



OLYMPIC GAMES



PARIS

May 14 - October 28, 1900



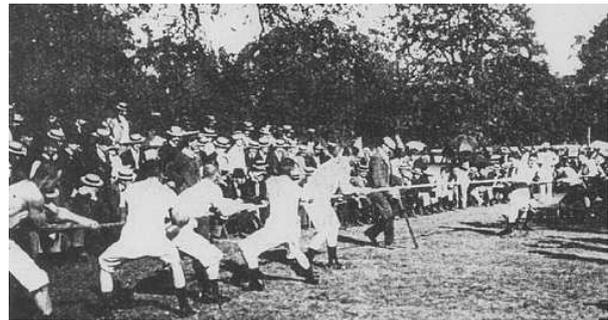
Unusual Olympics

The 1900 Summer Olympics are now officially known as the Games of the II Olympiad. It was an international multi-sport event that took place in Paris in 1900. There were no opening or closing ceremonies were held. Competitions began on May 14 and ended on October 28. The Games were held as part of the 1900 World's Fair. In total, 997 competitors took part in 19 different sports. This number relies on certain assumptions about which events were and were not "Olympic". Many athletes, among them some who won events, didn't know that they had competed in the Olympic Games. Women took part in the games for the first time, and sailor Hélène de Pourtales became the first female Olympic champion. The decision to hold competitions on Sundays brought protests from many American athletes, who travelled as representatives of their colleges and were expected to withdraw rather than compete on their religious day of rest.

At the Sorbonne conference of 1894, Pierre de Coubertin proposed that the Olympic Games should take place in 1900 in Paris. The delegates to the conference were unwilling to wait six years and lobbied to hold the first games in 1896. A decision was

made to hold the first Olympic Games in 1896 in Athens and that Paris would host the second celebration.

Most of the winners in 1900 did not receive medals, but were given cups or trophies. Professionals competed in fencing and Albert Robert Ayat (France), who won the



épée for amateurs and masters, was awarded a prize of 3000 francs.

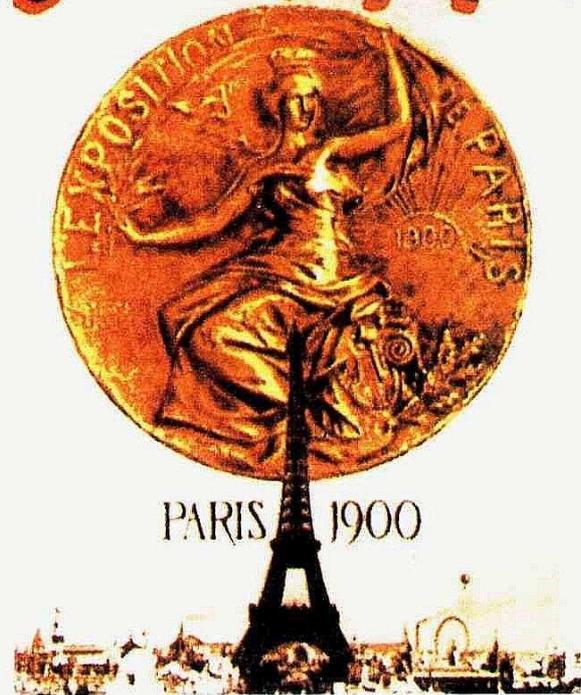
Some unusual events were contested for the only time in the history of the Games, including automobile and motorcycle racing, ballooning, cricket, croquet, Basque pelota, and 200m swimming obstacle race and underwater swimming. This was also the only Olympic Games in history to use live animals (pigeons) as targets during the shooting event.

Based on www.wikipedia.org



Funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Jeux Olympiques



- Athletics (23 events)
- Basque pelota (1 event)
- Cricket (1 event)
- Croquet (3 events)
- Cycling (3 events)
- Equestrian (5 events)
- Fencing (7 events)
- Football (1 event)
- Golf (2 events)
- Gymnastics (1 event)
- Polo (1 event)
- Rowing (5 events)
- Rugby union (1 event)
- Sailing (13 events)
- Shooting (9 events)
- Tennis (4 events)
- Tug of war (1 event)

SPORTS

The IOC in later years decided that 85 of the events held in 20 sports or disciplines comprised the Olympic program in Paris, when in fact Pierre de Coubertain had ceded that entire determination to the organizers. Amongst the sports below, only croquet was not an international competition, being contested by French players only. The number of events in each discipline is noted in parentheses.

