



TM ©
ATHENS 2004



Official Report of the XXVIII Olympiad

The Games

2

Official Report of
the XXVIII Olympiad

The Games

2

"Unforgettable, dream Games"

Dr. Jacques Rogge, President of the IOC

**ATHENS 2004 Organising Committee
for the Olympic Games S.A.**

Publications General Manager

Michalis Zacharatos

Editors

Efharis Skarveli
Isabel Zervos

Text Research and Document Processing

Maria Kapetanaki
Evelina Kokkou

Design Director

Theodora Mantzaris

Project Manager

Nassia Papazoglou

Photo Research and Selection

Dimitris Kalopisis
Nikos Tassoulas

Contributors

Costas Vernikos
Dionyssis Gangas
Venia Papatathanasopoulou
Maria Spalaraki

All primary material was prepared and provided by
the ATHENS 2004 General Managers and Managers

© ATHOC 2004

**Copyright ATHENS 2004
ORGANISING COMMITTEE
FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES**

November 2005

SET: 960-88101-6-7

ISBN: 960-88101-8-3

**Liberis Publications Group
Libecom SA**

President

Antonios Liberis

General Manager

Konstantinos Korletis

Publication Consultant

Harris Stathopoulos

Project Manager

Thalia Spanou

Art Directors

Niki Papastathopoulou
Mary Thithizoglou

Atelier, Page Layout, Illustrations, Pre-press

Anastasia Piretzi
Anastasia Kondyli
Angela Tsakanika
Natassa Theou
Panagiotis Batsakis
Giannis Dousmanis
Giannis Selianakis
Stavroula Ganoti
Vicky Melissari
Vicky Gini
John Papaioannou
Kyriaki Pelagidou
Konstantinos Kokkolas

Photo Production Manager

Elli Ioannidou

Photo Editing

Nikandri Koukoulioti
Apostolis Zerdevas
Manolis Moresopoulos
Pavlos Simeon
Eleni Maligoura
Marilena Stafilidou

Photo Agencies

ATHENS 2004 archive
Getty Images
AFP
Reuters
VII
Athens News Agency (ANA)
IML Image Group

Translation

Translation Centre Kifissia

Coordination with ATHOC

Antigoni Lathiri

Printing

Haidemenos SA

Binding

Georgios Iliopoulos Inc.

Paper

Burgo Selena New 120 gr/m



Official Report of the XXVIII Olympiad

The Games

2



Contents

Volume 2

The Games

Games Command	8	Football	322
Main Operations Centre	10	Gymnastics	328
Athens and Olympic Cities	22	Handball	348
Welcoming the Games	24	Hockey	352
Culture and Look of the City	26	Judo	356
Participating in the Celebration	32	Modern Pentathlon	366
Hospitality and Services	38	Rowing	370
Olympic Village	40	Sailing	378
Games Training	50	Shooting	386
Media Villages	54	Softball	394
Olympic Youth Camp	58	Table Tennis	398
Piraeus Port	62	Taekwondo	402
Airport	66	Tennis	408
Main Uniform Distribution and Accreditation Centre	70	Triathlon	412
Sponsors Hospitality Centre	74	Volleyball	416
International Broadcast Centre (IBC)	78	Weightlifting	424
Main Press Centre (MPC)	82	Wrestling	432
Olympic News Services - INFO 2004	86	Doping Control	440
Clean Venue Programme	90	Sport Presentation	448
Torch Relay	94	Medal Ceremonies	452
The Olympic Torch Relay	96	Closing Ceremony	456
The Idea of the First Global Torch Relay	100	Paralympic Games	476
The Torch Relay Route	104	Paralympic Torch Relay	478
Pass the Flame, Unite the World	156	Opening Ceremony	482
Opening Ceremony	158	The Games	488
The Games*	198	Closing Ceremony	510
Aquatics	200	ATHOC Financial Report	514
Archery	236	Public Financial Report	516
Athletics	240	Legacy	520
Badminton	264	ATHENS 2004 - A Legacy for Greece and the Olympic Movement	522
Baseball	268	Appendices	526
Basketball	272	Abbreviation Codes of National Olympic Committees	528
Boxing	276	Games Operations: Heads of Central Teams & Venue Managers	530
Canoeing	282	Doping Control: Sample Collection and Analytical Technologies	532
Cycling	294	Results' Update by the IOC	538
Equestrian	310		
Fencing	316		

* Results as of 30 October 2005



Games Command



Main Operations Centre

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

Meeting at the Main Operations Centre (MOC).
© ATHOC/D. Kalopisis

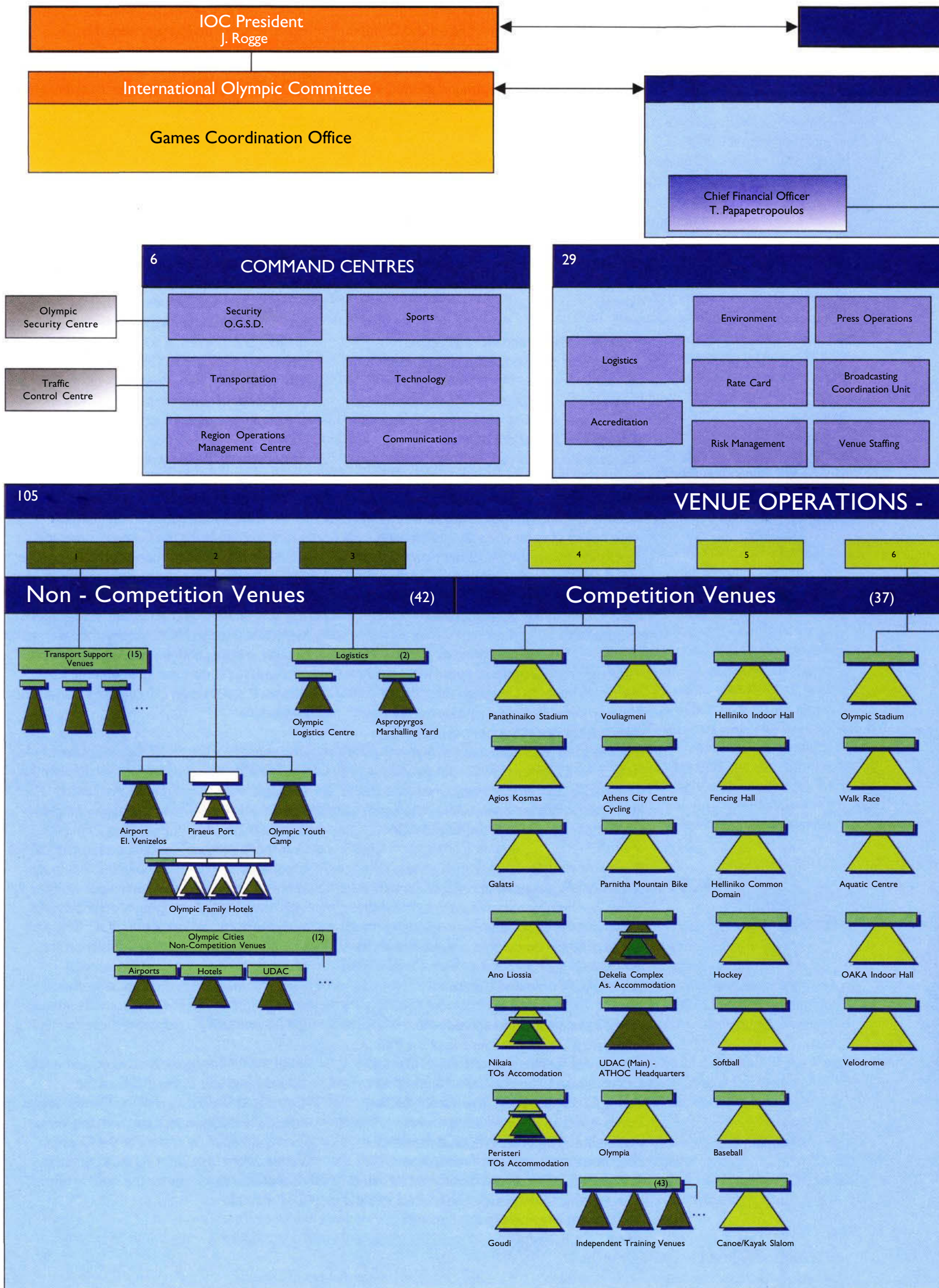
The members of the Main Operations Centre (MOC).
© ATHOC/D. Kalopisis

Meeting at the Main Operations Centre (MOC).
© ATHOC/D. Kalopisis

The Games' Main Operations Centre (MOC) activated its command role on 1 July 2004. For 92 consecutive days thereafter, it was the "heart" of Olympic and Paralympic Games Command and the axial point of Games Operations communications, monitoring and control. It entered its 24-hour operating mode on 13 August 2004, as the smooth progress in preparation and operational readiness activities did not render necessary its transition into full-time operation earlier.

The Main Operations Centre was located at ATHOC Headquarters. As a working area, the MOC consisted of a Main Operations Room, surrounded by four other rooms

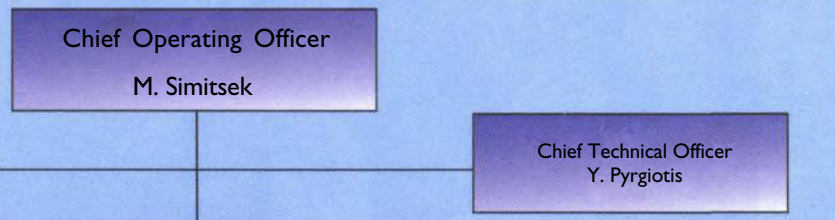
accommodating the following four Command Centres: the Sports Command Centre, the Region and Olympic Cities Operations Management Centre, the Olympic Transport Operations Centre and the Communications Centre. These four Centres had direct access between them as well as with the Operations Room, allowing for fast communication through personal contact between the Centres' operating staff. The above comprised effectively a single operating area, while the Technology Operations Centre, due to its size and special equipment, was set up at a different location, but at a short distance from and with fast and easy access to the other Centres.



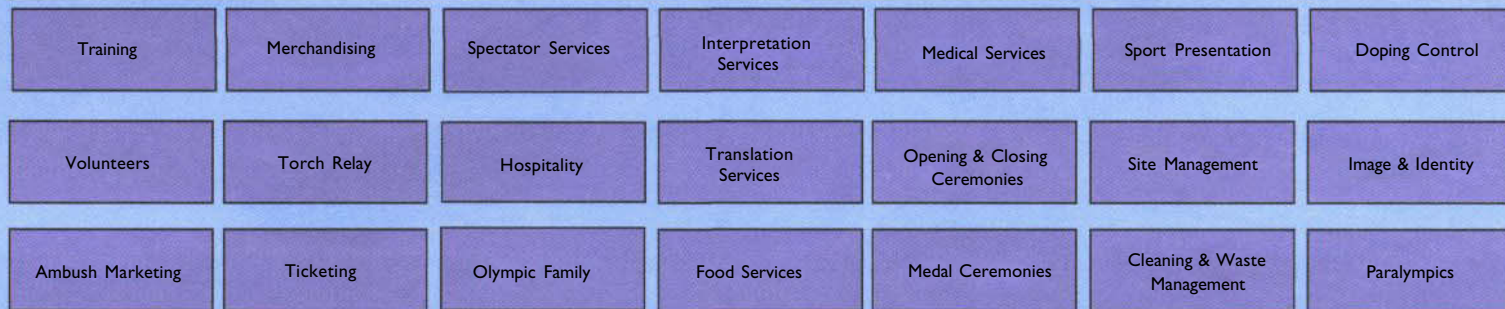
Games Command Structure

ATHOC President
G. Angelopoulos - Daskalaki

GAMES OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT



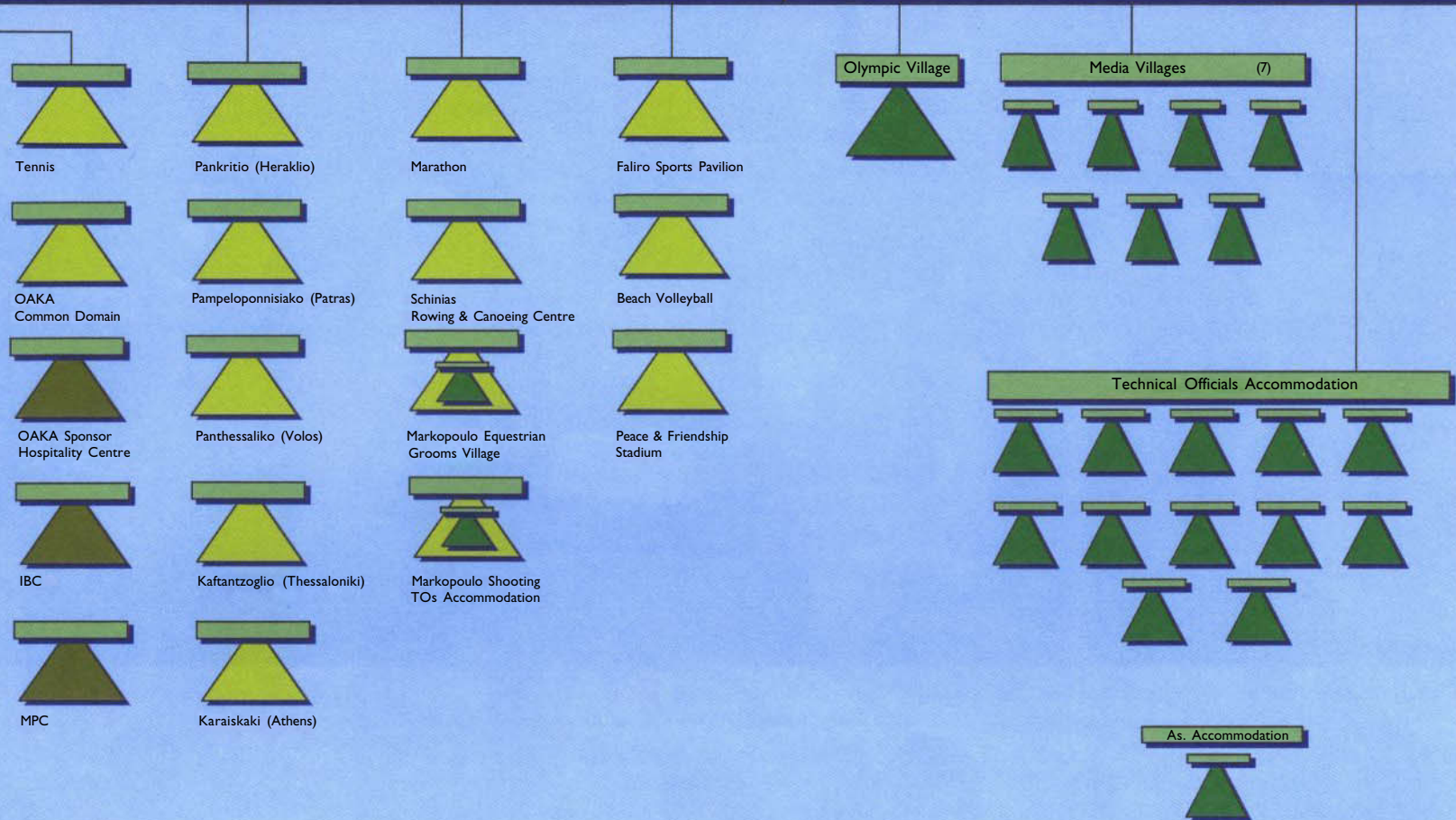
CENTRAL TEAMS



DISTRICT MANAGERS



Olympic Villages & Accommodation Sites (26)



Main Operations Room

The MOC Main Operations Room was the place where the MOC members held their Plenary Meetings. The Room was also the working area of the MOC Operating Team on an on-going basis and of the Games Operations Group as the need arose. It was therefore adequately equipped with all necessary communication facilities and other tools to enable a fast discernment of the way Operations were evolving Games-wide.

MOC Plenary Meetings

During Games-time, the MOC Plenary Meetings were scheduled daily, at 06:00 to 06:45 hours, with provision for a second plenary in the afternoon to be called only if specific developments required full MOC membership involvement. Additional meetings to address specific issues (for example, the Closing Ceremony Transport plan) were called by the Chief Operating Officer (COO) as and when necessary, and involved only those members with specific operational responsibilities on the subject in question.

The MOC Plenary Meetings were presided by the Chief Operating Officer (COO), Head of Games Operations Management and Command, and were attended by all MOC members as follows:

- The Chief Technical Officer and the Chief Financial Officer;
- The Games Operations Group, whose members included: the Heads of the respective Command Centres (Sports, Transport, Region Operations, Technology, Communications), the Head of the Press & Media Office, the Director of the Olympic Games Security Division (OGSD), and the General Manager of the Venue Operations Division;
- The Heads of all Functional Area Central Teams as well as the nominated representative of Legal Services, the District Managers (when their presence was not imperative at the Venues of their responsibility), the Olympic Village Venue Manager (General Manager of Olympic Villages and Accommodation Facilities Operations), and the NOC Relations & Services Manager (whose work position was at the Olympic Village);
- The MOC Manager (Head of the MOC Operating Team) and the MOC duty administrators;
- The deputies and/or support administrators of each member of the Games Operations Group.

MOC Operating Team

As a place of work, the Operations Room configuration was designed to accommodate a total of ten (10) work stations: six for MOC administration, two for the COO's dedicated administrative support, two for the administrative support of the OGSD Director, and one support station per deputy and/or duty manager of the Command Centres to be used during the Plenary Meetings as well as at any other time when their physical presence

was required in the Operations Room, usually in order to facilitate simultaneous communication involving several parties. The MOC administration positions and the COO support posts were covered by a total of 15 administrators, while technology and site management support were provided by the respective personnel of the ATHOC Headquarters Venue Team.

The MOC Operating Team was in direct communication with the COO as well as with all other Command Centres, Central Teams, District Managers and Venue Managers, ensuring the flow of information to the appropriate competent levels of command for decision or as simple notice, depending on the issue, and according to the predefined communication protocols. It was the central point of information flow and diffusion for Games Operations matters, having as a key task to ensure the same level of information to all MOC members and the appropriate level of decision for each issue.

Furthermore, the MOC Operating Team was responsible to register all issues reported to the MOC (for information or decision accordingly) either from the Venues or by the Central Teams as well as all actions decided at the MOC Plenary Meeting; and to further follow-up these issues until their final resolution and implementation of all corresponding actions according to the set deadlines and in line with the decisions that had been taken.

Under the MOC Manager's responsibility and with the COO being kept informed at all times, the MOC Operating Team maintained direct communication with the IOC Games Coordination Office through prescheduled, but also ad hoc, telephone conferencing (through a dedicated "hotline"). The scheduled communications would take place twice daily in the period at the beginning of August and five times a day starting on 12 August 2004 (first communication at 07:00 hours and last one at 22:30 hours). Ad hoc communications, initiated from either side, could also take place in case of emergency incidents (though in the actual circumstances this rarely became necessary). Interface with the IOC Games Coordination Office was based on predetermined and agreed communication protocols and procedures as to the decision levels. Any issues requiring senior level resolution were escalated to the COO and to the IOC Olympic Games Executive Director respectively, who were in direct communication.

Communication and Monitoring Systems

For the overall MOC administrative support and for the performance of the prescribed duties and tasks, the MOC Operating Team disposed of a series of reporting and monitoring systems and tools, while the Operations Room was respectively equipped with state-of-the-art technological systems and means.

The Venue Incident Tracking System (ITS) was the basic tool for each Venue Team's reporting to the MOC. The system allowed for the recording of detailed information on each Venue issue or incident. Information was

entered into the system by each Venue Team Function Manager for incidents occurring within his/her area of responsibility, while the Venue Manager was accountable for the accuracy of all entries. Colour coding was applied to facilitate immediate apprehension by the MOC of:

(a) issues being resolved at Venue Team level; (b) critical issues which the MOC needed to be informed about (but not act upon), requiring action at Venue Team level; (c) issues requiring MOC decision or action; (d) "closed" issues (given that all incident records remained in the system under a unique entry number; even after their complete resolution).

The system was monitored real-time by the MOC Operating Team (accessed on computer monitors and displayed on dedicated plasma screens in the Main Operations Room) as well as by the Heads of Command Centres and of Central Teams. It comprised the single reporting system on Venue incidents, providing the same uniform level of information to all.

Although the Venue ITS provided for real-time monitoring of entries, Venue Managers were not required to update it but by the end of each day, in order that it be used as part of the report during the morning MOC Plenary Meeting. For urgent matters or incidents throughout the day, Venue (or District) Managers contacted the MOC Operating Team Duty Administrators by telephone, in order to ensure the fastest possible response time. To this end, the MOC Operating Team included dedicated administrative posts responsible for the telephone communication with the Venues, each post being responsible for the communication with a specific group of Venues. In this contact, a key tool used was the Registration Form for each communication that was taking place, to be completed by each administrator on duty at the specific post at the time.

Heads of Central Teams and of Command Centres also had user access to the Venue ITS, nonetheless the preferred reporting mode in their case was during the MOC Plenary Meetings or through direct (telephone) communication with the MOC administrators or by physical presence in the MOC Operations Room, again in order to achieve the fastest possible response time. In these cases, the MOC Operating Team employed a dedicated tracking system (MOC ITS), which comprised the registry of all central MOC decisions and actions that were validated by the COO. The MOC ITS could be projected on a wide screen in the Operations Room and was reviewed daily during the MOC Plenary Meetings. It was updated regularly in the course of the day by the MOC Operating Team, which was responsible for following-up the implementation of all decisions and related actions recorded in the system.

For each communication effected by the MOC Operating Team, a Communication Registration Form was completed by the Duty Administrator on shift at the specific post at the time. The form included all necessary information, such as: date and time of communication, brief description of the incident reported, who reported it, severity

level (urgent, for MOC decision/action or for information). The MOC Manager or respective Duty Administrator would forward the issue in writing or communicate it verbally over the telephone to the appropriate recipient(s), while recording on the Registration Form all confirmed receipts (COO, IOC, Operations Group members, or other MOC members). The decision and/or further action required as well as the person responsible for its implementation would also be recorded on the form, as per the decision reached by the competent level or as prescribed by the relevant procedure. Each Communication Registration Form was archived only after completion of the action was verified, following the Duty Administrator's written confirmation on the Form that the action was completed (and when), and only after the MOC Manager had reviewed all the details on the Form.

Nine plasma screens and one projector ensured the real-time projection in the Operations Room of all Games Operations monitoring systems, such as: the Venue and MOC Incident Tracking Systems, the Commentator Information System (CIS), the Venue Activity Monitoring (VAM) system displaying the evolution of the Competition Sessions in each Competition Venue, the Olympic Information System INFO 2004, the meteorological map displaying the weather forecasts, and all TV channels. In addition, forty (40) CATV sets in a special room inside the MOC displayed on an on-going basis the Athens Olympic Broadcasting (AOB) live feed from all the Fields of Play; each feed could be selected for projection on the plasma screens inside the Operations Room.

During the period of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, a total of 537 issues were recorded on the Venue ITS, the overwhelming majority of which concerned issues resolved at Venue Team level with the MOC being simply informed or monitoring progress of resolution. Respectively, a total of 131 issues with their corresponding decisions and actions were registered on the central MOC ITS during the Olympic Games, and 52 issues accordingly during the period of the Paralympic Games.

Liaison with Security

The MOC's liaison with the Olympic Security Command System at an operational level was secured through the Director of the Olympic Games Security Division (OGSD), who was a member of the Games Operations Group at the Main Operations Centre. At a tactical (Venue) level, the liaison was ensured through the full integration of each Venue Security Commander into the Venue Team.

The OGSD operated at its dedicated premises inside ATHOC Headquarters, as it had done throughout the preparation period. Inside the MOC Main Operations Room, the OGSD Director disposed of two administrative support posts in 24-hour operation. Through the OGSD Duty Officers working inside the Main Operations Room, the on-going cooperation with the MOC Operating Team and direct access to information on all Games Operations aspects were ensured.

There was also bilateral communication between the MOC Operating Team and the Olympic Security Command Centre (OKA), which was located at the Attica Police Directorate Headquarters (GADA), through two MOC liaison positions at OKA (covered in shifts by four ATHOC staff). The liaisons kept the MOC informed on Games Security matters on a 24-hour basis, through a dedicated telephone "hotline".

The interface and communication protocols had been tested, adjusted and agreed further to the MOC's participation in a series of Security Exercises, including escalation procedures to the appropriate predetermined decision levels and forums (strategic and political levels) in crisis management situations.

Sports Command Centre

The Sports Command Centre (SCC) was located right next to the Main Operations Room, comprising an integral part of the Main Operations Centre. The Head of the SCC (General Manager of Sports Division) was a member of the MOC's Games Operations Group. The Head of the SCC and his deputies had a work post in the Operations Room for use if and when necessary. The SCC operated on a 24-hour basis throughout the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and was staffed by a total of 22 employees of the former Sports Division.

The Sports Command Centre was the central point for information on and coordination of all matters related to the Sports central operations, such as: the Competition Schedule, Sports Publications, Games Results, Sports Information Centre and services to International Federations and to Technical Officials. The Olympic Independent Training Sites Coordination Manager also reported to the SCC during Games-time.

SCC Games-time tasks included:

- Receiving and dispatching information and directions on issues concerning International Federations from/to all Competition Venues, Training Sites, the Sports Information Centre at the Olympic Village, and the Technical Officials Accommodation Facilities and Hotels.
- Monitoring the evolution of the Competition Schedule. Informing the MOC Operating Team accordingly on necessary changes in the Competition Schedule as proposed by the respective International Federation (which had responsibility for the technical direction and control of the Sport), in order that the changes be submitted to the Games Competition Schedule Change Committee (whose membership included also the Head of the SCC) for information or decision accordingly.
- Reviewing Venue Team reports through the Venue ITS and monitoring progress in the resolution of issues concerning Competition Management. Informing the Head of the SCC accordingly in the case of issues requiring MOC plenary level resolution or COO decision.
- Coordinating communication from the MOC to Sports staff and vice versa, as necessary.

- Preparing reports for the MOC (as and when required) on Sports-specific issues. Contributing to the flow of information on Sports-related operational issues to all other Command Centres and Central Teams as necessary.

Altogether, the Sports Command Centre recorded a total of 466 Sports-related issues during the period of the Olympic Games, and respectively 71 issues during the Paralympic Games. Only a very small number of these required a resolution at MOC and COO level.

Meteorological Support Office

The Sports Command Centre was also responsible for coordinating the systematic dispatching of meteorological information to all Olympic Venues. For this reason, a Meteorological Office was co-located inside the SCC, set up and run by the Hellenic National Meteorological Service (HNMS), which provided all necessary specialist operating equipment and staff.

The Office was connected to the HNMS Olympic Meteorological Centre; it operated on a 24-hour basis, and was fully integrated into the Main Operations Centre having participated in its functioning also during the test events. In addition to dispatching the required weather forecast information in the predetermined format to all Olympic Venues and to the Olympic Information System (INFO 2004), the Meteorological Office supported the MOC on an on-going basis through detailed briefings. HNMS specialists assigned to the Office would perform the daily morning briefing (at 06:00 hours) of MOC members during their Plenary Meeting, through brief presentations on the weather forecast, concise written reports, and through the use of an user-friendly electronic system projecting all relevant information.

Throughout the day, the Meteorological Office specialists collaborated with the MOC Operating Team and with the other Command Centres, providing weather information on an on-going basis and timely warnings on potential extreme weather conditions. Furthermore, the evolution of weather forecasts concerning Competition Venue locations was displayed on an electronic map of the Attica Region that was projected on a permanent basis in the MOC Main Operations Room. The map displayed real-time the three-hour weather forecasts, using colour-coded symbols to draw immediate attention to extreme weather conditions.

The HNMS issued updated daily and three-hour forecasts, specialised wind forecasts, warnings for extreme weather conditions, as well as special weather statistics for each Competition Venue. During the period August-September 2004, 1.818 weather forecast and 108 wind forecast reports were issued by the HNMS.

Olympic Transport Operations Centre

The Olympic Transport Operations Centre (OTOC) functioned as part of the MOC, located adjacent to the other Command

Centres. A total of 23 staff ensured its 24-hour daily operation during the Olympic and Paralympic Games. In addition, the Coordination Centres of the Olympic Bus Network and of the Olympic Car Fleet employed 80 and 49 paid staff respectively during the Olympic period.

OTOC was responsible for the central supervision of all Olympic Bus Network Transport Systems (that is, Athletes' and Team Officials', Media and Technical Officials' dedicated Transport Systems) as well as of the Transport Services provided through the Olympic Car Fleet to T1, T2 and T3 Accredited Olympic Family members. OTOC was in direct contact with all Transport Support Venues (the four Depots as well as all Park and Ride facilities, vehicle transit parking and waiting areas, T3 ranks, etc.).

At the same time, OTOC managed all necessary "external" interfaces with all the agencies involved in traffic and public transportation matters in the wider Attica Region and in the Olympic Cities. The coordination with all public transport agencies during Games-time was the continuation of a long and close cooperation throughout the planning and preparation period.

Through OTOC, the Main Operations Centre secured the coordination of the Olympic Transport operations with the other Games Operations according to on-going needs and priorities, and also achieved an effective response to any incidents that could affect the anticipated provision of services. OTOC submitted to the MOC a daily report on Olympic Transport operations' performance during the previous day, and was responsible for communicating immediately to the MOC any instances of schedule deviations. In 130.000 scheduled routes during the Olympic Games, cases of such incidents were extremely few and isolated.

Liaison with THEPEK

The main point of operational interface between all authorities involved in traffic management was the Transport Monitoring and Control Centre (THEPEK), which was the "heart" of the Traffic Management System. THEPEK was responsible for integrated traffic control during Games-time and for coordinated management of any emergency incidents. It was created specifically for the Olympic Games and was co-located with the Olympic Security Command Centre (OKA) at the Attica Police Directorate Headquarters (GADA). It formed part of the Olympic Security Command System and brought together representatives of all the agencies involved in traffic management and public transport, establishing the necessary connection with their respective operational centres.

OTOC representatives were based in THEPEK, ensuring direct on-going connection with OTOC and, through it, with the Main Operations Centre. A particularly useful facility was the transmission from THEPEK to OTOC of a live image from (selectively) any one of the 400 traffic control cameras that were part of

THEPEK's Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) system. The cameras were placed at critical locations along the entire Olympic Road Network. This allowed OTOC as well as the other MOC Command Centres to have direct perception of and supervision over specific incidents through visual contact with the actual scene of the incident at real time.

This way, and in direct communication with the MOC Main Operations Room, OTOC achieved the effective and efficient coordination of all Olympic Transport operations and addressed efficiently any emergency needs.

Overall, the management system enabled a comprehensive approach to and integrated management of traffic and transport services in the wider area of the Attica Region. As a result, all constituent groups were provided with safe, reliable and timely transportation during the Athens Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Region Operations Management Centre

The Region and Olympic Cities Operations Management Centre (ROMC) provided the coordinating mechanism with and between all state agencies, local and regional government, as well as the private sector and social partners that were involved in the Olympic operation of the city, comprising the necessary link with the overall Games Operations needs and priorities and ensuring the activation of emergency response mechanisms as and when necessary.

The ROMC started its Olympic operation in July 2004 together with the other MOC Command Centres; however, due to the nature of its competences, it entered into a 24-hour operating mode earlier than the other Centres, on 2 August 2004. That was the first day of implementing the special measures planned for the city's Olympic operations. A total number of 29 staff was deployed in the ROMC, including its Head and two deputies.

During Games-time, a representative of the General Secretary for the Olympic Games, to whom the Government had assigned responsibility for the monitoring of Region Operations Management, was present at the ROMC on a daily basis. His appointed Deputies were the Deputy Mayor of Athens, whose representative was also present at the ROMC on a daily basis, and the Head of the ROMC, ATHOC General Manager for the Coordination with Public Administration and Local Authorities Division.

The ROMC had a direct discernment and understanding of the on-going Games operational needs and priorities as they evolved, being an integral part of the Main Operations Centre. The Head of the ROMC was member of the MOC Games Operations Group and had a presence in the Operations Room, ensuring the timely bilateral flow of information on all matters relating to the Attica Region's operations. The result was a fast response to any problems that might arise.

On the other hand, the ROMC disposed of a

strong local structure through the deployment of a number of operating teams along all Olympic Venue surrounding areas and in locations of Olympic interest throughout the greater Athens area and in Olympic Cities. These teams were formed by a total of 109 paid staff and 270 volunteers, covering operations on a 24-hour basis. These teams ensured on a daily basis the resolution of issues concerning city operations in the geographic area of their responsibility, in direct contact with the operational centres of the respective authorities involved.

Specifically, for the more effective management of city operations, the Attica Region was divided into five geographic zones, taking into account all locations of Olympic interest: Central Athens, Southern Coastal Zone, Northern Athens, Northwest Attica, and East Attica. One City Operations Manager was assigned in each zone, being in direct communication with an ROMC duty administrator for the same geographic area; both positions were covered in morning and night shifts. Similar arrangements were followed for the Olympic Cities.

The following locations within each zone were mapped out: Competition Venues, other sites of Olympic interest such as the Airport, the Port, Olympic Hotels and Olympic Hospitals, Training Sites, cultural event sites, public transport stations, etc. The ROMC operating teams moved in the surrounding area of these sites, checking compliance with Olympic operating plans and procedures and resolving any issues that might emerge in collaboration with the local agencies involved.

ROMC action records show that the overwhelming majority of issues (3/4) were addressed and resolved at local level.

At Games-time, the ROMC liaised with the following operational centres of State Agencies: Traffic Monitoring and Control Centre (THEPEK); Medical Coordination Centre of the Ministry of Health (SOTY); Crisis Management Support Unit (YODK); General Secretariat for Civil Protection; and Fire Department. An MOC liaison was assigned to each of the above centres, with a reporting line to the ROMC.

Through the Region and Olympic Cities Operations Management Centre, a high number of state, local, regional and private sector agencies were mobilised and their activities coordinated to the utmost precision around the common objectives, where and as the need arose as well as in emergency response conditions. Through this mechanism, the city accommodated the Games through an overall operation that was efficient, smooth and flexible, relieved of bureaucratic and time-consuming procedures.

Technology Operations Centre

The Technology Operations Centre (TOC) effected the central coordination of all Technology infrastructure and services during the Games and integrated all central operations of the individual Technology Functions: Information Technology, Telecommunications

and Energy. It was located at ATHOC Headquarters, very near and with easy access to all other Command Centres of the Main Operations Centre.

The TOC entered into 24-hour operating mode one month prior to the Opening of the Olympic Games and continued until the Closing of the Paralympic Games. TOC staff numbered 82 people (including staff employed in the Internet and Interactive Media Section). In addition, 347 Technology Sponsors' and other suppliers' staff was employed at the Centre to attend to matters of their competence. Overall management responsibility lay with the Head of the TOC, General Manager of the Technology Division.

The Technology Operations Centre ensured the sound installation and functionality of the ensemble of technology equipment in line with the specifications. It was responsible for anticipating and preventing potential problems by monitoring vital technical statistics (for example, network throughput, system responsiveness, etc.). Respectively it was responsible for ensuring the timely resolution of problems in compliance with the preset response timeframes depending on their severity level. It provided expert support to all Technology operations in Olympic Venues, and managed critical resources for the aversion of emergency situations and for the rectification of problems.

Key tasks of the Technology Operations Centre included the following:

- Application monitoring: specialised personnel using tailor-made applications monitored the performance of all applications that were critical for the Games.
- Network monitoring: network performance was monitored both by the supplier (at physical infrastructure level) as well as by the TOC at system level.
- Network security monitoring: all network resources were continuously monitored for the detection of any external or internal malicious intrusion.
- Incident tracking: all incidents were managed from their initial occurrence up to their final resolution, through a tailor-made IT system.
- Escalation procedures: the above incident management system included a specific functionality to support the automatic escalation of incidents within the deadline determined according to their severity level target fix time.
- Change management: any changes in infrastructure that involved expenditure were managed at TOC level, where competent dedicated personnel undertook all necessary actions.

In the automatic escalation of incidents, four "severity levels" with their corresponding response timeframes were defined and applied: from the more critical levels 1 and 2 used to identify incidents concerning systems'

functionality that either impact (1) or place at risk (2) the Competition, to severity levels 3 and 4 concerning individual operating components or specific user groups without affecting Competition. The preset timeframes of response and repair were defined according to the severity levels as follows:

- Severity level 1, immediate response and maximum target fix time one hour;
- Severity level 2, immediate response and maximum target fix time 2 hours.
- Severity level 3, response in 15 minutes and maximum target fix time 4 hours.
- Severity level 4, response within 3 hours and maximum target fix time 8 hours.

During Games-time, the overall management of operations at the TOC was realised through a number of sub-centres that coordinated information and control flows to and from their domains of responsibility. TOC sub-centres included the Telecommunications Control Centre and the Energy Control System.

The Telecommunications Control Centre (TCC) monitored the performance of the telecommunications infrastructure and was the single point of control, operation and fault reporting to the TOC on all Olympic telecommunications services.

The TOC Energy Control System was responsible for the monitoring of the critical nodes of electrical power flows and of the uninterrupted power supply system (UPS), coordinating the restoration of any malfunctions and preventing saturation points. A System Control and Data Accumulation (SCADA) was used for the monitoring and control of networks, and all UPS units at Olympic Venues were tele-monitored. The Energy Control System was the single point of control, operations and fault reporting to the TOC on all energy-related issues at the Olympic Venues. The TOC Energy team was responsible for the communication and cooperation with the respective Operations Centre of the Public Power Corporation (PPC).

The co-location in the same area of all the systems necessary for the monitoring and control of Games Technology systems allowed for prompt interventions to prevent critical situations and for effective repairs in cases of problems occurring in Games Systems hardware or software. The central coordination and control provided by the Technology Operations Centre enabled the exemplary for Olympic Games performance of services with respect to its key parameters: Competition Schedule, Broadcasting and Results.

Communications Centre

Part of the Main Operations Centre was the Communications Centre (CC), which had the responsibility for the communications management of all issues both "internally" within the Organising Committee as well as "externally" towards the broader public.

At Games-time, Communications was responsible for the achievement of a consistent message from all stakeholders towards the public and Games participants, in accordance with the Organising Committee's communications strategy.

The Communications Centre operated on a 24-hour basis during the Olympic and Paralympic Games, deploying 17 staff in total. The Head of the Communications Centre was the Communications General Manager, while the Head of the Press & Media Office (General Manager) also participated. They both had work stations in the MOC Main Operations Room, to be used as necessary also by their deputies, they participated in the MOC Plenary Meetings and were members of the Games Operations Group.

The Communications Centre was in direct contact with the MOC Main Operations Room as well as with the other Command Centres, all of which were required to immediately inform the CC on every incident, regardless of sector or crisis level. That is, centrally, every prescribed flow of information between any levels or parties also necessarily included the flow of the information to the Communications Centre.

Simultaneously, the Communications Centre had on-going contact with the Venue Communications Managers in each Olympic Venue. Situated at the Venue Communications Centre (VCC), and in direct collaboration with the Venue Manager, they were responsible for monitoring the evolution of all operations in the specific Venue and of any issues as they arose. The Venue Communications Manager of each Venue had a direct reporting line to the Communications Centre on all issues that might have communications interest or impact, while also keeping the Venue Manager informed at all times. The CC processed these reports centrally in direct communication with the Main Operations Room and the further information and management levels were jointly agreed.

The Communications Centre was suitably technologically equipped to monitor in real time Games coverage by the Media (broadcast, electronic and written press).

With this knowledge of issues, the Communications Centre was in on-going cooperation with its IOC Communications counterpart, also for joint preparation and participation in the daily Press Briefings that were held at the Main Press Centre (MPC) during the Games. In these Press Conferences, the Heads of Communications and of Press & Media participated as Organising Committee spokespersons. As part of their preparation, they also attended the morning ATHOC report to the IOC Executive Board as observers.

The Communications Centre was also connected to all "external" stakeholders, the Sponsors, the competent Government Press Offices (Ministry of Press, Ministry of Public Order, etc.) to achieve integrated handling and joint response on all issues, according to the communications strategy of ATHOC and of the specific parties involved.

Within this framework, there was representation at the Zappeio Press Centre, which, under the primary responsibility of the Government, served non-accredited Media.

Crisis Communications Management

The Communications Centre was responsible for the communications management of potential or actual crises. With regard to the internal organisation for crisis management, during the period of preparation, the Communications Team had cooperated with all ATHOC Functional Areas to produce a Crisis Manual, which anticipated for every eventual incident per Function the common process of evaluating the incident and the information flow procedures, as well as the rules and levels of response depending on the incident's significance.

The four levels were ranked by potential impact on the Games, beginning with "no overall impact", "no threat of a major impact", "an impact on the Games, but not possible cancellation", up to "a crisis that could stop the Games".

At senior level, Crisis Management included the Chief Operating Officer, to whom the Head of Communications and the Press & Media General Manager reported directly, as well as the President of the Organising Committee at the highest level.

With regard to the "external" liaisons for crisis management, similar procedures were established for mutual information and joint management both with the IOC communications team as well as with the Government's crisis management team, in parallel and always in correlation with the corresponding procedures and escalation levels for the operational management of the incident or crisis in question (by the Games Main Operations Centre). To achieve this objective, there was close cooperation with Government agencies and with the IOC, always in conjunction with the MOC Operating Team. Such procedures had been tested in the corresponding Exercises and Simulations.

A Typical Olympic Day at the Main Operations Centre

00:30 Start the collection and processing by the MOC Operating Team of all Venue daily reports retrieved through the Venue Incident Tracking System (Venue ITS). Operating Team identifies and records all critical issues reported, in particular "open" issues requiring MOC decision, for COO and MOC briefing during the Plenary Meeting.

04:30-05:00 MOC Operating Team prepares the briefing note for the Chief Operating Officer (COO) following review of all Venue reports; prepares the draft agenda for the morning MOC Plenary Meeting, including all critical issues identified in the reports as well as any "open" issues from the previous day.

05:30-06:00 MOC Manager briefs (verbally and in writing) the Chief Operating Officer before the morning Plenary Meeting of the MOC

members and finalises Meeting Agenda on his instructions.

06:00-06:05 HNMS personnel of the Meteorological Office brief MOC members on weather forecast and submit relevant report.

06:00-06:45 First MOC Plenary Meeting with Chief Operating Officer presiding: COO announcements and instructions; joint review of all open issues; recording of decisions and actions; preparation for Coordination Meeting with the IOC Executive Board.

06:45-07:00 Heads of Sports Command Centre and of Technology Operations Centre brief (by telephone) IOC counterparts.

07:00-07:15 First inter-briefing (by telephone communication) between the MOC and the IOC Games Coordination Office.

07:30 Chefs de Mission Meeting at Olympic Village. MOC members attending: the Olympic Village Venue Manager and the NOC Relations & Services Manager, other MOC members attend, as and if required, by MOC Plenary Meeting decision.

07:30-08:30 Chief Operating Officer briefs Organising Committee President. Preparation of report to the IOC Executive Board.

08:30-09:30 Coordination Meeting between ATHOC (President and Chief Operating Officer) and IOC Executive Board at the Olympic Family Hotel.

08:45-09:00 MOC Operating Team verbal debriefing (for dispatching relevant information as appropriate) on critical issues discussed at Chefs de Mission Meeting. Submission of Minutes of Chefs de Mission Meeting.

09:30-09:45 Second communication between MOC and IOC Games Coordination Office (telephone communication or meeting between the Chief Operating Officer and the IOC Olympic Games Executive Director).

09:00-10:00 Preparation of Joint ATHOC - IOC Press Conference.

10:00 IOC Marketing Operations Meeting at the Olympic Family Hotel. Head and Deputy of ATHOCs Marketing Central Team attend. MOC is debriefed on Meeting results.

10:30-11:00 ATHOC-IOC Joint Press Conference at Main Press Centre (MPC).

12:00 Head of ATHOCs Health Services Central Team attends Health Sector Coordination Meeting. MOC is debriefed on Meeting results.

12:30-12:45 Third communication (by telephone) between MOC and IOC Games Coordination Office.

15:30 Broadcasters Meeting at the International Broadcast Centre (IBC), organised by AOB. Head of ATHOC's Broadcasting Coordination Unit attends. MOC is debriefed on Meeting results.



16:30 Joint Press Commission Meeting, if called. Head of ATHOC's Press Operations Central Team attends. MOC is debriefed on Meeting results.

17:30 MOC briefing on weather update by Meteorological Office.

17:30 Second MOC Plenary Meeting (if necessary to address specific issues).

18:00 IOC Medical Commission Meeting at the Olympic Family Hotel. Heads of ATHOC's Health Services and Doping Control Services Central Teams attend. MOC is debriefed on results of Meeting, as appropriate.

18:30 Fourth communication (by telephone) between MOC and IOC Games Coordination Office.

22:30 Fifth communication (by telephone) between MOC and IOC Games Coordination Office.

The above programme includes all prescheduled meetings with Olympic partners. In the course of the Games, as operations evolved smoothly these meetings gradually became shorter and no longer took place on a daily basis, especially during the second week of the Games. In total, ten Coordination Commission Meetings with the IOC Executive Board took place; after the end of the first week they took place every two days.

This page:

Meeting at the Main Operations Centre (MOC).
© ATHOC/D. Kalopisis

Games Operations

After 92 consecutive days of continuous operations, the Main Operations Centre of the Games (MOC) closed its doors on 30 September 2004. As the centre of information management and decision making of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the MOC was the "heart" and the "brain" of Games Operations, and its operation was judged directly by the outcome.

The command structure and strategy of this enormous venture proved entirely successful, achieving simultaneous streamlining, coordination and control of thousands of information flows and decision implementation channels, directing them in line with the predefined procedures, while it demonstrated flexibility and expediency in the few emergency situations that occurred.

The command scheme achieved the harmonious interconnection of several agencies and multiple activities towards the shared objective, to a degree considered unprecedented (also given the scale) for Greek reality and a benchmark in Olympic practice by the IOC.



Athens and Olympic Cities



Welcoming the Games

"Athens - Culture - Celebration": this triptych was proposed to welcome the return of the Olympic Games to the country of their birth and the city of their revival. In August 2004, Athens and the other Olympic Cities - Thessaloniki, Volos, Patra, Heraklio-as well as Ancient Olympia, welcomed the Olympic Games in an atmosphere of celebration and participation, to be shared by 4 billion television viewers around the world and thousands of members of the Olympic Family, Athletes, Media and visitors.

For seventeen entire days, from 13 to 29 August, Greece lived to the rhythm of the Olympics, organising the world's greatest sporting event in an exemplary and secure manner, demonstrating both its own cultural identity and its warm and human nature. For the thousands of visitors from all over the world who were drawn to Athens, the Olympic Games were an opportunity to get acquainted with the city's historical side, as well as its modern image, to visit the sights and participate in the cultural activities, to celebrate and have fun alongside the city's residents.

Sound, colour and light, design interventions and artistic activities, musical shows and theatrical performances were all organised in the city centre and at points of Olympic interest. The Competition Venues hosted a celebration of sport. Around these, there was a celebration of culture and the joy of participation. Historic monuments were constantly present in the background - living

exemplars of a civilisation that brought forth the values of Olympism and their timeless essence, fair play, cultural heritage, respect for the environment, participation. Past and present were woven together during the Olympic Games, joined harmoniously, using elements of Greece's historic identity and heritage respectfully, setting them in a modern context and highlighting the value of the Human Scale.

Many agencies collaborated on the Look of the City and the Cultural programme throughout the Olympic period. These included the Ministry of Culture; the Municipality of Athens; the municipal authorities of the Olympic Cities and of the Municipalities of the Attica region, within whose administrative boundaries Olympic Venues were located; as well as the competent ATHOC Departments, Culture and City Operations. The objective of this cooperation was to unify and harmonise the artistic interventions and events planned by each agency. Given the requirements of organising the Olympic Games, it was necessary that, beyond the Olympic Venues, the cities hosting Competition be functional, beautiful and safe; so that everyone, visitors and local residents, could participate and experience the festive atmosphere under the best possible conditions. All parties involved shared this view in order to achieve these objectives. Throughout the preparation period, communication, information exchange and coordination procedures for planning the various actions were established between ATHOC and these public agencies.

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

A giant balloon marks the "Landscapes below Athens" route.
© ATHOC/N. Christodoulou

A building wrap along the Cycling Road Race at the centre of Athens.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas

View of the Cycling Road Race venue situated at one of the central squares of Athens.
© ATHOC/N. Christodoulou



Culture and Look of the City

Cultural Programme

Athens, as Host City, had undertaken a contractual obligation to the IOC to plan and implement a four-year cultural programme. Within the framework of the tripartite agreement between the Ministry of Culture, the Organising Committee and the IOC, and with the necessary legislative regulation, the Ministry of Culture managed the new institution of the Cultural Olympiad, through the agency of Hellenic Cultural Heritage SA (which later became the Hellenic Culture Organisation SA), with the catchphrases "For a Culture of Civilisations", and later "Celebrate Cultures", with a wide-ranging programme of cultural and other activities in Greece and abroad for the period 2001-2004.

Specifically for the period beginning with the Lighting of the Olympic Flame and throughout the duration of the Games, ATHOC formulated a programme of parallel cultural events in the Olympic Cities, both within and outside the Olympic Venues, and throughout Greece, accompanying the Torch Relay route. The programme "ATHENS 2004 - Culture" commenced in March 2004 and ended with the closing of the Paralympic Games, in September 2004. The common component of the events was the concept that "Sport is Culture", which also defined the selections and content of the Organising Committee's Cultural programme.

The "ATHENS 2004 - Culture" programme was designed to be functional and to serve the specific requirements of the Games, creating an atmosphere of celebration while highlighting the cultural dimension of the Games. All Olympic operation parameters during the Games were taken into consideration in its planning, including traffic restrictions on the

Olympic road network, security measures, the daily operations of the city, the flow of spectators to and from the Competition Venues and the particular features of each Venue. For the Torch Relay in particular, each site that would host the events and the Torch Relay Ceremonies, along the journey of the Flame within Greece, was studied individually.

Besides the events held in Athens and in the Olympic Cities at Games-time, the programme also included a series of special cultural activities, to mark specific Games operations. For example:

On 9 August 2004, for the Opening of the IOC Session, a concert was given at the Athens Megaron Concert Hall. The programme was approximately 30 minutes long and included works by Beethoven, Skalkotas, Hadjidakis, Theodorakis and Mikroutsikos.

The Culture Department was also in charge of the artistic segment of the Team Welcome Ceremonies at the Olympic Village. Five-minute dance sequences were organised by four Greek modern dance companies for 68 Ceremonies.

At the Helliniko Olympic Complex, after Competition ended, ticket holders were offered the opportunity to remain in the Common Domain surrounding the Venues and watch a specially formulated artistic programme.

On the occasion of the Lighting of the Paralympic Flame at the Temple of Hephaestus on 9 September 2004, the National Theatre performed "Lysistrata" by Aristophanes at the Odeon of Herod Atticus. The performance was directed by K. Tsianou, with Lydia Koniordou in the title role.

Left page:

Large wrap on building at Syntagma Square in the centre of Athens.
© ATHOC/C. Cunliffe



During the Paralympic Games, an artistic programme was performed at the Athens Megaron Concert Hall, a venue with high aesthetic standards and excellent technical facilities, fully accessible to individuals with special needs. The programme's aim was to highlight human strength and capacity through art. Children, a significant percentage of the Games spectators, were its target audience. Greek and international artistic groups, representing all forms of art, took part in a distinctive programme, contributing to audience participation.

An important component was to plan the artistic programme for the cities where the Flame would overnight during the Greek Torch Relay. Cultural events followed the Flame ceremonies at central points of the cities and at historical monuments (a total of forty-one stops: 6 archaeological sites, 31 city-centre points, 4 Olympic Cities). The cultural events included concerts by Greek musicians, except where the Flame spent the night at an archaeological site. In the Olympic Cities, the cultural events were thematically linked to the events that took place at the Competition Venues, the preliminary rounds of the Football Tournament beginning on 11 August 2004.

Look of the City

The Organising Committee started planning the Look of the City in 2000. Given on the one hand the desired result for the image of Athens and the other Olympic Cities during the Games, and on the other hand the objective limitations in time and resources, a team from the Organising Committee's City Operations Department undertook to map the points of "Olympic interest" on digital maps, particularly the area around the centre of Athens and Piraeus, the areas surrounding the historic monuments, the Olympic routes and access roads, and the areas around the Olympic Venues.

Thus a detailed record was made of all necessary interventions in public areas, mainly concerning sidewalk improvements, with particular emphasis on their accessibility, the renewal of city equipment, painting and restoration of facades, removal of advertising signs, planting and upgrading parks and gardens. All the recorded interventions were then submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Public Administration and Decentralisation, the Municipality of Athens and the other Olympic Municipalities of the Attica region and the Olympic Cities, the SA for the Unification of the Archaeological Sites of Athens (EAXA), and all other agencies involved. Their implementation was put in place by the competent agencies, on the basis of legislative regulations, where necessary, and with government-approved funding.

Amongst the various urban renewal interventions by competent public agencies, was the improvement of the start and classic course of the Marathon Race, and the restoration of the road surface and route for the other Road Events. For the Cycling Road Race Event, in particular - held in the historical centre of Athens - there was collaboration with EAXA, which implemented a visionary plan to unify the archaeological sites in the "historic triangle" of Athens.

Besides the urban renewal works, there was close cooperation with the competent agencies for the Olympic decoration programme. This concerned the city of Athens and the Olympic Municipalities, the areas of Olympic interest in the Attica region, public spaces attracting crowds, as well as the Olympic Cities. This contributed to creating a special atmosphere of Olympic celebration, providing a unified image throughout. In addition, ATHOC designed and implemented, with Sponsor financing, "Catch the Light: Routes through Athens", a contemporary travelogue of the city's historic centre with dynamic installations using images and light.

This page:

Banners along Messogeion Avenue.
© ATHOC



Decoration was not limited to the Olympic Venues. The Olympic colours flooded the roads, squares and bridges, and the main buildings of Athens, the Olympic Cities and Ancient Olympia. The Municipalities responded enthusiastically to the Olympic Look of the City programme, and undertook the installation of Look within their city limits, in accordance with guidelines provided by the Organising Committee.

Flags and banners were placed along all the central routes, in squares and other areas with Olympic activities. The gateways into the City were decorated: airports, seaports, metro stations and railway stations, tollbooths, bridges, underpasses. Symbols of the Games were placed at various central points. Large buildings were covered in images of Ancient Olympia and photographs by Greek artists.

The Olympic Look of the City in Numbers

- Olympic decoration along 370 kilometres of roads in the Attica region
- Olympic decoration along 200 kilometres of roads in the Olympic Cities
- More than 20.000 banners
- 21 kilometres of fabric
- 7,5 kilometres of bridge bunting
- 15 building wraps
- 280 photographs by Greek artists placed on buildings, fences and bus stops

Brand Protection

The protection of the Olympic symbols, emblems, marks and logos, as set out by Greek legislation, was an obligation of the Organising Committee towards the IOC, as was the use of all legal means, where appropriate, against offenders who in any manner utilised the Olympic Symbols and marks without receiving permission to do so from the Organising Committee (Ambush Marketing).

The following actions were taken before and during the Athens Olympic Games, in order to prevent and control Ambush Marketing activities:

- Enforcing the legislation regarding outdoor advertising in Athens and the Olympic Cities.
- Training ATHOC staff on issues of sponsor rights and exclusivity.
- Meeting with Greek advertising companies and distributing Marketing guidelines.
- Briefing and informing Municipalities.
- Sending legal reminder letters to competitors of the Sponsors.
- Extending the information campaign for Sponsor Recognition up to the Games.
- Monitoring printed Press.
- Monitoring Greek web pages.
- Monitoring Greek television channels.

From 7 August 2004, the Brand Protection Office of the Marketing Central Team operated for 10-12 hours a day, at ATHOC Headquarters, while a special page was hosted at the ATHENS 2004 website, in order to receive incident reports.

There was special cooperation with the competent public agencies and municipal authorities in order to remove advertising signs, a particularly painstaking and complicated procedure. Outdoor advertising had to be dealt with, not only as an unregulated offence to the aesthetic Look of the City, but also in order to protect the rights of the Sponsors. In the effort to rid the City of illegal advertising, as well as to strictly control advertising content during the Games, the Organising Committee cooperated from the beginning with all parties

This page:

Part of the exhibition along the "Athens Faces" route. A Sponsor branded bus is passing in the foreground.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos

involved (representatives of outdoor advertising companies, Sponsors, the Ministries and Municipalities involved), in order to formulate a strict legal framework for the specifications and control of outdoor advertising throughout Attica, particularly during the Games. The result was that by summer 2004, five thousand billboards had been removed, while starting in July 2004 and up to the end of the Games, along the areas and routes of Olympic interest, the content of the advertisements was strictly limited to the Olympic Games and their Sponsors.

In order to control outdoor advertising, inspections took place throughout Athens, Piraeus, Athens Airport and the Athens Ring Road. During the Games, Brand Protection experts made daily inspections of the market and of Competition and Non Competition

Venues, ensuring that the legislation were being applied and protecting the Sponsors from illegal moves by competitors. The purpose of these tours by the Brand Protection experts was to collect all necessary information, along with evidence and photographs, in order to proceed with any legal action.

The result of these actions was a very limited number of incidents concerning outdoor advertisements, advertising posters and outdoor signs, which first received a written warning. In the instances of non-compliance, the issue took the legal path. Thanks to the preventive measures and the strict daily inspections throughout the Games, no major issues of Brand Protection came up, while the few instances that did were dealt with efficiently, resulting in Olympic Games free of Ambush Marketing.



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Night view of Syntagma square.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos

"White noise/white light": An art
installation by J. Meejin Yoon, part
of the "Listen to Athens" route.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos



Participating in the Celebration

Athens

In August 2004, art and civilisation, the historical monuments and the cutting edge of artistic expression, coexisted harmoniously, in combination with a richly varied but unified Olympic Look of the City, at the biggest celebration of sport ever hosted by Athens.

In the Attica region alone, 370 kilometres of road were decorated in the Olympic colours and designs. Special focus was placed on the Olympic road network, the areas surrounding the Olympic Venues, the historic city centre and the coastal zone from Piraeus to Vouliagmeni, which included many Competition Venues.

Many landmark buildings in Attica (the Fix brewery, three Piraeus Port Authority buildings, the Ministry of Public Order, the Ralleios School in Piraeus and a building along Marathon Avenue) were covered with original images of Ancient Olympia. The "Landscapes of Olympia" used aerial photographs or panoramic images of the Ancient Stadium and Sanctuary of Olympia (landscapes, photographs of monuments, olive trees, portraits of people there), entitled "Welcome home". The idea behind the installation was to create a series of "windows" in Athens, opening onto the sacred birthplace of the Olympic Games.

Central squares and public spaces throughout the historical centre of Athens were selected as sites for artistic events creating an atmosphere of Olympic celebration. Kotzia, Klauthmonos and Exarhia Squares, the Archaeological Museum forecourt, Thiseio, Monastiraki, Kolonaki and the pedestrian streets of Ermou and Adrianou were discreetly organised in collaboration between ATHOC, the Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works, the City of Athens and the

Olympic Games Security Division, and were "left open" to the inspiration, creativity and imagination of Greek and international artists. Music groups filled the air with classical, jazz, rock, electronic and traditional music; there were dancers, street players, acrobats and jugglers, who left their imprint on the August celebration in Athens.

In these areas, but not exclusively, on days and times agreed in advance with the Organising Committee, the Municipality of Athens developed its own Cultural programme, spreading the celebration and the participation to the "Neighbourhoods of Athens", outside the historical centre of the Host City.

Design Applications

In the design sector, a series of events traced the development of art from Greek Antiquity to the contemporary age. "Design Applications" included four events: "Great Travellers of Athens", "Views of Athens. Contemporary Greek Painters", a collection "Monument to Now" by Dakis Joannou, and the art exhibit: "Magna Graecia: Sport and Olympism on the Periphery of the Hellenic World".

Catch the Light: Routes through Athens

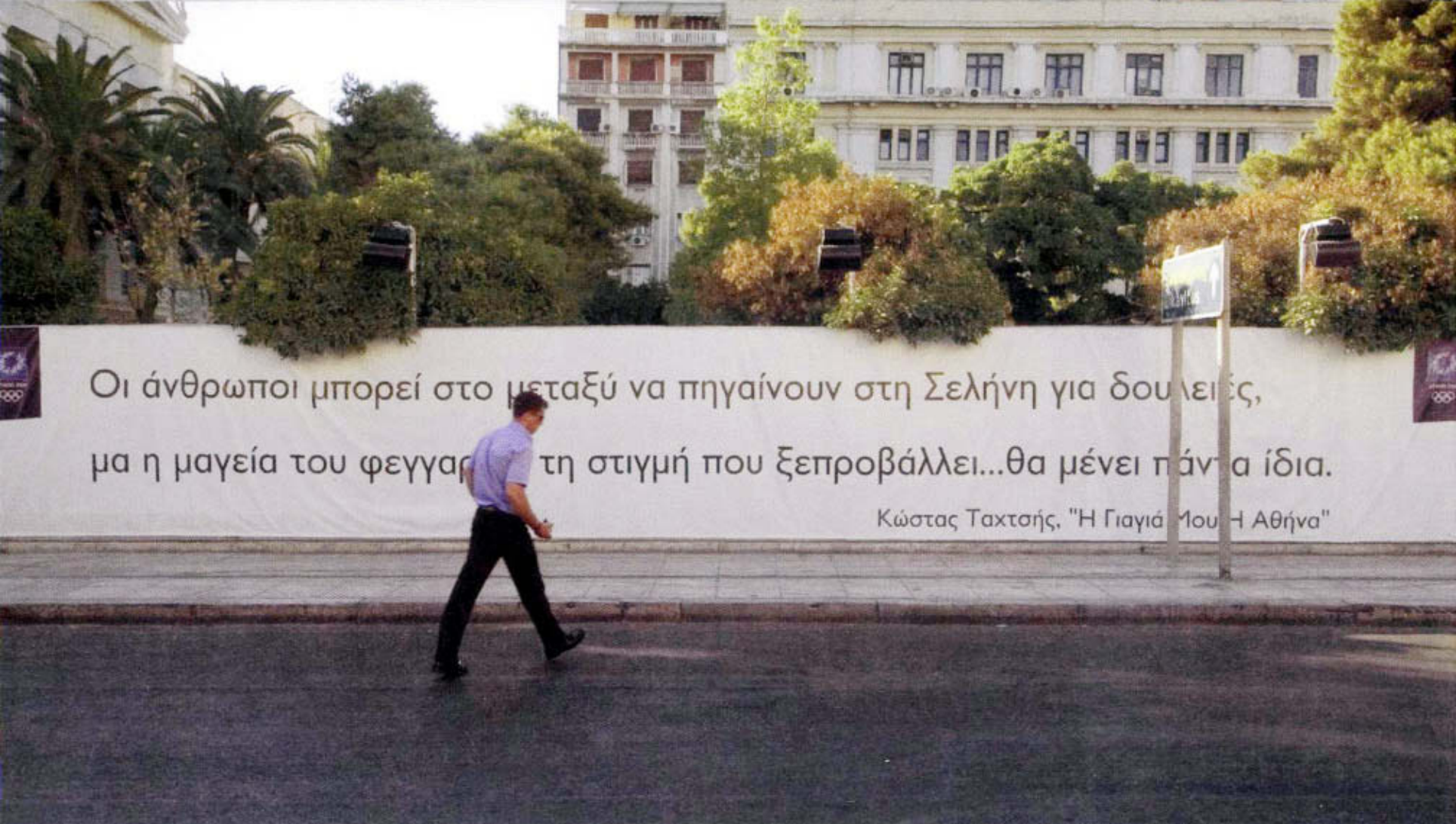
"Catch the Light: Routes through Athens" was a programme that created a unique atmosphere of celebration in the centre of Athens, around the Parthenon and other unique monuments of world civilisation. It aimed to create a modern tour around the historic centre, through special installations with images and light, to attract the attention of residents, visitors and the global television audience. The programme's range and scale, and the way it highlighted a unique view of the Host City, using coordinated cutting-edge applications, were a first for the Olympic Games. Five Routes through the City, itineraries through

Left page, from top to bottom:

The Fix brewery building is covered with large wraps depicting images from Ancient Olympia.
© ATHOC/N. Christodoulou

Another view of the Fix brewery building wrapped with images from the collection "Welcome home".
© ATHOC/C. Vergas

The Ralleios School in Piraeus covered with "Landscapes of Olympia" images.
© ATHOC/S. Tsakiris



streets and pedestrian ways, covering 13,5 kilometres and connecting 15 historical and cultural sites, were dressed dramatically in light and images for "Catch the Light".

"Athens Reflections", "Landscapes Below Athens", "Athens Scripts", "Athens Faces" and "Listen to Athens" were the themes of the five Routes, marked at central points with internally-lit giant balloons (twelve helium balloons, each five metres in diameter). All five Routes passed by Athenian landmarks and squares, and traversed the liveliest neighbourhoods in the centre of the Greek capital. The public discovered one of the world's most fascinating cities, on foot.

Large wraps and banners on central buildings presented over 40 photographs by Greek photographers. "Catch the Light" was also an exhibition of interactive installations in public spaces. Eight artists and groups of designers from all over the world presented interactive installations along the Routes. These installations were activated by direct participation of the people in the street. A series of cultural street activities complemented the installations and applications of the Olympic Look of the Routes.

Each Route had its own name, colour and character.

"Athens Reflections"

The Old Market of the Centre, from the Square of Agion Assomaton to Omonia, and from Aiolou Street to Monastiraki, and the nightlife of Psyrri, were revealed to the public in short-length films projected onto blank building walls.

Dimitris Tzamouranis and Kathrin Lind, with the "Follow Me" Video in the area of Psyrri and the old Athens Market, presented "twin" projections of archival and contemporary films, near places where those films had been shot.

In Koumoundourou Square, Dimitris Kozaris presented "Living in Athens", a piece set on an interactive platform. Passers-by activated the projection of the interior life of an apartment building on its blind exterior wall.

"Landscapes below Athens"

Opposite the ancient cemetery of Kerameikos, on the new pedestrian section of Ermou Street, Takis Zerdevas and Makis Faros transported the audience into the atmosphere of a "Tavern".

Images were interspersed along the Route. An interactive platform was placed at a street opening at the intersection of Adrianou Street and Thiseio Street, where it was activated by the walking passers-by. Pedestrians chased a light, which expelled a puff of cool air, an installation by Lot Architecture entitled "openaircondition".

Further on, at Kapnikarea, Maurice Benayoun's "Watch Out! The Eyes of the City" projected the eyes of pedestrians above the busy sidewalk.

"Athens Scripts"

Words and texts about Athens by Karouzou, Karyotakis, Seferis, Sikelianos, Byron, Virginia Woolf, were set up in shop windows, public arcades and fencing, to accompany a walk around the University, the National Library, the Academy and the Arsakeio Arcade.

Along the same Route, Michael Hoepfel of Meso entertained the public with "Light Strive", a moving light that played with the shadows of passers-by on the facade of a building on Korai Street.

"Athens Faces"

A sequence of photographic portraits of children, major artists and Athenian citizens, curated by Vangelis Ioakeimidis, was placed on a

This page:

View of the "Athens Scripts" route.
© ATHOC/N. Christodoulou



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Part of the exhibition along the
"Athens Faces" route.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos

"openaircondition": An installation
by Lot Architecture, part of the
"Landscapes below Athens" route.
© ATHOC/C. Cunliffe



total of 150 panels and banners along the length of the Route, creating an open-air exhibition of photography from the National Garden and the Zappeio to Rizari Street. Every night portraits of well-known personalities of letters and the arts, including Sikelianos, Mitropoulos, Callas, Seferis, Hadjidakis, Dimoula, Christianopoulos, Mytaras, Moralis and Pikionis were projected on the walls.

Next to the floodlit buildings, the "Athens Faces" were also illuminated at night, offering a Human Scale to two of the city's most imposing central avenues, Amalias Avenue and Vassilisis Sofias Avenue.

Along the same Route, at midnight on Lycabettus Hill, Mitch Benoff presented his work "Athens Olympic Meteor". A 300-metre-long line of lights created a flash of light that raced up the hill at a speed of 1.000 kilometres per hour

"Listen to Athens"

A soundtrack discreetly framed the most historic public walk of Athens, the pedestrian road of Dionysios Areopagites, with sounds from theatrical and musical performances.

Close to the fence of the Ancient Agora, Paul Matisse had installed the "Olympic Bell for Athens". When passers-by struck the bell, they created a deep, harmonious reverberation.

A little further down, in the clearing created by the entrance to the Theatre of Dionysus, J. Meejin Yoon's "White Noise /White Light" took pedestrians onto a platform that formed a field of fibre-optic light strands, which brightened at their passage and produced sounds. The illuminated sheaves activated hidden speakers that played a sound sampling of the city.

This page:

Music concert in Thessaloniki on the occasion of the overnight Ceremony of the Flame.
© ATHOC/D. Krezias

Olympic Cities

The four Olympic Cities, Thessaloniki, Patras, Volos and Heraklio, hosted preliminary rounds of the Olympic Football Tournament, while the Ancient Stadium of Olympia was the Shot Put Venue. At all these locations, the same principles of decoration were applied as in Athens, in order to retain a unified Image and Identity and to ensure a shared atmosphere of celebration and participation.

Overall, 200 kilometres of roads acquired Olympic colours and decoration. Four landmark buildings in the Olympic Cities and three in Olympia were dressed in the images of the Sport they hosted, along with Olympic graphics. Olympic "Welcome Home" banners were installed at the Airports in Thessaloniki and Heraklio, decorated the Ports of Thessaloniki, Volos and Heraklio, marked the entrance to each City, covered bridges and overpasses, and decorated the Olympic Routes.

ATHOC designed and implemented an artistic programme with local and international cultural elements for each of the four Olympic Cities, respecting the distinctive character, history and tradition of each City, which announced the start of Football preliminary rounds on 11 August 2004.

Heraklio: Music of the World, Crossroads of Civilisations

Major cultural events underlined unique aspects of Crete's timeless traditions, and the island's unique historical position as a cultural bridge to the southeastern Mediterranean, where Europe, Asia and Africa meet; and were included in the events celebrating the Olympic Football Tournament at Heraklio.

These events went under the title of "Crete - Musical Crossroads" and had three thematic units: Cretan music past and present, Cretan musicians meet other civilisations, Crete at the crossroads of civilisations - music of the East and West, North and South.



More than 300 artists from Crete and abroad appeared in 14 events as part of this impressive programme. These took place on 7, 9 and 11 August 2004, at eight different locations in the Municipality of Heraklio, as well as the bordering Municipalities.

**Volos:
Argonauts, Olympic Spirit**

Three major cultural events comprised ATHOC's Cultural programme for the Olympic City of Volos: a dance theatre performance of the "Argonauts" by the creative team Laterna Magika (8-10 August 2004), a major concert by the symphonic orchestra of the Municipality of Volos, with pianist Dimitris Sgouros, for the overnight Ceremony of the Flame on 31 July 2004, and a photographic exhibition at the Municipality of Nea Ionia of Magnesia.

**Thessaloniki:
Historical Monuments, Culture**

A series of major and diverse musical events was organised to highlight the monuments and beauty of country's second capital in the north. Historical monuments, including the Heptapyrgio, locations of natural beauty, such as the Dam of Thermae, city landmarks, including the Port and the Kodra Army Camp, and contemporary locations, such as the Lazarist Monastery the Museum of Byzantine Civilisation and the Garden Theatre, played host to events with the work of Greek and international creators of Greek, ethnic, jazz, rock and classical music; dance; poetry; and film.

More than 150 Greek and international artists appeared in numerous events, in four different locations around Thessaloniki and the Municipalities of Thermae, Stavroupoli and Kalamaria, on 9 and 10 August 2004.

**Patra:
Art for All**

On 8 August 2004, the day the Olympic Flame reached Patras, there was a cultural event entitled "Memories of 1896". This was a

symbolic representation of the Opening Ceremony of the first Modern Olympic Games of Athens. This event used music produced by bands and choirs from Western Greece and the Ionian Islands.

More than 700 performers took part in these events, along with 11 choirs, 5 bands, a symphonic orchestra, soloists, conductors and a large number of technicians. A special multi-level system of platforms, capable of hosting all the musicians, was constructed for the event.

**Ancient Olympia:
The Sacred Precinct**

History itself was almost the only decoration in the Stadium on 18 August 2004. Sixteen centuries, 1.611 years after the Olympic Games of antiquity were abolished, the Olympic Games returned to the very place where they were born 2.780 years earlier the sacred precinct of the Stadium of Ancient Olympia.

For a single day, a simple stage was set in Ancient Olympia to receive the Athletes of the Shot put. There were only a few seats, no shading, even electronic score boards were replaced by old-fashioned cards. The décor in the colours of ATHENS 2004 was discreet and the absolute minimum required for operations (to mark the pedestrians' entrances and paths). Thus 15.000 spectators, who paid no entrance fee, sat on the ground, abandoned in awe to the powerful emotions, the symbolism and imposing presence of the place itself.

In contrast, a few kilometres away, in the Municipality of Ancient Olympia, where the spectators boarded the buses that would transport them to the Venue of Olympia, there was a colourful atmosphere of celebration. Banners and flags were placed along all the central streets, giant banners covered three buildings, while the bridges over the rivers Alpeios and Platanos, gateways to the town, greeted spectators and the Games back to their birthplace in Olympic colours.

This page:

Image from the cultural event "Memories of 1896" performed in Patra on the day the Olympic Flame reached the city.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

Hospitality and Services



Olympic Village

The Olympic Village, the largest Olympic Venue, was the centre of the Athletes' life during their participation in the Athens Olympic Games, as well as the centre of operations for the National Olympic Committees. The Olympic Village accommodated and provided related hospitality services, free of charge, to 16.650 Athletes and Team Officials from 30 July, the official opening, until 1 September 2004, and 7.166 Athletes and Team Officials from 10 September until 1 October 2004 for the Paralympic Games.

The scale of the operation was enormous. The Village operated round-the-clock for 71 consecutive days, providing fully serviced facilities and a high level of accommodation services. 23 July was the soft opening date for Village operations, until 29 July, when National Olympic Committees representatives were granted access and the Venue Team performed the last tests and operational adjustments. An environment was created in which service and hospitality were the top priority, driving all activities in the Village accordingly. The Athletes enjoyed their stay in secure, clean and comfortable facilities and an environment that allowed them to focus on training and the demands of their competition schedulers well as to relax, either in their private space or in public entertainment and recreation areas. The aim was to create a positive and unforgettable memory of Athenian and Greek hospitality for Athletes from all over the world.

The Olympic Village also acted as the administrative headquarters for the National Olympic Committees (NOCs) and the National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) for the Olympic and the Paralympic Games respectively, and the working area for Officials and other members of Delegations, an environment characterised by the efficiency of

services provided. During the Games, thousands of guests, people invited by the National Olympic Committees, Heads of State, VIPs, dignitaries and Accredited Media representatives visited the Olympic Village daily. Overall, 25.000 people (members of the Olympic Family and VIPs) were transported to and from the Village daily, for whose needs the Village provided appropriate services.

The General Manager for Olympic Village & Accommodation Facilities Operations was the Venue Manager of the Olympic Village Venue Team, directly reporting to the Chief Operating Officer (COO) and the Main Operations Centre. The Venue Manager, together with the Olympic Village Operations Manager, were responsible for the administration, management and coordination of all Village operations: 178 different services and operations. The total number of the Venue Team personnel was 9.970 people: from ATHOC there were 885 paid staff and 3.785 volunteers, as well as 5.300 contractor staff, who were mainly involved in housekeeping, linen and laundry, logistics, entertainment and retail services. Of the ATHOC paid staff, the majority (546 staff) were either experienced professionals in the field of hospitality and customer service, or graduates of tourism schools, who were placed in critical positions requiring a customer service approach.

The Olympic Village was located at the foot of Mount Parnitha, close to the centre of Athens. The residential buildings were constructed by the Social Housing Organisation (a public agency) and were conceded to ATHOC for Olympic and Paralympic use, with the aim of being used in the future to house Organisation beneficiaries. The total area covered was 1.240.000 sq.m, and was built according to the principles of bioclimatic energy design, with

Left page:

Views of the Olympic Village.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos



environmentally friendly materials ensuring moderate temperatures during summer months. It was divided into two main areas, the Residential Zone and the International Zone, with internal access control points from one zone to the other.

Residential Zone

The Olympic Village Residential Zone included all residences, and a large number of the facilities, which accommodated the main services provided to Delegation members. Only Olympic Village residents and certain guests invited by NOCs and NPCs, always accompanied, had a right of access. This restriction, in line with the relevant guidelines provided by the IOC, was necessary to safeguard the privacy of the Athletes' accommodation area. Access to the Residential Zone was absolutely controlled, not only externally, but also at two internal points where access from the International Zone was controlled.

Residences

The Residential Zone comprised 366 newly built residences of two, three and four floors, with 2.292 apartments of three, four or five rooms (90-110 sq.m. per apartment). The 19 different types of buildings provided a pleasant variation to the Olympic Village landscape, while the buildings were constructed according to the latest specifications laid down in the relevant legislation, and provided all modern conveniences. The average available surface area per Village resident at 14 sq.m. exceeded that specified by the IOC. The residences' basements were arranged into working areas for each NOC staying in the same or an adjacent building, according to their requirements. These included office areas, medical rooms, multiple use rooms, storage areas, and had all required infrastructure (air-conditioning, WCs, etc). The IOC guidelines were adhered to strictly, regarding the furniture

and equipment for residences and NOC office areas. Special emphasis was placed on aesthetics and functionality for the best service of Athletes and Officials.

Allotment

The allotment process for residences covering a total area of 230.000 sq.m. and working areas of 19.000 sq.m. to 202 National Olympic Committees and 136 National Paralympic Committees was particularly complex and required the use of specialised software to make the reservations at the Olympic Village, the largest "hotel" in the world. A special Allotment section was responsible for allocating an approved number of residences, supporting office and storage areas, according to the size of each delegation and ATHOC contractual obligations.

The Allotment Service monitored the Delegations' arrival rate at the Olympic Village until the opening of the Games and distributed the relevant information to the other Services: Food Services to specify the required rate of increase in meals; Housekeeping Services to prepare bedrooms; Logistics to manage and deliver keys and transport luggage; Technology, etc. Close cooperation with the NOC Relations and Services Central Team, especially as regards preferences and other parameters (political and religious), which affected the selected location of each Delegation's accommodation, contributed to the successful operation of the Allotment Service. The final size of the Delegation was also a decisive factor to the success of allocation. In that respect, continuous communication was established with the Sports Entries section, so that all changes to the size of a team compared to that anticipated were recorded.

The Allotment Service was flexible in responding to the few requests for a change of location expressed upon Delegations' arrival at the Village and these were mainly related to office areas. The allocation of residences was

This page:

Olympic Village.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos



not altered at Delegation Registration Meetings (DRMs) from the one initially agreed with each Delegation, a fact indicative of the particularly successful operation of that Service. In any case, last minute changes and additional needs were met without affecting overall smooth operations, since the Village had the capacity to host a total of 17.000 people.

Resident Centres

Each block at the Olympic Village had a Resident Centre, with recreation areas, which also served to meet the daily demands of residents. The operation of the Centres was similar to that of a large hotel reception. Twenty-eight Centres were in place at the Olympic Village and thirteen at the Paralympic Village, each serving 600 residents on average.

Resident Centres were the contact points for issue resolution, providing information and in general anything relating to providing hospitality to residents, with the emphasis being placed on personal communication. Each issue or complaint arising during the day was handled as a unique case by employees, supervisors and the Centres' management, recorded and followed up diligently until resolution. Resident Centres handled all possible issues, such as maintenance requests, additional housekeeping services, replacement of keys, etc., to ensure a pleasant stay for residents. Most of the issues were immediately forwarded in the form of work orders to the competent sections, while more complex and important issues, which required intervention by higher levels of management, were forwarded to the Village Operations Centre.

Moreover, Resident Centres provided information and assistance in relation to Village operations (bus routes and operating hours for various services provided), the Games (e.g. broadcasts) and general information (travelling, entertainment, access to the city centre of Athens). The Centres had lounges, such as sitting rooms with television, recreation rooms

with board games, stations with access to the Olympic Information System INFO 2004, and soft drink machines. There were also printed maps and Village guides available (in total residents were provided with 80.000 maps and 50.000 guides in English, French and Greek), as well as copies of the Olympic Village Newspaper "The Village Pulse".

Two of the Resident Centres, "Athena" and "Phevos" provided additional services, such as electronic games, a pool, massage, a lounge, rooms with Internet access stations and snack bar/café. Two of the three laundry stations for residents' personal clothing were located in those centres. Those two large Centres were particularly popular due to the combination of services under the same roof. One would often see residents using computers to access the Internet or having coffee at the café, while waiting to pick up their clothes from the laundry service.

The Centres were in continuous contact with the Delegations' members and provided the Olympic and Paralympic Villages with the famous Greek hospitality. On average 50 residents visited the centres on a daily basis. Mainly Chefs de Mission and NOC and NPC staff, but also Athletes contacted the centres for information or problems. The Centre staff were known for their friendliness, personal contact, smiles and professionalism. All NOCs and NPCs were very satisfied with the level of services and the friendly and hospitable approach, and Chefs de Mission acknowledged the assistance provided by the staff in several statements.

Food Services

The Olympic Village offered a variety of dining facilities. The Village's Main Dining facility was called "Filoxenos", housed in a temporary structure covering a surface area of 19.000 sq.m. (13.650sq.m. for the restaurant) with round-the-clock operation. "Filoxenos" had a production capacity of 6.000 meals per hour, with a menu

This page:

Athletes in residence at the Olympic Village.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

The Swedish Olympic Team's
residence at the Olympic Village.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

Recreational activities for athletes
at the Olympic Village.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas

that met ethnic, religious and special nutritional needs of Athletes, completely free of charge. Special emphasis was placed on promoting Greek cuisine. This restaurant had a capacity of 6.250 seats. A "nutritional information kiosk" also operated in the restaurant, providing information about daily meals, and special nutritional advice. 1.800 staff members were occupied on a daily basis to serve all restaurant customers, while daily consumption stood at 60.000 meals.

A second restaurant, "Epicuros", was open from 10:00 hours to 01:00 hours and offered an alternative for lunch and dinner, in an area of 2.210sq.m. with 650 seats. In addition to the aforementioned areas, the Olympic Village Residential Zone also had other smaller areas for snacks: the "Poseidon" club-café and the "Athena" and "Phevos" cafés at Resident Centres.

Polyclinic

The Village had a fully equipped facility extending over 4.980 sq.m., which operated under the supervision of Medical Services, and provided healthcare to all Olympic Village residents. Known as the "Polyclinic", this facility offered a wide range of Medical Services, starting from the official Olympic Village opening, on 30 July 2004.

The Polyclinic operated: an Emergency Department, an Outpatient Department (among others: Orthopaedics, General Medicine, ENT Dermatology, Cardiology, Dentist, Gynaecology), Physiotherapy, Pharmacy, Radiology, and Laboratory services. It had an ambulance service with one Mobile Medical Unit and two ambulances from the National Centre for Emergency Care (EKAB). The Polyclinic was supported by Language Services staffed by six interpreters. Additionally the Polyclinic accommodated the Hellenic Centre for Infectious Diseases Control, a Doping Control Services station and the IOC Medical Commission office. A total of 7.211 visits were made to the various Olympic Village Polyclinic services, and percentage allocation was as follows: 11% at the Emergency Department, 53% at the Outpatient Department, 17% at Physiotherapy, 18% at the Radiology Department and 1% at the Microbiology Department. 500 visits to the polyclinic were recorded on the busiest day (17 August).

Sports Complex

The Olympic Village Sports Complex included two fully equipped gyms, one Olympic-size pool, four tennis courts, a long-distance track and athletics facilities. All were destined exclusively for recreation and were not official training sites. The Sports Complex was a particularly popular service among Athletes: for the period up to and including 28 August, the gyms had 26.571 visits, the pool had 16.477 visits, the athletics facilities 14.787 visits, and the tennis courts 482 visits.

