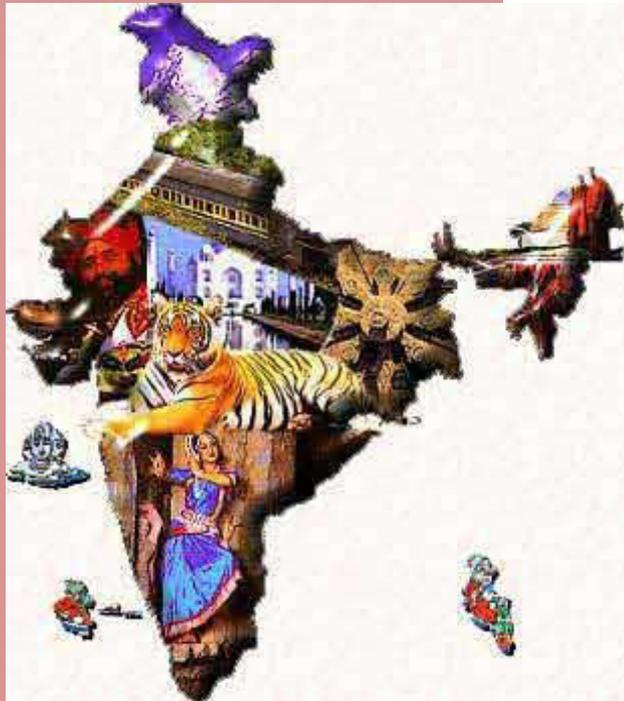


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Olympic Games

The Olympic Games are an international sports festival, held every four years. The ultimate goals are to cultivate human beings, through sport, and contribute to world peace. Summer Games and Winter Games are held separately.

The Ancient Olympic Games

The first recorded ancient Olympic Games were held in 776 BC. They continued to be celebrated about every four years, until the emperor Theodosius I suppressed them in 394 AD.

- Only free men (not slaves) who spoke Greek could compete, rather than athletes from any country as in the modern Olympics.
- The games were always held at Olympia instead of moving around to different host cities every time as in the modern Olympic Games.
- At the first recorded ancient Olympic Games, there was only one event - the stade. The stade was a unit of measurement (about 600 feet) that also became the name of the footrace because it was the distance run. Since the track for the stade (race) was a stade (length), the location of the race became the stadium. (see more about the events of the ancient Olympics).
- The early Olympic Games were celebrated as a religious festival from 776 B.C. until 393 A.D., when the games were banned for being a pagan festival (the Olympics celebrated the Greek god Zeus).
- Athletes in the ancient Olympic Games would participate in the nude. The word "gymnasium" comes from the Greek root "gymnos" meaning nude; the literal meaning of "gymnasium" is "school for naked exercise".

Ancient Olympic Events

At the ancient Olympics, unlike the modern Games, there were very few events. All events were held at the Olympia Stadium in Greece. Only men competed in the Ancient Olympics, and they competed in the nude.

- **Boxing:** Boxers fought until one man was knocked out, or admitted he had been beaten. Unlike the modern sport, there were no rounds, and there was no rule against hitting an opponent when he was down.
- **Pankration:** Like a combination of boxing and wrestling, in this event the combatants were allowed to punch, though biting and gouging an opponent's eyes, nose, or mouth with fingernails was not allowed.
- **Wrestling:** This event was similar to the modern sport - with three successful throws necessary to win a match. An athlete needed to throw his opponent on the ground, landing on a hip, shoulder, or back for a fair fall. Biting and genital holds were illegal.
- **Running:** There were 4 types of races at Olympia. The oldest event is the stadion, in which the runners sprinted over the distance of 1 stade (192 m), which is the length of the ancient stadium in Olympic. They also raced over 2-stade race (384 m), and a long-distance run which ranged from 7 to 24 stades (1,344 m to 4,608 m). There was no marathon race, as this was made up for the modern Olympics. They did, however, have a grueling event held over 2 to 4-stade with the competitors wearing armor.
- **Equestrian events:** There were both chariot racing and riding events. The chariot races were held over 12 laps of the stadium (about 9 miles), and included both 2-horse and 4-horse races, a race for chariots drawn by foals and mules. In the riding events, held over 6 laps around the track (about 4.5 miles), the jockeys rode bareback. There were separate races for adult horses and foals.
- **Pentathlon:** This event involved a combination of five separate disciplines: Discus, Javelin, Jump, Running, and Wrestling. The running (stadion) and wrestling events were as described above. The discus was similar to the modern event, with the implement made from stone, iron, bronze, or lead. The javelin event was also similar to the modern event, though the javelin was made of wood and had a thong for attaching the thrower's fingers. In the jumping event, the participants held onto lead or stone jump weights (called halteres) which were thrown backwards during the jump to propel them forward and increase the length of their jump.

