

Sportsman, 1st class badge, Moscow Mint issue, 1950 - 1964.

In brass and enamels; 28.7 mm tall x 27.9 mm wide. The star with a running athlete is a separate superimposed part. Raised mint mark "MMD" (Moscow Mint) on the reverse. This piece exhibits typical high quality of the Soviet mint manufacture of the period.

In outstanding, excellent condition. The enamel is perfect throughout and shows beautiful luster. The details of the wreath are likewise perfect; the original gilt finish on the obverse is pristine and bright. The gilt on the reverse is well preserved with just tiny amount of verdigris which is not detractive. The screw post is full length, nearly 10 mm, and comes with original mint-marked screw plate.

This sportsman qualification badge of "unified" type was preferred and often conferred by the military.

/See Borisov Badges of the Soviet Armed Forces, fig. 199/.

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