



OLYMPIC GAMES



MEXICO CITY

October 12 - October 27, 1968



Welcome to Latin America

The 1968 Summer Olympics (Spanish: *Juegos Olímpicos de Verano de 1968*), officially known as the Games of the XIX Olympiad, were an international multi-sport event held in Mexico City, Mexico, in October 1968.

These were the first Olympic Games to be staged in Latin America and the first to be staged in a Spanish-speaking country. They were also the first Games to use an all-weather (smooth) track for track and field events instead of the traditional cinder track.

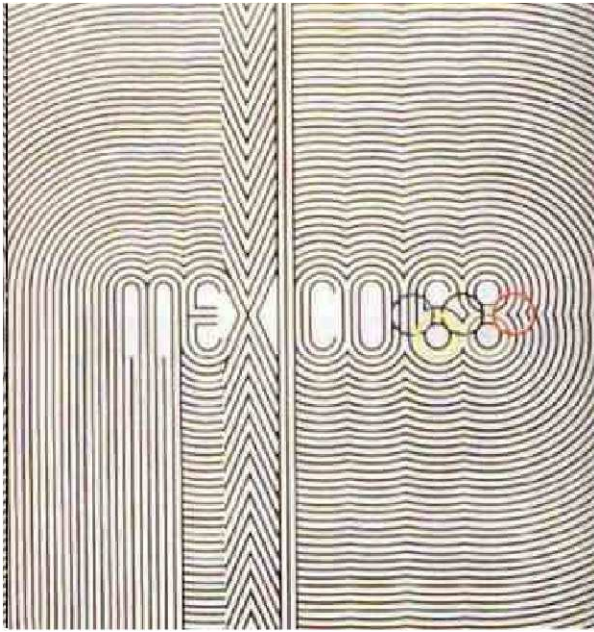
The 1968 Games were the third to be held in the last quarter of the year, after the 1956 Games in Melbourne and the 1964 Games in Tokyo. The Mexican Student Movement of 1968 happened concurrently and the Olympic Games were correlated to the government's repression.

On October 18, 1963, at the 60th IOC Session in Baden-Baden, West Germany, Mexico City finished ahead of bids from Detroit, Buenos Aires and Lyon to host the Games.

The Games were officially opened by president Gustavo Diaz Ordaz. The Olympic cauldron was lit by Norma Enriqueta Basilio de Sotelo - the first woman in this role.

Based on www.wikipedia.org





There were 172 events in 18 sports:

*Aquatics:

- Diving (4 events)
- Swimming (29 events)
- Water polo (1 event)

*Athletics (36 events)

*Basketball (1 event)

*Boxing (11 events)

*Canoeing (7 events)

*Cycling:

- Road (2 events)
- Track (5 events)

*Equestrian:

- Dressage (2 events)
- Eventing (2 events)
- Jumping (2 events)

*Fencing (8 events)

*Football (1 event)

*Gymnastics (14 events)

*Field hockey (1 event)

*Modern pentathlon (2 events)

*Rowing (7 events)

*Sailing (5 events)

*Shooting (7 events)

*Volleyball (2 events)

*Weightlifting (7 events)

*Wrestling:

- Freestyle (8 events)
- Greco-Roman (8 events)



*Basque pelota

*Tennis

BLACK POWER

On October 16, 1968, black American sprinters Tommie Smith and John Carlos, the gold and bronze medalists in the men's 200-meter race, took their places on the podium for the medal ceremony wearing black socks without shoes and civil rights badges, lowered their heads and each defiantly raised a black-gloved fist as the *Star Spangled Banner* was played, in solidarity with the Black Freedom Movement in the United States. Both were members of the Olympic Project for Human Rights. Some people (particularly IOC president Avery Brundage) felt that a political statement had no place in the international forum of the Olympic Games. In an immediate response to their actions, Smith and Carlos were suspended from the U.S. team by Brundage and banned from the Olympic Village. Those who opposed the protest said the actions disgraced all Americans. Supporters, on the other hand, praised the men for their bravery.

Peter Norman, the Australian sprinter who came second in the 200 m race, also wore an Olympic Project for Human Rights badge during the medal ceremony. Norman was the one who suggested that Carlos and Smith wear one glove each. His actions resulted in him being ostracized by Australian media and a reprimand by his country's Olympic authorities, who did not send him or any other male sprinters at all to the 1972 games (despite easily making the qualifying time). When Australia hosted the 2000 Summer Olympics, he was not invited to join other Australian medallists at the opening ceremony. In 2006, after Norman died of a heart attack, Smith and Carlos were pallbearers at Norman's funeral.