History of the Modern Olympics

MODERN OLYMPICS: It was the French nobleman, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, who (nearly over 1500 years after the last ancient Olympics) revived these games in 1894. During a conference at Sorbonne, held on 23 June 1894 where 13 countries participated, a resolution was passed to revive these games and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) was formed at Pairs with its headquarters at Mon Repos, Lausanne (Switzerland).

The IOC, originally, had a membership of only 15 in 1894, representing 12 nations. It has now a membership of about 171 nations. The modern series of the Olympic games started in 1896 at Athens and since then are held every four years.

The Olympic Motto

The Olympic motto is "Citius, Altius, Fortius." These three Latin words mean "Swifter, Higher, Stronger." Baron de Coubertin borrowed the motto from Father Henri Martin Dideon, the headmaster of Arcueil College in Paris. Father Dideon used the motto to describe the great achievements of the athletes at his school. Coubertin felt it could be used to describe the goals of great athletes all over the World.

EMBLEM AND FLAG

Motto : "Citius, Altius, Fortius". These are Latin words, which mean 'Swifter, Higher and Stronger'. It was composed in 1897 by Rev. Father Didon, a friend of Baron Pierre de Coubertin,

Colour of Ring	Continent Represented
Blue ring	Europe
Yellow ring	Asia
Black ring	Africa
Red ring	America
Green ring	Oceania

and introduced in the 1920 games for the first time.

Emblem : Is composed of five inter-twined rings, each of a different colour, representing five continents of the world. It is placed in the centre of the Olympic Flag.

Flag : The Olympic flag is white in colour (originally made of cotton) 3m×2m. The emblem placed in the middle is 206cm×60cm. The flag was designed by Coubertin himself in 1913 and it was first hosted in 1920 at the Antwerp Games and the motto was then added to it.

Epigram : "The essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting well". The epigram was given by the Bishop of Pennsylvania in 1908. It means the importance of the Olympics is not the winning but taking part in it. The torch used to kindle the flame is first lit by the sun's

rays at the shrine of Zeus (Greece). It is then carried overland by a relay of runners to the site of the games and placed in a bowl during the period of the Games.

The Olympic Torch Relay : The practice of Torch Relay from Olympia (Greece) to the venue of the Games was first introduced by German Olympic Committee for the Berlin Games in 1936 and, has since become part of the Olympic games.

Medals : The medal is about 60 mm in diameter and 3 mm in thickness. The Gold and Silver medals are both made of 92.5% pure silver. However the Gold medal is plated with 6 gm, of pure gold. The third-position medal is made of bronze in addition to prizes given to athletes. There are certain awards and trophies which are awarded to those who promote, the cause of Olympics, as given below.

The Olympic Order : Instituted in 1974, the Olympic Order is a gold, silver or bronze decoration, awarded to a person who has rendered outstanding services or displayed the Olympic ideals. Mrs. Indira Gandhi was awarded this Order in 1983 by the IOC for her contribution to the organisation of the New Delhi Asiad (1982).

The Olympic Cup : Instituted in 1906, by Coubertin. Its reproduction is awarded to an institution which contributes to the development of sports in general and the Olympic movement in particular. The original cup remains at the Chateau de vivy in France.

Sir Thomas Fearnley Cup : Awarded to a club or a local sport association for remarkable achievement in the service of the Olympics. It was instituted in 1950 by Sir Thomas Fearnley, a former IOC member.

Mohammed Toher Trophy : Awarded to an amateur athlete, not necessarily an Olympian. It was instituted in 1950 by the former IOC member Mohammed Toher.

Count Alberta Bonacossa Trophy : Awarded to a National Olympic Committee for outstanding work. It was instituted in 1954 by the Italian National Olympic Committee in honour of its IOC member Count Alberto Bonacossa.

Tokyo Trophy : It is given for exemplary conduct and displayed by an athlete during the Games. It was instituted in 1964 and presented by Tokyo City.

Oath: An athlete of the host country recites the following at the opening ceremony. 'In the name of all competitors, I promise that we will take part in these Olympic Games respecting

and abiding by the rules which govern them, in the true spirit of sportsmanship for the glory of sport and the honour of our terms.

Both the oath and the creed were composed by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of modern Olympics.

