland. Around the Eagle, a semicircular inscription, RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA, and the notation of the year of issue, 2006. Around, a stylised goalkeeper's net and against its background, below the notation of the year of issue, an inscription, 10 ZŁ. The Mint's mark, $\frac{m}{w}$, under the Eagle's left leg.

Reverse: A stylised image of a footballer kicking the ball. Above, against the background of a stylised image of the Sun, a stylised image of a football. On the left-hand side of the ball, a semicircular inscription, FIFA. On the rim, the legend, MISTRZOSTWA ŚWIATA W PIŁCE NOŻNEJ NIEMCY 2006 (Football World Cup).

Coin designer: Robert Kotowicz



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|------------|--------------------|
| face value | 10 zł |
| metal | 925/1000 Ag |
| finish | proof |
| diameter | 32.00 mm |
| weight | 14.14 g |
| mintage | 70,000 pcs |

Obverse: On the right-hand side, a fragment of a stylised football. Against its background: on the left-hand side, an image of the Eagle established as the State Emblem of the Republic of Poland, and on the right-hand side, an inscription, 10 ZŁ. On the left-hand side, a semicircular inscription, RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA, and the notation of the year of issue, 2006. The Mint's mark, $\frac{m}{w}$, under the Eagle's left leg.

Reverse: On the right-hand side, against the background of a stylised image of the central part of a football pitch, an image of a running footballer. At the bottom, on the left-hand side, an image of a football, alternating depending on the angle of vision. On the right-hand side, a semicircular inscription, MISTRZOSTWA ŚWIATA W PIŁCE NOŻNEJ (Football World Cup). At the top, on the left-hand side, an inscription, NIEMCY/2006 (Germany/2006). At the bottom, on the left-hand side, an inscription, FIFA.

Coin designer: Urszula Walerzak



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|------------|--------------------------|
| face value | 2 zł |
| metal | CuAl5Zn5Sn1 alloy |
| finish | standard |
| diameter | 27.00 mm |
| weight | 8.15 g |
| mintage | 1,200,000 pcs |

Obverse: An image of the Eagle established as the State Emblem of the Republic of Poland. On both sides of the Eagle, the notation of the year of issue, 20-06. Below the Eagle, an inscription, ZŁ 2 ZŁ. On the rim, an inscription, RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA, preceded and finished with six pearls. The Mint's mark, $\frac{m}{w}$, under the Eagle's left leg.

Reverse: Centrally, against the background of a stylised football, a stylised map of Poland. Below the map, an inscription, 2006/FIFA. On the rim, an inscription, MISTRZOSTWA ŚWIATA W PIŁCE NOŻNEJ NIEMCY (Football World Cup).

On the edge: An inscription, NBP, repeated eight times, every second one inverted 180°, separated by stars.

Obverse designer: Ewa Tyc-Karpińska

Reverse designer: Urszula Walerzak

Coins struck by the Mint of Poland plc. in Warsaw.

Printed by NBP Printing Office

Coins

– The 18th FIFA World Cup™:
2006 FIFA World Cup Germany™ –



Design: DECORUM

On April 26, 2006, the National Bank of Poland is putting into circulation coins celebrating the 18th FIFA Football World Cup™ with the following face values:

- 100 zł – struck in proof finish, in gold;
- 10 zł – struck in proof finish, in silver, with a latent image;
- 10 zł – struck in proof finish, in gold-plated silver;
- 2 zł – struck in standard finish, in Nordic Gold alloy.

On June 9, the game between Germany and Costa Rica will kick off the 18th FIFA Football World Cup™. This will be the second World Cup to be held in Germany – the previous one took place in 1974.

In December 2003, the qualification group draw was held in Frankfurt am Main to select 31 out of the 32 finalists. One place was reserved for the hosts who are traditionally exempt from qualifications. Until November 2005, national teams from as many as 157 countries competed for the right to play in the FIFA World Cup™. On December 9 in Leipzig, finalists were drawn into the following groups:

- A: Germany, Costa Rica, Poland, Ecuador
- B: England, Paraguay, Trinidad and Tobago, Sweden
- C: Argentina, Ivory Coast, Serbia and Montenegro, the Netherlands
- D: Mexico, Iran, Angola, Portugal
- E: Italy, Ghana, United States, Czech Republic
- F: Brazil, Croatia, Australia, Japan
- G: France, Switzerland, South Korea, Togo
- H: Spain, Ukraine, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia.

The top two teams from each group will qualify for the next stage where the knock-out system will operate, i.e. the loser will fall out of the competition.

Players will compete in twelve stadiums which have been especially constructed or thoroughly upgraded for the FIFA World Cup™ at the total cost of 1.4 billion euro. The upgrade of the Olympic Stadium in Berlin (which was the main arena of the 1936 Olympic Games), where the final match will take place on July 9, was the most expensive at 242 million euro. The Gelsenkirchen stadium is the most modern venue, featuring a mobile pitch and retractable roof.