Demonstration sports:

Venues

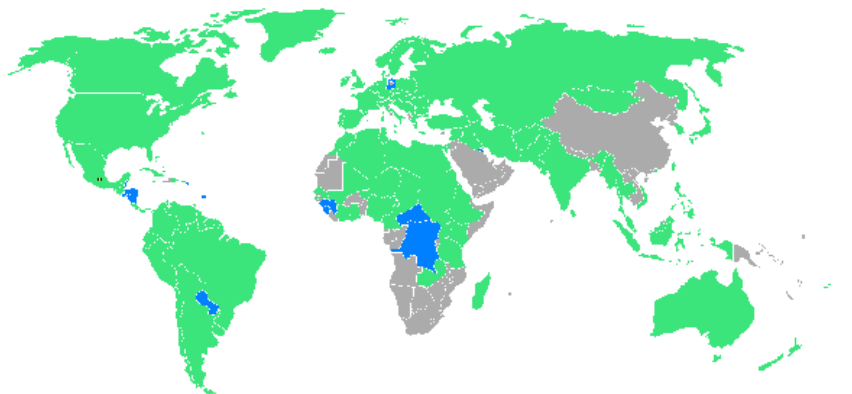
VENUE	SPORTS
Agustin Melgar Olympic Velodrome	Track cycling
Arena México	Boxing
Avándaro Golf Club	Equestrian
Campo Marte	Equestrian
Campo Militar 1	Modern pentathlon
Club de Yates de Acapulco	Sailing
Estadio Azteca	Football
Estadio Cuauhtémoc (Puebla)	Football
Estadio Jalisco (Guadalajara)	Football
Estadio Nou Camp (Léon)	Football
Estadio Olímpico Universitario	Athletics, Equestrian
Fernando Montés de Oca Fencing Hall	Fencing / Modern pentathlon
Francisco Márquez Olympic Pool	Diving / Modern pentathlon / Swimming / Water polo
Arena Insurgentes	Wrestling
Insurgentes Theater	Weightlifting
Juan de la Barrera Olympic Gymnasium	Volleyball
Juan Escutia Sports Palace	Basketball / Volleyball
Municipal Stadium	Field hockey
National Auditorium	Gymnastics
Arena Revolución	Volleyball
Satellite Circuit	Road cycling
University City Swimming Pool	Water polo
Vicente Suárez Shooting Range	Modern pentathlon / Shooting
Virgilio Uribe Rowing and Canoeing Course	Canoeing / Rowing
Zócalo	Athletics

HIGHLIGHTS

- Black Power protest (see page 2)
- The high elevation of Mexico City, at 2,240 m, influenced many of the events, particularly in track and field. No other Summer Olympic Games before or since have been held at high elevation.
- This was the first Olympics to use a synthetic all-weather surface for track and field events; the "Tartan" surface was originally developed by 3M for horse racing, but did not catch on.
- For the first time, East and West Germany competed as separate teams.
- Al Oerter of the U.S. won his fourth consecutive gold medal in the discus to become only the second athlete to achieve this feat in an individual event, and the first in athletics.
- Bob Beamon of the U.S. leapt 8.90 m in the long jump. It remained the Olympic record and stood as the world record for 23 years, until broken by American Mike Powell in 1991.
- In the triple jump, the previous world record was improved five times by three different athletes.
- Dick Fosbury of the U.S. won the gold medal in the high jump using his unconventional Fosbury flop technique, which quickly became the dominant technique in the event.
- The introduction of doping tests resulted in the first disqualification because of doping: Swedish pentathlete Hans-Gunnar Liljenwall was disqualified for alcohol use (he drank several beers just prior to competing).
- John Stephen Akhwari of Tanzania became famous after finishing the marathon, in the last place, despite a dislocated knee.
- Norma Enriqueta Basilio de Sotelo of Mexico became the first woman to light the Olympic cauldron with the Olympic flame.
- It was the first games at which there was a significant African presence in men's distance running. Africans won at least one medal in all running events from 800 meters to the marathon, and in so doing they set a trend for future games. Most of these runners came from high-altitude areas of countries like Kenya and Ethiopia, and they were well-prepared for the 2240 m elevation of Mexico City.

East Germany and West Germany competed as separate entities for the first time in at a Summer Olympiad, and would remain so through 1988. Barbados competed for the first time as an independent country. Also competing for the first time in a Summer Olympiad were British Honduras (now Belize), Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (as Congo-Kinshasa), El Salvador, Guinea, Honduras, Kuwait, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Sierra Leone, and the United States Virgin Islands. Singapore returned to the Games as an independent country after competing as part of the Malaysian team in 1964. Suriname and Libya actually competed for the first time (in 1960 and 1964, respectively, they took part in the Opening Ceremony, but their athletes withdrew from the competition.)