List of Olympic mascots

The **Olympic mascots** are fictional characters, usually an animal native to the area or human figures, who represent the cultural heritage of the place where the Olympic and Paralympic Games are taking place. The mascots are often used to help market the Olympic Games to a younger audience, in particular toddlers and children. Ever since the 1968 Winter Olympics in Grenoble, France, the Olympic Games have always had a mascot. The first major mascot in the Summer Olympic Games was Misha in the 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow. Starting with the 2010 Vancouver mascots, the Olympic and Paralympic mascots have been presented together.

The first Olympic mascot was born at the Grenoble Olympic Games in 1968. It was named "Schuss" and it was a little man on skis, designed in an abstract form and painted in the colors of France: blue, red and white.^[1] However, the first official Olympic mascot appeared in the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich. It was Waldi, a Dachshund dog, a popular breed in Bavaria and it represented the attributes required for athletes – resistance, tenacity and agility. On it we can see three of the colors of the Olympic flag (blue, yellow, green).^{[1][2][3]}

The success of those first mascots helped the idea of a mascot become a symbol of the Olympic Games and developed into an institution. Mascots are very popular and despite the importance of the message they convey, they are designed in simple manner with bright, happy colors appropriate for the ‘festive’ atmosphere of the Olympic Games.

The mascots for the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, were Phevos and Athena, two dolls inspired by a bell-shaped archaic sculpture that is on display at the National Archaeological Museum of Athens. In ancient times, these dolls, the ‘daidala’, as they were called, were also items of worship as well as toys. Phevos and Athena are brother and sister and so they symbolize the joy of play and the values of Olympism. The choice of a brother and sister was purposely made to promote the values of equality and brotherhood.

Olympic mascots

<i>Games</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Mascot</i>	<i>Character</i>
1968 Winter Olympics	Grenoble	Schuss	Stylized skier
1972 Summer Olympics	Munich	Waldi	Dachshunddog
1976 Winter Olympics	Innsbruck	Schneemann	Snowman
1976 Summer Olympics	Montreal	Amik	Beaver
1980 Winter Olympics	Lake Placid	Roni	Raccoon
1980 Summer Olympics	Moscow	Misha	Bear cub
1984 Winter Olympics	Sarajevo	Vučko	Little wolf
1984 Summer Olympics	Los Angeles	Sam	Bald eagle
1988 Winter Olympics	Calgary	Hidy and Howdy	Two polar bears
1988 Summer Olympics	Seoul	Hodori	Tiger cub

1992 Winter Olympics	Albertville	Magique	Man-star/snow imp
1992 Summer Olympics	Barcelona	Cobi	A Catalan sheepdog
1994 Winter Olympics	Lillehammer	Håkon and Kristin	Two Norwegian children
1996 Summer Olympics	Atlanta	Izzy	An abstract figure (an alien)
1998 Winter Olympics	Nagano	<i>The Snowlets:</i> Sukki, Nokki, Lekki and Tsukki	Four owls
		Olly (from "Olympic")	Kookaburra
2000 Summer Olympics	Sydney	Syd (from "Sydney")	Platypus
		Millie (from "Millennium")	Echidna
		Powder (a.k.a. <i>Swifter</i>)	Snowshoe hare
2002 Winter Olympics	Salt Lake City	Copper (a.k.a. <i>Higher</i>)	Coyote
		Coal (a.k.a. <i>Stronger</i>)	American black bear
2004 Summer Olympics	Athens	Athena and Phevos	Brother and sister
2006 Winter Olympics	Turin	Neve and Gliz	A humanized snowball and ice cube
2008 Summer Olympics	Beijing	<i>The Fuwa:</i> Beibei, Jingjing, Huanhuan, Yingying, Nini	Fish, giant panda, Olympic Flame, Tibetan antelope, swallow
2010 Winter Olympics	Vancouver	Miga	Mythical sea bear
		Quatchi	A sasquatch
		Mukmuk	A Vancouver Island marmot
2012 Summer Olympics	London	Wenlock ^[6]	Drops of steel with cameras for eyes.
2014 Winter Olympics	Sochi	Bely Mishka (Polar Bear), Snow Leopard (leopard), Zaika (the dore hare)	
2016 Summer Olympics	Rio de Janeiro	Vinicius	An animal representing all Brazilian mammals
2018 Winter Olympics	Pyeongchang	Soohorang	A white tiger
2020 Summer Olympics	Tokyo	???	A figure with blue chequered patterns from the official emblem

Olympic Medal

Olympic medal is awarded to successful competitors at one of the Olympic Games. There are three classes of medal: gold, awarded to the winner; silver, awarded to the 1st runner-up and bronze, awarded to the second runner-up. The granting of awards is laid out in detail in the Olympic protocols.

