

## Netherlands

Four Mail-courses were constructed in the Netherlands in the 17th Century:

1609	The Hague	1092	meters
1637	Amsterdam	650	meters
1637	Leyden	696	meters
1637	Utrecht	752	meters

In the Hague, to suit the tastes of all the players, there was also a Mail-field beside the Mail-course. The field measured 760 by 350 meters and had two trees planted on it near one of the long sides.

The Hague and Leyden had ordinances governing the use of the facilities (see Annexe ).

The course at Utrecht was rated the most beautiful of them all. When in the course of the war between the Netherlands and France the French occupied Utrecht in 1672 and King Louis XIV of France visited that city he much admired the beauty of the Mail-course and expressed regret that it was impossible to take it with him and place it in Versailles. In the first half of the 18th century playing of Mail came to an end in the Netherlands.

In Utrecht the course, now a road, still retains its name 'de Maliebaan'. The Malieveld (Mail-field) in The Hague is still in existence.

All the courses were lined by lanes of trees.

Literature

Nouvelle Règles pone

Joseph Lautier, Le Jeu de Mail  
Charles Hugier, Paris 1717

Académie Universelle des Jeux  
Le Gras, Paris 1718

Sir Samuel Pepys, Diary (1660-1670)  
London, 1825

J. Sudre, le noble Jeu de Mail de la ville de Montpellier  
Aubert, Paris 1844

Jan ter Gouw, De Volksvermaken  
Erven F. Bohn Haarlem, 1871

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX,XXXX

J. H. Kruizinga, Watergraafsmeer 'Amstel's Paradijs'  
Heemkennis, Amsterdam 1948

Survey of London  
Athlone Press, London 1960

Dictionnaire des Jeux  
Editions Tchou, Paris 1964

W. A. G. Perks, Geschiedenis van de Maliebaan  
v/h Kemink & Zoon, Utrecht 1970