Sports Information Centre

The Sports Information Centre enabled Chefs de Mission and Teams to collect all the sports information required to perform all operations related to the smooth training and competition

of Athletes. The Centre assembled all relevant services and information in an area of 720 sq.m.

37 Sport Desks operated at the Centre, providing all information related to the hosting of the Games and Training, as well as copies of daily Results and Start Lists. The Entries Hall kept a database with the competing Athletes' details, with the ability to check and verify particulars. The Training Office collected all bookings or changes to training schedules and entered the information in INFO 2004. Lastly, the Transport Desk provided information about the Athletes' Transport to Competition and Training Venues, and forwarded all relevant requests to the Olympic Village Transport Mall Administration.

The Sports Information Centre operated from 07:00 hours to 22:00 hours and was consulted daily by Chefs de Mission, Team Leaders or authorised representatives. Indicatively, 118 team representatives on average visited the Centre daily, to confirm, book or cancel training sessions for Olympic Team Sports; and 1.606 National Team representatives of Individual Sports sought information.

Entertainment and Leisure

An entertainment programme was organised to ensure Athletes and Team Officials had a pleasant stay at the Village, offering relaxation, recreation and amusement. The programme included, among other things, performances and various cultural events at selected locations around the Village, a live band, special evenings around the pool at the "Poseidon" club-café, and other events performed in the International Zone. Interest in entertainment activities increased with time, with the gradual release of Athletes from their competition obligations.

An alternative form of entertainment at the Village was the outdoor cinema, with two movies screened each day covering a wide range of genres. The Village also operated a club where residents could relax during evening hours, while at night they could dance to the music selections of a DJ or a live band.

At various points around the Residential and International Zones there was free access to Internet services. The three Internet Cafés (seven rooms with 300 computers in three different buildings) were among the most popular locations at the Village, with a usage rate that often reached 100%. They were so popular that the operation of one Internet Café (65 computers) became round-the-clock in order to meet increased demand and serve residents. It should be noted that the number of computers with an Internet connection made available at the Village was three times that of previous Games.

Another particularly popular activity for Athletes were video games and other games, available at the two large Resident Centres "Athena" and "Phevos". Six rooms with 100 electronic games and four rooms with pool tables, foosball and other games had an average usage rate of 80% daily. Also particularly popular were the relaxing massage services at the two Centres - the usage rate and



satisfaction of users led to the doubling of available beds (from 12 to 24), to meet the continuously increasing demand. The average usage rate following doubling of the beds was 98%.

The daily Village Newspaper, "The Village Pulse", was issued daily from 1 to 29 August to inform residents about Village life. It was an electronic newspaper, published on the Internet, while print copies of the Newspaper were available at the Resident Centres. All the issues of the Newspaper issues were compiled on a CD, which was given as a souvenir to all Village residents upon departure.

Library

The Olympic Village library had a reading room, for information, concentration and relaxation. It offered books, newspapers and magazines of the Greek and International Press, audiovisual material and online databases; material for general use by young people of various cultural backgrounds. The library also had relaxation and recreation areas: a sitting room with television, INFO 2004 stations and music rooms with a digital catalogue featuring pieces from all over the world and covering all types of music.

Also, a Video Viewing and Copying Service was offered for the first time in the Olympic Games, which was very popular. In 16 days of operation, 2.500 individual and team viewing and copy requests were recorded. Out of those, 1.000 were related to the copying of selected Games abstracts to VCD - total production of copies reached 10.000 VCDs. The remaining 1.500 requests were related to viewing events and their recording on VHS. Each request included the search and reproduction of multiple events -the maximum number of searches on a daily basis (16 hours of operation) reached 1.124.

Religious Services Centre

The Village had a Religious Services Centre for five religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism,

Islam and Judaism. The Centre offered an environment and conditions for private prayer, meditation and personal consultancy sessions, and services for referral to external religious centres and events, emergency response facilities and a call centre operating round-the-clock. It was visited by 3.200 people in total. The Centre prevented any form of proselytising, protecting the right of faith of all residents, and ensured harmonious collaboration of all religious representatives and believers in the same Religious Services Centre under the same roof.

International Zone

The Olympic Village International Zone, contrary to the Residential Zone, was the area that could be accessed by guests and Accredited Media representatives, where Athletes and other NOC members could meet their guests, make their purchases and access a large number of services, such as: retail shops, telecommunication items shop, a post office with courier services, photo shop, bank, ticketing office, hair salon, travel agency, the "Agora" snack-bar café with paid services for all International Zone guests, Internet services (an Internet Café), also accommodating the Lost and Found Office, the Museum of the Olympic Games, a First café Aid Station, an Amphitheatre and a Reception Hall.

The Main Entry to the Olympic Village was located at the International Zone, the entry point for all guests. At the Entry, the Guest Pass Office operated from 09:00 to 21:00; processed thousands of applications daily; and supplied the necessary Guest Pass, which permitted access to the Village, on the necessary condition of invitation from a NOC (or NPC respectively). The Guest Pass required that a form be filled out and submitted to the Centre services by 18:00 on the day before the visit, and that guest's details were submitted for Security check.

This page:

Retail outlet within the International Zone of the Olympic Village.
© ATHOC/Athens News Agency (ANA)/P. Saitas



Additionally, a VIP Lounge and a Protocol Office operated in the Olympic Village's Main Entry building, as did a Media Centre to serve guests of Accredited Media representatives. There, services were provided to NOCs for organising Press Conferences, which took place in the four Press Rooms (21-50 people) in the building. 400 Accredited Media representatives (written and photographic press and Rights Holding Broadcasters) could visit the Village daily to interview Delegation members.

Team Welcome Ceremonies for 202 National Olympic Committees took place from 30 July to 12 August 2004, to formally welcome the Olympic Teams to the Village. Similarly, Team Welcome Ceremonies for 136 National Paralympic Committees took place from 10 to 16 September 2004. The Delegations enjoyed short artistic programmes and a welcoming address/speech from the Olympic Village Mayor. The Team Welcome Ceremonies took place at the International Zone Amphitheatre, which could seat up to 650 people, and each Welcome Ceremony was followed by a short reception.

Support Services

NOC Services Centre

The NOC Services Centre, which covered an area of 870 sq.m., was the contact point for National Olympic Committees and Chefs de Mission, who visited daily to take care of procedures related to NOCs, such as planning Team Welcome Ceremonies, delivery or payment of products made available through the Rate Card, order and payment of specialised food services, etc. The IOC representative's office at the Village was also located in that area.

Chefs de Mission Meetings

One of the most important services offered at the Olympic Village under direct supervision and participation of its management was the

Chefs de Mission Meetings, with the participation of Olympic Village's top executives (Olympic Villages' Venue Manager, NOC Relations & Services Manager and the Olympic Village Operations Manager), the IOC representative (or the IPC representative, respectively), and members of the Main Operations Centre, when necessary. The aim of those meetings was to record NOC comments on the Games, resolve potential problems and provide information, in direct communication between Chefs de Mission and Village command for all issues of concern to participants. Initially the meetings were held every day and subsequently, as the Games continued, every two or three days, depending on the need to present significant information and/or instructions.

The Chefs de Mission Meetings were coordinated by the Olympic Village Operations Centre. They were also supported by simultaneous Interpretation Services in five languages (English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic), ensuring smooth and effective communication. The minutes of the Meetings were issued by the Village management and were sent to all Delegations, the IOC and the Main Operations Centre.

The Chefs de Mission Meetings enabled Chefs de Mission to discuss issues pertaining to the performance of the Games in general, thus enabling the Village management to assess and, when necessary, make adjustments in relation to services provided to participating Delegations. Moreover, the Chefs de Mission Meetings acted as a forum for the Village management to communicate important information by, for example, presenting the Athletes' transport plan for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, presenting the Delegations Departure plans, plans for whose implementation the collaboration of Delegation members was of crucial importance.

This page:

Training at the Olympic Village.
© ATHOC/Athens News Agency
(ANA)/P. Saitas



Housekeeping

The Olympic Village Housekeeping services provided a level of service equal to a 3 star hotel. More than 800 people were occupied daily in cleaning the 8.814 bedrooms, 2.360 sitting rooms, 4.700 showers, 1.261 public areas and NOC Offices, ensuring a healthy and pleasant environment for residents. The Services included the daily changing of 10.500 bed linen items and 16.000 towels. Accordingly, they replaced all necessary consumables daily (paper rolls, waste bags, soaps, etc). Finally, they recorded and followed up any issues arising, such as faults and maintenance needs, and forwarded them for immediate resolution.

Housekeeping Services proved to be particularly efficient, fast and discreet. Their operation was smooth, without major problems and, compared to reports from previous Games, there were no complaints about the level and quality of service. The services provided on a daily basis and at specified hours were absolutely efficient and friendly to residents, managing the workload in the best possible way, and making such modifications where needed to meet further requests of NOCs and NPCs beyond the contractual ones. A decisive factor for the provision of services at the desirable level of quality was the excellent communication system (use of wireless devices), which enabled dynamic coordination, immediate exchange of information and prompt response to potential problems or additional requests.

Logistics & Support Services

Logistics & Support Services ensured the installation and availability of all kinds of equipment and materials when required at the Olympic Village's facilities, on a round-the-clock basis. It was the first section to go into operation at the Village in order first to install furniture and equipment, and then to cover the reception and management of Delegation freight, which was kept at the storage areas until their users' arrival. The Services included

supervision of equipment installation for all residences and buildings at the Olympic Village, including but not limited to 17.428 beds, 17.628 bedside tables, 17.628 pillows, 17.628 mattresses, 8.814 mirrors, 11.000 waste bins, 17.628 bedside lamps, 6.270 closets, 18.876 outdoor chairs, 2.226 coffee tables, 2.225 tables, 176.280 clothes hangers.

They were also responsible for the safe storage and distribution of all goods required by residents' and supported an internal distribution network of 400 points, so that meeting the residents' needs was achieved with the minimum possible waiting period. The section's duties included collecting all work orders from Resident Centres, coming from Delegation requests or other Village functional areas.

The section provided the means and staff to support Delegations' Arrival and Departure procedures, mainly in terms of luggage management and transport, utilising trucks and carts. During the peak Arrival load, the section managed 8.000 luggage items daily, while on the Departure peak day it managed 18.000 luggage items. The largest load was observed during the period from 1 to 15 August, when special efforts were made to ensure easy entry and settlement of Delegations at the Village.

Transport

A fleet of 350 buses was made available, in order to cover the transport needs of Athletes and Team Officials to and from the Olympic Village. This fleet transferred Athletes and Team Officials to 37 Competition and 58 Non Competition Venues, including Independent Training Sites, to the centre of Athens, the Airport and official event points. The Olympic Village Transport Mall covered an area of 27.000 sq.m. with 46 pick-up points, 8 drop-off points and 9 parking areas.

The large area covered by the Olympic Village required the operation of an effective internal

This page:

Transport at the Olympic Village.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

shuttle bus service round-the-clock, to serve both residents and staff. The internal shuttle bus service covered a route of 4,2 kilometres with 29 stops and connected residences with all central points of the Village.

Transport for Opening and Closing Ceremonies

The organisation and implementation of the plan to transport Athletes and other NOC/NPC members from the Olympic Village to the Olympic Stadium for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Olympic and the Paralympic Games was a complex operation that was absolutely successful. The operation was performed under the direct coordinating responsibility of the Village Operations Centre in real time communication with the Main Operations Centre. The departure of all participants to the Ceremonies was completed within two hours, while the order and time of departure for each Delegation was specified based on the alphabetic order in which they would march into the Olympic Stadium and in relation to the point where the residences were located in the Village. The participants' transport was carried out in waves, and the departure time was adhered to strictly, without any delays. The staff that took part in the operation was specially trained and was placed at points throughout the Village to facilitate parking and departure of buses, as well as the movement of teams to pick-up zones.

Arrivals and Departures

The organisation and implementation of the Arrivals and Departures plan at the Olympic and Paralympic Village was of particular importance and extremely complex. The Arrivals and Departures area was located at the Athletes Accreditation Centre, an entry point to the Village. Planning was based on the assumption that the Delegation members would arrive at the Village in groups and not necessarily all at the same time. The flow management for arrivals at the Village was successfully undertaken by staff placed at various points around the Athletes Accreditation Centre, so that incomers would be directed to the Security Control, Accreditation Card Validation and Access Control points, and to points for boarding internal buses and transport to the residences. Special provisions were made for handling

oversized luggage and sports equipment arriving with the Athletes. The Arrivals section at the Olympic and Paralympic Village welcomed Delegations on a round-the-clock basis, following the Arrivals schedule at the Airport. The smooth operation of the Arrivals Section and avoidance of congestion and long delays when going through the Athletes Accreditation Centre was contributed to by the fact that most people arriving (80%) had already passed the Accreditation Validation Card procedure upon arrival at the Airport. Being the first point of contact with the Village for Delegation members, the Athletes Accreditation Centre operated with success, also thanks to the friendly behaviour and dedication of all staff, who received relevant training, ready to provide services and assistance at all times.

The difficulty during the Departures phase lay in the fact that these took place within three days for all Delegation members. To avoid delays, the Delegations had been informed in due time and in detail about the procedure to be followed. For the three days where the number of departures was high, large Delegations in particular were recommended to use the ticket control, boarding pass and check-in procedure organised at the Village in collaboration with the Airport and airline companies (Off Airport Processing - OAP). In this way, long hours of waiting at the Airport were avoided. Implementation of that procedure required the timely provision of information from the Logistics & Support Services, Transport Services and Departure section about Delegation departures, so that they could make available all necessary means and equipment. The coordination and effectiveness of the staff that worked on this proved to be extremely good, and were particularly appreciated by the Delegations that selected that procedure. Those Delegations that did not follow the OAP procedure were directed to the Village Departure point for boarding onto transfer coaches that then transported them to the Airport. The result of the work by the staff throughout the departure process was exceptional, since no significant delays were recorded, luggage handling was effective and flight arrangements were dealt with professionally, in collaboration with the Airport Venue Team.

Olympic Village Operations in Numbers

- 202 National Olympic Committees
- 136 National Paralympic Committees
- 16.650 residents (Athletes and Team Officials) at the Olympic Village
- 7.166 residents (Athletes, Team Officials and Technical Officials) at the Paralympic Village
- Maximum occupation: 14.243 residents on 22 August 2004
- Peak arrivals: 2.645 NOC members on 11 August 2004
- Peak departures: 5.199 NOC members on 30 August 2004
- 27.574 Guest Passes
- Personal laundry service: 201.699 customers
- Support services: 8.042 work orders
- 6.250-seat restaurant operating round the clock
- Alternative restaurant of 650 seats, operating 15 hours per day
- 4,2 km of internal shuttle bus service
- Daily transport of 25.000 people to and from the Village



Games Training

Olympic Games Training started on 30 July 2004. In addition to Competition Venues, it was carried out at 43 Independent Training Sites located in different areas of the Region, and at 11 Training Sites within the Dekelia Olympic Complex, which was situated next to the Olympic Village. Similarly, 5 Independent Training Sites and the Training Centre at the Dekelia Complex were used during the Paralympic Games. The Training Sites provided Athletes with high quality facilities complying fully with the Technical Requirements of each Sport, and offered services at a level which allowed them to train at their optimum level.

Independent Training Sites

The elaboration of Games training requirements, the finalisation of the Training Sites list, and the compilation of a Technical Report with the technical specifications for each Training Site were key actions during the planning phase, undertaken by the Sports Division of ATHOC in collaboration and in agreement with the respective International Federation. Based on these agreements, the General Secretariat for Sports completed the refurbishment works necessary to upgrade the Sites for Olympic level training. During Games-time, the Training Sites operated under ATHOC management as Olympic Venues, on the basis of agreements signed between ATHOC and each Site owner.

The 43 Independent Training Sites were located in areas easily accessible from the Olympic Village via the Olympic Ring, in order to keep travel time as short as possible for the Athletes. An additional criterion in the selection of Sites was their potential to meet the technical requirements of the International Federations with low upgrading costs. The number of

Independent Training Sites was significantly reduced in comparison to the Bid File (82), as a result of the strategic decision to establish a training complex next to the Olympic Village at Dekelia, which would be more convenient for the Athletes and would reduce their transport needs.

The operational planning of each Independent Training Site was completed under the responsibility of Venue Operations, following the same methodology as for all other Competition and Non Competition Venues. An Independent Training Sites Venue Manager had the overall responsibility to coordinate all work related to the preparation and operational readiness of the Sites. During Games-time, the Venue Manager was a member of and reported to the Sports Command Centre, which was fully integrated into the Main Operations Centre. The Venue Manager maintained responsibility for all matters related to the operation of the Sites, whilst strictly training-related issues were addressed by the Competition Manager of the respective Sport. The Sports Information Centre at the Olympic Village was responsible for the coordination of the Games Training Schedule and of the Athletes' and Team Officials' Transportation Schedule.

All Independent Training Sites provided sport facilities and equipment which fully complied with International Federations' specifications. They also provided supplementary services, such as changing rooms and showers, Athletes' lounges, Medical Services, and Press Operations facilities for the Accredited Media. The level of services offered was high and the operation of the Sites was smooth throughout the Games, including the operation of Transportation Services.

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

Boxing and Taekwondo training at the Dekelia Olympic Complex.
© ATHOC/Athens News Agency (ANA)/P. Saitas

Fencing training at the Dekelia Olympic Complex.
© ATHOC/Athens News Agency (ANA)/P. Saitas

Archery training at the Dekelia Olympic Complex.
© ATHOC/Athens News Agency (ANA)/P. Saitas

Dekelia Olympic Complex

The Dekelia Olympic Complex, situated right next to the Olympic Village, combined three distinct operations within the same Venue:

- A Training Centre including 11 different Training Sites for 11 Sports, 17 Disciplines.
- An Accommodation Site for Additional Officials (Aos) with a capacity of 512 beds.
- A Depot for Athletes' and Team Officials' Transportation System vehicles, including accommodation facilities for their 320 drivers.

Overview

Such a Complex was established for the first time in Olympic Games. The availability of these specific functions and services at such proximity to the Olympic Village aimed at: better serving the Athletes by providing fast and easy access to Training Sites for 11 Sports; better service to the Additional Team Officials with correspondingly fast and easy access to the Olympic Village; facilitating the work of Accredited Media representatives who had thus the opportunity to visit several Training Sites in one visit; a more efficient operation of the Olympic Village Transport Services as a result of the Depot's vicinity. Furthermore, it enabled economies of scale for the Organising Committee since certain services (e.g. Food Services, Housekeeping, Cleaning and Waste Management) were organised and implemented jointly with the Olympic Village.

The Dekelia Olympic Complex was established on a 560.000 sq.m site of an Air Force Base, with existing infrastructure, which was provided by the Hellenic Air Force General Staff and redeveloped for this purpose. The total surface of sport and other building facilities was 110.000 sq.m. and the Depot area was 60.000 sq.m. The Complex was managed by a single Venue Team (83 paid staff and 19 volunteers) under one Venue Manager, and with a dedicated manager for each of the three distinct operations.

An important factor of success in the Complex's operation was its detailed and diligent planning, so that three different operations (Training Sites, Aos' Accommodation, and Depot) could coexist without disturbing each other, and without disturbing or being disturbed by the operation of the Air Force Base.

Dekelia Training Centre

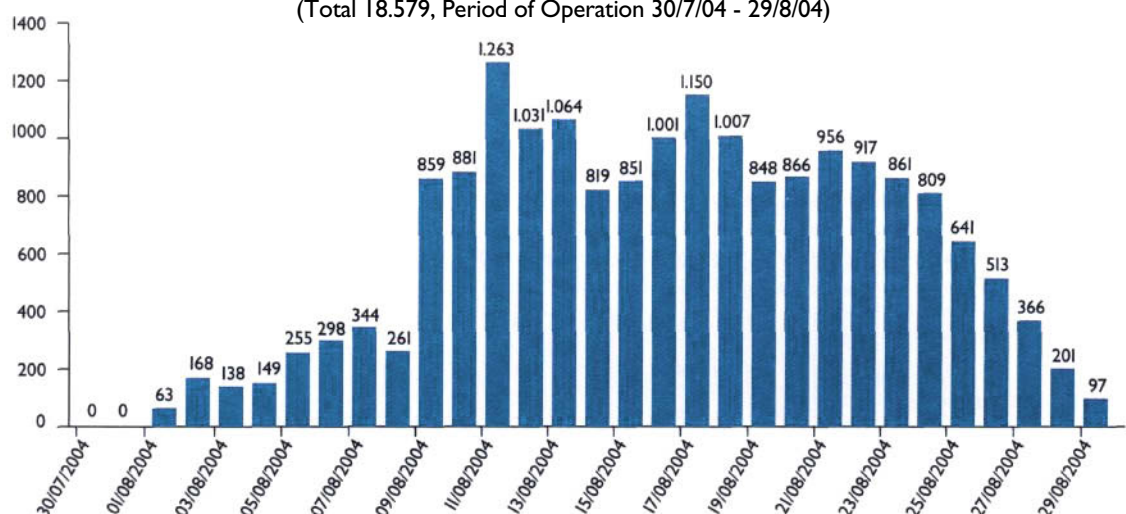
The Olympic Village residents, Athletes and Team Officials, had direct access to the Dekelia Training Centre through two entrance points by an internal transport system, or on foot as was observed for a large number of Athletes. Training hours were from 06:00 to 23:00 throughout the period of its operation, from 30 July to 29 August 2004 for the Olympic Games and from 10 to 28 September 2004 for the Paralympic Games. The Training Centre provided facilities for 17 different Disciplines; in addition, on the eighth day of operation a Walk Race installation (1.500 metres) was established. On 12 August, the Ranking Rounds took place at the Archery Training Site, during which the first three World Records of the Games were achieved.

Training Possibilities at the Dekelia Training Centre:

Gymnastics (Artistic, Rhythmic, Trampoline), Fencing, Wrestling, Volleyball, Boxing, Athletics (Jumping, Throws, Running, and Walk Race for one day), Taekwondo, Judo, Archery, Triathlon, Aquatics (Swimming, Synchronised Swimming, Waterpolo)

During the peak period, from 9 to 23 August 2004, the Training Centre was visited daily by 850 to 1.250 Athletes. In total, the Training Centre received 18.579 visits from Athletes and 9.712 visits from Team Officials. The highest number of visits were observed at the Training Sites for Archery (2.949), Athletics -Jumping and Running (2.686), Aquatics (2.631), Boxing (2.310), Judo (2.244) and Wrestling (2.146).

**Athlete Visits to Dekelia Training Centre
By Day of Operation**
(Total 18.579, Period of Operation 30/7/04 - 29/8/04)



During the Olympic Games, a total of 2,200 Accredited Media representatives visited the Dekelia Training Centre. Peak days were in the week before the start of the Games, with 150-250 Media visitors per day. Most of the visits occurred during the Ranking Rounds for Archery, followed by visits to the Training Sites for Aquatics, Athletics and Judo. The Accredited Media representatives were accommodated by Press Operations staff and volunteers at appropriately equipped facilities located inside and outside the Training Sites.

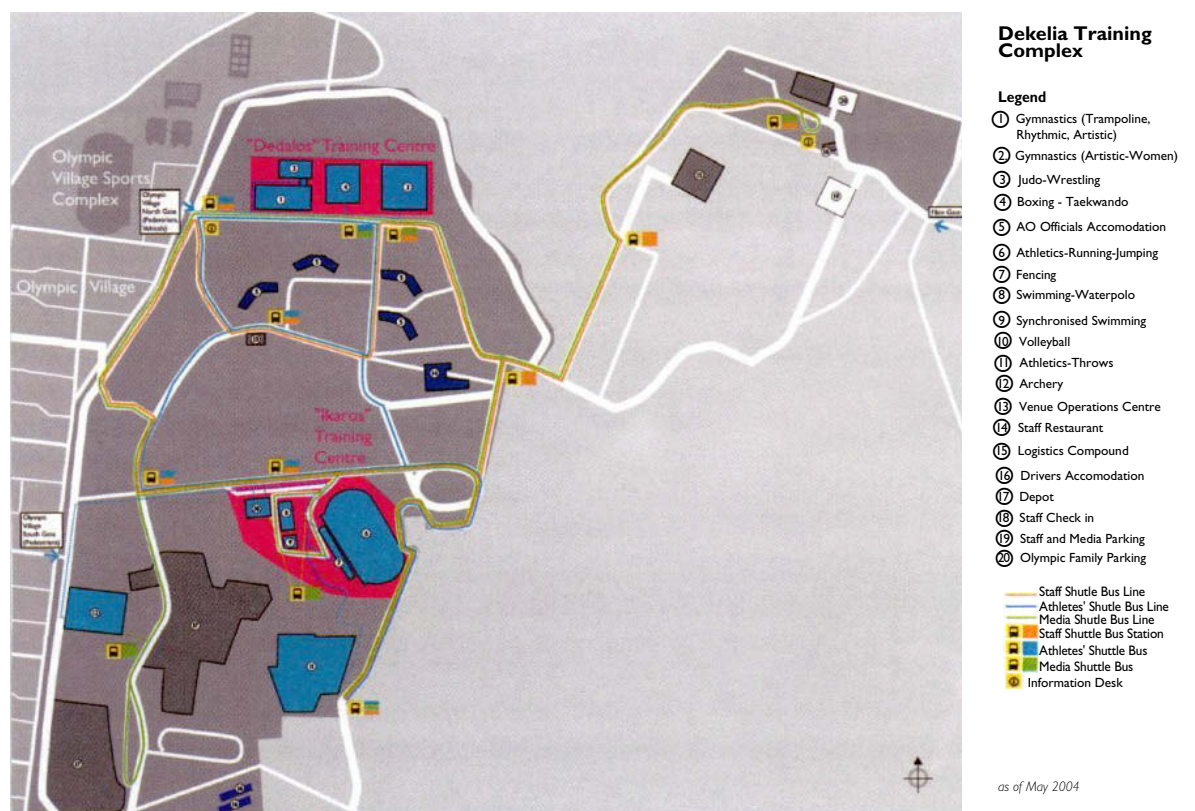
The coordination of the Dekelia Olympic Complex Training Sites was highly successful. The Athletes and Team Officials commented positively on the high quality of the Training facilities and sports equipment, as well as on the well organised services, such as the Transportation system inside the Complex and from/to the Olympic Village, Food Services and other provisions at the Training Sites. A significant factor of the successful operation of the Training Centre was its location next to the Olympic Village, a fact which was well received by the Athletes, the Chefs de Mission and other members of the Delegations, as well as members of the International Federations.

An Organisational Innovation

The organisational innovation of a Training Centre clustering as many Training Sites as possible right next to the Olympic Village, combined with the

operation of an Accommodation Site for Additional Team Officials and a Depot also next to the Olympic Village, contributed to a more efficient provision of a number of ATHENS 2004 services to members of the Olympic Family. It primarily reduced Athletes' and Officials' daily travel time for training - a significant result given the long hours Athletes dedicate to their Training. It further reduced the travel time and simplified the transportation system for the Additional Team Officials who do not qualify for residency at the Olympic Village but who are entitled to access to it (Residential Zone). The existence of the Depot, combined with the drivers' accommodation, simplified to an extent the organisation of the Athletes Transportation system, which in all cases remains a very complex operation. The Depot's location helped in dealing more effectively with potentially necessary modifications to the bus schedules, and provided an advantage in organising the Athletes' and Team Officials' Transportation to the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Finally, it facilitated the work of Accredited Media by giving them the possibility to organise one visit to several Training Sites at a time.

Chefs de Mission, Athletes and International Federation representatives commented favourably on the operation of the Dekelia Olympic Complex, in particular with regard to the Training Centre, which run smoothly without any issue needing to escalate beyond the Venue Team resolution level.





Media Villages

In order to accommodate Accredited Media representatives (Written and Photographic Press and Rights Holding Broadcasters), seven Media Villages were established in different locations within the Attica Region, with a total capacity of 8.755 beds. Each location offered faster access to certain Competition Venues due to their proximity. The Olympic Media Village Venues offered hotel-type facilities, personalised services, and services in addition to the strictly contractual obligations, in order to create a secure, relaxing and pleasant hospitality environment.

Two of the Media Villages, the Agios Andreas summer resort and the student residence halls of the University of Athens, were renovated for this purpose by their owners (public agencies). The other Villages included also new constructions with specific post-Olympic uses: the Police Academy Campus in Amygdaleza; the Ministry of Education "SELETE" Offices; the Student Residence Halls of the National Technical University of Athens; and two luxury private housing estates in Maroussi and in Pallini to be made available in the free market after the Olympic Games.

Maroussi and SELETE were most popular Media Villages due to their close proximity to the Main Press Centre (MPC), the International Broadcast Centre (IBC) and the OAKA Complex where five Competition Venues were located. The SELETE Village, at a distance of only 700 metres from the OAKA Complex and also at a short distance (2 km) from the MPC and IBC, was the first to open its doors on 13 July and remained open until 6 September 2004. The other Villages opened on 30 July and closed on 1 September 2004.

Pricing policy included different rates depending on location, type of facility and room

category. Overall, four room categories were offered: single rooms with en suite bathroom, single rooms with shared bathrooms, double rooms with en suite bathroom and double rooms with bathroom located nearby. A maximum of two individuals were allowed to share the same bathroom. Daily housekeeping service was provided while towels and bed linen were changed every other day.

The Media Villages provided laundry and dry cleaning services, a general store and a health centre. They were also equipped with leisure facilities, including a gym and, where possible, swimming pool, tennis court or volleyball court. A restaurant/bar operated round-the-clock. The menu included Greek traditional dishes and options from the grill. Breakfast was served for extended hours to facilitate Media representatives on different shifts. Residents also had access to a common room with kitchenette equipped with a refrigerator, tea and coffee making facilities.

Certain Media Villages due to their size disposed of an internal shuttle bus service. A dedicated Transport System covered the needs of all Village residents travelling to and from the MPC and the IBC, as well as from and to the Airport during the arrivals and departures period. Moreover, special bus routes were scheduled to link certain Villages with the neighbouring Competition Venues.

A Reception Desk and a Guest Pass Office operated round-the-clock at each Village, while a Media Help Desk addressed any issues that might arise. One of the most popular areas at each Media Village was the Media Work Room, which initially operated from 07:00 to 23:00 hours and as from 9 August onwards remained open on a 24-hour basis. The Media Work Room was equipped with Olympic Information

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

Pallini Media Village.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas

NTUA Media Village.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos

University of Athens Media Village.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



System INFO 2004 terminals and with Internet access, fax, printing and photocopying facilities, pay phones, notice boards with important announcements, information and the highlights of the day. Starting lists and Results of the finals were also distributed here.

Each Village was operated by a dedicated ATHOC Venue Team under the overall management responsibility of the Media Villages Manager who reported to the Games Main Operations Centre via the Olympic Villages & Accommodation Facilities General Manager. A Venue Operations Manager was also appointed to each Village. The staff deployed in the seven Venue Teams included 787 ATHOC employees, 324 volunteers, and a high number of contractors' personnel

primarily for housekeeping, waste management and site management (maintenance and repair) services. The majority of salaried staff had prior work experience in the hotel sector or were graduates specialised in the tourism and hotel industry.

The Media Villages offered residents a safe and pleasant accommodation environment with a high level of personalised services and an effective transport system. Difficulties arose when the Agios Andreas Village first opened since, as a result of delays in the completion of refurbishment works, the technology and technical infrastructure had not been completed on time - a problem that affected the first residents to arrive at the Village, but which was soon resolved.

The Media Villages Operations in Numbers

- 8.000 resident arrivals
- Administration:
 - handled 45.000 room keys
 - handled 35.000 pieces of luggage during resident arrivals/departures
 - managed 1.700 sq.m storage space
- Housekeeping (overall):
 - bedrooms serviced and cleaned 160.000 times
 - bathrooms cleaned 115.200 times
 - 180.000 changes of bed linen
 - 540.000 changes of towels
- Amenities:
 - 110.000 soap bars
 - 110.000 foam bath bottles
 - 60.000 shampoo bottles

This page:

Recreational facilities at the Pallini Media Village.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos



SELETE: The "SELETE" Media Village had a capacity of 933 beds and was a newly constructed building at a distance of 2 km from the MPC/IBC and of 700 metres from the OAKA and the Irini and Neratziotissa Metro Stations. The Village provided a swimming pool and gym.

MAROSSI: The "Maroussi" Media Village had a capacity of 1.308 beds and was a complex of newly constructed luxury residencies. It was divided into two sections. The main section was located 1,5 km from the MPC, just opposite the OAKA Tennis Courts. The second section was located next on the OAKA loop, 600 metres from the MPC and opposite the IBC.

OTE-PALLINI: The "OTE-Pallini" Media Village had 1.436 beds and was also a newly constructed private housing estate at a less than 15 minutes distance from the MPC/IBC. It was connected by direct bus lines to the Olympic Equestrian and Shooting Centres at Markopoulo, to the Agios Andreas Media Village and via that to the Schinias Olympic Rowing and Canoeing Centre. It included a well-appointed gym and swimming pool as well as wonderful grounds.

AMYGDALAZA: The 'Amygdaleza" Media Village had 700 beds and was a complex of 6 newly constructed buildings at the Policy Academy Campus. Its location at the foot of Mount Parnitha offered residents a unique view of Athens. It was very close to the Olympic Village and about 20 minutes drive from the MPC/IBC. The Village provided a swimming pool and gym.

UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS: The "Panepistimio" (University of Athens) Media Village had a capacity of 915 beds and was very close to the centre of Athens. It consisted of two newly constructed halls of residence and one fully refurbished and offered a gym and a large indoor pool. It had direct bus links to the MPC/IBC, to the Goudi Olympic Complex where Modern Pentathlon and Badminton were hosted, as well as to the Faliro Coastal Zone where the Peace and Friendship Stadium, the Olympic Beach Volleyball Centre, the Faliro Sports Pavilion and the Karaiskaki Stadium Venues were located.

NTUA: The "Polytechnio" (National Technical University of Athens - NTUA) Media Village had 673 beds and was a complex of 14 newly constructed student halls of residence on the NTUA Campus. It was opposite the Goudi Olympic Complex and was linked by bus with the MPC/IBC and with the Faliro Coastal Zone just as the University of Athens Media Village. It had well-tended grounds and gardens.

AGIOS ANDREAS: The "Agios Andreas" Media Village had a capacity of 2.790 beds and was 40 minutes away from the MPC/IBC. It was popular due to its spectacular location and to low pricing. It was divided into two sections, which offered identical services and amenities. Guests could enjoy the sea and relax on the beach. It was a summer resort, consisting of refurbished bungalows and new re-locatable structures. In addition to regular bus links to the MPC/IBC, the Village was also linked to the Olympic Rowing and Canoeing Centre at Schinias, to Marathon and to the Olympic Equestrian and Shooting Centres at Markopoulo via the OTE-Pallini Village.

This page:

Working at the Pallini Media Village.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos



Olympic Youth Camp

The mission of the Olympic Youth Camp, which was a contractual obligation of the Organising Committee, was to provide a unique Greek experience in an environment that promoted the Olympic ideals of team spirit and fair play. The aim of the programme was to encourage the young people who participated to become the next generation of participants in the Olympic Games, enriching this effort with an attitude that promotes balance between mind and body.

ATHOC aimed to present a different approach to the Olympic Family, an approach which would include more potential for the young participants to spend two intense weeks involved in various activities. This approach would offer the opportunity to all the children of the world, not only to become familiar with various cultures and traditions from the world over but also to have close contact with Greek nature and culture, which gave birth to Olympism. At the same time, the environment would inspire participants to engage in physical exercise, with further potential for practical involvement in various sports.

Olympic Youth Camp Programme

From 11 to 26 August 2004, a boy and a girl from each country, active athletes, aged between 16 and 18 years old, participated in the Olympic Youth Camp. The selection of athletes was made by the National Olympic Committee of each country.

In developing the programme, for the first time, apart from traditional cooperation with the participating NOCs (182 in total), there were also contacts between ATHOC and UNICEF, UNHCR (United Nations High Commission for Refugees) and the European Commission.

The European Commission, in line with the European Year of Education through Sports - EYES 2004, created a special programme entitled "Olympic Champions in Education", for the purposes of which 26 young athletes who were national champions and had excellent school grades were selected.

In addition, there was special participation by young Greeks, since Greece was the host country.

A total number of 414 youths participated:

- 351 from 182 NOCs
- 26 from EYES 2004
- 4 from Greek Girl Scouts Association
- 3 from Greek Boy Scouts Association
- 5 from UNHCR
- 2 from UNICEF
- 23 from the Hellenic Olympic Committee

The Venue

"Sports Village Athitaki" was selected as the suitable Venue, since it is a complete camp complex sited on a hill, in the area of Grammatiko on the northeast coast of Attica, 10 km from the centre of Marathon and approximately 40 km from the centre of Athens. The Olympic Youth Camp operated as a Non Competition Venue, with a staff of 177, including 7 ATHOC paid staff and 100 volunteers.

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

Olympic Youth Camp
at Grammatiko.
© C. Christopoulos
© C. Christopoulos
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Creative opportunities at the
Olympic Youth Camp.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

Olympic Youth Club.
Meeting the ATHENS 2004
Olympic Games mascots.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

The venue had 13 single-storey and 77 ground floor buildings, as well as facilities for food, relaxation and study equipped with a suitable number of computers. In addition, it included a 25 metre 6-lane pool, basketball, volleyball courts and football pitches and a horse riding area. A fully functional amphitheatre containing approximately 500 seats completed the venue, which was especially friendly for the young people accommodated there. The venue was given to ATHOC for its Olympic retrofit on 1 August, and was completed in eight days and it opened its doors on 11 August 2004.

There were four management areas at the venue: Reception, containing the offices of Venue staff, two Security (OGSD) Offices, and the equipment distribution area. The Reception of the Olympic Youth Camp had a call centre and was the reception area for guests. It also provided information on the schedule of the Olympic Youth Camp. The Youth Camp had a convenience store, which also sold ATHENS 2004 products.

The venue provided 86 buildings for the needs of the programme. The volunteers and the Venue Team staff were accommodated at the Olympic Youth Camp during the entire duration of its operation. They shared specific rooms, which were situated among the rooms of young people attending the camp. Both Volunteers and Young Participants shared rooms with persons of the same gender.

Participants were provided meals at the existing restaurant area, which operated at the camp under the name of "Filoxenos". When moving around the Attica region, meals were provided in the form of basket lunches, which were prepared at the Venue. In other cases Team Leaders provided pocket money, in order to cover the food needs for the eight members of each team.

The areas where entertainment and recreation activities took place were mainly open or especially equipped spaces. The opening ceremony of the Olympic Youth Camp took place on 12 August in the amphitheatre. The same hall was utilised for speeches and presentations by the organisations involved in the programme - e.g. UNICEF - as well as for announcements to the Young Participants with regard to the activities that were to take place inside and outside the camp. Moreover, the following events also took place in the same hall: the International Cultural Evening, Cultural Exchange Evenings, drama, music and pottery workshops. For workshops such as newsletter preparation and painting, the computer room and painting room, situated beside the pool area, were both used.

The venue also had a fully equipped infirmary to ensure effective response to any emergency. It also featured rest areas for patients. Throughout the operation of the Olympic Youth Camp, there was a GP and a nurse on site, who provided Medical Services on a round-the-clock basis. In addition, an ambulance was at the disposal of the Camp, acting as a link with a pre-determined Health Centre and Olympic Hospital on a round-the-clock basis.

Housekeeping Services were provided by the staff of the venue owner. Waste collection from rooms and other areas was carried out on a daily basis. Towels were changed every two days and sheets were changed every four days. Washing machines and dryers were located in a specific area, where all participants could wash their personal garments.

Provisions were also made for a separate place for prayer at the Venue. All Young participants, volunteers and Venue staff, irrespective of their religion, could attend this place.

In order to transport participants, 13 buses and 4 cars were dedicated to the Olympic Youth Camp Programme.



Piraeus Port

The Piraeus Olympic Hospitality Zone was located on a 323.000 sq.m. surface across a stretch of 3 km along the piers of Piraeus Port (from the OTE Gate up to Akti Themistokleous), and during Games-time was the berthing area for nine cruise ships which were utilised as "floating hotels" to accommodate thousands of Olympic Family members, as well as spectators. Athens, successfully adopting a system already used during the Olympic Games of Barcelona and Sydney, ensured an appropriate number of luxury and first class rooms, which the city hotels lacked, providing accommodation services of high standard and security to Heads of State, Sponsors, International Federations, National Olympic Committees and Rights Holding Broadcasters.

Within the Piraeus Hospitality Zone was located a Non Competition Venue for which the Organising Committee was responsible in terms of management and administration, while the body responsible for the operation and management of the rest of the Zone was the Piraeus Port Authority (PPA). The Non Competition Venue covered an area of 120.000 sqm, from "Kanellos" Terminal up to the Themistokleous Pier, while the first floor of the PPA (Akti Miaouli) offices was provided for management purposes. The Olympic Family members entered the Venue through Lion Gate, from which a route dedicated to Olympic use led to the "Kanellos" Terminal, where access control took place as planned and required documents were shown. An alternative was to use the three entry Gates to the Hospitality Zone and its five Terminals, with respective control procedures.

The successful operation of the Piraeus Olympic Hospitality Zone and the effective service provided to its guests was a result of

close, productive cooperation between the Organising Committee, the Ministry of Merchant Marine (MMM) and the Piraeus Port Authority (PPA), to which the area belonged, as well as all the agencies and shipping companies which operated at the Port, during the preparation period and at Games-time.

This cooperation began in August 2000 and was sealed in September 2001 with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between ATHOC and the PPA/MMM. After signing the MoU, joint working groups were set up which sought to resolve all issues concerning the operation of the Non Competition Venue and the Hospitality Zone (recording requirements in terms of infrastructure and human resources, refurbishment, renovation and upgrading works, berthing positions, overlays, contracts with shipping companies) and satisfying additional special requirements and demands that stemmed from the "VIP" status of those accommodated in the area.

During this collaboration, ATHOC completed detailed operational planning of the Olympic Venue along with planning for the special demands and service needs of the accommodated Olympic Family members in the wider Zone, while the PPA (in March 2004) completed the construction of the necessary infrastructure, renovation and upgrading works for the Port of Piraeus, and elaborated the berthing plan for cruise ships. At the same time, ATHOC signed the charter-party for the Queen Mary 2 cruise ship, which for 19 days accommodated an average of 1.128 people per day (a total number of 20.300 overnights). In May 2004, ATHOC and shipping companies signed agreements for the berthing of eight cruise ships and for leasing, by ATHOC, of a number of cabins in five of the ships, to cover the Olympic Family members' accommodation needs.

Left page:

Views of the cruise ships at Piraeus Port.
© Athens News Agency (ANA)

The period of exclusive use and official Olympic operation of the Non Competition Venue was round-the-clock from 10 to 31 August 2004. Venue Team staff included 102 paid, 125 volunteers and 50 contractors' staff for cleaning, waste management and site management services. The Venue Team worked in close and systematic collaboration with representatives of the Ministry of Merchant Marine, the Piraeus Port Authority, Customs and the ship agents resulting in cohesive, uniform operation of the Hospitality Zone and the Venue in terms of Security, client flow, provision of services and cruise ship provisioning. The Team reported to the Region Operations Management Centre (ROMC) as part of Main Operations Centre, which enabled cooperation with and mobilisation of the organisations involved (MMM, PPA, Port Police, Piraeus Traffic Police, Piraeus Prefectural Authority, Municipality of Piraeus) to immediately address possible problems and to maintain the desired level of services provided and ensure that the overall look of the Games remained consistent.

The Queen Mary 2 and the Silver Wind berthed at the Non Competition Venue on 12 and 13 August respectively. Both departed on 30 August 2004. The first, which was chartered by ATHOC, accommodated Heads of State (120 cabins), guests of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs (50 cabins), Sports Ministers (80 cabins), NBA guests (103 cabins), guests of JET SET the Official Supporter in the category of hospitality management (140 cabins), and various National Olympic Committees. The Silver Wind, with a capacity of 493 people, accommodated passengers from the sponsor hospitality programme of Time/Sports Illustrated, the International Sponsor, which had chartered the cruise ship.

The Ocean Countess I cruise ship, with a capacity of 1.229 people (passengers and crew) was the first to arrive in Greece on 6 August 2004, and berthed at the Hospitality Zone. The ship accommodated representatives of the French channels TVFR2 and 3, as well as French Olympic Committee members. This ship was the last to leave Greece on 2 September 2004.

The Piraeus Hospitality Zone was also used by six further cruise ships on which all the accommodation services required for the Olympic Family members who stayed on them were provided.

- The World Renaissance, with a capacity of 685 people (passengers and crew), chartered by the United States Olympic Committee.

- The Aida Aura with a capacity of 1.684 people. The German Olympic Committee used 30% of the ship's cabins, while it was also the place where the German state broadcasting networks ARD and ZDF installed their television studios.

- The Rotterdam, with a capacity of 1.913 people. The National Olympic Committees of Eastern European countries used 30% of the cabins.

- The MS Westerdam, with a capacity of 2.748 people. Coca Cola, an International Sponsor, leased a number of cabins, while 30% of the cabins were used by the National Olympic Committees of South Africa, Russia and of Eastern European countries.

- The Clelia II, with a capacity of 140 people, which accommodated the French Equestrian, Judo, Sailing and Handball Federations.

- The Silver Whisper, with a capacity of 587 people, which accommodated passengers from the sponsor hospitality programme of the JET SET Official Supporter (140 cabins) and representatives of the Australian Channel 7 television network.

Finally, the tall ship Amerigo Vespucci belonging to the Italian Presidency also berthed at the Piraeus Hospitality Zone.

During Games-time, a total of 21.829 individuals, Olympic Family members and spectators, stayed on the nine cruise ships, while 4.574 cabins were utilised. "The hospitality was exceptional - everything ran smoothly". These remarks were the mantra of all Olympic Family members accommodated at the Venue at Piraeus Port, or on the cruise ships of the Hospitality Zone, since they enjoyed services of high standard during their stay in Athens. Despite the complicated nature of such a "special demand" Venue, the main goals set by ATHOC were achieved and resulted in the problem-free operation of the Venue, operational coexistence with the Hospitality Zone, the provision of services to VIP guests, technical support for Rights Holding Broadcasters, smooth movement of vehicles to, from and within the Venue and finally, the unhindered provisioning of Queen Mary 2.

Right page:

Greek security officers guard the Queen Mary 2 cruise ship anchored at Piraeus port.
© Getty images/M. Bicanski



Queen Mary 2

HEMIS 2004



Airport

The "Eleftherios Venizelos" Athens International Airport (AIA) was, for thousands of visitors, their first and their last contact with the Athens Olympic Games. For members of the Olympic Family, in particular, this was their first and their last experience of the ATHOC hospitality and services provided.

Successful operation of the Airport for the purposes of the Olympic Games was based on its detailed planning as an Olympic Venue in close, constructive collaboration between the Organising Committee and the Airport management, and the various public and private sector services operating at the Airport.

This cooperation commenced in September 2001 with the signing of a MoU between ATHOC and AIA. Immediately subsequent to signing the MoU, joint working groups were set up, whose objective was to settle issues concerning operation of the Airport (passenger service, baggage handling, aircraft traffic, etc.) and to handle the additional needs of the Olympic and Paralympic Family. The aim of the working groups was to exchange information to safely predict and record requirements in terms of human resources and infrastructure. Staff from ATHOC Functional Areas involved and representatives of all agencies at the Airport participated in the working groups.

In September 2002 ATHOC appointed an Airport Venue Manager and a Venue Team was set up under the Airport Venue Manager's command. Planning for the Airport's Olympic operation thus commenced in cooperation with the corresponding team appointed by AIA. The aim was joint detailed planning of all required facilities, means and operations, in order to ensure rapid, safe and effective service for members of the wider Olympic Family, in

line with contractual obligations and Olympic Protocol, during both arrivals and departures. In close cooperation with AIA, these operations and services, as well as staff readiness, were tested during the August 2003 test events and the Chefs de Mission Seminar at the same time, serving arrivals and departures of Athletes, Team Officials, Technical Officials and Delegation members, as well as IOC representatives.

The technical adaptation work at the Airport's Olympic facilities began in March 2004 at the Main Terminal and in the wider areas of vehicle assembly, parking and Security screening. Official operation of the Airport as an Olympic Venue commenced on 12 July 2004 and continued round-the-clock for 54 consecutive days, until 3 September for the Olympic Games. For the Paralympic Games, the Venue reopened round-the-clock from 10 to 30 September 2004. The period from 3 to 10 September was a transitional period of preparation for Paralympic operations. The Airport Venue Team personnel consisted of 92 paid staff and 342 volunteers.

The operational planning of the Airport provided for the creation of separate areas and flows dedicated for members of the Olympic Family and for the Delegations, in order to avoid congestion and serve them as rapidly as possible:

On the Arrivals level, Olympic Family members moved in exclusive controlled zones, through which they were guided to a single load zone with a secure perimeter, which was exclusively used by ATHOC. In this way smooth, rapid and safe access to ATHOC transport means was ensured. Meet & Greet staff from the Venue Team accompanied and facilitated Olympic Family members throughout their entire stay at

Left page:

Athens International Airport.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

An Athens suburban railway train, linking the Airport with the city centre, makes its way from Eleftherios Venizelos station during its first day of operation, 30 July 2004, just two weeks before the start of the Olympic Games.
© REUTERS/J. Kolesidis

Athens International Airport.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



the airport from arrival until transfer to the appropriate means of transport that would take them to their accommodation.

In the Intra-Schengen Arrivals area, a total of 30 Accreditation Validation Centre stations were in operation in two specially configured areas within the building. Thus, without impeding the flow of passengers, members of the Olympic Family could validate their Accreditation while waiting to collect their luggage.

In the Extra-Schengen Arrivals area, where space was limited, a special temporary structure measuring 500 sq.m. was erected for the Olympic Games, which hosted 6 additional passport control stations solely for members of the Olympic Family and 15 Accreditation validation stations. Upon arrival, members of the Olympic Family were guided to this service area before being taken to the baggage claim area.

To ensure rapid service for delegations arriving in Athens on private chartered flights, use of the Satellite Terminal Building was planned with direct transfer of athletes to buses and loading of their luggage onto trucks, without using the Airport's central baggage handling system.

In the case of departures, it was decided jointly with AIA that check-in would be done at the Olympic Village for large groups (off-airport processing - OAP). To ensure problem-free traffic flows on peak traffic departure dates (29-31 August) the AIA used the Satellite (Express) Terminal to serve Athletes. This Terminal had check-in desks for tickets, passenger and hand luggage and passport control stations. Once the necessary procedures were completed, athletes were transferred from the Satellite Terminal Building through the airside to the relevant departure lounges for their flights.

During the Olympic Games, the Airport served around 35.000 members of the Olympic Family, of whom approximately 27.600 received accreditation at the Accreditation Centre there. The decision to use special areas and exclusive flows especially for the Delegations and members of the Olympic Family and to create a separate Athlete departure terminal proved to be an exceptional success and was a definitive factor in eliminating delays during the departure of Olympic Family members. Both during arrivals and departures, all Airport operations were problem-free and drew exceptional comments from members of the Olympic Family.

This page:

Members of the Iraqi delegation wave upon their arrival at the airport in Athens, four days before the opening of the Olympic Games.
© AFP/R. Schmidt

Επεξεργασία
Δεδομένων



Main Uniform Distribution & Accreditation Centre

The Main Uniform Distribution & Accreditation Centre (UDAC) was the first Olympic Venue to become operational. Its doors opened on 16 June 2004 and the Venue remained in operation throughout the entire Olympic and Paralympic Games period until 27 September 2004. All Games workforce, that is ATHOC paid staff, contractors' staff and volunteers, as well as the Technical Officials were accredited at UDAC. The Accreditation of these constituent group members was combined with the delivery of the ATHENS 2004 Games Uniforms to those entitled to it.

The UDAC premises covered 3.285 sq.m. and were located at part of the buildings where the ATHOC Headquarters were accommodated; they were configured as a separate Olympic Venue as from 1 March 2004. This location was particularly suitable for UDAC's clients as it was easily accessible by several means of public transport. Also, it was only a 15-minutes' drive from the Airport; this suited particularly the Technical Officials, as they received their Accreditation Cards and Uniforms upon arrival.

The UDAC workforce included a total of 454 staff: 154 ATHOC employees, 216 volunteers and 84 contractors' employees. The Venue was open to clients 6 days a week from 08:00 to 20:00. On 17 August 2004 UDAC also started to issue Paralympic Games Accreditation.

A total of 93.394 people were served at UDAC. In addition, 32.245 Accreditation Cards were issued for Olympic Games Security officers and were distributed via a separate service station that operated under the responsibility of the Olympic Games Security Division (OGSD). UDAC was serving up to 3.750 clients per day, while the daily average number of clients during the peak period from 13 July to 13 August 2004 was 2.380.

The key services provided at the Venue were as follows:

- For the Accreditation Validation procedure a total of 28 work stations were in operation. The details of each individual entitled to Accreditation were checked in his/her presence, identification was confirmed, and the Card was then activated in the Accreditation system. Provided that the photograph of the specific individual had already been sent and entered into the system, the Accreditation Card was printed, laminated and delivered immediately at the same work station. In case the photograph was not available in the system, the client was directed to proceed to a Real Time Badging station, where he/she could also have their picture taken.
- In the case of any problems during the above procedure, the client would be re-directed to one of the 25 Issue Resolution Desks in operation at UDAC. The problem was identified, addressed on the basis of predefined procedures and, depending on the outcome, the client was either referred to a Real Time Badging station or departed from the Centre.
- A total of 48 work stations were dedicated to Real Time Badging, where photography and Card production/printing facilities were available.
- Once the Accreditation Card was received, the Accredited individual, provided he/she was also entitled to a Games Uniform, proceeded to the Uniform Distribution Centre (UDC). This centre operated within the UDAC and was responsible for managing and distributing all the uniform types (casual and formal uniforms) that ATHOC was responsible for producing. The UDC included 10 reception desks, 48 fitting rooms, tailoring facilities and services for the

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

Uniform Distribution
and Accreditation Centre.
© ATHOC/Y. Prinos

Uniform Distribution
and Accreditation Centre.
Data processing
for Accreditation Cards.
© ATHOC/Y. Prinos

Uniform Distribution
and Accreditation Centre.
Collecting the Games Uniform.
© ATHOC/Y. Prinos



This page:

Uniform Distribution
and Accreditation Centre.
Uniform distribution.
© ATHOC/A. Panayiotou



This page:

Following the client flows signage at the Uniform Distribution and Accreditation Centre.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos

Technical Officials' Uniforms, 16 distribution stations and 23 delivery check points.

Given that UDAC is traditionally the first Olympic Venue to start operation, it is the Venue that forms the first impression of the Games. In order that this first impression be positive it is imperative that the Venue operates flawlessly from the onset. UDAC's operation was indeed extremely smooth and was

positively commented on with regard to both its manner of operation and its friendly and efficient workforce. Any problems that arose were addressed effectively and efficiently at Venue level. The design and layout of the work stations and the special signage used to direct client flows also proved to be most efficient, resulting into smooth operation, high level of service, and acceptable levels of queuing.



Sponsor Hospitality Centre

The Sponsor Hospitality Centre provided exclusive hospitality space and facilities to Sponsors and the IOC, as per the requirements of the Host City Contract. Located at the north-west part of the OAKA Complex, it offered easy access to some of the most popular events - athletics, aquatics, basketball finals, gymnastics, tennis and cycling - as well as to the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Distance from Venues, access, security and available parking space were all factors taken into consideration when deciding on the location of the Sponsor Hospitality Centre. This excellent choice of location has been considered as one of the major factors of success of the Sponsor Hospitality programme.

The Centre's user groups were the TOP Sponsors, the Grand National Sponsors, the Official Supporters, the Official Providers, Sponsor Consultants & Agencies, the International Olympic Committee (IOC Marketing), Broadcasters, and the United States Olympic Committee.

The Sponsor Hospitality Centre was planned as a totally cost-recoverable Venue, funded by its user groups. One of the key issues in the early planning stages was to ensure a detailed understanding of the client needs. Different Sponsors have different expectations as to what they would like to offer to their guests in terms of hospitality. ATHOC's objective was to offer services of high level specifically designed to meet the various needs and expectations of the user groups, so that Sponsors have the opportunity to realise unique and successful Olympic Hospitality programmes.

Sponsors were informed of the design, operational and service elements of the Sponsor Hospitality Centre through a full hospitality package provided to them in

February 2003. It included details on location, design concept, artist's impression, transportation services, rate card, entertainment, security, guest pass system, and common services such as business services, merchandise, outdoor cafe, philatelic products, etc. Suite space orders and deposits were submitted to ATHOC by June 2003.

Early site works at the Sponsor Hospitality Centre commenced in February 2004, and individual Sponsor suite fit-out took place in July 2004, on the basis of detailed drawings which had already been submitted by the Sponsors. A soft opening period from 3 to 12 August allowed the Venue Team and Sponsor staff to test all services and facilities, and train staff and volunteers. The Venue officially opened on the first day of the Games, 13 August 2004.

The Venue Team comprised 67 paid staff, 690 contractors' staff, and 156 volunteers. Efficient management of the Sponsor Hospitality Centre was achieved by establishing a close cooperation between Venue Operations and the Marketing department since the early planning stages, and by assigning Venue Management and operational responsibilities to the same manager and staff who had the responsibility for servicing the Sponsors' hospitality programme and thus had a deep understanding of the clients' needs.

Games-time, the Sponsor Hospitality Centre became the focal point of the Sponsors' Hospitality programme. A Hospitality hotline, located at the Centre and managed by the Sponsor Hospitality client servicing team, was used to closely coordinate and provide issue resolution services to Sponsors. These included issues related to accommodation, transportation services, accreditation, Ceremony tickets handling for VIP, airport

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

Sponsor Hospitality Centre.
© ATHOC/H. Fournier

Sponsor Hospitality Centre.
© ATHOC/C. Voulgari

Reception area at the Sponsor
Hospitality Centre.
© ATHOC/H. Fournier



This page:

Banners at the Sponsor
Hospitality Centre.
© ATHOC/H. Fornier

The Sponsor Hospitality Centre in Numbers

- 21.000 sq.m. main Venue area
- 3.150 sq.m. of private suite space, including 1.000 sq.m. for the IOC Marketing Club
- 17.000 sq.m. bus station and parking area
- Temporary constructions: 10 Sponsor suites, 24 tents, covered walkways, containers, 1.200 sq.m. food preparation facilities, 2 waste compounds
- Single permanent construction: Pavilion CI Calatrava, housing all back of house and warehouse operations (1.500 sq.m.)
- Soft Opening: 6-12 August 2004
- Operations period: 13-29 August 2004
- Daily guest flows: 2.500 - 3.500 guests

services. The same services were available at the Reception of the Sponsor Hospitality Centre during its daily operation.

Guest Passes depicting Day 1 to Day 16, as well as "All Season Passes" (valid every day) and Opening Ceremony Guest Passes were the mechanism for Sponsor Guests to gain entry to the Sponsor Hospitality Centre. Passes were distributed one month prior to the commencement of the Games. Guest Passes could not be used as passes for Competition Venues within the OAKA Complex.

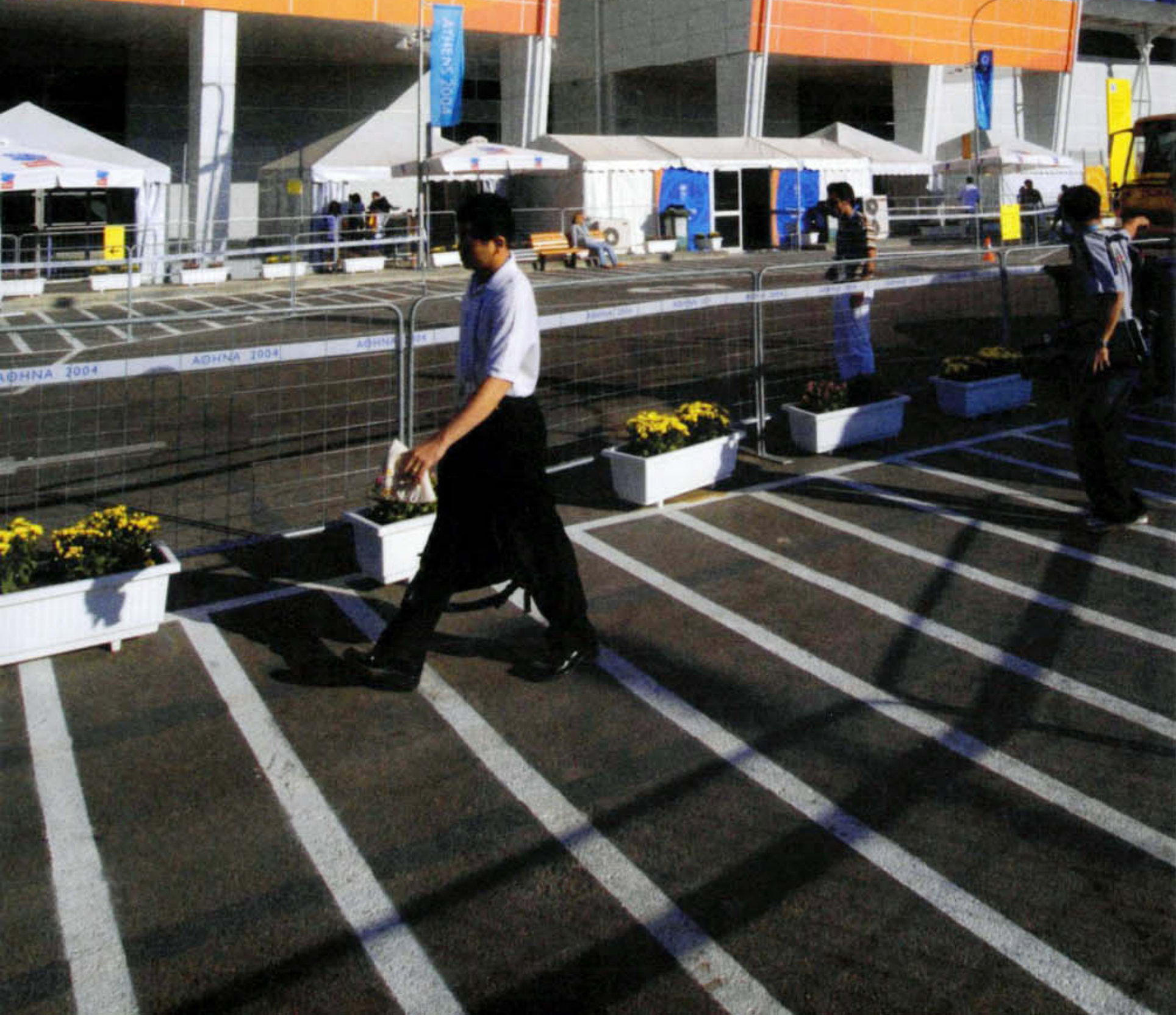
Some 3.500 guests made their way through the Sponsor Hospitality Centre on 13 August, prior to the Opening Ceremony. Street performers, mascot appearances and live music entertained the guests both prior to and after the end of the Opening Ceremony. During the Games, daily guest flows at the Sponsor Hospitality Centre ranged from 2.500 to 3.500 guests per day, with the number of guests on site at any given time depending on the Competition Schedule, and with guests arriving and returning to the Venue during pre and post session times. The daily entertainment programme consisted of two

different street entertainment groups, mascot appearances, live jazz band and disc jockey music. Entertainment schedules and staffing rosters of the Sponsor Hospitality client servicing team were finalised during the first week of the Games, as guests' behaviour became better understood. Entertainment took place primarily during the afternoon and evening hours, from 17:00 to midnight. During this time guests were having grazing buffets or dinner prior to attending or after returning from an event.

The Sponsors Hospitality Centre ran very smoothly from the outset, through out its 17 days of Games-time operation, with excellent feedback received from all suite holders. Few issues concerning primarily suite maintenance and technical equipment were reported and resolved during the first few days. By the fourth day of the Games no issues remained unresolved and the daily suite manager meetings at the Sponsor Hospitality Centre were cancelled as Sponsors no longer deemed them necessary.

International
Broadcast Centre

IBC
Διεθνές
Ραδιοτηλεοπτικό Κέντρο



ATHENS 2004

ATHENS 2004

ΑΘΗΝΑ 2004

ΑΘΗΝΑ 2004

ΑΘΗΝΑ 2004

International Broadcast Centre (IBC)

The International Broadcast Centre (IBC), located in a new state-of-the-art facility adjacent to the OAKA Complex, was designed and fitted-out specifically to accommodate the needs of television and radio Rights Holding Broadcasters (RHBs). The building covered an area of 100.000 sq.m. Headquarters for the Olympic Games broadcast, the IBC accommodated the largest broadcasting operation in the world and more than 10.000 RHB staff during the 16 days of the Games.

Construction began in December 2001 and the building was officially handed over to ATHOC by the General Secretariat of Sport (Ministry of Culture) in May 2003, so that AOB could begin the internal construction. Construction of the AOB offices and technical areas, in addition to some RHB areas, began in July 2003. AOB moved its offices into the IBC in February 2004 and the space became available to RHBs as of May 2004. The official opening date of the IBC was 13 July 2004 and the official closing date 30 August 2004. RHBs vacated the premises by 5 September and AOB by 31 October 2004.

The IBC building and its functions were managed by a Venue Team designated by ATHOC in collaboration with AOB, and the whole operating process ran smoothly. A 24-hour Building Management Centre monitored the power, HVAC, alarm systems, and other installations in the building. Retail services included a general store, which also sold ATHOC official merchandise, pharmacy, travel agency, newsagents, bank, ATMs and post office.

The IBC Broadcast Operations Centre was the main broadcast status reporting control point for all broadcast-related activity at the venues and IBC during Games-time. All problems, concerns and activities that related to

broadcast venue operations -such as security, transportation, site management, accreditation, etc.- were reported on a daily basis to the Operations Centre, which operated on a 24-hour basis starting on 9 August.

The Operations Centre reported to the AOB executive team prior to the Daily Broadcasters Briefing and coordinated very closely with the IBC Venue Manager and with the ATHOC Main Operations Centre through the Broadcasting Coordination Unit (BCU) Manager, who was member of the MOC.

The IBC housed a number of state-of-the-art technical operations facilities, under AOB's control, related to the production of the international signal: the Contribution, Distribution and Transmission Centre, the Commentary Switching Centre, Cable TV System, Radio Frequency, VTR Archives and Logging, Power, Broadcast Telecommunications and the Satellite Farm located opposite the IBC. In addition to these technical operations, the IBC housed a number of other services to Broadcasters, described below:

The Information Desk, located in the main lobby of the IBC, provided RHBs with a wide range of information on sports, competition schedules, logistics and general information about Athens and local sights.

The IBC Guest Pass Office provided passes for people who had a legitimate reason to visit the IBC and who were sponsored by a RHB team leader. A total of 12.117 guest passes were distributed, 3.288 during the post-lockdown phase from 19 July to 5 August and 8.829 during the period from 6 to 29 August.

The first IBC News Bulletin was produced on 4 June, and a total of 310 bulletins and flashes were produced up to the end of the Games.

Left page:

International Broadcast Centre
(IBC).
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



Notification and summaries of bulletins and flashes were transmitted on two CATV information channels, one for general bulletins and a separate channel for news flashes. Also at the IBC, Broadcasters had access to the INFO 2004 system provided by ATHOC.

Daily Broadcasters Briefings were held at the IBC starting on 20 July, proving a forum for updating RHBs with Games-related information, and booking and transmission details. As part of the daily briefing, AOB and RHBs reviewed events from the previous day and reviewed the next day's activities. The briefings provided the RHBs with a forum to raise specific issues regarding both AOB and ATHOC operations. Special Opening and Closing Ceremony briefings were also held to give the RHBs the first opportunity to prepare for the programmes of the Ceremonies.

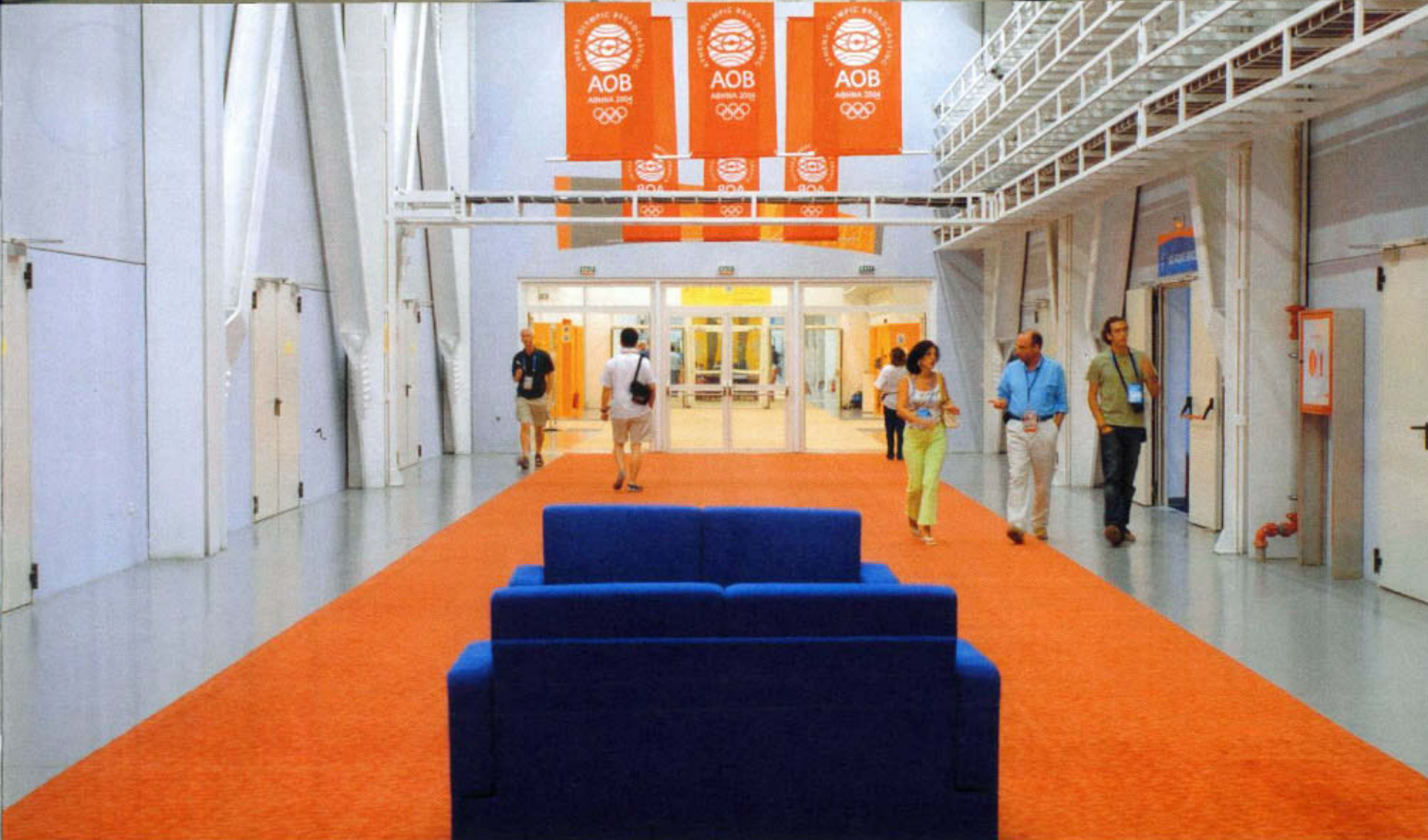
The AOB Sponsor Filming department was responsible for recording all the activities, concession points, kiosks, booths, and restaurants on behalf of the Olympic sponsors, inside the venues. ENG crews were dispatched with an agenda of specific filming requests submitted by the sponsors to AOB. Among the sponsors who participated in Sponsor Filming were Coca-Cola, Atos Origin, Samsung, OTE - COSMOTE.

The AOB Booking Office, which operated 12 hours a day, coordinated and addressed the production and transmission needs of RHBs and was responsible for the organisation and allocation of unilateral facilities. The booking office services included an inventory check of broadcast rate card items, archives, tap copies and occasional use of satellite transmissions. It distributed keys, parking permits, access devices, camera stickers and high-demand supplementary access devices. Bookable services available to RHBs within the IBC included: radio studios, video editing, post-production room, off-tube positions, stand-up positions, video playback from IBC. Venue bookable facilities included: commentary positions, broadcast compound space, pre-post-unilateral transmissions, mixed zone positions, unilateral camera positions.

With regard to the quality of services provided to Rights Holders during the Athens Games, the RHBs expressed their satisfaction with the operation of the Games and congratulated both AOB and ATHOC on the quality of the services provided to them, as well as on the broadcast of the Games.

This page:

Contribution, Distribution and Transmission Centre at the International Broadcast Centre (IBC).
© ATHOC/C. Cunliffe



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Entrance to the IBC from the
Athens Olympic Sports Complex
(OAKA).
© ATHOC/C. Vergas

International Broadcast Centre.
© ATHOC/C. Cunliffe

Main Press Centre (MPC)

The Main Press Centre (MPC) was the base of operations for the written and photographic press during the Olympic Games and was a hub for all their activities. The aim of the MPC was to ensure ideal working conditions in order to permit representatives of the press to cover the Olympic Games in the best possible manner; and to create a pleasant environment with a strong sense of hospitality. For around 53 days, 5,500 media representatives treated the MPC as their home away from home. It was widely acknowledged by the Press that the MPC offered ideal working conditions and the opportunity to relax from work; and successfully met their needs, while at the same time creating a unique atmosphere in which they could enjoy the greatest sporting celebration of humanity.

The MPC was at the very heart of the action next to the OAKA Complex, offering easy access to the five Competition Venues at the Complex, the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Games, the Media Accreditation Centre and the Rate Card parking area. It was purpose-built structure completed by the General Secretariat for Sports (Ministry of Culture). The MPC consisted of three multi-level buildings: the central MPC building was housed in an exhibition centre which had been suitably configured and two nearby buildings constructed specifically for this purpose. The three buildings were interconnected and covered a total of 52,000 sq.m. on seven levels.

Operations

The 105 news agencies began to move into the rented office space at the MPC (covering 8,300sq.m.) on 13 July 2004, one month before the official opening of the Games. As press

representative arrivals increased, the MPC began to operate on a 24-hour basis two weeks before the Games began (27 July) and did so until 30 August 2004. On 3 September 2004 all news agencies had departed from the rented office spaces. The MPC was one of the Olympic Venues with the longest operating period, a total of 53 days.

The MPC housed the largest international and regional news agencies, as well as NOCs, newspapers, magazines and the ATHOC Press-Office. The MPC was in effect a small city during the Games. In addition to the private premises of the agencies and the media work areas, food services were also provided at a 500-seat restaurant, as well as a bar, a convenience store, an Olympic Store, a bank, postal services, a travel agency, newsstand, medical services, library and customer service offices.

At its peak, the MPC population exceeded 7,000 people. As anticipated, peak times were three days before the Games; the largest number of visitors to the MPC was recorded on the day the Games opened (13 August 2004). During the competition period, the Main Media Work Room, which had 800 desks, operated at 65-80% capacity and peak hours were 08:30-10:30, 12:30-14:00, 17:00-19:30, and 21:30-00:30 hours.

Overall, the MPC served 5,500 media representatives, 5,231 of whom were accredited.

- Accredited written press (category E): 2,999.
- Accredited photographers (category EP): 899.
- Accredited Sport-specific written press (category Es): 273.

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

External view of the
Main Press Centre (MPC).
© ATHOC/C. Vergas

The Main Media Workroom in the
Main Press Centre (MPC).
© ATHOC/G. Prinos

The Central Helpdesk at the
Main Press Centre (MPC).
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

- Accredited Sport-specific photographers (category EPs): 450.
- Non-Rights Holding Broadcasters (ENRs): 266.
- Broadcasters (visitors) for press conference coverage: Around 50 per day.
- Visitors: Around 200-300 per day.
- Officials and/or athletes visiting the MPC for press interviews, briefings and meetings: around 50 per day.

The MPC Venue Team consisted of 165 ATHOC staff, of whom 121 were press operations specialists, 240 contractor personnel and 340 volunteers, including volunteers specialised in interpretation services.

Layout

In order to facilitate flows within the building, given that the MPC was large and complex, colour-coded signage and directional signage were utilised, while particular emphasis was placed on interior design in order to create a pleasant, hospitable environment.

Two separate entrances were created for media representatives, one at each end of the building so as to reduce the distance covered on foot. The majority of accredited written and photographic press who used public transport used the main entrance on Kifissias Avenue, which led to the mezzanine floor (level I) with a view of the central lobby below. The second entrance was on the OAKA side, accessible from the media parking lot, the Guest Pass office and for media representatives heading to or from OAKA, and led to the central lobby, where various press support services were located.

A separate entrance was provided for officials and athletes participating in press conferences next to the vehicle drop-off point on Kifissias Avenue. As at all Venues, all Venue Team staff entered via a separate entrance, which led directly to the Venue's support operations area (back-of-house).

Taking into account that population flow on the seven levels of the building was effected using elevators and escalators, it was essential that large news agencies be housed on levels located near the MPC entrances. When allocating and laying out the rented premises, a major effort was made to evaluate the complexity and size of interested news agencies, and to take into account the need to house NOCs and international news agencies accredited by the IOC with organisations from their country, and for them to be located near the work room. USOC, which rented the largest area of all NOCs, was housed on the same level as AP and the American newspapers, in an area that was close to the secondary press conference hall and the IOC ticketing office. As per the IOC Media Guide, the international news agencies AP, AFP, Reuters, and NOPPs and IOPPs were provided specific space and furniture at the MPC free of charge.

Particular emphasis was placed during operational design and planning of the Venue on the layout of the KODAK Image Centre (1.800sq.m.) in close cooperation with the sponsor since this was the hub of photography services at the MPC (100 work stations). During the Games this centre operated smoothly.

Services

The Guest Pass Office managed all requests for guest passes at the MPC. While in operation the Office handled a total of 20.000 guest pass applications. These applications were available from the office itself, from various MPC service centres and from helpdesks at Venue Media Centres.

The Central Helpdesk and Message Centre was the centre of services provided. While in operation, it distributed 4.500 press kits, 5.200 media guides, 3.000 MPC guides and 200 official announcements. The Helpdesk also distributed a CD with Games results (in digital format) one day after the closing of the Games (30 August 2004), which could also be sent by post to those individuals who so requested. 1.200 CDs were posted and 500 were distributed at the helpdesk based on applications made on 30-31 August 2004.

The Newsdesk operated initially for 16 hours (07:00 - 23:00 hours) and then round-the-clock from 3 August 2004, based in the central lobby, adjacent to the Helpdesk. It had experienced staff able to handle requests from media representatives, to process requests for interviews with the IOC, ATHOC, IFs, NOCs, Team Officials and Athletes. It was ATHOC's first line of contact with accredited media representatives, while also providing information to non-accredited journalists from Greece and abroad.

As appropriate, the Newsdesk:

- clarified and followed up the points made by ATHOC spokespersons;
- responded to questions from journalists about the Games;
- directed questions not concerning ATHOC to the suitable agencies (Ministries, etc.);
- collected questions and either referred them for a direct response to the Communications Centre or referred them for a response to the next scheduled or unscheduled press conference.

At the same time it recorded requests for interviews with ATHOC Senior Management and spokespersons, and monitored news in the international media daily so as to form a picture of the issues that would require a response or further monitoring. Each morning, at a meeting of ATHOC and IOC spokespersons and the Newsdesk Manager, all questions collected were discussed as well as issues identified in the international press, in order to prepare suitable responses and to identify information that would facilitate the work of the media. Using this procedure, ATHOC representatives became aware of the prevailing climate and

journalists' questions, and secondly ensured the uninterrupted flow of information to the media, a fact which drew positive comments and assisted in developing excellent relations between ATHOC and the national and international media.

The Newsdesk dealt with around 2.500 written requests and phone calls in five languages (English, French, German, Italian and Spanish). Media representative requests primarily related to the following topics:

ISSUES:	%
Athletes - Sports	12,6%
Ticket Sales	10,7%
Interviews	9,0%
Olympic Village	7,1%
Volunteers	6,5%
Opening Ceremony	6,1%
Contact numbers for NOCs	5,5%
Torch Relay	5,2%
Medals and Medal Ceremonies	4,8%
Venues	4,2%
Accreditation	3,2%
OAKA	3,2%
Security	2,6%
Transport	2,8%
Marathon	2,2%
Ancient Olympia	2,2%
Doping	2,2%
City architecture	1,9%
Mascots	1,3%
Tourism	1,0%
Weather	0,3%
Miscellaneous	2,8%

The MPC also had a Transport Desk where specialist staff provided information round the clock both on media representative transport and public transport routes. There was also a Medical Office, which operated from 29 July onwards.

The Media Work Room was located in the main building on level 2, above the main MPC entrance and two levels above the secondary entrance. It contained 800 numbered workstations. Media representatives could choose to sit where they wanted on a first come - first served basis. The workstations included a desk, power supply and a tabletop phone for every two desks (coin-operated) connected to the 5-digit Olympic phone network. The room was equipped with 100 INFO 2004 terminals and 18 wall-mounted (42") plasma CATV screens and 3 video screens. The CATV screens were reprogrammed daily in order to show main events held, depending on demand. At a central location within the work area was a library that included special collections of books, newspapers, magazines, press clippings and videos with information on the Competition Venues.

The MPC had two Press Conference Rooms. The central room seated 800 and was used for joint ATHOC - IOC press conferences every day. Overall 67 scheduled press conferences were held in the two room lasting 98 hours in total, during which simultaneous interpretation was provided in Greek, English, French, Spanish and Russian.

The MPC was praised by journalists, photographers, and by representatives from NOCs and the IOC. The MPC's success lay in the fact that all targets set were implemented; successfully anticipating all media representative needs while at the same time offering a hospitable working environment for all clients without exception.



Olympic News Service - INFO 2004

The Olympic News Service (ONS) was in essence the internal news agency for the Games, providing Games-related news and data to accredited members of the media and the Olympic Family through INFO 2004, the intranet news site. The service was provided via INFO 2004 system terminals in the MPC, at Competition Venues, at the Olympic Village, the Media Villages and Olympic Family hotels. INFO 2004 content was mirrored on the ATHENS 2004 official website which was visited daily by thousands of people from all around the world. The Press Operations staff who were responsible for managing the Olympic News Service were also responsible for distributing reports from INFO 2004 and for distributing Games-Results to pigeonholes located at all Competition Venues and at the MPC.

System Management

The Olympic News Service was part of Press Operations. It was managed by 222 journalists and Sport Info specialists, of whom 181 belonged to the Press Operations of Competition Venue Teams; while a group of 41 editors was responsible for central management, based at the MPC. The team consisted of professional editorial managers, editors, sub-editors and reporters with the assistance of 300 specialist volunteers from media schools and universities. In the case of sports not particularly known in Greece, foreign sportswriters specialised in those were also engaged.

INFO 2004 content was divided into news reports, background information and biographies. In addition to the INFO 2004 terminals at each Venue Media Centre, the system also had 30 terminals at the MPC and 2-6 terminals at each Competition Venue to generate reports. In addition, one to two

terminals were available to ONS Sport Info Specialists or Reporters in the Press Tribunes in certain Competition Venues, hosting Athletics, Aquatics, Basketball, Baseball and Gymnastics, to facilitate timely production of Event Reviews and Flash Quotes.

INFO 2004 system sources were as follows:

- ONS Flash Quote Reporters who obtained brief statements (flash quotes) from athletes, coaches, and officials immediately after an event.
- ONS Reporters who attended press conferences and filed Press Conference Highlights. They also provided news stories from each Venue, before and during competition.
- Sport Information Specialists and ONS reporting teams at the Venues, who generated Sport-specific event previews, reviews, extended start lists and media communications.
- ONS Biography Flying Squads who updated, corrected and supplemented information in biographies of athletes, coaches, horses and officials, based on data which had already been prepared in collaboration with a specialist external partner.
- INFO 2004 Background Information held information such as results from previous Olympic Games and other major international events, extensive historical data, greatest figures, multiple medal winners, Sports rules, Venue descriptions, news, records, birthdays during the Games, etc. This information was collected in collaboration with the IOC, IFs and the ATHOC Sports Division.