Medal designs have varied considerably since the first Olympic Games in 1896, particularly in size and weight. A standard obverse (front) design of the medals for the Summer Olympic Games began in 1928 and remained for many years, until its replacement at the 2004 Games as the result of controversy surrounding the use of the Roman Colosseum rather than a building representing the Games' Greek roots. The medals of the Winter Olympic Games never had a common design, but regularly feature snowflakes and the event where the medal has been won.

In addition to generally supporting their Olympic athletes, some countries provide sums of money and gifts to medal winners, depending on the classes and number of medals won.

Summer Olympic medal designs

Games	Host	Diameter (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Weight (g)
1896	Athens, Greece	48	3.8	47
1900	Paris, France	59 x 41	3.2	53
1904	St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.	37.8	3.5	21
1908	London, Great Britain	33	4.4	21
1912	Stockholm, Sweden	33.4	1.5	24
1920	Antwerp, Belgium	59	4.4	79
1924	Paris, France	55	4.8	79
1928	Amsterdam, Netherlands	55	3	66
1932	Los Angeles, U.S.	55.3	5.7	96
1936	Berlin, Germany	55	5	71
1948	London, Great Britain	51.4	5.1	60
1952	Helsinki, Finland	51	4.8	46.5
1956	Melbourne, Australia	51	4.8	68
1960	Rome, Italy	68	6.5	211
1964	Tokyo, Japan	60	7.5	62
1968	Mexico City, Mexico	60	6	130
1972	Munich, Germany	66	6.5	102
1976	Montreal, Quebec, Canada	60	5.8	154
1980	Moscow, Russia	60	6.8	125
1984	Los Angeles, U.S.	60	7.9	141
1988	Seoul, South Korea	60	7	152
1992	Barcelona, Spain	70	9.8	231
1996	Atlanta, U.S.	70	5	181
2000	Sydney, Australia	68	5	180
2004	Athens, Greece	60	5	135
2008	Beijing, China	70	6	200

2012	London, United Kingdom	85	8–10	357–412 ^[20]
2016	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	85	6-11 ^[22]	500 ^[23]

List of Olympic Host Cities

Olympiad	Year	Host City, Country
I	1896	Athens, Greece
II	1900	Paris, France
III	1904	St Louis, USA
	1906	Athens, Greece
IV	1908	London, England, UK
V	1912	Stockholm, Sweden
VI	1916	Berlin, Germany (not held)
VII	1920	Antwerp, Belgium
VIII	1924	Paris, France
IX	1928	Amsterdam, Holland
X	1932	Los Angeles, USA
XI	1936	Berlin, Germany
XII	1940	Tokyo, Japan / Helsinki, Finland (not held)
XIII	1944	London, England, UK (not held)
XIV	1948	London, England, UK
XV	1952	Helsinki, Finland
XVI	1956	Melbourne, Australia
XVII	1960	Rome, Italy
XVIII	1964	Tokyo, Japan
XIX	1968	Mexico City, Mexico
XX	1972	Munich, Germany
XXI	1976	Montreal, Canada
XXII	1980	Moscow, USSR
XXIII	1984	Los Angeles, USA
XXIV	1988	Seoul, South Korea
XXV	1992	Barcelona, Spain
XXVI	1996	Atlanta, USA
XXVII	2000	Sydney, Australia
XXVIII	2004	Athens, Greece
XXIX	2008	Beijing, China
XXX	2012	London, England, UK
XXXI	2016	Rio, Brazil
XXXII	2020	Tokyo, Japan
XXXIII	2024	Paris, France
LXIV	2028	LA, USA

India at Olympics

At the 2008 Beijing Olympics, Abhinav Bindra won gold in the Men's 10 metre air rifle event becoming the first Indian to win an individual gold medal at the Olympic Games. Vijender Singh got the country's first medal in boxing with his bronze medal in Middleweight category.

The 2012 Summer Olympics saw an 83-member Indian contingent participating in the games and setting a new best for the country with a total of six medals. Wrestler Sushil Kumar became the first Indian with multiple individual Olympic medals (bronze at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and silver at the 2012 Summer Olympics) since Norman Pritchard in 1900. Saina Nehwal won bronze medal in badminton in Women's singles getting the country's first Olympic medal in badminton. Pugilist Mary Kom became the first Indian woman to win a medal in boxing with her bronze medal finish in Women's flyweight category.

