



OLYMPIC GAMES



STOCKHOLM
May 5 - July 22, 1912



Just Olympics...

The 1912 Summer Olympics (Olympiska sommarspelen 1912), officially known as the Games of the V Olympiad, were held in Stockholm, Sweden, between 5 May and 22 July 1912. 28 nations and 2,408 competitors, including 48 women, competed in 102 events in 14 sports. With the exception of tennis (starting on 5 May) and football and shooting (both starting on 29 June), the games were held within a month with an official opening on 6 July. It was the last Olympics to issue solid gold medals and, with Japan's debut, the first time an Asian nation participated. Stockholm was the only bid for the games, and was selected in 1909. The news that Stockholm was to host the 1912 Olympics was received with enthusiasm by the Swedish public. The organizing committee took de Coubertin's words to heart, and aimed to achieve an Olympic Games which removed those elements which detracted from earlier Games.



The official invitation to compete in the Games was issued on 18 November 1910 to 27 countries, either directly or through their representative on the IOC. A further

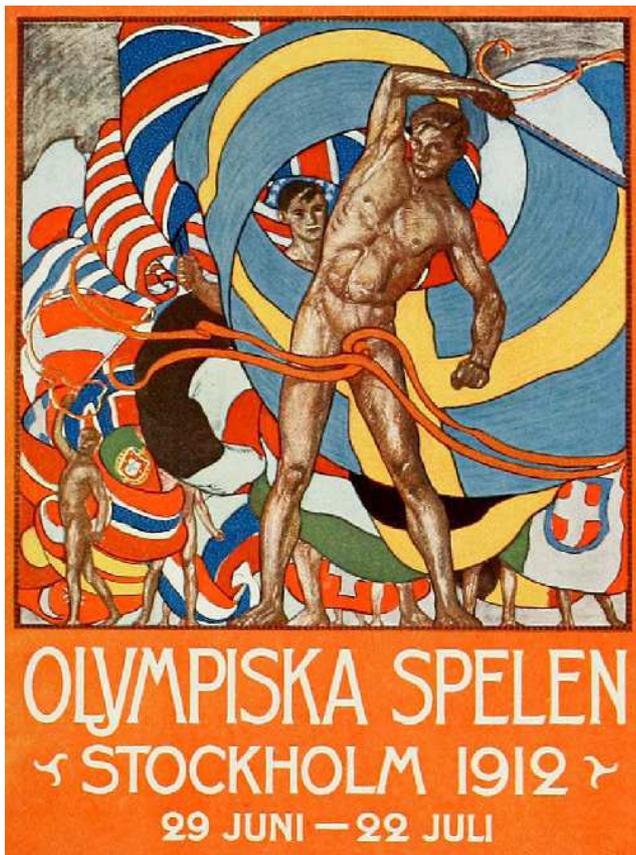
15 countries were to have been invited, but as they had no IOC representatives, the Swedish authorities were unsure how to proceed. Once the organizing committee for the Games received confirmation of the athletic associations in each of the 15 countries, they too were sent invitations. Some 61,800 entry forms were printed for the use of the various nations. Free transport was arranged for the invited nations' equipment, and a discount of 50 percent was arranged for competitors and delegates on the state run railway. A daily newspaper which only covered

the Olympics was arranged to be published during the Games, in both English and Swedish. Further arrangements were made for the general arrival of visitors in order to entertain them whilst they were not at the Games; a pleasure garden was opened north of the Olympic Stadium, and a series of indoor tennis courts were converted into a restaurant.

Based on www.wikipedia.org



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SPORTS

The Swedish delegation at the IOC meeting in Berlin on 28 May 1909 had proposed a simple Olympic schedule containing only "pure" athletics, swimming, gymnastics and wrestling. However other countries requested that the schedule be more comprehensive, and with that in mind they put forward a further programme at the IOC meeting in 1911 which was met with approval. The sports which were added were the tug of war, cycling, fencing, football, horse riding, lawn tennis, rowing, shooting, skating and yacht racing. The question of adding skating to the programme was discussed once more on 7 February 1910, with the decision being made to drop it from the

schedule. It was felt to be unsuitable because it was a winter sport, and it was to be part of the Nordic Games the following year. Boxing was removed from the programme as it was unappealing to the Swedes. Art competitions were added to the programme, but now art competitions are no longer regarded as official Olympic events by the International Olympic Committee. As a result, now the 1912 Summer Olympics programme considered composed of 14 sports encompassing 18 disciplines and 102 events. The number of events in each discipline is given in parentheses.