Left page:

Athletes and Team Officials
accessing the INFO 2004 at the
Olympic Village.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

- The ATHOC file including all IOC press releases and other official announcements of NOCs, IFs and other organisations involved in the Games.

- The INFO 2004 System also included special information generated by other ATHOC Functions, such as Games Results; the medal ceremony schedule with the names of medal and flower presenters; the press conference schedule; weather forecasts; information about transport systems and timetables; information about Disciplines, the Competition Schedule, Games Training; and information on other activities.

- An international pool of photographers also provided a wealth of photographs, from which ONS selected and published along with news.

- The ORIS project conducted by the IOC, ATHOC and IFs, which provided the guidelines matrix for report and print numbers in each sport.

The Olympic News Service editorial team, which was based at the MPC, prepared a complete and useful storyboard to monitor the output from each Venue. All information underwent fact checking and quality control, then editing and proofing, before being published on INFO 2004.

In cooperation with Atos Origin, an INFO 2004 Quick Reference Guide was published in three languages (English, French and Greek), which proved to be a very practical tool for system users.

System Innovations

INFO 2004 compared to similar systems at previous Games offered certain innovative services:

- An improved, user-friendly navigation system.
- Photographs included with all biographies as well as in selected press releases.
- A new "Background information" category which included useful information and data.
- All information was available in English, French and Greek.
- INFO 2004 content was automatically available on the ATHENS 2004 website.

News Services

The Olympic News Service was based on a classic news agency model. It focused on Sport-specific information, in line with ORIS and IOC guidelines. It also included certain external stories, outside the field of play, as appropriate. Successful planning and good monitoring ensured that the news provided was always published on the system in compliance with ORIS guidelines. Moreover, at the bottom of each report, it was possible to access biographies, NOC and team profiles via special links.

At the end of the Games, ONS had issued 7.659 news reports in English of which 7.127 were translated into Greek and 7.066 into French. The first reports were published on 26 July and the last on 30 August. The largest volume was published on 18 August (558 reports). The news reports per category were: IOC news, ATHOC news, daily previews and reviews, event previews and reviews, flash quotes, medal ceremonies, media communication, press conference highlights, Sport previews and reviews. The most news reports issued per sport were for Athletics (478 reports) followed by Football, Basketball and Boxing (470,453 and 395 respectively).

Biographies

INFO 2004 had all the necessary biographies from the moment it began operating and these were renewed by the biography flying squads that held interviews with Athletes at the Olympic Village to ensure that the most recent biographical information was available. At the end of the Games the Olympic Information System had published a total of 13.808 biographies in English, French and Greek.

- 12.828 athlete biographies
- 135 coach biographies
- 235 horse profiles
- 202 NOC profiles
- 199 referee profiles
- 209 team profiles

Background Information

This new INFO service provided 1.397 background information reports in 37 sports categories and one general category. It provided particularly useful information such as results in last cycle, extensive historical information, greatest figures, competition rules, a glossary and data on sports equipment. It also explained the vision and mission of ATHOC through detailed interpretations of the symbols, mascots, emblems, medals and other facts and figures, as well as the history of the IOC, the Olympic Games and the history of the Olympic Movement. The Media Guides for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and news and key events were also included in the specific category.

Newsflashes

The Olympic News Service provided 186 newsflashes (ticker) in English, 64 in Greek and 50 in French. It was a smart, user-friendly service, which provided information to media representatives about all issues such as major appearances and performances, important press conferences, ATHOC and IOC contact details and notices. This service was particularly appreciated by media representatives and allowed the Olympic Information System to provide interesting and noteworthy data and information.



Pigeonholes

The pigeonholes, which operated both at the MPC and Competition Venues were particularly useful. They were categorised per Discipline with special pictograms and divided into pigeonholes for start lists, results, men's and women's events; they were restocked regularly and presented a good image.

Results distribution to the pigeonholes was smooth and timely. Media representatives were impressed by the fact that Athletics and Swimming Finals Results were distributed to MPC pigeonholes one to two minutes after the end of competition. Selected news reports were also distributed on time to 106 news agencies across the MPC and to Competition Venues. In total 11.270 reports were distributed in print form.

This page:

Issuing ONS news reports at the Olympic Modern Pentathlon Centre, Goudi Olympic Complex.
© ATHOC/N. Christodoulou

Feedback

Media representatives were satisfied by INFO 2004. Apart from the first two days, when there were some delays in live system operation, INFO 2004 drew particularly favourable comments. Users had access to all necessary information on time, particularly Games Results and other relevant reports. The decision to translate texts into French and Greek was particularly appreciated.

Both IFs and NOCs supported the Olympic News Service by providing not only news and announcements from press conferences and other events, but also by providing good stories and comments from their athletes. Moreover ATHOCs decision to publish all biographies and news on its official website was of particular help to media representatives and users around the world in securing rapid, up-to-date information.



Clean Venue Policy

The protection of the rights of the Olympic Sponsors and the adherence to the Clean Venue Policy guidelines was of supreme importance to both the IOC and the Organising Committee in the presentation of the ATHENS 2004 Games to spectators and to the global television audience. The ATHOC Marketing Division developed a unique, dynamic Clean Venue programme based on the Olympic Charter and related guidelines from the IOC.

According to the Olympic Charter, all Olympic events must take place in an environment free of advertising, commercial, political, religious or nationalist messages. This "command" of the Olympic Movement for Clean Venues is necessary because: it protects the integrity and the overall look of the Olympic Games; it creates an environment focused on sport; it ensures that the spectacle of the Olympic Games will remain true to the philosophy of Olympism and the Olympic values; it ensures that the presentation of the Games will not be burdened by other messages; it enhances the value of Olympic Sponsorship, and it assists in the protection of exclusive marketing rights for official Olympic Sponsors.

The Clean Venue Policy applied to all structures, Venues, areas and equipment used for hosting the Games and related events organised by ATHOC; all Non Competition Venues such as the Olympic Family hotels, the Olympic Village, the MPC, IBC and support Venues for Transport, Logistics and Accreditation; all workforce (paid staff, volunteers, sponsor - contractor - subcontractor - supplier and other personnel); and all sporting delegations (NOCs, IFs, Technical Officials, Athletes, etc.) and spectators.

The key to success was the emphasis placed on planning and prevention. ATHOC created and maintained a regime at the Olympic Venues under which infringements of the Clean Venue Policy and efforts at ambush marketing were averted, while infringements and risks were identified and handled before problems arose.

The ATHOC Clean Venue Policy featured a series of innovations:

For the first time in preparations for the Olympic Games, an Organising Committee applied a Clean Venue Policy during the test events for which it had marketing rights. In this way, the staff of ATHOC received training on issues related to the Clean Venue Policy and sponsorship rights, while Venue Sponsoring & Ambush Marketing Managers on Venue Teams became familiar with policies and procedures, since they were responsible for coordinating this effort at the Venues. In addition, other groups, such as suppliers, other Venue Team staff, Athletes, etc, were also familiarised with Clean Venue requirements.

For the first time a detailed Marketing Guide was issued for staff of the Sponsoring Department, which included all marketing rights and all the necessary information for resolution of issues which might arise relating to sponsoring operations or from infringements of the Clean Venue Policy.

For the first time Ambush Protection and Clean Venue terms were included in contracts, tender notices and purchase orders, thereby binding associates, contractors and third parties without marketing rights to observe the Clean Venue Policy and not to attempt ambush marketing.

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

The Clean Venue policy in application: venues free of advertising, commercial, political, religious or nationalist messages, creating an environment focused on sport.

Ano Liossia Olympic Hall. Judo.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

Helliniko Olympic Complex.
Indoor Arena. Handball.
© ATHOC/A. Panayiotou

Galatsi Olympic Hall.
Rhythmic Gymnastics.
© ATHOC/C. Voulgari

ATHOC's competitive advantage in applying the Clean Venue Policy during Operational Planning was that the effort was coordinated and protected by Sponsoring Department staff, who were aware of Sponsors' contractual rights, and of the necessary procedures to protect Olympic rights. ATHOC was also the first Organising Committee to have Sponsoring representatives, also responsible for Ambush Marketing, at each Olympic Venue as members of the Venue Team, before and during the Games. The Venue Sponsoring and Ambush Marketing Managers and their staff, with in the framework of the Venue Team, were responsible for securing and facilitating the smooth implementation of Sponsor operations, and to coordinate efforts to comply with the Clean Venue Policy.

In addition, a Clean Venue Roaming Team carried out constant inspections at Venues to coordinate and support the Venue Sponsoring

and Ambush Marketing Managers on Venue Teams and to forward any issues to be resolved at a higher level. Lastly, the Sponsoring Central Team escalated as necessary issues to the Main Operations Centre for further action. From early August 2004, members of the IOC Marketing team and the ATHOC Clean Venue Roaming Team inspected the Venues to monitor Clean Venue compliance, which inspections continued throughout the Games.

Implementation of the Clean Venue Policy during the Athens Olympic Games was an absolute success, generating a legacy for future Organising Committees and creating a benchmark for future Olympic Games. The coordinated, constant effort during the years leading up to the Games bore fruit and according to comments from the IOC Marketing team, the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games were the 'cleanest' Olympic Games ever held.



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Helliniko Fencing Hall.
© AFP/T. Coex

Olympic Velodrome.
Cycling Track.
© AFP/D. Meyer



Torch Relay



The Olympic Torch Relay

The Olympic Flame is the symbol par excellence of the Olympic idea, of fair play and peaceful coexistence. The transport of the Olympic Flame by Torchbearers, from Ancient Olympia to the Stadium of the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games is the forerunner of the celebration of the Games.

ATHENS 2004, on the occasion of the homecoming of the Olympic Games to the country of their birth and the city of their revival, organised the first truly global Torch Relay so as to promote the values of the Games to the entire world. The message and atmosphere of the universal celebration touched people at the furthest ends of the earth.

For 78 days, the Flame was passed hand by hand by 12.102 Torchbearers, travelled to 27 countries and all five continents represented by the Olympic rings (Oceania, Asia, Africa, the Americas and Europe) by aeroplane, ship, helicopter, car, motorcycle, bicycle and wheelchair, changed time zone 37 times and "spoke" in 19 languages, sharing the message "Pass the Flame, Unite the World".

In Antiquity

Fire is a sacred symbol dating back to prehistoric times. In ancient Greece it symbolised the creation of the world, renewal and light. It was also the sacred symbol of Hephaestus, and a gift to the human race from Prometheus, who stole it from Zeus. At the centre of every city-state in ancient Greece there was an altar with an ever-burning fire and in every home the sacred Flame burned, dedicated to Hestia, goddess of the family.

During the Olympic Games of Antiquity, the Flame that burned in Olympia was never

extinguished. In the Prytaneum at Ancient Olympia there was an altar dedicated to Hestia with a sacred Flame, kindled from the sun's rays, with the help of a hollow disc or mirror, that was never allowed to go out. The lighting was simple but spectacular: the concave surface could focus the rays of the sun onto a single spot, the "focal" point, on which the High Priestess laid the Torch and it caught fire.

Torch Relay races started in ancient Greece as religious rituals held at night. Soon they turned into a team sport, initially among youths, and further evolved into one of the most popular ancient sports. In Ancient Athens, the ritual of a Torch Relay was an important part of the Panathenaia feast, held every four years in honour of the goddess Athena. The Torch Relay carried the Flame from the altar of Prometheus to the altar of goddess Athena on the Acropolis, a distance of 2,5 kilometres in total, borne by forty youths from the ten Athenian tribes. The Torch Relay ensured the swift transport of the sacred Flame, to preserve its strength and purity.

The Revival of the Torch Relay

The Torch, the flame and all the other historical, festive and symbolic aspects appeared in Greece in 1896, as part of the cultural events of the first modern Olympic Games. The Torch Relay of 1896 was held on the seventh day of the Games, at 21:00 in Athinas Street, accompanied by music, and followed by horsemen, security corps, students, schoolchildren, representatives of professional associations and people of all ages.

In a prophetic speech on 27 June 1912, during the Closing Ceremony of the Stockholm Olympic Games, Baron Pierre de Coubertin

Left page:

Lighting the Flame for the 1952 Helsinki Olympic Games.
© ATHOC/Enomenoi
Photoreporter

Lighting the Flame for the 1964 Innsbruck Olympic Winter Games.
© ATHOC/Enomenoi
Photoreporter

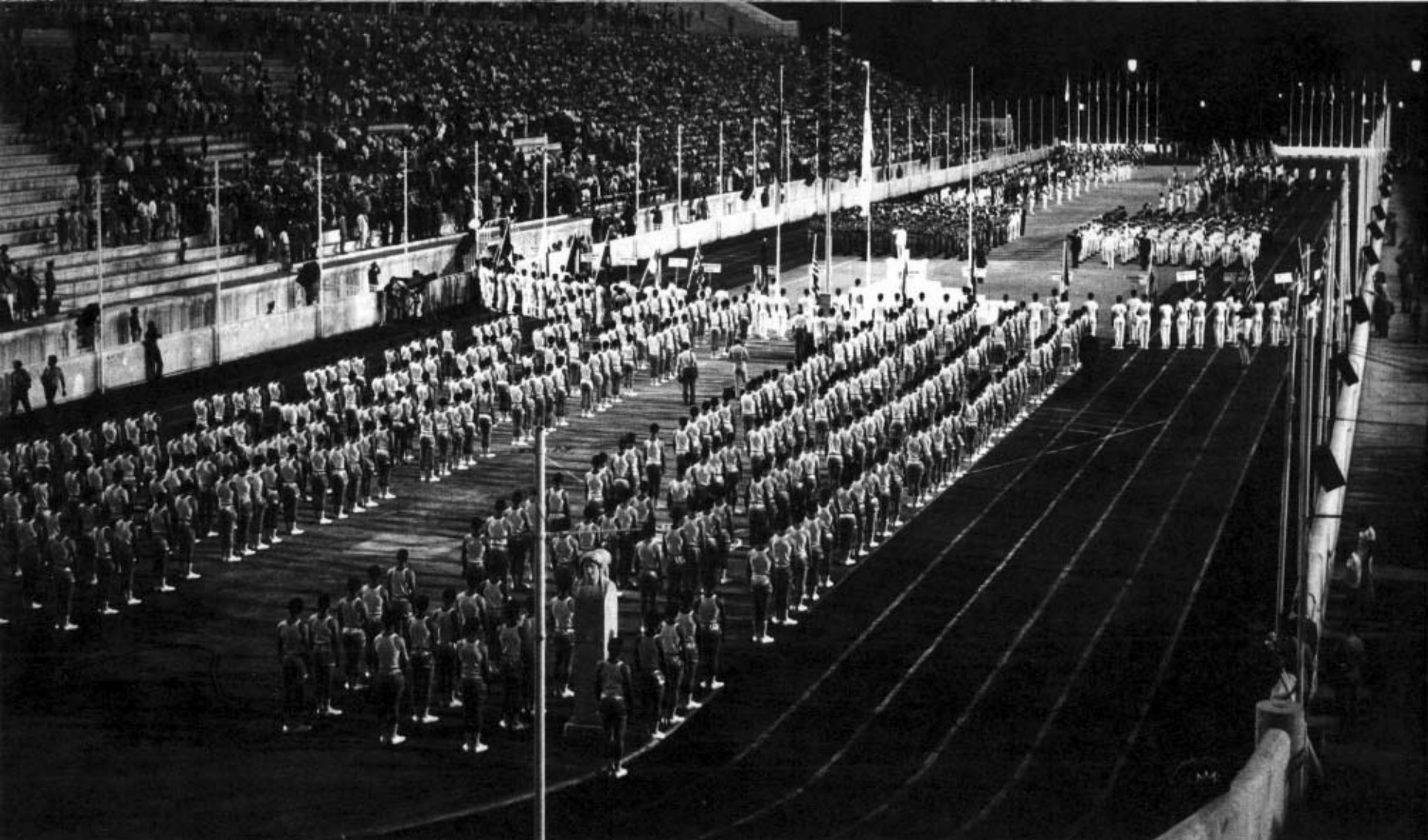
Ritual during the Lighting of the Flame in the Crypt of the Stadium of Ancient Olympia.
© ATHOC/Enomenoi
Photoreporter

said: "And now... great people have received the Torch... and have thereby undertaken to preserve and...quicken its precious Flame. Lest our youth temporarily... let the Olympic torch fall from their hands... other young people on the other side of the world are prepared to pick it up again. The Olympic torch will follow its course for the sake of a world with more faith, courage and purity..."

The first time a Flame was lit in a cauldron during the Opening Ceremony of the Games was in Amsterdam, in 1928. While not preceded by a Torch Relay, it remained lit for the duration of the Games. The Torch Relay, as the forerunner of the celebration of the Games, was formalised in the Berlin Games in 1936 and since then the Torch Relay has preceded every Olympic Summer Games, marking the countdown to the Games and enchanting the gathered crowds.

In Olympiads that followed, the Torch Relay continued to evolve as an Olympic institution, incorporating the distinctive features and cultural elements of each host city.

The choice of the athlete who lights the cauldron in the Olympic Stadium is always symbolic to the country organising the Games. In 1960, for the Rome Olympic Games, the Flame followed a route in homage to the Greek and Roman civilisations, carried from Piraeus to Rome on the ship "Amerigo Vespucci" and passing through some of the best-known or significant historical monuments of the two countries. This was also the first time that the event was televised. For Mexico City in 1968, the Flame followed the route taken by Christopher Columbus, and the athletics champion Norma Enriqueta Basilio was the first woman to light the cauldron in the Olympic Stadium. For the Montreal Games in 1976, the Flame travelled by satellite from Athens to Ottawa, while in the 1992 Barcelona Games a Paralympic Archery medallist, Antonio Rebollo, lit the Flame in the Stadium with a burning arrow. In Sydney in 2000, the Flame travelled underwater at the Great Barrier Reef and covered the theretofore furthest distance in the history of the Games, while the cauldron was lit by Cathy Freeman, symbolising the desire to reconcile the white and Aboriginal populations of Australia.



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Lighting the Flame for the 1972
Munich Olympic Games.
© ATHOC/Enomenoi
Photoreporter

Flame handover at the
Panathinaiko Stadium.
© ATHOC/Enomenoi
Photoreporter



The Idea of the First Global Torch Relay

The Greek idea of an International Torch Relay was presented and enthusiastically accepted during the presentation of Athens' Bid File for the Olympic Games of the XXVIII Olympiad. In autumn 2000, ATHOC began the feasibility study the strategic planning and the long-term process of route planning and IOC approval.

A strategy was developed, with these objectives:

- To unite the wider Olympic Family, with the Flame visiting all cities that had hosted Games of the Olympiad since 1896, up to the next host city, Beijing. These were: Paris (1900, 1924), St Louis (1904), London (1908, 1948), Stockholm (1912, 1956), Antwerp (1920), Amsterdam (1928), Los Angeles (1932, 1984), Berlin (1936), Helsinki (1952), Melbourne (1956), Rome (1960), Tokyo (1964), Mexico City (1968), Munich (1972), Montreal (1976), Moscow (1980), Seoul (1988), Barcelona (1992), Atlanta (1996), Sydney (2000).

- To visit all five continents symbolised by the Olympic rings, with historic first visits to Africa and South America: Cairo, CapeTown, and Rio de Janeiro.

- To include cities with a particular sporting, historical or cultural significance: Delhi, the populous capital of India; New York, the seat of the United Nations; Brussels as the administrative centre of the European Union; Geneva as seat to more than 200 international organisations, including the Red Cross and the World Health Organisation; Lausanne as the seat of the International Olympic Committee; and Kiev, upon request of the Ukrainian government, as one of the Olympic Cities in the Football tournament of the Moscow Olympic Games (1980).

- To give the Greek government the opportunity to propose three cities for the international route (Istanbul, Sofia, Nicosia).

- And by decision of the IOC Executive Board, to include in the route of the Flame all the short-listed Candidate Cities for the 2012 Olympic Games (in order of drawing of lots: Paris, New York, Moscow, London and Madrid).

The final route was as follows: lighting in Ancient Olympia, Sydney, Melbourne, Tokyo, Seoul, Beijing, Delhi, Cairo, CapeTown, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Atlanta, New York, Montreal, Antwerp, Brussels, Amsterdam, Geneva, Lausanne, Paris, London, Madrid, Barcelona, Rome, Munich, Berlin, Stockholm, Helsinki, Moscow, Kiev, Istanbul, Sofia and Nicosia.

Key Dates

March 1997: Presentation of a proposal for a Torch Relay to visit all five continents, to the IOC Selection College.

05/09/1997: Presentation of the proposal for the Torch Relay to visit all five continents, to the IOC Session, as part of the final presentation of the Athens Candidature, before the election of Athens as host city of the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad.

11/12/2001: First presentation of the International Route plan to the IOC Executive Board.

21/02/2003: Approval of the Torch Relay plan by the IOC Executive Board.

26/11/2003: Presentation of the Torch Relay programme to the public - Announcement of the International Route - Unveiling of the Torch design.

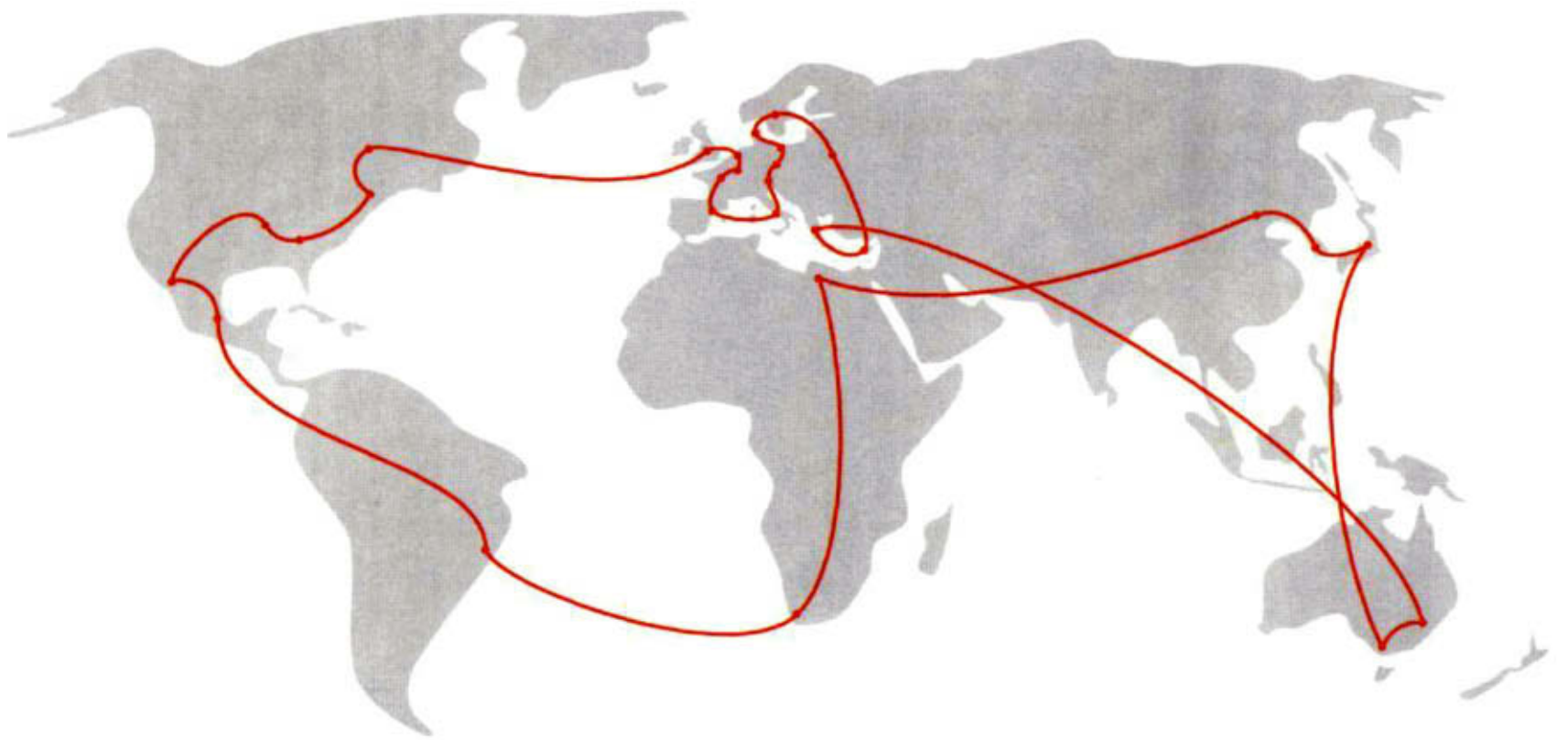
14/01/2004: Presentation of the Greek Torch Relay route and of the Torchbearer nomination procedure - Presentation of the Torchbearer uniform and of the Cauldron.

Left page, from top to bottom:

The flame prepares for its travels. A ceremony at the Athens International Airport, 2 June 2004. The President and Chief Operating Officer of ATHOC, with the flags and diplomatic representatives of the countries the Torch Relay was to visit, in the background.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat

Rio de Janeiro, 13 June 2004. Visibly moved, Brazilian football legend Pelé passes the flame to Marcio da Silva Santos from the Gol de Letra foundation, which provides education opportunities to disadvantaged and at-risk children.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat

19 June 2004. New York's Times Square welcomes the flame.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat



Presenting Partners of the Torch Relay

The Torch Relay was a huge and particularly complex undertaking, and called for the support and contribution of Sponsors with global reach and status, and a belief in the vision of the ATHENS 2004 Torch Relay. Their contribution and cooperation was essential to implement this unique idea.

The Official Presenting Partners of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Torch Relay were Coca Cola and Samsung, two companies with global reach and status, which provided financial, business and communication services in every country the Relay visited, and participated in the selection of a certain number of Torch bearers.

Active support was provided by Eurosport, the Official European Broadcasting Sponsor of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Torch Relay and by the Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation (ERT), the ATHENS 2004 Broadcasting Sponsor.

Marriott International was the Official Supplier of Hotel Services on the route, while GEFYRA SA was an Official Supporter of the Greek leg of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Torch Relay.

Torchbearers

During the planning process, the Organising Committee designed a detailed Torch bearer selection/nomination process. Local communities had a determining role in this process, by creating and operating the Torchbearer Selection Centres. Coca Cola and Samsung were also contractually entitled to nominate a specific number of Torchbearers. The Torch Relay Team developed the Torchbearer selection criteria manual in order to provide a single system for all Torch bearers. Communities, the Organising Committee, the IOC, the TOP Sponsors, and Coca Cola and

Samsung, were all obliged to comply with the same selection criteria, notwithstanding the number of Torchbearers they were entitled to choose.

The intent was to nominate Torchbearers who represented the best of humanity; people who unite their local communities through sport, education, and culture; people who inspire others; people who embody the values of these Games: Human Scale, Celebration, Participation and Heritage. The purpose of the selection process was to have each community put forward such people; people who exemplify the ideals of the Olympic Movement. Olympians, public figures, and ordinary citizens: everyone had an opportunity to become a Torchbearer, provided they did not hold a position of political or elected office.

For the Greek leg of the Relay, the majority of Torchbearers were selected by representatives of the local communities, through the Torchbearer Selection Centres of the Municipalities and the Regional Associations of Municipalities and Communities (TEDK). Each Municipality or TEDK assembled a Torchbearer and Escort Runner Selection Committee, and appointed its members. Based on the selections made at this level, and bearing in mind the technical requirements of the Relay, ATHOC endorsed the selections and informed the chosen Torchbearers.

From the point at which the Torchbearers were selected, ATHOC handled communication with them: they were provided with information and material, received their uniforms and detailed data on their slot (time and place they would run). The day of their participation, the Torchbearers made their way to the assembly point and were briefed on what to expect and how to handle their Torch. From that point they boarded the dedicated Torchbearer bus, which dropped them off at their slot position. On the Greek leg, the Torchbearers ran for 300 metres and on the

International for 400. Every escort runner ran with 5 different Torchbearers continuously (1.500 or 2.000 metres respectively). At the end of their slot, if they wished, the Torchbearers could be picked up by a bus that returned them to the assembly point.

The main difference between the Greek and International route was that in Greece the Torchbearers were managed directly by ATHOC, whereas on the International route an important part of that was delegated to the cities and NOCs. On the international route, on the eve of the Relay, a special reception was held, during which the uniforms were distributed, slots were confirmed and Torchbearers were briefed on their participation. The City Mayor or an NOC representative participated in this celebration.

Cathy Freeman, the Australian Olympic 400 metre Gold Medallist, returned to the place of her greatest triumph as the first Torch bearer of the International Torch Relay, in Sydney on 4 June. Among the Torchbearers were world-class celebrities such as Olympic Medallists Gail Devers, Michael Johnson, Carl Lewis and Edwin Moses and the popular Japanese singer Yukio Hashi. Football legends Pele, Ronaldo and Zico, three of the 120 Torchbearers in Brazil, carried the Flame in Rio de Janeiro, the first Latin American city ever to welcome the Olympic Flame.

Torch Relay Operations Planning

ATHOC spent two years planning the Torch Relay. During this time, a Central Team of 30 staff worked closely with the following stakeholders:

- The International Olympic Committee (IOC)
- The Presenting Partners of the Torch Relay (Coca Cola and Samsung)
- National Olympic Committees (NOCs)
- Cities of international and Greek destinations
- Government agencies
- Representatives and organisations of Greeks Abroad
- Suppliers and contractors
- Other involved parties at all levels of preparation and operational activation.

There was also close cooperation with the Olympic Games Security Division (OGSD), for the planning and implementation of the Torch Relay security.

In full deployment, Torch Relay had a headcount of 218. The Torch Relay team included ATHOC paid staff, specialist staff, drivers, security staff, photographers and camera crews, producers, media operations personnel and volunteers.

In order to ensure the success of the Torch Relay the Central Team worked on four different levels with dedicated groups:

The Operations Support Team collected all information and handled all operational issues, from ATHOC Headquarters. Amongst other responsibilities, it managed approvals for Sponsor activation proposals, in cooperation with the Sponsoring department, and developed a sponsor rights protection programme. Together with the Image & Identity Department, it developed a uniform visual identity with a series of look elements. Aided by Legal Services, it finalised the necessary contracts and monitored their implementation.

The Operational Planning Team, working with the Advance Team, the cities and the local communities, developed the detailed route for the Relay. There were two groups of coordinators who travelled to the destinations to gather information on alternative routes and relevant data that needed to be taken into account. They then analysed all factors, including security, traffic measures, population and crowd data, sponsor presence and particular features of each city. When the entire route was planned, the Operational Planning staff entered all the data into the Daybooks (manuals with all the necessary information for the Relay). This team was also responsible for the Torch Relay fleet (refuelling, maintenance, fleet management and caravan operations).

The RON (Remaining Overnight) Team organised the accommodation and catering of the Torch Relay staff for the duration of the Relay. It was responsible for accommodation, breakfasts and meals office space, meeting rooms, laundry and other support services for the staff and other accredited people travelling with the Flame, at each stop.

The Advance Team worked with the cities (the government agencies, the Municipalities and the Community Task Forces) and the local communities of the Relay destinations, in order to coordinate all organisational aspects of the Relay in each country. Its responsibilities included working on the Organising Committee's part on finalizing the route, ensuring the safe passage of the Flame, organising the evening ceremonies, torch bearer selection, Presenting Partner activation, securing permits (for installation of Look applications on the route, for celebration sites, etc). On the Greek route, the Advance Team arrived in the city 1 or 2 days ahead of the Relay, while on the International, 4 days ahead.

Torch Relay Security operations were developed in cooperation with the OGSD and local enforcement authorities. An Organising Committee team protected the Olympic Flame from theft, vandalism and other threats, in full cooperation with local enforcement authorities. Security runners and motorcycles charged with this responsibility were deployed in strategic positions within the core caravan so as to provide rapid and coordinated response in an emergency. The protection of the Torch Relay route and spectators was the responsibility of local police forces.



The Torch Relay Route

The Olympic Torch

The emblem of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games is a circular wreath made of a branch from an olive tree. The olive tree is one of the most powerful symbols of Greece, a sacred tree for Mediterranean people for thousands of years, as well as the ancient symbol of the Athenian City State, a precious gift of Greek nature and a global symbol of peace and freedom.

An olive leaf served as the inspiration for the first Olympic torch that travelled to all five continents, carrying the message of peace for the Olympic Games of 2004. The ATHENS 2004 Olympic torch was designed by Andreas Varotsos to resemble an olive leaf, drawing its form from the leaf's lines and its harmonious shape. Weighing 700g and standing at 68cm, the Torch's design was selected to enhance the Flame, the major and timeless emblem of the Games.

Its ergonomic design, dominated by curves, establishes the Torch as the continuation of the Flame itself in its free movement. The Flame rises from the Torch as the extension of the Torch bearer's hand. The two-toned sides and gentle stroke of the olive leaf inspired the design. It is made of metal and wood in their natural colours. The designer used the philosophy of "all things in moderation" to give the Torch its structure and beautiful simplicity. The values of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games - Celebration, Heritage, Human Scale and Participation - are expressed through this design in the most distinctive and Greek way.

Lighting the Olympic Flame

The ATHENS 2004 Torch Relay began, as have all Torch Relays since the institution of the tradition, with a Flame - a Lighting Ceremony

under the responsibility of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, in a small shrine of the goddess Hera in Olympia. On 25 March 2004, the 108th anniversary of the revival of the Olympic Games, the high priestess Thaleia Prokopiou, assisted by 25 priestesses, under the guidance of Maria Hors, called upon the god Apollo to send his rays and light the sacred torch for the city of Athens. Then she touched the special torch on the concave surface and lit it with the rays of the sun. The flame was carried to the ancient stadium of Olympia, and the high priestess handed the flame to the Greek Olympian (Javelin) Kostas Gatsioudis, witnessed by thousands of spectators and officials, at which point the first Global Torch Relay began.

The Three Phases of the Torch Relay

The first phase lasted 7 days (25 to 31 March 2004), during which the Flame travelled around the Peloponnese, to the islands of the Saronic Gulf, and was handed over by the Hellenic Olympic Committee President to the ATHOC President in a ceremony at the Panathinaiko Stadium on 31 March 2004. The Flame remained there, burning in a special cauldron, for 64 days.

On 2 June, the Flame was carried by the Chief Operating Officer to the Athens International Airport, and was delivered to the Torch Relay Team by the President of ATHOC. In a modest ceremony attended by the Ambassadors of the countries the Flame was about to visit. In the early hours of 3 June 2004, the second phase began, setting off for Sydney, the host city of the last Games in 2000. The Torch travelled to Melbourne, to Tokyo, to Seoul and Beijing, the bustling streets of Delhi and Cairo- its first visit on African soil - and Cape Town.

Left page:

The flame is handed over from the President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee Lambis Nikolaou, to the President of ATHOC Gianna Angelopoulos-Daskalaki in a ceremony at the Panathinaiko Stadium, 31 March 2004.
© ATHOC/N. Tassoulas

Crossing the Atlantic Ocean, the Flame landed in colourful Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City, and then the American cities of Los Angeles, St Louis, Atlanta and New York. Having visited Montreal, the Olympic Flame returned to Europe passing through: Antwerp, Brussels, Amsterdam, Geneva, Lausanne, Paris, London, Barcelona, Rome, Munich, Berlin, Stockholm and Helsinki. In the last part of its international route, it visited Moscow, Kiev, Istanbul, Sofia and Nicosia.

On 9 July, the Flame returned to Greece, and began the third and final phase of the Torch Relay in Crete in the Olympic city of Heraklio. From there, it began the second leg of the Greek route, a trip lasting 36 days. In Greece, the Flame lit up all 54 prefectures, stopped at 174 destinations, including 32 islands and 24 archaeological and historical sites. Altogether it covered 6,600 kilometres on Greek territory- 2,500 km on foot, 2,800 km in convoy and 1,300 km by helicopter.

The first truly Global Torch Relay was completed on 13 August 2004, when the Greek Olympic Gold Medallist (Mistral) Nikolaos Kaklamanakis lit the Cauldron at the Olympic Stadium, watched by 4 billion TV viewers during the Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games.

Torch Relay Ceremonies

The Flame of the Athens Games was borne hand-to-hand by thousands of people in the world, and the Torch Relay was a unique opportunity for millions of people all over the planet to share the Olympic spirit. Every Relay day ended in a Ceremony coordinated by local authorities, with cultural events. The Torch Relay Ceremonies reflected the history, culture and enthusiasm of every community to host the Olympic Flame.

The Torch Relay Ceremonies adhered to a specific protocol, which included the cauldron lighting that signaled the start of the Ceremony. Then the Olympic and Greek flags were raised, to the strains of the Olympic and Greek National Anthem and there followed short speeches and a cultural segment.

The purpose of these ceremonies was to create enthusiasm and a positive atmosphere within the communities receiving the Flame, and to intensify anticipation for the Athens Games, while at the same time showcasing each destination's distinctive characteristics to a global audience.

The Olympic Flame in Motion

The Torch Relay Caravan

A specific number of vehicles of all types (sedans, SUVs, buses, and motorcycles) were required to transport the Flame. The Torch Relay Caravan consisted of the Advance Caravan and the Core Caravan.

In the Advance Caravan: a police car guided the caravan and ensured the halt of traffic. A pilot car checked and established the pre-determined Torchbearer exchange points, and radioed to the Command vehicle any upcoming

crowd conditions and concerns. The Sponsors Caravan consisted of six crowd-building vehicles, and there followed a 50-seat bus (the Torchbearer Drop-Off Shuttle), that dropped off Torch bearers several minutes in front of the Olympic Flame.

The Core Caravan consisted of the following vehicles in this order a police car, which led the caravan and briefed the Torch Relay Security Head following the Flame. He was in communication with the local police forces and with the Torch Relay Head of Operations. "Media I" was the primary media transport vehicle, a flatbed truck with an open rear compartment to accommodate video and photography equipment and crews. Four specially equipped motorcycles, driven by members of the Torch Relay Security team, very experienced Police officers, accompanied the Torchbearer and the Escort Runner. At least one or two security runners were deployed to protect the Torchbearer. One motorcycle was utilised to "greet" each Torchbearer before he received the Flame, ensuring a clean and safe flame transfer, as well as a positive and fun experience for the Torchbearer.

The Command Vehicle was the car always directly behind the Torchbearer. All caravan management and movement decisions were made from this vehicle by Command, which was the operational "brain" of the Relay. In this vehicle was the Torch Relay Chief, who was responsible for all issues, including Relay security, liaison with local authorities, sponsors, communication with Headquarters, etc. In cases of emergency, the Chief of the Relay was responsible for crisis management scenarios application. He was also the Relay spokesperson and handled Media issues. Flame backups in safety lanterns were also carried in this vehicle. An ambulance followed for medical support to Torchbearers, crew and spectators. A Cauldron Vehicle carried a special cauldron that was used when the Flame was carried by car. Another Torchbearer Shuttle (Pick-Up) moved at the rear of the caravan, picked up Torchbearers and escort runners as they completed their segments and returned them to their original collection point. The final vehicle of the caravan was another Police car.

The maximum total number of vehicles in the caravan was 15, of which 2 police and 1 ambulance. The maximum number of motorcycles in the core caravan was 6 (4 for security, 1 for photo operations and 1 for broadcast coverage).

Zeus and Hera

In the International segment, the Torch Relay used two Boeing 747-200 to transport the Flame for more than 78,000 miles. Two aircraft were sourced to build redundancy as well as to spread assets between two locations, while both aircraft transported safety lanterns with the Olympic Flame.

The primary aircraft received a full graphics livery treatment and was dubbed "Zeus". Zeus passengers included command staff, VIPs and Media. When Zeus landed, an arrival ceremony greeted the Olympic Flame, in a protocol and media event.



The secondary aircraft had no graphics and was dubbed "Hera". It carried operations support personnel and motorcycles. It departed and landed on average two hours prior to Zeus, so as to facilitate ground operations at airports (customs and immigration procedures).

Torch Relay Promotion

Informing the Public

Public information on the Torch Relay was achieved via a dedicated call centre, and dissemination of information on the Internet and by the Media. ATHOC created a dedicated Torch Relay Call Centre with a 12-hour toll-free number to provide information and answer potential questions.

All the Torch Relay information was posted on the ATHENS 2004 website and on dedicated sites created by the Presenting Partners, while press releases and briefings were provided to Media during preparation and on a daily basis during the Torch Relay.

Torch Relay TV Coverage

On the Greek Route, the personnel of ERT was responsible for TV coverage of the Relay and Ceremonies, and created a daily roll with 15 minutes Torch Relay footage for distribution to other TV stations. ERT also broadcast a daily hour-long show with highlights of the Greek Torch Relay with live coverage, interviews and background information.

For the International Route, filming was carried out by a special crew and a 15-minute reel with Torch Relay footage was distributed via CNN

satellite to other broadcasters all over the world. Rights-Holding Broadcasters (RHBs) could use all the footage without limitation, while non-RHBs were restricted to 2 minutes for news purposes. For the European section of the Torch Relay, Eurosport had the exclusive broadcasting rights and had daily 15-minute programming of Torch Relay highlights.

Media Operations

The Torch Relay was the "opening act" of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, and as such demanded Media attention. In order to respond to the international interest expected, the Relay Team and the Sponsors coordinated a media relations and operations plan.

The main messages being promoted were that the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Torch Relay:

- is the first truly global Torch Relay,
- unites the five continents represented by the Olympic Rings,
- unites communities worldwide in a global celebration of the best in humanity,
- unites the Host Cities of the past in a shared present and future, creating anticipation for the upcoming Games of Athens.

The Media plan operated to support the dissemination of these messages worldwide, using Torch Relay footage and organised information, while a dedicated desk handled related Media enquiries.

This page:

The ancient and the modern in harmony. Night falls in Rhodes, 13 July 2004.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos



Top:

Greek girls, dressed in white robes as priestesses, dance in the Stadium of Ancient Olympia during the traditional Olympic lighting ceremony, 25 March 2004.
© REUTERS/Y. Behrakis





**This page,
from top to bottom:**

In the shrine of the ancient goddess Hera, the high priestess Thalia Prokopiou calls upon Apollo, to shine down his rays for the city of Athens.
© ATHOC/N. Tassoulas

The flame is lit.
© ATHOC/N. Tassoulas

Right page:

Greek actress Thalia Prokopiou carries the Olympic Flame into the ancient stadium during a dress rehearsal of the traditional lighting ceremony in Ancient Olympia.
© REUTERS/Y. Behrakis





Top:

31 March 2004: The flame is handed over by the Hellenic Olympic Committee to ATHOC, in a ceremony at the marble Panathinaiko Stadium.
© ATHOC/D. Kalopisis







Left page:

4 June 2004. Cathy Freeman runs with the Olympic torch down the steps of the Sydney Opera House.
© Getty Images/Ch. McGrath

**This page,
from top to bottom:**

5 June 2004. Torchbearer Shane Kelly cycles with the flame past the skyline of Melbourne, Australia.
© Getty Images/T. Warsaw

Torchbearer Alex Andrianopoulos waves as he carries the flame in Melbourne.
© Getty Images/C. Trotman



This page:

6 June 2004: The Olympic flame burns near a lion dancer during celebrations to welcome the Olympic torch to Tokyo.
© REUTERS/K. Mayama

Right page:

7 June 2004: the flame passes through the busy streets of Seoul.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat



026

4683



Top:

8 June 2004: Torchbearer He Zhong
Ling carries the Olympic Flame on
the Great Wall of China.
© Getty Images/T. Warshaw







Left page:

10 June 2004. View of the India Gate during the Olympic Torch Relay in Delhi, India.
© Getty Images/H. How

This page:

11 June 2004. Torchbearer Nousier Mohamed carries the Olympic Flame past the Pyramids in Cairo, Egypt.
© Getty Images/T. Warshaw



This page:

12 June 2004: Nelson Mandela holds the Olympic flame outside his former prison cell on Robben Island near Cape Town.
© REUTERS/M. Hutchings

Right page:

14 June 2004: Joaquin Cruz, Brazilian Olympic track competitor, carries the Olympic flame atop Corcovado Mountain in front of the Christ the Redeemer statue in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This was the Olympic flame's first ever visit to South America.
© Getty Images/T. Warshaw





This page:

15 June 2004. The Olympic flame arrives in the Olympic Stadium in Mexico City, site of the 1968 Olympic Games. Enriqueta Basilio, the first woman to light an Olympic cauldron, is the first torchbearer.
© REUTERS/D. Aguilar



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

16 June 2004. Torchbearers heavy-weight boxer Vitali Klitschko, swimming gold medallist Janet Evans, actor Tom Cruise and decathlon legend Rafer Johnson pose with the torches in the Dodgers Stadium in Los Angeles, California.
© Getty Images/C. Trotman

Crowds gather to see the flame in Los Angeles.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

17 June 2004. Torchbearer Joe Torry carries the Olympic Flame under the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri.

© Getty Images/T. Warshaw

Participation and Celebration.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

18 June 2004. The flame visits Host
City of the 1996 Olympic Games,
Atlanta, Georgia, USA.
© Getty Images/T. Warshaw

The Olympic flame burns in
Centennial Park.
© Getty Images/T. Warshaw



Top:

19 June 2004. Derek Roberts carries the Olympic flame over the Brooklyn Bridge in New York.
© Getty Images/T. Warshaw





This page:

20 June 2004. The Olympic flame is carried to St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal, Quebec.
© REUTERS/C. Muschi

Right page:

21 June 2004. Torchbearer Frederik Deburghgrave carries the Olympic Flame into Grote Market in Antwerp, Belgium.
© Getty Images/T. Warsaw







Left page:

22 June 2004. In the heart of united Europe, torchbearer Ingrid Berghmans carries the Olympic Flame into the Grande Place in Brussels, Belgium.
© Getty Images/T. Warshaw

This page:

23 June 2004. Theo Boekhorst carries the Olympic Flame past windmills in Amsterdam, Netherlands.
© Getty Images/H. How



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

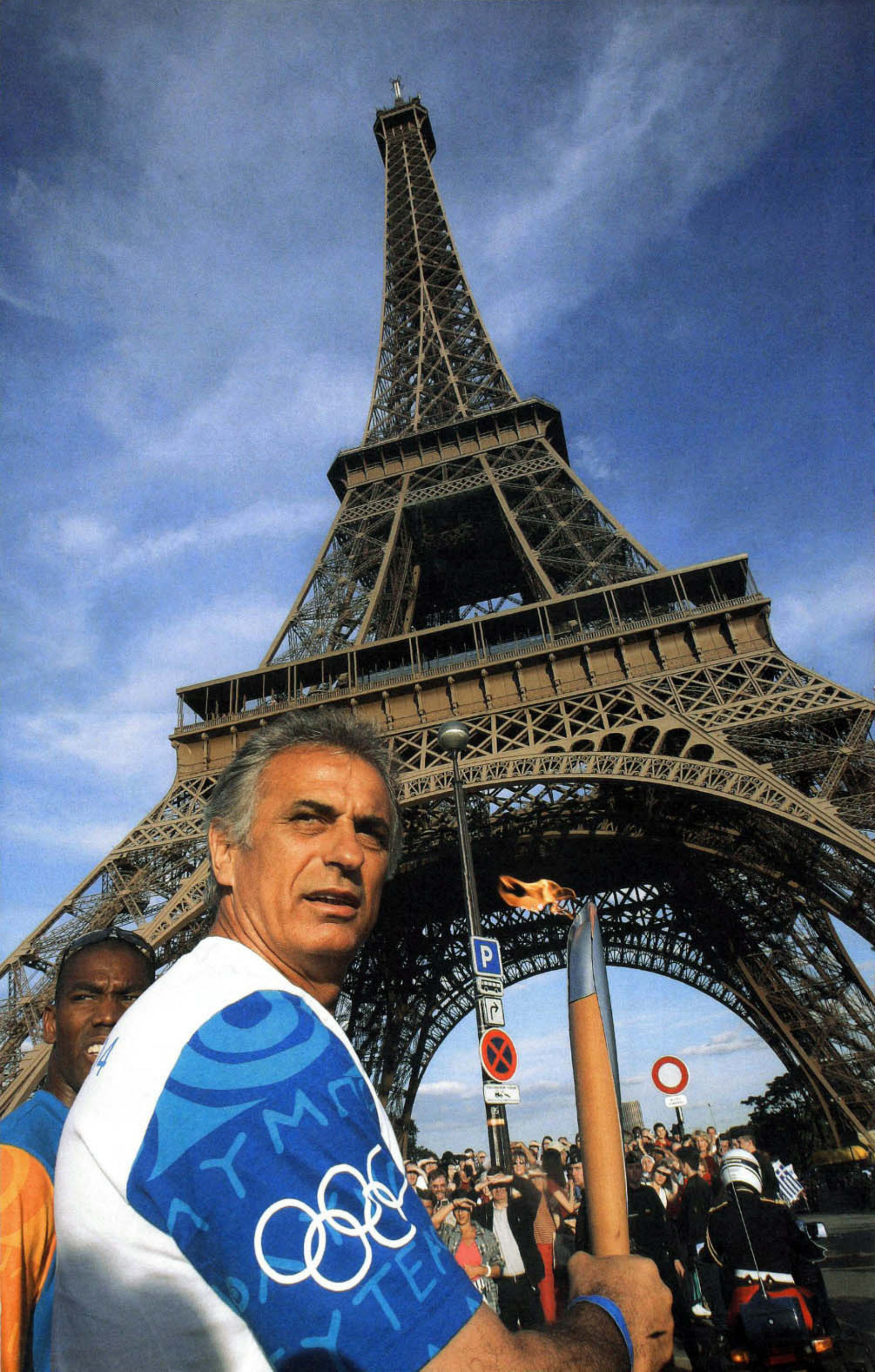
24 June 2004. Geneva, Switzerland.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat

Swiss Olympic gold medallist tennis player Marc Rosset carries the Olympic flame in front of the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva.
© REUTERS/D. Balibouse

Right page:

24 June 2004. Torchbearer Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee, carries the Olympic flame in Lausanne, Switzerland.
© Getty Images/T. Warsaw







Left page:

25 June 2004. The Olympic flame under the Eiffel Tower, Paris France.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat

**This page,
from top to bottom:**

26 June 2004. Olympian and five times gold medallist Sir Steve Redgrave carries the Olympic torch along the Mall, London, UK.
© REUTERS/David Bebbler

Torchbearer sprinter Sally Gunnell, the only woman to hold four titles concurrently (Olympic, World, European and Commonwealth), steps off a double-decker bus.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat





Left page:

27 June 2004. The flame visits Madrid, Spain.
© Getty Images/T. Warshaw

**This page,
from top to bottom:**

27 June 2004. Torchbearer Juan Antonio San Epifanio carries the Olympic flame into the Placa del Marques de Foronda in Barcelona, Spain.
© Getty Images/T. Warshaw

Children celebrating the flame's arrival.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

28 June 2004. Italian rower
Massimiliano Ariosto carries the
Olympic flame across the Tiber
river in Rome.
© AFP/A. Solaro

Torchbearer Emanuela Pierantozzi
carries the Olympic Flame outside
the Coliseum during the torch
relay in Rome.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

29 June 2004. Guenther Zahn, former West German middle-distance runner and the last torchbearer of the 1972 Munich Olympic Summer Games, holds up the Olympic torch after the flame's arrival in Munich's Olympic Stadium.
© REUTERS/A. Winkler

30 June 2004. Thomas Bach, Vice-President of the International Olympic Committee runs with the Olympic flame in front of Berlin's landmark, the Brandenburg Gate.
© REUTERS/T. Schwarz



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

1 July 2004. Hans Wallman carries
the Olympic flame on
Fiskartorpsvage in Stockholm,
Sweden.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat

Crowds gather to glimpse the
flame.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat



This page:

2 July 2004. Antti Tuisku holds the Olympic flame in front of the Sibelius Monument in Helsinki, Finland.
© Getty Images/T. Warshaw



This page:

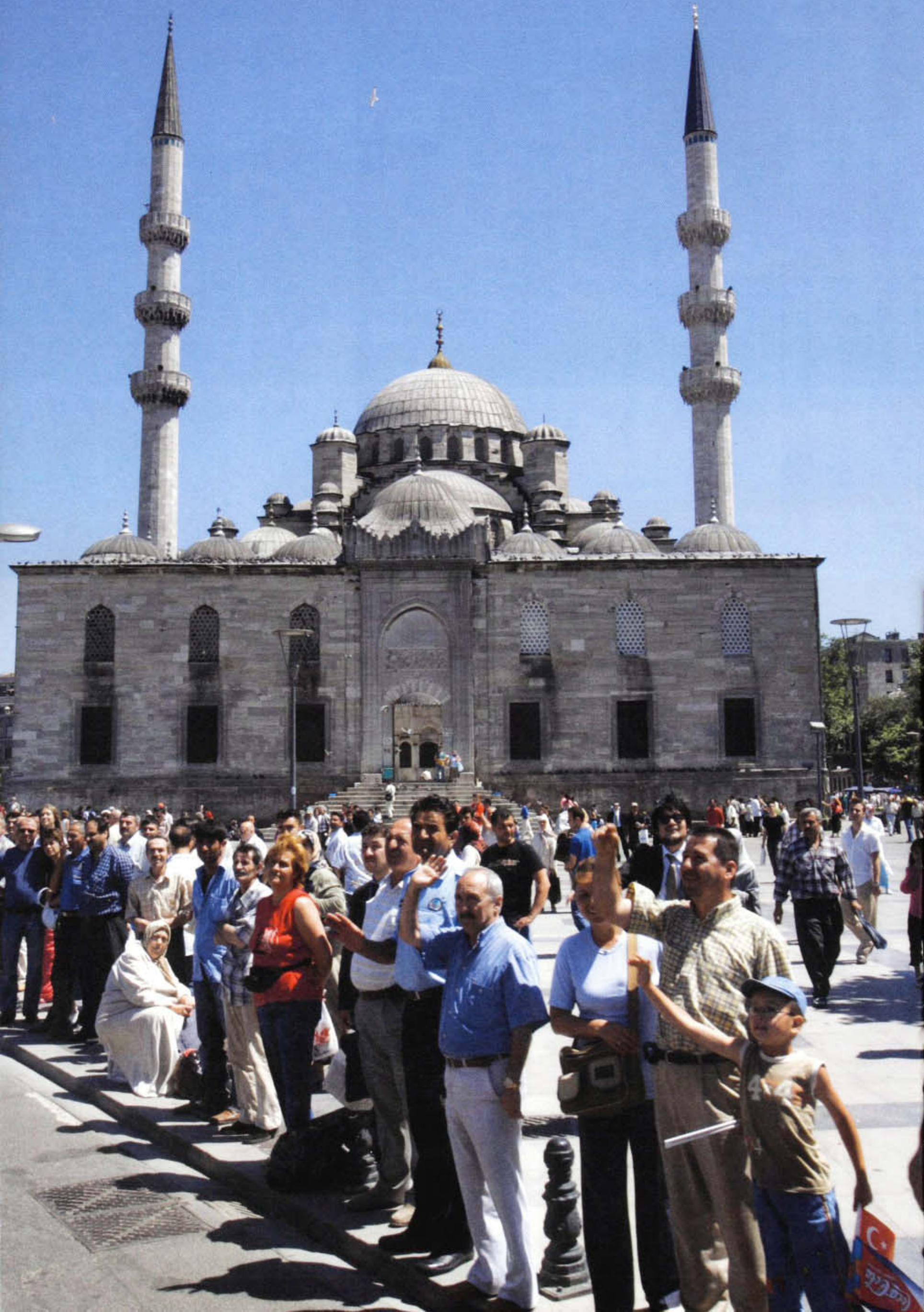
3 July 2004. Torchbearer Valery Shantsev carries the Olympic Flame through Red Square in Moscow, Russia.
© Getty Images/T. Warsaw



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

5 July 2004. A view of the
Independence Square at the city
celebration in Kiev, Ukraine.
© Getty Images/H. How

© Getty Images/T. Warsaw





Left page:

6 July 2004. People line the streets in the Byzantine hippodrome, between Hagia Sophia and the Blue Mosque, in Istanbul, Turkey.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat

This page:

7 July 2004. Residents of Sofia, Bulgaria, greet the flame.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

8 July 2004.
Olga Sophocleous waves to sky
divers, Nicosia, Cyprus.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat

A Greek welcome.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat

Right page:

A young spectator of the Torch
Relay, Nicosia, Cyprus.
© ISP/VII/A. Boullat





**This page,
from top to bottom:**

9 July 2004. The Olympic flame
touches down on Greek soil, in
Heraklio, Crete.
© ATHOC/M. Chouzouris

A traditional celebration.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

11 July 2004. Gathered crowds
welcome the flame in Ierapetra.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas

23 July 2004. In fine nautical style,
at Nea Moudania, northern
Aegean.
© ATHOC/D. Krezias



Top:

13 July 2004. The easternmost territory of Greece, the tiny island of Kastelorizo, welcomes the flame.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas





**This page,
from top to bottom:**

26 July 2004. On horseback in
Northern Greece.
© ATHOC/D. Kalopisis

31 July 2004. Driving through the
spectacular mountain passes of
Central Greece.
© ATHOC/M. Chouzouris

Right page:

8 August 2004. The flame crosses
the brand-new bridge of Rio-
Antirio in western Greece.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos





Pass the Flame, Unite the World

In the weeks leading up to the opening of the Athens Olympic Games, the Olympic Flame was passed from hand to hand, from city to city, from country to country, from continent to continent, connecting all those who experience the Olympic ideals in their daily life. In its trip throughout the world, the Olympic Torch Relay visited millions of people and enabled the participating cities to showcase their cultures and their rich heritage to the world.

The ATHENS 2004 Torch Relay allowed the Olympic Flame to travel throughout the world, uniting the Olympic Family around the globe, and to return for the first time after its international journey back to the country where the Olympic Games were born and the city of their revival. In Greece, it made its first ever tour of the country, visiting all 54 prefectures, and it gave everybody the opportunity to participate in the celebration.

The 2004 Torch Relay was the first truly global Torch Relay, which united all five continents and brought together their people to celebrate the Olympic values of friendship, fraternity, peace and equality.

The feedback from the communities, the sponsors, the Media and the involved parties was more than positive. The enthusiasm of local communities was unique and unforgettable. It was a continuous celebration in a different place every day, with different people but the same result: pride and enthusiasm. The Olympic Flame united the world around the values of Olympism; promoted Greek heritage; mobilised the Greeks abroad en masse; demonstrated tangibly, before the Games, that Greece can design, organise and implement unique projects and achieve difficult operational tasks; secured huge Media coverage; and invited the world to the greatest celebration, that of the Athens Olympic Games.

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

The Olympic Torch Relay in Antwerp, on 21 June 2004.
© Getty Images/T. Warsaw

Celebration in Amfilochia, western Greece, during Day 70 of the Olympic Torch Relay.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

Huge crowds line the streets in Delhi to witness the passage of the Olympic Torch Relay.
© Getty Images/T. Warsaw



Opening Ceremony



Opening Ceremony

Preparation

The Concept Creator

The Concept Creator of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies for the Olympic Games, Dimitris Papaioannou, was a young and promising choreographer who was proposed as a potential artistic director for the Ceremonies. The artist presented his conceptual idea to the Executive Director in charge of Ceremonies, to the President of ATHOC and, consequently, to the IOC during the Olympic Winter Games of Salt Lake City 2002. The concept was fully appreciated for its potential, global messaging and Greek references; thus Dimitris Papaioannou and his team were formally appointed as the creative team for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Olympic Games in August 2002.

The Production Company

While the creative team proceeded with developing the concept, the need for technical research, reality check in terms of implementation and cost evaluation was evident. For these reasons, Jack Morton Public Events joined the project in January 2003.

In July 2003, the creative team, Jack Morton Public Events and the ATHOC Ceremonies Department moved into a single building outside the Organising Committee's Headquarters, situated next to the Olympic Stadium of Athens, where the Opening and Closing Ceremonies would take place. This allowed proximity to the location of the event and helped in team building, daily coordination and evaluation of this immensely challenging project.

The Role of the ATHOC Ceremonies Department

Due to the strict confidentiality issue of the Ceremonies' concept, the role of the ATHOC Ceremonies team was to plan and manage all operations related to the preparation of the Ceremonies without directly involving the rest of the Organising Committee's many hundreds of staff.

As such, the ATHOC Ceremonies Department was responsible for research, modification, preparation and management of a confidential Stadium mock-up rehearsal site; volunteer auditions and recruitment; site management of the rehearsal area; planning and coordination of all volunteers transport, medical care, catering and accreditation.

Additional tasks included: production coordination and monitoring; artist contract negotiation; protocol; transition planning; budget monitoring; technical monitoring and volunteers management.

The ATHOC Ceremonies Department, the creative team and Jack Morton Public Events worked together to realise and implement the Ceremonies project, using the following operational tools:

- Production meetings: held three times per week, where all production issues were discussed and progress was monitored.
- Operational planning meetings: aimed to organise the interrelation of the Ceremonies team with all ATHOC Departments involved.
- ATHOC administration meetings.

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

The Concept Creator, Dimitris Papaioannou, during volunteer auditions for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos

The costumes for the Opening Ceremony are presented to 500 Ceremonies volunteers.
© ATHOC/D. Kalopisis

Production team staff leads a dance routine during volunteer performer auditions.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos

During these meetings, the Ceremonies team worked with the Olympic Stadium Venue Team to monitor progress of all operations, construction progress and special technical, production and communication issues, and reported to ATHOC Senior Management.

Renovation of the Olympic Stadium

One of the main factors that determined the final plans for the renovation of the Olympic Stadium was the structure that helped realise the concept of the Opening Ceremony. A chamber beneath the centre of the performance space was created, 23 metres deep and 25 metres wide, which held an elevator stage of 10 metres diameter that could lift 45.000 kg.

Moreover, the celebrated Santiago Calatrava roof was designed taking into account the support of the cable net (the aerial flying system). The cable net was set 36,5 metres above the Stadium floor, with 24 independent trajectories along which scenery could travel on 37 km of steel rope.

Both the chamber and the cable net were tailor-made interventions that determined the Olympic Stadium renovation plans.

Auditions

The Ceremonies engaged both volunteer performers (who actually performed during the show) and support volunteers (who worked on public support, backstage activities in costume, lighting, props, scenery and cast coordination).

While the vast majority of volunteer performers were Greek nationals, the cast also included volunteer performers from Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Cyprus, England, France, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and USA.

Support volunteers included a large group of people, where Greece and 16 other countries were represented.

Rehearsals

The rehearsal site was situated at a confidential location on the outskirts of Athens and had the exact dimensions of the performance area of the Olympic Stadium. The first volunteer rehearsal was on Friday, 28 May 2004. More than 600 hours of rehearsals for the Opening Ceremony took place over a period of 85 days. Each volunteer needed to commit on average to 12 rehearsal sessions.

The transition from the rehearsal site to the Olympic Stadium started on 12 July 2004 and was concluded three days later. The transfer of scenery (floats, rocks etc) was made overnight with the assistance of the Police and staff of the Attiki Odos main ring road network. All scenic equipment was stored at the upper and lower compound of the Stadium.

The first Opening Ceremony rehearsal at the Olympic Stadium took place on 17 July 2004. By that time, ATHOC was already responsible for the transportation of volunteers during long rehearsals (dress, technological tests etc) that ended late at night.

Facts and figures on Ceremony Volunteers:

- 2.428 volunteer performers participated in the Opening Ceremony after 270 hours of auditions.
- The oldest volunteer performer was 70 years old.
- The youngest volunteer performer was just 7 years old.
- Over 700 hours of interviews were conducted in order to recruit the 2.200 support volunteers.



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Members of the 70.000-strong audience perform "the wave" as they wait in the Athens Olympic Stadium for the start of the Opening Ceremony, 13 August 2004.
© AFP/J.-P. Ksiązek

Volunteer performers dance during auditions.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos



Top:

A general view of the Opening Ceremony.
© Getty Images/I. Waldie

The Opening Ceremony of the Olympic Games

The ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony projected a global message of humanity, development of humankind and the journey from myth to logic. It incorporated elements and references to Greek art and civilisation, which lead the journey of humankind from myth to logic.

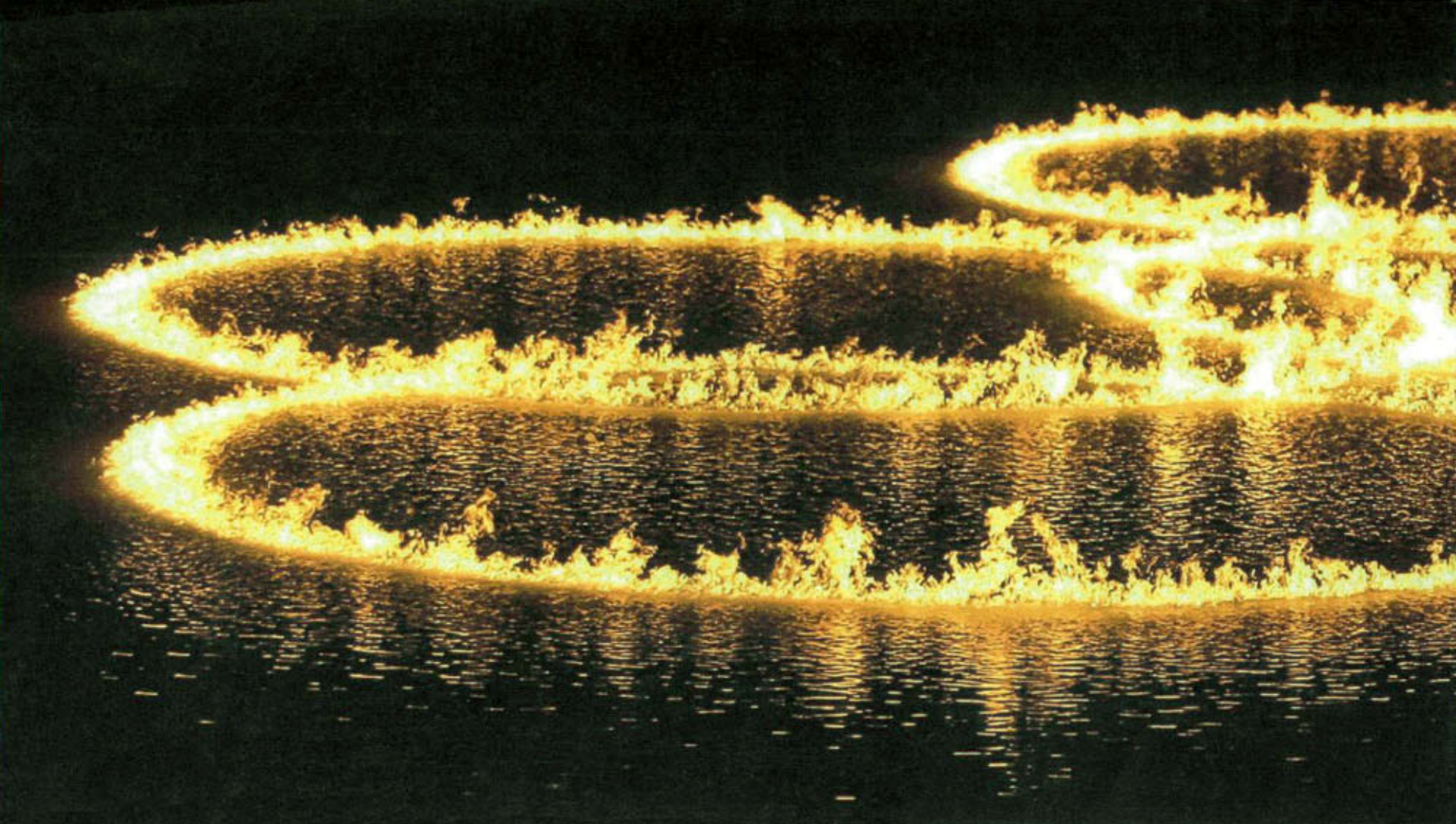
The following segments formed the Opening Ceremony:

Countdown

A countdown segment featuring running and the human heartbeat marked the beginning of the Ceremony. An atmosphere of excitement and anticipation was created.

"Athens, your heartbeat is heard around the world".





Top:

The Olympic rings, formed of fire, burn in the water-filled lake.
© Getty Images/N. Laham

Welcome

Musicians playing bouzouki (a traditional Greek musical instrument) to the rhythm of the Greek "zeimbekiko" dance introduced a warm welcome to the citizens of the world. The "zeimbekiko" is a Greek dance with a rhythm in nine counts and eight steps; a male, improvised, solitary dance. Its heavy nature seems to manifest the struggle to move forward, the human confrontation, with deep emotional and intellectual thoughts.

A comet was launched from the video screen into the main area of the Stadium that was filled with water. Water, a liquidation of light, or the source of all potential in existence. Thales of Miletus (624 BC), founder of the Greek school of philosophy, held water to be the single eternal and imperishable substance.

A fire was lit within the water forming the five Olympic rings. Fire: the power of the sun, eternal source of energy and a manifestation of the

divinity of the spirit and the soul. In ancient times, fire was a symbol of knowledge and the power of man to resist the will of the gods and master his own fortune. All homes in ancient Greece held a fire temple that never extinguished. Fire and water are necessary to all forms of existence.

Wide Sea

A boy in a paper boat started his journey along the water surface of the stadium, carrying the Greek national flag, and waving to the audience and spectators. The stripes of the Greek flag represent the number of syllables in the phrase "Eleftheria i Thanatos" (Liberty or Death). The striped pattern was chosen because of its similarity with the wavy sea that surrounds the shores of Greece. The cross demonstrates respect and devotion to Christianity and the Orthodox Church.

The Presidents of the Hellenic Republic of the IOC and of ATHOC were introduced.



This page:

A young performer, gliding along the lake in a paper boat, waves the Greek flag, welcoming the audience.
© Getty Images/J. Squire



Top:

The Allegory sequence: a centaur stands in the lake, from which has just risen a Cycladic head, floating over the surface of the water.
© AFP/A. Messinis





Allegory

The allegoric sequence featured a journey through time using three iconic periods of Greek sculpture to symbolise the growth and evolution of Greek civilisation - across the arts, sciences, politics and philosophy - that continue to resonate even today.

"I woke with this marble head in my hands it exhausts my elbows and I don't know where to put it down. It was falling into the dream as I was coming out of the dream so our life became one and it will be very difficult for it to separate again."

(George Seferis -1963 Nobel Laureate of literature, *Mythistorema 3*, translated by Edmund Keeley, Philip Sherrard, Princeton University Press)

A centaur, a mythological being shaped like a horse with the body of a man in place of the horse's neck and head, struck the lake with his spear. For ancient Greeks, a centaur was a symbol of a man conquered by his animal instincts. Centaurs have taught several Greek heroes of mythology. Hercules was taught music, sport and medicine. Centaur Chiron educated Achilles.

A marble head rises from the lake:

Mid 3rd millennium BC: the first sculptures of human civilisation representing a human form. Made of marble. Their artists have given them a freshness and style recalling the smoothness the sea leaves on pebbles.

On this head are projected designs recalling great Greek thinkers:

Pythagoras (580 BC), a great mathematician and philosopher, founder of the Pythagorean school. He held that "the meaning of all things is found in numbers and mathematical relations."

Democritus (470 BC) the first to consider that matter consists of unique elements and the space they occupy as they move. He named those elements "atoms".

Euclid (300 BC): a great mathematician, he developed geometry and the theory of numbers. He is considered to be the father of Geometry. His principal work, "Elements", has profoundly influenced human thought.

The marble head breaks into eight parts, and reveals a statue enclosed in it: a 6th century BC statue of a standing nude man in his full youth. The standard Kouros stands gazing at the future with a smile. With his left foot forward, he seems ready to conquer it. It is the first time in history that a statue stands alone, with no background supporting it. Lyrical poetry is born.

The statue breaks into six pieces, to reveal another statue, from the 5th century BC, born alongside democracy. A human figure that stands alone in space, leaning from its vertical axes. The classical statue does not smile any more. It represents the first free citizen of Europe, the citizen of the first democratic regime ever born. In Athens, tragedy is born.

A cube appears, on which a man walks. According to Pythagoreans, the cube is the symbol of earth. The Pythagoreans honoured mathematics and held that the main challenge for man was to overcome the body and its needs.

The fragments of the statues float in space, and come to settle gently on the lake. A group of islands in the Aegean Sea, forming a circle around Delos, the island where Apollo, god of light, was born.

This page:

A man balances and begins to walk on a rotating cube suspended in mid-air, which symbolises the earth.

© REUTERS/K. Pfaffenbach

Right page:

The Cycladic head breaks apart to reveal a 6th century BC Kouros.

© REUTERS/D. Martinez





Top:

© Getty Images/I. Waldie

Two lovers play along the shore, splashing in the water. Eros flies over them. God, creator, winged archer, Greek, the first to be born out of Chaos.

It is the unlimited force that brings opposites together and in composition. An infinite power.







Left page:

2000-1400 BC.
A woman representing the Minoan Snake Goddess performs during the Clepsydra segment.
© REUTERS/A. Latif

This page:

16th century BC. Thera boxers.
© Getty Images/S. Franklin

Clepsydra

Clepsydra, an ancient clock that utilised the steady flow of water or sand to measure units of time, was a dream-like and colourful parade depicting stylised figures that looked as though they have been brought to life from Greek frescoes, mosaics, sculptures and paintings. It was a chronological procession of images ranging from prehistoric to modern times.

"Generations of people come one after another, changing like the leaves of the trees."
(Homer)

"History is an angel being blown backwards into the future.
History is a pile of debris.
And the angel wants to go back and fix things.
To repair the things that have been broken.
But there is a storm blowing from Paradise.
And the storm keeps blowing the angel backwards into the future.
And this storm, this storm is called progress."
("Progress" for Walter Benjamin, Laurie Anderson)

2000 -1400 BC. Prehistoric: Minoan, Thera.
Love for nature and life, imagination, technology.
Individuality is born. Art is inspired by nature without copying it.

1700 -1200 BC. Prehistoric: Mycenaean, Thera.
Popular standardised art of a militant, fighting character. Bronze Age.

1050 - 700 BC. Geometric period.
Animal motifs are developing into perfectly geometric forms. Rhythm, symmetry and precision. Fine lines and plastic clarity.
Abstract geometric schemes.

700 - 480 BC. Archaic period.

Statues: human forms, dedications to gods.

Kouroi: looseness, strong articulations, powerful muscles. A stretched form ready to move forward.

Korai: body and clothing composition reflects internal world.

543 - 260 BC. Classical period.

The actor (hypocritis), a hero confronting the public. Human condition is elevated into an eternal drama.

480 - 323 BC. Classical period.

A bright, pure, almost crystallised world. Man is self-reliant and self-active. Golden section.

480 BC - 30 AD. Classical sports and Hellenistic period.

Olympic Games. Games in nudity. The body becomes an ideal. Era of Alexander the Great.

324 -1453. Byzantine period.

Plasticity gives way to a portrait-like conception of things. The challenge is to describe the invisible and non-describable with visible means. Purity becomes a secret beauty.

1453 - 1832. Traditional period.

Anthem to Freedom (National Anthem).

1832- ... Modern period.

Revival of the Olympic Games.

1832 -... Modern period.

Greece becomes a crossroads between East and West. A new popular hero, Karagiozis, is born. Rembetiko rhythm and love become part of everyday life.

The last float of the segment featured a pregnant woman that introduced the following segment, "the book of life".



Top:

1700-1200 BC. Saffron-gatherers
inspired by the Acrotiri fresco.
© AFP/J. Demarthon





**This page,
from top to bottom:**

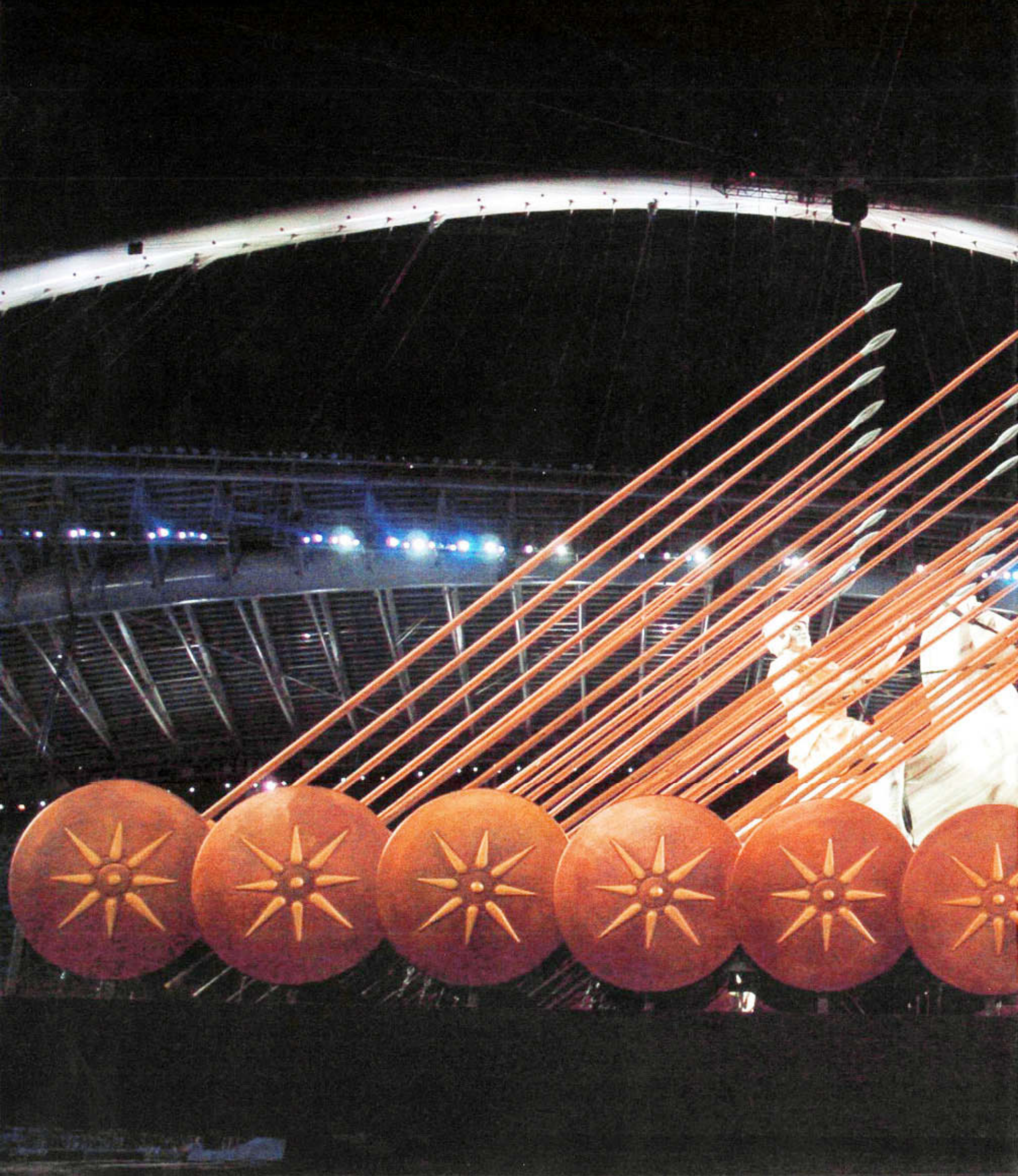
480-323 BC. A classical frieze comes to life as Eros flies over it.
© AFP/J. Saget

700-480 BC. Rows of Archaic Kouroi salute the audience.
© REUTERS/K. Pfaffenbach

Right page:

470-323 BC. The Winged Victory, Nike, bearing an olive wreath, descends to crown the victor.
© REUTERS/J. Lampen



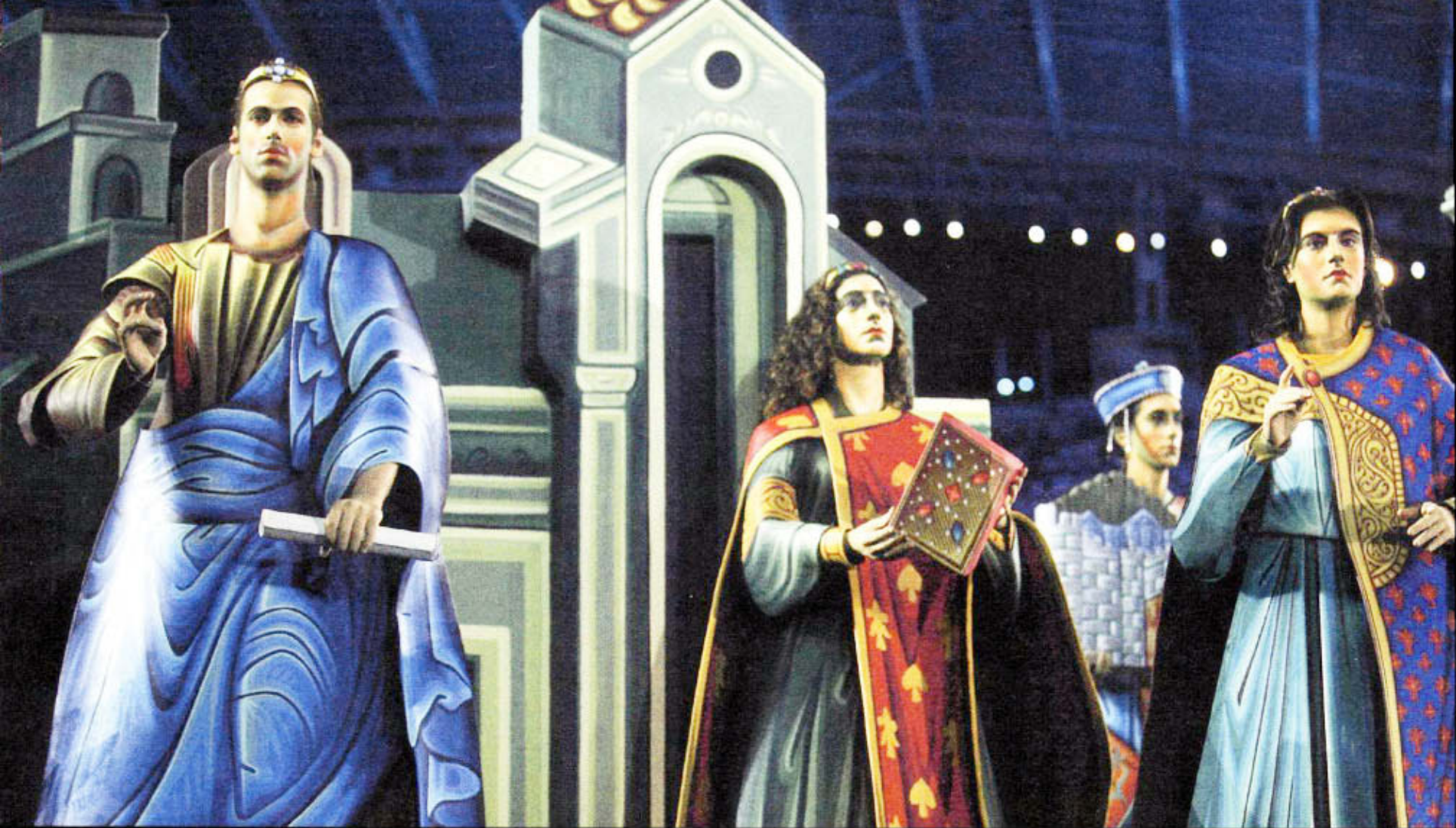


Top:

480-30 BC. Eros suspended in flight over Alexander the Great, riding Bucephalus and surrounded by Macedonian shields and sarissae.
© AFP/R. Schmidt







Left page:

324-1453. Byzantine period.
Archangel Michael.
© AFP/J. Demarthon

**This page,
from top to bottom:**

324-1453. Byzantine period.
Plasticity gives way to a
portrait-like conception of things.
© Getty Images/J. Squire

The challenge is to describe the
invisible and non-describable with
visible means. Purity becomes a
secret beauty.
© Getty Images/S. Franklin



This page:

Eros liberates the pregnant woman from her static costume. She walks down to the lake. © Getty Images/M. Steele

Right page:

She watches the spiralling double helix of DNA appear by laser projection on a wall of water. © Getty Images/M. Steele

The Book of Life

We are all made out of the same secret.