Aquatics:

Swimming (7 events)

Water polo (1 event)

Archery (6 events)



Venues

VENUE	SPORTS
7th arrondissement of Paris	Equestrian
Bois de Boulogne	Croquet / Polo / Tug of war
Bois de Vincennes	Archery
Boulogne-Billancourt	Shooting
Compiègne	Golf
Croix-Catelan Stadium	Athletics
Le Havre	Sailing
Meulan-en-Yvelines	Sailing
Neuilly-sur-Seine	Basque pelota
Puteaux	Tennis
Satory	Shooting
Seine	Rowing / Swimming / Water polo
Tuileries Garden	Fencing
Velodrome de Vincennes	Cricket / Cycling / Football / Gymnastics / Rugby union

UNOFFICIAL SPORTS

The 1900 games were not governed by a specific Olympic organizing committee, but instead held as an appendage to the 1900 World's Fair. An enormous number of events were held, though many fall short of the standards later required for Olympic championship status. Decisions as to which Olympic events are termed "official" and which have "unofficial" or "demonstration" status are usually left to the Olympic organizing committees and/or the IOC. In the absence of any overall authority capable of making an official distinction of this kind, no decision as to the official status of any event was made at the time of the Games. A document from 1912 exists, listing results from the 1900 Games, but the reliability of this paper is questioned by Olympic historians.

Like all official Olympic events, these were held as part of the 1900 World's Fair, but the IOC does not regard them as fully part of the Olympic Games. All events satisfying all four of these retrospective selection criteria — restricted to amateurs, international participation, open to all competitors and without handicapping — are now regarded as Olympic events, except for those in one sport — ballooning. Croquet, motorboating and boules satisfied three criteria (all had only French players). Only croquet was recognized as official. (One of the ten croquet players, Marcel Haëntjens, had been thought to have been Belgian. Thus the croquet events had been considered as international. Despite the Flemish name, Haëntjens was French.

Angling
 Ballooning
 Boules
 Cannon shooting
 Fire fighting
 Kite flying
 Life saving
 Longue paume
 Motor racing
 Motorcycle racing
 Pigeon racing
 Water motorsports

In addition to these, 71 scholastic and 92 military events were also held across a range of sports.

NATION	PARTICIPANTS
ARGENTINA 	1
AUSTRALIA 	2
AUSTRIA 	13
BELGIUM 	78
BOHEMIA 	7
CANADA 	2
CUBA 	1
DENMARK 	13
FRANCE 	720
GERMANY 	76
GREAT BRITAIN 	102
GREECE 	3
HAITI 	2
HUNGARY 	20
INDIA 	1
IRAN 	1
ITALY 	24
LUXEMBOURG 	1
MEXICO 	4
NETHERLANDS 	29
NORWAY 	7
ROMANIA 	1
RUSSIAN EMPIRE 	4
SPAIN 	8
SWEDEN 	10
SWITZERLAND 	18
UNITED STATES 	75
<i>Some sources also list athletes from the countries below as having competed at the Games</i>	
BRAZIL 	*
COLOMBIA 	*
NEW ZEALAND 	*