Aquatics:

Diving (4 events)

Swimming (9 events)

Water polo (1 event)

Athletics (30 events)

Cycling (2 events)

Equestrian:

Dressage (1 event)

Eventing (2 events)

Show jumping (2 events)

Fencing (5 events)

Football (1 event)

Gymnastics (4 events)

Modern pentathlon (1 event)

Rowing (4 events)

Sailing (4 events)

Shooting (18 events)

Tennis (8 events)

Tug of war (1 event)

Wrestling (5 events)

Venues

VENUE	SPORTS
Barkarby	Modern pentathlon
Djurgårdsbrunnsviken	Diving / Modern pentathlon / Rowing / Water polo
Fältrittklubben	Equestrian
Kaknäs	Modern pentathlon
Liljeholmen	Cycling / Equestrian
Lindarängen	Equestrian
Mälaren	Cycling
Nynäshamn	Sailing
Östermalm Athletic Grounds	Equestrian / Fencing / Modern pentathlon / Tennis
Råsunda Stadium	Football / Shooting
Stockholm Olympic Stadium	Athletics / Equestrian / Football / Gymnastics / Modern pentathlon / Tug of war / Wrestling
Tranebergs Idrottsplats	Football

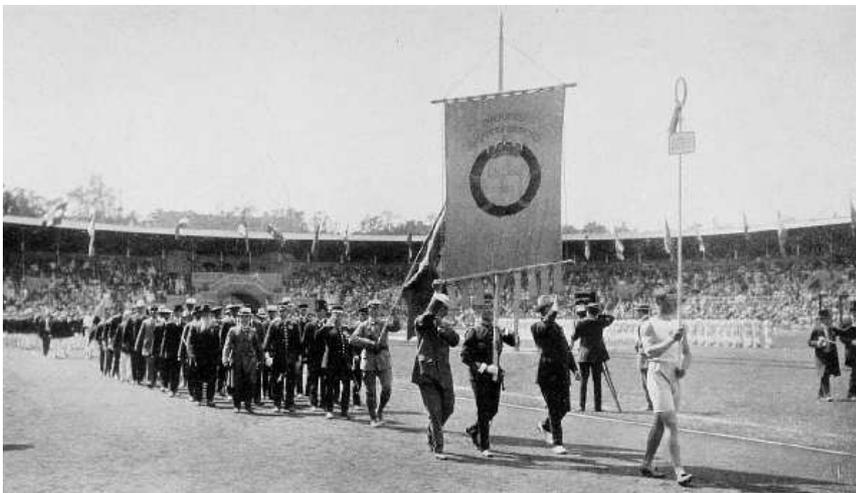
OPENING CEREMONY

The Games of the V Olympiad were opened on 6 July 1912. The Swedish Royal Family left Stockholm Palace at 10:40am, and were received at the Olympic Stadium by members of the IOC. Three thousand competing athletes had already assembled in the nearby Östermalm Athletic Grounds, and began to enter the stadium in alphabetical order by nation according to the Swedish spelling. The Swedish team entered last, but unlike the later tradition, the Greek team did not enter first.

A hymn was sung, a traditional Swedish chant was conducted and prayers were read first in Swedish and then in English. Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf addressed the King on behalf of the Swedish Olympic Association. King Gustav V then declared the Games officially open by a long speech:

It is with legitimate joy and pride that we Swedes see athletes from every part of the world gathered here with us. It is a great honour for Sweden that Stockholm has been chosen as the scene of the Fifth Olympiad, and I bid all of you, athletes and friends of athletics, a most hearty welcome to this friendly contest of the nations. May the grand thought that found expression in the Olympic Games in classic times be so held in honour by our age too, that these

competitions may become a powerful means to promote the physical health and development of every people. With these words, I herewith declare the Olympic Games of Stockholm opened.