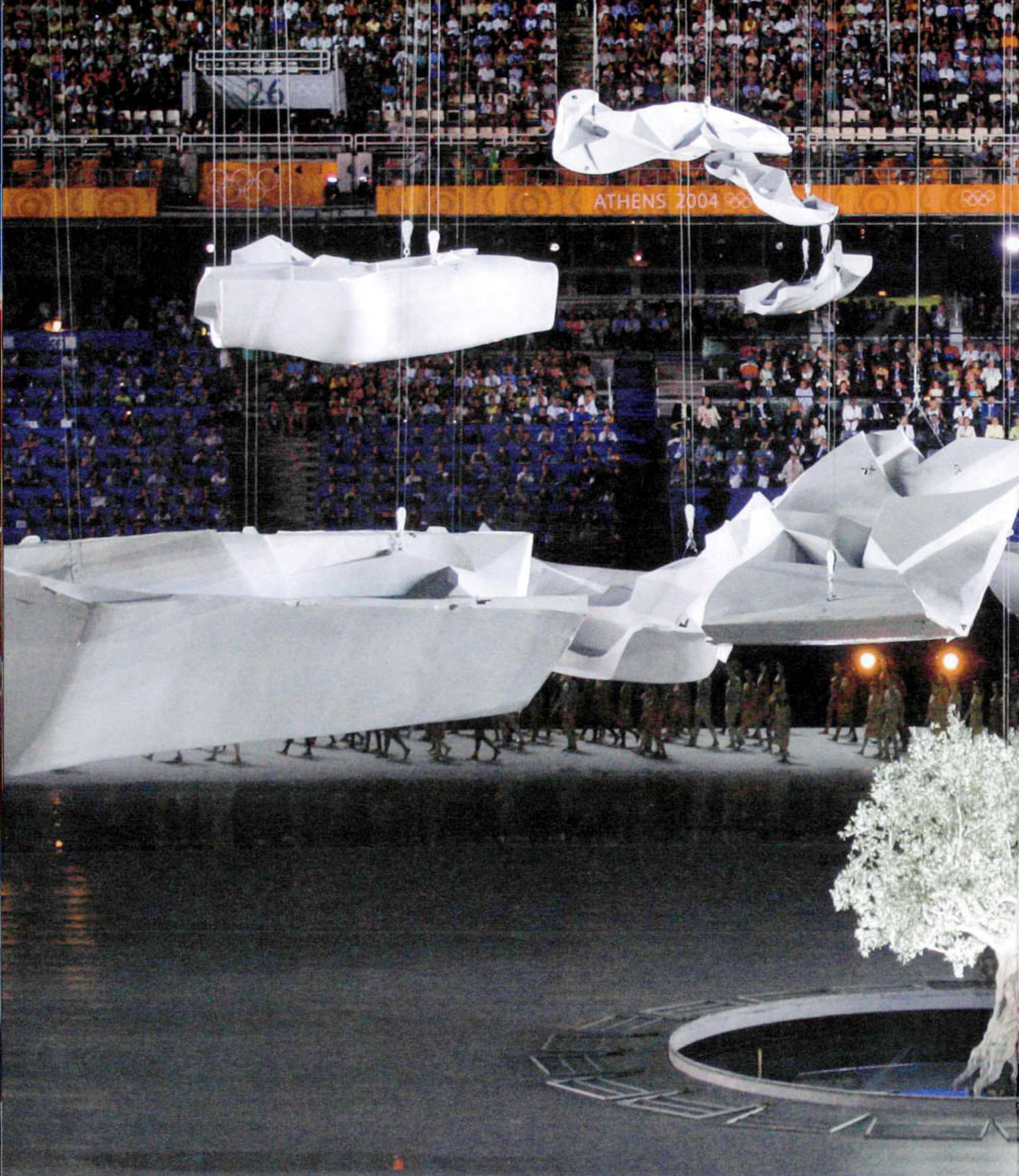
Galaxy: the milk that came out of the breasts of goddess Hera, wife of Zeus, as she woke up to discover that an unknown baby, son of Zeus, had been breastfeeding. The baby grew up to be the legendary Hercules, and her milk nurtured his immortality.

The pregnant woman walked towards the water and a spiralling strand of DNA was formed via lasers on a wall of water

DNA: a long linear polymer found in the nucleus of a cell and shaped like a double helix, associated with the transmission of genetic information. It was decoded in June 2000.

This segment concluded the creative concept of the Opening Ceremony.





Top:

The island-rocks float around an olive tree that appears in the middle of the Stadium.
© AFP/D. Emmert

The olive tree: with a lance blow, goddess Athena made an olive tree appear out of the Acropolis rock. With a sign, the gods gave the city to Athena. The citizens loved the goddess and named their city after her: Athens.

They inscribed her image on their coins, accompanied by an olive wreath on her helmet. In ancient times, athletes used to rub their bodies with olive oil before exercising. The olive wreath was the ultimate prize for an athlete.







Left page:

Thousands of athletes from a record 202 nations fill the Stadium.
© AFP/J.-P. Ksiazek

**This page,
from top to bottom:**

The Greek Olympic team enters the Olympic Stadium last, according to Olympic Protocol as host nation.
© REUTERS/W. Rattay

Tribute to the Olympic cities, from Athens 1896 to Athens 2004.
© Getty Images/C. Brunskill

Athletes' Parade

"Athletes of the world, welcome to Athens."

The Athletes' Parade followed the Book of Life with teams from a record 202 nations entering the Stadium in a spiral manner, in Greek alphabetical order. More than 10,500 Athletes were cheered by the crowds. In accordance with Olympic Protocol, the Greek flag entered first, and the Greek Olympic Team entered last.

"But between us and Goodness the gods have placed the sweat of our brows: long and steep is

the path that leads to her, and it is rough at the first; but when a man has reached the top, then she is easy to reach, though before that she was hard." (Hesiod: Works and Days, translated by Hugh G. Evelyn-White)

The Athletes were covered by the billowing dress of Björk, who sang an original song she had composed for the occasion, "Oceania".

There followed the tribute to the Olympic cities, from Athens 1896 to Athens 2004.



This page:

Under the olive tree, surrounded by athletes from 202 nations, IOC President Dr Jacques Rogge and ATHOC President Gianna Angelopoulos-Daskalaki address their welcomes to the world.
© Getty Images

Right page:

The President of the Hellenic Republic, Kostas Stefanopoulos, declaring the opening of the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad.
© AFP PHOTO/A. Dennis

Speeches

Under the olive tree, a stage emerged where the President of the IOC, Dr. Jacques Rogge, and the President of ATHOC, Gianna Angelopoulos delivered their speeches. After their speeches, the President of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Kostas Stefanopoulos declared the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad open.

The Olympic Flag was brought into the Stadium and raised to the sound of the Olympic Anthem.

The Athletes' Oath was taken by 19-year-old Zoi Dimoschaki (swimming): "In the name of all

the competitors I promise that we shall take part in these Olympic Games, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, committing ourselves to a sport without doping and without drugs, in the true spirit of sportsmanship, for the glory of sport and the honour of our teams."

The Judges' Oath was taken by Lazaros Voreadis (basketball referee): "in the name of all the judges and officials, I promise that we shall officiate in these Olympic Games with complete impartiality, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, in the true spirit of sportsmanship."



τον Πρόεδρο της Ελληνικής Δημοκρατίας για να
κηρύξει την έναρξη των Αγώνων της 28ης
Ολυμπιάδας της σύγχρονης εποχής.
Monsieur le Président de la République
hellénique, à ouvrir les Jeux de la XXVIIIe
Olympiade de l'ère moderne.
the President of the Hellenic Republic to open the
Games of the XXVIII Olympiad of the modern era.



Panasonic





**This page,
from top to bottom:**

The Olympic flag is about to be raised in the Stadium.
© REUTERS/R. Sprich

Pass the flame, unite the world: the names of the cities through which the Flame passed, in all five continents, before returning to Greece.
© Getty Images/J. Squire

Right page:

The last torchbearer, Greek Olympian Nikos Kaklamanakis, touches the torch to the cauldron, which has tilted down to meet him. The light returns.
© AFP/J. Haynes

Lighting of Olympic Cauldron

The Olympic Flame, lit in Ancient Olympia and having travelled the world, visiting for the first time all five continents, was carried around the Stadium by famous Greek athletes: basketball player Nikos Galis, football player Mimis Domazos, Olympic Champions Voula Patoulidou (athletics), Akakios Kachiasvilis (weightlifting), Ioannis Melissanidis (artistic

gymnastics). The Olympic Cauldron was lit by the last torchbearer, Olympic Sailing (mistral) Champion Nikos Kaklamanakis.

The light returns.

A 20-minute pyrotechnics show followed the lighting of the Cauldron.





Top:

Fireworks explode around the roof of the Stadium as the Cauldron raises the Olympic flame to the Attic sky.
© Getty Images/N. Laham



Facts and Figures

There were over 390 people on the creative and production team. Apart from Greek team members, eight other countries were represented on the production team.

There was an additional (international) technical crew of some 550 people.

Water

- The main performance area was filled with 2.162.000 litres of water.
- This expanse of water covered an area of 9.645 square metres.
- It took 6 hours to fill the space with water.
- It took 3 minutes to drain the water.
- There were ten drainage valves, each 0,5 metres in diameter.
- When drained from the arena the water was stored in a circular 'doughnut' reservoir that formed a ring around the pit 41 metres in diameter, capable of holding 2.300.000 litres of water.

Rings of Fire

- Each ring was 17 metres in diameter.
- It took 290 metres of piping to create the five rings.
- Approximately one km of piping was required to feed the gas to the rings.
- It took 450 cubic meters of natural gas to create the burning rings.
- The burners were set 30cm under the water.
- There were three independent ignition systems located at 17 points around the effect.

"Clepsydra" featured:

- 11 independently operated rolling platforms.
- Each rolling platform comprised a tractor unit and up to 6 trailers.
- The total combined length of the procession platforms was 307 metres.
- The rolling platforms had a combined weight-bearing capacity of 120.000kg.
- The tractor units for each train ran on batteries. Once fully charged, each unit could run for up to 4 hours.

Music

- The music took 320 hours to record.
- 18 composers had contributed to the Opening and Closing Ceremony.

Projection

- 8 Barco XLM projectors provided a combined total of 216.000 lumens of light.
- These were currently the most powerful projectors in the world.

Costumes

- 10.000 metres of fabric
- 2.000 litres of glue
- 15 km of thread
- 675 litres of paint
- 300 costume racks
- 2.500 clothes hangers
- 7.152 pairs of socks
- 4.000 pairs of shoes

Sound

- More than 370 loudspeakers
- 859.900-watt loudspeaker system
- 480 power amplifiers
- 20.000 metres of audio cable
- 360 input channels



Lighting

- There were 1.838 theatrical lights of which 1.592 were automated (moving) fixtures.
- There were 26 follow-spots.
- 24km of multicore, 5,5km of fibre-optic cable and 2,2km CAT 5 Ethernet cabling was required to power and control the lighting rig.
- 6 primary desks controlled the theatrical lighting system. Data was distributed on a backbone of fibre optic cable, then by CAT 5 Ethernet cable and finally out to the instruments using 5-pin DMX cable.
- Around the venue (on the plaza concourse level) there were eight dimmer/switch rooms that drove the roof and balcony rail lighting positions. These supplied both 400a and 300a three-phase supplies. Four also provide a further 125a three-phase supply as well. There were a further five distribution points in the moat to feed all the fixtures on the field of play and these provided a 300a three-phase supply.

Communications

- 575 two-way radios
- 337 noise reduction headsets
- 2.970 in-ear monitors
- 84 radio frequencies
- 8km of audio and data cable
- 1.000 metres of 'tactical' fibre optic cable
- 2 high-speed 'laser' data links

This page:

Fireworks illuminate the sky above the Olympic Stadium at the end of the Opening Ceremony.
© AFP PHOTO DDP/J. Eisele

Power

- 16 generators with a capacity of 18.000 KVA provided the power for the Ceremony, enough to supply a city of 25.000 residents.

The Games



TWO

ATHENS 2004



Aquatics Diving



Competition Sequence

Olympic Diving competition was held on 14, 16, and 20-28 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Diving made its Olympic debut from a rigid platform at St. Louis in 1904, and only men were allowed to participate. In the next Olympic Games, London 1908, diving from a 3-metre springboard was introduced. Women's Diving was introduced into the Olympic programme at Stockholm, in 1912, with a platform event. Eight years later the women's springboard event was added at the Antwerp Olympics. Between 1920 and 1996, there were no substantial changes to Diving competition, as the Olympic programme for men and women included both the 3-metre Springboard and the Platform. But at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, Synchronised Diving from a 3-metre springboard and a 10-metre platform made their Olympic debut, increasing the number of Diving events from four to eight.

Description

In Diving competitions, athletes dive from a platform called "highboard" or springboard, performing their figures and trying to disturb the water as little as possible, when they break its surface. The judging panel consists of seven judges, who give their score based on the degree of difficulty and ease displayed by the athletes, while performing their programme. The routine and the order in which the divers perform their dives are recorded on a diving list. The Olympic Diving tournament includes eight events, and consists of Preliminaries, Semifinals and Finals:

Men's: 4 Women's: 4	Total: 8
10m Platform event	
3m Springboard event	
Synchronised diving from 10m Platform	
Synchronised diving from 3m Springboard	

Left page:

Australia's Mathew Helm dives in the preliminary round of 10-metre platform diving, 27 August 2004. Helm finished the preliminary round with the highest score, and went on to win the silver medal.
© REUTERS/D. Sagolj

Competitors: 130

Men		
Event	Divers	NOC
3m Springboard	35	19
10m Platform	33	19
3m Synchro Springboard	16	8
10m Synchro Platform	16	8
Women		
Event	Divers	NOC
3m Springboard	33	20
10m Platform	34	21
3m Synchro Springboard	16	8
10m Synchro Platform	16	8

Venue

The Olympic Diving tournament was held at the indoor pool (6.200 seated capacity) of the Olympic Aquatic Centre located at the Athens Olympic Sports Complex in Maroussi. The Olympic Aquatic Centre also hosted the ever-popular Swimming, Water Polo and Synchronised Swimming events.

Games Highlights

China's dominance in Diving and host-country Greece's sensational win in the Men's Synchronised 3m Springboard competitions were the highlights to be remembered in the 2004 Olympic Games Diving competitions. China finished on top of the medal standings with nine medals including six gold, two silver and one bronze at the conclusion of the 2004 Olympic Games Diving competitions. Australia, as the second most successful nation at the ATHENS 2004 Diving event, won six medals, including one gold, one silver and four bronze.

Russia, considered one of the big medal favourites before the start of the competitions, finished fourth in the final medal standings with four medals, including two silver and two bronze.

Men's Events

Men's 3m Synchro Springboard

The Synchronised 3m Springboard competition held surprises with the top favourites, both China and Russia, missing their respective last dive, and host country Greece winning the gold medal in the event ahead of Andreas WELS and Tobias SCHELLENBERG (GER). Greek Divers Nikolaos SIRANIDIS and Thomas BIMIS wrote history, as the first Greeks ever to win an Olympic Diving event. For the first time since 1896, Greek athletes were to win gold in an aquatics event. Australia added another bronze to its medal collection with Robert NEWBERY and Steven BARNETT finishing third.

Men's 3m Synchro Springboard			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	SIRANIDIS Nikolaos BIMIS Thomas	GRE	353.34
Silver	WELS Andreas SCHELLENBERG Tobias	GER	350.01
Bronze	NEWBERY Robert BARNETT Steven	AUS	349.59
4th	BETANCOURT GARCIA J. FORNARIS ALVAREZ Erick	CUB	338.46
5th	ALLY Tony SHIPMAN Mark	GBR	334.98
6th	DUMAIS Justin DUMAIS Troy	USA	327.06
7th	SAUTIN Dmitri DOBROSKOK Alexander	RUS	312.24
8th	PENG Bo WANG Kenan	CHN	283.89

Men's 3m Springboard			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	PENG Bo	CHN	787.38
Silver	DESPATIE Alexandre	CAN	755.97
Bronze	SAUTIN Dmitri	RUS	753.27
4th	WANG Feng	CHN	750.72
5th	PLATAS Fernando	MEX	704.25
6th	DUMAIS Troy	USA	701.46
7th	DOBROSKOK Alexander	RUS	697.29
8th	TERAUCHI Ken	JPN	690.00

Men's 10m Synchro Platform

In the Men's event, it was Liang TIAN and Jinghui YANG who started China's successful gold medal run in the Synchronised 10m Platform event. British pair Peter WATERFIELD and Leon TAYLOR surprisingly defeated reigning world champions Mathew HELM and Robert NEWBERY (AUS) to the bronze.

Men's 3m Springboard

Bo PENG (CHN) finished first in the 3m Springboard competition, ahead of his major rival, Canadian Alexandre DESPATIE. Dmitry SAUTIN (RUS), multiple Olympic Games medallist and World Champion, took the bronze.

Men's 10m Platform

On the last day of the 2004 Olympic Diving competitions, Jia HU won the sixth gold for China in a thrilling finish to the 10m Platform competition. Mathew HELM took silver for Australia, while Liang TIAN finished third in the medal ranks, repeating his victory in the Synchronised 10m Platform event.

Men's 10m Synchro Platform			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	TIAN Liang YANG Jinghui	CHN	383.88
Silver	WATERFIELD Peter TAYLOR Leon	GBR	371.52
Bronze	HELM Mathew NEWBERY Robert	AUS	366.84
4th	VOLODKOV Roman ZAKHAROV Anton	UKR	357.66
5th	COMTOIS Philippe DESPATIE Alexandre	CAN	351.90
6th	DOBROSKOK Dmitry GALPERIN Gleb	RUS	348.60
7th	TRAKAS Sotirios GAVRIILIDIS Ioannis	GRE	331.44
8th	RUIZ Mark PRANDI Kyle	USA	325.44

Men's 10m Platform			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	HU Jia	CHN	748.08
Silver	HELM Mathew	AUS	730.56
Bronze	TIAN Liang	CHN	729.66
4th	DESPATIE Alexandre	CAN	707.46
5th	WATERFIELD Peter	GBR	669.24
6th	TAYLOR Leon	GBR	663.12
7th	MEYER Heiko	GER	646.56
8th	NEWBERY Robert	AUS	640.65

Right page:

Ken Terauchi of Japan competes in the men's diving 3-metre springboard final event on 24 August 2004.
© Getty Images for FINA/D. Berehulak



Women's Events

Women's 3m Synchro Springboard

In the women's events, the Chinese squad of Minxia WU and Jingjing GUO opened the series of Chinese gold medal wins with their victory in the Women's 3m Springboard competition. Russian duo Vera ILYINA and Yulia PAKHALINA took the silver, whereas Irina LASHKO and Chantelle NEWBERY came third to win the bronze.

Women's 10m Synchro Platform

China's Lishi LAO and Ting LI again beat Russians Natalia GONCHAROVA and Yulia KOLTUNOVA to the gold in the Synchronised 10m Platform event. Blythe HARTLEY and Emilie HEYMANS from Canada won the bronze.

Women's 10m Platform

Chantelle NEWBERY broke the Chinese winning streak upon winning the gold medal in the Women's 10m Platform competition. NEWBERY defeated the Chinese Lishi LAO with 590.31 points. The bronze went to the Australian Loudy TOURKY scoring 561.66.

Women's 3m Springboard

Jingjing GUO secured her second gold medal of the Olympic Games, after defeating Minxia WU (CHN) with 633.15 points. GUO, with her two gold medals, was the most successful athlete in the ATHENS 2004 Diving competitions. The bronze went to Yulia PAKHALINA from Russia, scoring 610.62.

Women's 3m Synchro Springboard			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	WU Minxia GUO Jingjing	CHN	336.90
Silver	ILYINA Vera PAKHALINA Yulia	RUS	330.84
Bronze	LASHKO Irina NEWBERY Chantelle	AUS	309.30
4th	GERRARD Tandi SMITH Jane	GBR	302.25
5th	SANCHEZ Laura ESPINOSA Paola	MEX	286.92
6th	KOTZIAN Ditte SCHMALFUSS Conny	GER	279.69
7th	HARTLEY Blythe HEYMANS Emilie	CAN	276.90
8th	GEORGATOU Diamantina KOUTSOPETROU Sotiria	GRE	270.33

Women's 10m Synchro Platform			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	LAO Lishi LI Ting	CHN	352.14
Silver	GONCHAROVA Natalia KOLTUNOVA Yulia	RUS	340.92
Bronze	HARTLEY Blythe HEYMANS Emilie	CAN	327.78
4th	TOURKY Loudy FOLAUHOLA Lynda	AUS	313.92
5th	ESPINOSA Paola LUNA Jashia	MEX	307.94
6th	GAMM Annett SUBSCHINSKI Nora	GER	303.30
7th	CARDINELL Cassandra HILDEBRAND Sara	USA	302.22
8th	PAPPA-PAPAV/LOU Eftychia SFAKIANOU Florentia	GRE	272.40

Women's 10m Platform			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	NEWBERY Chantelle	AUS	590.31
Silver	LAO Lishi	CHN	576.30
Bronze	TOURKY Loudy	AUS	561.66
4th	HEYMANS Emilie	CAN	555.03
5th	WILKINSON Laura	USA	549.72
6th	LI Ting	CHN	546.48
7th	BOILEAU Myriam	CAN	530.25
8th	CAGNOTTO Tania	ITA	518.67

Women's 3m Springboard			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	GUO Jingjing	CHN	633.15
Silver	WU Minxia	CHN	612.00
Bronze	PAKHALINA Yulia	RUS	610.62
4th	ILYINA Vera	RUS	589.11
5th	HARTLEY Blythe	CAN	573.00
6th	TOURKY Loudy	AUS	566.94
7th	LASHKO Irina	AUS	551.97
8th	CAGNOTTO Tania	ITA	550.38

Right page:

Lishi Lao and Ting Li of China receive their gold medals for the women's synchronised diving 10-metre platform event on 16 August.
© Getty Images/J. Squire





ATHENS 2004



ATH



Competition Sequence

Olympic Swimming events were held between 14-21 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Swimming has been an important part of the Olympic Games since 1896, when four events were held in the icy waters of the Bay of Zea, near Piraeus in Athens. It was only for men and the events, watched by 40,000 spectators, included the 100m, 500m, and 1,200m Freestyle. Women's swimming made its debut sixteen years later at the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm. Men and women competed in virtually the same events; the only difference being that the long-distance race for men covered 1,200m, whilst for women it covered 800m. The increasing popularity of swimming competitions created a drive to regulate official strokes and distances. By the Munich 1972 Olympics, all international races and records were using the metric distance system. Today, Swimming is very popular worldwide. There are 167 member countries and over 2.2 million registered swimmers in the world.

Description

The Olympic Swimming programme includes 26 individual and six team relay men's and women's events in a 50m pool. The individual events are freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and individual medley style. The team events are the freestyle and medley relay. In all Swimming events the individual or team with the fastest time wins. All race distances are measured in metres.

Men's	Women's	
Individual: 13	Individual: 13	Total: 32
Team: 3	Team: 3	

Left page:

USA's Michael Phelps begins his world record-breaking race in the men's 400m individual medley finals, which earned him the first of six gold medals (eight overall), on the first day of Swimming competition, 14 August 2004.
© Getty Images/D. Berehulak

Competitors		
Men		
Event	Swimmers	NOC
50m Freestyle	87	78
100m Freestyle	71	63
200m Freestyle	59	53
400m Freestyle	47	39
1,500m Freestyle	34	28
100m Backstroke	45	39
200m Backstroke	36	30
100m Breaststroke	60	55
200m Breaststroke	47	39
100m Butterfly	59	51
200m Butterfly	38	33
200m Individual Medley	49	41
400m Individual Medley	35	25
4x100m Freestyle Relay	64	16
4x200m Freestyle Relay	64	16
4x100m Medley Relay	64	16

Venue

The Olympic Aquatic Centre, which was located at the Athens Olympic Sports Complex in Maroussi, hosted the ever-popular Swimming, Water Polo, Synchronised Swimming and Diving events. The Centre consisted of two outdoor and one indoor pool. The Swimming and Water Polo events were held at the Main Pool; Synchronised Swimming took place at the Synchronised Swimming pool; whereas Water Polo and Diving were held at the Indoor pool.

Competitors		
Women		
Event	Swimmers	NOC
50m Freestyle	75	67
100m Freestyle	51	45
200m Freestyle	41	36
400m Freestyle	38	31
800m Freestyle	31	26
100m Backstroke	41	34
200m Backstroke	35	27
100m Breaststroke	48	43
200m Breaststroke	33	28
100m Butterfly	38	30
200m Butterfly	31	25
200m Individual Medley	30	27
400m Individual Medley	23	19
4x100m Freestyle Relay	64	16
4x200m Freestyle Relay	64	16
4x100m Medley Relay	64	16

Games Highlights

The world's swimming superpowers did not disappoint on the first night of Swimming Finals at the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, with both Australian and the United States teams each setting new world records on a night in which four gold medals were awarded.

Men's Events

Men's 50m Freestyle

In the showdown of the world's best sprinters, in Men's 50m Freestyle, defending Olympic champion Gary HALL proved age was no barrier, as the 29-year-old and oldest man in the field touched out Croatian Duje DRAGANJA by the narrowest of margins -

Men's 50m Freestyle			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	HALL Gary	USA	21.93
Silver	DRAGANJA Duje	CRO	21.94
Bronze	SCHOEMAN Roland Mark	RSA	22.02
4th	NYSTRAND Stefan	SWE	22.08
5th	LEZAK Jason	USA	22.11
6th	HAWKE Brett	AUS	22.18
7th	VOLYNETS Oleksandr	UKR	22.26
8th	ILES Salim	ALG	22.37

Men's 200m Freestyle			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	THORPE Ian	AUS	1:44.71
Silver	van den HOOGENBAND Pieter	NED	1:45.23
Bronze	PHELPS Michael	USA	1:45.32
4th	KELLER Klete	USA	1:46.13
5th	HACKETT Grant	AUS	1:46.56
6th	SAY Rick	CAN	1:47.55
7th	BURNETT Simon	GBR	1:48.02
8th	BREMBILLA Emiliano	ITA	1:48.40

0.01 seconds - to win his fifth Olympic gold medal. HALL swam a 21.93 to to win gold. Croatian DRAGANJA, the youngest competitor in the field, finished second in 21.94 to win silver, and South Africa's Roland Mark SCHOEMAN swam 0.03 slower than his qualifying time, to win bronze in 22.02.

Men's 100m Freestyle

Even though South Africa's Roland Mark SCHOEMAN qualified fastest for the Men's 100m Freestyle final, in a time of 48.39, did not manage to beat the reigning Olympic Champion and world record holder van den HOOGENBAND (48.17), and finished second in a time of 48.23 to win the silver. The bronze was awarded to the Olympic 200m and 400m Freestyle champion Ian THORPE (AUS).

Men's 200m Freestyle

The Men's 200m Freestyle Final did not disappoint with swimming superstars Pieter van den HOOGENBAND (NED), Ian THORPE (AUS) and Michael PHELPS (USA) each chasing Olympic gold. Raced in front of a capacity crowd at the Olympic Aquatic Centre, THORPE, the current world record holder saved his trademark powerful kick until the final 50 metres to accelerate past the reigning Olympic champion, Pieter van den HOOGENBAND, and win gold in new Olympic record time of 1:44.71. Dutchman van den HOOGENBAND finished second, 0.52 behind the Australian, winning silver in a time of 1:45.23. USA swimming sensation Michael PHELPS finished third with a new USA record time of 1:45.32 and in doing so, won his third medal of these Olympic Games.

Men's 400m Freestyle

In the Men's 400m Freestyle, Australian Ian THORPE repeated his performance of Sydney four years earlier winning the gold. THORPE and HACKETT went stroke for stroke over the

Men's 100m Freestyle			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	van den HOOGENBAND Pieter	NED	48.17
Silver	SCHOEMAN Roland Mark	RSA	48.23
Bronze	THORPE Ian	AUS	48.56
4th	NEETHLING Ryk	RSA	48.63
5th	MAGNINI Filippo	ITA	48.99
6th	DRAGANJA Duje	CRO	49.23
7th	ILES Salim	ALG	49.30
8th	KAPRALOV Andrey	RUS	49.30

Men's 400m Freestyle			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	THORPE Ian	AUS	3:43.10
Silver	HACKETT Grant	AUS	3:43.36
Bronze	KELLER Klete	USA	3:44.11
4th	JENSEN Larsen	USA	3:46.08
5th	ROSOLINO Massimiliano	ITA	3:46.25
6th	PRILUKOV Yuri	RUS	3:46.69
7th	GIANNIOTIS Spyridon	GRE	3:48.77
8th	MATSUDA Takeshi	JPN	3:48.96

Right page, from top to bottom:

World record holder Australian Ian Thorpe performs during the men's 200m freestyle semi-final 2, on 15 August. The following day, the "Thorpedo" won gold, setting a new Olympic record of 1:44.71. He left Athens with 4 medals in freestyle events: two gold (200m and 400m), one silver (4x200m) and one bronze (100m). © AFP/T. Clary

Otylia Jędrzejczak from Poland swims in her 400m freestyle heat on 15 August. She went on to win silver in the final, placing behind France's Laure Manaudou. On the same day, Jędrzejczak won silver in the 100m butterfly, and on 18 August secured gold in the 200m butterfly. © REUTERS/D. Gray

Romania's Camelia Potec reacts after winning the gold medal in the women's 200m freestyle on 17 August. Potec covered the race in 1:58.03. © REUTERS/M. Blake







50 metres, with American Klete KELLER close behind. However, at the 100 metre mark, it was HACKETT and KELLER, who turned first and second respectively, with THORPE narrowly behind. At the halfway point, THORPE had moved to the front and did not relinquish the lead over the final 200 metres. Finishing in a time of 3:43.10, he was 3.02 seconds outside the world mark he set in Manchester in July 2002 at the Commonwealth Games. HACKETT finished second in a time of 3:43.36, and despite swimming a 27.46 for the final 50 metres he could not overcome the strong finishing THORPE. KELLER won bronze in a time of 3:44.11 and set a new American record in the process lowering the previous mark of 3:44.19 - set in July 2004 - by 0.8 seconds.

Men's 1.500m Freestyle

In the Men's 1.500m Freestyle Final, Australian Grant HACKETT became only the third man to defend the Olympic 1.500m crown in the event's history, winning in a new Olympic record time

of 14:43.40. Leading from the first lap, HACKETT controlled the race from the front, and despite the field closing to within 0.16 seconds at the 1.400 metre mark, he increased the tempo over the final 100 metres to touch 1.89 seconds ahead of second place finisher Larsen JENSEN (USA). JENSEN, the second fastest man over the distance this year behind HACKETT finished in 14:45.29 to win Olympic silver, and Great Britain's David DAVIES finished third in a new European record time of 14:45.95.

Men's 100m Backstroke

In the Men's 100m Backstroke Final, reigning world champion Aaron PEIRSOL (USA) won his first Olympic gold medal in a time of 54:06 to beat home Austrian Markus ROGAN and Tomomi MORITA (JPN) for the minor medals. Despite Australia's Matt WELSH setting the early pace and turning first at the 50-metre mark, PEIRSOL powered away from the field in the final 50 metres to win by 0.29.

Left page:

Inge de Bruijn of Netherlands celebrates winning the gold medal in the women's swimming 50m freestyle final on 21 August 2004. She also holds the world record for the event, 24.13 seconds, set four years previously at the Sydney Olympic Games.
© Getty Images/S. Hannagan

This page:

Milorad Cavic of Serbia and Montenegro competes in the men's swimming 100m freestyle heat on 17 August.
© Getty Images/D. Miralle

Men's 1.500m Freestyle			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	HACKETT Grant	AUS	14:43.40
Silver	JENSEN Larsen	USA	14:45.29
Bronze	DAVIES David	GBR	14:45.95
4th	PRILUKOV Yuri	RUS	14:52.48
5th	GIANNIOTIS Spyridon	GRE	15:03.69
6th	SMITH Graeme	GBR	15:09.71
7th	COMAN Dragos	ROM	15:10.21
8th	STEVENS Craig	AUS	15:13.66

Men's 100m Backstroke			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	PEIRSOL Aaron	USA	54.06
Silver	ROGAN Markus	AUT	54.35
Bronze	MORITA Tomomi	JPN	54.36
4th	KRAYZELBURG Lenny	USA	54.38
5th	WELSH Matt	AUS	54.52
6th	CSEH Laszlo	HUN	54.61
7th	DRIESEN Steffen	GER	54.63
8th	di CARLI Marco	GER	55.27

Men's 200m Backstroke

American Aaron PEIRSOL became only the fifth swimmer in Olympic history to complete the Backstroke double, but the 21-year-old American had to wait 20 tense minutes, while a protest over his initial disqualification in the Men's 200m Backstroke was heard by race officials. PEIRSOL dominated both the 100m and 200m events over the last three years, winning the 2001 and 2003 World Championship double, and touched 2.40 ahead of Austrian Markus ROGAN in a new Olympic record time of 1:54.95. ROGAN finished in 1:57.35 and was gracious in the acceptance of the silver medal, his second of the meet, after finishing second to PEIRSOL in the 100m Backstroke. Romanian Razvan FLOREA finished third in a time of 1:57.56 to win bronze, improving from his sixth place finish at the Sydney Games. His was the second medal for Romania at the pool during these Games.

Men's 100m Breaststroke

In the Men's 100m Breaststroke Final, Japan's Kosuke KITAJIMA ruined any chances of gold birthday celebrations for current world record holder Brendan HANSEN (USA), by beating him to the wall to claim gold in a time of 1:00.08. HANSEN, who turned 23, had the fastest reaction time off the blocks and turned first at the 50-metre mark with a time of 28.22. It was KITAJIMA, however, who showed more determination down the stretch to swim a 31.82 in the final 50 metres to win his first Olympic medal and improve on his fourth-place performance from the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. HANSEN finished 0.17 behind KITAJIMA in a time of 1:00.25 and France's Hugues DUBOSCQ was third in 1:00.88.

Men's 200m Breaststroke

Despite qualifying third fastest in the Men's 200m Breaststroke semifinals, the reigning world champion, Kosuke KITAJIMA (JPN) succeed in winning the gold in a time of 2:09.44, leaving behind Hungarian Daniel GYURTA (2:10.80), with silver. The current world record holder, Brendan HANSEN (USA) missed the opportunity to even the score, after KITAJIMA's win in the Men's 100m Breaststroke and ended third, winning the bronze.

Men's 100m Butterfly

PHELPS, the fastest qualifier for the Men's 100m Butterfly final, won his fifth Olympic gold medal of the 2004 Games. CROCKER, who beat PHELPS at the US Trials, when he set a new world record, swam an aggressive race, and led until the final few strokes before being touched out by PHELPS by 0.04 seconds. CROCKER won his first individual and second Olympic medal of the 2004 Games in a time of 51.29, and Ukrainian Andriy SERDINOV set a new European record of 51.36 to win bronze.

Men's 200m Butterfly

In the Men's 200m Butterfly, Michael PHELPS (USA) won his second individual Olympic gold of the 2004 Games in a new Olympic record time of 1:54.04. Japan's Takashi YAMAMOTO finished second in a new Asian record time of 1:54.56, but he was no match for the reigning world record holder, who was a class above all others in the final. Despite being the fastest qualifier following the semi-finals, Great Britain's Stephen PARRY faded over the final 25 metres to finish third in a time of 1:55.52. His bronze medal was the second for the Great Britain team, and the first in swimming.

Men's 200m Backstroke			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	PEIRSOL Aaron	USA	1:54.95
Silver	ROGAN Markus	AUT	1:57.35
Bronze	FLOREA Razvan	ROM	1:57.56
4th	GODDARD James	GBR	1:57.76
5th	MORITA Tomomi	JPN	1:58.40
6th	DUFOUR Simon	FRA	1:58.49
7th	TAIT Gregor	GBR	1:59.28
8th	MEDVESEK Blaz	SLO	2:00.06

Men's 100m Breaststroke			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	KITAJIMA Kosuke	JPN	1:00.08
Silver	HANSEN Brendan	USA	1:00.25
Bronze	DUBOSCQ Hugues	FRA	1:00.88
4th	GANGLOFF Mark	USA	1:01.17
5th	POLYAKOV Vladislav	KAZ	1:01.34
6th	GIBSON James	GBR	1:01.36
7th	MEW Darren	GBR	1:01.66
8th	LISOGOR Oleg	UKR	1:02.42

Men's 200m Breaststroke			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	KITAJIMA Kosuke	JPN	2:09.44
Silver	GYURTA Daniel	HUN	2:10.80
Bronze	HANSEN Brendan	USA	2:10.87
4th	BOSSINI Paolo	ITA	2:11.20
5th	POLYAKOV Vladislav	KAZ	2:11.76
6th	BROWN Mike	CAN	2:11.94
7th	USHER Scott	USA	2:11.95
	PIPER Jim	AUS	DSQ

Men's 100m Butterfly			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	PHELPS Michael	USA	51.25
Silver	CROCKER Ian	USA	51.29
Bronze	SERDINOV Andriy	UKR	51.36
4th	RUPPRATH Thomas	GER	52.27
5th	MARCHENKO Igor	RUS	52.32
6th	MANGABEIRA Gabriel	BRA	52.34
7th	DRAGANJA Duje	CRO	52.46
8th	HUEGILL Geoffrey	AUS	52.56

Right page:

Russia's Stanislava Komarova, who led the heats, is about to record the fastest time in the women's 200m backstroke semi-final, 19 August. The following evening saw her win silver behind Kirsty Coventry (ZIM).
© AFP/P. P. Marcou





This page:

Japan's Kosuke Kitajima qualifies for the men's 200m breaststroke finals, 17 August 2004. In the final, he set a new Olympic record of 2:09:44 to secure his second gold at the Athens Games. He would go on to bring home the bronze on the 4x100m medley relay.
© AFP/P. P. Marcou

Right page:

A Japanese supporter holding his country's flag waves a fan.
© AFP/R. Haidar

Men's 200m Butterfly			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	PHELPS Michael	USA	1:54.04
Silver	YAMAMOTO Takashi	JPN	1:54.56
Bronze	PARRY Stephen	GBR	1:55.52
4th	KORZENIOWSKI Pawel	POL	1:56.00
5th	GHERGHEL Ioan	ROM	1:56.10
6th	WU Peng	CHN	1:56.28
7th	SKVORTSOV Nikolay	RUS	1:57.14
8th	MALCHOW Tom	USA	1:57.48

Men's 200m Individual Medley			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	PHELPS Michael	USA	1:57.14
Silver	LOCHTE Ryan	USA	1:58.78
Bronze	BOVELL George	TRI	1:58.80
4th	CSEH Laszlo	HUN	1:58.84
5th	PEREIRA Thiago	BRA	2:00.11
6th	MORI Takahiro	JPN	2:00.60
7th	JANUSAITIS Vytautas	LTU	2:01.28
8th	MIKI Jiro	JPN	2:02.16





Men's 200m Individual Medley

In the Men's 200m Individual Medley Final, American Michael PHELPS won his fourth Olympic gold of the 2004 Games, and sixth medal overall with powerful display of swimming to win in a new Olympic record time of 1:57.14. Teammate Ryan LOCHTE finished second in 1:58.78 to win his first individual medal of the meet, to add to the team gold he won as part of the USA 4x200m Freestyle Relay team. George BOVELL (TRI) won his first Olympic medal by finishing third in a time of 1:58.80, and also won Trinidad and Tobago's first Olympic medal of the 2004 Games.

Men's 400m Individual Medley

American swimming sensation Michael PHELPS began his Olympic campaign by winning his first Olympic gold medal and setting a new world record of 4:08.26 in the process in the Men's 400m Individual Medley. Leading from the start, PHELPS asserted his dominance in the Butterfly leg clocking 55.57 for the first 100m and then continued to power away from the field to break the old world record by 0.15 seconds. Compatriot Erik VENDT finished second in a time of 4:11.81 and Hungarian Laszlo CSEH won the bronze medal in a time of 4:12.15.

Men's 4x100m Freestyle Relay

The South African Men's 4x100m Freestyle Relay team proved that Australia and the United States were not the only superpowers at the Athens Games, when they won gold and set a world record Sunday night at the Olympic Aquatic Centre. Led out by Roland Mark SCHOEMAN, who set a quick pace, clocking 48.17 for his 100 metres, the South African team of Lyndon FERNS, Darian TOWNSEND and anchor Ryk NEETHLING finished in a time of 3:13.17 to lower the old mark set by Australia at the Sydney 2000 Games by 0.50 seconds. The Netherlands finished second, 1.19 behind the South Africans, in a time of 3:14.36, thanks to a strong anchor leg by Olympic gold medallist Pieter van den HOOGENBAND. The United

States, a force in the 4 x100m Freestyle Relay from 1964 until 1996, had to settle for bronze, finishing in a time of 3:14.62.

Men's 4x200m Freestyle Relay

The United States won its fifth gold medal and avenged its defeat by Australia in the Men's 4x200m Freestyle Relay at the Sydney Games four years earlier. Cheered on by a vocal contingent of American swimmers and fans, Klete KELLER (USA) held off the newly crowned 200m and 400m Olympic champion, Ian THORPE, over the final 100 metres to anchor the USA team to its 13th gold medal in this event, in a new American record time of 7:07.33. Led out by Michael PHELPS in a time of 1:46.49, the Americans had half a body length lead over the Australians at the first change. Despite a strong performance by Michael KLIM (AUS) and later THORPE, the US team of PHELPS, Ryan LOCHTE, Peter VAN DERKAAY and KELLER held onto beat the Australians by 0.13 seconds. Finishing in a time of 7:07.46, the Australian team of Grant HACKETT, KLIM and Nicholas SPRENGER relied heavily on THORPE to overcome the deficit at the final change, but THORPE's uncharacteristically slow turns contributed to their second place finish. The Italian team of Emiliano BREMBILLA, Massimiliano ROSOLINO, Simone CERCATO and Filippo MAGNINI won bronze in a time of 7:11.83.

Men's 4x100m Medley Relay

The American Men's 4x100m Medley Relay team ensured they kept their 20-year winning streak in the event alive, by taking gold in a new world record time of 3:30.68. The German team of Steffen DRIESEN, Jens KRUPPA, Thomas RUPPRATH and Lars CONRAD finished second in a new European record time of 3:33.62. On the back of a strong swim by double Olympic Breaststroke champion Kosuke KITAJIMA, the Japanese team of Tomomi MORITA, KITAJIMA, Takashi YAMAMOTO and Yoshihiro OKUMURA set a new Asian record to win bronze in 3:35.22.

Men's 400m Individual Medley			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	PHELPS Michael	USA	4:08.26
Silver	VENDT Erik	USA	4:11.81
Bronze	CSEH Laszlo	HUN	4:12.15
4th	BOGGIATTO Alessio	ITA	4:12.28
5th	MELLOULI Oussama	TUN	4:14.49
6th	KOKKODIS Ioannis	GRE	4:18.60
7th	MIKI Jiro	JPN	4:19.97
8th	NEDERPELT Travis	AUS	4:20.08

Men's 4x100m Freestyle Relay			
	Team	NOC	Time
Gold	South Africa	RSA	3:13.17
Silver	Netherlands	NED	3:14.36
Bronze	United States of America	USA	3:14.62
4th	Russian Federation	RUS	3:15.75
5th	Italy	ITA	3:15.75
6th	Australia	AUS	3:15.77
7th	France	FRA	3:16.23
8th	Germany	GER	3:17.18

Men's 4x200m Freestyle Relay			
	Team	NOC	Time
Gold	United States of America	USA	7:07.33
Silver	Australia	AUS	7:07.46
Bronze	Italy	ITA	7:11.83
4th	Great Britain	GBR	7:12.60
5th	Canada	CAN	7:13.33
6th	Germany	GER	7:16.51
7th	France	FRA	7:17.43
8th	Greece	GRE	7:23.02

Men's 4x100m Medley Relay			
	Team	NOC	Time
Gold	United States of America	USA	3:30.68
Silver	Germany	GER	3:33.62
Bronze	Japan	JPN	3:35.22
4th	Russian Federation	RUS	3:35.91
5th	France	FRA	3:36.57
6th	Ukraine	UKR	3:36.87
7th	Hungary	HUN	3:37.46
8th	Great Britain	GBR	3:37.77

Left page:

Michael Phelps of the U.S. greets team mates after receiving his gold medal for the 200m men's butterfly at the Olympic Aquatic Centre on 17 August 2004. In this event, Phelps did not break his own year-old world record, but did set a new Olympic record of 1:54.04.

© REUTERS/J. Lampen

Women's Events

Women's 50m Freestyle

In the Women's 50m Freestyle Final, reigning Olympic and world champion Inge de BRUIJN (NED) won her third individual Olympic medal, to give her a gold, silver and bronze at the 2004 Games. Finishing first in 24.58, de BRUIJN beat home France's Malia METELLA (24.89) and Australian Lisbeth LENTON (24.91) to win the Netherlands' second gold and seventh overall medal at the pool.

Women's 100m Freestyle

In the Women's 100m Freestyle Final, newly crowned world record holder Jodie HENRY (AUS) overcame a strong challenge by the defending Olympic champion Inge de BRUIJN (NED) and Natalie COUGHLIN (USA) to win her first Olympic gold medal in a time of 53.84. With the opportunity to become the only the second swimmer in 40 years - and the first since Australian Dawn FRASER - to ever retain her crown in this event, de BRUIJN looked strong at the 50 metre mark, turning first and leading HENRY by 0.26 seconds. De BRUIJN, the only other swimmer along with HENRY in the final to set a world record in the event, finished second in a time of 54.16 and COUGHLIN claimed her fourth medal of the meet by winning bronze in 54.40.

Women's 200m Freestyle

In the Women's 200m Freestyle Final, it was Camelia POTEC (ROM) swimming in Lane 1, who upset the fastest qualifiers Federica PELLEGRINI (ITA) and Solenne FIGUES (FRA) to win in 1:58.03. It was her first Olympic gold medal and the first for Romania at the 2004 Games. POTEC waited until the 150m mark, before moving from third to power away and touch the wall 0.19 seconds ahead of second place finisher PELLEGRINI (1:58.22) in what was a relatively slow winning time. PELLEGRINI, a 16-year old from Mirano, became her country's first female in 32 years to win an Olympic silver medal in swimming. The last person to win was Novella CALLIGARIS, who won silver in the Women's 400m Freestyle at the Munich 1972 Olympic Games. France's Solenne FIGUES (1:58.45) won her first Olympic medal, a bronze, to take France's medal count from the pool to four - one gold and three bronze.

Women's 400m Freestyle

In the Women's 400m Freestyle, the youngest competitor in the field, Laure MANAUDOU (FRA) won her first Olympic gold medal in 4:05.34. Poland's Otylia JEDRZEJCZAK backed up from her silver medal winning performance in the Women's 100m Butterfly, to win a second silver with a time of 4:05.84. Kaitlin SANDENO (USA) finished third in 4:06.19, and in doing so, won her second Olympic medal of these Games. She also won silver in the Women's 400m Individual Medley.

Women's 50m Freestyle			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	de BRUIJN Inge	NED	24.58
Silver	METELLA Malia	FRA	24.89
Bronze	LENTON Lisbeth	AUS	24.91
4th	ALSHAMMAR Therese	SWE	24.93
5th	JOYCE Kara Lynn	USA	25.00
6th	ENGELSMAN Michelle	AUS	25.06
7th	THOMPSON Jenny	USA	25.11
8th	CAZZIOLATO Flavia	BRA	25.20

Women's 100m Freestyle			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	HENRY Jodie	AUS	53.84
Silver	de BRUIJN Inge	NED	54.16
Bronze	COUGHLIN Natalie	USA	54.40
4th	METELLA Malia	FRA	54.50
5th	JOYCE Kara Lynn	USA	54.54
6th	NIANGKOUARA Nery Mantey	GRE	54.81
7th	MORAVCOVA Martina	SVK	55.12
8th	POPCHANKA Alena	BLR	55.24

Women's 200m Freestyle			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	POTEC Camelia	ROM	1:58.03
Silver	PELLEGRINI Federica	ITA	1:58.22
Bronze	FIGUES Solenne	FRA	1:58.45
4th	BARZYCKA Paulina	POL	1:58.62
5th	van ALMSICK Franziska	GER	1:58.88
6th	VOLLMER Dana	USA	1:58.98
7th	PANG Jiaying	CHN	1:59.16
8th	LILLHAGE Josefin	SWE	1:59.20

Women's 400m Freestyle			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	MANAUDOU Laure	FRA	4:05.34
Silver	JEDRZEJCZAK Otylia	POL	4:05.84
Bronze	SANDENO Kaitlin	USA	4:06.19
4th	POTEC Camelia	ROM	4:06.34
5th	SHIBATA Ai	JPN	4:07.51
6th	YAMADA Sachiko	JPN	4:10.91
7th	MACKENZIE Linda	AUS	4:10.92
8th	COOKE Rebecca	GBR	4:11.35



Women's 800m Freestyle

In the Women's 800m Freestyle, Japan's Ai SHIBATA timed her race to perfection, to win her first Olympic medal in a time of 8:24.54. MANAUDOU, the gold medallist in the Women's 400m Freestyle, dominated the race until the 700-metre mark, when SHIBATA moved alongside her to fight for the lead. Not able to keep up with the quick stroking SHIBATA over the final 50 metres, MANAUDOU finished 0.42 behind SHIBATA to win silver in 8:24.96. American Diana MUNZ won bronze in 8:26.61, her third Olympic medal, to add to her silver medal in this event at the Sydney Games, and her gold medal as part of the USA Women's 4x200m Freestyle Relay team in Sydney.

Women's 100m Backstroke

The reigning world record holder in the Women's 100m Backstroke, Natalie COUGHLIN (USA), won her first individual Olympic gold medal of the 2004 Olympic Games, to add to her silver medal, as part of the USA 4x100m Freestyle Relay team. COUGHLIN, the first woman to swim under one minute for the 100m Backstroke, got off to a fantastic start before increasing her lead to beat home a strong finishing Kirsty COVENTRY (ZIM) to win in a time of 1:00.37. COVENTRY, finishing 0.13 seconds behind COUGHLIN, won her first, and Zimbabwe's first Olympic medal in Athens. Her time of 1:00.50 also set a new African record. France's Laure MANAUDOU added to her Olympic Games medal collection by winning bronze in a time of 1:00.88, after winning the Women's 400m Freestyle.

This page:

Kirsty Coventry of Zimbabwe kisses her gold medal for the women's swimming 200m backstroke event on 20 August. This crowned her collection in Athens, having already won silver and bronze in the 100m backstroke and 200m individual medley, respectively.
© Getty Images/D. Berehulak

Women's 800m Freestyle			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	SHIBATA Ai	JPN	8:24.54
Silver	MANAUDOU Laure	FRA	8:24.96
Bronze	MUNZ Diana	USA	8:26.61
4th	KELLER Kalyn	USA	8:26.97
5th	VILLAECIJA Erika	ESP	8:29.04
6th	COOKE Rebecca	GBR	8:29.37
7th	HENKE Jana	GER	8:33.95
8th	PADURARU Simona	ROM	8:37.02

Women's 100m Backstroke			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	COUGHLIN Natalie	USA	1:00.37
Silver	COVENTRY Kirsty	ZIM	1:00.50
Bronze	MANAUDOU Laure	FRA	1:00.88
4th	NAKAMURA Reiko	JPN	1:01.05
5th	ZHIVANEVSKAYA Nina	ESP	1:01.12
6th	BUSCHSCHULTE Antje	GER	1:01.39
7th	OERNSTEDT Louise	DEN	1:01.51
8th	COPE Haley	USA	1:01.76

Women's 200m Backstroke

Zimbabwean Kirsty COVENTRY swam a new African record time of 2:09.19 to win the Women's 200m Backstroke final, and in doing so took home a full collection of Olympic medals - gold, silver and bronze - from the 2004 Games. Qualifying second fastest, COVENTRY established a lead early and despite the fast finish of Russian Stanislava KOMAROVA, led to victory by 0.53 seconds. KOMAROVA, the youngest swimmer in the final, won her first Olympic silver medal, and Russia's first medal at the pool in a time of 2:09.72. Japan's Reiko NAKAMURA dead-heated with German Antje BUSCHSCHULTE in 2:09.88 to win joint bronze.

Women's 100m Breaststroke

In the Women's 100m Breaststroke, Xuejuan LUO(CHN) finished in a time of 1:06.64 to win gold and Australians Brooke HANSON and Leisel JONES were second (1:07.15) and third (1:07.16), respectively.

Women's 200m Breaststroke

In the Women's 200m Breaststroke final, three-time Olympian Amanda BEARD (USA), the reigning world champion and world record holder in the event, reaffirmed her status as the best women's middle distance breaststroker with a strong performance to win her first individual Olympic gold in a new Olympic

record time of 2:23.37. BEARD, who trailed Australian Leisel JONES at each of the turns, swam an aggressive 36.81 for her final 50 metres to overhaul JONES in the last few metres to beat the 2003 World Championships silver medallist by 0.23 seconds. JONES, a bronze medallist in the 100m Breaststroke at the 2004 Games, finished second in a time of 2:23.60 with Germany's Anne POLESKA third in 2:25.82.

Women's 100m Butterfly

In the Women's 100m Butterfly, Australia's Petria THOMAS proved that two shoulder reconstructions and a year on the sidelines were not enough to stop her from overcoming reigning Olympic champion Inge de BRUIJN to win her first individual gold medal at these Games. Turning second behind world record holder de BRUIJN at the 50-metre mark, THOMAS left it until the final three metres to move into the lead and take gold ahead of Poland's Otylia JEDRZEJCZAK and de BRUIJN in a time of 57.72. JEDRZEJCZAK finished in a time of 57.84 to win silver and de BRUIJN was third in 57.99.

Women's 200m Butterfly

In the Women's 200m Butterfly, JEDRZEJCZAK, already a two-time silver medallist at these Games in the Women's 100m Butterfly and Women's 400m Freestyle, relied heavily on her strong middle distance racing skills and secured

Women's 200m Backstroke			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	COVENTRY Kirsty	ZIM	2:09.19
Silver	KOMAROVA Stanislava	RUS	2:09.72
Bronze	NAKAMURA Reiko	JPN	2:09.88
Bronze	BUSCHSCHULTE Antje	GER	2:09.88
5th	HOELZER Margaret	USA	2:10.70
6th	OERNSTEDT Louise	DEN	2:11.15
7th	SEXTON Katy	GBR	2:12.11
8th	TERAKAWA Aya	JPN	2:12.90

Women's 100m Breaststroke			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	LUO Xuejuan	CHN	1:06.64
Silver	HANSON Brooke	AUS	1:07.15
Bronze	JONES Leisel	AUS	1:07.16
4th	BEARD Amanda	USA	1:07.44
5th	POEWE Sarah	GER	1:07.53
6th	KIRK Tara	USA	1:07.59
7th	BONDARENKO Svitlana	UKR	1:08.19
	QI Hui	CHN	DSQ

Women's 200m Breaststroke			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	BEARD Amanda	USA	2:23.37
Silver	JONES Leisel	AUS	2:23.60
Bronze	POLESKA Anne	GER	2:25.82
4th	TANAKA Masami	JPN	2:25.87
5th	KOVACS Agnes	HUN	2:26.12
6th	QI Hui	CHN	2:26.35
7th	JUKIC Mirna	AUT	2:26.36
8th	HANSON Brooke	AUS	2:26.39

Women's 100m Butterfly			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	THOMAS Petria	AUS	57.72
Silver	JEDRZEJCZAK Otylia	POL	57.84
Bronze	de BRUIJN Inge	NED	57.99
4th	SCHIPPER Jess	AUS	58.22
5th	THOMPSON Jenny	USA	58.72
6th	MORAVCOVA Martina	SVK	58.96
7th	POPCHANKA Alena	BLR	59.06
8th	ONISHI Junko	JPN	59.83

Right page:

Germany's Anne Poleska poses with her bronze medal for the women's 200m breaststroke, 19 August.
© AFP/P.-P Marcou





the gold medal, in a time of 2:06.05, defeating Petria THOMAS (AUS), who came home first in the Women's 100m Butterfly. Japan's Yuko NAKANISHI ended third to win the bronze with 2:08.04, leaving Kaitlin SANDENO (USA), who posted the fastest semifinal time of 2:08.77, in the fourth place.

Women's 200m Individual Medley

In the Women's 200m Individual Medley, Yana KLOCHKOVA (UKR) clinched the Individual Medley double, winning gold in the 200m IM in a time of 2:11.14 to add to her 400m IM win on the first night of competition. American Amanda BEARD was fastest off the blocks. Despite turning fifth at the 100-metre mark, she finished strongly in the breaststroke and freestyle legs to win silver in 2:11.70, a new American record. Zimbabwean Kirsty COVENTRY, one of the surprise female swimmers of the meet, added to her silver

medal performance in the 100m Backstroke to win the bronze medal in 2:12.72. Her time also set a new African record.

Women's 400m Individual Medley

In the Women's 400m Individual Medley, Ukrainian Yana KLOCHKOVA defended her Sydney 2000 title by narrowly touching out a fast finishing Kaitlin SANDENO (USA) to win gold in a time of 4:34.83. KLOCHKOVA, the reigning Olympic and world champion, timed her final kick perfectly to swim over the top of SANDENO and beat her to the wall by 0.12 seconds, with Argentine Georgina BARDACH winning the bronze medal in a time of 4:37.51. BARDACH, an Olympic Solidarity scholarship holder, improved on her 21st place finish at the Sydney 2000 Games to win Argentina's first Olympic medal in the pool since Jeanette CAMPBELL won silver at the Berlin 1936 Olympic Games.

Left page:

A jubilant Australian women's 4x100m freestyle relay team after winning the gold medal with a world record-setting 3:35.94, 14 August 2004.
© AFP/A. Scorza

This page:

Australia's Alice Mills, Lisbeth Lenton, Petria Thomas and Jodie Henry, the women's 4x100m freestyle relay team, pose on the podium after receiving their gold medals.
© AFP/T. Clary

Women's 200m Butterfly				
	Name	NOC	Time	
Gold	JEDRZEJCZAK Otylia	POL	2:06.05	
Silver	THOMAS Petria	AUS	2:06.36	
Bronze	NAKANISHI Yuko	JPN	2:08.04	
4th	SANDENO Kaitlin	USA	2:08.18	
5th	GALVEZ Felicity	AUS	2:09.28	
6th	JACOBSEN Mette	DEN	2:10.01	
7th	CAVALLINO Paola	ITA	2:10.14	
8th	RISZTOV Eva	HUN	2:10.58	

Women's 200m Individual Medley				
	Name	NOC	Time	
Gold	KLOCHKOVA Yana	UKR	2:11.14	
Silver	BEARD Amanda	USA	2:11.70	
Bronze	COVENTRY Kirsty	ZIM	2:12.72	
4th	KOVACS Agnes	HUN	2:13.58	
5th	ROHMANN Teresa	GER	2:13.70	
6th	CARROLL Lara	AUS	2:13.74	
7th	HOFF Katie	USA	2:13.97	
8th	CASLARU Beatrice	ROM	2:15.40	

Women's 4x100m Freestyle Relay

In the highlight of the night, the Australian 4x100m Freestyle team of Alice MILLS, Lisbeth LENTON, Petria THOMAS and Jodie HENRY broke the United States' 12-year domination of the event, winning in a new world record time of 3:35.94. Trailing the United States at the last change, HENRY hit the water 0.33 behind 8-time Olympic gold medallist Jenny THOMPSON (USA), but at the last turn the young Australian had already edged ahead of THOMPSON. Powering away over the final 15 metres to ruin THOMPSON's chance of a fairytale ending to her Olympic career. HENRY touched 0.45 ahead of the American, with the fast finishing Netherlands, led by Inge de BRUIJN, finishing third in a time of 3:37.59.

Women's 4x200m Freestyle Relay

The American women 4x200 Freestyle Relay team rose to the occasion, by taking gold with a time of 7:53.42. The Chinese team finished second in a time of 7:55.97, whereas the bronze was awarded to Germans in a time of 7:57.35.

Even though the event found the Australian women anxious to turn the tables after the American men took gold in the Men's version of the event, the Australian team ended fourth.

Women's 4x100m Medley Relay

Jenny THOMPSON, holder of eight Olympic gold medals, surpassed fellow Americans Mark SPITZ and Matt BIONDI to become the most decorated swimmer in Olympic history with 12 Olympic medals after she won silver as part of the Women's 4x100m Medley Relay team. In the race that elevated THOMPSON to the top of the all-time swimming medal count, the Women's 4x100m Medley Relay, the Australian team of Giaan ROONEY, Leisel JONES, Petria THOMAS and Jodie HENRY set a new world record of 3:57.32 for the event to win the gold. The American team finished second in 3:59.12 to win silver and the German foursome of Antje BUSCHSCHULTE, Sarah POEWE, Franziska van ALMSICK and Daniela GOTZ won bronze in a new European record time of 4:00.72.

Women's 400m Individual Medley			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	KLOCHKOVA Yana	UKR	4:34.83
Silver	SANDENO Kaitlin	USA	4:34.95
Bronze	BARDACH Georgina	ARG	4:37.51
4th	RISZTOV Eva	HUN	4:39.29
5th	MELO Joanna	BRA	4:40.00
6th	HETZER Nicole	GER	4:40.20
7th	NAM Yoo-Sun	KOR	4:50.35
8th	ANGELOPOULOU Vasiliki	GRE	4:50.85

Women's 4x100m Freestyle Relay			
	Team	NOC	Time
Gold	Australia	AUS	3:35.94
Silver	United States of America	USA	3:36.39
Bronze	Netherlands	NED	3:37.59
4th	Germany	GER	3:37.94
5th	France	FRA	3:40.23
6th	Great Britain	GBR	3:40.82
7th	Sweden	SWE	3:41.22
8th	People's Republic of China	CHN	3:42.90

Women's 4x200m Freestyle Relay			
	Team	NOC	Time
Gold	United States of America	USA	7:53.42
Silver	People's Republic of China	CHN	7:55.97
Bronze	Germany	GER	7:57.35
4th	Australia	AUS	7:57.40
5th	Great Britain	GBR	7:59.11
6th	Spain	ESP	8:02.11
7th	Brazil	BRA	8:05.29
8th	Sweden	SWE	8:08.34

Women's 4x100m Medley Relay			
	Team	NOC	Time
Gold	Australia	AUS	3:57.32
Silver	United States of America	USA	3:59.12
Bronze	Germany	GER	4:00.72
4th	People's Republic of China	CHN	4:03.35
5th	Japan	JPN	4:04.83
6th	Netherlands	NED	4:07.36
7th	Spain	ESP	4:07.61
	Great Britain	GBR	DSQ

Right page:

German swimmer Franziska van Almsick after her race at the 4x200m freestyle relay, 18 August. In the finals, the German team took the bronze, while the USA team broke the world record held by Germany since 1987. Van Almsick's personal 200m freestyle world record, set in 2002, still stands.
© AFP PHOTO DDP/M. Kappeler





Aquatics

Synchronised Swimming



Competition Sequence

Olympic Synchronised Swimming competition schedule was run through five competition days, from 23 to 27 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Synchronised Swimming was a demonstration sport at the 1948 London Olympic Games. Four years later in 1952, the International Aquatics Federation (FINA) recognised Synchronised Swimming and the first International competitions were held in the US, in 1955. However, it was not until the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics that Synchronised Swimming became an official sport for women. Solo and duet events were contested until 1996, when the solo event was discontinued because it did not represent the spirit of synchronisation. At the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, Solo was replaced by a team event consisting of eight swimmers. Duet and team events were held again at the ATHENS 2004 Olympics. Until 1998, the US and Canada won every gold and silver medal in international Synchronised Swimming. After 1996, many of the sport's great names retired, paving the way for a new crop of athletes from countries such as Russia, Japan, France, China and Italy.

Description

Olympic Synchronised Swimming is one of the three Olympic disciplines in which only women are allowed to compete (the other two are Rhythmic Gymnastics and Softball). Synchronised Swimming events are held in a 30x25 metre pool, which must be at least 3m deep and filled with clear water so that there is a good visibility at the bottom and the sides of the pool. There must also be underwater speakers in the pool, so athletes can hear their accompanying music underwater. Swimmers compete in two events: Duet and Team events. Athletes must perform two routines of standard duration, one for technique and one of free choice. The technical routine comprises obligatory elements in a predetermined order (eight in the team event and seven in the duet).

The free routines allow competitors to present composition of their own choice. Each routine receives two sets of marks: one for technique and another for artistic merit.

Women's Categories: 2 **Total: 2**

Competitors: 104

Women's

Event	Swimmers	NOC
Duet	48	24
Team	72	8

Venue

The Olympic Synchronised Swimming tournament was held at the Synchronised Swimming Pool (5,300 seated capacity) of the Olympic Aquatic Centre, consisted of two outdoor and one indoor pool, and located at the Athens Olympic Sports Complex, in Maroussi. The Olympic Aquatic Centre also hosted the ever-popular Swimming, Water Polo and Diving Events.

Games Highlights

Duet

Russia's super Anastasias, DAVYDOVA and ERMAKOVA, lived up to their favourite status by taking Synchronised Swimming first gold medal with a score of 99.334. The Russian duet gave an almost faultless exhibition with perfect synchronicity and delicately artistic elements, scoring a perfect 50 (with all five judges giving 10 points) for artistic impression. Amazingly, the 2003 world champions had been together for four years, but had only been working on this routine for the past four months.

Left page:

Team Russia performs in the team free routine event on 27 August, to win the gold medal with 99.501 total points.
© Getty Images for FINA/D. Berehulak

The crowd favourites, JAPAN'S Miya TACHIBANA and Miho TAKEDA, showed a professionalism that comes only from being together for eight years to take the silver medal, as they had done in both Sydney 2000 and at the 2003 World Championships. The pair executed a cheeky routine that had the crowd spontaneously applauding and the judges awarding 49.500 for artistic impression and a total mark of 98.417.

Alison BARTOSIK and Anna KOZLOVA (USA) swam a gracious performance with a variety of delicate moves. Although they missed a perfect first high lift, the rest of their routine was enough to earn them the bronze medal with 96.918 points.

The experienced Spanish pair of Gemma MENGUAL and Paola TIRADOS finished fourth, after leading for much of the competition with excellent moving rotations, fluid changes in direction, and a beautifully choreographed cranes, knights and lateral axis elements.

The Greek team finished ninth, one place better than in 2003 at the Barcelona World Championships. The home crowd gave Greece's 34-year-old Christina THALASSINIDOU a fitting finale, after an energetic performance with her partner Eleftheria FTOULI.

Team

In the Synchronised Swimming Team competition, Russia, with a score of 99.501, successfully achieved its Olympic title with a spectacular display, which not even music failure at the Olympic Synchronised Swimming Pool could mar. 17.5 seconds into their routine, the music for the RUSSIAN team stopped, before the team was allowed a new start and performed a routine that featured brilliant high lifts and throws, including a clean somersault and almost perfect synchronisation, which earned them ten from all five judges for Artistic Impression.

JAPAN, the Sydney 2000 silver medal lists, was a point behind with 98.501 after their explosive high lifts and quick changes of pattern, which were delivered through out the routine with an energy that symbolised JAPAN'S approach to this competition.

USA won the bronze medal with a score of 97.418, despite a late challenge from SPAIN, who scored 96.751, CANADA, who scored 95.251 and CHINA with 94.584. USA's team began with a flying leap and put together a display, which had lots of sequences that created a fluid team routine, however the swimmers from SPAIN won the audience's support, in their Salvador Dali costumes with a performance representative of Dali's famous clock painting.

Duet			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	DAVYDOVA Anastasia ERMAKOVA Anastasia	RUS	99.334
Silver	TACHIBANA Miya TAKEDA Miho	JPN	98.417
Bronze	BARTOSIK Alison KOZLOVA Anna	USA	96.918
4th	MENGUAL Gemma TIRADOS Paola	ESP	96.251
5th	DEDIEU Virginie THIBAUD Laure	FRA	95.584
6th	LETOURNEAU Fanny STEWART Courtenay	CAN	95.334
7th	GU Beibei ZHANG Xiaohuan	CHN	93.668
8th	SPAZIANI Beatrice ZAFFALON Lorena	ITA	93.250

Team			
	Team	NOC	Score
Gold	Russian Federation	RUS	99.501
Silver	Japan	JPN	98.501
Bronze	United States of America	USA	97.418
4th	Spain	ESP	96.751
5th	Canada	CAN	95.251
6th	People's Republic of China	CHN	94.584
7th	Italy	ITA	94.084
8th	Greece	GRE	92.750

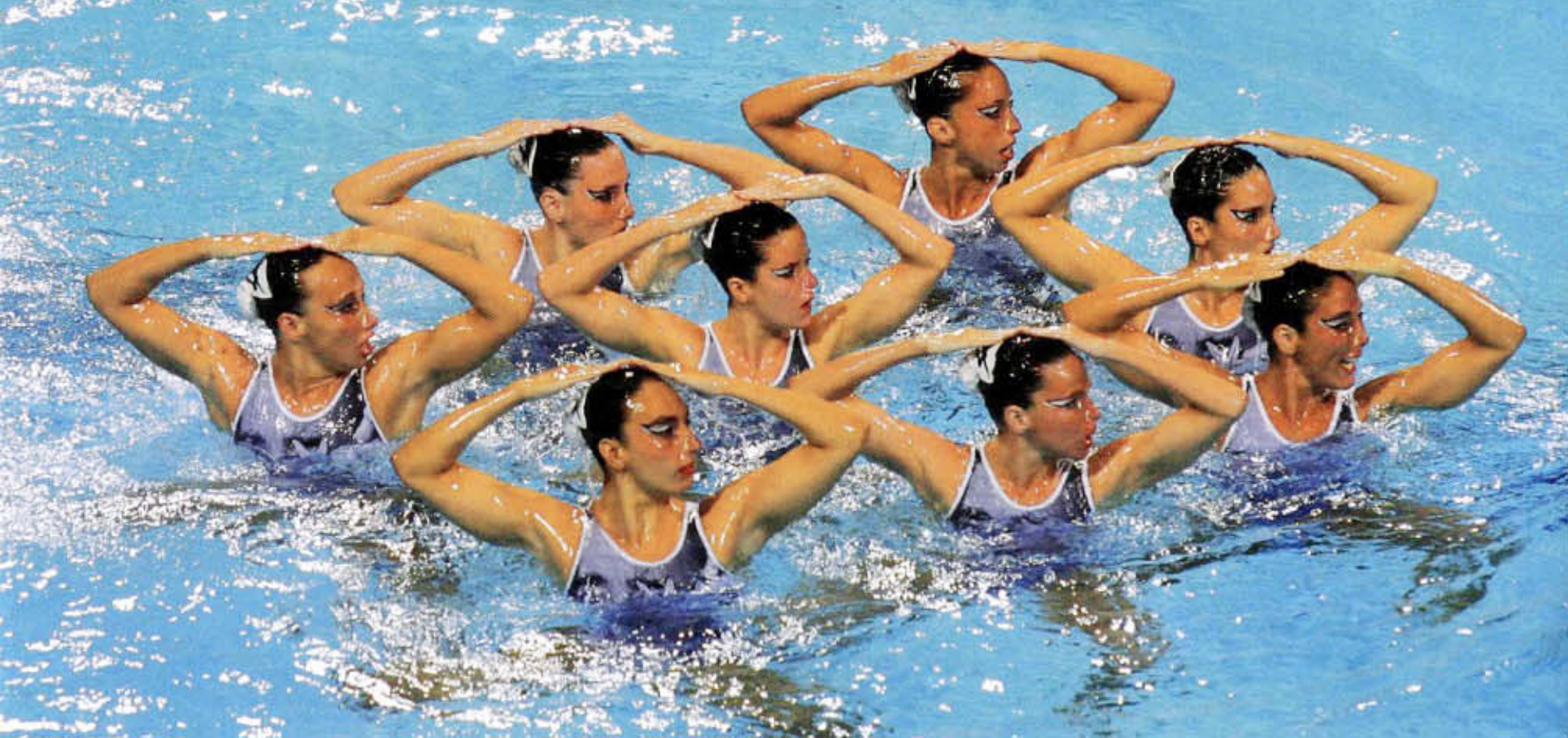
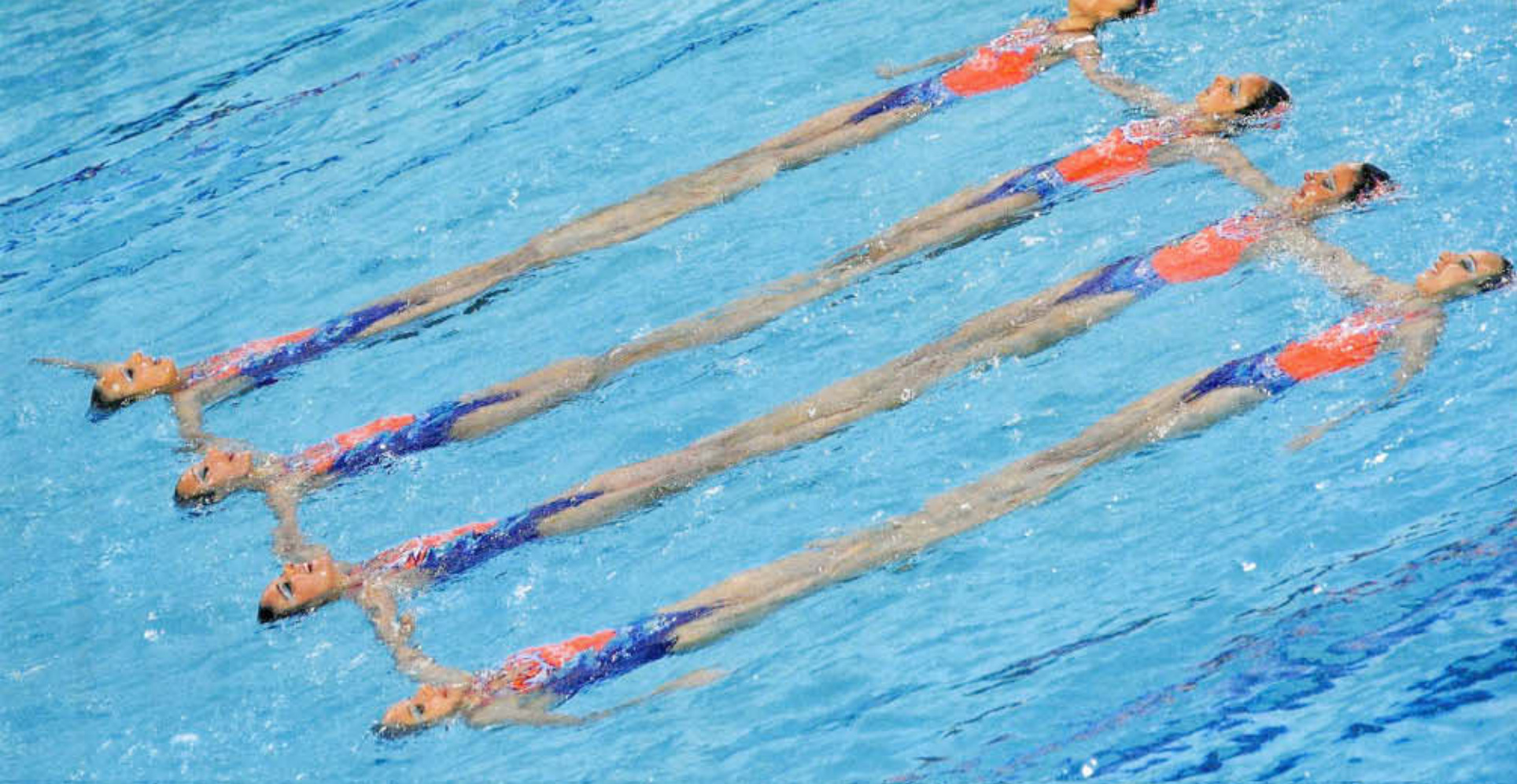
Right page, from top to bottom:

Performing in the team free routine event:

Team Greece.
© Getty Images for FINA/D. Berehulak

Team Russia.
© Getty Images for FINA/D. Berehulak

Team Spain.
© Getty Images for FINA/D. Berehulak





Aquatics

Water Polo



Competition Sequence

The Olympic Water Polo Competition was held from 15 to 27 & 29 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Water Polo was one of the first team events at the Modern Olympic Games, being introduced in Paris in 1900, where Great Britain won the gold. Since then, European countries dominated the sport at international level. Between 1932 and 1956, Hungary won five of the seven Olympic gold medals awarded. The USA is the only non-European team to have won the gold. Women's Water Polo made its Olympic Games debut in Sydney, in 2000, after the IOC agreed to admit women in 1997. The host nation ensured the success and high profile of the tournament with victory over the United States in the final, with Russia beating the Netherlands for the bronze medal.

Description

The main object of Water Polo, like any team sport, is to gain the highest number of points to win the match. It is played in a pool 30m long by 20m wide for men and women, with a depth of no less than 2m. None of the players may touch the bottom of the pool. Each team consists of seven main players (one of whom is the goalkeeper) and six replacement players (one of whom may be a second goalkeeper). An unlimited number of substitutions are allowed. The game is played in four quarters of seven minutes actual playing time, with a two-minute interval between periods. Whenever the referee whistles, the clock stops. A goal is scored when the whole ball passes the goal line. The winner is the team that scores the most goals at the end of all four periods.

In comparison to the Sydney 2000 Games, Water Polo at the ATHENS 2004 Games was different in two ways:

- An increase in the number of women's team from 6 to 8;
- An increase in the number of athletes quotas from 234 to 260.

Men's tournament with 12 teams	Total: 2
Women's tournament with 8 teams	

Competitors: 260		
Event	Players	NOC
Men	156	12
Event	Players	NOC
Women	104	8

Water Polo players are considered among the best-conditioned athletes in the sporting arena, given the degree of difficulty of the game. Ideally, players are tall with long reach. Many players start their career as competitive swimmers.

Venue

The Olympic Aquatic Centre, located at the Athens Olympic Sports Complex in Maroussi, hosted the ever-popular Swimming, Water polo, Synchronised Swimming and Diving events.

The Centre consisted of two outdoor and one indoor pool. The Swimming and Water Polo events were held at the Main Pool, which had a total capacity of 11.500 seats, whereas Synchronised Swimming and Diving took place at the Synchronised Swimming pool (5.300 seated capacity), and the Indoor pool (6.200 seated capacity), respectively.

Left page:

Spain's goalkeeper Angel Andreo and Egypt's centre forward Shady el Helw fight for the ball during their men's water polo match on 23 August 2004. Spain defeated Egypt 12-4.
© REUTERS/K. Doherty

Games Highlights

Women's Tournament

The end of the Women's Olympic Water Polo Tournament marked the completion of a series of international triumphs. Ambition running high, the team from Italy ended its cycle with Olympic gold, a cycle that started over a decade previously with the European Championships in Sheffield (1993), where the team stepped on to top spot on the podium. That gold medal was followed by other European and world titles (Perth 1998 and Fukuoka 2001), and the only title to have eluded them, until the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Tournament, was the Olympic gold medal. The Italian line-up was spearheaded by Francesca CONTI, Carmela ALLUCCI and Giusy MALATO and, at the end of the 1990s, were joined by the very able Melania GRECO, Martina MICELI, Alexandra ARAUJO and Maddalena MUSUMECI. They were coached by maestro Pierluigi FORMICCONI, whose ability on the bench led his team to their triumphs of the last decade.

The Greeks were the surprise of the tournament and went through to the Final, where they had an equal chance of winning, and no reason to feel inferior to the Italians, although they had lost against them in the Group match by 7-2. The performance of the team led by Kyriakos IOSIFIDIS was enhanced by the experience of Stavroula KOZOMPOLI, Evangelia MORAITIDOU and Georgia ELLINAKI along with younger players Kyriaki LIOSI, Antigoni ROUMBESI and Aikaterini OIKONOMOPOULOU.

The Sydney 2000 silver medallists, USA, won the bronze medal, seeing off the reigning Olympians from Australia. Overall, the Americans were in good competitive form throughout the tournament and could have even gone for gold. Ellen ESTES, Jacqueline FRANK and Brenda VILLA stood out in the American squad whilst Joanne FOX, Belinda BROOKS and Naomi CASTLE enhanced the performance of the new team of the Australians, which should be well satisfied with fourth place. Perhaps the Russians were the unluckiest team of this Olympic tournament.

The true contenders for the gold medal played well below their potential in the quarterfinals against Greece, and had to bid farewell to a place in the semi-finals. Russian stars Olga TUROVA and Sofya KONUKH shone in the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games.

Hungary, too was expected to be up in the medals, but the pressure of being the favourites seemed to be too much of a burden for the team of Tamas FARRAGO, which benefited from the superb play of Rita DRAVUCZ, Mercedes STIEBER and Agnes PRIMASZ. Last but not least, Canada and Kazakhstan competed hard, yet could not avoid playing off for places seven and eight. It was a repetition of the match in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games when the two teams fought it out for fifth and sixth places.

