

# Preface

RoboCup-98, the Second Robot World Cup Soccer Games and Conferences, was held on July 2-9, 1998 at La Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie (La Cité) in Paris, the same city where the real world cup finals were being held at almost the same time. This book is the second official archival publication of the long range international research initiative, mainly focusing on the papers discussed at the Second International Workshop on RoboCup on July 2,3, and 9, 1998.

This book consists of three parts: overview and award papers, technical papers on focused topics, and team descriptions. The overview paper provides overall perspectives including the differences from the first RoboCup-97 and challenging issues. The award papers consist of scientific award ones and champion team description ones in all the competition leagues. In RoboCup-98, the Scientific Challenge Award was given to three research groups for their simultaneous development of fully automatic commentator systems for the RoboCup simulator league. Technical papers focused on topics related to infrastructure, basic skills of players, teamwork and evaluation, learning and evolution, and real robot perception, mechanism, and integration. The team description papers address the technical and strategic aspects of participating teams. They consist of four parts: three of them are official RoboCup leagues and the final one is Sony legged robot league which was held as an exhibition game and demonstration. RoboCup-99 will have it as an official league with more than three teams from RoboCup-98. Authors were requested to include an analysis of their team on the results of RoboCup-97. Also, for editing reasons, some papers on their team description are included in the corresponding technical papers. Therefore, team description parts do not involve all participating team descriptions. We hope this volume contributes to the progress of the field, and to the accomplishment of our dream some day.

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Minoru Asada and Hiroaki Kitano

# **RoboCup-98 Organization**

## **Organized by**

Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris-6)

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)

## **Supported by**

La Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie (La Cité)

Centre de Robotique Intégrée d'Ile de France (CRIIF)

European Community (EC)

Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc.

## **RoboCup World Wide Sponsors:**

Sony Corporation

NAMCO Limited

SUNX Limited

## **Official Supplier:**

Molten Corporation (Balls for the middle-size league)