At the 2016 Summer Olympics, a record number of 118 athletes competed. Sakshi Malik became the first Indian woman wrestler to win an Olympic medal with her bronze medal finish in Women's freestyle 58 kg category. Shuttler P. V. Sindhu became the first Indian woman to win a silver medal in Olympics and also the youngest Indian Olympic medallist.

Games	Sports	Men	Women	Total	Change	1 Gold	2 Silver	3 Bronze	Total	Change
1900	1	1	0	1	NA	0	2	0	2	NA
1920	2	6	0	6	+5	0	0	0	0	-2
1924	2	13	2	15	+8	0	0	0	0	0
1928	2	21	0	21	+7	1	0	0	1	+1
1932	3	30	0	30	+9	1	0	0	1	0
1936	3-4	27	0	27	-3	1	0	0	1	0
1948	10	79	0	79	+52	1	0	0	1	0
1952	11	60	4	64	-15	1	0	1	2	+1
1956	8	58	1	59	-5	1	0	0	1	-1
1960	6	45	0	45	-14	0	1	0	1	0
1964	8	52	1	53	+8	1	0	0	1	0
1968	5	25	0	25	-28	0	0	1	1	0
1972	7	40	1	41	+16	0	0	1	1	0
1976	2	20	0	20	-21	0	0	0	0	-1
1980	1	58	18	76	+56	1	0	0	1	+1
1984				48	-28	0	0	0	0	-1
1988	7			46	-2	0	0	0	0	0
1992	5			53	+7	0	0	0	0	0
1996	13	44	4	49	-4	0	0	1	1	+1
2000	7			65	+16	0	0	1	1	0
2004	14	48	25	73	+8	0	1	0	1	0
2008	12	31	25	56	-17	1	0	2	3	+2
2012	13	60	23	83	+27	0	2	4	6	+3
2016	15	66	54	118	+35	0	1	1	2	-4

List of Indian Medal Winners

Medal	Name/Team	Games	Sport	Event
Silver	Norman Pritchard	1900 Paris	Athletics	Men's 200 metres
Silver	Norman Pritchard	1900 Paris	Athletics	Men's 200 metre hurdles
Gold	National team	1928 Amsterdam	Field hockey	Men's competition
Gold	National team	1932 Los Angeles	Field hockey	Men's competition
Gold	National team	1936 Berlin	Field hockey	Men's competition
Gold	National team	1948 London	Field hockey	Men's competition
Gold	National team	1952 Helsinki	Field hockey	Men's competition
Bronze	Khashaba Dadasaheb Jadhav	1952 Helsinki	Wrestling	Men's freestyle bantamweight
Gold	National team	1956 Melbourne	Field hockey	Men's competition
Silver	National team	1960 Rome	Field hockey	Men's competition
Gold	National team	1964 Tokyo	Field hockey	Men's competition
Bronze	National team	1968 Mexico City	Field hockey	Men's competition
Bronze	National team	1972 Munich	Field hockey	Men's competition
Gold	National team	1980 Moscow	Field hockey	Men's competition
Bronze	Leander Paes	1996 Atlanta	Tennis	Men's singles
Bronze	Karnam Malleswari	2000 Sydney	Weightlifting	Women's 69 kg
Silver	Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore	2004 Athens	Shooting	Men's double trap
Gold	Abhinav Bindra	2008 Beijing	Shooting	Men's 10 m Air Rifle
Bronze	Vijender Singh	2008 Beijing	Boxing	Middleweight
Bronze	Sushil Kumar	2008 Beijing	Wrestling	Men's freestyle 66 kg
Silver	Vijay Kumar	2012 London	Shooting	Men's 25 Rapid Fire Pistol
Silver	Sushil Kumar	2012 London	Wrestling	Men's freestyle 66 kg
Bronze	Saina Nehwal	2012 London	Badminton	Women's singles
Bronze	Mary Kom	2012 London	Boxing	Women's flyweight
Bronze	Gagan Narang	2012 London	Shooting	Men's 10m Air Rifle
Bronze	Yogeshwar Dutt	2012 London	Wrestling	Men's freestyle 60 kg
Silver	P. V. Sindhu	2016 Rio de Janeiro	Badminton	Women's singles
Bronze	Sakshi Malik	2016 Rio de Janeiro	Wrestling	Women's freestyle 58 kg

Significant Athletes and Performances

- Hélène de Pourtalès — the first female Olympic medalist
- Bob Beamon — his 1968 long jump is regarded as the most exceptional single performance in the history of athletics

- Eric the Eel — at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, the slowest swimmer Eric Moussambani made quite a splash.
- Dimitrios Loundras — the youngest ever Olympian.
- Carl Schuhman — the most versatile athlete in the Olympics
- Frank Kugler — the only competitor to win a medal in three different sports at the same Games.