Men's Tournament

Hungary retained its place as Olympic champion by beating Serbia and Montenegro 8-7 in the gold medal match. This was the third time that Hungary had won successive Olympic gold medals in the sport, having previously doubled up in 1932 (Los Angeles) and 1936 (Berlin) and again in 1952 (Helsinki) and 1956 (Melbourne). The Hungarians, winners at Sydney in 2000, clinched gold after coming back from a two-goal deficit in the last period thanks to scores by Tamas KASAS and Gergely KISS. Serbia and Montenegro opened the match with a three-goal burst through Aleksandar CIRIC, Aleksandar SAPIC and Viktor JELENIC, but Hungary maintained its composure and struck back with a double from KISS to finish at 3-2. The second period saw the Hungarians reverse that score line to reach the halfway stage with the match all square at 5-5. Serbia and Montenegro looked to have done enough to earn itself the gold medal with an excellent third period that saw it score twice, without reply to open up a 7-5 lead, but Hungary is not considered the world leader in Water polo for nothing, and they reversed the game in the last seven minutes. Coach Nenad MANJOLOVIC's (SCG) players seemed to be on a suicide mission as they missed four good chances in a man up situation in the last period, as Hungary racked up three goals without reply to finish the match 8-7 winners. The result gave Hungary its

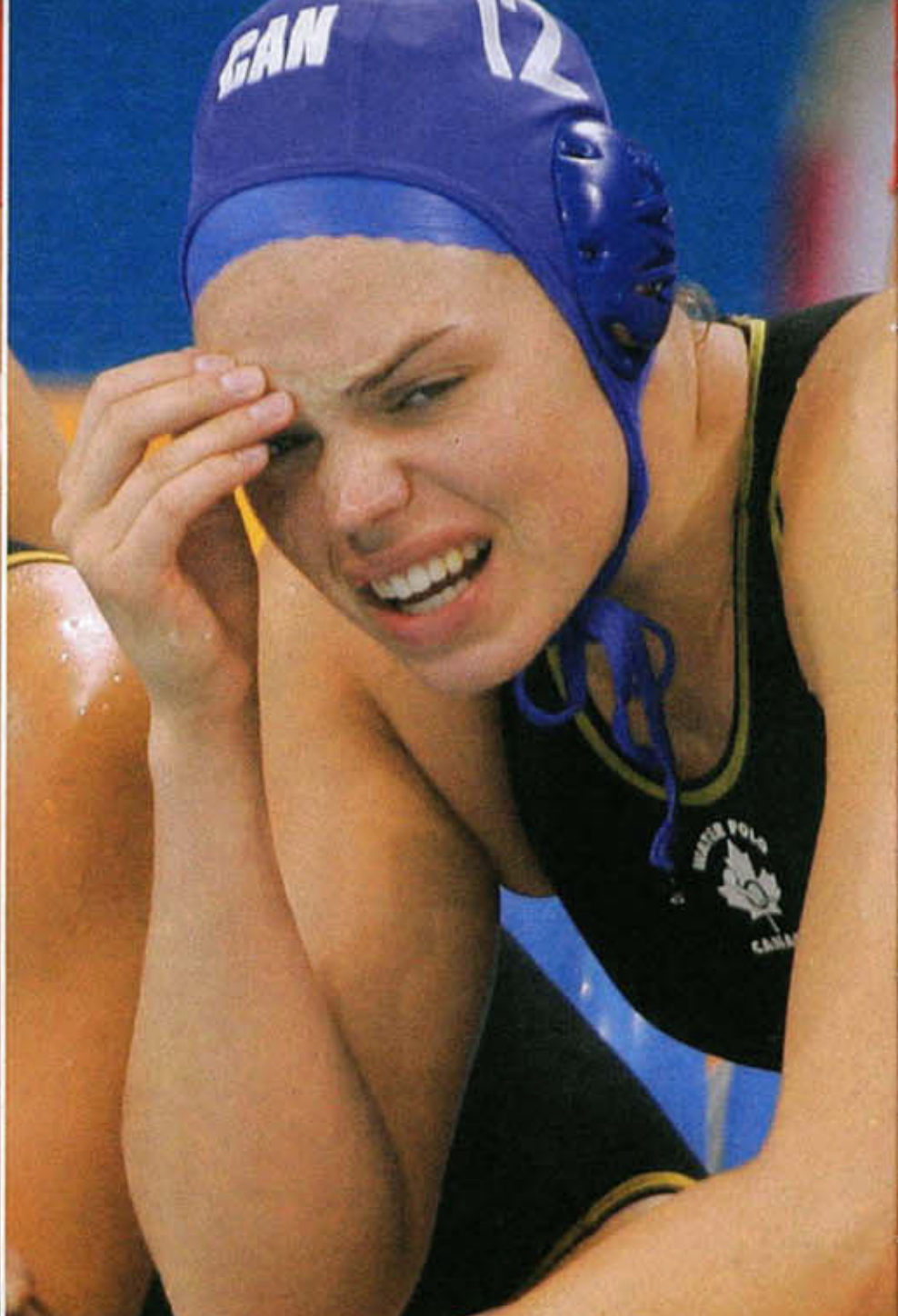
Men		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Hungary	HUN
Silver	Serbia & Montenegro	SCG
Bronze	Russian Federation	RUS
4th	Greece	GRE
5th	Germany	GER
6th	Spain	ESP
7th	United States of America	USA
8th	Italy	ITA

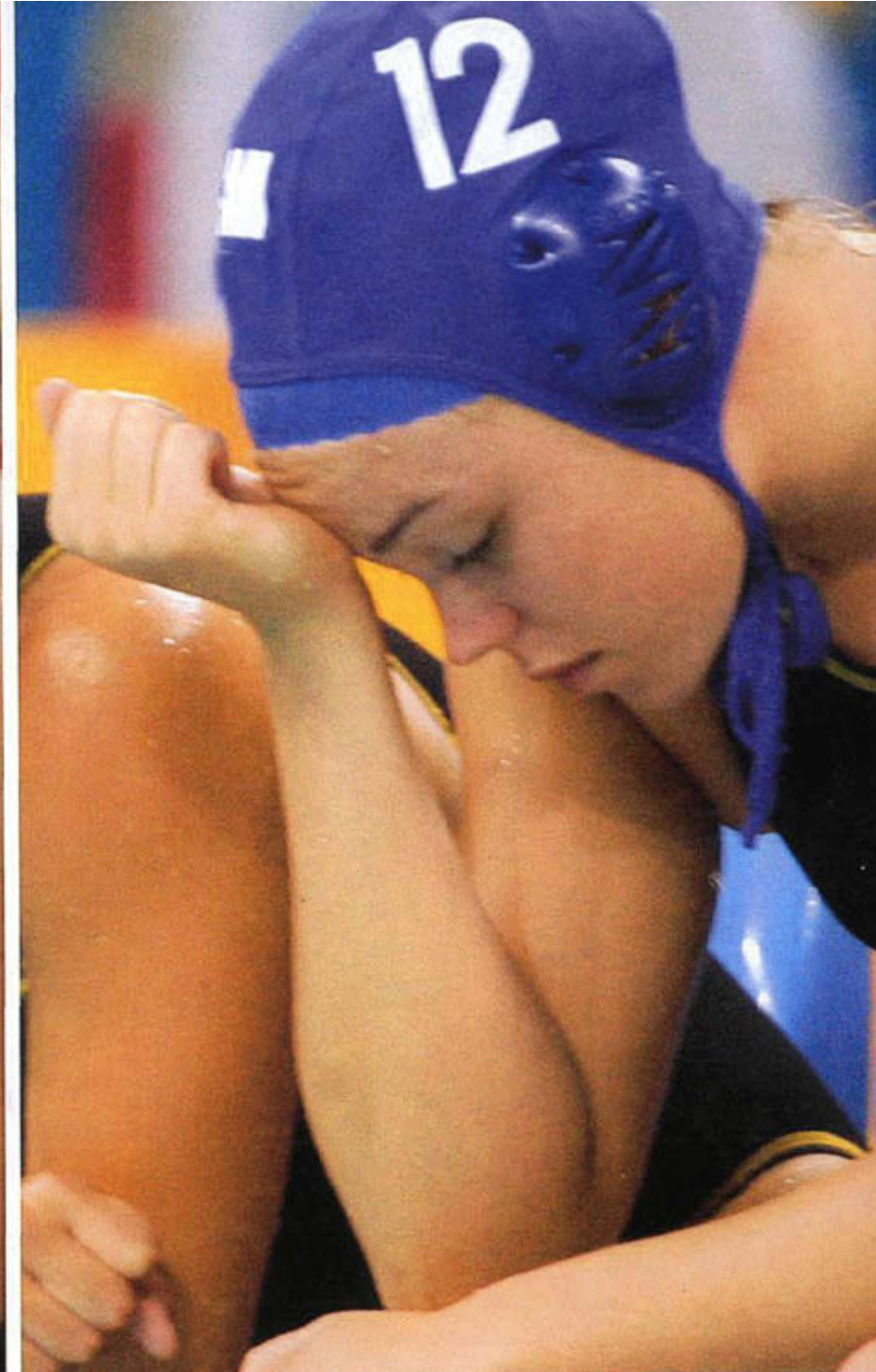
Women		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Italy	ITA
Silver	Greece	GRE
Bronze	United States of America	USA
4th	Australia	AUS
5th	Russian Federation	RUS
6th	Hungary	HUN
7th	Canada	CAN
8th	Kazakhstan	KAZ

Right page:

The Hungarian water polo team huddle before their preliminary match against Croatia, on 17 August. Hungary, who went on to win gold, defeated Croatia 10-8. © REUTERS/L. Balogh







Top:

Combination photograph shows Canada's Christine Robinson watching the dying seconds of her team's water polo loss to Russia on 16 August. Russia beat Canada 8-6. © REUTERS/S. Best

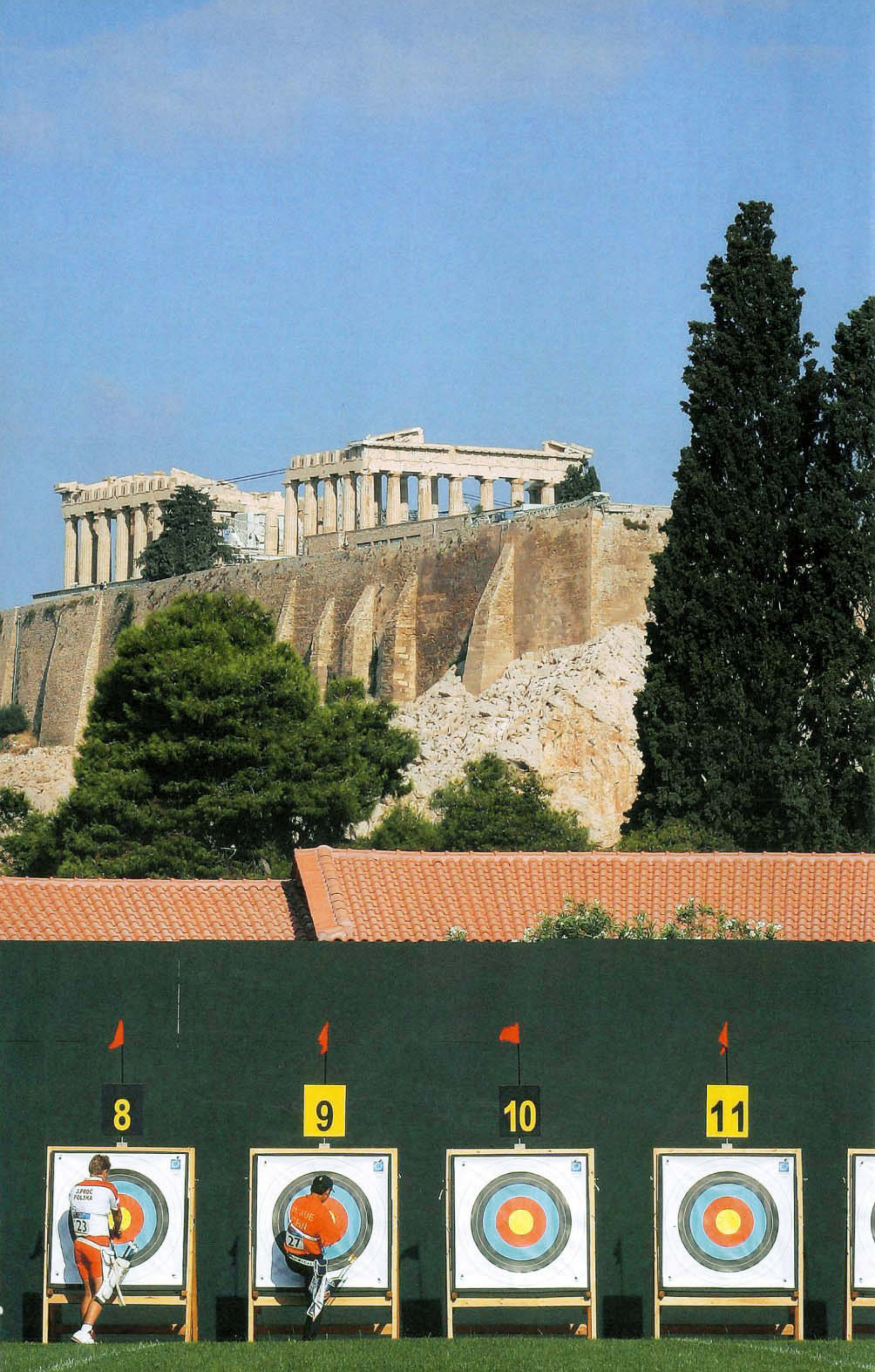
Left page:

Hungary's water polo players Attila Vari, Rajmund Fodor, Tibor Benedek, Tamas Molnar and Istvan Gergely celebrate with their gold medals at the awards ceremony after their team's 8-7 win over Serbia and Montenegro on the last day of the Games, 29 August 2004. © REUTERS/L. Balogh

eighth Olympic gold medal in Water Polo, and also its eighth gold medal of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games.

In a game that could have gone either way, Russia overcame Greece 6-5 in the battle for Men's Water Polo bronze. The difference between the two teams for most of the event was the Russian defence. Greece opened the game confidently with a great goal from Theodoras CHATZITHEODOROU before the Russian Revaz CHOMAKHIDZE equalised, taking the game to a 1-1 tie at the end of the first period. Russia attacked strongly immediately and established a handy margin through a goal

from Dmitry GORSHKOV and CHOMAKHIDZE who added another two after Greece had gone to a 2-1 lead from a goal by Georgios AFROUDAKIS. At the end of the third period, Greece had added another two goals, still a goal in deficit. Greece stepped up the pressure in the final period and was rewarded, when another AFROUDAKIS goal evened the score from a man-up situation. Russia's Marat ZAKIROV regained the lead in the dying stages of the game and held it, despite a scoring opportunity for Greece with 18 seconds left on the clock, which, unfortunately for the host nation, was unsuccessful.



Archery



Competition Sequence

Olympic Archery competition was held on 12 and 15-21 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Archery is an exciting sport that is growing in popularity. Anyone can participate, man, woman or child. To be successful as an athlete in this sport requires years of practice and development of both mental and physical skills. Archers develop techniques to fully control their body movement, their endurance and their mental steadiness, when preparing to meet the challenge of match days.

Description

The Olympic Archery competition takes place outdoors, in the following four categories of events:

Men's: 2	Women's:	Total: 4
Individual Events	Individual Events	
Team Events	Team Events	

Competitors shoot standing, aiming to land their arrow in the smallest (central) circle, 12cm in diameter, on a target face 122cm in diameter, placed 70m away. The target consists often coloured concentric circles known as "rings". An arrow in the innermost circle (the bull's eye) counts for ten points, whereas an arrow in the outermost circle (the "outer") for one. An arrow landing successfully in a ring between these two is worth from two to nine points.

The Archery competition in the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games was held at the high-profile Competition Venue, the historic Panathinaiko Stadium.

Venue

The Panathinaiko Stadium, widely known as "Kallimarmaro", is the stadium where the first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896. Even in ancient years, the area where the Panathinaiko (or Panathenian) Stadium stands today was largely used to host the Panathenean Games, festival events that were held to honour the Greek goddess Athena (the goddess of wisdom, skills and warfare and patron of the city of Athens in ancient Greece). The time had come to serve once again as one of the competition venues for this great sporting event, the 2004 Olympic Games.

The renovations that took place under the responsibility of the General Secretariat of Sports and the Ministry of Culture, included upgrades and modifications on its infrastructure, mainly in the scope of restoration of the monument, configuration of the track and surrounding areas, incorporation of lighting and establishment of fire-fighting systems. During the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games Archery competition, the Stadium's total capacity was 34,500 for the Marathon finish and 7,500 for Archery, in which 128 athletes participated. The stadium's unique atmosphere, combined with the vocal crowds, inspired all competitors to excel in their endeavours.

Competitors: 128		NOC:43
Event	Archers	NOC
Men		
Individual	64	35
Team	39	13
Women		
Individual	64	31
Team	45	15

Left page:

Competitors remove their arrows at practice before the men's individual archery eliminations match on 16 August 2004.
© Getty Images/S. Botterill

Games Highlights

For the sixth Olympic Games in a row Korea was the dominant nation in the Archery events at ATHENS 2004, winning three of the four gold medals.

Women's Individual/Women's Team

Korea's women won both the Individual and Team competitions; since their first participation in the sport in the 1984 Olympic Games they have won 11 gold medals. Sung Hyun PARK won the gold winner in women's individual. In the Women's Team competition, China came within the critical point of beating Korea in the final. Chinese Taipei won their first Olympic Archery medal in the Women's Team competition and a day later the silver in the Men's event. Mi Jin YUN (KOR) was the only woman to set a new Olympic record, shattering the previous 1/16 and 1/8 combined best by six points.

Men's Individual/Men's Team

The Korean men won the Team gold medal repeating once again the victory at the Sydney Olympic Games. However, their failure to win the Individual gold was met with dismay by the Korean Archery fraternity since they have still never claimed the Men's Individual Olympic gold medal. The 42 Japanese veteran Hiroshi YAMAMOTO beat the Australian teenager Tim CUDDIHY by hitting a 10 and winning the silver in the Individual men's competition, while Tim CUDDIHY had to settle for the bronze. In reaching the podium CUDDIHY set a new 36-arrow combined Olympic record of 340 points, one of four individual Olympic records to be broken at the Panathinaiko Stadium. In the Men's Individual competition PARK set a new 18-arrow Olympic record in the 1/8 Elimination Round and Szu Yuan CHEN (TPE) broke the 1/16 and 1/8 combined Olympic record.

From Jennifer NICHOLS' (USA) first arrow to PARK'S winning 10 with the last shot of the Men's Team final, the Archery event at ATHENS 2004 will hold a special place in the hearts of all Archery enthusiasts for many years to come.

Right page, from top to bottom:

World top ranking male archer, Im Dong Hyun, 18, from South Korea aims for the target during a practice session. The Korean Men's team won gold on 21 August. © AFP/R. Gacad

Japan's Hiroshi Yamamoto releases an arrow during the men's individual first round archery event on 16 August. He went on to win silver three days later. © REUTERS/M. Rossi

Egypt's May Mansour prepares prior to a shot during the women's individual archery. © REUTERS/M. Rossi

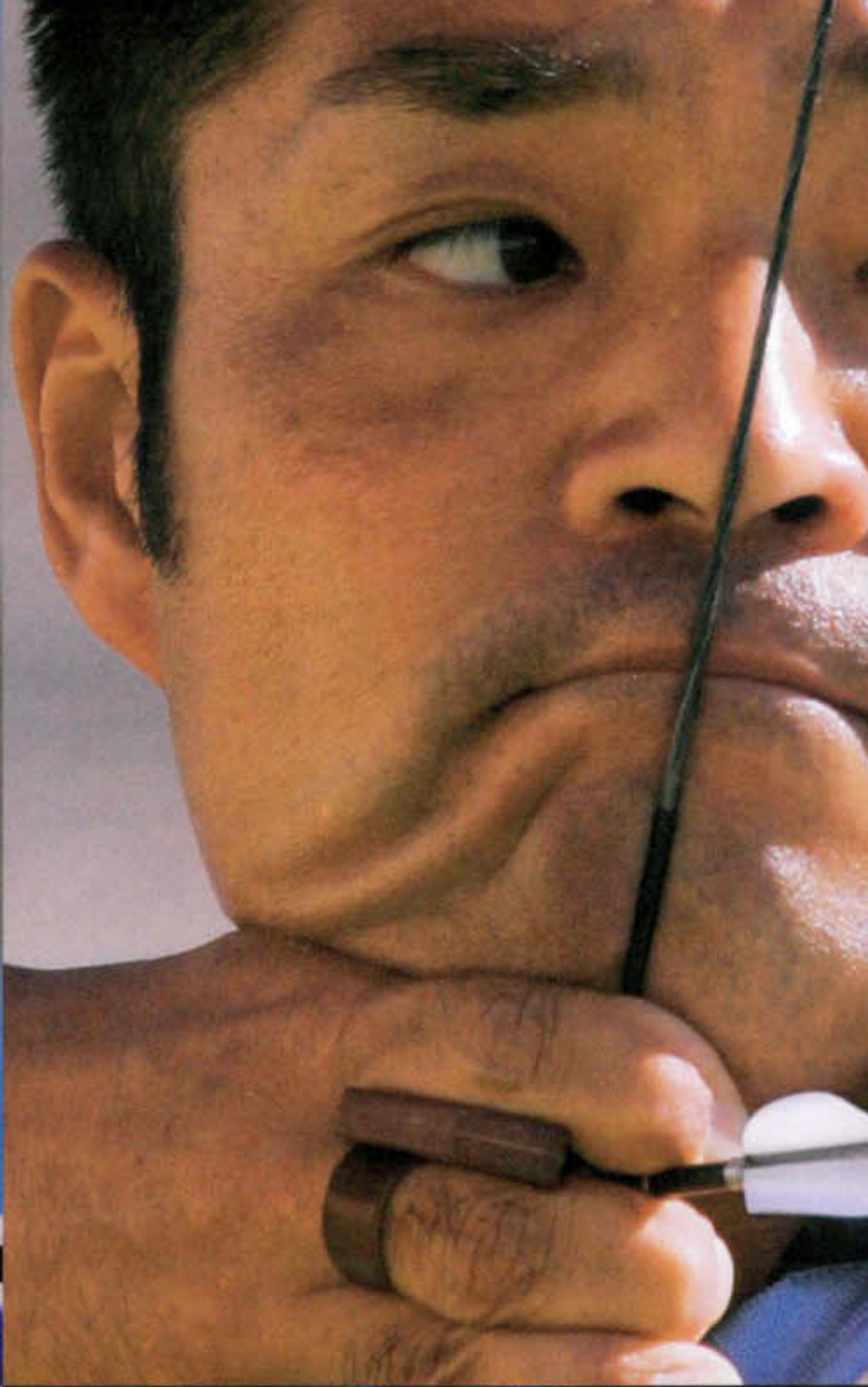
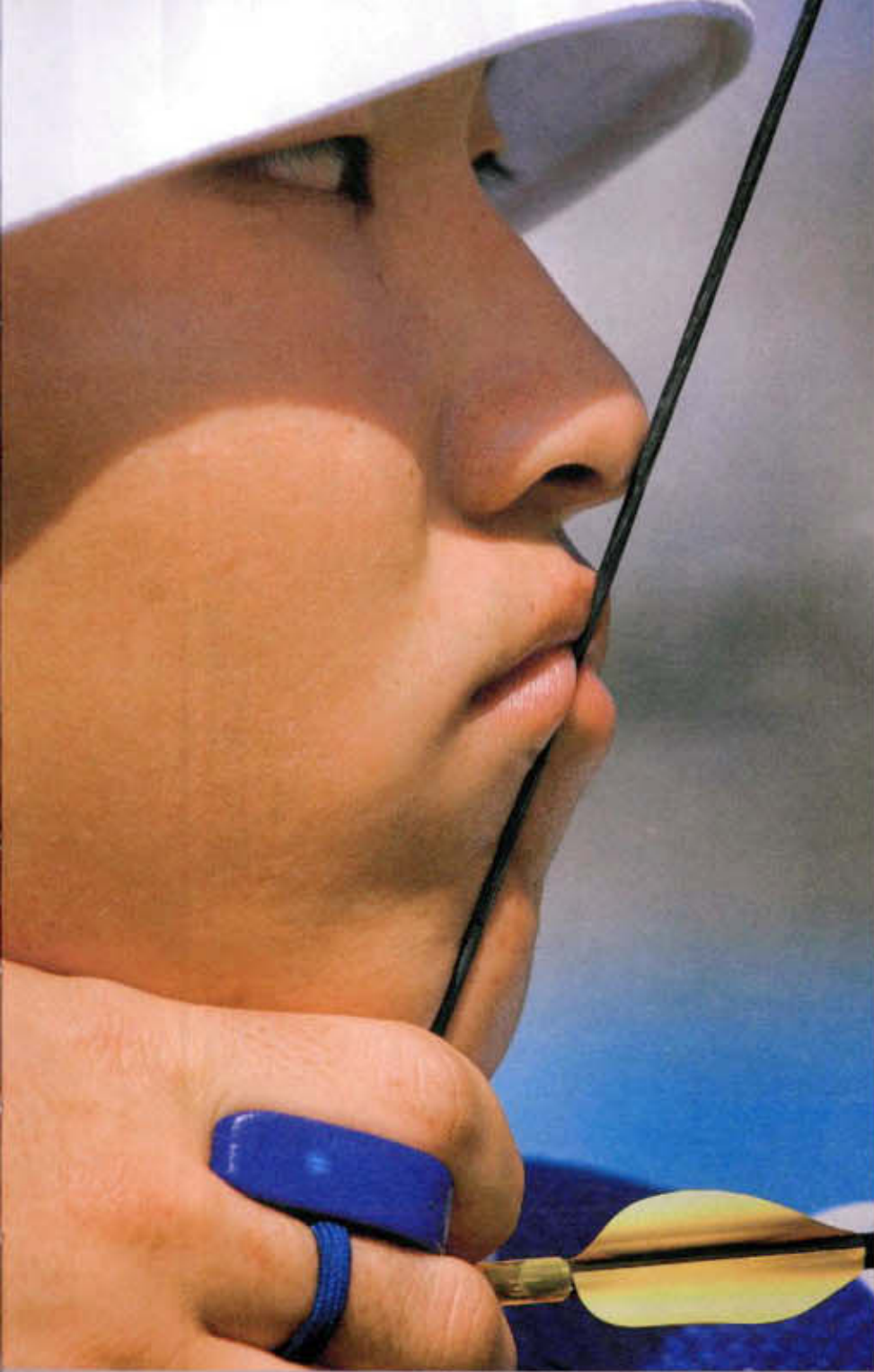
Britain's Alison Williamson reacts during the women's individual archery. She left Athens with a bronze medal. © REUTERS/M. Rossi

Men's Individual		
	Name	NOC
Gold	GALIAZZO Marco	ITA
Silver	YAMAMOTO Hiroshi	JPN
Bronze	CUDDIHY Tim	AUS
4th	GODFREY Laurence	GBR
5th	PARK Kyung Mo	KOR
6th	IM Dong Hyun	KOR
7th	CHEN Szu Yuan	TPE
8th	WUNDERLE Vic	USA

Women's Individual		
	Name	NOC
Gold	PARK Sung Hyun	KOR
Silver	LEE Sungjin	KOR
Bronze	WILLIAMSON Alison	GBR
4th	YUAN Shu Chi	TPE
5th	YUN Mi Jin	KOR
6th	WU Hui Ju	TPE
7th	PSARRA Evangelia	GRE
8th	HE Ying	CHN

Men's Team		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Korea	KOR
Silver	Chinese Taipei	TPE
Bronze	Ukraine	UKR
4th	United States of America	USA
5th	Netherlands	NED
6th	Australia	AUS
7th	Italy	ITA
8th	Japan	JPN

Women's Team		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Korea	KOR
Silver	People's Republic of China	CHN
Bronze	Chinese Taipei	TPE
4th	France	FRA
5th	Greece	GRE
6th	Ukraine	UKR
7th	Germany	GER
8th	India	IND





ATHENS 2004





Competition Sequence

Athletics competition events took place on 18 and 20-29 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

From the very first Olympic Games in 776 BC to the revival of the modern Games in 1896, Athletics have always been part of the Olympic Games. In the 1896 Olympic Games, which took place over a period of 10 days, with a total of 311 athletes (250 of whom were Greeks), from 13 countries participating, the Athletics events were the following: 100m, 1.500m, 110m hurdles, Marathon, long jump, triple jump, pole vault, discus, shot put and high jump. Two days after the final race in the 1912 Olympic Games, a conference took place in Stockholm in order to set up the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF). Seventeen countries were represented at this historic meeting: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Egypt, England, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the United States of America. There was an urgent need for an international managing body for Athletics responsible for holding international Athletics meetings, including the Olympic Games. Although this Stockholm meeting may have been exploratory, the IAAF records describe it as the first conference. A year after the first conference, in Berlin in 1913, the conference ratified its founding charter. Thirty-four countries were on the initial list of members. At the third Conference, in Lyon, in 1914, the first technical clauses relating to international competitions were presented for approval and the members were prompted to adopt similar clauses for competitions in their own countries. At the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris, the first five events for women (100m, 800m, 4x100m, high jump and discus) were included in the programme. Since 1999, IAAF, with headquarters in Monaco, has 210 members. At the 43rd conference, held in Edmonton (Canada) in 2001, IAAF was renamed the International Association of Athletics Federations.

Description

Athletics is divided into two main categories: events that take place inside the Stadium, and events that take place outside the Stadium, such as the Marathon and road walk.

The ATHENS 2004 Olympic Athletics programme included the following events:

Men	
Running	Throwing
100m	Shot Put
200m	Discus Throw
400m	Javelin Throw
800m	Hammer Throw
110m Hurdles	
1.500m	
3.000m Steeplechase	
400m Hurdles	
5.000m	
20km Walk	
50km Walk	
Marathon	
10.000m	
4x100m Relay	
4x400m Relay	
1.500m Wheelchair	
Jumping	Combined
Long Jump	Decathlon
Triple Jump	
High Jump	
Pole vault	

Left page:

Germany's Danny Ecker competes in the men's pole vault final at the Olympic Stadium on 27 August. He achieved a season's best of 5.75 and finished fifth.
© AFP/A. Messinis

Women	
Running	Throwing
100m	Shot Put
200m	Discus Throw
400m	Javelin Throw
800m	Hammer Throw
100m Hurdles	
1.500m	
400m Hurdles	
5.000m	
20km Walk	
Marathon	
10.000m	
4x100 Relay	
4x400 Relay	
800m Wheelchair	
Jumping	Combined
Long Jump	Heptathlon
Triple Jump	
High Jump	
Pole Vault	

Men's: 24	Total: 46
Women's: 22	

Competitors		
Men		
Event	Athletes	NOC
100m	90	65
200m	69	46
400m	71	52
800m	79	62
1.500m	43	29
5.000m	44	26
10.000m	29	18
Marathon	114	61
110m Hurdles	55	39
400m Hurdles	37	25
3.000m Steeplechase	47	29
High Jump	38	24
Long Jump	42	29
Pole Vault	40	24
Triple Jump	51	38
Shot Put	45	30
Discus Throw	44	28
Hammer Throw	34	23
Javelin Throw	37	25
20km Walk	49	29
50km Walk	56	29
4x100m Relay	16	16
4x400m Relay	18	18
Decathlon	44	30

Venue

During the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, Athletics events were staged at the Athens Olympic Stadium in the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA); apart from the Marathon, the Road Walk events, and the Shot Put event.

Competitors		
Women		
Event	Athletes	NOC
100m	76	59
200m	50	35
400m	52	36
800m	50	41
1.500m	50	31
5.000m	46	31
10.000m	34	21
Marathon	93	51
100m Hurdles	38	25
400m Hurdles	36	27
High Jump	40	28
Long Jump	41	30
Pole Vault	38	24
Triple Jump	37	24
Shot Put	39	30
Discus Throw	47	30
Hammer Throw	52	29
Javelin Throw	46	32
20km Walk	59	34
4x100m Relay	16	16
4x400m Relay	17	16
Heptathlon	39	28

Olympic Stadium

The Olympic Stadium, the centre of the 2004 Olympic Games, was situated at Maroussi and was part of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA). The Olympic Stadium hosted 72.000 spectators, who attended the exciting Athletics events, the Football gold medal match as well as the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Following an ATHOC and Ministry of Culture initiative, the Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava designed the upgrade of OAKA using innovative and creative ways including the new roof structure for Olympic Stadium. The Ministry of Culture was responsible for this project, which was completed on June 2004.

Ancient Olympia Stadium

The Shot Put Event was held in the Stadium of Ancient Olympia on 18 August 2004. For the preservation of the site, there was no visual intervention to the competition ground, no temporary structures and grandstands, even prefabricated, no electronic boards or artificial lighting. At the Stadium only movable throwing circles were placed. The facilities of the International Olympic Academy in Olympia were used to host Athletes and Media representatives, where a modern stadium was used as training and warm-up facility. The new conference centre of the International Olympic Academy was used for a media work area and press conferences. However, Medals were awarded to both men and women at the Olympic Stadium in Athens.

Marathon

In the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, the Marathon was run on its historic course starting outside the Marathon stadium in the town of Marathonas and finishing in the Panathinaiko Stadium.

Right page:

Defending Olympic champion Denise Lewis of Great Britain competes in the women's heptathlon 200m race on 20 August, a day before withdrawing from competition, after the fifth discipline.
© Getty Images/A. Lyons



Panathinaiko Stadium

The Panathinaiko Stadium, widely known as "Kallimarmaro", is the stadium where the first modern Olympic Games in 1896 were held. Even in ancient years, the area where the Panathinaiko (or Panathenian) Stadium stands today was used to host the Panathenean Games, festival events that were held to honour the Greek goddess Athena (the goddess of wisdom, skills and warfare and protector of the city of Athens in ancient Greece). Historians considered it to be "a miracle above description that it had almost exhausted the marble quarries of mountain Pentel" (Pausanias). Situated in the heart of the Greek capital, it was first reconstructed in 1895 for the purpose of becoming the main stadium to host the 1896 Olympic Games. The time came to serve once again as one of the competition venues for this great sporting event: the 2004 Olympic Games. The renovations that took place, under the responsibility of the General Secretariat of Sports and the Ministry of Culture, included upgrades and modifications on its infrastructure, mainly in the scope of restoration of the monument, configuration of the track and surrounding areas, incorporation of lighting and establishment of fire-fighting systems. During the Olympic Games the Stadium had a capacity of 34.500 for the Marathon finish and 7.500 for Archery.

Games Highlights

Men's Events

Men's 100m

Justin GATLIN (USA) won the Olympic 100m title, taking gold with a personal best and this year's world leading time of 9.85. In the closest 100m finish in Olympic history, GATLIN was just one one-hundredth of a second ahead of Portugal's Francis OBIKWELU (9.86). Defending champion Maurice GREENE (USA) finished third in 9.87, the same time that he ran in

Men's 100m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	GATLIN Justin	USA	9.85
Silver	OBIKWELU Francis	POR	9.86
Bronze	GREENE Maurice	USA	9.87
4th	CRAWFORD Shawn	USA	9.89
5th	POWELL Asafa	JAM	9.94
6th	COLLINS Kim	SKN	10.00
7th	THOMPSON Obadele	BAR	10.10
	ZAKARI Aziz	GHA	DNF

Men's 400m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	WARINER Jeremy	USA	44.00
Silver	HARRIS Otis	USA	44.16
Bronze	BREW Derrick	USA	44.42
4th	FRANCIQUE Alleyne	GRN	44.66
5th	SIMPSON Brandon	JAM	44.76
6th	CLARKE Davian	JAM	44.83
7th	DJHONE Leslie	FRA	44.94
8th	BLACKWOOD Michael	JAM	45.55

Sydney to win gold four years earlier Asafa POWELL, the quickest man in the semi-finals, couldn't repeat his dominating performance and finished in fifth place with 9.94. World champion Kim COLLINS (SKN), was back in sixth place in a season's best 10.00.

Men's 200m

Shawn CRAWFORD (USA) took the men's 200m title, after barely missing a medal in the 100m. He recorded a world leading time of 19.79. Fellow countrymen Bernard WILLIAMS and 100m winner Justin GATLIN completed the podium in 20.01 and 20.03 respectively. The 100m silver medallist Francis OBIKWELU didn't show his usual powerful surge in the home straight. The Portuguese had to settle for fourth, in the same time as Frank FREDERICKS (20.14). Twelve years after his double silver medals (100m and 200m) in Barcelona, and eight years after the same tally in Atlanta, Namibia's veteran remained just a place short of the medal bracket. Asafa POWELL (JAM) was a non-starter in the race.

Men's 400m

The men's 400m was the first American sweep, followed later by the 200m. Jeremy WARINER defeated his fellow countrymen Otis HARRIS and Derrick BREW, winning the gold. HARRIS took the silver with 44.16, whereas BREW won the bronze with 44.42. In the fourth place was Alleyne FRANCIQUE (GRN), whilst the fifth and sixth place went to the Jamaican athletes Brandon SIMPSON and Davian CLARKE respectively.

Men's 800m

Yuriy BORZAKOVSKIY (RUS) crossed the finishing line first to take the gold medal in the 800m. It was a perfectly timed run by the fast finishing Russian, his late burst taking him past silver medallist Mbulaeni MULAUDZI (RSA) and Wilson KIPKETER of Denmark, who won the bronze.

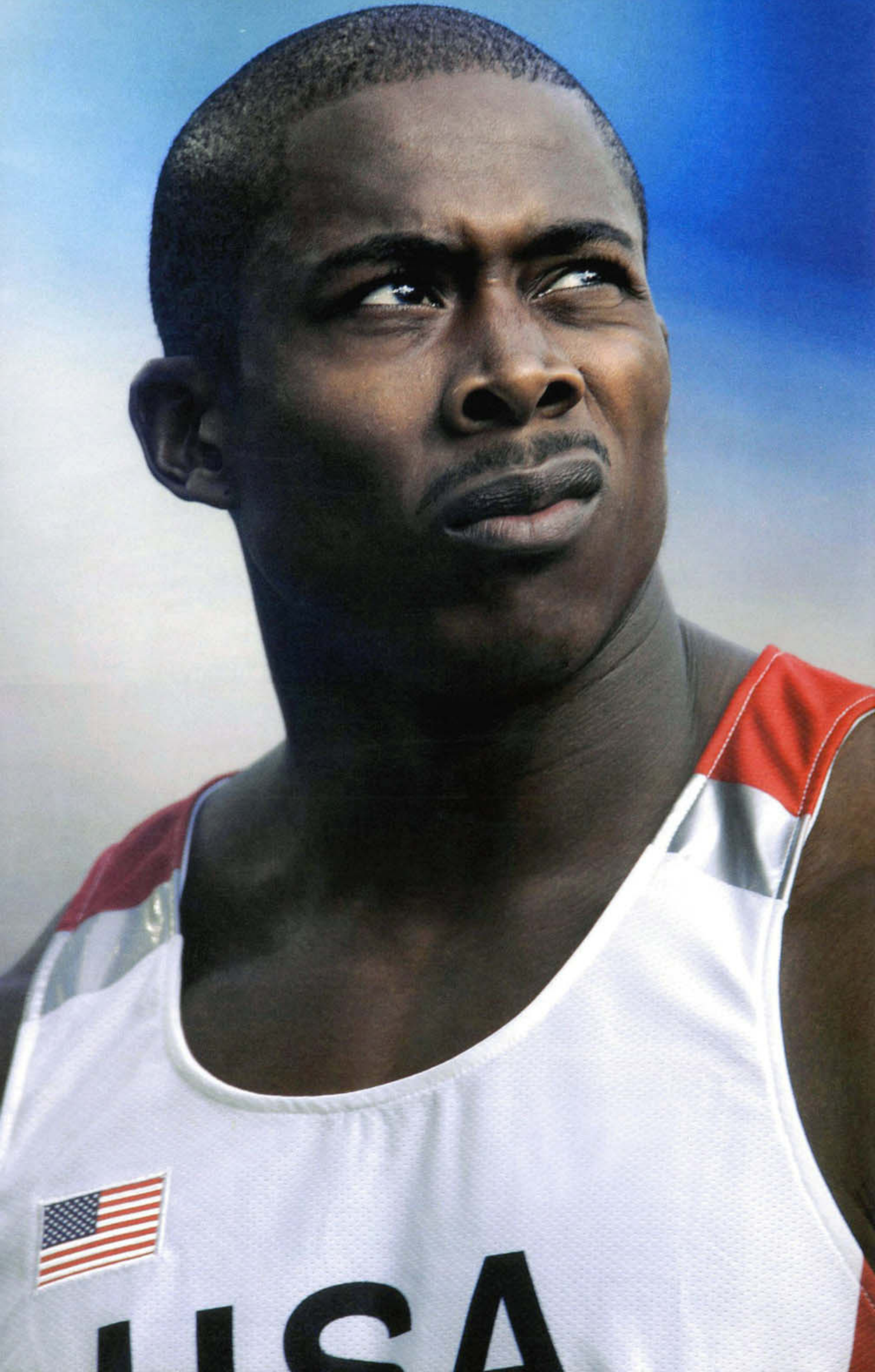
Men's 200m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	CRAWFORD Shawn	USA	19.79
Silver	WILLIAMS Bernard	USA	20.01
Bronze	GATLIN Justin	USA	20.03
4th	FREDERICKS Frank	NAM	20.14
5th	OBIKWELU Francis	POR	20.14
6th	BUCKLAND Stephane	MRI	20.24
7th	UNGER Tobias	GER	20.64
	POWELL Asafa	JAM	DNS

Men's 800m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	BORZAKOVSKIY Yuriy	RUS	1:44.45
Silver	MULAUDZI Mbulaeni	RSA	1:44.61
Bronze	KIPKETER Wilson	DEN	1:44.65
4th	CHEHIBI Mouhssin	MAR	1:45.16
5th	BUNGEI Wilfred	KEN	1:45.31
6th	SEPENG Hezekiel	RSA	1:45.53
7th	SAID GUERNI Djabir	ALG	1:45.61
8th	ISMAIL Ismail Ahmed	SUD	1:52.49



This page:

Jamaica's Michael Blackwood readies for the start of the men's 400m heat 7, round 1, 20 August. Blackwood won. He went on to place eighth in the finals.
© AFP/F-X. Marit



USA

Men's 110m Hurdles

The reigning world champion Allen JOHNSON'S (USA) crash in the second quarter-final of the men's 110m Hurdles left the way wide open for Xiang LIU (CHN) to win the gold, in a time of 12.91. Terrence TRAMMELL from USA took the silver, with 13.18, whereas Anier GARCIA was awarded the bronze, scoring 13.20, followed by Maurice WIGNALL (JAM) taking the fourth place, with 13.21.

Men's 1.500m

In the men's 1.500m, the gold was won by Morocco's athlete, Hicham EL GUERROUJ, recording the time of 3:34.18, followed by the Kenyan Bernard LAGAT in 3:34.30. The bronze was awarded to Rui SILVA (POR), recording the time of 3:34.68.

Men's 3.000m Steeplechase

Ezekiel KEMBOI (KEN) out-sprinted fellow countrymen Brimin KIPRUTO and Paul Kipsiele KOECH to take the 3.000m steeplechase title in 8:05.81. While predicting a Kenyan sweep in the 3.000m steeplechase was an easy bet, the name of the winner remained unsettled until the last home straight. Kenyan-born Musa Obaid AMER, now representing Qatar, was the only one to challenge the Kenyan supremacy, joining

the trio for a four-man race over the last kilometre. AMER managed to hang on until the final water jump, only showing signs of weakness with 120m to go, failing to follow KEMBOI's kick. Tension remained high until the last 30m though, as KOECH himself started fading, causing KEMBOI to look several times behind him to be sure his team-mates would hold off the Qatari. Realising he had the race won, he started celebrating, raising his arms to the sky, before breaking the tape. The three Kenyans hugged in celebration, as the vanquished crossed the line behind them. Their victory was greeted with warm applause. The bronze medallist from the Sydney Games, Ali EZZINE (MAR), finished 8th in 8:15.58.

Men's 400m Hurdles

The two-time world champion Felix SANCHEZ (DOM) and the quickest athlete in the semifinals of the Men's 400m Hurdles, rose to the occasion and won the gold, recording the fastest time. He clocked 47.63 to defeat Jamaica's Danny McFARLANE, who won the silver with 48.11. The bronze was awarded to France's Naman KEITA, with 48.26; this year's world leader James CARTER (USA) cruised home to win the fourth place with 48.58.

Men's 110m Hurdles			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	LIU Xiang	CHN	12.91
Silver	TRAMMELL Terrence	USA	13.18
Bronze	GARCIA Anier	CUB	13.20
4th	WIGNALL Maurice	JAM	13.21
5th	OLIJARS Stanislavs	LAT	13.21
6th	ALLEN Charles	CAN	13.48
7th	INOCENCIO Mateus	BRA	13.49
8th	DOUCOURE Ladj	FRA	13.76

Men's 400m Hurdles			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	SANCHEZ Felix	DOM	47.63
Silver	McFARLANE Danny	JAM	48.11
Bronze	KEITA Naman	FRA	48.26
4th	CARTER James	USA	48.58
5th	KAMANI Bayano	PAN	48.74
6th	PLAWGO Marek	POL	49.00
7th	MYBURGH Alwyn	RSA	49.07
8th	BRAZELL Bennie	USA	49.51

Men's 1.500m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	EL GUERROUJ Hicham	MAR	3:34.18
Silver	LAGAT Bernard	KEN	3:34.30
Bronze	SILVA Rui	POR	3:34.68
4th	KIPTANUIT Timothy	KEN	3:35.61
5th	HESHKO Ivan	UKR	3:35.82
6th	EAST Michael	GBR	3:36.33
7th	ESTEVEZ Reyes	ESP	3:36.63
8th	LIEFERS Gert-Jan	NED	3:37.17

Men's 3.000m Steeplechase			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	KEMBOI Ezekiel	KEN	8:05.81
Silver	KIPRUTO Brimin	KEN	8:06.11
Bronze	KOECH Paul Kipsiele	KEN	8:06.64
4th	AMER Musa Obaid	QAT	8:07.18
5th	MARTIN Luis Miguel	ESP	8:11.64
6th	VROEMEN Simon	NED	8:13.25
7th	TAHRI Bouabdallah	FRA	8:14.26
8th	EZZINE Ali	MAR	8:15.58

Left page:

USA's Shawn Crawford reacts after competing in the men's 200m round 1, at the Olympic Stadium on 24 August. He had already placed fourth in the 100m final. Two days later, he won the 200m gold medal, with a personal best time of 19.79, and secured a silver medal on the 4x100m team, on 28 August.
© AFP/D. Garcia



Top:

On the last day of the Games, runners enter the Panathinaiko Stadium and near the finish during the men's marathon.
© Getty Images/M. Steele

Bottom:

Morocco's Hicham El Guerrouj celebrates after winning the men's 1.500m final ahead of Kenya's Bernard Lagat. El Guerrouj ended eight years of agony as he won the Olympic Games men's 1.500 metres gold medal, and went on to win yet another in the 5.000m.
© AFP/J. Haynes



Men's 5.000m

Morocco's Hicham EL GUERROUJ added the men's 5.000m gold medal to the 1.500m gold he won after a flawless display of tactics. His winning time was 13:14.39 just 0.20 of a second ahead of Kenenisa BEKELE (ETH), who earlier in the week had won the 10.000m gold medal. The bronze went to 19-year-old Eliud KIPCHOGE (KEN) the defending 5.000m world champion. EL GUERROUJ thus became the first man since Paavo NURMI (FIN) in 1924, to complete this unique double. As Hicham EL GUERROUJ

crossed the line, he threw his arms in the air then stopped and kissed his legs, before lying down on the track in disbelief of his accomplishment.

Men's 20 km Walk

Ivano BRUGNETTI won the gold in the men's 20km Walk, recording a personal best in a time of 1:19:40, ahead of Francisco Javier FERNANDEZ (ESP), with 1:19:45. The bronze was awarded to the Australian Nathan DEAKES in a time of 1:20:02.

Men's 5.000m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	EL GUERROUJ Hicham	MAR	13:14.39
Silver	BEKELE Kenenisa	ETH	13:14.59
Bronze	KIPCHOGE Eliud	KEN	13:15.10
4th	GEBREMARIAM Gebre Egziabher	ETH	13:15.35
5th	BERHANU Dejene	ETH	13:16.92
6th	KIBOWEN John	KEN	13:18.24
7th	TADESSE Zersenay	ERI	13:24.31
8th	MOTTRAM Craig	AUS	13:25.70

Men's 20km Walk			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	BRUGNETTI Ivano	ITA	1:19:40
Silver	FERNANDEZ Francisco Javier	ESP	1:19:45
Bronze	DEAKES Nathan	AUS	1:20:02
4th	PEREZ Jefferson	ECU	1:20:38
5th	MOLINA Juan Manuel	ESP	1:20:55
6th	ZHU Hongjun	CHN	1:21:40
7th	ANDREYEV Vladimir	RUS	1:21:53
8th	HOEHNE Andre	GER	1:21:56

Men's 50km Walk

In the men's 50km Walk, Robert KORZENIOWSKI (POL) took the gold in a time of 3:38:46. The victory took KORZENIOWSKI's amazing record in the event to three successive Olympic golds. The silver and bronze were awarded to two Russian athletes: Denis NIZHEGORODOV with 3:42:50 followed by Aleksey VOYEVODIN with 3:43:34.

Men's Marathon

Italy's Stefano BALDINI withstood the 30 degree Celsius heat and a very difficult course to win the Olympic gold medal, in men's Marathon, in a time of 2:10:55. The Italian covered the ten kilometres between 30km and 40km, which was predominantly downhill, in a staggering 28:59 to break the field and solidify his first major title. The silver medal went to surprising Mebrahtom KEFLEZIGHI (USA) in a time of 2:11:29 while the Brazilian Vanderlei LIMA hung on for the bronze in 2:12:11. Britain's Jon BROWN, who lives and trains in Victoria, Canada, duplicated his 4th place finish in Sydney running 2:12:26.

Men's 10.000m

In the 10.000m at the 2004 Games, Kenenisa BEKELE, the Ethiopian distance runner who took gold in the 10.000m and bronze at the 5.000m at the 2003 World Championships in Athletics, took the title away from his compatriot Haile GEBRESELASSIE, who achieved fifth place. BEKELE closed the last 400m in 53.02 seconds, out-kicking his teammate Sileshi SIHINE. BEKELE also took a close silver medal in the 5.000m in the same Olympics, being kicked down in the last 50 metres by Hicham EL GUERROUJ. The bronze was awarded to Zersenay TADESSE (ERI) with a time of 27:22.57.

Men's 4x100m Relay

UK men beat heavily-forced US by 0.01s, in the men's 4x100m Relay, winning this event for the first time in 92 years. Following the 4x400m relay event, the bronze went again to Nigerians, with 38.23.

Men's 4x400m relay

The USA quartet clinched a massive win in the men's 4x400m relay, setting a new season's best time of 2:55.91. Australia took a surprise silver medal in 3:00.60, ahead of Nigeria (3:00.90).

Men's 50km Walk			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	KORZENIOWSKI Robert	POL	3:38:46
Silver	NIZHEGORODOV Denis	RUS	3:42:50
Bronze	VOYEVODIN Aleksey	RUS	3:43:34
4th	YU Caohong	CHN	3:43:45
5th	GARCIA Jesus Angel	ESP	3:44:42
6th	MAGDZIARCZYK Roman	POL	3:48:11
7th	SUDOL Grzegorz	POL	3:49:09
8th	PEREZ Santiago	ESP	3:49:48

Men's Marathon			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	BALDINI Stefano	ITA	2:10:55
Silver	KEFLEZIGHI Mebrahtom	USA	2:11:29
Bronze	LIMA Vanderlei	BRA	2:12:11
4th	BROWN Jon	GBR	2:12:26
5th	ABURAYA Shigeru	JPN	2:13:11
6th	SUWA Toshinari	JPN	2:13:24
7th	WAINAINA Erick	KEN	2:13:30
8th	CHAICA Alberto	POR	2:14:17

Men's 10.000m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	BEKELE Kenenisa	ETH	27:05.10
Silver	SIHINE Sileshi	ETH	27:09.39
Bronze	TADESSE Zersenay	ERI	27:22.57
4th	KIPROP Boniface	UGA	27:25.48
5th	GEBRESELASSIE Haile	ETH	27:27.70
6th	KORIR John Cheruiyot	KEN	27:41.91
7th	MOSOP Moses	KEN	27:46.61
8th	SGHYR Ismail	FRA	27:57.09

Men's 4x100m Relay			
	Team	NOC	Result
Gold	Great Britain	GBR	38.07
Silver	United States of America	USA	38.08
Bronze	Nigeria	NGR	38.23
4th	Japan	JPN	38.49
5th	Poland	POL	38.54
6th	Australia	AUS	38.56
7th	Trinidad & Tobago	TRI	38.60
8th	Brazil	BRA	38.67

Men's 4x400m Relay			
	Team	NOC	Result
Gold	United States of America	USA	2:55.91
Silver	Australia	AUS	3:00.60
Bronze	Nigeria	NGR	3:00.90
4th	Japan	JPN	3:00.99
5th	Great Britain	GBR	3:01.07
6th	Bahamas	BAH	3:01.88
7th	Germany	GER	3:02.22
8th	Botswana	BOT	3:02.49

Men's 1.500m Wheelchair			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	FIGL Robert	GER	3:10.91
Silver	MENDOZA Saul	MEX	3:11.35
Bronze	TANA Rawat	THA	3:11.48
4th	HOLLONBECK Scot	USA	3:11.49
5th	FEARNLEY Kurt	AUS	3:11.60
6th	YASUOKA Choke	JPN	3:11.75
7th	JEANNOT Joel	FRA	3:22.14
	ADAMS Jeffrey	CAN	DNF

Men's Long Jump

Dwight PHILLIPS' emphatic victory at the men's Long Jump event left no doubt that he is the world's leading long jumper. PHILLIPS won the competition with a leap of 8.59m/28-2.25 on his first attempt, just shy of his personal best of 8.60m/28-2.75 set at Linz earlier in the 2004 season. It was the first US Olympic men's long jump gold medal since Carl Lewis won at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. With PHILLIPS' triumph in Athens, US men's long jumpers have now won that event 22 times out of the 26 occasions the event has been contested in modern Olympic competition. The silver was awarded to USA with John MOFFITT jumping 8.47, whereas the bronze went to Joan Lino MARTINEZ from Spain. In the fourth place, just one point behind MARTINEZ, was James BECKFORD (JAM).

Men's Triple Jump

In the men's Triple Jump final, Christian OLSSON jumped 17.79m, broke the national record and won the gold medal, over Marian OPREA from Romania (17.55). The bronze was awarded to Danila BURKENYA, with a jump of 17.48m, just 1cm ahead of Cuba's Yoandri BETANZOS.

Men's High Jump

In winning the silver medal, HEMINGWAY found himself in first place throughout the entire competition, jumping without misses. He successfully cleared 2.20m/7-2.5 and 2.25m/7-4.5 on his first attempts, then passed at 2.29m/7-6. His first try at 2.34m/7-8 also was successful,

keeping him up on the world's top jumper, Stefan HOLM (SWE), who had two misses at the height, as well as a miss at 2.32. At 2.36m/7-8.75, it was HOLM who prevailed, clearing on his first attempt, while HEMINGWAY missed three times. HOLM had been world number one in the high jump since 2001 and in that time had taken gold at the World Indoor Championships three times and silver at both the World and European Championships. The bronze was awarded to Jaroslav BABA (CZE), whereas the fourth place was won by Jamie NIETO (USA).

Men's Pole Vault

Timothy MACK (USA) won an extremely tight men's pole vault competition clearing his personal best and Olympic record height of 5.95m with his third and final attempt. Toby STEVENSON won the silver with 5.90 and Giuseppe GIBILISCO won the bronze with 5.85. Igor PAVLOV, the 2004 world indoor champion, finished in fourth place, equalling his personal best of 5.80m.

Men's Shot Put

American champion and Sydney Olympic silver medallist Adam NELSON, who led all qualifiers in the men's shot put competition, lost the gold to Yuriy BILONOG (UKR). The bronze was awarded to Denmark's Joachim OLSEN, the 2002 European silver medallist, who threw 21.07. Andrey MIKHNEVICH (BLR), the 2003 world champion threw 20.60 and ended fifth.

Men's Long Jump			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	PHILLIPS Dwight	USA	8.59
Silver	MOFFITT John	USA	8.47
Bronze	MARTINEZ Joan Lino	ESP	8.32
4th	BECKFORD James	JAM	8.31
5th	TOMLINSON Christopher	GBR	8.25
6th	GAISAH Ignisious	GHA	8.24
7th	PEDROSO Ivan	CUB	8.23
8th	TARUS Bogdan	ROM	8.21

Men's Triple Jump			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	OLSSON Christian	SWE	17.79
Silver	OPREA Marian	ROM	17.55
Bronze	BURKENYA Danila	RUS	17.48
4th	BETANZOS Yoandri	CUB	17.47
5th	GREGORIO Jadel	BRA	17.31
6th	MELETOGLOU Hristos	GRE	17.13
7th	GUSHCHINSKIY Viktor	RUS	17.11
8th	QUESADA Yoelbi	CUB	16.96

Men's High Jump			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	HOLM Stefan	SWE	2.36
Silver	HEMINGWAY Matt	USA	2.34
Bronze	BABA Jaroslav	CZE	2.34
4th	NIETO Jamie	USA	2.34
5th	SOKOLOVSKYY Andriy	UKR	2.32
6th	RYBAKOV Yaroslav	RUS	2.32
7th	BOSWELL Mark	CAN	2.29
8th	TON Svatoslav	CZE	2.29

Men's Pole Vault			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	MACK Timothy	USA	5.95
Silver	STEVENSON Toby	USA	5.90
Bronze	GIBILISCO Giuseppe	ITA	5.85
4th	PAVLOV Igor	RUS	5.80
5th	ECKER Danny	GER	5.75
6th	BOERGELING Lars	GER	5.75
7th	MILES Derek	USA	5.75
8th	AVERBUKH Aleksander	ISR	5.65

Men's Shot Put			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	BILONOG Yuriy	UKR	21.16
Silver	NELSON Adam	USA	21.16
Bronze	OLSEN Joachim	DEN	21.07
4th	MARTINEZ Manuel	ESP	20.84
5th	MIKHNEVICH Andrey	BLR	20.60
6th	BELOV Yuriy	BLR	20.34
7th	ANLEZARK Justin	AUS	20.31
8th	BARTELS Ralf	GER	20.26



Men's Discus Throw

Virgilijus ALEKNA originally won the silver, in the men's Discus Throw event, but was elevated to the gold medal position after Robert FAZEKAS was disqualified for failing doping control. ALEKNA's throw of 69.89m also became the new Olympic record, eclipsing Lars RIEDEL's throw of 69.40m at the 1996 Atlanta Games. The silver was awarded to Zoltan KOVAGO (HUN) with a throw of 67.04, whereas the bronze was won by Aleksander TAMMERT (EST) with 66.66.

Men's Javelin Throw

Andreas THORKILDSEN (NOR) was the gold winner of the men's Javelin Throw event with 86.50. THORKILDSEN also holds the junior world record for javelin throw at 83.87m set in 2001. Vadims VASILEVSKIS was the biggest surprise among Latvia's medal winners in 2004 Olympics. Latvia had three competitors in javelin throw: VASILEVSKIS, Eriks RAGS and Lūsis VOLDEMARS, with VASILEVSKIS being the youngest and the least known of the three. In Athens, VASILEVSKIS was the best of the three, throwing for 84.95m, two and a half metres further than his previous personal record and winning a silver medal. Sergey MAKAROV (RUS) won the bronze medal with a throw of 84.84m, thus replicating his performance of four years earlier in Sydney.

Men's Hammer Throw

In the men's Hammer Throw, Koji MUROFUSHI (JPN), who recorded 82.91m won the gold after Adrian ANNUS (HUN) was disqualified for doping. The 2003 world champion Ivan TIKHON (BLR) took the silver with 79.81m. The third place went to Esref APAK (TUR), who could improve no further on 79.51m.

Men's Decathlon

Even though Bryan CLAY (USA) proved to be the leading star in the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games Decathlon qualification round, he did not manage to win the first place in the final. CLAY had to settle for the silver, after he was defeated by Roman SEBRLE (CZE), who scored 8893 points. Dmitriy KARPOV, also a strong starter in Decathlon, took the bronze, gathering 8725 points. In the fourth place was Dean MACEY (GBR), silver medallist in the 1999 World Championships and also bronze medallist in the 2001 World Championships, with 8414 points; whereas the reigning Olympic Champion, Erki NOOL (EST), ended eighth, with 8235 points, only two points behind Laurent HERNU from France.

Men's Discus Throw			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	ALEKNA Virgilijus	LTU	69.89
Silver	KOVAGO Zoltan	HUN	67.04
Bronze	TAMMERT Aleksander	EST	66.66
4th	KAPTUYUKH Vasiliy	BLR	65.10
5th	KRUGER Frantz	RSA	64.34
6th	MALONE Casey	USA	64.33
7th	RIEDEL Lars	GER	62.80
8th	HOPLEY Hannes	RSA	62.58

Men's Hammer Throw			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	MUROFUSHI Koji	JPN	82.91
Silver	TIKHON Ivan	BLR	79.81
Bronze	APAK Esref	TUR	79.51
4th	DEVYATOVSKIY Vadim	BLR	78.82
5th	PARS Krisztian	HUN	78.73
6th	KOZMUS Primoz	SLO	78.56
7th	CHARFREITAG Libor	SVK	77.54
8th	KOBS Karsten	GER	76.30

Men's Javelin Throw			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	THORKILDSEN Andreas	NOR	86.50
Silver	VASILEVSKIS Vadims	LAT	84.95
Bronze	MAKAROV Sergey	RUS	84.84
4th	BACKLEY Steve	GBR	84.13
5th	IVANOV Alexandr	RUS	83.31
6th	VARNIK Andrus	EST	83.25
7th	RAGS Eriks	LAT	83.14
8th	PITKAMAKI Tero	FIN	83.01

Men's Decathlon			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	SEBRLE Roman	CZE	8893
Silver	CLAY Bryan	USA	8820
Bronze	KARPOV Dmitriy	KAZ	8725
4th	MACEY Dean	GBR	8414
5th	WARNERS Chiel	NED	8343
6th	ZSIVOCZKY Attila	HUN	8287
7th	HERNU Laurent	FRA	8237
8th	NOOL Erki	EST	8235

Left page:

Kenya's Brimin Kipruto, Ezekiel Kemboi and Paul Kipsiele Koech celebrate after winning the men's 3.000m steeplechase final at the Olympic Stadium, 24 August. Kemboi won the gold medal, compatriot Kipruto won the silver and Koech took the bronze. © AFP/J. Haynes

Women's Events

Women's 100m

In the women's 100m, Belarussian Yuliya NESTERENKO won the title ahead of Lauryn WILLIAMS (USA) and Veronica CAMPBELL (JAM). After setting national records of 10.94 and 10.92 in the heats and semis, NESTERENKO produced her fourth sub-11 second race of the Games to win in 10.93. WILLIAMS, who started strongly and led for the majority of the race, clocked a personal best 10.96 to claim the silver medal. CAMPBELL lagged in the early stages but powered home in 10.97 to take the bronze medal. Ivet LALOVA, the fastest woman in the world this year with 10.77, ran her fastest time of the Games (11.00) for fourth place. NESTERENKO is the first non-US athlete to win the women's 100m title since 1980.

Women's 200m

Veronica CAMPBELL (JAM) won the Olympic gold medal in the Women's 200m-track sprint. CAMPBELL, 22, who had already won a relay silver at the Sydney Olympics, won the race in 22.05 bettering her own world leading time by 0.13 seconds. This was the second medal of the ATHENS 2004 Games for the Jamaican, who placed third in the 100m. Allyson FELIX (USA), just 18 years old, took the silver medal with a world junior record of 22.18. FELIX ran 22.11 at high altitude in Mexico City last season, but this mark was not officially recognized as the world junior record because there were no on-site doping control facilities. Debbie FERGUSON

(BAH) timed her best performance of the season well. She entered the Games with a season's best of 22.50, but was able to clock 22.30 in the final to take the bronze medal.

Women's 400m

World season leader and pre-race favourite Tonique WILLIAMS-DARLING (BAH) held off reigning world champion Ana GUEVARA (MEX) in the last home straight to win the women's 400m in a time of 49.41. GUEVARA recorded 49.56, a season's best, while Natalya ANTYUKH (RUS) took the bronze in 49.89.

Women's 800m

Kelly HOLMES of Great Britain thrilled the Olympic Stadium with a dramatic, final stride Olympic gold medal victory in the Women's 800m final, with a season's best time of 1:56.38. The race started with high expectations that Maria de Lurdes MUTOLA (MOZ) would successfully defend her Olympic title from the Sydney 2000 Games. MUTOLA was also third in Atlanta 1996. Hasna BENHASSI broke the Moroccan national record with 1:56.43 for the silver, the exact same time which gave Jolanda CEPLAK the bronze, also a season's best for her. MUTOLA finished out of the medals, but also still recorded a season's best of 1:56.51. This year's world leader (1:56.23) Tatyana ANDRIANOVA (RUS) was fifth in 1:56.88 and MILES CLARK sixth in her season's best time of 1:57.27.

Women's 100m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	NESTERENKO Yuliya	BLR	10.93
Silver	WILLIAMS Lauryn	USA	10.96
Bronze	CAMPBELL Veronica	JAM	10.97
4th	LALOVA Ivet	BUL	11.00
5th	BAILEY Aleen	JAM	11.05
6th	SIMPSON Sherone	JAM	11.07
7th	FERGUSON Debbie	BAH	11.16
8th	COLANDER La Tasha	USA	11.18

Women's 200m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	CAMPBELL Veronica	JAM	22.05
Silver	FELIX Allyson	USA	22.18
Bronze	FERGUSON Debbie	BAH	22.30
4th	BAILEY Aleen	JAM	22.42
5th	LALOVA Ivet	BUL	22.57
6th	GEVAERT Kim	BEL	22.84
7th	LEE Muna	USA	22.87
8th	OYEPITAN Abiodun	GBR	22.87

Women's 400m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	WILLIAMS-DARLING Tonique	BAH	49.41
Silver	GUEVARA Ana	MEX	49.56
Bronze	ANTYUKH Natalya	RUS	49.89
4th	HENNAGAN Monique	USA	49.97
5th	TROTTER DeeDee	USA	50.00
6th	RICHARDS Sanya	USA	50.19
7th	AMERTIL Christine	BAH	50.37
8th	NAZAROVA Natalya	RUS	50.65

Women's 800m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	HOLMES Kelly	GBR	1:56.38
Silver	BENHASSI Hasna	MAR	1:56.43
Bronze	CEPLAK Jolanda	SLO	1:56.43
4th	MUTOLA Maria de Lurdes	MOZ	1:56.51
5th	ANDRIANOVA Tatyana	RUS	1:56.88
6th	MILES CLARK Jearl	USA	1:57.27
7th	CIONCAN Maria	ROM	1:59.62
8th	CALATAYUD Zulia	CUB	2:00.95

Right page:

A barefoot Carolina Klüft wrapped in a Swedish national flag celebrates her gold medal in the women's heptathlon.
© REUTERS/D. Gray





This page:

Athanasia Tsoumeleka of Greece celebrates her gold medal win in the women's 20k walk final, 23 August 2004. Russia's Olimpiada Ivanova won the silver and Australia's Jane Saville won the bronze.
© AFP/J. Haynes

Women's 100m Hurdles

Joanna HAYES (USA) set an Olympic record of 12.37 seconds to win the women's 100m hurdles title, after race favourite Perdita FELICIEN (CAN) crashed at the first barrier FELICIEN, the 2003 world champion, hit the first hurdle with her lead leg, lost her balance and stumbled into Irina SHEVCHENKO (RUS), who was in the lane outside of her Olena KRASOVSKA (UKR), who recorded a personal best of 12.45, finished second taking the silver, whereas American Melissa MORRISON was third in 12.56. GOLDING-CLARKE dropped back to fifth place, after losing her rhythm and finished in 12.73, behind young Russian, Mariya KOROTEYEVA (12.72). As HAYES celebrated her victory, FELICIEN threw down her spikes and left the track. She later broke down in tears, comforted by fellow Canadians 1996 Olympic 100m champion Donovan BAILEY and IOC member Charmaine CROOKS.

Women's 1.500m

In the women's 1.500m, HOLMES ran a race similar to her gold medal winning effort in the 800m, where she moved into striking position on the final bend. As she burst towards the finish, HOLMES repeatedly looked to her right, as if expecting a challenge on the outside. None came. She won in 3:57.90, ending her Athens experience with a British national record. 2003 world champion Tatyana TOMASHOVA was second in 3:58.12. Romanian Maria CIONCAN took the bronze in 3:58.39. With the first six women crossing the line in under four minutes, it was the greatest en masse finish ever in an Olympic 1.500m. Six of the top nine ran personal bests.

Women's 400m Hurdles

Fani HALKIA brought the home crowd to their feet, winning the 400m hurdles. Ionela TIRLEA-MANOLACHE from Romania was awarded

silver, ahead of Tetiana TERESHCHUK-ANTIPOVA (UKR) by 0.06s.

Women's 5.000m

With a blistering finishing kick in the final 200 metres, Meseret DEFAR ran to a commanding 14:45.65 victory in the 5.000 metres, continuing Ethiopian distance domination at the 2004 Olympic Games. The 20-year-old DEFAR, who raced to gold at this year's World Indoor Championships in the 3.000m, had little difficulty responding to the challenge of the 24-year-old Kenyan, Isabella OCHICHI, in the latter part of the race to claim the second women's medal - the other, a bronze by Geta WAMI in 2000 - in the event for Ethiopia. The 2003 world champion Tirunesh DIBABA took the bronze in 14:51.83. ZADOROZHNYAYA (RUS) duplicated her fourth place showing from last year's World Championships with a 14:55.52 performance, well ahead of Jo PAVEY'S late race charge (14:57.87).

Women's 20km Walk

Home star Athanasia TSOUMELEKA (GRE) defeated all pre-race favourites to take the Women's 20km Walk title in a personal best time of 1:29:12, making a triumphant entrance into the Olympic Stadium, in front of a frenzied home crowd. Olimpiada IVANOVA (RUS) was second, four seconds behind, while Jane SAVILLE (AUS) took bronze four years after having been dramatically disqualified just before entering the Sydney Olympic stadium in the gold medal position.

Women's Marathon

Mizuki NOGUCHI, also a silver medal in the world championships 2003 in Paris, won the gold medal in the women's Marathon event in 2:26:20, followed by Catherine NDEREBA (KEN) in 2:26:32 and Deena KASTOR (USA) in 2:27:20.



Women's 100m Hurdles

	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	HAYES Joanna	USA	12.37
Silver	KRASOVSKA Olena	UKR	12.45
Bronze	MORRISON Melissa	USA	12.56
4th	KOROTEYEVA Mariya	RUS	12.72
5th	GOLDING-CLARKE Lacena	JAM	12.73
6th	WHYTE Angela	CAN	12.81
	FELICIEN Perdita	CAN	DNF
	SHEVCHENKO Irina	RUS	DNF

Women's 1.500m

	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	HOLMES Kelly	GBR	3:57.90
Silver	TOMASHOVA Tatyana	RUS	3:58.12
Bronze	CIONCAN Maria	ROM	3:58.39
4th	YEVDOKIMOVA Natalya	RUS	3:59.05
5th	YORDANOVA Daniela	BUL	3:59.10
6th	CHOJECKA Lidia	POL	3:59.27
7th	JAKUBCZAK Anna	POL	4:00.15
8th	ABEYLEGESSE Elvan	TUR	4:00.67

Women's 400m Hurdles

	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	HALKIA Fani	GRE	52.82
Silver	TIRLEA-MANOLACHE Ionela	ROM	53.38
Bronze	TERESHCHUK- ANTIPOVA Tetiana	UKR	53.44
4th	JOHNSON Sheena	USA	53.83
5th	PITTMAN Jana	AUS	53.92
6th	BIKERT Yekaterina	RUS	54.18
7th	TAYLOR Brenda	USA	54.97
8th	PECHENKINA Yuliya	RUS	55.79

Women's 5.000m

	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	DEFAR Meseret	ETH	14:45.65
Silver	OCHICHI Isabella	KEN	14:48.19
Bronze	DIBABA Tirunesh	ETH	14:51.83
4th	ZADOROZHNYAYA Yelena	RUS	14:55.52
5th	PAVEY Joanne	GBR	14:57.87
6th	SAMITOVA Gulnara	RUS	15:02.30
7th	MIKITENKO Irina	GER	15:03.36
8th	SUN Yingjie	CHN	15:07.23

Women's 20 km Walk

	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	TSOUMELEKA Athanasia	GRE	1:29:12
Silver	IVANOVA Olimpiada	RUS	1:29:16
Bronze	SAVILLE Jane	AUS	1:29:25
4th	TUROVA Margarita	BLR	1:29:39
5th	SEEGER Melanie	GER	1:29:52
6th	RIGAUDO Elisa	ITA	1:29:57
7th	VASCO Maria	ESP	1:30:06
8th	WANG Liping	CHN	1:30:16

Women's Marathon

	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	NOGUCHI Mizuki	JPN	2:26:20
Silver	NDEREBA Catherine	KEN	2:26:32
Bronze	KASTOR Deena	USA	2:27:20
4th	ALEMU Elfenesh	ETH	2:28:15
5th	TOSA Reiko	JPN	2:28:44
6th	J EVTIC Olivera	SCG	2:31:15
7th	SAKAMOTO Naoko	JPN	2:31:43
8th	PETROVA Lyudmila	RUS	2:31:56

This page:

Melissa Morrison of USA competes in the women's 100 metre hurdle round 1. The thirty-three year-old took bronze in the final.
© Getty Images/D. Miralle

Women's 10.000m

Kicking effortlessly past Ejegayehu DIBABA in the final 80 metres, Huina XING captured the Olympic title in the 10.000 metres, claiming the first victory in the event for China. Biding her time behind the pace-setting east Africans, the 20-year-old reached the line in 30:24.36, ahead of DIBABA's 30:24.98, to foil the efforts of the Ethiopians to duplicate the podium sweep of their male compatriots. It was also a personal best for XING, the world junior record holder, whose previous best of 30:31.55 was set at the 2003 World Championships in Paris. Exceeding expectations and defying her critics, two-time Olympic champion Derartu TULU passed teammate Werknesh KIDANE in the last fifty metres to claim the bronze in 30:26.42, nearly two seconds ahead of the reigning World Championships silver medallist. In a surprisingly fast race, six of the top 11 finishers clocked personal bests; of which Latvian Jelena PROKOPCUKA (7th, 31:04.10), Slovenia's Helena JAVORNIK (10th, 31:06.63) and Romanian Mihaela BOTEZAN (11th, 31:11.24) ran national records.

Women's 4x100m Relay

In the Women's 4x100m Relay, the Jamaican quartet won the Olympic title in a new national record of 41.73, as the United States, tipped as the favourite, never made it to the finish. Russia and reigning world champion France took the silver and bronze medals respectively.

Women's 4x400m Relay

The US women made it 3-in-a-row in 4x400m relay and won the gold, with 3:19.01. The Russian team took the silver medal in 3:20.16, ahead of Jamaica (3:22.00).

Women's Long Jump

In the women's Long Jump final, Tatyana LEBEDEVA won the gold medal with a leap of 7.07m, finishing just 2cm ahead of fellow Russians Irina SIMAGINA, silver, and Tatyana KOTOVA, bronze. LEBEDEVA also received the bronze in the women's Triple Jump event, one place lower than her silver medal won in Sydney four years earlier.

Women's Triple Jump

Cameroon's Françoise MBANGO ETONE won gold in the Women's Triple Jump, destroying the field with 15.30 at her second attempt Tatyana LEBEDEVA (RUS), the hot favourite for the triple jump after dominating the event for the last two years, had to settle for the bronze. Hrysopiya DEVETZI (GRE) gave the crowd a good reason to celebrate. Just a few minutes after the Greek national anthem was played at the Olympic Stadium for the 20km Walk medal ceremony the bronze medallist at this year's World Indoor Championship secured the second medal for Greece in athletics for that day. LEBEDEVA, the world champion, made 15.14 at her last attempt and also exceeded 15 metres at her fifth (15.04), but it wasn't enough to move her higher Trecia SMITH (JAM) was this year's revelation, initially in medal contention, but finally ending fourth in 15.02. Yamile ALDAMA is probably the unluckiest triple jumper. In 2003, she had to miss the World Championship, because she couldn't receive British citizenship in time. This year, competing as an athlete of Sudan, she had the second best performance in the world before the Olympic Games, but she had to settle for 14.99 and fifth place in Athens. The fact that the eighth-placed athlete Anna PYATYKH (RUS) jumped 14.79 indicates the intensity of the competition.

Women's 10.000m			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	XING Huina	CHN	30:24.36
Silver	DIBABA Ejegayehu	ETH	30:24.98
Bronze	TULU Derartu	ETH	30:26.42
4th	KIDANE Werknesh	ETH	30:28.30
5th	KIPLAGAT Lornah	NED	30:31.92
6th	SUN Yingjie	CHN	30:54.37
7th	PROKOPCUKA Jelena	LAT	31:04.10
8th	GRIGORYEVA Lidiya	RUS	31:04.62

Women's 4x100m Relay			
	Team	NOC	Result
Gold	Jamaica	JAM	41.73
Silver	Russian Federation	RUS	42.27
Bronze	France	FRA	42.54
4th	Bahamas	BAH	42.69
5th	Belarus	BLR	42.94
6th	Belgium	BEL	43.11
7th	Nigeria	NGR	43.42
	United States of America	USA	DNF

Women's 4x400m Relay			
	Team	NOC	Result
Gold	United States of America	USA	3:19.01
Silver	Russian Federation	RUS	3:20.16
Bronze	Jamaica	JAM	3:22.00
4th	Great Britain	GBR	3:25.12
5th	Poland	POL	3:25.22
6th	Romania	ROM	3:26.81
7th	India	IND	3:28.51
8th	Greece	GRE	3:45.70

Women's 800m Wheelchair			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	PETITCLERC Chantal	CAN	1:53.66
Silver	STANKOVICH Eliza	AUS	1:53.84
Bronze	SAUVAGE Louise	AUS	1:53.92
4th	ROY Diane	CAN	1:54.20
5th	BLAUWET Cheri	USA	1:54.22
6th	HUNKELER Edith	SUI	1:54.68
7th	DAWES Christie	AUS	1:55.97
8th	GREY THOMPSON Tanni	GBR	1:56.87



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Russia's Yelena Isinbayeva poses next to the Scoreboard after the women's pole vault final. Isinbayeva cleared 4.91 metres to set a new world record.
© REUTERS/R. Sprich

Gold medallist Yelena Isinbayeva of Russia, silver medallist Svetlana Feofanova of Russia and bronze medallist Anna Rogowska of Poland celebrate on the podium during the medal ceremony of the women's pole vault event.
© Getty Images/S. Forster

Women's Long Jump

	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	LEBEDEVA Tatyana	RUS	7.07
Silver	SIMAGINA Irina	RUS	7.05
Bronze	KOTOVA Tatyana	RUS	7.05
4th	THOMPSON Bronwyn	AUS	6.96
5th	JONES Marion	USA	6.85
6th	BOBBY GEORGE Anju	IND	6.83
7th	JOHNSON Jade	GBR	6.80
8th	VASZI Tunde	HUN	6.73

Women's Triple Jump

	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	MBANGO ETONE Francoise	CMR	15.30
Silver	DEVETZI Hrysopiya	GRE	15.25
Bronze	LEBEDEVA Tatyana	RUS	15.14
4th	SMITH Trecia	JAM	15.02
4th	ALDAMA Yamile	SUD	14.99
6th	RAHOULI Baya	ALG	14.86
7th	MARTINEZ Magdelin	ITA	14.85
8th	PYATYKH Anna	RUS	14.79



Top:

Russia's Tatyana Lebedeva competes in the women's long jump final, 27 August. She jumped 7.07 and took gold, to add to her triple jump bronze medal won four days earlier.
© REUTERS/K. Pfaffenbach



Women's High Jump

Yelena SLESARENKO (RUS) beat the existing Olympic record by one centimetre clearing 2.06m to win the gold. The Russian's victory was an upset as South Africa's two-time world champion, Hestrie CLOETE, was heavily favoured to win the event. She wound up with the silver medal instead after clearing 2.02m, the same height as Viktoriya STYOPINA (UKR), who got the bronze medal by virtue of a count back. The competition was hot with four athletes clearing 1.99m higher. The American Amy ACUFF cleared 1.99m on her first try but chose to pass 2.02m, gambling that she could make 2.04m to get into a medal position. However, she missed all three tries and was relegated to fourth place.

Women's Pole Vault

The world record holder Yelena ISINBAYEVA (RUS) managed to take the first place and win the gold with 4.91, over the reigning world champion Svetlana FEOFANOVA. The third and fourth place was won by two Polish athletes: Anna ROGOWSKA with 4.70, taking the bronze, even though she found herself in a win or lose situation, when qualifying for the final, and Monika PYREK with 4.55 ending fourth.

Women's Shot Put

One of the favourite athletes in women's Shot Put, Yumileidi CUMBA (CUB) won the gold

with 19.59 points after defeating Nadine KLEINERT from Germany and Svetlana KRIVELYOVA from Russia, who took the bronze. Nadezhda OSTAPCHUK (BLR), silver medallist in the Women's Shot Put at the 2003 World Championships, who led the qualifiers, throwing 19.69m on her first throw, ended fourth.

Women's Discus Throw

In the Women's Discus Throw, Natalya SADOVA (RUS), competing in her third Olympic final, grabbed the gold medal this time with a throw of 67.02m. She was the silver medallist in Sydney four years earlier. Anastasia KELESIDOU (GRE) drew the admiration of the crowd with a throw of 66.68m to win the silver medal. Chants of "Hellas, Hellas" greeted her throughout the competition. Irina YATCHENKO, this year's world leader with 69.14m, took the bronze with 66.17m, just 9cm ahead of Vera POSPISILOVA CECHLOVA (CZE) who threw 66.08m for fourth place. The sixth and last round included good throws from many competitors, including a 65.75m toss by Olena ANTONOVA (UKR) securing her fifth place, and Nicoleta GRASU (ROM), 64.92m, sixth. The other Greek favourite, Ekaterini VOGGOLI, ranked third in the world list this season with 67.72m, could only manage 62.37m and ended eighth. The third Greek, Stilian TSIKOUNA could not make it to the last three rounds.

Women's High Jump			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	SLESARENKO Yelena	RUS	2.06
Silver	CLOETE Hestrie	RSA	2.02
Bronze	STYOPINA Viktoriya	UKR	2.02
4th	ACUFF Amy	USA	1.99
5th	MYKHALCHENKO Iryna	UKR	1.96
6th	CHICHEROVA Anna	RUS	1.96
7th	PANTELIMON Oana	ROM	1.93
8th	IAGAR Monica	ROM	1.93

Women's Pole Vault			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	ISINBAYEVA Yelena	RUS	4.91
Silver	FEOFANOVA Svetlana	RUS	4.75
Bronze	ROGOWSKA Anna	POL	4.70
4th	PYREK Monika	POL	4.55
5th	ELISDOTTIR Thorey Edda	ISL	4.55
6th	BOSLAK Vanessa	FRA	4.40
6th	AGIRRE Naroa	ESP	4.40
6th	ELLIS Dana	CAN	4.40

Women's Shot Put			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	CUMBA Yumileidi	CUB	19.59
Silver	KLEINERT Nadine	GER	19.55
Bronze	KRIVELYOVA Svetlana	RUS	19.49
4th	OSTAPCHUK Nadezhda	BLR	19.01
5th	KHORONEKO Natalia	BLR	18.96
6th	ZABAWSKA Krystyna	POL	18.64
7th	GONZALEZ Mislleydis	CUB	18.59
8th	ADAMS Valerie	NZL	18.56

Women's Discus Throw			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	SADOVA Natalya	RUS	67.02
Silver	KELESIDOU Anastasia	GRE	66.68
Bronze	YATCHENKO Irina	BLR	66.17
4th	POSPISILOVA CECHLOVA Vera	CZE	66.08
5th	ANTONOVA Olena	UKR	65.75
6th	GRASU Nicoleta	ROM	64.92
7th	FAUMUINA Beatrice	NZL	63.45
8th	VOGGOLI Ekaterini	GRE	62.37



Women's Javelin Throw

Osleidys MENENDEZ celebrated her victory holding the national flag of Cuba, after winning the gold in the women's Javelin Throw, with an excellent performance of 71.53, setting an Olympic record. The silver medal went to Steffi NERIUS with 65.82, whereas the host nation's Mirela MANJANI, silver medallist in 2000 Sydney Games, won the bronze. The fourth place went to Nikola BREJCHOVA (CZE) with a throw of 64.23, followed by another Cuban athlete, Sonia BISSET (63.54).

Women's Hammer Throw

After winning six silver medals in major championships thirty-three year old Olga KUZENKOVA (RUS) finally won a major title with an Olympic record of 75.02m, in women's Hammer Throw final, whereas Yipsi

MORENO (CUB), two-time world champion in 2001 and 2003, and Yunaika CRAWFORD (CUB) took the second and third place, achieving 73.36 and 73.16 scores respectively.

Women's Heptathlon

Carolina KLUFT (SWE) posted her best heptathlon score of the season to win the Olympic gold medal by more than 500 points. Austra SKUJYTE (LTU) took the silver medal with a season's best of 6435 points, narrowly beating the surprising British athlete Kelly SOTHERTON. The latter scored a huge personal best of 6424 points and collected an unexpected bronze medal. Although KLUFT missed the 7000 points this time, her victory will remain one of the most dominant performances in Olympic athletics history.

Women's Hammer Throw			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	KUZENKOVA Olga	RUS	75.02
Silver	MORENO Yipsi	CUB	73.36
Bronze	CRAWFORD Yunaika	CUB	73.16
4th	HEIDLER Betty	GER	72.73
5th	SKOLIMOWSKA Kamila	POL	72.57
6th	TSANDER Olga	BLR	72.27
7th	ZHANG Wenxiu	CHN	72.03
8th	SEKACHOVA Iryna	UKR	70.40

Women's Javelin Throw			
	Name	NOC	Result
Gold	MENENDEZ Osleidys	CUB	71.53
Silver	NERIUS Steffi	GER	65.82
Bronze	MANJANI Mirela	GRE	64.29
4th	BREJCHOVA Nikola	CZE	64.23
5th	BISSET Sonia	CUB	63.54
6th	EVE Laverne	BAH	62.77
7th	BICET Noraida	CUB	62.51
8th	LYAKHOVYCHTetyana	UKR	61.75

Women's Heptathlon			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	KLUFT Carolina	SWE	6952
Silver	SKUJYTE Austra	LTU	6435
Bronze	SOTHERTON Kelly	GBR	6424
4th	BURRELL Shelia	USA	6296
5th	PROKHOROVA Yelena	RUS	6289
6th	KESSELSCHLAEGER Sonja	GER	6287
7th	COLLONVILLE Marie	FRA	6279
8th	DOBRYNSKA Natalya	UKR	6255

This page:

18 August 2004: history comes alive in the Stadium of Ancient Olympia.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



Badminton



Competition Sequence

Olympic Badminton competition events took place within the span of eight days (14-21 August). The finals were conducted during the last three days of competition.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Badminton was a demonstration sport at Munich 1972, and an exhibition sport at Seoul in 1988, before making its full debut at Barcelona four years later. Today, the sport has spread around the world and is especially popular in Asia where spectators can exceed 15,000 in important contests.