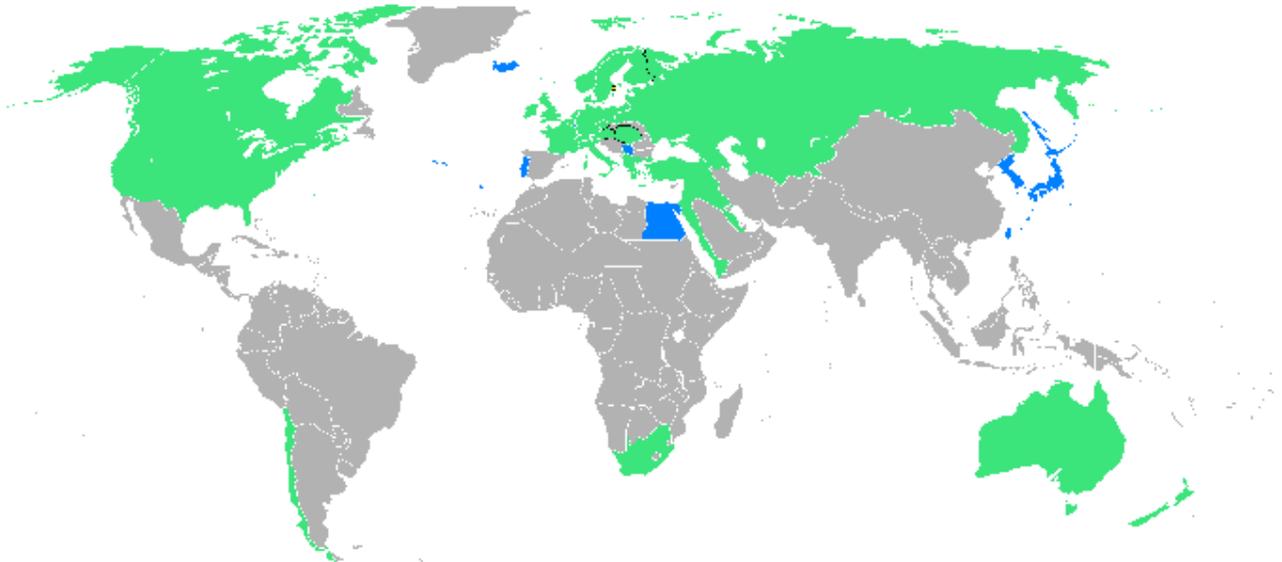


Afterwards a trumpet fanfare was played and the Crown Prince called for cheers for the King. The athletes in their national groups marching out of the stadium in order ended the ceremony.

NATION	PARTICIPANTS
AUSTRALASIA 	26
AUSTRIA 	85
BELGIUM 	36
BOHEMIA 	39
CANADA 	36
CHILE 	14
DENMARK 	152
EGYPT 	1
FINLAND 	164
FRANCE 	112
GERMANY 	187
GREAT BRITAIN 	279
GREECE 	22
HUNGARY 	119
ICELAND 	2
ITALY 	68
JAPAN 	2
LUXEMBOURG 	21
NETHERLANDS 	33
NORWAY 	191
PORTUGAL 	6
RUSSIAN EMPIRE 	159
SERBIA 	2
SOUTH AFRICA 	21
SWEDEN 	444
SWITZERLAND 	7
TURKEY 	2
UNITED STATES 	174

28 nations competed in Stockholm. Japan appeared for the first time, marking the first appearance of an Asian country at an Olympic Games. Egypt also made their first appearance, as did Iceland, Portugal and Serbia. Chile made its first appearance as a national team with fourteen athletes attending the Games, although it also had one individual entered at the 1896 Games. The first athletes from Armenia also competed, as part of the team from the Ottoman Empire (referred to as Turkey). Serbia's appearance was the only time it appeared at a Games as an independent nation until the 2008 Summer Olympics.

This was the last Olympics where "private entries" were allowed (i.e. not part of a country's officially selected team). Arnold Jackson was one such, winning the 1500 metres by 0.1 second, ahead of an American trio, who were strong favourites, in what was acclaimed at the time as "the greatest race ever run".



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Medal count

RANK	NATION	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
1.	UNITED STATES	25	19	19	63
2.	SWEDEN	24	24	17	65
3.	GREAT BRITAIN	10	15	16	41
4.	FINLAND	9	8	9	26
5.	FRANCE	7	4	3	14
6.	GERMANY	5	13	7	25
7.	SOUTH AFRICA	4	2	0	6
8.	NORWAY	4	1	4	9
9.	CANADA	3	2	3	8
	HUNGARY	3	2	3	6
11.	ITALY	3	1	2	6
12.	AUSTRALASIA	2	2	3	7
13.	BELGIUM	2	1	3	6
14.	DENMARK	1	6	5	12
15.	GREECE	1	0	1	2
16.	RUSSIAN EMPIRE	0	2	3	5
17.	AUSTRIA	0	2	2	4
18.	NETHERLANDS	0	0	3	3
		103	104	103	310

MAJOR STARS

Kanakuri Shizo - a Japanese marathon runner, went missing during the race. He stopped at a party taking place in a villa on the marathon route in order to quench his thirst, then caught a train to Stockholm and left the country the next day. He returned to Japan without notifying race officials. 50 years later, after being invited back by the Swedish authorities, he completed the race with an (unofficial) time of 54 years, 8 months, 6 days, 8 hours, 32 minutes and 20.3 seconds.