Some of the Greatest

- Usain Bolt — the world's fastest man
- Michael Phelps — winner of the most Olympic medals.
- Jesse Owens — ground breaking sprinter who competed at the Olympics just once, in 1936. He won 4 gold medals.
- Carl Lewis — US track and field star from the '80s and '90s. He won 10 Olympic medals for the U.S., nine of them gold, in the 100 meters, 200 meters and long jump in the '80s and '90s. The International Olympic Committee named him "Sportsman of the Century," and Sports Illustrated called him "Olympian of the Century."
- Steve Redgrave — five straight golds in rowing: 1984, 88, 92, 96 & 2000.
- Mark Spitz — 9 gold medals in swimming, as well as a silver and a bronze. He set world records in every event he competed in Munich, then retired from swimming at age 22.
- Larissa Latynina — Soviet gymnast from the 1950s and '60s. She won 18 medals, 14 of these in individual competition.
- Paavo Nurmi - won a total of 12 medals (nine gold and three silver medals) in twelve events he participated in the Olympiad
- Jim Thorpe (athletics) — all rounder in track and field.
- Paavo Nurmi — Finnish middle-distance runner from the 1920s, winner of 12 medals in track and field (9 of them gold).
- Nadia Comaneci — gymnast mostly known for achieving perfect 10s. She won nine Olympic medals in her two Games in 1976 and 1980.

- Birgit Fischer — won 12 Olympic canoeing medals between 1980 and 2004. She is both the youngest (18) and oldest (42) Olympic canoeing champion.
- Emil Zatopek — a Czech long distance runner. He won the 5000m, 10,000m and marathon in 1952, including breaking the Olympic record in all three events despite it being his first ever marathon.
- Edoardo Mangiarotti - an Italian Olympic fencing champion who piled up a medal haul of six gold, five silver and two bronze from 1936 to 1956.
- Ray Ewry (athletics) — won eight gold medals in individual competitions
- Marion Jones (athletics)
- Ian Thorpe (swimming)
- Aladar Gerevich - hailed as the greatest swordsman in the Olympics of all-time
- Mark Spitz (swimming)
- Sawao Kato - gymnast who took home 12 Olympic medals (8 of them gold) from 1968 to 1976
- Reiner Klimke - an equestrian who won eight medals (six gold and two bronze) at the Olympics
- Gert Fredriksson - the most successful athlete of all-time in Olympic canoeing

Women at the Olympic Games

- At the first modern Olympic Games in Athens **1896**, no women competed, as de Coubertin felt that their inclusion would be "impractical, uninteresting, unaesthetic, and incorrect."
- Women first competed at the **1900** Paris Games. Women were allowed to compete in lawn tennis and golf, though there were three French women competing in croquet and there was at least one woman sailor as part of mixed crews. It is commonly believed that first woman to win an Olympic event was England's Charlotte Cooper, who won the tennis singles title, however Swiss sailor H  l  ne de Pourtal  s won a gold medal as part of a team in sailing earlier than this. (see more firsts, and more on Pourtal  s)

- Here are the first women competitors in the Modern Olympic Games of **1900**, in chronological order were
 - May 22 - Helen de Pourtales, Switzerland (Yachting)
 - May 31 - Elvira Guerra, France (Equestrian). There may have been another woman also competing in the equestrian events.
 - Jun 28 - Mme Ohnier, Madame Depres, and Mme Filleaul Brohy, France (Croquet)
 - July 11 - winner Charlotte Cooper, Great Britain (Tennis) plus other female competitors.
 - Oct 3 - winner Margaret Abbott, USA (Golf) plus other female competitors.
- Women competed in swimming events for the first time in **1912**, but none of them were from America, which did not allow its female athletes to compete in events without long skirts. The first women's swimming gold medal was won by the Australian Sarah 'Fanny' Durack, who won the 100m freestyle in 1912.
- In **1928**, women competed in track and field events for the first time; however, so many collapsed at the end of the 800-meter race that the event was banned until 1960.
- Women's shooting events were first included in the Olympics in **1984**. There were three events, three position rifle, air rifle and sport pistol.
- The first Arab Muslim woman to claim an Olympic gold medal was Morocco's Nawal El Moutawakel when she won the women's 400 metres hurdles at LA **1984**.
- In **1996**, a women's only sport was introduced - Softball (softball is no longer part of the Olympic program)
- The **2000** Olympics was the first time that women were allowed to compete in the Olympics in weightlifting.
- A women's wrestling competition was introduced in **2004**. Women compete in freestyle wrestling, but not greco-roman.
- There are only two Olympic sports where men and women compete directly against each other; equestrian and sailing, though in sailing it is now only in one event.