Description

Badminton is played between two or four athletes. Unique to this Olympic sport is the mixed doubles event, in which a man and a woman athlete compete as a pair. To score a point, Badminton players have to hit the shuttlecock with their rackets so that it lands on the opponent's court - then a point is scored. The winner is the athlete or pair to win two games of 15 points each. In women's singles, games end at 11 points. To compete at the highest levels successfully, athletes must develop special skills such as technique, stamina, strength, and flexibility. Olympic Badminton consists of five events:

Men's: 2	Women's: 2	Mixed doubles: 1 Total: 5
Singles	Singles	
Doubles	Doubles	

Venue

During the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, Badminton competitions were staged in the Goudi Olympic Hall. The Goudi Olympic Complex hosted Modern Pentathlon and Badminton. The Goudi Complex consists of two venues: the Goudi Olympic Hall and the Olympic Modern Pentathlon Centre. A seated area of 5,000 hosted Badminton, a temporary construction undertaken by the Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works.

Competitors: 172		NOC: 32
Event	Players	NOC
Men		
Singles	32	21
Doubles	44	14
Women		
Singles	32	21
Doubles	46	16
Mixed Doubles	46	17

Games Highlights

Men's Singles

In the Men's Singles final, Taufik HIDAYAT (INA) competed against the Korean player Seung Mo SHON (KOR). After a nervous start, HIDAYAT dominated SHON with his array of attacking shots and he won the 44-minute match comfortably, 15-8, 15-7. HIDAYAT played better and better with every round of the competition, thrilling the Indonesian crowd. Indonesia also claimed the bronze medal in the Men's Singles. Soni Dwi KUNCORO picked himself up after his semi-final defeat to SHON, to win 15-11, 17-16 against Thailand's Boonsak PONSANA.

Women's Singles

In the Women's Singles, the world champion Ning ZHANG from China faced the Japan Open winner Mia AUDINA (NED). AUDINA's accuracy with the shuttle won her the first set 11-8, but as the match went on, ZHANG's superior fitness began to tell. ZHANG took the gold medal by winning the second and third sets, 11-6, 11-7, whereas Mi ZHOU (CHN) was the bronze winner after defeating Ruina GONG (CHN), the number one seed for the tournament.

Left page:

Silver medallist Nathan Robertson of Great Britain poses with his daughter after the mixed doubles badminton event on 19 August.
© Getty Images/S. Franklin

Men's Doubles

In an all-Korean encounter, in the Men's Doubles final, Tae Kwon HA / Dong Moon KIM the 1999 world champion won the gold over Dong Soo LEE /Yong Sung YOO, the silver medallists at the Sydney Olympic Games. In the bronze medal match, Eng HIAN / Flandy LIMPELE (INA) took on Jens ERIKSEN / Martin LUNDGAARD (DEN), 15-3, 15-7.

Women's Doubles

The final of the Women's Doubles paired the number one and two seeds, Jiewen ZHANG /Wei YANG (CHN) and Sui HUANG / Ling GAO (CHN). ZHANG /YANG were on the offensive throughout the match and despite losing the first set, their good play was rewarded with a 90-minute, three set victory. In the longest match of the whole tournament Kyung Won LEE / Kyung Min RA claimed the bronze medal after a 104-minute win over Tingting

ZHAO / Yili WEI and managed to stop China from having a clean sweep of the medals in the Women's Doubles.

Mixed Doubles

The mixed double event produced a thrilling encounter Defending Olympic champions Jun ZHYANG / Ling GAO(CHN) faced European champions, Nathan ROBERTSON / Gail EMMS. The first set was over all too quickly for the British pair, losing 15-1. Even though ROBERTSON / EMMS won the tight second set, their Chinese opponents managed to stay calmer and claimed the gold in the third deciding set, 15-12. Jens ERIKSEN / Mette SCHJOLDAGER (DEN) managed to pick themselves up from their semi-final defeat better than their opponents, Jonas RASMUSSEN / Rikke OLSEN (DEN) and won the bronze medal by the comfortable margin of 15-5,15-5.

Men's Singles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	HIDAYAT Taufik	INA
Silver	SHON Seung Mo	KOR
Bronze	KUNCORO Soni Dwi	INA
	PONSANA Boonsak	THA
	SUSILO Ronald	SIN
	GADE Peter	DEN
	PARK Tae Sang	KOR
	CHEN Hong	CHN

Women's Singles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	ZHANG Ning	CHN
Silver	AUDINA Mia	NED
Bronze	ZHOU Mi	CHN
	GONG Ruina	CHN
	CHENG Shao-Chieh	TRE
	HALLAM Tracey	GBR
	NEDELICHEVA Petya	BUL
	WANG Chen	HKG

Men's Doubles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	HA Tae Kwon KIM Dong Moon	KOR
Silver	LEE Dong Soo YOO Yong Sung	KOR
Bronze	HIAN Eng LIMPELE Flandy	INA
	ERIKSEN Jens LUNDGAARD HANSEN Martin	DEN
	YIM Bang Eun KIM Yong Hyun	KOR
	ZHENG Bo SANG Yang	CHN
	CHOONG Tan Fook LEE Wan Wah	MAS
	FU Haifeng CAI Yun	CHN

Women's Doubles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	YANG Wei ZHANG Jiewen	CHN
Silver	GAO Ling HUANG Sui	CHN
Bronze	LEE Kyung Won RA Kyung Min	KOR
	ZHAO Tingting WEI Yili	CHN
	THUNGTHONGKAM Saralee CHANKRACHANGW	THA
	BRUIL Lotte AUDINA Mia	NED
	LEE Hyojung HWANG Yu Mi	KOR
	JOERGENSEN Ann-Lou OLSEN Rikke	DEN



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

China's top seed Gong Ruina prepares to serve against Thailand's Salakjit Ponsana in the women's singles first round. Gong defeated Ponsana 11-8, 11-3 in 27 minutes. © AFP/G. Chai Hin

South Korea's Shon Seung-Mo celebrates after defeating China's number two seed Chen Hong in the men's singles quarterfinals, 18 August 2004. Shon beat Chen 10-15, 15-4, 15-10 and went on to win silver. © AFP/G. Chai Hin

Mixed Doubles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	ZHANG Jun GAO Ling	CHN
Silver	ROBERTSON Nathan EMMS Gail	GBR
Bronze	ERIKSEN Jens SCHJOLDAGER Mette	DEN
	RASMUSSEN Jonas OLSEN Rikke	DEN
	KIM Dong Moon RA Kyung Min	KOR
	CHEN Qiqiu ZHAO Tingting	CHN
	WIDIANTO Nova MARISSA Vita	INA
	BERGSTROM Frederik PERSSON Johanna	SWE





Competition Sequence

During the 2004 Olympic Games, all Baseball games took place within the span of 11 days (15-25 August), two of which were designated as rest days (19 and 23 August).

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Baseball first became an official Olympic sport at the 1992 Barcelona Games, but its Olympic history traces further back. It is the only sport to be included as an exhibition or demonstration sport six times before finally achieving medal status. Exhibitions were held in Stockholm 1912, Berlin 1936, Helsinki 1952, Melbourne 1956, and Tokyo 1964. After a 20-year absence baseball made its Olympic comeback as a demonstration sport in Los Angeles 1984, and again in Seoul 1988. Today, Baseball is played in organised leagues in at least 103 NOCs worldwide. The best known is the "Major Leagues" of North America.

Description

Baseball games involve two teams of nine starting players. The teams alternate between playing defence and offence (fielding and batting). There is no fixed duration for a match and the winner is the team with the most runs at the end of the nine innings. An inning is complete when each team has taken turns at playing offence and defence and 3 players in each team have been out (when in offence). In international and Olympic competition, if a team is ahead by 10 or more runs at the completion of 7 rounds, the "mercy rule" is invoked and the game is ended.

The game begins with the team playing defence (in the field): the Pitcher throws the ball to the Catcher standing behind Home Plate. A strike is called if the ball passes through the strike zone without being hit by the Batter of the team playing offence (at bat). Olympic baseball consists of a tournament with 8 teams and takes place in three rounds: Preliminary, Semi-finals and Finals.

Event	Players	NOC
Men's	192	8

Venue

Olympic Baseball Games were hosted in the Olympic Baseball Centre, a new construction, part of the Hellinikon Olympic Complex in the south of Athens, the second-largest cluster of Olympic venues. The Olympic Baseball Centre consisted of two main fields: Baseball Field One with a seated capacity of 9,000, which hosted the preliminary, semi-final and final games; and Baseball Field Two with a seated capacity of 4,000, which hosted only preliminary games.

Games Highlights

Cuba

Cuba won an unprecedented third Olympic Baseball gold medal by defeating its opponent Australia in the final game of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Baseball tournament. The gold medal was a slice of redemption for a young Cuban team that had to settle for silver in the 2000 Games four years ago when it lost to the USA. Though the USA did not qualify, the "big red machine" led the tournament in both batting and pitching, showing the world why they are still a force to be reckoned with. The gold is Cuba's third in four Olympic games.

Australia

Australia won its first Olympic Baseball medal after finishing seventh in the 2000 Games. Australia was not on most people's radar when discussing favourites at the start of the tournament, but coming off the plane, the team boldly stated that "nothing but gold will do" and backed it up by coming close in a silver medal performance.

Left page:

Cuba's Luis Norge Vera pitches in the first inning during the Olympic Games gold medal baseball game against Australia, 25 August.
© AFP/T. Clary

Japan

In the bronze medal game, Japanese catcher Kenji JOJIMA knocked in four runs as Japan defeated Canada 11-2 for its second Olympic medal in Baseball. Japan had won the silver medal at the 1996 Atlanta Games, while Canada was appearing in its first Olympic Baseball competition. However, the tournament proved to be a large disappointment for the Japanese team, as it had golden expectations coming in, bringing a team of top talent from the country's professional leagues.

Canada

Hopes were high for the Canadians after winning a pre-Olympic tournament in Rome, defeating Cuba 9-1. Canada got off to a fast start, beating its first four opponents to grab first place. Yet Canada could not overcome both Cuba and Japan in the preliminary rounds and then Cuba in the semi-finals, falling to the "big red machine" in a hard-fought game that went to the final at bat to decide the winner.

Chinese Taipei

With a one-run lead against Italy in the top of the ninth, Chinese Taipei looked to be in good position to make it to the medal round, yet a

home run by Italian captain Claudio LIVERZIANI helped start a downward chain of events that saw Taipei lose that game and then a late lead to Japan the following day.

Netherlands

The Netherlands got off to a fast start by defeating Greece 11-0. It then found itself in good medal position at 2-2 after the first four days of competition. Then the wheels fell off, as the Netherlands did not win a game the rest of the way.

Greece

The host nation had a difficult go-around in its first Olympic competition. The team, made of mostly North Americans of Greek descent, did not win until its penultimate game against European power Italy, but fulfilled its goal of bringing the sport to Greece.

Italy

The starting pitching was not a problem for the Italians, as the team stayed close with most teams until the late innings. The bullpen, however, proved to be another story, as the European qualifying champions finished in last place.

Men		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Cuba	CUB
Silver	Australia	AUS
Bronze	Japan	JPN
	Canada	CAN
	Chinese Taipei	TPE
	Netherlands	NED
	Greece	GRE
	Italy	ITA

Right page:

Australia celebrates their 1-0 semi-final baseball victory over Japan. Australia advanced to the gold medal game, but lost to Cuba. © REUTERS/R. Stubblebine







Competition Sequence

The Olympic Basketball tournament in the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games lasted 15 days, from 14 to 28 August.

Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun
 11 12 13 **14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29**

After being launched as a demonstration sport at the 1904 Olympic Games in St. Louis, Basketball made its first appearance as a medal sport in 1936 in Berlin. In the 1970s, women's Basketball was added to the programme. The year 1992 was a landmark in Olympic Basketball. A historic decision was made by FIBA, in Munich in 1989, that eliminated the distinction between amateurs and professionals, thereby allowing the best players in the world to participate in the Olympic Games. This decision turned the Basketball tournament of the 1992 Olympic Games into the crowning event in Barcelona. The appearance of the legendary "dream team" with stars such as Michael JORDAN, Magic JOHNSON and Larry BIRD made the tournament very special. In addition, the USA men's team dominated the Olympic tournament in Atlanta and in Sydney Games.

In Basketball, there are women's and men's tournaments. Both tournaments have the same format and rules. In the Preliminary Round teams are divided into two groups of six teams. Each team will play all the other team within its own group. The four best-placed teams in each group progress to quarterfinals, semi-finals, and medal-round games and the rest play for classification for places 9th to 12th. In the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Basketball Tournament participated:

Competitors		
Event	Players	NOC
Men	144	12
Event	Players	NOC
Women	144	12

Description

Basketball is played by two teams. Each team consists of 5 players on the field and 7 on the bench. The main purpose of each team is to score into the opponent's basket, and to prevent the other team from doing so. The team, who scores the higher number of points, wins the game. Basketball is played on a wooden floor. The playing court is a rectangular surface, 28m long and 15m wide. The duration of a basketball game is 40 minutes (competition time), divided into four ten-minute periods. The first two periods make up the first half and the last two the second half of the games, with a ten-minute break between the two halves. There is a 24-second time limit for each ball possession. The scoring rules allow one, two, or three points. One point is counted for the free-throw line, two within 6,25 metres (from all positions) and three beyond the 6,25 metre lines. Each player is allowed five personal fouls after which he/she is disqualified from the game.

Venue

The preliminary rounds and the classification games for places 9 & 10 and 11 & 12 took up eleven game days (14-24 August). They were held in the Indoor Arena of the Helliniko Olympic Complex, which had a total capacity of 15.000 seats.

The quarterfinals, semi-finals and finals were held on the four final game days (25-28 August) at the 19.250-seat Olympic Indoor Hall, within OAKA, located at Maroussi, a northern Athens suburb.

Games Highlights

Men's Basketball

The Olympics Men's Basketball tournament will go down as perhaps the most exciting international tournament ever held, and the least predictable. A first-time gold medallist, Argentina, came out on top after two weeks, during which the most successful countries in

Left page:

Argentina's Luis Alberto Scola removes the basket net after beating Italy in the men's basketball gold medal match 84-69. © AFP/T. Clary

basketball history struggled more than ever before. The owner of the previous three gold medals, the United States, went down against Argentina in the semi-finals and suffered three defeats altogether in Athens. USA salvaged bronze in the end to preserve a streak of 15 medals in as many Olympic appearances. The world champions from 1998 and 2002, Serbia and Montenegro, didn't even reach the quarterfinals, finishing 11th out of 12 teams. Argentina overcame injury to starter Fabricio OBERTO, who suffered a broken hand late in the semi-final victory, to win without him, over Italy in the final. Argentina boasts a worldwide crossover artist, Emanuel David GINOBILI, the tournament's fourth best scorer with 19.3 points per game. Nevertheless, for the first time in Olympic history, there were multiple gold medal candidates in Athens: USA rallied to stop another hopeful, previously undefeated Spain, in the quarterfinals. Lithuania had made it through the quarters undefeated in six games, but ran hard into Italy, another would-be winner, in the semis. Host Greece, the victim of Argentina in the quarters, matched its best Olympics finish, fifth. Puerto Rico, which ended sixth, lit the fuse on a spectacular show by doling USA its first loss by 19 points in their opening game. And China rallied into the quarterfinals with a last minute win over Serbia and Montenegro. Among the individual highlights was a miraculous game-winning shot by GINOBILI and the 10 points scored in 69 seconds by Sarunas JASIKEVICIUS that sent USA to its second preliminary round defeat against Lithuania.

Women's Basketball

Unlike on the men's side, the traditional powers in Olympic Women's Basketball reaffirmed their status in Athens. The United States won its third straight gold and fifth in seven Olympic appearances; Australia repeated its silver medal; and Russia took away the bronze medal from Brazil. Lisa LESLIE, Dawn STALEY and Sheryl SWOOPES all made major contributions to become the only players in women's basketball besides their former teammate, Teresa EDWARDS, to surpass two gold medals. STALEY, who was also the USA flag bearer at the Opening Ceremonies in Athens, announced her retirement from the national team after the victory. Defence was the key in the final, however, as USA stopped the tournament's top scorer with 22.9 points per game, Lauren JACKSON of Australia. Mfon UDOKA of Nigeria, which finished 11th, was the tournament's second best scorer; averaging 21.7 points. With Russia's 71-62 victory over Brazil for bronze, Russia ended Brazil's streak of medals at two, silver in Atlanta and bronze in Sydney. The Brazilians had begun the tournament by setting an Olympic record in scoring with 128 points against Japan, and tying the best winning margin ever, 66 points, in the same game. In addition, the Women's Basketball tournament offered some interesting sidelights: Czech Republic finished fifth; Spain took the sixth place; the host Greece, battled all the way to seventh place; while New Zealand ended eighth.

Right page:

US team members celebrate on the podium after their Olympic Games women's basketball gold medal match against Australia. USA won 74-63.
© AFP/T. Clary

Men		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Argentina	ARG
Silver	Italy	ITA
Bronze	United States of America	USA
4th	Lithuania	LTU
5th	Greece	GRE
6th	Puerto Rico	PUR
7th	Spain	ESP
8th	People's Republic of China	CHN

Women		
	Team	NOC
Gold	United States of America	USA
Silver	Australia	AUS
Bronze	Russian Federation	RUS
4th	Brazil	BRA
5th	Czech Republic	CZE
6th	Spain	ESP
7th	Greece	GRE
8th	New Zealand	NZL





ATHENS 2004

L. ARAGON

USA

Boxing



Competition Sequence

The Olympic Boxing competition lasted 15 competition days, from 14 to 29 August, with one rest day on 26 August.

Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

Boxing spread to the USA and then to the rest of Europe at the start of the 20th century and was included in the competition programme of the modern Olympic Games in 1904, at Saint Louis. The sport of Boxing was never intrinsically linked with aggressive attack and heavy hitting. According to the historian Dion, since ancient times people "did not consider beating and quarrelling to be evidence of bravery". To the contrary, the aim of the "un-injured" (atramatistos) athlete in ancient Greece was the constant defence and the avoidance of blows, until his opponent was exhausted in attack and was led to "apagorefsi", namely surrender by raising either one or two fingers, a sign that he acknowledged his defeat.

Description

Only male boxers participate in the Olympic Games. Women's official Boxing bouts first appeared in 1993 but have not been yet included in the official Olympic programme. Athletes must be at least 17 years old and no older than 34. Boxing pairs are drawn by lot, just as in ancient times, according to their respective weight category. The ring is 1,22m high and 6,10m x 6,10m square. The duration of the bout is 8 minutes, four rounds of 2 minutes each, with a one-minute break between each round. A score is marked when the athlete hits his opponent at the front part of the head or on the upper part of the body - above the belt line. Most commonly a bout is won on points, or it can also be won by Knockout. The total number of valid points at the end of the fourth round determines the winner.

The Olympic Boxing competition includes 11 weight categories for men:

Event	Boxers: 283	NOC
Light Fly 48 kg	29	29
Fly 51 kg	28	28
Bantam 54 kg	27	27
Feather 57 kg	28	28
Light 60 kg	28	28
Light Welter 64 kg	27	27
Welter 69 kg	28	28
Middle 75 kg	28	28
Light Heavy 81 kg	28	28
Heavy 91 kg	16	16
Super Heavy +91 kg	16	16

Venue

The Boxing competition was held at a new venue in the Municipality of Peristeri in the west Attica region. This new Indoor Hall had a total capacity of 8.000 seats during Games-time. It is near the National Road and a close distance from the Olympic Village, Dekeleia Training Complex and the centre of Athens, where the accommodation of the Boxing Federation was located.

Games Highlights

Cuba dominated the medal tally in the Athens 2004 Olympic tournament. Of 11 weight categories, Cuba took home five gold medals, two silver and one bronze. Over the years Cuba has turned out champions like Felix SAVON and Teofil STEVENSON, both of whom have won 3 Olympic gold medals.

Left page:

Lorenzo Aragon Armenteros of Cuba lands a punch as he defeats Jung Joo Kim of Korea during the men's boxing welterweight 69kg semifinal bout on 27 August. The Cuban went on to win silver. © Getty Images/D. Pensinger

Light Fly 48kg

In the Light Fly 48kg, Yan BHARTELEMY VARELA (CUB) won the gold, whereas Atagun YALCINKAYA (TUR) and Shiming ZOU (CHN) along with Sergey KAZAKOV (RUS) won the silver and the two bronze respectively.

Fly 51kg

Yuriorkis GAMBOA TOLEDANO, Fly Weight 51kg, won Cuba's first gold, scoring a comfortable 38-23 victory against former world champion Jerome THOMAS (FRA), who won the silver one better than the bronze medal he won four years ago in Sydney. The two bronzes went to Germany's Rustamhodza RAHIMOV and Azerbaijan's Fuad ASLANOV.

Bantam 54kg

In Bantam Weight 54kg division, Guillermo RIGONDEAUX ORTIZ was also the gold winner, defeating Worapoj PETCHKOOM (THA), whereas the bronze went to Bahodirjon SOOLTONOV (UZB) and Aghasi MAMMADOV (AZE).

Feather 57kg

The next most successful was Russia with three gold, and three bronze medals. Alexei

TICHTCHENKO won easily Russia's first gold in the Feather Weight 57kg category, against Song Guk KIM (PRK). "It is like a dream. It won't sink in until I calm down" declared the 20 year-old TICHTCHENKO after his victory. Seok Hwan JO from Korea and Vitali TAJBERT from Germany won the bronze.

Light 60kg

In Athens, we said goodbye to another great Cuban boxer, the triple world champion, Mario Cesar KINDELAN MESA, 33, who won his second Olympic gold medal, beating the young pretender to his crown, Amir KHAN, 17, from Great Britain, in an enthralling final of the master against the pupil. Murat KHARACHEV from Russia and Serik YELEUOV from Kazakhstan won the bronze.

Light Welter 64kg

There were celebrations for Thailand, after Manus BOONJUMNONG won the gold medal in the Light Welter Weight division. BOONJUMNONG upset Yudel JOHNSON CEDENO (CUB) by employing "hit and run" tactics, which scored enough points, but angered the crowd. Ionut GHEORGHE (ROM) won the bronze, along with Boris GEORGIEV (BUL).

Light Fly 48kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	BHARTELEMY VARELA Yan	CUB
Silver	YALCINKAYA Atagun	TUR
Bronze	ZOU Shiming	CHN
Bronze	KAZAKOV Sergey	RUS
5th	NALBANDYAN Aleksan	ARM
5th	PINTO Alfonso	ITA
5th	HONG Moo Won	KOR
5th	JERMIA Joseph	NAM

Fly 51kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	GAMBOATOLEDANO Yuriorkis	CUB
Silver	THOMAS Jerome	FRA
Bronze	RAHIMOV Rustamhodza	GER
Bronze	ASLANOV Fuad	AZE
5th	AMBUNDA Paulus	NAM
5th	RZANY Andrzej	POL
5th	BALAKSHIN Georgy	RUS
5th	DONIYOROV Tulashboy	UZB

Bantam 54kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	RIGONDEAUX ORTIZ Guillermo	CUB
Silver	PETCHKOOM Worapoj	THA
Bronze	SOOLTONOV Bahodirjon	UZB
Bronze	MAMMADOV Aghasi	AZE
5th	KOONER Andrew	CAN
5th	BOLUM Nestor	NGR
5th	KOVALEV Gennady	RUS
5th	TRETYAK Maksym	UKR

Feather 57kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	TICHTCHENKO Alexei	RUS
Silver	KIM Song Guk	PRK
Bronze	JO Seok Hwan	KOR
Bronze	TAJBERT Vitali	GER
5th	FRANCO VAZQUEZ Luis	CUB
5th	JAFAROV Galib	KAZ
5th	GANIYU Muideen	NGR
5th	SIMION Viorel	ROM

Right page, from top to bottom:

Andre Ward of the United States waits for the starting bell during the preliminary light heavyweight 81kg match against Clemente Russo of Italy. Ward received the nod on a 17-9 points decision. He went on to take the gold medal.

© AFP/J. Klamar

Cuba's Lorenzo Aragon Armenteros defends against Bakhtiyar Artayev of Kazakhstan during their welterweight 69kg boxing final. Artayev hunted down double world champion Aragon Armenteros to take the gold on an emphatic 36-26 points decision.

© AFP/J. Klamar

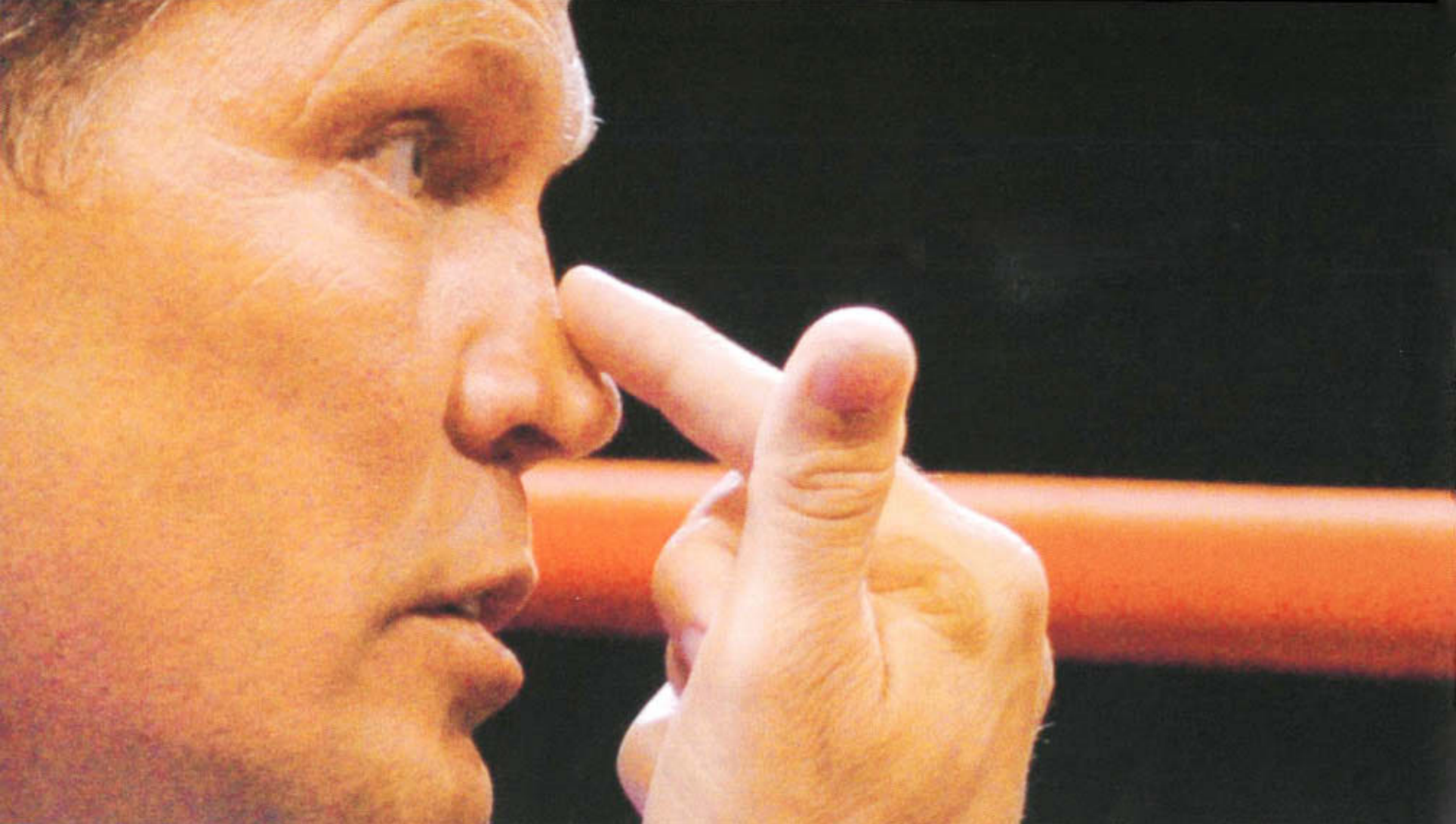
Canadian Trevor Stewardson is worked against the ropes by Ahmed Ismail of Egypt during their second round light heavyweight 81kg match. Ismail was awarded a 38-22 points decision.

© AFP/J. Klamar

Light 60kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	KINDELAN MESA Mario Cesar	CUB
Silver	KHAN Amir	GBR
Bronze	KHRACHEV Murat	RUS
Bronze	YELEUOV Serik	KAZ
5th	HUSEYNOV Rovshan	AZE
5th	VALENTINO Domenico	ITA
5th	BAIK Jong Sub	KOR
5th	RUKUNDO Sam	UGA

Light Welter 64kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	BOONJUMNONG Manus	THA
Silver	JOHNSON CEDENO Yudel	CUB
Bronze	GHEORGHE Ionut	ROM
Bronze	GEORGIEV Boris	BUL
5th	BLAIN Willy	FRA
5th	di ROCCO Michele	ITA
5th	KARIMZHANOV Nurzhan	KAZ
5th	MAHMUDOVI Dilshod	UZB





Top:

Najah Ali of Iraq receives instruction during his second round light flyweight 48kg bout against Armenia's Aleksan Nalbandyan. Ali was outpointed by Nalbandyan 24-11.
© AFP/J. Klamar

Welter 69kg

Bakhtiyar ARTAYEV (KAZ) managed to win the gold in the Welter 69kg category, over Lorenzo ARAGON ARMENTEROS (CUB), who won the silver. The bronze went to Oleg SAITOV from Russia, and Jung Joo KIM from Korea.

Middle 75kg

There was emotion too, when Gaydarbek GAYDARBKOV, the silver medallist in Sydney, won the Middle Weight final over world champion Gennadiy GOLOVKIN (KAZ).

"Four years ago, I lost in Sydney. Today feels like winning the lottery", he said. GAYDARBKOV dedicated the victory to his three-month-old son, and then announced that he would retire from boxing. Suriya PRASATHINPHIMAI (THA) and Andre DIRRELL (USA) won the bronze.

Light Heavy 81kg

The United States had a mixed tournament, winning its first Olympic boxing gold medal, since the Atlanta Games in 1996, with victory in the Light Heavy Weight 81kg category, through Andre WARD. The silver went to Magomed ARIPGADJIEV (BLR), whereas the two bronze went to Utkirbek H AYDAROV (UZB) and Ahmed ISMAIL (EGY).

Heavy 91kg

Heavy Weight Odlanier SOLIS FONTE, who had won two World Championships, was Cuba's second gold medal winner, defeating Viktor ZUYEV (BLR), the first Heavy Weight athlete from Belarus to win an Olympic medal of any kind. Syria would also leave the Olympics happy, since the only Syrian boxer in the tournament Naser AL SHAMI won the bronze. Egypt also celebrated its first ever Olympic boxing medals, one silver and two bronze, with Mohamed ELSAYED taking also the bronze.

Super Heavy +91kg

Following TICHTCENKO's outstanding victory, Alexander POVETKIN (RUS) took the gold, in the Super Heavy +91kg category, after defeating Mohamed ALY from Egypt, whereas Italy with Roberto CAMMARELLE and Michel LOPEZ NUNEZ from Cuba took the bronze.

KINDELAN MESA, KHAN, RIGONDEAUX ORTIZ, and young Alexei TICHTCENKO were certainly outstanding performers in the ring. For Iraq, Najah ALI was an outstanding ambassador who won hearts, if not medals, with his courageous performances against opponents much bigger than his diminutive 1,5 metres.



Welter 69kg

	Name	NOC
Gold	ARTAYEV Bakhtiyar	KAZ
Silver	ARAGON ARMENTEROS Lorenzo	CUB
Bronze	SAITOV Oleg	RUS
Bronze	KIM Jung Joo	KOR
5th	KHAIROV Ruslan	AZE
5th	NOVOA AGUINAGA Juan Camilo	COL
5th	POLYAKOV Viktor	UKR
5th	HUSANOV Sherzod	UZB

Middle 75kg

	Name	NOC
Gold	GAYDARBEKOV Gaydarbek	RUS
Silver	GOLOVKIN Gennadiy	KAZ
Bronze	PRASATHINPHIMAI Suriya	THA
Bronze	DIRRELL Andre	USA
5th	NDAMNJIKAM Hassan	CMR
5th	DESPAIGNE HERRERA Yordani	CUB
5th	YASSER Ramadan	EGY
5th	MASHKIN Oleg	UKR

Light Heavy 81kg

	Name	NOC
Gold	WARD Andre	USA
Silver	ARIPGADJIEV Magomed	BLR
Bronze	HAYDAROV Utkirbek	UZB
Bronze	ISMAIL Ahmed	EGY
5th	LEI Yuping	CHN
5th	PAVLIDIS Elias	GRE
5th	MAKARENKO Evgeny	RUS
5th	TARHAN Ihsan Yildirim	TUR

Heavy 91kg

	Name	NOC
Gold	SOLIS FONTE Odlanier	CUB
Silver	ZUYEV Viktor	BLR
Bronze	AL SHAMI Naser	SYR
Bronze	ELSAYED Mohamed	EGY
5th	FORSYTH Adam	AUS
5th	ALAKBAROV Vugar	AZE
5th	VARGAS Devin	USA
5th	VASQUEZ TORRES Wilmer Jose	VEN

Super Heavy +91kg

	Name	NOC
Gold	POVETKIN Alexander	RUS
Silver	ALY Mohamed	EGY
Bronze	CAMMARELLE Roberto	ITA
Bronze	LOPEZ NUNEZ Michel	CUB
5th	DILDABEKOV Mukhtarkhan	KAZ
5th	JAKSTO Jaroslav	LTU
5th	MAZIKIN Oleksii	UKR
5th	ESTRADA Jason	USA



Canoe/Kayak Flatwater Racing



Competition Sequence

The Olympic Canoe/Kayak Flatwater Racing competition was held over six competition days, from 23 to 28 August 2004.

Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 **23 24 25 26 27 28** 29

As an Olympic sport Canoe/Kayak Flatwater racing made its debut, for men only, at the Olympic Games held in 1936, in Berlin, whilst women were not allowed to take part in the sport until 1946. The same year the modern International Canoe Federation (ICF) was established. Today the ICF has 101 federation members, and it deals with the supervision and organisation of Canoe/Kayak competitions at the Olympics, World and Continental Championships, and regional sport competitions, such as American, Asian, Mediterranean, etc.

Description

Canoe/Kayak (Flatwater) is a sprint race in calm water, which demands power and speed from the athletes. Competitors race in Canoe (C) or Kayak (K) categories, on a course made up of nine lines, each 9m wide. In Olympic Games competition, competitors paddle over distances of 500m or 1.000m. Both men and women compete in Canoe/Kayak Flatwater Racing disciplines, but there are no mixed crews. Men and women compete in Kayak boats, whereas only men compete in Canoes. The winning paddler or crew is the one whose bow's point (the front tip of the boat) crosses the finishing line first. If the race is very close, the winner is determined by a photo finish. The categories of boats are divided into Canoes (C1, C2) and Kayaks (K1, K2, K4), the letter standing for the style of boat and the number of paddlers in the boat.

There are twelve Olympic disciplines: nine for men, four at 500m (K1, K2, C1, C2) and five at 1.000m (K1, K2, K4, C1, C2); three for women, at 500m (K1, K2, K4).

Men's: 9	Total: 12
Women's: 3	

Competitors: 244		
Event	Canoeists	NOC
Men		
K1 500	28	28
K1 1.000	25	25
K2 500	38	19
K2 1.000	32	16
K4 1.000	40	10
C1 500	19	19
C1 1.000	19	19
C2 500	28	14
C2 1.000	28	14
Women		
K1 500	23	23
K2 500	30	15
K4 500	40	10

Venue

In Athens, the Canoe/Kayak Flatwater Racing was held at the Schinias Olympic Rowing and Canoeing Centre, near the village of Marathon. The main part of the lake was 2.250 metres long and was linked to a smaller auxiliary lake, which was used for training and warm-up purposes.

Games Highlights

Closing the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games Canoe/Kayak Flatwater competition, Germany finished top of the medal standings with nine, including four gold, four silver and one bronze. Six Olympic medals put Hungary in second place on the medal standings. Slovakia was placed third with four medals in total, while France, Canada, Great Britain and Russia all took home three medals of varying colours.

Left page:

German canoeist Andreas Dittmer heads out to train prior to the finals of the flatwater canoeing, 27 August 2004. Dittmer took the silver medal in the men's C1 1.000m. The following day, he won gold in the men's C1 500m. © REUTERS/A. Clark

Men's Events

KI 500m/K2 500m

Australia's Nathan BAGGALEY took home two silver medals, after finishing just behind Canada's Adam van KOEVERDEN in the KI 500m, and with partner Clint ROBINSON (AUS) finished second to the world champion Germans in the K2 500m. Belarus, who looked impressive in their heat, clinched the bronze medal, with Raman PIATRUSHENKA and Vadzim MAKHNEU, whereas the bronze in KI 500m went to Ian WYNNE from Great Britain.

KI 1.000m/K2 1.000m

In the Men's events, Eirik Veraas LARSEN (NOR) won gold in the KI 1.000m and just one

hour later took the bronze in the K2 1000m with partner Nils Olav FJELDHEIM (NOR). Ben FOUHY (NZL) and Adam van KOEVERDEN (CAN) won the silver and bronze respectively, in the KI 1.000m, whereas Antonio ROSSI coupled with Beniamino BONOMI (ITA) and LARSEN coupled with FJELDHEIM (NOR) took the silver and bronze respectively, in the K2 1.000m.

K4 1.000m

In the Men K4 1.000m, Hungary managed to win the gold with 2:56.919, followed by Germany with 2:58.659 and Slovakia with 2:59.314, who took the silver and bronze respectively.

Men KI 500m			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	van KOEVERDEN Adam	CAN	1:37.919
Silver	BAGGALEY Nathan	AUS	1:38.467
Bronze	WYNNE Ian	GBR	1:38.547
4th	LARSEN Eirik Veraas	NOR	1:38.667
5th	VERECKEI Akos	HUN	1:39.315
6th	ALTEPOST Lutz	GER	1:39.647
7th	AMIR TAHMASSEB Babak	FRA	1:40.187
8th	CORREA Javier	ARG	1:40.639

Men KI 1.000m			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	LARSEN Eirik Veraas	NOR	3:25.897
Silver	FOUHY Ben	NZL	3:27.413
Bronze	van KOEVERDEN Adam	CAN	3:28.218
4th	BAGGALEY Nathan	AUS	3:28.310
5th	BRABANTS Tim	GBR	3:30.553
6th	KOKENY Roland	HUN	3:31.121
7th	SILVA Emanuel	POR	3:33.862
8th	GOLDSCHMIDT Bjoern	GER	3:34.381

Men K4 1.000m			
	Team	NOC	Time
Gold	Hungary	HUN	2:56.919
Silver	Germany	GER	2:58.659
Bronze	Slovakia	SVK	2:59.314
4th	Bulgaria	BUL	2:56.622
5th	Norway	NOR	3:01.698
6th	Belarus	BLR	3:02.419
7th	Romania	ROM	3:03.107
8th	Poland	POL	3:03.562

Men K2 500m			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	RAUHE Ronald WIESKOETTER Tim	GER	1:27.040
Silver	ROBINSON Clint BAGGALEY Nathan	AUS	1:27.920
Bronze	PIATRUSHENKA Raman MAKHNEU Vadzim	BLR	1:27.996
4th	TWARDOWSKI Marek WYSOCKI Adam	POL	1:28.048
5th	KAMMERER Zoltan STORCZ Botond	HUN	1:29.096
6th	VINDEL Damian LLERA Francisco	ESP	1:29.532
7th	DUONELA Alvydas BALCIUNAS Egidijus	LTU	1:29.868
8th	ROSSI Antonio BONOMI Beniamino	ITA	1:30.804

Men K2 1.000m			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	OSCARSSON Markus NILSSON Henrik	SWE	3:18.420
Silver	ROSSI Antonio BONOMI Beniamino	ITA	3:19.484
Bronze	LARSEN Eirik Veraas FJELDHEIM Nils Olav	NOR	3:19.528
4th	COLLINS Daniel RHODES David	AUS	3:19.956
5th	D HAENE Wouter MAESEN Bob	BEL	3:20.196
6th	SCHAEFER Jan HERSZEL Marco	GER	3:20.548
7th	WYNNE Ian DARBY DOWMAN Paul	GBR	3:20.848
8th	FOUHY Ben FERGUSON Steven	NZL	3:21.336

Right page:

China's Wang Bing powers to finish third during the men's CI 500m semi-finals. He placed ninth in the finals. © AFP/M. Marmur



CI 500m/CI 1.000m

Germany took another Olympic title in the Men's CI 500m, when world champion Andreas DITTMER beat David CAL (ESP), winner of the Olympic gold in the CI 1.000m. CAL ended up with the silver medal, with Russia's Maxim OPALEV in third. In the CI 1.000m, Attila VAJDA won the bronze.

C2 500m/C2 1.000m

The Men's C2 500m was the closest race, requiring a photo finish to split the medal

positions. None of the competitors knew who had won the race when they crossed the finish line, and had to wait for the official announcement. Surprise outsiders, China took the title with Cuba in second place and Russia taking home the bronze. In the C2 1.000m, Christian GILLE and his partner Tomasz WYLENZEK from Germany took the gold, after defeating Alexander KOSTOGLD and Alexander KOVALEV from Russia. The bronze went to Gyorgy KOZMANN and Gyorgy KOLONICS from Hungary.

Men CI 500m			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	DITTMER Andreas	GER	1:46.383
Silver	CAL David	ESP	1:46.723
Bronze	OPALEV Maxim	RUS	1:47.767
4th	ZHUKOUSKI Aliaksandr	BLR	1:47.903
5th	DOKTOR Martin	CZE	1:47.999
6th	DALTON Richard	CAN	1:48.103
7th	JOOB Marton	HUN	1:48.195
8th	ATANASOV Stanimir	BUL	1:49.759

Men CI 1.000m			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	CAL David	ESP	3:46.201
Silver	DITTMER Andreas	GER	3:46.721
Bronze	VAJDA Attila	HUN	3:49.025
4th	DOKTOR Martin	CZE	3:50.405
5th	GILES Stephen	CAN	3:51.457
6th	VINOGRADOVS Dagnis	LAT	3:53.537
7th	OSTRIL Marian	SVK	3:54.629
8th	AGUILAR CHACON Karel	CUB	3:54.957

Men C2 500m			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	MENG Guanliang YANG Wenjun	CHN	1:40.278
Silver	ROJAS BLANCO Ibrahim BALCEIRO PAJON Ledis Frank	CUB	1:40.350
Bronze	KOSTOGLD Alexander KOVALEV Alexander	RUS	1:40.442
4th	SIMIONCENCU Silviu POPESCU Florin	ROM	1:40.618
5th	GILLE Christian WYLENZEK Tomasz	GER	1:40.802
6th	KURLIANDCHYK Aliaksandr BAHDANOVICH Aliaksandr	BLR	1:40.858
7th	KOZMANN Gyorgy KOLONICS Gyorgy	HUN	1:41.138
8th	BUDAY Attila BUDAY JR Tamas	CAN	1:41.210

Men C2 1.000m			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	GILLE Christian WYLENZEK Tomasz	GER	3:41.802
Silver	KOSTOGLD Alexander KOVALEV Alexander	RUS	3:42.990
Bronze	KOZMANN Gyorgy KOLONICS Gyorgy	HUN	3:43.106
4th	SIMIONCENCU Silviu POPESCU Florin	ROM	3:43.858
5th	SLIWINSKI Michal WOSZCZYNSKI Lukasz	POL	3:44.338
6th	DALTON Richard SCAROLA Michael	CAN	3:45.638
7th	BEA Alfredo MASCATO David	ESP	3:45.766
8th	ROJAS BLANCO Ibrahim BALCEIRO PAJON Ledis Frank	CUB	3:50.346



This page:

Sweden's Markus Oscarsson and Henrik Nilsson paddle to win the gold medals in the men's K2 1,000m finals. Sweden won gold in three minutes 18.420 seconds.
© REUTERS/A. Clark



Women's Events

K2 500m/KI 500m

Natasa JANICS (HUN) was the only female paddler to win two Olympic gold medals at the Schinias Olympic Rowing and Canoeing Centre. JANICS with an outstanding performance took the coveted Women's KI 500m title and the Women's K2 500m gold medal, with partner Katalin KOVACS (HUN), beating kayaking legend FISCHER and her partner Carolin LEONHARDT (GER) to the line in the final race of the programme. However, the return of Birgit FISCHER (GER) from retirement to compete at her sixth Olympic Games hit the headlines and underlined her dominance in the

sport when, at 42 years old, she won her eighth Olympic title and her fourth silver medal. FISCHER, who narrowly missed out on winning her ninth Olympic gold medal, won the silver; putting her in joint second place with Jenny THOMPSON (USA) on the Women's Olympic multi-medal table. Germany was the largest team in the competition with 12 boats and 17 athletes representing their NOC in all event categories.

K4 500m

In the Women's K4 500m, Germany won the gold, after defeating Hungary with 1:34.340. Ukraine finished third, taking the bronze.

Women KI 500m			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	JANICS Natasa	HUN	1:47.741
Silver	IDEM Josefa	ITA	1:49.729
Bronze	BRUNET Caroline	CAN	1:50.601
4th	WAGNER Katrin	GER	1:52.557
5th	ERBANOVA Marcela	SVK	1:52.685
6th	PEISAKHOVITCH Larissa	ISR	1:53.089
7th	HARDY Lucy	GBR	1:53.717
8th	HONKANEN Jenni	FIN	1:53.937

Women K2 500m			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	KOVACS Katalin JANICS Natasa	HUN	1:38.101
Silver	FISCHER Birgit LEONHARDT Carolin	GER	1:39.533
Bronze	PASTUSZKA Aneta SOKOLOWSKA KULESZA Beata	POL	1:40.077
4th	XU Linbei ZHONG Hongyan	CHN	1:40.913
5th	MANCHON Beatriz PORTELA Teresa	ESP	1:42.409
6th	DACHEVA Delyana PINDZHEVA Bonka	BUL	1:42.553
7th	BRUNET Caroline BARRE Mylanie	CAN	1:42.833
8th	PALDANIUS Sofia KARLSSON Anna	SWE	1:43.077

Women K4 500m			
	Team	NOC	Time
Gold	Germany	GER	1:34.340
Silver	Hungary	HUN	1:34.536
Bronze	Ukraine	UKR	1:36.192
4th	Poland	POL	1:36.376
5th	Spain	ESP	1:37.908
6th	Australia	AUS	1:38.116
7th	People's Republic of China	CHN	1:38.144
8th	Canada	CAN	1:39.952

This page

Gold, silver and bronze medallists in the women's K2 500m: Hungarians Katalin Kovacs and Natasa Janics, Germans Birgit Fischer and Carolin Leonhardt, and Poland's Aneta Pastuszka and Beata Sokolowska Kulesza.
© AFP/M. Antonov

Right page:

Katalin Kovacs and Natasa Janics of Hungary warm down after their victory during the women's K2 500m final.
© Getty Images/J. Ferrey





Canoe/Kayak Slalom Racing



Competition Sequence

The Olympic Canoe/Kayak Slalom Racing competition was held over four competition days, from 17 to 20 August 2004.

Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun
 11 12 13 14 15 16 **17 18 19 20** 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

Canoe/Kayak Slalom Racing made its first Olympic appearance at the Munich 1972 Games, but the construction costs of artificial courses proved a deterrent until 20 years later, when it returned to the Olympic programme at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. It has been part of the Olympic programme ever since, with the 2003 World Championships at Augsburg and Athens World Cup event serving as qualification competitions for the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games. Today, the ICF has 113 federation members, while it supervises and organises the Canoe/Kayak Slalom competitions at the Olympic Games, World and Continental Championships, regional and sport competitions and World Cup competitions.

Men's: 3 (C1, C2, K1)	Total: 4
Women's: 1 (K1)	

Competitors: 84		NOC:22
Event	Canoeists	NOC
Men		
C1 Canoe Single	16	14
C2 Canoe Double	24	10
K1 Kayak Single	25	21
Women		
K1 Kayak Single	19	16

Description

Canoe/Kayak slalom racing takes place on a natural (river) or artificial competition course, and its basic features are dexterity, power, speed and tactical skill. The aim in a Slalom competition is to paddle, as quickly as possible, through the fast-flowing water course, while passing through a series of "gates" without committing any technical foul by touching them with the paddle, boat, head or body. In Slalom, there are penalties, which depending in the type of the foul, can cost a paddler either 2 or 50 points. The length of the course is between 250m and 400m in distance and has 18 to 28 numbered gates. At least six of the gates must be set against the water current. In the Slalom race, there are Preliminary heats (two races), semi-finals (one race) and finals (one race).

The programme of Canoe/Kayak Slalom Racing for the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games consisted of four events:

Venue

The Canoe/Kayak Slalom Racing competition was held in the Olympic Canoe/Kayak Slalom Centre, located within the Helliniko Olympic Complex, in the south of Athens and welcomed 8.000 Canoe/Kayak Slalom fans. The venue was designed to operate as a sports centre, consisting of a competition course, a secondary training course, and a warm-up lake of natural form, occupying a total area of 27.000 square metres. It is located within the former Helliniko Airport in Athens, northeast of the Helliniko Olympic Complex and occupies an area of 288.000 square metres. The same venue hosted the Athens Slalom Racing World Cup 2004 on 22-25 April 2004.

Games Highlights

Slovakia and France displayed their dominance in Canoe/Kayak Slalom, having topped the medal standings with three medals each.

Left page:

Jennifer Bongardt of Germany competes in the Kayak single during an Olympic Games preliminary race, 17 August. She ranked ninth in the finals.
 © AFP/A. Messinis

The course, which has been heralded as the most demanding course in the world with its large drops and fast-flowing water, provided the ideal stage for the exciting four-day Olympic Canoe/Kayak Slalom competition.

Men's C1 Canoe Single/ Men's K1 Kayak Single

Three-times Olympic medallist Michal MARTIKAN (SVK) missed out on the gold medal by 0.12 points in the Men's C1, demonstrating Slovakia's further dominance. France showed that in the men's individual events, C1 and K1, it is the best in the world. Tony ESTANGUET (FRA) successfully defended his Olympic title in the Men's C1, while Benoit PESCHIER (FRA) won gold in the K1 and teammate, Fabien LEFEVRE (FRA), world number one in K1, took home the bronze. Great Britain and Germany each won two medals. Great Britain's Campbell WALSH, ranked second in the world, matched that ranking, when he gained the silver medal. WALSH produced a clean and fast run in the semi-final, but did not manage to match the same speed in the final run missing out on the title by 2.21 points.

Men's C1 Canoe Single			
	Name	NOC	Total Time
Gold	ESTANGUET Tony	FRA	189.16
Silver	MARTIKAN Michal	SVK	189.28
Bronze	PFANNMOELLER Stefan	GER	191.56
4th	BELL Robin	AUS	192.83
5th	INDRUCHTomas	CZE	195.28
6th	HOCEVAR Simeon	SLO	199.78
7th	SANGRA Jordi	ESP	200.41
8th	MCINTOSH Stuart	GBR	211.19

Men's K1 Kayak Single			
	Name	NOC	Total Time
Gold	PESCHIER Benoit	FRA	187.96
Silver	WALSH Campbell	GBR	190.17
Bronze	LEFEVRE Fabien	FRA	190.99
4th	FORD David	CAN	192.58
5th	SCHMIDT Thomas	GER	192.93
6th	PARSONS Scott	USA	194.76
7th	POLACZYK Grzegorz	POL	196.57
8th	OUD Sam	NED	197.28

Men's C2 Canoe Double

Meanwhile, the HOCHSCHORNER twins defended their Olympic title, taking gold in the Men's C2 by 3.82 points. In a sport that is normally split by fractions of seconds, these winning margins reflect the winners' rankings at the top of the world and now as Olympic champions. The German C2, Marcus BECKER and Stefan HENZE, ranked third in the world, took the silver with Jaroslav VOLF and Ondrej STEPANEK (CZE), winner over the Olympic course at the test event in April, capturing bronze.

Women's K1 Kayak Single

Slovakia's gold-medal winners showed their supremacy with the Women's K1 paddler Elena KALISKA, completing four flawless runs in her Olympic campaign, won the final by 4.54 points, defeating Rebecca GIDDENS from USA, who took the silver. The bronze went to Helen REEVES from Great Britain.

Men's C2 Canoe Double			
	Name	NOC	Total Time
Gold	HOCHSCHORNER Pavol HOCHSCHORNER Peter	SVK	207.16
Silver	BECKER Marcus HENZE Stefan	GER	210.98
Bronze	VOLF Jaroslav STEPANEK Ondrej	CZE	212.86
4th	BAHMANN Christian SENF Michael	GER	213.45
5th	QUEMERAIS Philippe LE PENNEC Yann	FRA	216.79
6th	BENETTI Andrea MASOERO Erik	ITA	220.06

Women's K1 Kayak Single			
	Name	NOC	Total Time
Gold	KALISKA Elena	SVK	210.03
Silver	GIDDENS Rebecca	USA	214.62
Bronze	REEVES Helen	GBR	218.77
4th	DICKENS Peggy	FRA	218.80
5th	HILGERTOVA Stepanka	CZE	220.75
6th	EL DESOUKI Nagwa	SUI	225.04
7th	NATOLI Louise	AUS	227.44
8th	GIAIPRON Maria Cristina	ITA	229.36

Right page:

Rebecca Giddens of the USA poses with her silver medal for the women's K1 slalom.
© Getty Images/C. Mason





Cycling Mountain Bike



Competition Sequence

Olympic Mountain Bike events were held on 27 and 28 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Mountain Bike, as a discipline, was introduced into the Olympic programme only in 1996, at the Atlanta Olympics, even though it was a popular sport since the 1970s, practiced mainly for entertainment and recreation. The first Mountain Bike World Championships were held in 1990. Today, the sport is governed by the international rules set by the UCI (International Cycling Union), which numbers more than 170 national federations among its members spread across the Cycling Unions of five continents.

Description

The Olympic Mountain Bike competition consists of two events:

Men's Cross Country	Total: 2
Women's Cross Country	

The first cyclist to complete the course is the winner of the event. The race is held on a circular course of 6-9km in length. Competitors are divided into competition categories by age. According to the rules of UCI, a cyclist has to be sixteen or older in order to be eligible for an international Mountain Bike event.

Competitors: 80		
Event	Cyclists	NOC
Men	50	32
Women	30	24

Venue

The Cycling Mountain Bike competition took place along a magnificent route at Parnitha, a mountain situated in the north of Athens, close to the city centre and even closer to the Olympic Village. The venue was situated in the Municipality of Acharnes; it involved a temporary construction undertaken by the General Secretariat of Sports.

Games Highlights

Norway's Gunn-Rita DAHLE and France's Julien ABSALON were the Olympic Mountain Bike champions after two days of competition at the Parnitha Hill course.

Left page:

Germany's world champion Sabine Spitz rides during the woman's Olympic mountain bike cross country race. She finished third, her time of 1:59:21 securing her the bronze.
© REUTERS/P. Hanna

Women's Cross Country

Race favourite DAHLE continued her recent dominance of the sport, leading from the start to cover the 31,3km (five lap) course in 1:56:51. Not even a fall and chain problems could prevent the Norwegian from crossing the line first, 59 seconds ahead of Canadian Marie-Helene PREMONT. Half way through the race it seemed that Canada would also claim the bronze medal, but German Sabine SPITZ caught Alison SYDOR (CAN) and stayed ahead, ending the race 26 seconds ahead of SYDOR, but 2:30 behind DAHLE. The gold medallist from Atlanta and Sydney, Italy's Paola PEZZO, had an unhappy time on her comeback, forced out of the competition with back problems after the second lap. It was a hard race for the 30 women - only 24 of whom finished - which started at 11:00 at the Pamitha Olympic Mountain Bike Venue.

Women's Cross Country				
	Name	NOC	Time	
Gold	DAHLE Gunn-Rita	NOR	1:56:51	
Silver	PREMONT Marie-Helene	CAN	1:57:50	
Bronze	SPITZ Sabine	GER	1:59:21	
4th	SYDOR Alison	CAN	1:59:47	
5th	Van ROOY-VINK Elsbeth	NED	2:01:41	
6th	WLOSZCZOWSKA Maja	POL	2:02:08	
7th	KRAFT Ivonne	GER	2:05:18	
8th	LEBOUCHER Laurence	FRA	2:05:34	

Men's Cross Country

In the Men's Cross Country race, ABSALON finally gave French cycling something to cheer about at these Olympic Games. Attacking on Lap 4 of the seven lap (43,3km) circuit - on the steepest hill of the course - ABSALON crossed the line first in 2:15:02 to give France its first cycling gold in Athens. Jose Antonio HERMIDA (ESP) and Bart BRENTJENS (NED) could not respond and had to fight out the silver and bronze medal positions. Ultimately it was the Spaniard, who proved stronger than the veteran Dutchman, who had been gold medallist in Atlanta in 1996.

Men's Cross Country				
	Name	NOC	Time	
Gold	ABSALON Julien	FRA	2:15:02	
Silver	HERMIDA Jose Antonio	ESP	2:16:02	
Bronze	BRENTJENS Bart	NED	2:17:05	
4th	PAULISSEN Roel	BEL	2:18:10	
5th	KILLEEN Liam	GBR	2:18:32	
6th	NAEF Ralph	SUI	2:19:15	
7th	FRISCHKNECHT Thomas	SUI	2:19:39	
8th	FUMIC Manuel	GER	2:20:29	



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Lado Fumic of Germany leads the pack at the start of the men's mountain bike cross country event at the Parnitha Olympic Mountain Bike Venue. He did not finish, abandoning the race in lap 4.
© Getty Images/D. Pensinger

Norway's Gunn-Rita Dahle celebrates her Olympic women's mountain bike gold medal with her coach, trainer and fiancé Kenneth Flesja. Dahle gave Norway their first Olympic cycling gold medal in 32 years when she overcame heat and problems with her mountain bike to win the women's cross country title in one hour 56 minutes and 51 seconds.
© REUTERS/E. Gaillard



Cycling

Road Cycling



Competition Sequence

Road Cycling events were held on 14, 15 and 18 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Cycling has featured in the Olympic Games, since the first edition of the modern era in Athens, in 1896, where five races (Sprint, 1km, 12 hours, 10km and 100km) and an individual Road race were held. A Greek athlete, Aristides Konstantinidis, was crowned gold Olympic winner on 31 March 1896 for the 87km endurance road race, which started from Athens, went out to Marathon and ended at Faliro. The first competitions for women took place in Los Angeles, in 1984, and since 1996 professional riders have been allowed to compete in road races (Road and Time Trial). In the same year, the Mountain Bike Cross-Country race was included in the Olympic programme.

Description

Road Cycling includes two events: the Road Race, an endurance event and the Individual Time Trial, in which both men and women participate.

Men's 2	Total: 4
Women's 2	

Left page:

Britain's Nicole Cooke rides in the women's cycling road race as they pass in front of the ancient Acropolis. She ranked fifth. The race made nine laps around the historical centre of Athens for a total of 118,8 kilometres.
© REUTERS/P. Hanna

Competitors		
Men's		
Event	Cyclists	NOC
Road Race	144	43
Individual Time Trial	40	29
Women's		
Event	Cyclists	NOC
Road Race	67	30
Individual Time Trial	25	16

Venue

The Cycling Road Race took place in the historical centre of Athens with start and finish line at Kotzia Square. ATHOC, in cooperation with the International Cycling Union, had designed the course, which passed through the most important sites of the Greek capital. The test event of Cycling had been successfully conducted at this venue in August 2003.

The Cycling Time Trial event was held at the Vouliagmeni Olympic Centre, on the south coast of Attica, along the Vouliagmeni - Agia Marina route.

Games Highlights

USA topped the medal count in Olympic road cycling with three medals (gold, silver and bronze). Russia earned two medals, a silver and a bronze. Australia, Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal and Switzerland each won one medal.

Men's Road Race

Italy's Paolo BETTINI dominated in the Men's Road Race on the opening day of competition. Only Sergio PAULINHO of Portugal was able to follow the Italian veteran, who won his first Olympic medal. Belgium's Axel MERCKX took the bronze.

Men's Individual Time Trial

Tyler HAMILTON (USA) won the Individual Time Trial, his gold medal serving as compensation for his disappointing Tour de France, where he was forced to withdraw because of a fall. The 33-year-old HAMILTON described the win as the greatest moment of his career. HAMILTON'S teammate Bobby JULICH won bronze. Russian Viatcheslav EKIMOV, the Sydney Olympic champion, finished between the Americans. One of the pre-race favourites, Germany's Jan ULLRICH, was the last man out, but could do no better than seventh, more than 90 seconds behind HAMILTON.

Men's Road Race			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	BETTINI Paolo	ITA	5:41:44
Silver	PAULINHO Sergio	POR	5:41:45
Bronze	MERCKX Axel	BEL	5:41:52
4th	ZABEL Erik	GER	5:41:56
5th	HAUPTMAN Andrej	SLO	5:41:56
6th	KIRCHEN Kim	LUX	5:41:56
7th	HAMMOND Roger	GBR	5:41:56
8th	HOJ Frank	DEN	5:41:56

Women's Road Race			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	CARRIGAN Sara	AUS	3:24:24
Silver	ARNDT Judith	GER	3:24:31
Bronze	SLYUSAREVA Olga	RUS	3:25:03
4th	WOOD Oenone	AUS	3:25:03
5th	COOKE Nicole	GBR	3:25:03
6th	MELCHERS Mirjam	NED	3:25:06
7th	SOMARRIBA ARROLA Joane	ESP	3:25:06
8th	ARMSTRONG Kristin	USA	3:25:06

Right page:

USA's Tyler Hamilton rides during the men's individual time trial competition in Vouliagmeni. Hamilton won the event.
© AFP PHOTO DDP/J. Eisele

Women's Road Race

In both Women's races, all eyes were on Leontien ZIJLAARD-van MOORSEL of the Netherlands, reigning Olympic champion in the Road Race and Individual Time Trial, but unfortunately she was thwarted by a fall. With the race then open, Sara CARRIGAN of Australia rode cleverly to escape from the other favourites. Germany's Judith ARNDT went with CARRIGAN on the escape, but CARRIGAN easily edged her out in the sprint. The bronze went to Olga SLYUSAREVA of Russia.

Women's Individual Time Trial

The Netherlands' Leontien ZIJLAARD-van MOORSEL successfully defended the Women's Individual Time Trial title she won in Sydney four years ago, finishing a comfortable 24 seconds ahead of her nearest rival, at an average speed of 46,165 kph. It is the fourth Olympic gold medal of her career and was achieved with complete composure. ZIJLAARD-van MOORSEL now joins world-famous athletes Fanny BLANKERS-KOEN and equestrian eventer Charles PAHUD de MORTANGES as the Netherlands' athlete with the most Olympic gold medals. American Deirdre DEMET-BARRY took the silver, the third USA medal, whereas Switzerland's Karin THUERIG won the bronze.

Men's Individual Time Trial			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	HAMILTON Tyler	USA	57:31.74
Silver	EKIMOV Viatcheslav	RUS	57:50.58
Bronze	JULICH Bobby	USA	57:58.19
4th	ROGERS Michael	AUS	58:01.67
5th	RICH Michael	GER	58:09.46
6th	VINOKOUROV Alexandre	KAZ	58:58.14
7th	ULLRICH Jan	GER	59:02.04
8th	BOTERO ECHEVERRI Santiago	COL	59:04.76

Women's Individual Time Trial			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	ZIJLAARD-van MOORSEL Leontien	NED	31:11.53
Silver	DEMET-BARRY Deirdre	USA	31:35.62
Bronze	THUERIG Karin	SUI	31:54.89
4th	THORBURN Christine	USA	32:14.82
5th	KOZLIKOVA Lada	CZE	32:15.41
6th	WOOD Oenone	AUS	32:16.00
7th	SOMARRIBA ARROLA Joane	ESP	32:25.93
8th	ZABIROVA Zoulfia	RUS	32:30.08



ATHENS 2004 



Cycling Track Cycling



Competition Sequence

Olympic Track Cycling was held from 20 to 25 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Track Cycling was first included in the Olympic programme in Athens in 1896. The competition took place at the Faliro Velodrome (today's Karaiskaki Football Stadium). Four years later the International Cycling Union (UCI) was founded in Rome by the National Cycling Federations of Belgium, France, Italy, Switzerland, and the USA. Today, it counts more than 170 national federations, which belong to five respective continental Cycling unions.

Description

Track Cycling consists of short, medium and long distance events, where speed, endurance and tactics are important factors, which determine the results.

The Olympic Track Cycling competition comprised of twelve events:

Men's 8	Total: 12
Women's 4	

Competitors: 190		
Men's		
Event	Cyclists	NOC
1 km Time Trial	17	13
Individual Pursuit	16	12
Sprint	20	14
Points Race	25	24
Keirin	23	16
Madison	37	18
Team Sprint	41	12
Team Pursuit	52	10

Women's		
Event	Cyclists	NOC
500m Time Trial	12	11
Points Race	20	20
Individual Pursuit	12	10
Sprint	12	11

Venue

Track Cycling was held in the Olympic Velodrome at the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA). The Olympic Velodrome hosted 5,250 spectators, who had the opportunity to view the fast-paced sport in the modern venue. The field of play was a wooden track made by afzelia hard wood of 250m length and 7,20m width. The banking at the two bends was 42° and at the two straights was 12°. The renovation of the Velodrome had been included in the project "Aesthetic Unification of OAKA" under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture. Part of it included its roof that had been designed by the famous Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava.

Games Highlights

Fears before the Olympic Track Cycling programme that the Olympic Velodrome would be slow and the wind would hinder the riders were quickly dismissed, as five world records and six Olympic records were broken during the six days of competition. Australia dominated in winning five of the 12 events, with Great Britain and Russia, each winning two and Germany, Canada and New Zealand one each.

Left page:

German cyclist Jens Fiedler does a victory lap with his five-year old son Ramon after winning the men's team sprint cycling final. Germany won the gold medal, with Japan taking silver and France taking the bronze.
© REUTERS/E. Gaillard

Men's Events

Men's 1 km Time Trial

The crowd witnessed one of the greatest Men's Individual Time Trials with the Olympic record lowered four times. Shane KELLY (AUS), the 1995-1997 world champion, was the fifth last rider out and rode a personal best at sea level in 1:01.224 to break the Olympic record. His joy lasted only until the next rider, however, as 2003 World Champion Stefan NIMKE (GER) covered the one kilometre circuit in 1:01.186. NIMKE's record survived Theo BOS's (NED) ride, after the Dutchman had a poor start before Arnaud TOURNANT (FRA) 1998-2001 world champion, rode a 1:00.896, taking 0.190 seconds off NIMKE's mark. As reigning world champion, Chris HOY (GBR) was the last rider out, and he led after each lap to lower the Olympic record to 1:00.711, and repeat fellow Briton Jason QUEALLY's gold medal effort of four years earlier in Sydney.

Men's Individual Pursuit

The record breaking started in the first event, the Men's Individual Pursuit Qualifying. Bradley WIGGINS (GBR), with a time of 4:15.165, took 3.35 seconds off Robert BARKTO's Olympic record of 4:18.515, set in Sydney four years ago. The following day, WIGGINS won the gold medal in 4:16.304 against Brad McGEE (AUS), 4:20.436. The Australian led at the first kilometre before the Briton increased his lead on every lap in the second half of the race. McGEE's silver medal improved on his two

bronze medals won in this event at the two previous Olympic Games. Sergi ESCOBAR (ESP), 2004 world champion, defeated Rob HAYLES (GBR) for bronze.

Men's Sprint

Ryan BAYLEY (AUS) proved he was the fastest pair of wheels here, after winning the Men's Sprint and Men's Keirin. In the final of the Sprint, BAYLEY and Theo BOS (NED) had three races, where the man in front with one lap to go was hauled down by his pursuer on the line. After the Dutchman took the first race, BAYLEY came back to win the second and third races. Rene WOLFF (GER) added a bronze to the gold medal. He won in the Men's Sprint after defeating Laurent GANE (FRA) 2-0.

Men's Points Race

Russia ruled the Points Races after Mikhail IGNATYEV and Olga SLYUSAREVA won the Men's and Women's races, respectively. IGNATYEV took the lead after the 11th sprint of 16, when he overlapped the field for the third time, and then combed the track so his opponents, silver medallist Joan LLANERAS (ESP) and bronze medallist Guido FULST (GER), were never within striking distance of him. The Russian scored 93 points and overlapped the bunch four times, while LLANERAS and FULST overlapped the field three times. LLANERAS won the 13th, 14th and 15th sprints to edge ahead of FULST 82 points to 79.

Men's 1 km Time Trial			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	HOY Chris	GBR	1:00.711
Silver	TOURNANT Arnaud	FRA	1:00.896
Bronze	NIMKE Stefan	GER	1:01.186
4th	KELLY Shane	AUS	1:01.224
5th	BOS Theo	NED	1:01.986
6th	PERVIS Francois	FRA	1:02.328
7th	MACLEAN Craig	GBR	1:02.369
8th	BERGEMANN Carsten	GER	1:02.551

Men's Individual Pursuit		
	Name	NOC
Gold	WIGGINS Bradley	GBR
Silver	McGEE Brad	AUS
Bronze	ESCOBAR Sergi	ESP
4th	HAYLES Rob	GBR
5th	ROBERTS Luke	AUS
6th	SANCHEZ Fabien	FRA
7th	DYUDYAVolodymyr	UKR
8th	BARTKO Robert	GER

Men's Sprint		
	Name	NOC
Gold	BAYLEY Ryan	AUS
Silver	BOS Theo	NED
Bronze	WOLFF Rene	GER
4th	GANE Laurent	FRA
5th	EDGAR Ross	GBR
6th	FORDE Barry	BAR
7th	ZIELINSKI Damian	POL
8th	BOURGAIN Mickael	FRA

Men's Points Race			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	IGNATYEV Mikhail	RUS	93
Silver	LLANERAS Joan	ESP	82
Bronze	FULST Guido	GER	79
4th	HENDERSON Greg	NZL	68
5th	KADLEC Milan	CZE	65
6th	RENSHAW Mark	AUS	60
7th	SCHEP Peter	NED	58
8th	CICCONE Angelo	ITA	49

Right page:

Briton Chris Hoy rides during the men's 1 km time trial final, 20 August, setting a new Olympic record of 1:00.711. Hoy won ahead of Frenchman Arnaud Tournant and German Stefan Nimke.
© AFP/G. Wood





uvex

ATHENS 2004 

Men's Keirin

BAYLEY won the Keirin easily with Jose ESCUREDO (ESP) second and Rene WOLFF crossing third. WOLFF was relegated, as he moved upwards, which caused Mickael BOURGAIN (FRA) to crash before the line, so bronze went to Shane KELLY (AUS).

Men's Madison

Defending Olympic Men's Madison champion Australia brought in road cyclist Stuart O'GRADY to partner Men's Team Pursuit Gold medallist Graeme BROWN and this proved successful with the pair controlling the race after lapping the field with the Germans on lap 62, then taking the lead after the fourth sprint. They accumulated points from seven of the 10 sprints available from the 200-lap race to score 22 points, while O'GRADY used his stamina to ensure no one went a lap ahead of them. Franco MARVULLI and Bruno RISI (SUI) took a lap on lap 115, then won the last three sprints to pass Bradley WIGGINS and Rob HAYLES (GBR) 15 points to 12 for the silver and bronze medals, respectively. The Britons gained a lap on 178, after recovering from HAYLES's crash on lap 108 with Robert SLIPPENS (NED), from which both riders returned to the track.

Men's Team Sprint

In the men's team sprint, Jens FIEDLER, Stefan NIMKE and Rene WOLFF (GER) defeated Toshiaki FUSHIMI, Masaki INOUE and Tomohiro NAGATSUKA (JPN) by 0.346 seconds after trailing on the first lap. Mickael BOURGAIN, Laurent GANE and Arnaud TOURNANT (FRA) won the bronze medal race against Australia.

Men's Team Pursuit

Since 2002 Australia have reigned supreme in the Men's Team Pursuit in winning the past three world championships and breaking the world record twice. At the Olympic Velodrome, confirmation of the Australians being the greatest Men's Team Pursuit unit was assured, after they lowered their world record to 3:56.610, and then won the Olympic gold medal against Great Britain. Graeme BROWN, Brett LANCASTER, Brad McGEE and Luke ROBERTS covered the four kilometres in 3:58.233 to win against Paul MANNING, Bradley WIGGINS, Rob HAYLES and Steve CUMMINGS in 4:01.760. In the first round, the British had become only the third country to go under four minutes in 3:59.866. Carlos CASTANO, Sergi ESCOBAR, Asier MAEZTU and Carlos TORRENT (ESP) won the bronze medal. The Spaniards trailed Germany at the two-kilometre mark, yet emerged victors in 4:05.523 to 4:07.193.

Men's Keirin		
	Name	NOC
Gold	BAYLEY Ryan	AUS
Silver	ESCUREDO Jose	ESP
Bronze	KELLY Shane	AUS
DNF	BOURGAIN Mickael	FRA
REL	WOLFF Rene	GER
REL	NG Josiah	MAS
7th	KWIATKOWSKI Lukasz	POL
8th	FIEDLER Jens	GER

Men's Madison			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	BROWN Graeme O'GRADY Stuart	AUS	22
Silver	MARVULLI Franco RISI Bruno	SUI	15
Bronze	HAYLES Rob WIGGINS Bradley	GBR	12
4th	BARTKO Robert FULST Guido	GER	9
5th	RYBIN Volodymyr YAKOVLEV Vasyl	UKR	9
6th	ALZAMORA Miquel LLANERAS Joan	ESP	7
7th	HENDERSON Greg ROULSTON Hayden	NZL	2
8th	GARBER Roland STOCHER Franz	AUT	8

Men's Team Sprint		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Germany	GER
Silver	Japan	JPN
Bronze	France	FRA
4th	Australia	AUS
5th	Great Britain	GBR
6th	Netherlands	NED
7th	Spain	ESP
8th	Greece	GRE

Men's Team Pursuit		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Australia	AUS
Silver	Great Britain	GBR
Bronze	Spain	ESP
4th	Germany	GER
5th	Netherlands	NED
6th	Ukraine	UKR
7th	France	FRA
8th	Lithuania	LTU

Left page:

Australia's Anna Meares rides to set a world record in the women's Olympic cycling 500-metre time trial. Meares clocked 33.952 seconds. © REUTERS/P. Hanna

Women's Events

Women's 500m Time Trial

Next event, next record broken! The Women's 500m Time Trial saw first Yonghua JIANG (CHN) break the Olympic record in a time of 34.112 seconds with the 2004 world champion Anna MEARES (AUS) last rider out. MEARES, whose previous best was 34.342, bolted out of the blocks with the fastest first lap, and maintained that momentum to break the world record in a time of 33.952, and become her country's first female Olympic Track Cycling champion. JIANG won the silver with 2002 and 2003 world champion Natallia TSYLINSKAYA third in 34.167.

Women's Points Race

SLYUSAREVA showed she is the greatest Female Points Racer when, after a slow start, she won three of the last five sprints in scoring a total of 20 points. Belem GUERRERO MENDEZ (MEX) won silver upon scoring two points on the final sprint to score 14 points, ahead of Maria Luisa CALLE WILLIAMS (COL) on 12 points. A doping disqualification initially gave MIRABELLA the bronze, a decision that was overturned in October 2005.

Women's 500m Time Trial			
	Name	NOC	Time
Gold	MEARES Anna	AUS	33.952
Silver	JIANG Yonghua	CHN	34.112
Bronze	TSYLINSKAYA Natallia	BLR	34.167
4th	KRUPECKAITE Simona	LTU	34.317
5th	HIJGENAAR Yvonne	NED	34.532
6th	PENDLETON Victoria	GBR	34.626
7th	MUENZER Lori-Ann	CAN	34.628
8th	CONTRERAS REYES Nancy	MEX	34.783

Women's Individual Pursuit		
	Name	NOC
Gold	ULMER Sarah	NZL
Silver	MACTIER Katie	AUS
Bronze	ZIJLAARD-van MOORSEL Leontien	NED
4th	BATES Katherine	AUS
5th	THUERIG Karin	SUI
6th	SLYUSAREVA Olga	RUS
7th	CHALYKH Elena	RUS
8th	DAVIES Emma	GBR

Women's Individual Pursuit

Of the many highlights of the Track Cycling programme, the standout would be the Women's Individual Pursuit, where the world record was decimated. In qualifying Katie MACTIER (AUS) broke Sarah ULMER's (NZL) world record in a time of 3:29.945, yet MACTIER's new record lasted only five minutes. ULMER, the 2004 world champion, rode next, and reclaimed her world record, dropping 3.555 seconds off MACTIER's mark to ride in 3:26.400. The New Zealander was not finished when -in the gold medal race- she lowered her one-day-old world record by 1.863 seconds to ride 3:24.537, beating the Australian, who rode a personal best of 3:27.650. Defending Olympic champion Leontien ZIJLAARD-van MOORSEL (NED) won bronze against Katherine BATES (AUS) in a personal best of 3:27.037.

Women's Sprint

Lori-Ann MUENZER (CAN) won the Women's Sprint against Tamilla ABASSOVA (RUS) 2-0, and became her country's first ever Olympic Cycling gold medallist. Anna MEARES (AUS) added a bronze medal to her Olympic gold medal from day one, when she defeated reigning world champion Svetlana GRANKOVSKAYA (RUS) 2-0 in the bronze medal ride-off.

Women's Points Race			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	SLYUSAREVA Olga	RUS	20
Silver	GUERRERO MENDEZ Belem	MEX	14
Bronze	CALLE WILLIAMS Maria Luisa	COL	12
4th	MIRABELLA Erin	USA	9
5th	CARRARA Vera	ITA	8
6th	ULMER Sarah	NZL	8
7th	PASCUAL Gema	ESP	7
8th	BATES Katherine	AUS	7

Women's Sprint		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MUENZER Lori-Ann	CAN
Silver	ABASSOVA Tamilla	RUS
Bronze	MEARES Anna	AUS
4th	GRANKOVSKAYA Svetlana	RUS
5th	TSYLINSKAYA Natallia	BLR
6th	MEINKE Katrin	GER
7th	KRUPECKAITE Simona	LTU

Right page:

New Zealander Sarah Ulmer celebrates on the podium after winning the gold medal of the women's individual pursuit finals, in a world record time of 3:24.537. © AFP/D. Meyer

2004







Competition Sequence

Equestrian events were held between 14 and 27 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Jumping was the first Equestrian discipline, which was included in the Paris 1900 Olympic Games. In the 1906 IOC Congress in Athens, Count Clarence von Rosen, Master of the Horse to the King of Sweden, formed a detailed proposal to include all three Equestrian disciplines in the Olympic Games. The IOC accepted von Rosen's proposal, but it was after a 12-year interval that Jumping, together with Dressage and Eventing were included in the competition schedule of the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm. Since then, these three Olympic disciplines have been part of the Olympic Games, with minor modifications in the way they are conducted. However, until 1952, only men riders, who were cavalry officers could participate in the Olympic Games. Starting from 1952, under an IOC decision, these restrictions were lifted, and both men (civilians) and women were given the chance to compete in the three Olympic disciplines, under common rules of evaluation and marking. The International Equestrian Federation (Fédération Equestre Internationale - FEI), which was founded in 1921, is the governing body of the Equestrian Sport and includes 135 member countries.

Description

The Equestrian disciplines are unique among Olympic sports, in the sense that men and women compete on the same terms and horse and rider are both declared Olympic medal winners - rider and horse are considered a team.

Seven Equestrian disciplines are recognised by the International Equestrian Federation: Jumping, Dressage, Eventing, Reining, Vaulting, Endurance, and Driving. However, only three of these disciplines are included in the Olympic Games competition schedule. The Olympic disciplines are:

- Dressage: Horse and rider perform a set of specific movements and are judged on their performance for their quality and for their overall aspect of the test.

- Jumping: The rider's horsemanship and the horse's freedom, energy, skill and obedience are tested over a series of obstacles within a specified time period.

- Eventing: A combination of Dressage, Jumping and Cross-country tests, in which the aim of the rider is to achieve the lowest number of penalties in all three disciplines.

Competitors: 205		
Men and Women		
Event	Riders	NOC
Dressage	53	18
Jumping	77	27
Eventing	75	23

Venue

Equestrian events were held at the newly built Markopoulo Olympic Equestrian Centre, situated in the east Attica region. The Markopoulo Olympic Equestrian centre included two main arenas, one with grass for the Jumping events and one with sand for the Dressage events, as well as a separate venue for Eventing - the Eventing Park. The Centre covered an area of approximately 940,000 square metres, including work areas, permanent and temporary stands, fields, stables for 300 horses, internal road network and parking areas. The capacity of the Centre was 10,000 seats for the Jumping Event, 8,100 seats for the Dressage and 15,000 seats for the Cross-Country Event.

Left page:

Leslie Law of Great Britain riding Shear L'Eau goes up over an obstacle in the individual three day eventing jumping final competition on 18 August at the Markopoulo Olympic Equestrian Centre Jumping Arena. A clear final jumping round secured them the gold medal.
© Getty Images/N. Laham

Games Highlights

The Olympic Equestrian Games of ATHENS 2004 saw six sets of medals given out in three disciplines at Markopoulo Olympic Equestrian Centre. For the first time, Eventing was held in a new format, in which individual winners were decided by a second round of jumping.

Team Eventing

France won Team gold ahead of Great Britain and the USA. These three NOCs had filed a case at the Court of Arbitration after a questionable decision by the Ground Jury, regarding the ride of German Bettina HOY. The CAS decided to remove the two gold medals awarded to Germany, leaving the team in fourth place and Bettina HOY ranked ninth.

Team Eventing		
	Team	NOC
Gold	France	FRA
Silver	Great Britain	GBR
Bronze	United States of America	USA
4th	Germany	GER
5th	New Zealand	NZL
6th	Australia	AUS
7th	Belgium	BEL
8th	Ireland	IRL

Right page, from top to bottom:

Rafael Gouveia Jr. of Brazil and his horse Mozart take a jump in the team three day eventing cross country competition. Brazil placed 11th in the final ranking.
© Getty Images/A. Bello

Andreas Helgstrand of Denmark and horse Cavan compete in the team dressage grand prix event. The Danish team finished fifth.
© Getty Images/S. Barbour

Dutch rider Wim Schroder takes a fence on his horse Montreal during a qualifier of the team and individual jumping competitions. The Dutch team placed 4th in the final ranking.
© AFP PHOTO DDP/J. Luebke

Individual Eventing

The individual medals in Eventing went to Leslie LAW (GBR), riding his partner in World and European Championships, grey gelding SHEAR L'EAU. American Kimberly SEVERSON and WINSOME ANDANTE were awarded Silver, with Bronze going to multiple European Champion Pippa FUNNELL (GBR), riding PRIMMORE'S PRIDE.

Team Dressage

The Dressage competition saw the ninth gold medal in a row for the German team, but changes in the next ranks. Spain won silver, their first-ever Olympic medal. The grey stallion INVASOR with Rafael SOTO was the hero of the team, having competed in Atlanta 1996 already, as the first Lusitano ever in classical dressage and always improving since then.