NATION	NATION	NATION
AFGHANISTAN (5)	GREAT BRITAIN (225)	NICARAGUA (11)
ALGERIA (3)	GREECE (44)	NIGER (2)
ARGENTINA (89)	GUATEMALA (48)	NIGERIA (36)
AUSTRALIA (128)	GUINEA (15)	NORWAY (46)
AUSTRIA (43)	GUYANA (5)	PAKISTAN (15)
BAHAMAS (16)	HONDURAS (6)	PANAMA (16)
BARBADOS (9)	HONG KONG (11)	PARAGUAY (1)
BELGIUM (82)	HUNGARY (167)	PERU (28)
BERMUDA (6)	ICELAND (8)	PHILIPPINES (49)
BOLIVIA (4)	INDIA (25)	POLAND (177)
BRAZIL (76)	INDONESIA (6)	PORTUGAL (20)
BRITISH HONDURAS (7)	IRAN (14)	PUERTO RICO (58)
BULGARIA (112)	IRAQ (3)	ROMANIA (82)
BURMA (4)	IRELAND (31)	SAN MARINO (4)
CAMEROON (5)	ISRAEL (29)	SENEGAL (21)
CANADA (138)	ITALY (167)	SIERRA LEONE (3)
CENTRAL AFRICAN REP. (1)	IVORY COAST (10)	SINGAPORE (4)
CEYLON (4)	JAMAICA (25)	SOVIET UNION (312)
CHAD (3)	JAPAN (171)	SPAIN (122)
CHILE (21)	KENYA (39)	SUDAN (5)
COLOMBIA (43)	SOUTH KOREA (54)	SURINAME (1)
CONGO-KINSHASA (5)	KUWAIT (2)	SWEDEN (100)
COSTA RICA (18)	LEBANON (11)	SWITZERLAND (85)
CUBA (115)	LIBYA (1)	SYRIA (2)
CZECHOSLOVAKIA (121)	LIECHTENSTEIN (2)	REPUBLIC OF CHINA (43)
DENMARK (64)	LUXEMBOURG (5)	TANZANIA (4)
DOMINICAN REP. (18)	MADAGASCAR (4)	THAILAND (41)
ECUADOR (15)	MALAYSIA (31)	TRINIDAD TOBAGO (19)
EGYPT (30)	MALI (2)	TUNISIA (7)
EL SALVADOR (60)	MALTA (1)	TURKEY (29)
ETHIOPIA (18)	MEXICO (275)	UGANDA (11)
FIJI (1)	MONACO (2)	UNITED STATES (357)
FINLAND (66)	MONGOLIA (16)	URUGUAY (27)
FRANCE (200)	MOROCCO (24)	VENEZUELA (230)
EAST GERMANY (226)	NETHERLANDS (107)	VIETNAM (9)
WEST GERMANY (275)	NETHERLANDS ANTILLES (5)	VIRGIN ISLANDS (6)
GHANA (31)	NEW ZEALAND (52)	YUGOSLAVIA (69)
		ZAMBIA (7)



Medal count

RANK	NATION	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
1.	UNITED STATES	45	28	34	107
2.	SOVIET UNION	29	32	30	91
3.	JAPAN	11	7	7	25
4.	HUNGARY	10	10	12	32
5.	EAST GERMANY	9	9	7	25
6.	FRANCE	7	3	5	15
7.	CZECHOSLOVAKIA	7	2	4	13
8.	WEST GERMANY	5	11	10	26
9.	AUSTRALIA	5	7	5	17
10.	GREAT BRITAIN	5	5	3	13
11.	POLAND	5	2	11	18
12.	ROMANIA	4	6	5	15
13.	ITALY	3	4	9	16
14.	KENYA	3	4	2	9
15.	MEXICO	3	3	3	9
16.	YUGOSLAVIA	3	3	2	8
17.	NETHERLANDS	3	3	1	7
18.	BULGARIA	2	4	3	9
19.	IRAN	2	1	2	5
20.	SWEDEN	2	1	1	4
21.	TURKEY	2	0	0	2
22.	DENMARK	1	4	3	8
23.	CANADA	1	3	1	5
24.	FINLAND	1	2	1	4
25.	ETHIOPIA	1	1	0	2
	NORWAY	1	1	0	2
27.	NEW ZEALAND	1	0	2	3
28.	TUNISIA	1	0	1	2
29.	PAKISTAN	1	0	0	1
	VENEZUELA	1	0	0	1
31.	CUBA	0	4	0	4
32.	AUSTRIA	0	2	2	4
33.	SWITZERLAND	0	1	4	5
34.	MONGOLIA	0	1	3	4
35.	BRAZIL	0	1	2	3
	BELGIUM	0	1	1	2
36.	SOUTH KOREA	0	1	1	2
	UGANDA	0	1	1	2
39.	CAMEROON	0	1	0	1
	JAMAICA	0	1	0	1
41.	ARGENTINA	0	0	2	2
	GREECE	0	0	1	1
42.	INDIA	0	0	1	1
	REPUBLIC OF CHINA	0	0	1	1
		174	170	183	527