Tennis (in early Games in since 2012) and Badminton (since 1996) have mixed doubles events.

- Qatar, Brunei and Saudi Arabic all sent female participants to the London **2012** Olympic Games, meaning now every national Olympic committee will have sent women to the Olympic Games.
- With the addition of women's boxing at the **2012** London Games, there are men and women competing in all Olympic sports. However, there are still two sporting *disciplines* that are solely for women: synchronized swimming and rhythmic gymnastics.
- In cycling in **2012**, for the first time men and women competed in the same number of events in all cycling disciplines. However, women have shorter distances for some events.
- In Rio **2016**, 44% of medals were awarded in women's events, the highest ever. In 1984, the figure was only just over 25%.

Olympic Sports

After the 2008 Olympics the sports of Baseball and Softball were dropped from the program. In August 2009 the International Olympic Committee (IOC) voted on the two sports to be added to the program for Rio 2016. There was a list of seven sports that they chose from: golf, rugby union, roller sports, karate, softball, baseball and squash. They selected golf and rugby union.

There are many other possible new sports for future Games. In February 2013, wrestling was dropped from the core sports list, and joined with baseball and softball (joint bid), climbing, karate, roller sport, squash, wakeboard and wushu to attempt to gain a place on the program for 2020. In May 2013 the IOC cut Karate, roller sports, sport climbing, wakeboarding and wushu from this list, leaving Baseball-softball, squash and wrestling to be shortlisted. Then in September 2013, they voted to return wrestling to the list of sports for the 2020 Olympic program. In 2015, further voting was held for the inclusion of more sports

2020 Summer Olympic Sports

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------|
| ○ archery | ○ cycling (track, road, mountain, BMX) | ○ handball |
| ○ badminton | ○ diving | ○ judo |
| ○ baseball and softball | ○ equestrian (dressage, jumping and eventing) | ○ karate |
| ○ basketball | ○ fencing | ○ modern pentathlon |
| ○ beach volleyball | ○ field hockey | ○ roller sport |
| ○ boxing | ○ golf | ○ rowing |
| ○ canoe / kayak | ○ gymnastics | ○ rugby 7s |
| ○ climbing | | ○ sailing |
| | | ○ shooting |

- soccer / football
- swimming
- surfing
- synchronized swimming
- table tennis
- taekwondo
- tennis
- track and field
- triathlon
- volleyball (indoor)
- water polo
- weightlifting
- wrestling

Recently Added Sports

- baseball and softball (added for 2020)
- karate (added for 2020)
- roller sport (added for 2020)
- climbing (added for 2020)
- surfing (added for 2020)
- golf (in 2016)
- rugby union (in 2016)

Recently Removed Sports

- baseball (in 2008)
- softball (in 2008)

Rio Olympics Games 2016 - At A Glance

The 2016 Rio Olympics were declared closed on today by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach, following a ceremony which culminated in the handover of the Olympic flag to 2020 hosts Tokyo. The 2016 Games, which were the first to be held in South America, saw 11,000 athletes from 207 National Olympic Committees compete for 306 sets of medals. Today we are presenting a short note on Rio Olympic Games 2016.

- **Edition:** 31st
- **Opening Ceremony:** 5th August, 2016
- **Closing Ceremony:** 22nd August, 2016
- **Theme:** World Peace and Environment
- **Motto:** A New World
- **Mascot:** Vinicius
- **Total Participating Nations:** 207
- **Total Events:** 306
- **Total Sports Category:** 28
- **1st Time Participating Country:** Kosovo, South Sudan
- **New Sports Event:** Golf, Rugby
- **Headquarter of International Olympic Committee (IOC):** Lausanne, Switzerland
- **President of International Olympic Committee (IOC):** Thomas Bach
- **1st Indian Women Member:** Nita Ambani
- **India's Flag-bearer at Opening Ceremony:** Abhinav Bindra
- **India's Flag-bearer at Closing Ceremony:** Sakshi Malik