Individual Eventing		
	Name	NOC
Gold	LAW Leslie Shear L' Eau	GBR
Silver	SEVERSON Kimberly Winsome Adante	USA
Bronze	FUNNELL Philippa Primmors Pride	GBR
4th	TEULERE Jean Espoir De La Mare	FRA
5th	ROMEIKE Hinrich Marius	GER
6th	TRYON Amy Poggio II	USA
7th	TOMPKINS Heelan Glengarrick	NZL
8th	TOUZAIN Nicolas Galan De Sauvagere	FRA



Individual Dressage

The individual competition was remarkable in several respects. Defending gold medallist Anky VAN GRUNSVEN (NED) renewed her medal, but with a different horse. Her winning mount SALINERO was only 10 years old. Silver went to Germany's Ulla SALZGEBER, riding her last championship with 16-year-old RUSTY. They have dominated the dressage world over years and came into the competition in Athens ranked No.1 in the world. Beatriz FERRER-SALAT won bronze for Spain, riding BEAUVALAIS.

The Jumping competitions at Markopoulo were decided in two jump-offs for silver and bronze for the teams, as well as the individual medals.

Team Jumping

Germany placed first by a large margin, while the USA and Sweden had to fight for their medals in a jump-off. The USA placed second with seven seconds' advantage in front of Sweden, with both teams staying clear in the jump-off.

This result was later overturned, when Ludger BEERBAUM was disqualified due to his horse GOLDFEVER failing doping control. Thus in October 2005 the USA moved up to take gold, Sweden took silver and the German team (minus BEERBAUM) was relegated to bronze.

Individual Jumping

Dubliner Cian O'CONNOR placed first in the individual competition with WATERFORD CRYSTAL but was later disqualified due to his horse failing doping control. Thus in June 2005 the gold went to Brazilian Rodrigo PESSOA. He claimed the first individual medal for his country, after two team bronze medals in Sydney and Atlanta. American Chris KAPPLER landed a silver, after he had to retire his mount ROYAL KALIBER in the jump-off. Marco KUTSCHER of Germany with MONTENDER placed third.

Team Dressage		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Germany	GER
Silver	Spain	ESP
Bronze	United States of America	USA
4th	Netherlands	NED
5th	Denmark	DEN
6th	Sweden	SWE
7th	Great Britain	GBR
8th	Austria	AUT

Individual Dressage		
	Name	NOC
Gold	van GRUNSVEN Anky Salinero	NED
Silver	SALZGEBER Ulla Rusty	GER
Bronze	FERRER-SALAT Beatriz Beauvalais	ESP
4th	McDONALD Deborah Brentina	USA
5th	SCHMIDT Hubertus Wansuela Suerte	GER
6th	DOVER Robert Kennedy	USA
7th	BRINK Jan Briar	SWE
8th	SOTO Rafael Invasor	ESP

Team Jumping		
	Team	NOC
Gold	United States of America	USA
Silver	Sweden	SWE
Bronze	Germany	GER
4th	Netherlands	NED
5th	Switzerland	SUI
6th	Belgium	BEL
7th	Italy	ITA
8th	Korea	KOR

Individual Jumping		
	Name	NOC
Gold	PESSOA Rodrigo Baloubet Du Rouet	BRA
Silver	KAPPLER Chris Royal Kaliber	USA
Bronze	KUTSCHER Marco Montender	GER
4th	SMITH Robert Mr Springfield	GBR
4th	DEMEERSMAN Dirk Clinton	BEL
4th	FREDERICSON Peder Magic Bengtsson	SWE
4th	BABINGTON Kevin Carling King	IRL
4th	BENGTSSON Rolf-Goran Mac Kinley	SWE
4th	PHILIPPAERTS Ludo Parco	BEL

Right page:

Bettina Hoy of Germany reacts after finishing her performance in the eventing jumping final competition.
© Getty Images/N. Laham





Fencing



Competition Sequence

The Olympic Fencing competition lasted 9 competition days, from 14 to 22 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Fencing has been part of the Olympic Games, since the first modern Games in 1896. Fencing calls for adaptability, inventiveness, good organisation and patience. Hard effort is needed if a competitor has to be ready for a match; many hours must be spent in training, where great attention and discipline are needed.

Description

Fencing evolved from an ancient form of combat and is practiced indoors. During a fencing bout, athletes try to mark the required number of touches to win, while at the same time they use skilful moves to avoid being touched by the opponent. There are three kinds of swords, the foil, the epee and sabre, in which men and women compete individually and in teams. The distinction between the swords is based on their shape, but also on the target area, which is different for each one. Each individual bout goes up to 15 hits or is finished after total competition time of three rounds of three minutes, with one minute between rounds. A team consists of three fencers, plus one reserve fencer, and the winning team is the first one to score a total of 45 hits on the

fencers of the opposing team or the one to score the greater number of hits by the end of the bout.

In the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, changes occurred in relation to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Fencing Tournament: a) for the first time in the Olympic History, women participated in the Individual Sabre Event and b) women also participated in one team event in the Epee, in contrast to Sydney, where they had participated in the Foil Team Event. Since, the women's sabre was added as an individual event, and the Olympic Fencing competition format includes 10 instead of 12 fencing events the women's Foil Team Event was selected in a draw to be excluded to comply with the IOC's 10-event limit.

The ATHENS 2004 Olympic Fencing Tournament included six individual and four team events:

Men's: 6	Total: 10
Individual Events: 3	
Team Events: 3	
Women's: 4	
Individual Events: 3	
Team Events: 1	

Men		
Event	Fencers	NOC
Individual Foil	36	20
Individual Epee	37	21
Individual Sabre	39	21
Team Foil	32	8
Team Epee	32	8
Team Sabre	36	9

Women		
Event	Fencers	NOC
Individual Foil	25	20
Individual Epee	39	21
Individual Sabre	24	19
Team Epee	36	9

Left page:

Belarus' Dmitri Lapkes in the men's individual sabre quarter-finals. He placed fourth in the final rankings.
© REUTERS/T. Gentile

Venue

The preliminaries and finals of the Fencing competitions were held in the Fencing Hall of the Helliniko Olympic Complex. The Fencing Hall has two rooms: one of 3.800 seats for the preliminaries and a 5.000 seated room for the finals of Fencing. The venue arose from additions to existing facilities in order to meet Olympic requirements.

Games Highlights

Italy was top of fencing's medal table with seven medals, just one ahead of France on six. Russia and Hungary were next best ranked with four and three medals respectively.

Italy's Aldo MONTANO and Salvatore SANZO were the most successful fencers at the 2004 Olympic Games, each winning one gold and one silver medal.

Men's Events

Men Individual Sabre

MONTANO claimed gold in the Men's Individual Sabre with a narrow win over Hungary's Zsolt NEMCSIK. Ukraine with Vladislav TRETIAK won the bronze.

Men's Individual Sabre		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MONTANO Aldo	ITA
Silver	NEMCSIK Zsolt	HUN
Bronze	TRETIAK Vladislav	UKR
4th	LAPKES Dmitri	BLR
5th	LUKASHENKO Vladimir	UKR
6th	POZDNIAKOV Stanislav	RUS
7th	COVALIU Mihai	ROM
8th	CHARIKOV Serguei	RUS

Men's Individual Epee

Arguably the best performance from a country in the Olympic Fencing Tournament came from Switzerland. They recorded a one hundred per cent success rate, as the only athlete to represent the country, Marcel FISCHER, took gold in the Men's Individual Epee. The silver and bronze went to Lei WANG from China and Pavel KOLOBKOV from Russia, respectively.

Men's Individual Foil

SANZO claimed silver in the Men's Individual Foil, after a defeat to France's Brice GUYART. Andrea CASSARA (ITA) also managed to get two medals, but could only match an Individual Foil bronze to the gold he received, as part of the successful Foil team.

Men's Team Sabre

MONTANO with his teammates did not manage to repeat his victory in Men's Individual Sabre and received a silver medal in the Men's Team Sabre event, after a defeat to France. The bronze went to Russia, who defeated the US team.

Men's Individual Epee		
	Name	NOC
Gold	FISCHER Marcel	SUI
Silver	WANG Lei	CHN
Bronze	KOLOBKOV Pavel	RUS
4th	BOISSE Eric	FRA
5th	JEANNET Fabrice	FRA
6th	FERNANDEZ Silvio	VEN
7th	THOMPSON Soren	USA
8th	STRIGEL Daniel	GER

Men's Individual Foil		
	Name	NOC
Gold	GUYART Brice	FRA
Silver	SANZO Salvatore	ITA
Bronze	CASSARA Andrea	ITA
4th	GANEV Renal	RUS
5th	VANNI Simone	ITA
6th	JOPPICH Peter	GER
7th	WU Hanxiong	CHN
8th	KRUSE Richard	GBR

Men's Team Sabre		
	Team	NOC
Gold	France	FRA
Silver	Italy	ITA
Bronze	Russian Federation	RUS
4th	United States of America	USA
5th	Hungary	HUN
6th	Ukraine	UKR
7th	People's Republic of China	CHN
8th	Greece	GRE

Right page,
from top to bottom:

Italy's Aldo Montano lunges on his way to his gold medal win against Hungary's Zsolt Nemcsik in the men's individual sabre. Olympic champion Montano won gold with the score of 15-14.
© REUTERS/J. Reed

Aldo Montano is thrown in the air by supporters after winning the gold medal.
© REUTERS/T. Gentile





Men's Team Foil

SANZO was more successful as part of the Italy team that won the gold in the Men's Team Foil competition, after defeating China. Russia, as in the Men's Team Sabre event, claimed again the bronze from the US team. However, the Men's Team Foil between Italy and China was unfortunately controversial, as a string of mistakes by referee Jozsef HIDASI (HUN) in the bout drew the attention of the International Federation, which decided to immediately expel the referee from its list for the Olympic Games and exclude him from FIE's referees list for a period of two years.

Men's Team Epee

France was also the gold winner in the Men's Team Epee event after defeating Hungary who took the silver. Germany took the bronze, leaving Russia in the fourth place.

Women's Events

Women's Individual Epee/ Women's Team Epee

French fencer Maureen NISIMA also claimed two medals, two bronzes; while teammate Laura FLESSEL-COLOVIC received a silver in the Women's Individual Epee and a bronze in the Team Epee. Timea NAGY from Hungary took the gold in the Individual Epee, whereas in Team Epee competition Russia was the winner after defeating Germany. The biggest surprise from the fencers of the host country was the result of Jeanne HRISTOU (GRE). She almost beat the star of French fencing FLESSEL-COLOVIC, eventually losing by only two points. Another highlight for the hosts, and a boost for the sport in Greece, was when its Women's Epee Team came close to shocking Germany in the quarterfinal, going down in the end by a single point.

Men's Team Foil		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Italy	ITA
Silver	People's Republic of China	CHN
Bronze	Russian Federation	RUS
4th	United States of America	USA
5th	France	FRA
6th	Germany	GER
7th	Korea	KOR
8th	Egypt	EGY

Men's Team Epee		
	Team	NOC
Gold	France	FRA
Silver	Hungary	HUN
Bronze	Germany	GER
4th	Russian Federation	RUS
5th	Ukraine	UKR
6th	United States of America	USA
7th	People's Republic of China	CHN
8th	Egypt	EGY

This page:

Swiss gold medallist Marcel Fischer celebrates after defeating China's Wang Lei during the men's individual epee.
© AFP/J. Saget



Women's Individual Sabre

America's 19-year-old Mariel ZAGUNIS, despite being an outsider behind her fellow Americans the JACOBSON sisters (Emily and Sada), became the star of USA fencing, after defeating the Chinese Xue TAN and winning the first ever Olympic Games Women's Sabre gold medal. Sada JACOBSON received the bronze.

Women's Individual Foil

Two Italian Fencers competed for the gold in the Women's Individual Foil competition. Valentina VEZZALI competed against and defeated her fellow Italian, Giovanna TRILLINI. The bronze went to the Polish fencer Sylwia GRUCHALA, leaving Hungary with Aida MOHAMED in the fourth place.

Women's Individual Epee

	Name	NOC
Gold	NAGY Tímea	HUN
Silver	FLESSEL-COLOVIC Laura	FRA
Bronze	NISIMA Maureen	FRA
4th	MINCZA-NEBALD Ildiko	HUN
5th	DUPLITZER Imke	GER
6th	ZHANG Li	CHN
7th	KIM Hee-Jeong	KOR
8th	HRISTOU Jeanne	GRE

Women's Team Epee

	Team	NOC
Gold	Russian Federation	RUS
Silver	Germany	GER
Bronze	France	FRA
4th	Canada	CAN
5th	Hungary	HUN
6th	People's Republic of China	CHN
7th	Korea	KOR
8th	Greece	GRE

Women's Individual Sabre

	Name	NOC
Gold	ZAGUNIS Mariel	USA
Silver	TAN Xue	CHN
Bronze	JACOBSON Sada	USA
4th	GHEORGHITOAI Catalina	ROM
5th	NETCHAEVA Elena	RUS
6th	PERRUS Leonore	FRA
7th	JEMAYEVA Elena	AZE
8th	ZHANG Ying	CHN

Women's Individual Foil

	Name	NOC
Gold	VEZZALI Valentina	ITA
Silver	TRILLINI Giovanna	ITA
Bronze	GRUCHALA Sylwia	POL
4th	MOHAMED Aida	HUN
5th	CARLESCU BADEA Laura Gabriela	ROM
6th	VARGA Gabriella	HUN
7th	WUILLEME Adeline	FRA
8th	NAM Hyun Hee	KOR

This page:

South Korean fencer Kim Hee-Jeong eyes her opponent Li Na of China from behind her protection mask during their women's individual epee fencing round match.
© AFP/M. Longari





Competition Sequence

Competition events started two days before the Opening Ceremony.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Football, known as the "King of Sports", is the most popular sport in the world. Football made its first appearance at the 1900 Paris Olympic Games. Four years earlier in Athens, it had been cancelled due to lack of participating teams. But since its introduction, Football has been consistently in the Olympic Programme, with the exception of 1932 in Los Angeles. Great Britain dominated the first Olympic Football Tournaments, contested mainly by European nations, and in the years before World War II, Uruguay, Belgium and Italy each won the gold medal. After World War II, the Eastern Bloc countries dominated the tournament. At that time, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany, and Poland, all took the gold medal. Professional footballers were allowed to take part in the Olympic Tournament for the first time in Los Angeles in 1984, provided that European and South American players had never played in the World Cup. France won the tournament. A new set of rules regarding participation in the Men's tournament has been in force from the 1992 Barcelona Games onwards. Today a country cannot send its national side, but only an under-23 team, which is allowed to include three over 23-year-old players. The past two Olympic Games Men's Football gold medal were won by African countries: Nigeria took the gold in 1996 and Cameroon won it in 2000. The women's Olympic Tournament was played for the first time at the 1996 Atlanta Games and was won by host nation USA. In the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, Norway defeated the USA in the final with a golden goal in extra time.

eleven players each, one of whom is the goalkeeper. The team's aim is to score a goal without violating the rules of the sport. A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line between the opposite team's goalposts. The winner is the team to score the most goals. A referee presides over a game and is in charge of implementing the Football rules. Two assistant referees moving along the two touchlines of the field of play facilitate the referee's task. Before the beginning of the game, the referee draws lots. The winning team chooses a goalpost for the first half and the other team gets the ball at the referee's starting whistle. In the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Football Tournament, 16 men's teams competed in four rounds (preliminaries, quarter-finals, semi-finals, finals) and 10 women's teams in three (quarter-finals, semi-finals, finals):

Competitors: 566					
Event	Players	NOC	Event	Players	NOC
Men	351	16	Women	215	10

Venues

During the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, the men's and women's Football competitions were hosted in four Olympic cities, Volos, Patra, Heraklio and Thessaloniki, as well as Athens, where the finals took place.

Panthessaliko Stadium, Volos

The Panthessaliko Stadium in Volos, one of the most beautiful cities of Greece, hosted the preliminary phase of the Olympic Football Tournament games.

The Panthessaliko Sports Complex entailed the renovation of the existing stands and buildings into a new structure of 22.700 seats.

Description

A football game lasts 90 minutes with two halves of 45 minutes each, and a 15-minute half-time break. Each game is played by two teams of

Left page:

Argentines Javier Mascherano and Roberto Ayala celebrate with teammates and a national flag of their country at the Olympic Stadium on 28 August, after the Olympic men's football final. Argentina won the football gold medal with a 1-0 victory against Paraguay.
© AFP/A. Scorza

Pampeloponnisiako Stadium, Patra

Another stadium that hosted Football is the Pampeloponnisiako Stadium of Patra, a city in the north of the Peloponnese. The existing stadium, which has been used for several regional and national football games in the past, was upgraded by the General Secretariat of Sports to meet Olympic demands. Mainly electromechanical and electronic infrastructures, along with respective equipment, were renewed, whereas more parking areas and surrounding areas were built to go with the overall capacity.

Kaftantzoglio Stadium, Thessaloniki

Thessaloniki, Greece's second largest city and one of Europe's greatest cultural, commercial and sport centres hosted some of the football preliminaries and semi-finals in the Kaftantzoglio Stadium, very close to the city centre. The General Secretariat of Sports upgraded the existing facilities into a stadium of 22.700 seats with new electromechanical and electronic infrastructure and respective equipment.

Pankritio Stadium, Heraklio

Beautiful Crete, the island in the south of Greece, hosted also the sport of Football in a stadium with a capacity of 26.400 seats. The stadium includes an eight-lane 400m track; shot put and hammer throw valves and other facilities (swimming pool, multipurpose hall, administration offices, etc.) for post-Olympic use.

Karaiskaki Stadium, Athens

The Karaiskaki Stadium, the second largest stadium in Athens, was used as the velodrome for the first modern Olympic Games in 1896. In the 1960s it was renovated into the stadium that still stands today. The stadium, located in the area of Faliro, has been transformed into a modern Football stadium, accommodating 33.000 spectators. During the Olympic Games, it hosted a total of 11 games (preliminaries, quarter-finals and semi-finals), as well as the women's finals.

Olympic Stadium

The Olympic Stadium, the centre of the Olympic Games, situated at Maroussi, is part of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA). The Olympic Stadium hosted 72.000 spectators, who attended the Athletics events, the Men's Football gold medal match and the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. Following an ATHENS 2004 and Ministry of Culture initiative, the Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava had designed the upgrade of OAKA using innovative and creative solutions, including the new roof structure for the Olympic Stadium.

Games Highlights

Women's Football Event

The USA Women's Football team made it to Olympic gold medal from three starts, as veterans Mia HAMM, Julie FOU DY and Kristine LILLY helped their side to win in the final against Brazil. After taking the gold medal in the event's Olympic debut in 1996, USA arrived in Athens determined to make up for the relative disappointment of winning silver in Sydney in 2000. Led by the trio of HAMM, FOU DY and

LILLY, it took a 112th minute golden goal from Abby WAMBACH (USA) to finally put the gold medal back in American hands. The bronze medal match was a replay of last year's FIFA Women's World Cup Final between Germany and Sweden. Germany won the bronze, beating Sweden 1-0 at Karaiskaki Stadium. Statistically, Brazil was the most dangerous attacking side, scoring 15 goals. Germany scored 14 times, including the highest tally in the history of the tournament, an 8-0 win over China. Brazil also turned on the power in a 7-0 win over Greece. Birgit PRINZ (GER) and CRISTIANE (BRA) were the tournament's equal top scorers, with five goals each. USA, Brazil, Germany and Sweden, all appearing in their third successive Olympic Games tournament, made up the top four. Of the Olympic Games ever-presents, only China was eliminated at the preliminary stage. The only African team to have participated at the Olympic Games, Nigeria, reached the quarterfinals in its second appearance. In its Olympic debut, Mexico qualified for the quarterfinals, while the other newcomer; Greece was eliminated early, after conceding 11 goals and scoring none. Australia savoured its first win at the Olympic Games and made the quarterfinals as a result. In all, 55 goals (including two converted penalties) were scored in 20 matches. There were 39 yellow cards shown, with the USA attracting the most (10). Only one player was sent off.

Men's Football Event

The 21st Men's Olympic Football Tournament has been completed with South American teams dominating the medals. Argentina justified its tag as the tournament favourite, and proved its superiority on the field by winning its first gold medal and the third by a team from South America (Uruguay won at Paris in 1924 and at Amsterdam in 1928). The decisive goal was scored by Carlos TEVEZ in the 18th minute. Argentina's team was full of world class players like Boca Juniors' forward Carlos TEVEZ, Valencia's defender Roberto AYALA, Manchester United's new defender Gabriel HEINZE, Wolfsburg's midfielder Andres D ALESSANDRO and Internazionale's midfielder Cristian "KILY" GONZALEZ. Argentina managed to win the gold medal without conceding a single goal. They were also the most productive attacking team of the tournament, scoring 17 goals, with TEVEZ scoring eight of them from just six matches to finish as the leading scorer of the tournament. Paraguay underlined the superiority of South America's teams by winning the silver medal, its first Olympic Football medal. The experience of the defender Carlos GAMARRA and forward Jose CARDOZO, second to TEVEZ as leading scorer in tournament with five goals, was a decisive factor on its way to the final. Italy entered the tournament with big expectations and also boasted a selection of big names in its squad, such as AC Milan's midfielder Andrea PIRLO, AS Roma's goalkeeper Ivan PELIZZOLI and defender Matteo FERRARI, but managed to win only the bronze medal after coming up against Argentina in the semi-finals. However, the gold medallists at Berlin in 1936 did extend its two all-time Olympic Games records during the tournament. It took its total of Olympic Football Tournament matches played to 57 and also its tally of wins to 30, both totals more than

Right page:

Australian midfielder Joanne Peters celebrates a goal against the USA during the women's football preliminary match at Kaftantzoglio Stadium in Thessaloniki.
© Getty Images/S. Garnsworthy







any other team in the history of the Games. Iraq was unable to turn its scoring opportunities into goals and lost as a result 0-1 to Italy in the bronze medal game at the Kaftantzoglio Stadium in Thessaloniki. The other team representing Asia, Japan, was eliminated in the Group stage. Despite having four teams contesting the tournament, Africa's domination of recent Olympic Football Tournaments was ended. Mali was the only representative of Africa, who qualified for the quarterfinals of the tournament, where it was defeated 1-0 by Italy in extra time. Ghana, Tunisia and Morocco were all eliminated after the Group stage. The bad luck for the host teams continued as Greece was eliminated at the Group stage, just like Australia four years earlier at Sydney. Australia, with Glasgow Rangers' defender

Craig MOORE, Internazionale's midfielder Carl VALERI, Everton's midfielder Tim CAHILL and Atletico Osasuna's forward John ALOISI in its squad, improved its performance from four years ago by making the quarterfinals this time. However, with the exception of Italy, none of the other three European teams (Greece, Portugal and Serbia & Montenegro) managed to go beyond the Group stage. Costa Rica represented Central America in the quarterfinals, but was eliminated by Argentina, while Mexico didn't make it out of the Group stage. In total 97 goals were scored in 32 matches, ten penalty kicks were awarded and seven of them were successfully hit and 152 yellow cards and seven red cards were shown by referees.

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

Team USA receive the gold medal in women's football after defeating Brazil 2-1 in extra time at the Karaiskaki Stadium in Athens. © Getty Images/J. Squire

The US players celebrate their victory at the end of the gold medal football match against Brazil. © AFP PHOTO DDP/M. Kappeler

This page:

The Argentinian men's national football team celebrate with their gold medal. © AFP/D. Garcia

Men		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Argentina	ARG
Silver	Paraguay	PAR
Bronze	Italy	ITA
4th	Iraq	IRQ
5th	Mali	MLI
6th	Korea	KOR
7th	Australia	AUS
8th	Costa Rica	CRC

Women		
	Team	NOC
Gold	United States of America	USA
Silver	Brazil	BRA
Bronze	Germany	GER
4th	Sweden	SWE
5th	Australia	AUS
6th	Nigeria	NGR
7th	Japan	JPN
8th	Mexico	MEX



Artistic Gymnastics



Competition Sequence

Olympic Artistic Gymnastics events were held between 14-19 and 22-24 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Artistic Gymnastics was included in the Olympic programme in 1896 at the first Modern Olympic Games, in Athens, during which athletes from five countries participated. In 1936, the individual apparatus events for men began to resemble those included in the current Olympic Programme, consisting of free exercises (floor), side horse (today's pommel horse), rings, parallel bars, horizontal bar and long horse vault. Women first competed in Amsterdam, in 1928, in team events. At the 1952 Olympic Games, the women's competition programme took its current form and included the vault, the uneven bars, the balance beam and the floor event. The European Gymnastics Federation (FEG) was founded in 1881. In 1921, non-European countries also joined in, and FEG evolved into the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG).

Description

Artistic Gymnastics is a very demanding discipline, as gymnasts must combine strength, skill and flexibility. Olympic Artistic Gymnastics tournament include six apparatus for men (Floor Exercises, Pommel Horse, Rings, Vault, Parallel Bars and Horizontal Bar), as well as Team and Individual All-Around events, whilst women participate in four apparatus (Vault, Uneven Bars, Balance Beam and Floor Exercises), as well as in Team and All-Around events. There are four competition phases in Gymnastics: Qualification Rounds, Team Finals, Individual All-around Finals and Individual Apparatus Final.

Left page:

French gymnast Emilie Lepennec performs during a training session on 12 August at the Olympic Indoor Hall on the eve of the opening of the Olympic Games. She went on to win the gold in the uneven bars.
© AFP/A. Dennis

Competitors: 196		
Event	Gymnasts	NOC
Men		
Artistic Gymnastics	98	31
Women		
Artistic Gymnastics	98	32

Venue

The elegant sport of Artistic Gymnastics took place in the Olympic Indoor Hall, at the Athens Olympic Sports Complex, located at Maroussi, a northern Athens suburb. During Games-time, seating capacity reached 17.500 for Artistic Gymnastics, as well as the Trampoline competition, which was held in the same venue. The Ministry of Culture was responsible for the renovation of the Hall.

Games Highlights

More than 100.000 spectators had the chance to watch the best gymnasts of the world compete in the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, in the Olympic Indoor Hall of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex. Medals in Athens were distributed among 14 nations. Romania took first place in the medal table with four gold, three silver and three bronze medals (6 in women and 4 in men's events), followed by the USA with a total of nine medals (3 and 6 respectively) and Japan third with four, all in the Men's category.

Finally, two specific initiatives, the new event formula for the Team finals and eliminating warm-ups on apparatus prior to finals competition both worked in the interests of Artistic Gymnastics.

Men's Events

Men's Team

In the Men's Team event, the gold went to Japan, who had won the Olympic Team title five times, between the 1960 Rome Olympics and the 1976 Montreal Games, scoring 173.821.

The silver was won by USA, fielding its best team since the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, with 172.933. Romania won their first Team medal for Men (bronze). China, who had won in Sydney, ended fifth, whereas Russia, who had won in Atlanta, managed to reach the sixth place.

Men's Individual All-Around

Korea won two medals in the Men's All-Around (silver and bronze) with Dae Eun KIM and Tae Young YANG. The current world champion, Paul HAMM, 21, from USA won the gold. Unfortunately, China's Wei YANG, 2000 Olympic and 2003 world runner-up in the all-around, did not manage to overcome the disappointment of his team failing to win a medal in Athens, as he ended seventh.

Men's Rings

Host country Greece, won only one medal, in the Rings, where Dimosthenis TAMPAKOS with an almost flawless performance won the gold medal and remained on top. This was Greece's second Olympic Champion on Rings in 108 years, after Ioannis MITROPOULOS won the title in 1896. Also a highlight of the event was the return to action of legendary Italian Yuri CHECHI. The 35 year-old athlete, many

times world champion, had retired after the Atlanta Olympic Games (where he was gold medallist in the Rings), and he competed again in the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, where he outperformed athletes a little more than half his age to win bronze medal in the Rings. The silver medal went to Jordan JOVTCHEV (BUL), who was the only one to add a twist to the "standard" double layout performed by the medal contenders and also the only athlete to win two medals for the day (silver on rings and bronze on floor).

Men's Floor Exercise

Canada celebrated its first Olympic champion ever Kyle SHEWFELT on Floor Exercise, with 9.787. The silver and bronze went to Marian DRAGULESCU (ROM) with 9.787 and Jordan JOVTCHEV (BUL), with 9.775, respectively. SHEWFELT's twisting tumbling series and his fluent style of performance, DRAGULESCU's difficulty (double layout punch front, between them) and JOVTCHEV's precision and elegance, were what made the difference between them and the other five finalists.

Men's Vault

Of all the 2000 Olympic champions, who competed in Athens, only Gervasio DEFERR (ESP) defended his title on Vault. Double Olympic champion DEFERR had two clean, high 9.9 Start Value vaults, both stuck on landing (Yurchenko 2½ and Tsukahara 2½) versus two 10.00 Start Value Vaults of his opponents. SAPRONENKO (LAT) performed Yurchenko ½ turn on 2½ layout off and Double Tsukahara (small hop on landing) for silver and DRAGULESCU (ROM) did a mighty Handspring double front ½ turn (9.900), but landed his second vault badly, stepping out of the vault area.

Right page,
from top to bottom:

Russian star gymnast Svetlana Khorkina performs on the uneven bars during a training session. She placed a disappointing eighth in that event, but won silver in the individual all-around, and bronze in the women's team final.
© AFP/K. Nogi

A gymnast prepares for the qualification round of the team event at the women's artistic gymnastics competition.
© Getty Images/C. Brunskill

Dimosthenis Tampakos of Greece competes in the men's artistic gymnastics rings finals on 22 August. He delighted the home crowd by winning the gold, with 9.862 points.
© Getty Images/C. McGrath

Men's Team			
	Team	NOC	Score
Gold	Japan	JPN	173.821
Silver	United States of America	USA	172.933
Bronze	Romania	ROM	172.384
4th	Korea	KOR	171.847
5th	People Republic of China	CHN	171.257
6th	Russian Federation	RUS	169.808
7th	Ukraine	UKR	168.244
8th	Germany	GER	167.372

Men's Rings			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	TAMPAKOS Dimosthenis	GRE	9.862
Silver	JOVTCHEV Jordan	BUL	9.850
Bronze	CHECHI Yuri	ITA	9.812
4th	TOMITA Hiroyuki	JPN	9.800
5th	MORANDI Matteo	ITA	9.800
6th	BENY Pierre Yves	FRA	9.800
7th	SAFOSHKIN Alexander	RUS	9.750
8th	SCHWEIZER Andreas	SUI	9.737

Men's Individual All-Around			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	HAMM Paul	USA	57.823
Silver	KIM Dae Eun	KOR	57.811
Bronze	YANG Tae Young	KOR	57.774
4th	SUCIU Ioan Silviu	ROM	57.648
5th	MARTINEZ Rafael	ESP	57.549
6th	TOMITA Hiroyuki	JPN	57.485
7th	YANG Wei	CHN	57.361
8th	DRAGULESCU Marian	ROM	57.323

Men's Floor Exercise			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	SHEWFELT Kyle	CAN	9.787
Silver	DRAGULESCU Marian	ROM	9.787
Bronze	JOVTCHEV Jordan	BUL	9.775
4th	DEFERR Gervasio	ESP	9.712
5th	HAMM Paul	USA	9.712
6th	NAKANO Daisuke	JPN	9.712
7th	YONEDA Isao	JPN	9.662
8th	HAMM Morgan	USA	9.650



Men's Parallel Bars

Very few people expected that Xiaopeng LI (CHN), 2000 Olympic and twice world champion, would give the gold away, but that is what happened in a final where all eight scores were separated by only 0.050. GONCHAROV, 26, an immaculate stylist, won the gold. He was also a 2000 Olympic Team silver medallist. The silver went to Hiroyuki TOMITA from Japan.

Men's Horizontal Bar

Italy's Igor CASSINA won the first title for his country on Horizontal Bar, scoring 9.812. One of the most impressive moments of CASSINA's routine were his two full twisting Kovacs. The silver and bronze went to Paul HAMM from USA and Isao YONEDA from Japan, respectively.

Men's Pommel Horse

The 2003 world champion in a tie, TENG, presented a little "extra" skill to beat the 2000 Olympic Champion URZICA with 9.837. The bronze went to Takehiro KASHIMA, from Japan, with 9.787. The Chinese and the Japanese are a class of their own on this apparatus.

Women's Events

Women's Team

Romania defended its 2000 Olympic title as convincingly as could be at the Olympic Indoor Hall with a score of 114.283. The USA took the silver (113.584) and Russia took the bronze (113.235). The other top eight finishers were Ukraine (112.309), Spain (111.572), France (110.159), China (110.008) and Australia (108.847).

Women's Individual All-Around

Athens will also be remembered for the disappointment of the Russian triple world champion, Svetlana KHORKINA, who failed to win a record third title on Uneven Bars, but presented heartfelt congratulations to the new All-Around champion, Carly PATTERSON (USA), the 2003 World Championships silver medallist, with a score of 38.387. The bronze went to Nan ZHANG from China, scoring 38.049.

Men's Vault			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	DEFERR Gervasio	ESP	9.737
Silver	SAPRONENKO Evgeni	LAT	9.706
Bronze	DRAGULESCU Marian	ROM	9.612
4th	SHEWFELT Kyle	CAN	9.599
5th	YANEV Filip	BUL	9.581
6th	GAL Robert	HUN	9.537
7th	LI Xiaopeng	CHN	9.368
8th	BONDARENKO Alexei	RUS	4.550

Men's Parallel Bars			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	GONCHAROV Valeri	UKR	9.787
Silver	TOMITA Hiroyuki	JPN	9.775
Bronze	LI Xiaopeng	CHN	9.762
4th	IVANKOV Ivan	BLR	9.762
5th	NAKANO Daisuke	JPN	9.762
6th	CUCHERAT Yann	FRA	9.762
7th	HAMM Paul	USA	9.737
8th	YERIMBETOV Yernar	KAZ	9.737

Men's Horizontal Bar			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	CASSINA Igor	ITA	9.812
Silver	HAMM Paul	USA	9.812
Bronze	YONEDA Isao	JPN	9.787
4th	HAMM Morgan	USA	9.787
5th	NEMOV Alexei	RUS	9.762
6th	XIAO Qin	CHN	9.737
7th	HAMBUECHEN Fabian	GER	9.700
8th	GONCHAROV Valeri	UKR	8.887

Men's Pommel Horse			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	TENG Haibin	CHN	9.837
Silver	URZICA Marius Daniel	ROM	9.825
Bronze	KASHIMA Takehiro	JPN	9.787
4th	HUANG Xu	CHN	9.775
5th	CANO Victor	ESP	9.762
6th	HAMM Paul	USA	9.737
7th	ALEXANDERSSON Runar	ISL	9.725
8th	TOMITA Hiroyuki	JPN	9.062

Women's Team			
	Team	NOC	Score
Gold	Romania	ROM	114.283
Silver	United States of America	USA	113.584
Bronze	Russian Federation	RUS	113.235
4th	Ukraine	UKR	112.309
5th	Spain	ESP	111.572
6th	France	FRA	110.159
7th	People's Republic of China	CHN	110.008
8th	Australia	AUS	108.847

Women's Individual All-Around			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	PATTERSON Carly	USA	38.387
Silver	KHORKINA Svetlana	RUS	38.211
Bronze	ZHANG Nan	CHN	38.049
4th	PAVLOVA Anna	RUS	38.024
5th	SOFRONIE Nicoleta Daniela	ROM	37.948
6th	YAROTSKA Irina	UKR	37.687
7th	DEBAUVE Marine	FRA	37.361
8th	GOMEZ Elena	ESP	37.299



This page:

U.S. gymnast Carly Patterson, the first American to win the women's all-around title in 20 years.
© REUTERS/Dallas Morning News/Smiley N. Pool



Women's Uneven Bars

Emilie LEPENNEC was the first female Olympic champion (on Uneven Bars) for France, winning the gold with 9.687. The silver went to Terin HUMPHREY from USA, with 9.662, whereas the Bronze was won by Courtney KUPETS again from USA, with 9.637. Double Olympic champion Svetlana KHORKINA (RUS) left the hall disappointed after the unexpected mistake she committed. LEPENNEC wrote history for France becoming the first female gymnast Olympic champion for her country. Kwang Sun PYON (PRK), 4th and Ya LI (CHN), 5th, demonstrated what this apparatus is all about.

Women's Beam

The Romanians confirmed themselves as the world beam masters, with the help of Nan ZHANG (9.237) and Ya LI (9.050) of China, who both fell off the apparatus. The new star of Romania, Catalina PONOR won the gold in the Women's Beam event with 9.787. The silver went to Carly PATTERSON (USA), with 9.775. PATTERSON performed her entire routine, including two Arabian somersaults, one used as a dismount. The bronze was won by Alexandra Georgiana EREMIA (ROM), scoring 9.700. Anna PAVLOVA (RUS) was again a step from a medal. She was awarded 9.587 for her strong routine with Start Value of 10.00.

This page:

Japan's Takehiro Kashima encourages team mate Hiroyuki Tomita before Tomita's horizontal bar routine that clinched the gold medal during the artistic gymnastics men's team final. Japan won the gold medal ahead of the USA and Romania.
© REUTERS/D. Martinez

Women's Uneven Bars			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	LEPENNEC Emilie	FRA	9.687
Silver	HUMPHREY Terin	USA	9.662
Bronze	KUPETS Courtney	USA	9.637
4th	PYON Kwang Sun	PRK	9.600
5th	LI Ya	CHN	9.562
6th	SOFRONIE Nicoleta Daniela	FOM	9.462
7th	LIN Li	CHN	9.200
8th	KHORKINA Svetlana	RUS	8.925

Women's Beam			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	PONOR Catalina	ROM	9.787
Silver	PATTERSON Carly	USA	9.775
Bronze	EREMIA Alexandra Georgiana	ROM	9.700
4th	PAVLOVA Anna	RUS	9.587
5th	KUPETS Courtney	USA	9.375
6th	ZHANG Nan	CHN	9.237
7th	LI Ya	CHN	9.050
8th	SLATER Allana	AUS	8.750



Women's Floor Exercise

The Romanians swept the medals to prove their Team title was no accident. Catalina PONOR's athletic and still feminine routine was a highlight of the entire 10-day competition (full in, 2½ punch front, triple twist, finishing with double pike). The silver went again to the Romanian Nicoleta Daniela SOFRONIE, scoring 9.562. Patricia MORENO's bronze medal with 9.487, following the 2002 world title of Elena GOMEZ on Floor, places Spain firmly in the top league of the sport. World champion Daiane dos SANTOS from Brazil performed two Arabian somersaults, layout and pike, but did a step outside boundaries.

Women's Vault

In the Women's Vault event the gold went again to Romania with Monica ROSU (ROM), scoring 9.656. The silver winner was Annia HATCH (USA), with 9.481, whereas the bronze went to Anna PAVLOVA (RUS), with 9.475. Credit for the gold medal of the Romanian Women's Team, together with the two titles of the new star Catalina PONOR (on Floor and Beam), as well as the victory of Monica ROSU on Vault, should go first and foremost to their national coach, Octavian BELLU.

The tournament was completed on 24 August with "It happened in Athens" Exhibition Gala. The Gala was named after musical works produced by Manos Hatzidakis, for the 1960 American film of the same name.

This page:

France's Emilie Lepennec at a press conference a day after winning the gold medal in the women's artistic gymnastics uneven bars final.
© AFP/J. P. Ksiazek

Women's Floor Exercise			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	PONOR Catalina	ROM	9.750
Silver	SOFRONIE Nicoleta Daniela	ROM	9.562
Bronze	MORENO Patricia	ESP	9.487
4th	CHENG Fei	CHN	9.412
5th	dos SANTOS Daiane	BRA	9.375
6th	BHARDWAJ Mohini	USA	9.312
7th	RICHARDSON Kate	CAN	9.312
8th	KOZICHAlina	UKR	8.500

Women's Vault			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	ROSU Monica	ROM	9.656
Silver	HATCH Annia	USA	9.481
Bronze	PAVLOVA Anna	RUS	9.475
4th	ZAMOLODCHIKOVA Elena	RUS	9.412
5th	KANG Yun Mi	PRK	9.381
6th	KVASHA Alona	UKR	9.343
7th	WANG Tiantian	CHN	9.081
8th	CHACON Coralie	FRA	4.456





Left page:

Canada's gold medallist Kyle Shewfelt performs his routine for the men's gymnastics floor exercise. Shewfelt won gold with a score of 9.787.
© REUTERS/Str

This page:

Annia Hatch of the United States competes in the vault at the women's artistic gymnastics team final. The USA team won silver.
© Getty Images/C. Brunskill



Rhythmic Gymnastics



Competition Sequence

Olympic Rhythmic Gymnastics events were held from 26 to 29 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

The graceful sport of Rhythmic Gymnastics began as a means of movement expression at the end of 19th and early 20th centuries. It is based on the ideas of I.G. Noverre, F. Delsarte and R. Bode of using movements borrowed from dance in the process of exercising parts of the human body, and thus developing aesthetic expressiveness and grace. As a competitive discipline, Rhythmic Gymnastics first appeared in the former Soviet Union, where National Championships have been held since 1948. The International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) recognised Rhythmic Gymnastics as a sport in 1961, and in 1962 the first World Championships were held in Budapest. The first Olympic Games to feature Rhythmic Gymnastics as a stand-alone discipline were the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, where only individuals were allowed to participate. Twelve years later, at the 1996 Atlanta Games, the group competition was added. In order to meet the Olympic requirements to be accepted as a medal sport, group sizes were reduced from six gymnasts to five. According to official statistics, Russia leads the sport's all-time Olympic medal table, with two gold medals, one silver and two bronze.

Description

Rhythmic Gymnastics combines gymnastic moves with dance and is a sport practiced exclusively by women. Olympic Rhythmic Gymnastics includes two events: Individual All-Around and Group All-Around, in which the gymnasts competing perform their routines with certain apparatus. In Individuals, gymnasts compete in the Hoop, Ball, Clubs and Ribbon apparatuses (but not the rope). In the group competition, gymnasts perform two exercises, one in which all five use the same apparatus, and a second in which they use a combination of two apparatuses. Every two years the FIG's Technical Committee for Rhythmic Gymnastics selects the apparatus, as well as the apparatus combination in which Athletes will compete. The duration of the routines is between 1min 15sec and 1min 30 sec for Individual events, and between 2 min 15 sec and 2 min 30 sec for Group events.

Women's Individual: 1	Total: 2
Women's Group: 1	

Left page:

Anna Bessonova of the Ukraine performs en route to an Olympic Games bronze medal during the individual all-around final of the rhythmic gymnastics on the last day of the Games.
© AFP/O. Andersen

Competitors: 67

Women's

Event	Gymnasts	NOC	Event	Gymnasts	NOC
Individual All-Around	19	16	Group All-Around	48	8

Venue

The Olympic Hall in Galatsi, a suburb northwest of the city of Athens, hosted the Rhythmic Gymnastics events, as well as the Table Tennis tournament. It included a main building with 6.500 seats for the spectators.

Games Highlights

Women's Individual All-Around

Alina KABAEVA (RUS), the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games bronze medallist and twice world champion, won the All-Around title, which took place at the Galatsi Olympic Hall, with a score of 108.400. The silver medal went to her teammate Irina TCHACHINA (107.325), and the bronze to the Ukrainian Anna BESSONOVA (106.700). The fight for the gold was a two-way battle between KABAEVA and the 2003 World Championship bronze medallist TCHACHINA, with BESSONOVA being kept at a distance despite her impeccable routines with hoop and clubs. TCHACHINA was in the lead after the first two apparatus (hoop and ball), but KABAEVA then compensated for her shaky hoop with a strong clubs routine in the third rotation, replacing her teammate on the top of the table. She resisted the high pressure on the last apparatus, the ribbon, while TCHACHINA lost confidence and made a mistake that cost her the gold. The dynamic Natalia GODUNKO (UKR), who finished fifth, left strong impressions with all her presentations, but most of all with "The Flight of the Bumble Bee" with ribbon. The three times Olympian Almudena CID (ESP) finished eighth, her best result in the Games and deserves praise for her consistency, maturity and style.

Women's Group All-Around

In the Group All-Around event, Russia (Olesia BELUGUINA, Olga GLATSKIKH, Tatiana KURBAKOVA, Natalia LAVROVA, Elena MURZINA and Elena POSEVINA) defended their 2000 Olympic title, scoring 51.100 points. The Russians, led by Natalia LAVROVA, the only gymnast in the team who also competed in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, had the highest score for both the 5 Ribbons and the 3 Hoops/2 Balls routine (25.300 and 25.800 respectively). Italy (Elisa BLANCHI, Fabrizia D'OTTAVIO, Marinella FALCA, Daniela MASSERONI, Elisa SANTONI and Laura VERNIZZI) won their first Olympic medal ever in Rhythmic Gymnastics: a silver medal, scoring 49.450 points and impressing judges and spectators with high throws of the apparatus, witty passovers between the gymnasts, and a variety of formations. Bulgaria (Zhaneta ILIEVA, Eleonora KEZHOVA, Zornitsa MARINOVA, Kristina RANGUELOVA and twin sisters Galina and Vladislava TANCHEVA) took the bronze with a score of 48.600 points. The Bulgarian "Bolero" with 3 Hoops and 2 Balls was the most daring composition, displaying cascades of breathtaking apparatus exchanges, from the beginning through to the last beat of the music. Belarus had the third best score for the first exercise (5 Ribbons), but failed to sustain it with their Hoops/Ribbon performance and ended fourth. Greece ended fifth, while China, Spain and Brazil were sixth, seventh and eighth, respectively. However, China, the only non-European team in the Final, will be best remembered for their exquisite overall appearance and imaginative opening, as well as for their "Chinese Fan" closing, at the end of the Hoops/Balls routine.

Women's Individual All-Around

	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	KABAEVA Alina	RUS	108.400
Silver	TCHACHINA Irina	RUS	107.325
Bronze	BESSONOVA Anna	UKR	106.700
4th	YUSSUPOVA Aliya	KAZ	103.975
5th	GODUNKO Natalia	UKR	103.800
6th	PEYCHEVA Simona	BUL	101.050
7th	ZHUKOVA Inna	BLR	100.575
8th	CID Almudena	ESP	98.450

Women's Group All-Around

	Team	NOC	Score
Gold	Russian Federation	RUS	51.100
Silver	Italy	ITA	49.450
Bronze	Bulgaria	BUL	48.600
4th	Belarus	BLR	48.000
5th	Greece	GRE	46.525
6th	People's Republic of China	CHN	46.500
7th	Spain	ESP	45.350
8th	Brazil	BRA	44.400



This page:

China compete in the rhythmic gymnastics group qualification.
© Getty Images/M. Hewitt



This page:

The Spanish team compete in the hoops and balls round of the rhythmic gymnastics group finals.
© Getty Images/S. Barbour



**This page, top,
from left to right:**

Alina Kabaeva of Russia performs with the ball during the individual all-round final. Kabaeva won the gold ahead of fellow Russian Irina Tchachina and Anna Bessonova of Ukraine on third.
© AFP/O. Andersen

Russia's Irina Tchachina performs in the individual all-around final.
© REUTERS/R. Stubblebine

This page, bottom:

Azerbaijan's Anna Gurbanova performs in the individual all-around qualification.
© REUTERS/R. Stubblebine

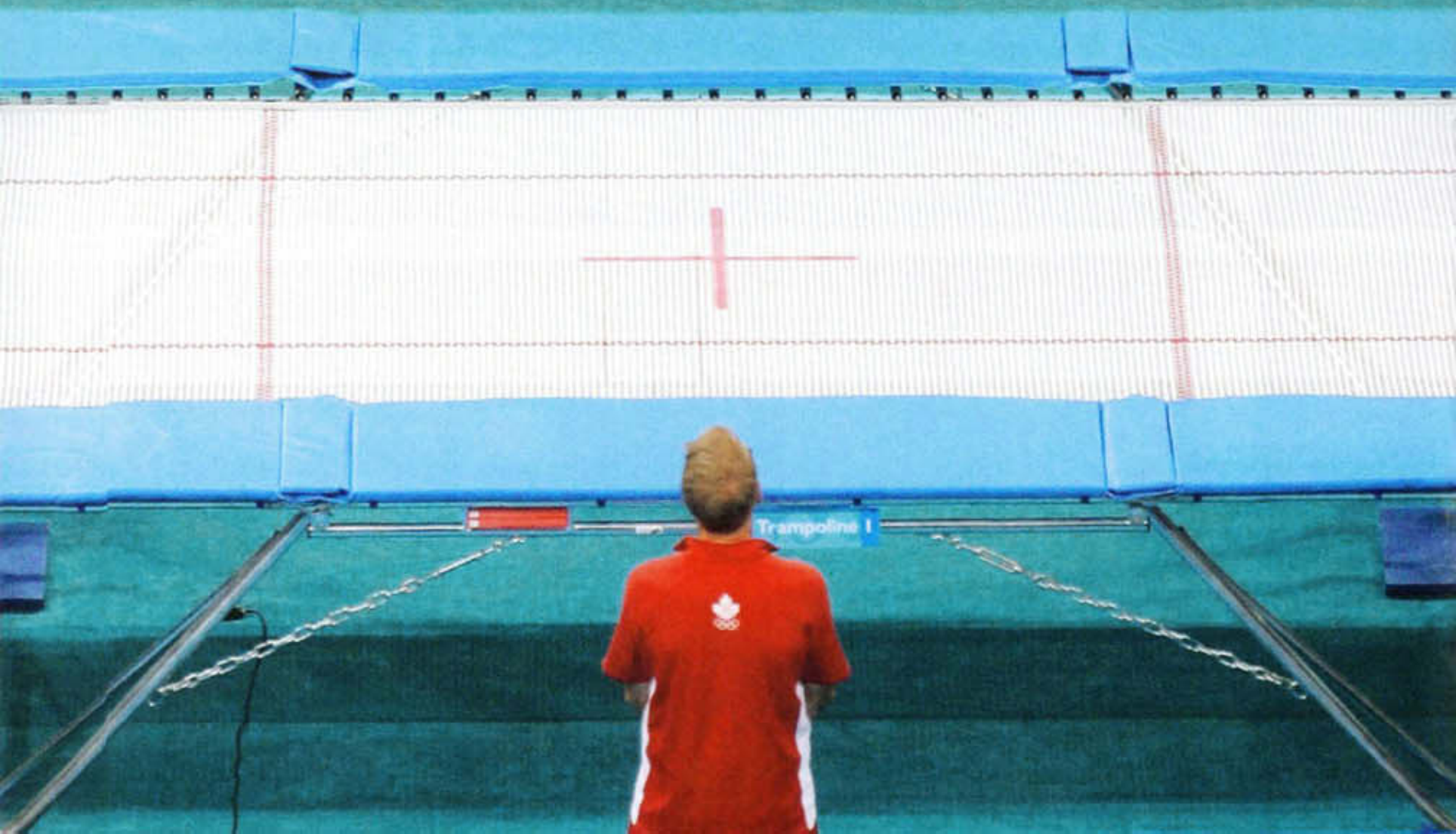
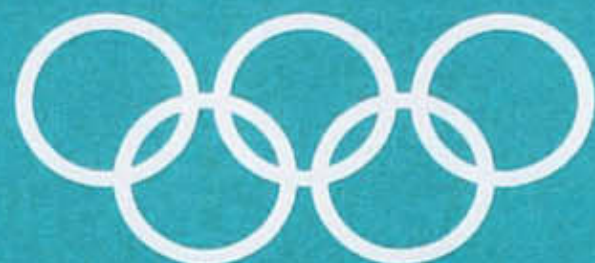
ATHENS 2004



we



ATHENS 2004



Trampoline I

Gymnastics Trampoline



Competition Sequence

Olympic Trampoline competition was held on 20 and 21 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

The modern Trampoline came about through the intervention of modern technology. The prototype apparatus was built by George Nissen of the USA in 1936. As well as being a source of great fun at recreational level, the trampoline has also been used by the Air Force and later by space agencies both in the USA and the USSR in order for their pilots, cosmonauts and astronauts to get accustomed to aerial activity. Competitive Trampolining began in the USA, after World War II. In 1958, the first Nissen Cup was held in Switzerland, an event that continues today. In 1964, the International Trampoline Federation (FIT) was formed and the first World Championships were held. In 1996, at the first-ever Olympic Gymnastics gala in Atlanta, Trampolining was performed and the following year it was granted Olympic status by the IOC. In 1998, the International Federation merged with the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG), which ensured trampoline's debut at the 2000

Sydney Olympics. The sport's debut was so successful that led to the IOC's decision to give four more athletes, in both men's and women's competitions, the chance to participate in the Olympic Games.

Description

The Olympic Trampoline tournament includes one event for men and one for women, and consists of two phases: the qualifications and the finals, that took place in one day for women and one for men.

Apart from being a breathtaking sport in its own merit, Trampoline is also widely recognised as a training tool for many other sports, such as Gymnastics, Diving, Freestyle Skiing, etc.

Men's: 1	Total: 2
Women's: 1	

Left page:

Karen Cockburn of Canada competes in the women's trampoline qualifier. Cockburn placed second and won the silver medal in the finals.
© Getty Images/J. Squire

Competitors: 32					
Event	Trampolinists	NOC	Event	Trampolinists	NOC
Men	16	14	Women	16	14

Venue

The sport of Trampoline took place in the Olympic Indoor Hall at the Athens Olympic Sports Complex, where the sport of Artistic Gymnastics was also held. During Games-time, seating capacity reached 17,500 for Trampoline, as well as the Artistic Gymnastics events.

Games Highlights

Men's Trampoline

Trampoline made its debut at the Olympic Games in Sydney 2000 and the first Olympic champions were the Russian pair of Alexander MOSKALENKO (men) and Irina KARAVAEVA (women). MOSKALENKO's biggest challengers at the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games were the Ukrainian Yuri NIKITIN, third in the current world ranking list, the 2003 world champion Henrik STEHLIK (GER), Alexander RUSAKOV (RUS) and David MARTIN (FRA), the 2002 World Cup winner. Finally, the gold went to the twenty-six year old Yuri NIKITIN, with a score of 41.50, whereas MOSKALENKO, 35 in November, became the first trampolinist with two Olympic medals by adding silver (41.20) to his Sydney gold. Henrik STEHLIK performed in style, but the lower difficulty routine (Diff. 15.6) won him the bronze, scoring 40.80 points. Dimitri POLYARUSH from Belarus was fourth and Alexander RUSAKOV ended in the fifth place. RUSAKOV paid bitterly for taking the risk of performing the most difficult routine of all trampolinists (Diff. 16.40), in the final, when he lost control by the end of his performance and his score of 40.20 left him outside the podium. Nuno MERINO from Portugal finished sixth, whilst Gary SMITH (GBR) and David MARTIN were seventh and eighth respectively.

Women's Trampoline

In Women's Trampoline, the thirty-one-year old Anna DOGONADZE (GER) won the Women's title, with a score of 39.60 points. The silver medal went to the 2000 Olympic bronze medallist and current world champion Karen COCKBURN (CAN), scoring 39.20 points. Bronze medallist was the youngest competitor; 19-year-old Shanshan HUANG from China, with a score of 39.00 points. The Sydney Olympic champion Irina KARAVAEVA (RUS) unexpectedly took fourth position after the first routine, which included set elements. Even more surprising was the beginning of her second routine (including 10 different skills), when KARAVAEVA bounced several times, then stopped and started again, unfortunately not for long. She fell on the security mats, after her third element. With the hot favourite out of the contest, her Russian teammate Natalia CHERNOVA remained on the top of the Qualification List prior to the Final, followed by the 2001 world champion Anna DOGONADZE and the Ukrainian Olena MOVCHAN. The Final was a different story. COCKBURN, fifth in the Qualifications, scored as high as 39.20. The prodigy of China, Shanshan HUANG performed according to the expectations scoring 39.00. DOGONADZE went even further, finishing next of the medal contenders, with a large smile on her face - a record high 39.60, which CHERNOVA, performing last could not match (38.60). The 2004 Olympic champion DOGONADZE was born and trained in Georgia. She has competed for the Soviet Union until 1990, then for Georgia (between 1992 and 1997) and finally, since 1998 she represents her new country, Germany.

Right page, from top to bottom:

Ukraine's gold medallist Yuri Nikitin performs during the men's gymnastics trampoline event.
© REUTERS/K. Mayama

Russian Alexander Moskalenko, who won the gold in the sport's Olympic debut in Sydney, performs at the men's trampoline final. Moskalenko captured the silver medal with a score of 41.20 points.
© AFP/K. Nogi

Andrea Lenders of the Netherlands performs in the air during the women's trampoline final at the Olympic Indoor Hall. Lenders finished in eighth place.
© AFP/K. Nogi

Men's Trampoline			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	NIKITIN Yuri	UKR	41.50
Silver	MOSKALENKO Alexander	RUS	41.20
Bronze	STEHLIK Henrik	GER	40.80
4th	POLYARUSH Dimitri	BLR	40.20
5th	RUSAKOV Alexander	RUS	40.20
6th	MERINO Nuno	POR	40.10
7th	SMITH Gary	GBR	40.00
8th	MARTIN David	FRA	39.90

Women's Trampoline			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	DOGONADZE Anna	GER	39.60
Silver	COCKBURN Karen	CAN	39.20
Bronze	HUANG Shanshan	CHN	39.00
4th	CHERNOVA Natalia	RUS	38.60
5th	MOVCHAN Olena	UKR	37.60
6th	ROSS-McMANUS Heather	CAN	37.40
7th	HIROTA Haruka	JPN	37.20
8th	LENDERS Andrea	NED	24.30





Handball



Competition Sequence

The Handball preliminary games lasted 11 competition days, from 14 to 24 August 2004, whereas the Handball finals lasted four competition days, from 26 to 29 August 2004.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Field Handball was first played at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, where Germany won the gold medal. A demonstration game of field Handball was held at the 1952 Helsinki Olympic Games. The International Handball Federation was founded in 1946. The first Olympic Indoor tournament was played at the 1972 Munich Olympic Games. Today the IHF has 150 member Federations, representing approximately 800.000 teams and more than 18 million players on five continents; the number of active Handball players is considerably higher.

Description

Handball is played in an indoor court between two teams of seven players each. The players' purpose is, by only using their hands, to put the ball into the goal post of the opposing team, thereby scoring a "goal", whilst to prevent the other team from scoring. The main object of Handball, like any team sport, is to obtain the highest number of points to win the match: the team with the most goals wins. The ball may be passed, thrown, tapped, rolled or dribbled in any direction, subject to the restrictions laid down by the rules of the game. Two referees officiate the game. A game consists of two periods of thirty minutes each, with a ten-minute interval for halftime. Handball is considered the fastest team sport, while its players' characteristic skills are high leaps, speed and quick reflexes. The Athens Olympic Handball Tournament consisted of the preliminary round, main round, semi-finals and finals.

Men's tournament with 12 teams	Total: 2
Women's tournament with 10 teams	

Venue

The Handball events took place at two separate Olympic Venues: the Sports Pavilion of the Faliro Coastal Zone Olympic Complex, and the Indoor Arena of the Helliniko Olympic Complex. The Sports Pavilion of the Faliro Coastal Zone Olympic Complex, a venue with a spectator capacity of 8.100, hosted the Handball preliminary games (14-24 August), as well as the Taekwondo events. The Handball finals (26-29 August) took place at the Indoor Arena of the Helliniko Olympic Complex, which is of 14.100 seated capacity. The same venue hosted the preliminaries of Basketball.

Competitors: 330					
Event	Players	NOC	Event	Players	NOC
Men	180	12	Women	150	10

Games Highlights

Men's Event

Croatia was Olympic Men's Handball champion after beating Germany 26-24 in a fiercely contested gold medal match in front of 10.750 boisterous fans. The Croatians had to come back from a 12-11 halftime deficit to add the Olympic crown to their World Championship win last year. Excellent performances from both goalkeepers - Croatia's Vlado SOLA and Germany's Henning FRITZ - ensured both teams had to work hard for their goals during a match in which the lead changed from one moment to the next. After 37 minutes, with Germany surging to a 16-13 lead, it appeared the European champions might be taking control. The turning point came in the 52nd minute.

Left page:

Slavko Goluz of Croatia is hit in the face by Christian Zeitz of Germany as he drives toward the goal in the men's handball gold medal match played between Germany and Croatia on 29 August. Croatia won.
© Getty Images/J. Ferrey

With scores tied at 20-20, Germany's Markus BAUR was expelled for two minutes, during which Croatia scored twice. It was a lead the Croatians never relinquished. Mirza DZOMBA (CRO) proved his team's key player, scoring nine goals from 10 attempts to fire a Croatian attack denied the usual contribution of star Ivano BALIC, well held on this occasion by the German defence. Accredited Media, however, voted for Ivano BALIC as the Most Valuable Player of the Men's Olympic Handball Tournament. Russia, on the other hand, took the Olympic bronze medal, beating Hungary 28-26, with Andrey LAVROV (RUS) turning in another excellent performance. France, in the Men's classification's game for places 5-6, performed well and won out easily over Greece, 33-15. Spain finished 7th in the Men's Olympic Tournament, while Korea finished 8th.

Women's Event

In the Women's Olympic Tournament, Denmark defended its Olympic Handball title by beating Korea 38-36, in a match decided by a penalty Shootout. The two teams were tied 25-25 at the end of the match, and remained deadlocked at 29-29 after the first 5-minute overtime period. The second five-minute

overtime also ended in a tie, 34-34, forcing the game to be decided by a penalty shootout. Danish goalkeeper Karin Oernhoej MORTENSEN stopped two crucial penalty shots by Korean's Kyeong LIM O and Pil Hee MOON, while her team-mates scored on all four attempts. Katrine FRUELUND, Lotte KIAERSKOU, Line DAUGAARD, Henriette Roende MIKKELSEN scored for Denmark. Sang Eun LEE and ChaYoun KIM scored for Korea. FRUELUND was top Danish scorer, with 15 goals. LEE topped the Koreans with nine goals, while So Hee JANG and MOON scored five each. Queen Margrethe of Denmark attended the game. FRUELUND, who was voted the Most Valuable player of the women's Olympic Handball Tournament, scored the last four Danish goals, the last four seconds before the final whistle to tie the game in regulation time. Korea's Im Jeong CHOI was forced to leave the game two minutes before the end of the second overtime period because of injury. China and Brazil met for the women's classification places 7-8, with Brazil winning the 7th, whilst Hungary won the 5th place in the Women's Olympic Games Handball tournament, after defeating Spain.

Right page:

Lotte Kiaerskou of Denmark celebrates during the women's handball gold medal match.
© Getty Images/J. Ferrey

Men		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Croatia	CRO
Silver	Germany	GER
Bronze	Russian Federation	RUS
4th	Hungary	HUN
5th	France	FRA
6th	Greece	GRE
7th	Spain	ESP
8th	Korea	KOR

Women		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Denmark	DEN
Silver	Korea	KOR
Bronze	Ukraine	UKR
4th	France	FRA
5th	Hungary	HUG
6th	Spain	ESP
7th	Brazil	BRA
8th	People's Republic of China	CHN





Hockey



Competition Sequence

The competition was held over 14 days, from 14 to 27 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	

The first Olympic Hockey competition for men was held in London in 1908 with England, Ireland and Scotland competing separately. Hockey was subsequently dropped from the Stockholm 1912 Games and reappeared in 1920 in Antwerp. The International Hockey Federation, the world governing body for the sport, was founded in Paris, under the initiative of Frenchman Paul Léautey. Léautey, who would become the first president of the International Hockey Federation, was motivated to act following Hockey's omission from the programme of the Paris 1924 Olympic Games. The women's Hockey game was included for the first time in the programme of the 1980 Olympics in Moscow.

Description

There are two Hockey disciplines: indoor Hockey, which is held in an indoor venue, and outdoor Hockey, which is held in an outdoor venue. Only outdoor Hockey is included in the Olympic Games competition schedule. Field Hockey is one of the most spectacular sports. The players taking part must be highly skilled in order to maintain absolute control of the ball when passing or shooting. They must also be skilled in stopping the ball with the stick and running with it or dribbling it across the playing area. Each team consists of 11 main players and 5 substitutes on the bench. The goalkeeper of each team must remain in his/her circles, whilst the rest of the team play in attack, midfield or defence in various part of the field of play. The Hockey field, referred to as the "Pitch", is a rectangle 91,40m long and 55m wide. A field goal is scored, when an attacking player shoots at goal from inside the defending team's shooting circle and the ball passes the goal line. The match consists of two periods of 35 minutes, each with a 10-minute interval.

The team scoring the most goals is the winner. Hockey games are usually conducted on grass. At high-level competitions, such as the Olympic Games, Hockey is played on synthetic surfaces.

Men's: 1	Total: 2
Women's: 1	

Competitors: 352		
Event	Players	NOC
Men	192	12
Women	160	10

Venue

Hockey was held on two different pitches at the Olympic Hockey Centre within the Helliniko Olympic Complex. The Olympic Hockey Centre is a new construction in the south of Athens with one large pitch of 7.300 seats and a smaller one of 2.100 seats. The Olympic Hockey Centre also included a warm-up pitch for the training of all athletes, situated within the Helliniko Olympic Complex. A total of 352 athletes (12 men's teams and 10 women's teams) participated in the 2004 Olympic Games competition.

Games Highlights

Men's Event

Australia's Men captured its historic Olympic Games gold medal after a dramatic 2-1 golden goal victory over the defending champions, the Netherlands. The Dutch, looking to capture its third consecutive gold, were without the services of key player Teun de NOOIJER for most of the second half and extra time, due to an injury. The Dutch came through pool play

Left page:

Bevan George of Australia dribbles against the defense of Marten Eikelboom of the Netherlands during the men's field hockey gold medal match. Australia won 2-1.
© Getty Images/S. Franklin

with maximum points, but in the end were denied the ultimate prize. Germany, the world's number one ranked team, claimed the bronze medal with a 4-3 golden goal win over Spain. Germany, like Australia, finished second in the pool in preliminary play, but couldn't make it through the semis. Spain was the best team in the tournament not to win a medal, after finishing top of their pool. The Spanish looked to have a strong chance at the final, but like Germany, couldn't make it through the semi-finals. However, fourth place was an improvement on Spain's ninth place at Sydney four years ago, while bronze is Germany's first Men's Olympic Games Hockey medal since it won gold at Barcelona in 1992. New Zealand had a strong performance in its preliminary matches, and its sixth place finish represents its best Olympic Games finish, since it won the tournament and the gold at Montreal in 1976, whilst Pakistan's fifth place final ranking was one off its Sydney 2000 finish. India's seventh place finish matched its performance at Sydney four years ago, while Korea's eighth is a dramatic drop from its silver medal at the 2000 Games. The unfortunate Korea actually went from being within four minutes of the semi-final in its last Pool match with Germany to eighth place in less than a week. Great Britain had an average performance in the pool stage, finishing fifth. Its ninth place finish overall is Great Britain's worst since coming 12th out of 16 in Mexico in 1968, while South Africa's 10th place matched its previous Olympic Games best, when it finished 10th at Atlanta in 1996. Argentina came into the tournament seeking a fifth or six place, but were down from its 8th spot at Sydney in 2000. Egypt's 12th place finish matches its final position from its last Olympic Hockey participation at Barcelona in 1992. Pakistan's Sohail ABBAS was the leading scorer, with 11 goals, 10 of them coming from penalty corners.

Women's Event

The Women's Olympic Hockey Tournament finished with a determined German team claiming Olympic Games gold for the very first time, four years after finishing seventh in Sydney. Germany, ranked seventh in the world, was the surprise of the tournament, even in the eyes of the German Coach, Markus WEISE: "I totally agree that we had the surprise team in our pool," said WEISE following the 2-1 defeat of the Netherlands in the final. But Germany's defeat of reigning Olympic champions Australia early in the pool stages would eventually prove to be a taste of things to come. Australia, hampered by injuries coming into the

competition, was locked out of the medal matches and a chance to defend their Olympic Games title. In a real show of commitment and determination against the Netherlands, a higher ranked and more fancied opponent, Germany made the absolute most of its scoring chances in the final, and then successfully defended against wave after wave of Dutch pressure. The Dutch, looking stronger throughout the tournament, finished Pool play with maximum points. And after downing world champions Argentina in their semi-final, they looked set to claim their first Olympic Games gold since 1984. In their past two Olympic Games, the Netherlands won the bronze medal, and while they had taken a step up in Athens, were bitterly disappointed at the loss. "No, we are not happy with the silver," said Dutch Coach Marc LAMMERS following the defeat. "Maybe tomorrow we will be. But tonight we lost the gold medal." World number one ranked Argentina came into the tournament with high hopes for an Olympic Games gold to add to its World Cup. After finishing first in its pool, Argentina were defeated in the semi-finals on penalty strokes by the Netherlands, but were satisfied to take the bronze defeating China, with a last minute goal by Luciana Paula AYMAR. China, with its fourth place finish, put on its best-ever Olympic performance, improving by one place on their Sydney 2000 finish. Defending Olympic Champions Australia found themselves in a less than familiar position on the Women's tournament - out of the medal matches. After winning gold in Atlanta (1996) and Sydney (2000), Australia matched its worst-ever Olympic Games finish here in Athens, when they finished fifth in 1992 in Barcelona. In contrast, New Zealand matched its sixth-place Sydney Games performance, the best-ever ranking for the Kiwis. Two of the three Asian teams in the women's Tournament faced each other on the final day of competition. Korea finished in seventh place, two spots better than four years ago in Sydney, while Japan made it eighth place out of 10 for its first Olympic Games campaign. South Africa and Spain played off in the 9th-10th classification match. It took some effort, but the South Africans eventually prevailed with a golden goal in extra time to defeat Spain for the ninth position. However, Spain's last place didn't compare well with their fourth spot at the last Olympic Games in Sydney. Mijntje DONNERS (NED) and Jenny WILSON (RSA) shared the lead scorer honours, each having netted five goals.

Right page, from top to bottom:

Australian players jubilate after winning the men's gold medal match against the Netherlands. © AFP/J. Demarthon

Team Australia celebrates winning gold. © Getty Images/S. Franklin

German hockey players celebrate after winning against the Netherlands in the final of the women's hockey competition. Germany won 2-1 to win the gold medal. © AFP/E. Dunand

Men		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Australia	AUS
Silver	Netherlands	NED
Bronze	Germany	GER
4th	Spain	ESP
5th	Pakistan	PAK
6th	New Zealand	NZL
7th	India	IND
8th	Korea	KOR

Women		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Germany	GER
Silver	Netherlands	NED
Bronze	Argentina	ARG
4th	People's Republic of China	CHN
5th	Australia	AUS
6th	New Zealand	NZL
7th	Korea	KOR
8th	Japan	JPN







Competition Sequence

Judo competition events took place within the span of seven days (14-20 August).

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

The first appearance of Judo in the Olympic arena was in Tokyo, in 1964. Since then, it has been absent only once, in Mexico City, in 1968. Women's Judo was included in the Olympic Programme in Barcelona, in 1992, after being a demonstration sport at Seoul Olympic Games, in 1988. Today the International Judo Federation (IJF) consists of 187 federation members.

Description

The duration of a judo contests is five minutes. In every contest, one competitor wears a blue judogi (judo suit), the other the more traditional white judogi. Athletes compete under the control of a referee and two judges, whose verdicts are of equal weight. Decision is by majority verdict, and referee announces the result with a gesture of the hand and by calling out the point or the penalty point. If an athlete successfully throws their opponent to the ground, landing him/her on their back with force and control, he/she scores an Ippon (one complete mark, equivalent to ten points), and this ends the match. If none of the judokas completes an Ippon by the end of the game, the winner is the one to have scored the greatest value point.

Left page:

Japan's Ryoko Tani battles France's Frederique Jossinet on her way to win a gold medal in their judo women's extra lightweight (under 48kg) final. Japan's Tani became the first woman to win two Olympic titles in Judo.
© REUTERS/K. Kyung-Hoon

The ATHENS 2004 Olympic Judo tournament consisted of fourteen events:

Men's: 7	Total: 14
Women: 7	

Competitors: 386

Men's		
Event	Judokas	NOC
-60kg Extra-Light	33	33
-66kg Half-Light	32	32
-73kg Light	34	34
-81kg Half-Middle	32	32
-90kg Middle	32	32
-100kg Half-Heavy	33	33
+100kg Heavy	33	33
Women's		
Event	Judokas	NOC
-48kg Extra-Light	22	22
-52kg Half-Light	24	24
-57kg Light	23	23
-63kg Half-Middle	22	22
-70kg Middle	23	23
-78kg Half-Heavy	21	21
+78kg Heavy	22	22

Venue

During the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, Judo competitions were staged at the Olympic Hall, situated in Ano Liossia, in the northwest region of Athens, which has a seating capacity of 9.000 spectators. The construction area covered a surface of 35.000sq.m. surrounded by supplementary support areas, such as warm

up areas, athletes' rest rooms, training areas, change rooms, medical-hygiene areas, administration, Federation offices, etc. Daily, one women's and one men's weight category were completed, starting with the lighter weight categories. Preliminaries and repechage (a second chance for defeated athletes in the first and second round) were held at 10:30, and finals at 16:30.

Games Highlights

Japan, once again, took the most medals, winning eight out of 14 golds up for grabs. Surprisingly, Japan's women won more medals than the men. Prior to the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, they had only won two, but in Athens won five.

Men's Events

Men's 60kg Extra Light

In the men's under 60kg category Tadahiro NOMURA re-wrote history, winning his third gold medal in a row, a feat never achieved in Judo before. NOMURA quickly scored a yuko in the final and was quite comfortable defending that lead. His opponent Nestor KHERGIANI (GEO) couldn't breakthrough the Japanese judoka's solid defence. With eight seconds to go NOMURA got KHERGIANI on the ground and only had to smile to the flashing cameras to secure gold. NOMURA now takes the mantle from David DOUILLET (FRA) as the most successful Olympic Judoka. DOUILLET won gold medals in Atlanta 1996 and Sydney 2000 and one bronze in 1992 in Barcelona. In the men's -60kg bronze medal bout Mongolian Khashbaatar TSAGAANBAATAR won with a golden score in extra time over Kenji UEMATSU (ESP). World champion Min Ho

CHOI (KOR) beat Iranian Masoud HAJI AKHONDZADE for the second bronze after beating German Oliver GUSSENBERG in the repechage.

Men's 66kg Half-Light

Japan's Masato UCHISHIBA defeated Jozef KRNAC from Slovakia to become the new Olympic Judo champion in a day of drama and surprise that saw Iranian world champion Arash MIRE SMAEILI fail to start in the competition because of weight problems. UCHISHIBA was the tournament's dominant competitor, defeating opponents in only a matter of minutes. KRNAC defeated Yordanis ARENCIBIA from Cuba on his way to the final. ARENCIBIA recovered well to win his bronze medal fight against David MARGOSHVILI (GEO).

Men's 73kg Light

In the men's -73kg class Korea's Won Hee LEE won the gold beating Vitaliy MAKAROV (RUS) in the final. LEE is the world champion and made beautiful points during the event. In his second match he had to compete against the strong American Jimmy PEDRO, the last man to beat LEE since his world title of last September. LEE won impressively, deserving his subsequent success. PEDRO got back to take bronze via the repechage contest against Daniel FERNANDES (FRA). PEDRO, the 33-year-old father of three kids retired after the Sydney Olympic Games, but had his enthusiasm restored after catching the Olympic bug at the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Games. The other bronze medallist, Leandro GUILHEIRO, was quite a surprise. Though current junior world champion, no one but he had expected him to go this far. He beat Victor BIVOL (MDA) for the bronze medal with two waza-ari's.

Men's 60kg Extra-Light		
	Name	NOC
Gold	NOMURA Tadahiro	JPN
Silver	KHERGIANI Nestor	GEO
Bronze	TSAGAANBAATAR Khashbaatar	MGL
Bronze	CHOI Min Ho	KOR
5th	UEMATSU Kenji	ESP
	HAJI AKHONDZADE Masoud	IRI
7th	ZINTIRIDIS Revazi	GRE
	GUSSENBERG Oliver	GER

Men's 66kg Half-Light		
	Name	NOC
Gold	UCHISHIBA Masato	JPN
Silver	KRNAC Jozef	SVK
Bronze	GEORGIEV Georgi	BUL
Bronze	ARENCIBIA Yordanis	CUB
5th	PENAS Oscar	ESP
	MARGOSHVILI David	GEO
7th	PINA Joao	POR
	LENCINA Jorge	ARG

Men's 73kg Light		
	Name	NOC
Gold	LEE Won Hee	KOR
Silver	MAKAROV Vitaliy	RUS
Bronze	GUILHEIRO Leandro	BRA
Bronze	PEDRO James	USA
5th	BIVOL Victor	MDA
	FERNANDES Daniel	FRA
7th	KEVKHISHVILI David	GEO
	NETO Joao	POR

Men's 81kg Half-Middle		
	Name	NOC
Gold	ILIADIS Ilias	GRE
Silver	GONTYUK Roman	UKR
Bronze	NOSSOV Dmitri	RUS
Bronze	CANTO Flavio	BRA
5th	AZIZOV Mehman	AZE
	KRAWCZYK Robert	POL
7th	WANNER Florian	GER
	KWON Young Woo	KOR

Right page:

South Korea's Olympic champion Won Hee Lee reacts as he defeats Russia's Vitaliy Makarov for a gold medal during their men's judo lightweight (under 73kg) bout. © REUTERS/C. Platiau





**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Keiji Suzuki of Japan (blue) celebrates his win over Tamerlan Tmenov of Russia (white) in the men's judo +100 kg class gold medal contest.
© Getty Images/A. Pretty

Greece's gold medallist Ilias Iliadis stands on the podium after winning the men's judo half-middleweight (under 81 kg). With him are Ukraine's silver medallist Roman Gontyuk, Russia's bronze medallist Dmitri Nossov and Brazil's bronze medallist Flavio Canto.
© REUTERS/I. Kato

Men's 81kg Half-Middle

Host country Greece won its first Olympic gold medal in Judo, when Ilias ILIADIS, 17, beat Ukraine's Roman GONTYUK in the Men's -81kg class. ILIADIS beat all his opponents within three minutes with attractive powerful Judo. The bronze went to the experienced Brazilian Flavio CANTO. It was the second bronze medal for Brazil with the talented Leandro GUILHEIRO claiming third in the -66kg class. The second bronze medal was for Russian fighter Dmitri NOSSOV, who got injured in the semifinal against ILIADIS, but still managed to win his bronze medal bout using one arm.

Men's 90kg Middle

Hiroshi IZUMI lost his final in the Men's -90kg and had to settle for silver IZUMI was defeated by Zurab ZVIADAURI (GEO), who won his Olympic title in a spectacular ippon. After leaving the last two World Championships with silver, the Georgian judoka walked away with Olympic gold. The bronze went to Khasanbi TAOV (RUS), who was one of the surprises performers of this category, defeating the Korean world champion HeeTae HWANG. HWANG had over powered Sydney 2000 Olympic Champion Mark HUIZINGA (NED) at an earlier stage, but the Dutchman won his next four matches in the Repechage to win bronze, leaving no doubt that he is still a force in the sport. It was HUIZINGA's third successive Judo middleweight medal at the Olympic Games. Australian Daniel KELLY also showed medal potential in the Men's -90kg but lost the Repechage final to Khasanbi TAOV (RUS) and finished seventh.

Men's 90kg Middle		
	Name	NOC
Gold	ZVIADAURI Zurab	GEO
Silver	IZUMI Hiroshi	JPN
Bronze	TAOV Khasanbi	RUS
Bronze	HUIZINGA Mark	NED
5th	HWANG HeeTae	KOR
	GORDON Winston	GBR
7th	KELLY Daniel	AUS
	COSTA Eduardo	ARG

Men's +100kg Heavy		
	Name	NOC
Gold	SUZUKI Keiji	JPN
Silver	TMENOV Tamerlan	RUS
Bronze	van DER GEEST Dennis	NED
Bronze	PERTELSON Indrek	EST
5th	MIRAN Seyed Mahmoudreza	IRI
	BIANCHESSI Paolo	ITA
7th	TOELZER Andreas	GER
	TATAROGLU Selim	TUR

Men's 100kg Half-Heavy

INOUE, the big favourite in the Men's -100kg, was beaten by Dutchman Elco van DER GEEST at the quarterfinal stage, before going on to lose in the Repechage to Movlud MIRALIYEV (AZE). So the gold was destined for a new home, and Ihar MAKARAU, from Belarus, was the best. He beat Sung Ho JANG (KOR) in the final by waza-ari. JANG, who came through a strong group which also included Nicolas GILL (CAN) and Ariel ZEEVI (ISR), again took silver just like at the World Championships in 1999. The bronze medals went to ZEEVI, who beat van DER GEEST and Germany's Michael JURACK, who defeated MIRALIYEV.

Men's +100kg Heavy

Keiji SUZUKI was dominant in the Men's +100kg. SUZUKI was the strongest in the final against Tamerlan TMENOV (RUS), who had won the bronze in Sydney. TMENOV was the winner of a very strong group with favourites like Indrek PERTELSON (EST), Selim TATAROGLU (TUR) and Daniel HERNANDES (BRA). In the semi-final, he beat Seyed Mahmoudreza MIRAN (IRI) by ippon. MIRAN had a second chance for a medal, but lost against Dennis van DER GEEST (NED), who was impressively strong as well. Van DER GEEST won with devastating ippons, a strangle in his second match and the fastest ippon in years, taking a mere six seconds to beat his German opponent Andreas TOELZER. The other bronze medal was for Indrek PERTELSON, who had won the bronze in Sydney as well.

Men's 100kg Half-Heavy		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MAKARAU Ihar	BLR
Silver	JANG Sung Ho	KOR
Bronze	JURACK Michael	GER
Bronze	ZEEVI Ariel	ISR
5th	MIRALIYEV Movlud	AZE
	van DER GEEST Elco	NED
7th	ZHITKEYEV Askhat	KAZ
	LEMAIRE Ghislain	FRA

Women's Events

Women's 48kg Extra-Light

For Ryoko TANI, formerly TAMURA, it was her fourth Olympic medal, in the women's 48kg, since she defended the title she won in Sydney with style. This Olympic final was the same as the last World Championships in Osaka Japan, but this time TANI was much stronger than her French opponent Frederique JOSSINET and dominated the contest. German Julia MATIJASS won the bronze medal, after losing to JOSSINET in the semifinal, demonstrating she is a suitable successor to her former German rival Anna-Maria GRADANTE - who won the bronze in Sydney in the same weight.

Women's 52kg Half-Light

In the Women's -52kg, Dongmei XIAN from China successfully took on all comers, including the tall French semifinalist Annabelle EURANIE, whom she defeated in less than 2 minutes. XIAN was even more impressive in the final, comprehensively outmanoeuvring Japan's Yuki YOKOSAWA, the world number three. Amarilys SAVON from Cuba won the bronze, along with Ilse HEYLEN.

Women's 57kg Light

Germany celebrated a sensational third day of the Olympic Judo tournament when Yvonne BOENISCH surprised the world by winning the Women's -57kg final from Sun Hui KYE, the North Korean superstar, world champion and Olympic gold medallist at Atlanta in 1996. In beating KYE, BOENISCH avenged her loss at the last World Championships final when she

finished second to KYE. Deborah GRAVENSTIJN (NED) won the bronze medal beating Frenchwoman Barbara HAREL. GRAVENSTIJN didn't have a good preparation and only felt ready at her last training. Her win was a compensation for being defeated for bronze by KYE at Sydney 2000. Cuban Yurisleidy LUPETEY, who was the world champion in 2001, was disappointed with a bronze medal. She beat Sydney's Olympic Champion Isabel FERNANDEZ in the other bronze medal bout.

Women's 63kg Half-Middle

The Women's -63kg category saw all favourites eliminated in early stages, as previously unfavoured judokas showed how to peak at the world's most important sporting event. Ayumi TANIMOTO took Japan's fourth gold medal in Judo for the Athens tournament. TANIMOTO mastered Claudia HEILL (AUT) after just one minute by two waza-ari's. HEILL, however, was very happy with her performance, winning the second Women's Judo medal for her county since 1988. Cuban Driulys GONZALEZ didn't have to fight in her last match as world champion Daniela KRUKOWER (ARG) got injured in the semifinal and had to forfeit. For GONZALEZ it was her third Olympic medal, having won gold in Atlanta and silver in Sydney. GONZALEZ was beaten in an early stage by Urška ZOLNIR from Slovenia, who was added to the players in Athens three days before the start of competition, thanks to an invitation of the IOC. ZOLNIR surprised many experts when she beat Canadian Marie-Helene CHISHOLM from Canada for the bronze.