Jim Thorpe (USA - see the photo) - won the pentathlon and the newly created decathlon. He was disqualified and stripped of his medals for violation of the rules of amateurism, as he had played two seasons' worth of semi-professional baseball before coming to the Games. In 1982, those medals were restored by the IOC, with replicas of the medals given to his relatives as he had died thirty years earlier

Gottfried Fuchs - was a German footballer. He is remembered for scoring 10 goals for Germany in a 16–0 win against Russia at the 1912 Olympics on 1 July, becoming the top scorer of the football



tournament. This performance of 10 goals in one international match tied a record set by Sophus Nielsen at the 1908 Summer Olympics, which remained on the books until 2001.

Alberto Braglia (Italy) - he added two golds to 1908 title in gymnastics

George S. Patton (USA) - was 20th in modern pentathlon but over thirty years later would become a WWII hero

Oscar Swahn (64-year-old), part of the Swedish single shot running deer team, was still the oldest gold medal winner in Olympic history (he also won a bronze)

Duke Paoa Kahinu Mokoe Hulikohola Kahanamoku (USA) - won his first Olympic gold in swimming

Baron Pierre de Coubertin - President of the IOC and founder of the modern Olympic movement, won the gold medal for literature. He actually entered the competition under the pseudonyms of Georges Hohrod and Martin Eschbach from Germany.

Dances With Opponents

James Francis Thorpe (Sac and Fox (Sauk): Wa-Tho-Huk, translated as "Bright Path"; (1887 – 1953) was an American athlete and Olympic gold medalist. A member of the Sac and Fox Nation, Thorpe became the first Native American to win a gold medal for his home country.

Considered one of the most versatile athletes of modern sports, he won Olympic gold medals in the 1912 pentathlon and decathlon, and played American football (collegiate and professional), professional baseball, and basketball. He lost his Olympic titles after it was found he had been paid for playing two seasons of semi-professional baseball before competing in the Olympics, thus violating the amateurism rules that were then in place. In 1983, 30 years after his death, the International Olympic Committee restored his Olympic medals.

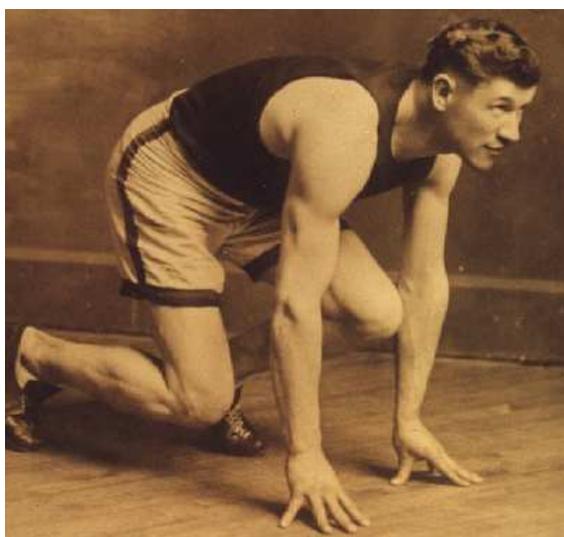
As was the custom of the day, the medals were presented to the athletes during the closing ceremonies of the games. Along with the two gold medals, Thorpe also received two challenge prizes, which were donated by King Gustav V of Sweden for the decathlon and Czar Nicholas II of Russia for the pentathlon. Several sources recount that, when awarding Thorpe his prize, King Gustav said, "You, sir, are the greatest athlete in the world", to which Thorpe replied, "Thanks, King".

With a total point score of 7,476 points, Thorpe broke the previous record of 7,385 points set in 1909, by Martin Sheridan, the champion athlete of the Irish American Athletic Club. Sheridan, a five-time Olympic gold medalist, was present to watch his record broken, approached Thorpe after the event and shook his hand saying, "Jim, my boy, you're a great man. I never expect to look upon a finer athlete." He told a reporter from New York World, "Thorpe is the greatest athlete that ever lived. He has me beaten fifty

ways. Even when I was in my prime, I could not do what he did today."

Thorpe's monument, featuring the quote from Gustav V ("You, sir, are the greatest athlete in the world."), still stands near the town named for him, Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania. The grave rests on mounds of soil from Thorpe's native Oklahoma and from the stadium in which he won his Olympic medals.

Thorpe's achievements received great acclaim from sports journalists, both during his lifetime and since his death. In 1950, an Associated Press poll of almost 400 sportswriters and broadcasters voted Thorpe the "greatest athlete" of the first half of the 20th century. That same year, the Associated Press named Thorpe the "greatest American football player" of the first half of the century. In 1999, the Associated Press placed him third on its list of the top athletes of the century, following Babe Ruth and Michael Jordan. ESPN ranked Thorpe seventh on their list of best North American athletes of the century.



Source: www.wikipedia.org



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