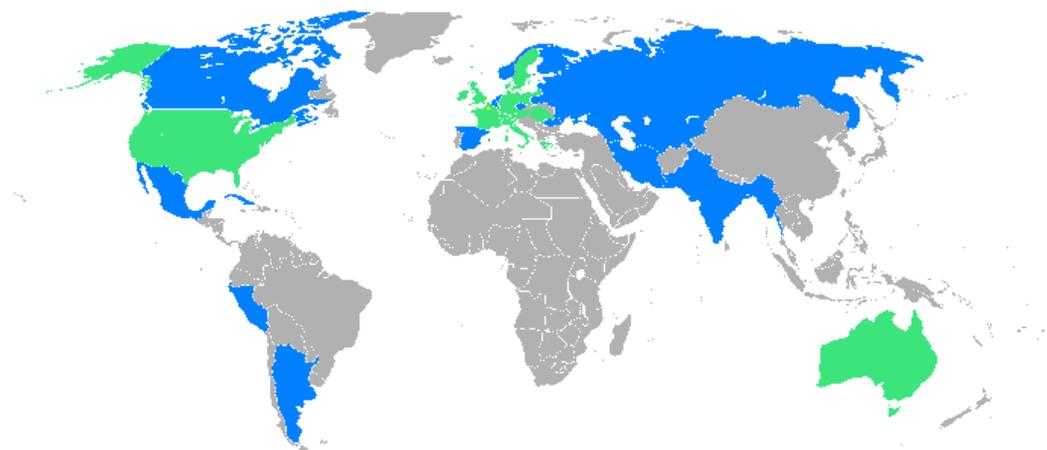
*Austria, Hungary and Bohemia were parts of Austria-Hungary but the results are reported separately

*Australia was not a separate united country till 1901 but Edwin Flack's results are typically listed as Australian

*The same as above is valid for New Zealand which was at that time a British colony. However, the participation of New Zealand athletes is sometimes questioned.

*India was a also a part of British Empire at that time.

*There were also mixed teams - consisting of athletes from different countries.



Medal count

RANK	NATION	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
1.	FRANCE	26	41	34	101
2.	UNITED STATES	19	14	14	47
3.	GREAT BRITAIN	15	6	9	30
4.	MIXED TEAM	6	3	3	12
5.	SWITZERLAND	6	2	1	9
6.	BELGIUM	5	5	5	15
7.	GERMANY	4	2	2	8
8.	ITALY	2	2	0	4
9.	AUSTRALIA	2	0	3	5
10.	DENMARK	1	3	2	6
11.	HUNGARY	1	2	2	5
12.	CUBA	1	1	0	2
13.	CANADA	1	0	1	2
14.	SPAIN	1	0	0	1
15.	AUSTRIA	0	3	3	6
16.	NORWAY	0	2	3	5
17.	INDIA	0	2	0	2
18.	NETHERLANDS	0	1	3	4
19.	BOHEMIA	0	1	1	2
20.	MEXICO	0	0	1	1
	SWEDEN	0	0	1	1
		90	90	88	268

MAJOR STARS

Alvin Kraenzlein (United States) won 4 gold medals: the 60 metres, the 110 metre hurdles, the 200 metre hurdles and the long jump events

Hélène de Pourtales (Switzerland) became the first female Olympic champion as part of the winning team in the 1-2 ton sailing event.

Charlotte Cooper (UK) was the first woman to win an individual Olympic event after winning the women's singles tennis competition. She later went on to win the mixed doubles tournament.

Hubert Van Innis (Belgium) took two gold medals and one silver and would add to his tally twenty years later in Antwerp

Ray Ewry (USA) - 3 golds: winner of the standing high jump, triple jump and standing long jump (photo below)

Walter Tewksbury (USA) - took five medals including two golds, 2 silvers and 1 bronze (athletics)

The first football (soccer) champions at the Olympics were the London amateurs of Upton Park F.C.

Konrad Stäheli (Switzerland) was the outstanding marksman of the Games, winning three golds and one bronze.



Irving Baxter (USA) - he finished second to Ewry three times and won both the regular high jump and pole vault.



Charlotte Cooper
the first female Olympic Champion

Three marathon runners from the United States contested the result saying the French runners who got first and second places took a short cut, and the proof was they were the only contestants not spattered with mud.

Osborne Swimming Club, representing Great Britain were unchallenged in the water polo tournament, scoring 29 goals and conceding only 3 in their 3 matches. In the final, they limited the number of shots on goal to avoid humiliating their opponents. One of its team members was from New Zealand. Thomas William Burgess of the bronze medal-winning Libellule de Paris team, represented Great Britain in the swimming events.



Alvin Kraenzlein
Four gold medals in athletics