MAJOR STARS

Michael WENDEN (Australia) – two golds, one silver and one bronze in swimming

Mike BURTON (USA) – two golds in swimming

Roland MATTHES (East Germany) – two golds and one silver in swimming

Charlie HICKCOX (USA) – three golds and one silver in swimming

Mark SPITZ (USA) – two golds, one silver and one bronze in swimming

Don SCHOLLANDER (USA) – one gold in swimming (then: 5 golds and 1 silver)

Jan HENNE (USA) - she won two golds, one silver and one bronze in swimming

Debbie MEYER (USA) – three gold medals in swimming; she was only 16 years old

Kaye HALL (USA) – two golds and one bronze in swimming

Jim HINES (USA), Lee EVANS (USA) – they both won two gold medals in athletics

Bob BEAMON (USA) – gold medal in long jump; he broke the world record with the incredible result: 8.90m

AI OERTER (USA) – he won his fourth consecutive gold medal in discus throw (*photo on the right*)

Wyomia TYUS (USA) – two golds in athletics (then: three golds and 1 silver)

Jerzy KULEJ (Poland) – he won his second consecutive gold in boxing

George FOREMAN (USA) – gold medal in boxing; in future – a star of professional boxing

Daniel MORELON (France) – two gold medals in track cycling (then: 2-0-1)

Pierre TRENTIN (France) – two golds and 1 bronze in track cycling (then: 2-0-2)

Gyözö KULCSAR (Hungary) – two gold medals in fencing (then: 3 golds)

Jerzy PAWŁOWSKI (Poland) – gold medal in sabre (then: 1-3-1)

Elena BELOVA (Soviet Union) – two gold medals in fencing

Yukio ENDO (Japan) – gold and silver medals in gymnastics (then: 5 golds and 2 silvers)

Sawao KATO (Japan) – three golds and one bronze in gymnastics

Akinori NAKAYAMA (Japan) – four golds, one silver and one bronze in gymnastics

Mikhail VORONIN (Soviet Union) – two golds, 4 silvers and one bronze in gymnastics

Věra ČÁSLAVSKÁ (Czechoslovakia) – four golds and two silvers in gymnastics (then: 7 golds and 4 silvers)

Larisa PETRIK (Soviet Union) – two golds and one bronze in gymnastics

Natalia KUCHINSKAYA (Soviet Union) – 2 golds and 2 bronzes in gymnastics

Waldemar BASZANOWSKI (Poland) – second consecutive gold in weightlifting

Leonid ZHABOTINSKY (Soviet Union) - second consecutive gold in weightlifting



POLISH PARTICIPATION

**177 competitors (140 men and 37 women)
took part in 112 events in 16 sports**

GOLD MEDALISTS:

- *Irena SZEWIŃSKA – athletics (200m)
- *Jerzy KULEJ – boxing (light welterweight)
- *Jerzy PAWŁOWSKI – fencing (sabre)
- *Józef ZAPĘDZKI – shooting (rapid-fire pistol)
- *Waldemar BASZANOWSKI – weightlifting (lightweight)

SILVER MEDALISTS:

- *Artur OLECH – boxing (flyweight)
- *Józef GRUDZIENIŃ – boxing (lightweight)

BRONZE MEDALISTS:

- *Irena SZEWIŃSKA – athletics (100m)
- *Hubert SKRZYPCZAK – boxing (light flyweight)
- *Stanisław DRAGAN – boxing (light heavyweight)
- *Janusz KIERZKOWSKI – cycling (1000m time trial)
- *Zbigniew SKRUDLIK, Witold WOYDA, Egon FRANKE, Adam LISEWSKI, Ryszard PARULSKI –
fencing (team foil)
- *Henryk NIELABA, Bohdan GONSIOR, Michał BUTKIEWICZ, Bohdan ANDRZEJEWSKI,
Kazimierz BARBURSKI – fencing (team épée)
- *Halina ASZKIEŁOWICZ, Krystyna CZAJKOWSKA,
Krystyna JAKUBOWSKA, Krystyna KRUPA,

Józefa LEDWIG, Jadwiga MARKO-KSIAŻEK, Barbara NIEMCZYK, Krystyna OSTROMĘCKA,

Elżbieta PORZEC, Zofia SZCZEŚNIEWSKA, Wanda WIECHA, Lidia ŻMUDA – volleyball

(women)

- *Henryk TRĘBICKI – weightlifting (bantamweight)
- *Marian ZIELIŃSKI – weightlifting (lightweight)
- *Norbert OZIMEK – weightlifting (light heavy-weight)
- *Marek GOŁĄB – weightlifting (middle heavy-weight)



Jerzy Pawłowski



Irena Szewińska



Erasmus+

EXERT