Brazil, who are considered FIFA World Cup™ favourites (they have won more trophies than any other team in football history), are defending the title. In the last final, which was played four years ago in Yokohama, Japan, they beat Germany 2:0. Brazil have won the world champions title five times (in 1958, 1962, 1970, 1994, and 2002). They are the only team to have played in all FIFA World Cup™ tournaments.

Italy and Germany both have won the title three times: Italians in 1934, 1938 and 1982, and Germans in 1954, 1974 and 1990. Uruguay (1930 and 1950) and Argentina (1978 and 1986) have two titles each. The English and French were both champions once – in 1966 and 1998, respectively.

Until 1970, the winning team used to receive the Jules Rimet Cup (the Golden Nike), which was passed on to subsequent winners.

Brazil earned the right to keep the trophy after having won their third title. Unfortunately, the priceless trophy was later stolen and never found again. The new one – the FIFA World Cup Trophy – was designed by the Italian Silvio Gazzaniga. The cup, which is made of 18-carat gold, is 36 cm tall and weighs around 5 kg.

Pele, the legendary king of football from Brazil, has been the only player to win the title three times. In 1958, when he did it for the first time, he was not yet 18.

Only two people – the Brazilian Mario Zagalo (1958, 1962 and 1970) and the German Franz Beckenbauer (1974 and 1990) – have managed to win the title first as players and then as coaches. The latter now heads the FIFA World Cup™ Organising Committee. Vittorio Pozzo is still the only coach who boasts two titles – he won them while he led the Italian national team in 1934 and 1938.

Poland are playing in FIFA World Cup™ finals for the seventh time. The first tournament in which the Polish team participated took place in France in 1938. They lost to Brazil 5:6 after extra time and dropped out of the tournament. Ernest Wilimowski scored four goals in that match.

Poles had waited for their next FIFA World Cup™ until 1974 when they finished third, led by the best coach in history – Kazimierz Górski. Grzegorz Lato, with seven goals, was the top scorer of the tournament. Kazimierz Deyna was voted the third best player of the tournament (after the Dutchman Johan Cruyff and Franz Beckenbauer), and the Polish team were hailed as a revelation.

In their third FIFA World Cup™ in 1978, Poland were classified in the 5th/6th place (they dropped out ranked third in one of the two groups in the second stage of the tournament). Four years later, they won a medal again, finishing in the third place. At that time, they were led by Antoni Piechniczek – the only coach who headed the national team in two FIFA World Cup™ finals. They also took part in 1986 but without much luck (they lost the eighth-finals match). This was Władysław Żmuda's last game – he played a record 21 matches in four football FIFA World Cups™. Grzegorz Lato and Andrzej Szarmach both played in three tournaments, scoring every time.

When the national team qualified for the FIFA World Cup™ finals four years ago after a 16-year break, there was great joy and expectations were running high. Too high, in fact – the team coached by Jerzy Engel finished last in the group. Therefore Paweł Janas, the coach who succeeded in qualifying for the FIFA World Cup™ in Germany last year, is very cautious and describes going through to the knock-out stage as his primary objective. This is surely within the reach of his team and German stadiums have always been lucky for Poles. They witnessed the Polish team's greatest successes – gold Olympic medal in 1972 and third FIFA World Cup™ place in 1974.

The FIFA Football World Cup™ is the greatest sports event in the world along the Summer Olympic Games. It is held every four years and attracts incredible numbers of fans. Therefore getting a ticket for a FIFA World Cup™ game of one's choice is not an easy feat this

year. The cheapest tickets (for the least attractive seats at the group stage) cost 35 euro and the most expensive ones (the best seats during the final) are as much as 600 euro. Tickets have been sold on the Internet since February 1, 2005. There were as many as four million bids from 195 countries for the first batch of 812,000 individual tickets, which were allocated in a draw. There were even more takers for the next 250,000 tickets available at the beginning of 2006 – as many as six million orders were received.

*Dariusz Kurowski
sports journalist*

All coins issued by the NBP are legal tender in Poland.



| | |
|------------|-------------------|
| face value | 100 zł |
| metal | 900/1000Au |
| finish | proof |
| diameter | 21.00 mm |
| weight | 8.00 g |
| mintage | 10,500 pcs |

Obverse: Centrally, against the background of a stylised fragment of a football, an image of the Eagle established as the State Emblem of the Republic of Poland. Above the Eagle, on the edge of the football, stylised figures of six footballers. At the top, a semicircular inscription, RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA, the notation of the year of issue, 2006, and an inscription, 100 ZŁ. The Mint's mark, $\frac{m}{w}$, next to the Eagle's left leg.

Reverse: Against the background of a stylised image of the central part of a football pitch, stylised images of two footballers and a football. Above, an inscription, NIEMCY/2006 (Germany/2006). On the right-hand side, an inscription, FIFA. On the left-hand side, a semicircular inscription, MISTRZOSTWA ŚWIATA W PIŁCE NOŻNEJ (Football World Cup).

Coin designer: Urszula Walerzak