- **Number of Indian Athletes:** 117
- **Largest Olympic Team of 2016 Rio Olympics:** USA (554 athletes)
- **Smallest Olympic Team of 2016 Rio Olympics:** South Pacific Nation of Tuvalu (1 athletes)
- **1st Gold Medal at Rio Olympic:** Virginia Thrasher (Women's 10 meter air rifle, USA)
- **1st Indian Medalist at Rio:** Sakshi Malik (Bronze, 58 Kg Freestyle Wrestling)
- **2nd Indian Medalist at Rio:** P. V. Sindhu (Silver, Women's Single Badminton)
- **Highest Individual Medal:** Michael Phelps (6 Medals: Gold- 5, Silver-1, USA)
- **Youngest Gold Medal:** Ren Qian (15-Year Old, Women's 10m Platform Diving Event)
- **Youngest athlete of 2016 Rio Olympics:** Meet Gaurika Singh (13-Year Old, Swimmer, Nepal)
- **Next Olympic Venue:** Tokyo, 2020
- **Headquarter of Indian Olympic Association (IOA):** New Delhi
- **President of Indian Olympic Association (IOA):** Narayana Ramachandran
- **General Secretary of Indian Olympic Association (IOA):** Rajeev Mehta
- **Opening & Closing Ceremony:** Maracanã Stadium, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Medal Standings of Rio Olympic 2016

Ranking	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	USA	46	37	38	121
2	Great Britain	27	23	17	67
3	China	26	18	26	70
4	Russia	19	18	19	56
5	Germany	17	10	15	42
6	Japan	12	8	21	41
7	France	10	18	14	42
8	South Korea	9	3	9	21
9	Italy	8	12	9	28
10	Australia	8	11	10	29
67	India	0	1	1	2

KNOW IT

Rio city is located in which country - **Brazil**

The **opening ceremony** of 2016 Rio Olympics was held - **Maracana Stadium**

2016 Rio Olympic cauldron was lit by - **Vanderlei de Lima**

Official theme song of 2016 Rio Olympics was "**Alma e Coração**" (**Soul and Heart**)

Official **mascot** of Rio Olympics 2016 - **Vinicius**

The name of the Olympic mascot pays tribute to Brazilian musician **Vinicius de Moraes**.

Official **moto** of Rio Olympics 2016 - **A new World**

Logo of Rio Olympics is taken from **Henri Matisse's Dance Painting** Made by **Fred Gelli**.

India's flag bearer during parade at 2016 Rio Olympics opening ceremony was - **Abhinav Bindra**

India's flag bearer during parade at 2016 Rio Olympics Closing ceremony was - **Shakshi Malik**

In Rio Olympics total **65 Olympics Records** Broked and **16 World Records** Broked

First gold medal of the 2016 Rio Olympics was won by - **Ginny Thrasher of USA** - In women's 10-meter air rifle event.

Team taken first time as part in the Olympics Games in 2016 Rio Olympics are- **Kosovo and South Sudan**

Largest Olympic team of 2016 Rio Olympics is - The United States (554 athletes)

Smallest Olympic team of 2016 Rio Olympics is - **South Pacific nation of Tuvalu (1 athletes)**

Youngest athlete of 2016 Rio Olympics -**Meet Gaurika Singh** of Nepal age 13 years 255 days (Swimming)

The two new sports for 2016 Olympic Games are - **Golf and Rugby** sevens

Total number of athletes from Indian in Rio Olympics 2016 - **124 athletes**

In Rio Olympics 2016 India got total two 2 medals and got **67th place in Medal tally.**

PV Sindhu won Silver medal in badminton and **Sakshi Malik** won Bronze in 58 kg free style wrestling.

Michael Phelps (Swimmer of USA) won **5 Gold and 1 Silver** medal in Rio Olympics 2016 whereas he had got total 28 medals including 23 Golds Olympic medals in his career.

Katie ledeckey (Women Swimmer of USA) won 4 Gold and 1 silver medal in Rio Olympics 2016.

In Football Brazil got Gold after defeating Germany by penalty shoot out in Rio Olympics 2016. Final shoot was taken by **Nemar.**

In **Tennis Andy murry** won gold in men's and **Monica Puig** won in women's category.

In Medal Tally USA was in top having **46 Gold 36 Silver and 37 Bronze(total 119 medal).** Britain got second place and china got third.

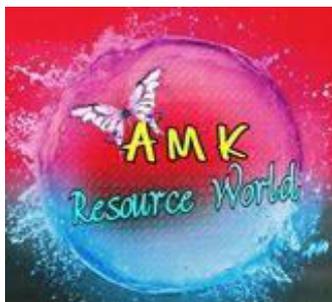
Fiji, Jordan and Kosovo got their 1st ever medal of in Olympics.

Alzadeh zenoorin is **first Iranian woman to win Olympic medal.** she got it in tackwondo.

The 2016 Rio Olympic program features 28 sports and a total of 41 disciplines and 306 events.

Next Summer Olympic will held in **2020 at Tokyo** (Japan)

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