

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Dewey Section

To: Jonathan Furner, Chair
Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee

Cc: Members of the Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee
Karl E. Debus-López, Chief, U.S. Programs, Law, and Literature Division

From: Michael Panzer, Editor in Chief
Winton E. Matthews, Consulting Assistant Editor
Dewey Decimal Classification
OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc.

Re: Lacrosse and Jai alai

Expansions

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Topic</u>
796.3	796.36	Ball caught and thrown with same equipment

Relocations

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Topic</u>
796.34	796.364	Jai alai
796.347	796.362	Lacrosse

Lacrosse

We received the following e-mail from Pat Riva of the French translation team:

Michel wonders about whether Lacrosse (Canada's actual official sport!) is in the right place in the hierarchy.

It is presently at 796.347, putting it under racquette sports (796.34), but he thinks it is a sport with clubs, mallets, bats etc. (796.35) and also it is a team sport rather than individual. Should it be relocated?

Here is Michel's explanation:

796.347 Crosse (Sport)
Sous 796.34 Jeux avec raquette, ça n'a pas tellement de sens (les autres sports de 796.34 sont: tennis, squash, badminton, ping-pong). La crosse est un sport

d'équipe qui se pratique avec un bâton muni d'un panier pour emprisonner une balle qu'on cherche à faire entrer dans le but adverse, donc beaucoup plus apparenté au hockey, polo, etc. Il devrait être sous 796.35 Jeux avec club, maillet, bâton (batte)

The primary question is whether or not lacrosse is a racket game.

Lacrosse is a team sport played using a small rubber ball (62.8-64.77 mm, 140-147 g) and a long-handled stick called a crosse or lacrosse stick. The head of a lacrosse stick is roughly triangular in shape and is strung with loose netting that allows the ball to be caught, carried (known as "cradling"), and thrown or shot.

Can the lacrosse stick be considered a racket? *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* defines a racket as 1) a light bat consisting of a catgut, nylon, or formerly, cord netting stretched in a somewhat oval open frame with handle attached used for striking the ball in tennis and in similar games and 2) a small round paddle with a squat handle used in table tennis. *The Free Dictionary* defines a racket as a device consisting of an oval or circular frame with a tight interlaced network of strings and a handle, used to strike a ball or shuttlecock in various games. *The Cambridge Dictionaries Online* defines a racket as an object used for hitting the ball in various sports, consisting of a net fixed tightly to a round frame with a long handle. These definitions do not make a lacrosse stick a racket.

The problem is that while *Merriam-Webster Visual Dictionary Online* does not list lacrosse as a racket game. Wikipedia's *List of racquet sports*, *Askaboutsports.com*, and *Racketgames.co.uk*. list it as a racket game (or, racquet game).

There are 536 titles in WorldCat.

Jai alai

Another sport in Wikipedia's *List of racquet sports* and *Racketgames.co.uk* is jai alai. *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* defines jai alai as a game of Basque origin resembling handball and played on a large walled court usually by two or four players who use a long curved wicker basket strapped to the right wrist to catch and hurl the ball (etc.). It is a variant of Basque pelota, which is the name for a variety of court sports played with a ball using one's hand, a racket, a wooden bat, or a basket.

There are 29 titles in WorldCat. Most have been classed in standing room at 796.34.

Proposal

The various categories of 796.3 Ball games, as shown below, are descriptions of how the ball is handled.

796.31	Ball thrown or hit by hand
796.32	Inflated ball thrown or hit by hand

796.33	Inflated ball driven by foot
796.34	Racket games
796.35	Ball driven by club, mallet, bat

None of these categories reflect a sport in which the equipment is used to catch and then throw the ball. Thus, we propose establishing 796.36 with the heading: Ball caught and thrown with same equipment. The two new subentries are Lacrosse at 796.362 and Jai alai at 796.364. Since some reference works consider both of these sports to be racket games, see-also references to both games are added at 796.34 Racket games.

.3 Ball games

Class here comprehensive works on outdoor and indoor ball games

For indoor ball games, see 794.7

SUMMARY

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 796.31 | Ball thrown or hit by hand |
| .32 | Inflated ball thrown or hit by hand |
| .33 | Inflated ball driven by foot |
| .34 | Racket games |
| .35 | Ball driven by club, mallet, bat |
| .36 | Ball caught and thrown with same equipment |
- .34 Racket games
- Including court tennis (royal tennis), paddle tennis
- See also 796.24 for deck tennis; also 796.362 for lacrosse; also 796.364 for jai alai*
- .36 Ball caught and thrown with same equipment
- .362 Lacrosse
- .364 Jai alai

J

P Jai alai 796.364
see also Ball games

L

Lacrosse
I_a Officiating 796.362
Lacrosse (Game) 796.362
see also Ball games