Women's 48kg Extra-Light		
	Name	NOC
Gold	TANI Ryoko	JPN
Silver	JOSSINET Frederique	FRA
Bronze	MATIJASS Julia	GER
	GAO Feng	CHN
5th	KARAGIANNOPOULOU Maria	GRE
	DUMITRU Alina Alexandra	ROM
7th	ZEMLA-KRAJEWSKA Anna	POL
	YE Gue Rin	KOR

Women's 52kg Half-Light		
	Name	NOC
Gold	XIAN Dongmei	CHN
Silver	YOKOSAWA Yuki	JPN
Bronze	SAVON Amarilys	CUB
	HEYLEN Use	BEL
5th	SOUAKRI Salima	ALG
	EURANIE Annabelle	FRA
7th	ALUAS Ioana Maria	ROM
	SINGLETON Georgina	GBR

Women's 57kg Light		
	Name	NOC
Gold	BOENISCH Yvonne	GER
Silver	KYE Sun Hui	PRK
Bronze	GRAVENSTIJN Deborah	NED
	LUPETEY Yurisleidy	CUB
5th	HAREL Barbara	FRA
	FERNANDEZ Isabel	ESP
7th	YUKHAREVA Natalia	RUS
	CAVAZZUTI Cinzia	ITA

Women's 63kg Half-Middle		
	Name	NOC
Gold	TANIMOTO Ayumi	JPN
Silver	HEILL Claudia	AUT
Bronze	ZOLNIR Urška	SLO
	GONZALEZ Driulys	CUB
5th	CHISHOLM Marie Helene	CAN
	KRUKOWER Daniela	ARG
7th	DECOSSE Lucie	FRA
	HONG Ok Song	PRK

Right page:

Maria Karagiannopoulou of Greece competes against Julia Matijass of Germany in the women's judo -48kg class bronze medal contest. Matijass won.
© Getty Images/J. Squire





Women's 70kg Middle

Masae UENO won the gold in the Women's -70kg. Edith BOSCH won silver losing only to the Olympic gold medallist and double world champion of 2001 and 2003, Masae UENO. She won with a great ippon two minutes into the final contest. On her way to fifth place in the Women's -70kg, Catherine Marie Joelle ARLOVE (AUS) defeated one of the strongest contenders for the Olympic title, former world champion Kate HOWEY (GBR) and narrowly missed out on winning her country's third bronze medal in Judo -Australia's first bronze medal in Judo came in Tokyo in 1964, in the first Olympic appearance of judo; the second at the Sydney Games 36 years later.

Women's 78kg Half-Heavy

In the women's -78kg, ANNO finally won gold, after being world champion four times, including once at -72kg, but failing to win a match at two previous Olympic Games. ANNO beat Xia LIU (CHN) in the final 23 seconds of their bout, with an impressive

uchi-mata (hip throw). Lucia MORICO won the bronze for Italy, while the other bronze went to Yurisel LABORDE (CUB), who defeated former world champion Celine LEBRUN (FRA). LEBRUN fought for nine minutes and 41 seconds in her semifinal against ANNO, but was unable to win a second Judo medal for France at the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games. Quite a disappointment compared to Sydney 2000, where France won nine medals.

Women's 78kg Heavy

In the women's +78kg Maki TSUKADA (JPN) beat one of the big favourites, Dayma BELTRAN, within two minutes. BELTRAN defeated the current world champion Fuming SUN (CHN), as well in the semifinal with a beautiful ippon, but the disappointment was logical after being runner-up again at the Olympics. The bronze was for Tea DONGUZASHVILI (RUS) and Fuming SUN, who beat European Champion Maryna PROKOFYEVA(UKR) in the fight for the third place.

Women's 70kg Middle		
	Name	NOC
Gold	UENO Masae	JPN
Silver	BOSCH Edith	NED
Bronze	QIN Dongya	CHN
	BOEHM Annett	GER
5th	ARLOVE Catherine Marie Joelle	AUS
	JACQUES Catherine	BEL
7th	BLANCO Cecilia	ESP
	KIM Ryon Min	PRK

Women's 78kg Half-Heavy		
	Name	NOC
Gold	ANNO Noriko	JPN
Silver	LIU Xia	CHN
Bronze	MORICO Lucia	ITA
	LABORDE Yurisel	CUB
5th	MATROSOVA Anastasiia	UKR
	LEBRUN Celine	FRA
7th	SILVA Edinanci	BRA
	LEE So Yeon	KOR

Women's 78kg Heavy		
	Name	NOC
Gold	TSUKADA Maki	JPN
Silver	BELTRAN Dayma	CUB
Bronze	DONGUZASHVILI Tea	RUS
	SUN Fuming	CHN
5th	YAHYAOUUI Insaf	TUN
	PROKOFYEVA Maryna	UKR
7th	BLANO Giovannajose	VEN
	CHOI Sookle	KOR

Left page:

The winners of the women's judo -70 kg class event on the podium: Japan's Masae Ueno (gold), Edith Bosch of the Netherlands (silver) and China's Dongya Qin (bronze). © Getty Images/S. Hannagan



Welcome home



AIR

Modern Pentathlon



Competition Sequence

Olympic Modern Pentathlon competition was held on 26 and 27 August. The men's event took place on 26 and the women's on 27 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Modern Pentathlon was first held at the 1912 Stockholm Olympic Games, after having been voted in at the 14th IOC Congress, in Budapest, in 1911. Shooting, Fencing, Swimming, Show Jumping and Cross Country were the components of the sport. It was de Coubertin's belief that the Modern Pentathlon would be the event, above all others that "tested a man's moral qualities, as much as his physical resources and skills, producing thereby the ideal, complete athlete". In Sydney's 2000 Olympic Games, women's Modern Pentathlon was introduced. Modern Pentathlon is the only sport to have been created by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The IOC had direct control of the sport until 1948, when the Union Internationale de Pentathlon Moderne (UIPM) was established.

Description

The Olympic Modern Pentathlon is one of the most demanding sports, since the Pentathletes have to compete in the course of one day, in five different disciplines, which take place in the following order: Shooting, Fencing, Swimming, Riding and Cross-country running. The points that each athlete obtains for each of the disciplines determine, when added together, the placement rankings. The winner is the athlete with the highest number of points.

Left page:

Russia's gold medal-winning Andrey Moiseev competes in the riding competition of the men's modern pentathlon event.
© REUTERS/C. Firouz

Men's: 1	Total: 2
Women's: 1	

Competitors: 64		
Event	Pentathletes	NOC
Men		
Individual Event	32	21
Women		
Individual Event	32	21

Venue

The Modern Pentathlon events took place at the Olympic Modern Pentathlon Centre, within the Goudi Olympic Complex. The Goudi Olympic Complex hosted Modern Pentathlon and Badminton. It consisted of two venues: the Goudi Olympic Hall and the Olympic Modern Pentathlon Centre. The disciplines of Shooting and Fencing of Modern Pentathlon, as well as Badminton were held at the Goudi Olympic Hall. In addition, the remaining three Modern Pentathlon disciplines -Swimming, Riding and Running-were held at the Olympic Modern Pentathlon Centre. The complex included a 2.500 seated area for Swimming, two 5.000 seated areas for Riding and Running and one 3.000 seated area for Fencing and Shooting. Another 4.100 seated area hosted the Badminton sport, a temporary construction undertaken by the Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works. All Modern Pentathlon Events took within one day for each category. Venues were in walking distance from one another.

Games Highlights

Women's Individual

Reigning World Champion Zsuzsanna VOROS of Hungary added the Olympic gold medal to her glittering collection at the Goudi Olympic Centre in Athens. Starting the 3.000m running race a total of 41 seconds ahead of Latvia's Jelena RUBLEVSKA, VOROS did enough to hold onto win, racing through the finish line with a Hungarian flag proudly held aloft. RUBLEVSKA claimed silver but the stunning result was the bronze medal to Great Britain's Georgina HARLAND, who started the run leg in 14th place, but overhauled almost half the field in a blistering time - almost 30 seconds faster than anyone else. She continued the great record of Great Britain in the event - Stephanie COOK claiming the inaugural Women's Modern Pentathlon gold and Kate ALLENBY claiming bronze in Sydney. ALLENBY finished 8th in Athens, and HARLAND could have possibly even done more, had she not been hampered by a poor shooting event, where she registered the lowest score of the day - a "3" - which wrecked her hopes. VOROS led after the swim leg, then had a fantastic jumping session,

which set her up for the gold. Cheered on by the large Hungarian crowd, she set off with a handy break for the 3.000m, and despite the lead being whittled at each lap, she had enough of a break to cross first and claim gold. In fourth place was Claudia CORSINI of Italy, with Kim RAISNER of Germany fifth.

Men's Individual

Andrey MOISEEV won the gold medal at the Men's Modern Pentathlon event. It was his first major Individual gold medal, after winning gold in the Team and Relay at the 2004 World Championships in Moscow and a World Cup event in Budapest this year. For Russia, this was its second successive victory at the Olympic Games, after Dmitry SVATKOVSKY won in Sydney 2000. MOISEEV won two of the five events - the best record this season for a gold medallist in any major event, World Championship or World Cup. Andrejus ZADNEPROVSKIS won Lithuania's first medal in Modern Pentathlon at the Olympic Games, as did Libor CAPALINI for the Czech Republic. In fourth place was Deniss CERKOVSKIS of Latvia, with Dzmitry MELIAKH of Belarus fifth.

Right page:

Britain's Georgina Harland celebrates her bronze medal success after crossing the finish line in the women's modern pentathlon.
© REUTERS/M. Finn-Kelcey

Women's Individual			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	VOROS Zsuzsanna	HUN	5448
Silver	RUBLEVSKA Jelena	LAT	5380
Bronze	HARLAND Georgina	GBR	5344
4th	CORSINI Claudia	ITA	5324
5th	RAISNER Kim	GER	5312
6th	CZWOJDZINSKA Sylwia	POL	5276
7th	TERESHCHUK Viktoriya	UKR	5256
8th	ALLENBY Kate	GBR	5236

Men's Individual			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	MOISEEV Andrey	RUS	5480
Silver	ZADNEPROVSKIS Andrejus	LTU	5428
Bronze	CAPALINI Libor	CZE	5392
4th	CERKOVSKIS Deniss	LAT	5356
5th	MELIAKH Dzmitry	BLR	5340
6th	MICHALIK Michal	CZE	5332
7th	WALTHER Eric	GER	5320
8th	BALOGH Gabor	HUN	5296







Competition Sequence

Olympic Rowing competition was held between 14 to 22 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Rowing events for men were first held in the 1900 Olympic Games in Paris, while women's events were first included in the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal. The International Rowing Federation (Federation Internationale des Sociétés d'Aviron - FISA), founded in 1892, is the oldest international sports federation in the Olympic movement. The Federation's headquarters are situated in Lausanne and its membership includes 115 countries. FISA's main goals are to spread the sport globally and to ensure the maximum possible participation of countries in Olympic Games Rowing events.

Description

In Rowing competition there are two categories of boats: Sculling, in which the Athletes hold one oar in each hand: Single Scull (one rower) (1x), Double Sculls (two rowers) (2x), Quadruple Sculls (four rowers) (4x), Lightweight double sculls (L2x), and Sweep rowing, in which the Athletes use one oar with both hands: Pair (2-), Four (4-), Eight (8+), Lightweight four Men (LM4-). Rowing races cover a distance of 2,000m in river, canal or lake-type competition venues, in six lanes. Crews qualify through the preliminary round (heats), the repeat round (repechage), the semi-finals and the finals. The "A" final determines the first six places and the runners-up, whereas the "B" final determines the next six rankings, 7th to 12th positions. The number of rounds per event depends on the number of crews taking part. The races take place under the supervision of umpires, who are members of the Jury for every event. In ATHENS 2004 Olympic rowing 14 different boat classes were raced, eight

categories for men and six for women.

Men's Olympic Rowing events were: single sculls, double sculls, lightweight double sculls, quadruple sculls, pair, four, lightweight four and eight with coxswain.

Women's Olympic events were: single sculls, double sculls, lightweight double sculls, quadruple sculls, pair and eight with coxswain.

Men's: 8	Total: 14
Women's: 6	

Competitors		
Event	Rowers	NOC
Men		
Single Sculls	29	29
Pairs	26	13
Double Sculls	28	14
Four	52	13
Lightweight Double Sculls	42	21
Lightweight Four	52	13
Quadruple Sculls	52	13
Eight	72	9
Women		
Single Sculls	24	24
Pairs	20	10
Double Sculls	20	10
Lightweight Double Sculls	36	18
Quadruple Sculls	32	8
Eight	56	7

Left page:

Rowers practice in the waters of the Schinias Rowing and Canoeing Centre.
© AFP/M. Antonov

Venue

The ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games Rowing events were held at the Schinias Olympic Rowing and Canoeing Centre, near the town of Marathonas, which hosted 14,000 spectators. The main part of the lake, which hosted the Rowing and Canoe/Kayak Flatwater events, was 2,250 metres long and linked to a smaller auxiliary lake which that was used for training and warm-up purposes.

Games Highlights

The two days of finals in the ATHENS 2004 Games were run in extremely smooth conditions. There was some spectacular racing, the final of the Men's Coxless fours with Great Britain beating Canada by 0.08 second being the one which will probably enter rowing legend, since it also led to Matthew PINSENT the British stroke man, winning his fourth gold medal at consecutive Olympic Games. Germany ruled the waves as far as participation was concerned. They qualified crews for all fourteen Olympic boat classes and reached the finals of nine. Germany's performances in these won it four medals, two gold and two silvers, a total matched by Great Britain in the form of one gold, two silvers and one bronze. Romania were leaders on the gold medal front, all three of its medals being of the gold variety. Other countries that finished the week with three medals of varying colours were Australia, the Netherlands and Italy. Twenty-two countries in total won medals.

Women's Events

Women's Eight

The Women's Eights title went to Romania for the third Olympics running, after defeating the USA team. Five of the Romanian crew were gold medallists in Sydney and for Elisabeta LIPA, rowing at six, it was her fifth Olympic gold medal. Netherlands won the bronze.

Lightweight Women's Double Sculls

The Lightweight Women's Double Sculls produced another Romanian gold, when Constanta BURCICA and Angela ALUPEI stayed calm when led in the first half of their final, but then took a lead and held off a German threat at the line. Netherlands, with Kirsten van DER KOLK and Marit van EUPEN won again the third place, winning the bronze medal.

Women's Quadruple Sculls

In the Women's Quad Sculls, Germany, strengthened since the World Cup by the inclusion of Kathrin BORON, won the gold, after defeating Great Britain. Australia claimed the third position, winning the bronze.

Women's Pairs/Women's Double Sculls

The British took a silver in the Women's Coxless Pairs and a bronze in the Women's Double Sculls, on both occasions having to fight back into the medals from fourth place. The gold in the Women's Pairs went to Georgeta DAMIAN and Viorica SUSANU (ROM), both former Olympic gold medallists. The Romanians were led by Canada to 500 metres, but then took control and still had two

Women's Eight		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Romania	ROM
Silver	United States of America	USA
Bronze	Netherlands	NED
4th	People's Republic of China	CHN
5th	Germany	GER
6th	Australia	AUS
7th	Canada	CAN

Women's Quadruple Sculls		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Germany	GER
Silver	Great Britain	GBR
Bronze	Australia	AUS
4th	Russian Federation	RUS
5th	United States of America	USA
6th	Denmark	DEN
7th	Belarus	BLR

Women's Pairs		
	Name	NOC
Gold	DAMIAN Georgeta SUSANU Viorica	ROM
Silver	GRAINGER Katherine BISHOP Cath	GBR
Bronze	BICHYK Yuliya HELAKH Natallia	BLR
4th	MARQUARDT Darcy WILLIAMS Buffy-Lynne	CAN
5th	DERLIEN Maren GOLDBACH Sandra	GER
6th	HAIGH Juliette COLES Nicky	NZL
7th	CONG Huanling FENG Xueling	CHN
8th	TANCHEVA Milka CHUK Anna	BUL

Right page:

Olaf Tufte of Norway stands on the podium after winning gold in the men's single sculls final on 21 August.
© Getty Images/J. Squire



seconds on the British world champions Cath BISHOP and Katherine GRAINGER at the line. The bronze went to Belarus with BICHYK and HELAKH.

The Women's Doubles duly went to the hot favourites, the twins Georgina and Caroline EVERS-SWINDELL (NZL), still unbeaten since 2001, although the silver medal Germans, Peggy WALESKA and Britta OPPELT had them under pressure at the line. Great Britain, with WINCKLESS and LAVERICK claimed the bronze.

Women's Single Sculls

The final of the Women's Sculls had the same three medallists as Sydney, but the pecking order changed. Katrin RUTSCHOW-STOMPOROWSKI (GER), third in Sydney, was slow off the start, but controlled the race with some ease after halfway, leaving Ekaterina KARSTEN (BLR), the 2000 Olympic champion, and Romyana NEYKOVA (BUL), second in Sydney, in her wake.

Men's Events

Men's Eight

The United States won the gold in the Men's Eight competition and Netherlands, somewhat outsiders, took the silver. The bronze went to Australia.

Lightweight Men's Fours

World champions Denmark followed a similar race plan in the Lightweight Men's Fours. A strong push gave them a three quarter length cushion over the pack in the second quarter over Italy and Australia. Australia overtook Italy for silver.

Lightweight Men's Double Sculls

The Lightweight Men's Doubles was controlled by Olympic champions Tomasz KUCHARSKI and Robert SYCZ (POL). Positions behind them changed, but eventually France's World Cup Champions, Frederic DUFOUR and Pascal TOURON, moved up for silver and, with some crowd hysteria, Vasileios POLYMEROS and Nikolaos SKIATHITIS (GRE), moved to bronze position.

Men's Four

Canada and Great Britain produced virtually identical times at the Lucerne World Cup, the same in the Olympic semi-finals, and they did the same in the ATHENS 2004 Men's four final. Britain led to halfway, the Canadians then squeezed ahead at 1.500 metres, but the British final burst decided the issue. This victory gave Matthew PINSENT his fourth consecutive Olympic gold medal. Italy took the bronze.

Lightweight Women's Double Sculls		
	Name	NOC
Gold	BURCICA Constanta ALUPEI Angela	ROM
Silver	REIMER Daniela BLASBERG Claudia	GER
Bronze	van DERKOLK Kirsten van EUPEN Marit	NED
4th	NEWMARCH Sally HALLIDAY Amber	AUS
5th	XU Dongxiang LI Qian	CHN
6th	KEMNITZ Magdalena MOKRONOWSKA Ilona	POL
7th	SCHLENKER Lisa BORGMAN Stacey	USA
8th	JONES Mara MILNE Fiona	CAN

Women's Double Sculls		
	Name	NOC
Gold	EVERS-SWINDELL Georgina EVERS-SWINDELL Caroline	NZL
Silver	WALESKA Peggy OPPELT Britta	GER
Bronze	WINCKLESS Sarah LAVERICK Elise	GBR
4th	BUSCHMANN Anet-Jacqueline MARKOVA Miglena	BUL
5th	MIHALCEA Camelia STRIMBESCHI Simona	UKR
6th	MAZIY Svetlana GUBA Nataliya	UKR
7th	DELAS Caroline BUNIET Gaelle	FRA
8th	SANCASSANI Elisabetta BASCELLI Gabriella	ITA

Women's Single Sculls		
	Name	NOC
Gold	RUTSCHOW-STOMPOROWSKI Katrin	GER
Silver	KARSTEN Ekaterina	BLR
Bronze	NEYKOVA Romyana	BUL
4th	KNAPKOVA Mirka	CZE
5th	WADDELL Sonia	NZL
6th	DOMINGUEZ ASENSIO Nuria	ESP
7th	FEDOTOVA Irina	RUS
8th	SVENSSON Frida	SWE



Men's Eight		
	Team	NOC
Gold	United States of America	USA
Silver	Netherlands	NED
Bronze	Australia	AUS
4th	Germany	GER
5th	Canada	CAN
6th	France	FRA
7th	Italy	ITA
8th	Poland	POL

Lightweight Men's Four		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Denmark	DEN
Silver	Australia	AUS
Bronze	Italy	ITA
4th	Netherlands	NED
5th	Canada	CAN
6th	Ireland	IRL
7th	Serbia & Montenegro	SCG
8th	Russian Federation	RUS

Lightweight Men's Double Sculls		
	Name	NOC
Gold	KUCHARSKI Tomasz SYCZ Robert	POL
Silver	DUFOUR Frederic TOURON Pascal	FRA
Bronze	POLYMEROS Vasileios SKIATHITIS Nikolaos	GRE
4th	RASMUSSEN Mads QUIST Rasmus	DEN
5th	HIRLING Zsolt VARGA Tamas	HUN
6th	URA Kazushige TAKEDA Daisaku	JPN
7th	TUCKER Steve RUCKMAN Greg	USA
8th	ALVAREZ HOYOS Ruben ZUNZUNEGUI GUIMERANS Juan	ESP

Men's Four		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Great Britain	GBR
Silver	Canada	CAN
Bronze	Italy	ITA
4th	Australia	AUS
5th	New Zealand	NZL
6th	Poland	POL
7th	Germany	GER
8th	Czech Republic	CZE

This page:

Ekaterina Karsten of Belarus (silver), Katrin Rutschow-Stomporowski of Germany (gold) and Romyana Neykova of Bulgaria (bronze) receive their medals in the women's single sculls event.
© Getty Images/S. Botterill

Men's Single Sculls

World champion Olaf TUFTE (NOR), had to keep his head in his Men's Sculls. Veteran Jueri JAANSON (EST), world champion back in 1990, led him until the final run in. Ivo YANAKIEV (BUL), a very late Olympic qualifier rose to the occasion and took bronze.

Men's Pairs

The betting book in Australia had closed on Drew GINN and James TOMKINS winning the Men's Coxless Pairs. They predictably did so, ahead of Croatia and South Africa.

Men's Single Sculls		
	Name	NOC
Gold	TUFTE Olaf	NOR
Silver	JAANSON Jueri	EST
Bronze	YANAKIEV Ivo	BUL
4th	FERNANDEZ Santiago	ARG
5th	CHALUPA Vaclav	CZE
6th	MAEYENS Tim	BEL
7th	HACKER Marcel	GER
8th	VONARBURG Andre	SUI

Men's Double Sculls		
	Name	NOC
Gold	VIEILLEDENT Sebastien HARDY Adrien	FRA
Silver	SPIK Luka COP Iztok	SLO
Bronze	GALTAROSSA Rossano SARTORI Alessio	ITA
4th	GULOV Leonid ENDREKSON Tonu	EST
5th	DOLECEK JR Milan SYNEK Ondrej	CZE
6th	ABDULLAH Aquil NUZUM Henry	USA
7th	SIMONSEN Nils-Torolv ADAMSEN Morten	NOR
8th	WELLS Matthew LANGRIDGE Matthew	GBR

Men's Double Sculls

Italy, the form crew of the season, duly led to 1.500 metres, but were clearly tiring. Sebastien VIEILLEDENT and Adrien HARDY (FRA), the world champions, and Luka SPIK and Iztok COP (SLO), the Olympic champions, came through to take the gold and silver respectively, while Italy had to settle for bronze.

Men's Quadruple Sculls

The Men's Quads saw Russia come good on the day in an open event. Poland, the Czech Republic and Germany had put down the strongest markers in qualifying, but Russia pulled ahead just after 1.000 metres and, although slowing, held off final charges from the Czechs and Ukrainians.

Men's Pairs		
	Name	NOC
Gold	GINN Drew TOMKINS James	AUS
Silver	SKELIN Sinisa SKELIN Niksa	CRO
Bronze	CECH Donovan di CLEMENTE Ramon	RSA
4th	TWADDLE Nathan BRIDGEWATER George	NZL
5th	STOJIC Nikola STEGIC Mladen	SCG
6th	KUEHNET Tobias HERZOG Jan	GER
7th	GARBETT Toby DUNN Rick	GBR
8th	de VITA Giuseppe LARI Dario	ITA

Men's Quadruple Sculls		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Russian Federation	RUS
Silver	Czech Republic	CZE
Bronze	Ukraine	UKR
4th	Poland	POL
5th	Germany	GER
6th	Belarus	BLR
7th	Australia	AUS
8th	Switzerland	SUI



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Olympic champion Bryan Volpenhein of the US raises his fist as he celebrates the gold medal win with coxswain Pete Cipollone after the men's rowing eights final. The US won gold with a time of five minutes 42.48 seconds.
© AFP/POOL

The gold medal-winning team of Tomasz Kucharski and Robert Sycz of Poland compete in the men's lightweight double sculls event.
© Getty Images/D. Pensinger



ISM
NZL



BARKER
BARKER

NZL

ATHENS 2004 

NZL
ATHENS 2004




Competition Sequence

Sailing competition events took place within the span of 17 days. The first practice races started on 12 August and the last official race was held on 28 August.

Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat Sun
 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

Sailing is a way of life for millions of people all over the world. The sport has some of the most enthusiastic supporters, as it is one of the very few sports in which age does not play a significant role, rather the experience gained through years of involvement often enhances the athlete's abilities. Sailing was incorporated in the Olympic Sport Programme at the first Olympic Games, in Athens 1896, but foul weather led to cancellation of all races. So the first Olympic Sailing races actually took place in Paris Games, in 1900, where there were three classes of boat. The International Sailing Federation (ISAF) was created in 1906 and now has 121 National Federations with more than 500.000 athletes as members.

Description

Sailing events take place on a field of play consisting of four waterways (tracks), which define the courses that competitors have to complete in. These courses are indicated with marker buoys that are laid daily for the duration of the Games. Weather conditions play a decisive part. Every shift in wind strength or direction means that the buoys have to be repositioned. Committees at sea monitor the weather and lay the buoys accordingly. Competitors face not only their opponents, but also the unpredictability of nature.

The ATHENS 2004 Olympic Sailing tournament consisted of eleven events. Four were for men; four were for women; three events were "open", in which men and women competed together. Compared to Sydney's Olympic programme, the Soling class was abandoned, in favour of the Yngling, a Keelboat solely for female crews.

Men's: 4	Total: 11
Women's: 4	
Open: 3	

Competitors: 400		
Event	Sailors	NOC
Men		
Windsurfer-Mistral	34	34
Single-handed Dinghy-Finn	25	25
Double-handed Dinghy-470	54	27
Keelboat-Star	34	17
Open (Men & Women)		
Single-handed Dinghy-Laser	42	42
Double-handed Dinghy-49er	38	19
Multihull-Tornado	34	17
Women		
Windsurfer-Mistral	26	26
Single-handed Dinghy-Europe	25	25
Double-handed Dinghy-470	40	20
Keelboat-Yngling	48	16

Venue

During the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, Sailing competitions took place at the Olympic Sailing Centre, located in the coastal area (Agios Kosmas) of southern Attica. The new venue, which had a capacity of 1.600 seats (for medal ceremonies), was undertaken by the Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works. Both test events of Sailing, in August 2002 and in August 2003, were successfully conducted at this venue.

Left page:

Dean Barker of New Zealand competes in the men's single handed dinghy finn race on 14 August. He placed 13th in the final rankings.
 © Getty Images/B. Radford

Games Highlights

During the Olympic Sailing competition, all 11 classes managed to sail all 11 scheduled races (with the exception of the 49ers that sailed 16 out of 16). In three classes the results were decided with a race to spare: the women's 470 with Sofia BEKATOROU and Aimilia TSOULFA (GRE), the Yngling with Shirley ROBERTSON, Sarah WEBB and Sarah AYTON (GBR), and the Star with Torben GRAEL and Marcelo FERREIRA (BRA). In the rest of the classes the outcome was decided on the last day. In two classes, Men's Mistral and Women's Mistral, the lead changed place at the final race. However, there were no real surprises among the medallists, as most of the pre-competition favourites prevailed in the overall rankings. The Athens regatta provided the opportunity for GRAEL to become the first sailor to win five medals in the history of the Olympic Games. This classifies him amongst the most important and prominent sailors of modern times. The youngest medallist was Siren SUNDBY (NOR), 21, who won gold in the Europe class, while the oldest was the 48-year-old Kevin BURNHAM (USA) who won gold in the Men's 470. Out of the 61 NOCs, 20 won medals, as predicted pre-regatta by the President of ISAF.

Men's Double-handed keelboat (Star)

In the Men's double-handed keelboat (Star), Brazil's crew of Torben GRAEL and Marcelo FERREIRA (BRA) dominated the class, winning with a race to spare. Going into the last race,

French crew Xavier ROHART and Pascal RAM BEAU were second ahead of Canada's Ross MACDONALD and Mike WOLFS. Unfortunately for the French, the Canadians prevailed and won the second place. Flavio MARAZZI and Enrico DE MARIA (SUI) were fourth in the overall rankings, while Paul CAYARD and Phil TRINTER (USA), after a disappointing last race, lost not only every chance to make it to third, but dropped to fifth, followed by Iain PERCY and Steve MITCHELL (GBR). The Star was one of the hardest contested classes, as even the best crews saw the rear of the fleet many times.

Open Multihull-Tornado

In the Multihull Open (Tornado), the Sydney gold medallist duo from Austria, Roman HAGARA and Hans Peter STEINACHER, repeated the great feat and won their second gold medal in a row. They needed to defeat the American crew of John LOVELL and Charlie OGLETREE, who took the silver. Argentinian crew Santiago LANGE and Carlos ESPINOLA were third overall, securing a bronze medal. France's crew of Olivier BACKES and Laurent VOIRON secured fourth place in the last race in the overall rankings, three points behind the third. Netherlands' Mitch BOOTH and Herbert DERCKSEN were fifth overall, followed by Australia's Darren BUNDOCK and John FORBES with only one point difference. It was a very tight race for the top of the fleet, making a podium finish very difficult.

Right page:

Israel's Gal Fridman sailing in the men's mistral approaches a mark in strong winds during the first race. His gold medal was Israel's first medal in the history of the Olympic Games.
© REUTERS/P. Andrews

Men's Keelboat-Star		
	Name	NOC
Gold	GRAEL Torben FERREIRA Marcelo	BRA
Silver	MACDONALD Ross WOLFS Mike	CAN
Bronze	ROHART Xavier RAMBEAU Pascal	FRA
4th	MARAZZI Flavio DE MARIA Enrico	SUI
5th	CAYARD Paul TRINTER Phil	USA
6th	PERCY Iain MITCHELL Steve	GBR
7th	BRUNI Francesco VIGNA Guido	ITA
8th	BROMBY Peter WHITE Lee	BER

Open Multihull-Tornado		
	Name	NOC
Gold	HAGARA Roman STEINACHER Hans Peter	AUT
Silver	LOVELL John OGLETREE Charlie	USA
Bronze	LANGE Santiago ESPINOLA Carlos	ARG
4th	BACKES Olivier VOIRON Laurent	FRA
5th	BOOTH Mitch DERCKSEN Herbert	NED
6th	BUNDOCK Darren FORBES John	AUS
7th	FIGUEROA Enrique HERNANDEZ Jorge	PUR
8th	ECHAVARRI Fernando PAZ Anton	ESP





**This page,
from top to bottom:**

21-year-old Siren Sundby of Norway celebrates a gold medal in the women's single handed dinghy europe finals race on 22 August.
© Getty Images/C. Mason

Greek skipper Sofia Bekatorou and crew member Aimilia Tsoulfa as they cross the finish line during the women's double-handed dinghy 470, race nine, 19 August. They won the gold medal.
© AFP/M. Kahana

Open Double-handed Dinghy-49er

In the Open Double-handed dinghy (49er), Iker MARTINEZ and Xavier FERNANDEZ (ESP), pre-race favourites and 2004 world champions, won the gold medal in their class rather comfortably. Rodion LUKA and George LEONCHUK (UKR), the only crew that participated in Sydney, finished in a most honourable silver position. Chris DRAPER and Simon HISCOCKS (GBR), who were consistent throughout the event, finished third, followed by Christoffer SUNDBY and Frode BOVIM (NOR), who though early leaders, secured fourth place in the overall rankings. For the SUNDBY family it was a good summer, having won a gold medal and fourth place. Fifth place overall went to Tim WADLOW and Pete SPAULDING (USA), followed by Andre FONSECA and Rodrigo DUARTE (BRA).

Women's Windsurfer-Mistral

In the Women's Windsurfer, the lead changed on the last day for Alessandra SENSINI (ITA), who eventually won the bronze medal. Gold went to Faustine MERRET (FRA), who performed brilliantly and was a pre-race favourite, leading the overall rankings. Jian YIN from China secured the silver medal, whereas her light air speed was admired by all competitors. Lai Shan LEE (HKG), Atlanta's gold medallist, finished fourth in the overall rankings

followed by legendary Barbara KENDALL (NZL) and Jessica CRISP (AUS).

Men's Windsurfer-Mistral

The Men's Windsurfer Mistral provided the most agonizing final race. The winner was Gal FRIDMAN (ISR), who won Israel's first gold medal in the history of the Olympic Games. The surprise was Ricardo SANTOS (BRA), the overall leader until the last day, who fell from first place to the fourth. Nikolaos KAKLAMANAKIS (GRE) climbed from third to second overall position on the last day. Nick DEMPSEY (GBR) claimed the win in the last race, giving him the third place. Przemyslaw MIARCZYNSKI (POL), an athlete with great potential in heavy wind conditions, was fifth, while sixth place went to Joao RODRIGUES (POR).

Open Single-handed Dinghy-Laser

In the Open Single-handed dinghy (Laser), seven time World Champion and Atlanta gold medallist, Robert SCHEIDT (BRA), won his second gold medal to add to his silver from Sydney. Andreas GERITZER (AUT), early leader of the regatta, won the silver medal, while Vasilij ZBOGAR (SLO), training companion of SCHEIDT won bronze. Paul GOODISON (GBR) was fourth, Gustavo LIMA (POR) fifth and Karl SUNESON (SWE) sixth.

Open Double-handed Dinghy-49er		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MARTINEZ Iker FERNANDEZ Xavier	ESP
Silver	LUKA Rodion LEONCHUK George	UKR
Bronze	DRAPER Chris HISCOCKS Simon	GBR
4th	SUNDBY Christoffer BOVIM Frode	NOR
5th	WADLOW Tim SPAULDING Pete	USA
6th	FONSECA Andre DUARTE Rodrigo	BRA
7th	NICHOLSON Chris BOYD Gary	AUS
8th	JOHANSON Thomas PIIRAINEN Jukka	FIN

Women's Windsurfer-Mistral		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MERRET Faustine	FRA
Silver	YIN Jian	CHN
Bronze	SENSINI Alessandra	ITA
4th	LEE Lai Shan	HKG
5th	KENDALL Barbara	NZL
6th	CRISP Jessica	AUS
7th	LUX Amelie	GER
8th	MANCHON Blanca	ESP

Men's Windsurfer-Mistral		
	Name	NOC
Gold	FRIDMAN Gal	ISR
Silver	KAKLAMANAKIS Nikolaos	GRE
Bronze	DEMPSEY Nick	GBR
4th	SANTOS Ricardo	BRA
5th	MIARCZYNSKI Przemyslaw	POL
6th	RODRIGUES Joao	POR
7th	ZHOU Yuanguo	CHN
8th	KLEPPICH Lars	AUS

Open Single-handed Dinghy-Laser		
	Name	NOC
Gold	SCHEIDT Robert	BRA
Silver	GERITZER Andreas	AUT
Bronze	ZBOGAR Vasilij	SLO
4th	GOODISON Paul	GBR
5th	LIMA Gustavo	POR
6th	SUNESON Karl	SWE
7th	PEPPER Hamish	NZL
8th	MENDELBLATT Mark	USA

Women's Keel boat (Yngling)

In the Women's Keelboat (Yngling), British sailors and pre-competition favourites Shirley ROBERTSON, Sarah WEBB and Sarah AYTON won the event, without sailing in the last race. Dorte JENSEN, Helle JESPERSEN and Christina OTZEN (DEN) had a disappointing last day, as they were scored a marginal OCS, which meant that they lost the silver medal to the Ukrainian team of Ruslana TARAN, Ganna KALININA and Svitlana MATEVUSHEVA. The Dutch team of Annelies THIES, Annemieke BES and Petronella de JONG were eventually ranked fourth overall, only two points away from the bronze medal. France's Anne le HELLEY, Elodie LESAFFRE and Marion DEPLANQUE were fifth while Germany's Kristin WAGNER, Anna HOELL and Veronika LOCHBRUNNER were sixth.

Women's Double-handed Dinghy-470

In the Double handed dinghy women (470), the four times world champions Sofia BEKATOROU and Aimilia TSOULFA won the gold with a race to spare. Natalia VIA DUFRESNE and Sandra AZON (ESP) were second going into the last race and managed to defend their position from Therese TORGERSSON and Vendela ZACHRISSON (SWE) who were third, finally taking the silver medal. Fourth were Vesna DEKLEVA and Klara MAUCEC (SLO). Katie McDOWELL and Isabelle KINSOLVING from the USA finished fifth in the overall rankings followed by Susanne WARD and Michaela MEEHAN (DEN).

Men's Double-handed Dinghy-470

In the Double handed-dinghy men (470), on the last day of the series, the two-points difference between USA's Paul FOERSTER and Kevin BURNHAM and Britain's Nick ROGERS and Joe GLANFIELD left no doubts as to what was going to happen after the start of the Men's 470 last race. This was the only final to be decided with match racing tactics, the Americans managing to maintain their lead. FOERSTER won his first gold medal, but his third Olympic medal after the two silver in Sydney (470) and Barcelona (Flying Dutchman). For his crew

Kevin BURNHAM, it was his second medal after the silver he won in Barcelona (470). Japan's Kazuto SEKI and Kenjiro TODOROKI were third overall. Sweden's Johan MOLUND and Martin ANDERSSON were fourth while France's Philippe GILDAS and Nicolas le BERRE finished fifth ahead of Netherlands' COSTER brothers, Sven and Kalle.

Men's Single-handed Dinghy-Finn

In the Men's single-handed dinghy (Finn), Ben AINSLIE (GBR) managed to win the second gold medal for the British sailing team and the second Olympic gold medal in his career (he also has a bronze) after a rather poor start. Spain's Rafael TRUJILLO finished ahead of Poland's Mateusz KUSZNIEREWICZ who was an early leader in the overall rankings and lost many valuable points after an OCS. Karlo KURET (CRO), one of the pre-competition favourites, was fourth overall followed by Aimilios PAPATHANASIOU (GRE) who almost made it to the medals. Anthony NOSSITER, one of Australia's best sailors, took sixth place. It was a very tight event, as at least half of the competitors could have made it to the top three. Eventually, most of the pre-competition favourites prevailed.

Women's Single-handed Dinghy-Europe

In the Women's single-handed dinghy (Europe), Siren SUNDBY (NOR) was the undisputed pre-competition favourite and she managed to live up to her reputation with gold. She led the rankings almost throughout the regatta, losing it to Sarah BLANCK (AUS), only after a bad day with an OCS and a 19th place. BLANCK fell to fourth place, losing all chances for a medal. Lenka SMIDOVA (CZE) had the opportunity to climb up the rankings and claim the silver medal from Signe LIVBJERG (DEN), who was finally third. Sari MULTALA (FIN) eventually finished fifth overall, a position considered not representative of her sailing abilities. The same can be said for Serena AMATO (ARG) who started well, but could not keep up. It was a very tough race for a place on the podium and any of at least five sailors could have done it.

Women's Keelboat-Yngling		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Great Britain	GBR
Silver	Ukraine	UKR
Bronze	Denmark	DEN
4th	Netherlands	NED
5th	France	FRA
6th	Germany	GER
7th	New Zealand	NZL
8th	Russian Federation	RUS

Women's Double-handed Dinghy-470		
	Name	NOC
Gold	BEKATOROU Sofia TSOULFA Aimilia	GRE
Silver	VIA DUFRESNE Natalia AZON Sandra	ESP
Bronze	TORGERSSON Therese ZACHRISSON Vendela	SWE
4th	DEKLEVA Vesna MAUCEC Klara	SLO
5th	McDOWELL Katie KINSOLVING Isabelle	USA
6th	WARD Susanne MEEHAN Michaela	DEN
7th	BASSADONE Christina HOPSON Katherine	GBR
8th	ILLENKO Vlada GAPONOVICH Natalia	RUS



Men's Double-handed Dinghy-470

	Name	NOC
Gold	FOERSTER Paul BURNHAM Kevin	USA
Silver	ROGERS Nick GLANFIELD Joe	GBR
Bronze	SEKI Kazuto TODOROKI Kenjiro	JPN
4th	MOLUND Johan ANDERSSON Martin	SWE
5th	PHILIPPE Gildas le BERRE Nicolas	FRA
6th	COSTER Sven COSTER Kalle	NED
	MARINHO Alvaro NUNES Miguel	POR
8th	PARADEDA Alexandre ARNDT Bernardo	BRA

Men's Single-handed Dinghy-Finn

	Name	NOC
Gold	AINSLIE Ben	GBR
Silver	TRUJILLO Rafael	ESP
Bronze	KUSZNIEREWICZ Mateusz	POL
4th	KURET Karlo	CRO
5th	PAPATHANASIOU Aimilios	GRE
6th	NOSSITER Anthony	AUS
7th	GODEFROID Sebastien	BEL
8th	FLORENT Guillaume	FRA

Women's Single-handed Dinghy-Europe

	Name	NOC
Gold	SUNDBY Siren	NOR
Silver	SMIDOVA Lenka	CZE
Bronze	LIVBJERG Signe	DEN
4th	BLANCK Sarah	AUS
5th	MULTALA Sari	FIN
6th	AMATO Serena	ARG
7th	SHEN Xiaoying	CHN
8th	MACKY Sarah	NZL

This page:

Austria's Roman Hagara and Hans Peter Steinacher sailing in the open tornado class approach a mark in the fifth race of the regatta. They went on to win their second consecutive Olympic gold medal.
© REUTERS/P. Andrews



Shooting



Competition Sequence

Olympic Shooting competition lasted 9 days from 14 to 22 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Men's Shooting was one of the nine sports on the programme of the first Olympic Games of modern times in Athens in 1896. In the Paris Games in 1900, live pigeons were used as moving targets; this was eventually considered unethical and unsporting, so after 1900 the pigeons were replaced with clay targets ("clay pigeons"). The women's Shooting disciplines were first included in the 1984 Los Angeles Games.

Description

The rules of Shooting vary according to the discipline, distance and types of target and arm, firing position, number of shots and the time within which the shots have to be fired. Special rules are applied to determine ranking in the event of a tie. Each discipline consists of a qualification and a final round. The score in the final round is added to the competitor's score in the qualification round, and the winner is the competitor with the most points at the end of the match. ATHENS 2004 Olympic Shooting Events took place on the following ranges:

- The 10-metre Shooting range (with eighty firing points for air gun events and four Running target stands).
- The 25-metre Shooting range (with ten stands of five targets each).
- The 50-metre Shooting range (with eighty firing points).
- The indoor Shooting range where the finals were held (with ten airgun Shooting points; six Running target stands; twenty Shooting points for the 50-metre events; six stands of five targets each for the 25-metre events).

- Four Clay Target Shooting ranges, three for the qualification round and one for the finals.

Men's: 10	Total: 17
Women's: 7	

Competitors: 390		
Event	Shooters	NOC
Men		
10m Air Rifle	47	33
50m Rifle Prone	46	34
50m Rifle 3 Positions	40	29
50m Pistol	42	31
25m Rapid Fire Pistol	17	14
10m Air Pistol	47	35
10m Running Target	19	12
Trap	35	26
Double Trap	25	19
Skeet	41	33
Women		
50m Rifle 3 Positions	33	22
10m Air Pistol	41	30
25m Pistol	37	26
Trap	17	16
Double Trap	15	12
Skeet	12	11
10m Air Rifle	44	31

Venue

All Shooting events in the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games took place in the Markopoulo Olympic Shooting Centre. The Centre extended over 312.000 sq.m. in the region of east Attica. It consisted of four main buildings

Left page:

Ahmed Almaktoom of the United Arab Emirates discards his spent cartridges during the men's trap finals.
© Getty Images/M. Hewitt

with a total capacity of 4,000 spectators for the events of Shooting with mobile and clay targets. Other facilities included restaurants, hostels, indoor halls for finals, reception areas, press areas, parking areas, etc. The venue hosted the ISSF World Cup on 22 to 30 April 2004.

Games Highlights

Two world and 10 Olympic records were set at the Markopoulo Olympic Shooting Centre as 390 of the world's best shooters gathered to contest 17 events over nine days. Chinese shooters led the way with four gold medals in a total of nine, while Russian shooters won three gold in a total of ten. Germany, USA, Italy and Korea followed with three medals, as 51 medals were shared among 22 of the more than 100 nations represented. Two world and four Olympic records were also equalled at a venue highly praised by both shooters and officials.

Men's Events

Men's 10m Air Pistol

In the Men's 10m Air Pistol events, three-time Olympic medal winner Yifu WANG (CHN) - gold in Barcelona 1992 and silver in Atlanta 1996 and Sydney 2000 - won the gold medal in a tiebreak, against Mikhail NESTRUEV (RUS). Along the way, WANG set a new Final Olympic record of 690.0 points. NESTRUEV set a new Olympic record of 591, after the qualification round. The bronze medallist was Russian Vladimir ISAKOV. The 34-year-old, who competed in Atlanta in 1996, couldn't catch the leaders, but held his third place after the qualification round to win his first Olympic medal.

Men's 10m Air Pistol			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	WANG Yifu	CHN	690.0
Silver	NESTRUEV Mikhail	RUS	689.8
Bronze	ISAKOV Vladimir	RUS	684.3
4th	KIRIAKOV Tanyu	BUL	683.4
5th	JIN Jong Oh	KOR	682.9
6th	KIM Hyon Ung	PRK	682.0
7th	BAKHTAMYAN Norayr	ARM	681.9
8th	KIM Jong Su	PRK	681.2

Men's 10m Air Rifle			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	ZHU Qinan	CHN	702.7
Silver	LI Jie	CHN	701.3
Bronze	GONCI Jozef	SVK	697.4
4th	CHEON Min Ho	KOR	696.6
5th	ECKHARDT Maik	GER	696.3
6th	JE Sung Tae	KOR	696.3
7th	BINDRA Abhinav	IND	694.6
8th	PARKER Jason	USA	694.5

Men's Trap

"The wind was against us and it was very difficult to achieve these results and you now see the strongest in front of you," said Alexei ALIPOV, 29, from Russia, after winning the gold medal in the Men's Trap event. He was in first position of the qualification rounds and equals the Olympic World Record of 124 targets. Giovanni PELLIELO from Italy, won the Olympic silver medal. The Bronze medallist of Sydney 2000 started in position three, after the qualification round and ended up on place two, ahead of Adam VELLA from Australia.

Men's 10m Air Rifle

China's Qinan ZHU, 19, started the final of the Men's 10m Air Rifle event, by setting a new Olympic Record of 599 after the qualification round. He also equalled the Junior Men World record. The young Chinese athlete, who started to compete internationally last year, won the gold medal by following up with an Olympic final record of 702.7. He was followed by his countryman Jie LI (24). LI was just as untouchable as ZHU in second place and won silver with a total of 701.3. Bronze went to Jozef GONCI, 30, from Slovakia. GONCI started the final in position four and almost lost his place through his ninth shot of 9.3 to Min Ho CHEON (KOR), but managed to regain his position with his last shot of 10.4.

Men's 50m Pistol

Mikhail NESTRUEV (RUS) followed his silver in the 10m Air Pistol event, with a gold in 50m Pistol. NESTRUEV had started the final two points behind the Korean Jong Oh JIN, and claimed gold with his last final shot of 10.4. JIN, who lost his chance for gold, through his failed seventh shot of 6.9, won silver with a total score of 661.5. Bronze went to Jong Su KIM from the People's Republic of Korea.

Men's Trap			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	ALIPOV Alexei	RUS	149
Silver	PELLIELO Giovanni	ITA	146
Bronze	VELLA Adam	AUS	145
4th	ALMAKTOUM Ahmed	UAE	144
5th	BADE Lance	USA	143
6th	ALMUDHAF Khaled	KUW	141
7th	KIRCHSTEIN Olaf	GER	119
8th	DIAMOND Michael	AUS	119

Men's 50m Pistol			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	NESTRUEV Mikhail	RUS	663.3
Silver	JIN Jong Oh	KOR	661.5
Bronze	KIM Jong Su	PRK	657.7
4th	BAKHTAMYAN Norayr	ARM	654.8
5th	KOKOREV Boris	RUS	654.6
6th	ISSACHENKO Vladimir	KAZ	654.5
7th	KIRIAKOV Tanyu	BUL	654.3
8th	LORENZO Isidro	ESP	652.0

Right page:

Alexei Alipov of Russia is congratulated by Ahmed Almaktoom of the UAE after victory in the men's trap finals. Three days later, Almaktoom won gold in the double trap.
© Getty Images/M. Hewitt



Men's Double Trap

Ahmed ALMAKTOUM (UAE) won gold in Men's Double Trap after a new Olympic record of 144 after the qualification round. He then equalled the Olympic Final record of 189 targets set by Mark Russell in 1996. Rajyavardhan Singh RATHORE (IND) won silver with a final score of 179 targets, while Zheng WANG (CHN) took bronze.

Men's 10m Running Target

Manfred KURZER (GER) won gold in the Men's 10m Running Target event. The two-time world champion set a world record of 590 in the qualification round, starting the final with a six point lead. In the final KURZER gave his chasers hope, after two shots of 6.5 and 5.4, before steadying. Silver and bronze went to Russians Alexander BLINOV and Dimitri LYKIN.

Men's 50m Rifle Prone

Matthew EMMONS (USA) won gold in the Men's 50m Rifle Prone event, after starting the final with a head start of one point. He won with a score of 703.3. Christian LUSCH (GER) took silver, after entering the final round in second position, missing his chance for gold with a last shot of 9.9. Bronze went to Sergei MARTYNOV (BLR), who also won bronze in Sydney 2000.

Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol

Ralf SCHUMANN (GER) won gold in the Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol event. He entered the final tied with two other athletes, Russians Sergei POLIAKOV and Sergei ALIFIRENKO, on a score of 592 points. After shooting two series of 51.4 and 51.5, SCHUMANN finished with a difference of 2.9 points ahead of his opponents. It was SCHUMANN'S third Olympic gold medal, after Barcelona and Atlanta. He also won silver in Seoul and a total of 34 World Cup medals. Silver went to POLIAKOV, bronze to ALIFIRENKO, the Olympic gold medal winner of Sydney 2000.

Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions

EMMONS (USA) fired his last shot at the wrong target in the 50m Rifle 3 Positions event to hand the gold medal to Zhanbo JIA (CHN). EMMONS was an almost uncatchable three points ahead, as he took his last shot, but got a zero when he shot at the target of Christian PLANER (AUT). Officials noticed that two shots were registered on the target in firing point 3. They ruled that EMMONS fired at the wrong target and gave him a score of zero, which cost him a second gold in Athens and dropped him to 8th position. PLANER had scored a 10.6 on his last shot, while EMMONS hit an 8.1 on PLANER's target. Michael ANTI (USA) moved up to second place and PLANER (AUT) won an unexpected bronze medal.

Men's Double Trap			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	ALMAKTOUM Ahmed	UAE	189
Silver	RATHORE Rajyavardhan S.	IND	179
Bronze	WANG Zheng	CHN	178
4th	HU Binyuan	CHN	177
5th	DAHLBY Hakan	SWE	177
6th	SCHANZ Waldemar	GER	175
7th	DI SPIGNO Daniele	ITA	134
8th	ALDEEHANI Fehaid	KUW	134

Men's 10m Running Target			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	KURZER Manfred	GER	682.4
Silver	BLINOV Alexander	RUS	678.0
Bronze	LYKIN Dimitri	RUS	677.1
4th	ANDERSSON Emil	SWE	676.8
5th	JAKOSITS Michael	GER	676.7
6th	LI Jie	CHN	675.8
7th	PRIANISHNIKOV Vladyslav	UKR	575
8th	SAATHOFF Adam	USA	575

Men's 50m Rifle Prone			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	EMMONS Matthew	USA	703.3
Silver	LUSCH Christian	GER	702.2
Bronze	MARTYNOV Sergei	BLR	701.6
4th	GONCI Jozef	SVK	700.5
5th	DE NICOLO Marco	ITA	699.7
6th	ECKHARDT Maik	GER	697.6
7th	BABB Michael	GBR	696.8
8th	JIA Zhanbo	CHN	696.6

Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	SCHUMANN Ralf	GER	694.9
Silver	POLIAKOV Sergei	RUS	692.7
Bronze	ALIFIRENKO Sergei	RUS	692.3
4th	TKACHOV Oleg	UKR	688.7
5th	RAICEA Iulian	ROM	687.6
6th	CHEN Yongqiang	CHN	683.8
7th	ZHANG Penghui	CHN	585
8th	PUPO Leuris	CUB	585

Men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	JIA Zhanbo	CHN	1264.5
Silver	ANTI Michael	USA	1263.1
Bronze	PLANER Christian	AUT	1262.8
4th	DEBEVEC Rajmond	SLO	1262.6
5th	KHADJIBEKOV Artem	RUS	1261.6
6th	FARNIK Thomas	AUT	1261.4
7th	AIVAZIAN Artur	UKR	1261.0
8th	EMMONS Matthew	USA	1257.4

Men's Skeet

Andrea BENELLI (ITA) claimed the gold medal in the Men's Skeet, after winning a shoot-off with Marko KEMPPAINEN (FIN). After the final, the result for both competitors was 149/150. KEMPPAINEN had equalled the world and Olympic record for Men's Skeet qualifying round with a maximum score of 125/125. He had led after the qualifying round, but shot 24/25 in the final, allowing BENELLI, who shot 25/25 to go with a qualifying round score of 124/125, to catch him. BENELLI then won the shoot-off to add a gold medal to the bronze, he won in the same event, eight years ago in Atlanta. Juan Miguel RODRIGUEZ (CUB) won a three-shooter shoot-off for the bronze medal, defeating Nasser AL-ATTIYA (QAT), who took fourth place, and Shawn DULOHERY (USA), who finished fifth. The bronze medal contenders had been at 147/150 clay targets, after the final round.

Women's Events

Women's 10m Air Rifle

The Women's 10m Air Rifle provided a remarkable start to the programme with two Olympic records set, one during the qualification round by Liubov GALKINA (RUS) and one during the final by Li DU (CHN). DU, 22, went on to win gold after entering the final in second position, and finishing with an Olympic record of 502.0. Second place went to GALKINA, 31. The three-time world record holder set an Olympic record of 399 after the qualification round and entered the final in first place, before losing to

DU with her last shot of 9.7. Bronze went to 22-year-old Katerina KURKOVA (CZE).

Women's 10m Air Pistol

The Women's 10m Air Pistol event kept everyone in suspense until the last shot. Olena KOSTEVYCH (UKR), 19, was in incredible form during the final after making her way from eighth position after the qualification round to a tied first place with favourite Jasna SEKARIC, 38, from Serbia and Montenegro. KOSTEVYCH, concentrating on her shots during the final and not following her steady progress, was absolutely stunned after finding herself in a shoot-off with her opponent SEKARIC. With a shoot-off shot of 10.2, KOSTEVYCH won gold medal. Jasna SEKARICH who had started the final on position one and then lost the shoot-off against KOSTEVYCH with a 9.4 won the Olympic silver medal. The Olympic bronze medal went to Maria GROZDEVA (BUL).

Women's Trap

The 31-year-old Australian Suzanne BALOGH, showed her talent after starting the final with a one clay target lead to her competitors and finishing four clay targets ahead despite the extreme winds during the Women's Trap. In second place was Maria QUINTANAL, 34, from Spain. She finished the final with a total of 84 clay targets. The fight for the bronze was neck and neck. Bo Na LEE (KOR), 23, shot extremely well after starting in position six after the qualification round. The Korean athlete missed only two targets in outdoing all other competitors to beat Whitly LOPER (USA).

Men's Skeet			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	BENELLI Andrea	ITA	149
Silver	KEMPPAINEN Marko	FIN	149
Bronze	RODRIGUEZ Juan Miguel	CUB	147
4th	AL-ATTIYA Nasser	QAT	147
5th	DULOHERY Shawn	USA	147
6th	JENSEN Harald	NOR	145
7th	NIELSEN Michael	DEN	122
8th	WATNDAL Erik	NOR	121

Women's 10m Air Rifle			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	DU Li	CHN	502.0
Silver	GALKINA Liubov	RUS	501.5
Bronze	KURKOVA Katerina	CZE	501.1
4th	ZHAO Yinghui	CHN	500.8
5th	GOLDOBINA Tatiana	RUS	499.5
6th	PFEILSCHIFTER Sonja	GER	498.7
7th	BRIZE Laurence	FRA	497.9
8th	SHIRUR Suma	IND	497.2

Women's 10m Air Pistol			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	KOSTEVYCH Olena	UKR	483.3
Silver	SEKARIC Jasna	SCG	483.3
Bronze	GROZDEVA Maria	BUL	482.3
4th	REN Jie	CHN	482.3
5th	PADERINA Natalia	RUS	481.9
6th	DORJSUREN Munkhbayar	GER	481.9
7th	FROELICH Cornelia	SUI	481.5
8th	ASHUMOVA Irada	AZE	481.4

Women's Trap			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	BALOGH Suzanne	AUS	88
Silver	QUINTANAL Maria	ESP	84
Bronze	LEE Bo Na	KOR	83
4th	LOPER Whitly	USA	82
5th	KIERMAYER Susanne	GER	79
6th	NATTRASS Susan	CAN	76
7th	FELICI Emanuela	SMR	60
8th	TAKEBATAeko	JPN	59

Women's Double Trap

Kimberly RHODE (USA) won gold in Women's Double Trap, after a nerve-racking competition with Bo Na LEE (KOR). The two started the final with a tied result of 110 targets, and RHODE won by one target to collect her third Olympic medal. Bronze went to E GAO(CHN).

Women's 25m Pistol event

Maria GROZDEVA (BUL) won gold in the Women's 25m Pistol event. She started the final round in position three and set a Final Olympic Record of 688.2. GROZDEVA had also won bronze in the 10m Air Pistol. Silver was won by Lenka HYKOVA (CZE) with 687.8. Bronze went to Irada ASHUMOVA from Azerbaijan, who held position one after the qualification round and fell back to third place after shooting a 7.9 in her second series.

Women's Skeet

A perfect final round - hitting all 25 targets - ensured gold for Diana IGALY (HUN) in the

Women's Skeet event. IGALY started the final round with a score of 72 targets, one target ahead of her competitors. Silver went to Ning WEI (CHN). WEI outdid Zemfira MEFTAKHETDINOVA from Azerbaijan in a shoot off, two to one.

Women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions

The 2003 shooter of the year Liubov GALKINA (RUS), won the Women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions event, after starting the final in second position behind Olga DOVGUN from Kazakhstan. GALKINA took the lead with her second final shot of 10.9 and finished the final round with 101.4 for a new Final Olympic Record of 688.4. GALKINA also won the Silver medal in the 10m Air Rifle event. Valentina TURISINI (ITA) was the surprise silver medal winner, her first medal in international competition. Bronze went to Chengyi WANG (CHN), who started in position four after the qualification round.

Women's Double Trap			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	RHODE Kimberly	USA	146
Silver	LEE Bo Na	KOR	145
Bronze	GAO E	CHN	142
4th	LI Qingnian	CHN	142
5th	INOUE Megumi	JPN	140
6th	STANTON Nadine	NZL	137
7th	TRINDALL Susan	AUS	106
8th	LIN Yi Chun	TPE	106

Women's 25m Pistol			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	GROZDEVA Maria	BUL	688.2
Silver	HYKOVA Lenka	CZE	687.8
Bronze	ASHUMOVA Irada	AZE	687.3
4th	CHEN Ying	CHN	686.2
5th	DORJSUREN Munkhbayar	GER	684.6
6th	OTRYAD Gundegmaa	MGL	683.4
7th	SEO Joo Hyung	KOR	680.8
8th	SALUKVADZE Nino	GEO	678.3

Right page, from top to bottom:

Gold medallist Ahmed Almaktoom of the UAE competes in the men's double trap event on 17 August.
© Getty Images/E. Shaw

China's Li Du prepares her rifle during the final of the women's 10m air rifle event. She won gold with a score of 502 points, setting a new final Olympic record.
© AFP/E. Feferberg

Russian Liubov Galkina shoots during the final of the women's 10m air rifle event, in which she won silver. She also won gold in the 50m rifle three positions event.
© AFP/E. Feferberg

Women's Skeet			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	IGALY Diana	HUN	97
Silver	WEI Ning	CHN	93
Bronze	MEFTAKHETDINOVA Zemfira	AZE	93
4th	MARK Lauryn	AUS	92
5th	RHODE Kimberly	USA	91
6th	SMOTEK Connie	USA	90
7th	RI Hyon Ok	PRK	68
8th	CAINERO Chiara	ITA	67

Women's 50m Rifle 3 Positions			
	Name	NOC	Points
Gold	GALKINA Liubov	RUS	688.4
Silver	TURISINI Valentina	ITA	685.9
Bronze	WANG Chengyi	CHN	685.4
4th	DOVGUN Olga	KAZ	684.9
5th	LEE Hye Jin	KOR	681.0
6th	PFEILSCHIFTER Sonja	GER	679.6
7th	LECHNER Barbara	GER	677.6
8th	KALNYSH Natallia	UKR	677.2





Softball



Competition Sequence

Olympic Softball competition was held from 14 to 23 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Softball is an exciting game played by men and women of all ages all around the world. It was invented at the end of the 19th century as an indoor game and has become very popular among a number of countries, including the United States, Australia, Japan and China, to name a few. On 3 June 1991, in Birmingham, the International Olympic Committee added women's fast-pitch softball as a medal sport for the 1996 Olympic Games. In Atlanta, Softball made its Olympic debut, during which 120,000 spectators watched eight nations vie for medal. The United States won the gold, China the silver and Australia the bronze. Softball's second appearance at the Summer Olympics came in September 2000 in Blacktown, Australia, where USA won the gold again, followed by Japan winning the silver and Australia winning the bronze. During that tournament the number of spectators was increased to 189,000. According to the International Softball Federation, today more than 50 million people worldwide play softball.

Description

Two teams play softball, with nine players per team on the field, alternating turns at bat and defence. The aim of the team in offence is to hit the ball with the bat and by consecutively reaching all three bases to return to the home plate and earn a run. The team in defence, on the other hand, pitches the ball to the team in offence, and tries to prevent the other team from gaining points. Softball consists of several disciplines characterised by the type of pitch delivered: fast pitch, slow pitch and modified fast pitch. At the Olympic Games, only the Women's Fast Pitch Event is included. In total, eight teams participate at the Olympic Games. The host city's national team is automatically included among these teams, while the rest

qualify through World Championships and other regional qualifying matches.

Event	Players	NOC
Women's Fast Pitch	120	8

Venue

Women's Fast Pitch Softball were held at the Olympic Softball stadium in the Helliniko Olympic Complex. The Olympic Softball Stadium is a new venue situated in the heart of the Helliniko Olympic Complex in the south of Athens. The venue consists of a main Softball field of 4,800 seats, two warm-up fields and the requisite spaces for Athletes, competition management, Media, Olympic Family and staff services.

Games Highlights

The United States Women's Softball team barely even needed to break a sweat in steamrolling through the best teams in the world on its way to a third consecutive Olympic gold medal. USA beat Australia decisively 5-1 to capture the gold in the Grand Final. It was the third time the USA had beaten the Australians in the 2004 Olympic tournament. Crystal BUSTOS (USA) was the difference in the game, smashing two home runs and collecting three runs batted in (RBI). Pitcher Lisa FERNANDEZ (USA) scattered four hits over seven innings to get the win. It was apparent right from the start that the United States team, who scored 41 runs, was the class of the eight-team field. Offensively the United States had the complete package of speed, power and timely hitting.

Australia seemed to have the answer for everything, except the USA, in earning the silver medal. It is the best finish for Australia in

Left page:

General view of USA's Lisa Fernandez pitching against Greece in a preliminary softball game. The American team never lost a game and won gold.
© Getty Images/M. Hewitt

Olympic Softball, having picked up bronze medals in 1996 and 2000. The Aussies gave up 20 runs to the United States in three games, while surrendering just four in seven games against other opponents. Australia was led by Tanya HARDING (AUS) who did not give up a run in 33 innings pitched until running into trouble in the Grand Final against the USA, where she gave up two homers and four earned runs. HARDING and Brooke WILKINS (AUS) combined on a rare no-hitter in Australia's first game against Japan. However, it was a generally poor Olympic tournament for WILKINS (AUS) who ended up with an earned run average (ERA) of 18.03, pitching two and one third innings and surrendering 13 walks. Natalie TITCUMES (AUS) 0.375 batting average, with two home runs in ten games, powered the offence.

Japan survived a slow start, beginning the tournament with one win and three losses, to earn the bronze medal. Yukiko UENO (JPN) threw the first perfect game in the history of Olympic Softball on the last day of the preliminary round to catapult Japan into the semi-finals. Japan could not solve Australia pitcher HARDING, though, and they were shut out 3-0 by the Aussies in the Final. After Japan's last game, star third baseman Reika UTSUGI (JPN) announced plans to retire from playing to concentrate on coaching. Her long time mentor and coach, Taeko UTSUGI (JPN), also hinted at retirement.

Meanwhile, China's batters could not figure out pitcher UENO and it cost them an Olympic

medal. UENO followed the perfect game in the preliminary round, by giving up just three hits to Chinese batters in a shutout performance two days later. China struggled offensively all tournaments, getting just three earned runs. However, China's opponents were seemingly always in a giving mood, as the Chinese team scored 12 runs as a result of 14 opponent errors in the tournament.

Canada finished the tournament with three wins and four losses, the highlight being a 1-0 win over Softball powerhouse Japan. They had the same record as fourth place China, but failed to qualify for the semi-finals due to a 4-2 loss to China on the third day of competition. The Canadians were lead by hard-throwing lefthander Lauren BAY, who finished with three wins and two losses, striking out 36 batters in 34 and one-third innings of work.

Chinese Taipei struggled on offence the entire tournament and in the end it cost them. The team scored just three runs in seven games but managed to win two of them.

Greece's Olympic debut in Softball was successful, registering two wins in seven games. The team was made up of 13 American-born players of Greek ancestry and two native Greeks. One highlight came when Aikaterini KOUTOUGKOU (GRE), from Athens, reached base safely in her only plate appearance of the tournament.

Italy finished a disappointing tournament with one win and six losses.

Women		
	Team	NOC
Gold	United States of America	USA
Silver	Australia	AUS
Bronze	Japan	JPN
4th	People's Republic of China	CHN
5th	Canada	CAN
6th	Chinese Taipei	TPE
7th	Greece	GRE
8th	Italy	ITA

Right page:

Japan's Hiroko Sakai throws a pitch during her team's women's preliminary Olympic Softball game against Chinese Taipei.
© REUTERS/M. Finn-Kelcey



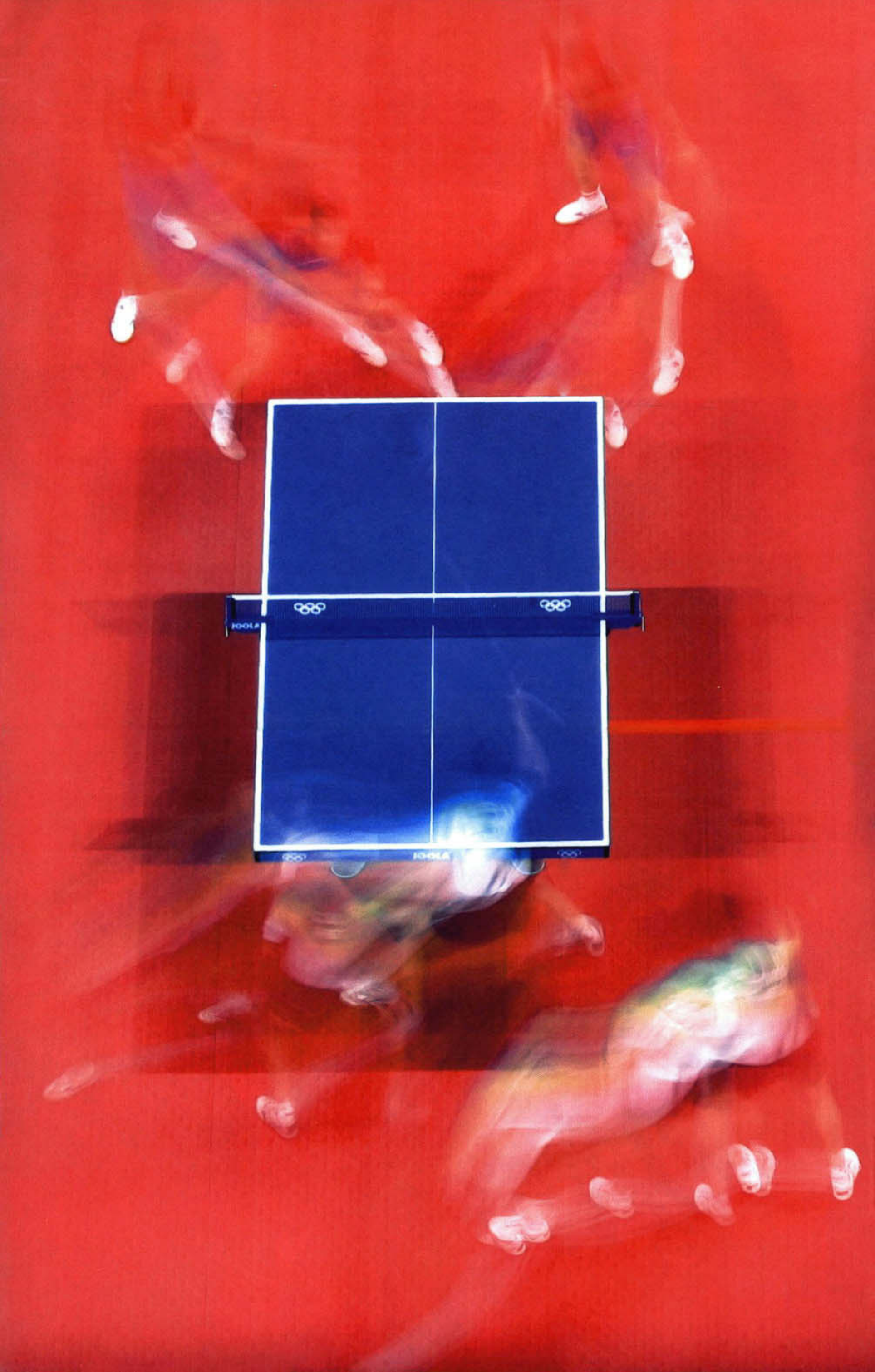


Table Tennis



Competition Sequence

The Olympic Table Tennis Tournament was hosted from 14 to 23 August. The finals were held from 20 to 23 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

As a result of Roy Evan's efforts, Table Tennis was recognised in 1997 as an Olympic sport and was included in the Summer Olympic Games for the first time in Seoul in 1988. After a promising debut, Table Tennis was staged successfully in Barcelona (1992), Atlanta (1996), and Sydney (2000), and was also featured in the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. In the four Olympic Table Tennis competition, the People's Republic of China have displayed their dominance in the sport having won 13 gold medals, while Korea has seized 2 gold medals and Sweden 1. Table Tennis is currently considered one of the most popular sports in the world in terms of participation numbers, with more than 187 National Federations members of ITTF.

Description

Table Tennis has developed into a major worldwide sport practised by perhaps 40 million competitive players and by countless millions, who play less seriously. However, the game itself has not changed in essence, since its earliest days, though it is faster, subtler and more demanding than it was just twenty years ago. Modern Table Tennis, at both National and International level is as rigorous as any sport in its demand for the highest degree of physical fitness and mental concentration, attained only through arduous training. Table Tennis is an individual sport consisting of team and singles events. The disciplines include the men's and women's singles, doubles and mixed pairs. There are four disciplines in the Olympic Games programme:

Men's: 2	Women's :2	Total:4
Singles	Singles	
Doubles	Doubles	

Competitors: 172		
Event	Players	NOC
Men		
Singles	64	39
Doubles	64	25
Women		
Singles	64	36
Doubles	68	26

According to the game structure of the Olympic Tournament, athletes compete against each other according to the knockout system. Each match consists of seven sets maximum. The athlete who wins four sets first is the game's winner.

Venue

Table Tennis at the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games was hosted at the Galatsi Olympic Hall, a suburb northwest of the city of Athens, which also hosted the Rhythmic Gymnastics events. It included a main building with 6,500 seats for the spectators, along with other surrounding areas, access roads, parking areas, etc.

Games Highlights

The Chinese squad dominated the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games Table Tennis event, but not quite as much as expected. Three of the four gold medals went to China, but even that impressive return did not fully satisfy Chinese expectations.

Left page:

China's Qi Chen and Lin Ma play against Hong Kong's Lai Chak Ko and Ching Li during their men's doubles table tennis gold medal match.
© REUTERS/K. Doherty

Men's Singles

The Men's Singles was where China missed out, with Korea's Seung Min RYU, the number three seed, taking the gold medal. A penholder grip player, RYU's success was not completely unexpected, following an impressive series of results on the ITTF Pro Tour in 2004. The experts had predicted that a player who attacks both wings, like the world number one Liqin WANG (CHN) or reigning world champion Werner SCHLAGER (AUT), would win the gold medal. The biggest surprise of the event, though, was 38-year-old Jan Ove WALDNER, gold medallist in this event at Barcelona in 1992, and a competitor at every Olympic Games, since Table Tennis debuted at Seoul in 1988. His fourth place, beating China's Number two Lin MA and the number nine seed Timo BOLL (GER) along the way, showed that WALDNER's exciting ability could still produce results.

Women's Singles

The Women's Singles event also provided a new Olympic champion, in the shape of world number one Yining ZHANG (CHN). The player without any obvious weakness had no real problems on her way to the title. A big shock in the Women's Singles was the exit of reigning Olympic and world champion Nan WANG, who crashed out at the quarterfinal stage, defeated by Singapore's Jia Wei LI. The surprise finalist came from the People's Republic of Korea. Hyang Mi KIM, a shake handed player with

pimples outside rubber on the backhand side, defeated the great European hope, Mihaela STEFF (ROM), as well as Chinese number three Jianfeng NIU and the two Singapore players Xueling ZHANG and LI.

The Doubles events were, as usual, an Asian-dominated competition.

Men's Doubles

The Men's Doubles Final between Qi CHEN/Lin MA (CHN) and Hong Kong's duo Lai Chak KO/Ching LI went by the formbook, with the top seeded Chinese pair taking the gold medal. In the bronze medal match Dimitrij MAZUNOV and Alexei SMIRNOV (RUS) were defeated by Michael MAZE and Finn TUGWELL (DEN).

Women's Doubles

In the Women's Doubles, the Chinese numbers one and two in the world ranking, Yining ZHANG/Nan WANG, won a 4-0 victory over the impressive Koreans Eun Sil LEE/Eun Mi SEOK. In the bronze medal match China's Jianfeng NIU and Yue GUO managed to win over Kyung Ah KIM/Bok Rae KIM from Korea. The Olympic Table Tennis ranking again showed China in the pole position, while one gold, one silver and one bronze to Korea, showed a clear number two. Europe's hopes for the tournament were not realised.

Men's Singles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	RYU Seung Min	KOR
Silver	WANG Hao	CHN
Bronze	WANG Liqin	CHN
4th	WALDNER Jan Ove	SWE
5th	BOLL Timo	GER
5th	LEUNG Chu Yan	HKG
5th	CHUAN Chih-Yuan	TPE
5th	KO Lai Chak	HKG

Women's Singles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	ZHANG Yining	CHN
Silver	KIM Hyang Mi	PRK
Bronze	KIM Kyung Ah	KOR
4th	LI Jia Wei	SIN
5th	WANG Nan	CHN
5th	ZHANG Xueling	SIN
5th	TIE Yana	HKG
5th	BOROS Tamara	CRO

Men's Doubles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	CHEN Qi MA Lin	CHN
Silver	KO Lai Chak LI Ching	HKG
Bronze	MAZE Michael TUGWELL Finn	DEN
4th	MAZUNOV Dimitrij SMIRNOV Alexei	RUS
5th	GRUJIC Slobodan KARAKASEVIC Aleksandar	SCG
5th	LEE Chul Seung RYU Seung Min	KOR
5th	PERSSON Jorgen WALDNER Jan-Ove	SWE
5th	BLASZCZYK Lucjan KRZESZEWSKI Tomasz	POL

Women's Doubles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	WANG Nan ZHANG Yining	CHN
Silver	LEE Eun Sil SEOK Eun Mi	KOR
Bronze	GUO Yue NIU Jianfeng	CHN
4th	KIM Bok Rae KIM Kyung Ah	KOR
5th	BOROS Tamara VAIDA Cornelia	CRO
5th	KIM Hyang Mi KIM Hyon Hui	PRK
5th	SONG Ah Sim TIE Yana	HKG
5th	FUJINUMA Ai UMEMURA Aya	JPN

Right page:

Hao Wang of China serves during the men's singles table tennis gold medal match against Seung Min Ryu of Korea, who won gold.
© Getty Images/S. Franklin





JUST JAMORAN JARA

WAVE ONE

PAÑA

ATHENS 2004

ATHENS 2004

Taekwondo



Competition Sequence

Olympic Taekwondo competition was held from 26 to 29 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Throughout its history, Taekwondo has been known by various names, like Taekyon or Subak. Its official name was announced in 1955; a year later, the first championships were held. The Korean Taekwondo Federation was founded in 1965 and the World Taekwondo Federation was founded in 1973. During the same year the first World Championships took place. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) acknowledged Taekwondo as an Olympic sport in 1980, an important year for the sport. It was included as a display event in two successive Olympic Games: in Seoul (1988) and Barcelona (1992). However, Taekwondo was included on the Olympic Games competition schedule for the first time at the Sydney Games in 2000.

Description

Taekwondo is a defensive martial art that combines philosophy, mental discipline, physical exercise and physical ability. One Taekwondo contest consists of three rounds of three minutes for men and three rounds of two minutes for women, each with one-minute intervals between rounds. The contestants, "Chung" (blue) and "Hong" (red), compete against each other by punching and kicking techniques performed on permitted parts of the body. In Taekwondo contests, kicks are allowed to the face and body, while punches are only allowed on the body. Hits below the lower abdomen are forbidden. All vulnerable parts of the body are covered with protectors. One referee and three judges oversee the contest. Points are considered valid when two or more judges acknowledge and register them. The winner of a contest is determined either by a knockout, by points, or when eight penalties are granted to the opponent. In the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, there were four men's and four women's weight categories.

Every day there were men's and women's Taekwondo matches in each of the weight categories starting with the lightest categories and ending with the heaviest. 124 competitors participated in the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games from the five continents. Two men and two women athletes represented Greece, being the host country.

Men's: 4	Total: 8
Women's: 4	

Competitors: 124		
Event	Athletes	NOC
Men		
Under 58kg	16	16
Under 68kg	16	16
Under 80kg	16	16
Over 80kg	16	16
Women		
Under 49kg	15	15
Under 57kg	15	15
Under 67kg	15	15
Over 67kg	15	15

Venue

The Olympic Taekwondo competition was held at the Faliró Coastal Zone Olympic Complex, Sports Pavilion, a completely new venue, which had a seating capacity for approximately 8,000 spectators, and hosted also the Handball preliminary games. The Sports Pavilion together with the Olympic Beach Volleyball Centre, the Marina and the Esplanade were included in a wider urban area redevelopment project of the coastal zone.

Left page:

Hadi Saei Bonehkoal of Iran does a flip after winning the gold medal with his defeat of Chin Hsiung Huang of Chinese Taipei in the men's under 68 kg Taekwondo gold medal match.
© Getty Images/I. Waldie

Games Highlights

Men's Events

Men's Under 58kg

In the men's Under 58kg category, Mu Yen CHU (TPE) defeated the Mexican athlete Oscar Francisco SALAZAR BLANCO. The bronze medal was awarded to Tamer BAYOUMI from Egypt, after he defeated Juan RAMOS from Spain. Despite high hopes, the host nation's Sydney gold medallist Michalis MOUROUTSOS did not win a medal.

Men's Under 68kg

Sydney Olympic bronze medallist, Hadi SAEI BONEHKOHAL (IRI) completed what he started in Sydney, winning the ATHENS 2004 Olympic gold medal in the Men's Under 68kg category. SAEI BONEHKOHAL defeated Chih Hsiung HUANG (TPE) by points, 4-3.

The bronze medal was awarded to Myeong Seob SONG (KOR), after he defeated worthy adversary Diogo SILVA (BRA) 12-7.

Men's Under 80kg

In the men's under 80kg category, Steven LOPEZ of the USA managed to win gold again. LOPEZ beat Bahri TANRIKULU (TUR) 3-0 to retain his title as Olympic champion, whereas Yossef KARAMI (IRI) won the bronze medal by defeating Rashad AHMADOV (AZE).

Men's Over 80kg

In the men's over 80kg category, Korea's Dae Sung MOON, the 1999 world champion, took the gold medal by winning the final by knockout against local favourite Alexandras NIKOLAIDIS (GRE). The two athletes embraced and covered by a Greek flag made a brief victory lap, much to the pleasure of the disappointed crowd. The bronze was awarded to Pascal GENTIL from France.

Men's Under 58kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	CHU MuYen	TPE
Silver	SALAZAR BLANCO Oscar Francisco	MEX
Bronze	BAYOUMI Tamer	EGY
5th	MOUROUTSOS Michalis	GRE
5th	SALEM Ezedin	LBA
5th	RAMOS Juan	ESP
5th	NGUYEN Quoc Huan	VIE
5th	SHAPOSHNYK Oleksandr	UKR

Men's Under 68kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	SAEI BONEHKOHAL Hadi	IRI
Silver	HUANG Chih Hsiung	TPE
Bronze	SONG Myeong Seob	KOR
5th	SILVA Diogo	BRA
5th	ROESEN Jesper	DEN
5th	PASHAYEV Niyamaddin	AZE
5th	CALISKAN Tuncay	AUT
5th	SAGASTUME Gabriel	GUA

Right page, from top to bottom:

Hadi Saei Bonehkoal of Iran dodges a kick by Huang Chih Hsiung of Chinese Taipei in the men's under 68 kg Taekwondo gold medal match.
© Getty Images/I. Waldie

Gold medallist Sung Dae Moon of South Korea embraces silver medallist Alexandros Nikolaidis of Greece after defeating him in the over 80kg taekwondo tournament final on the last day of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games.
© REUTERS/K. Kyung-Hoon

Nevena Lukic of Austria screams at Euda Carias of Guatemala during their under 49kg quarterfinal Taekwondo bout. Carias won the fight.
© REUTERS/D. Boylan

Men's Under 80kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	LOPEZ Steven	USA
Silver	TANRIKULU Bahri	TUR
Bronze	KARAMI Yossef	IRI
5th	AHMADOV Rashad	AZE
5th	GEISLER Donald David III	PHI
5th	HAMDOUNI Hichem	TUN
5th	RASHEED Raid	IRQ
5th	GARIBAY ESTRADA Victor Manuel	MEX

Men's Over 80kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MOON Dae Sung	KOR
Silver	NIKOLAIDIS Alexandros	GRE
Bronze	GENTIL Pascal	FRA
5th	KAMAL Ibrahim	JOR
5th	ZROURI Abdelkader	MAR
5th	MOITLAND CABEZAS Kristopher	CRC
5th	GARCIA Jon	ESP
5th	SAGINDYKOV Adilkahn	KAZ



Women's Events

Women's Under 49kg

Shih Hsin CHEN (TPE) won the gold medal, in the Women's Under 49kg category, after defeating the Cuban athlete Yanelis Yuliet LABRADA DIAZ by points, 4-5. The bronze medal was awarded to Yaowapa BOORAPOLCHAI (THA), after she defeated worthy adversary Gladys Alicia MORA ROMERO, 2-1.

Women's Under 57kg

In the Women's Under 57kg category, Korea's Ji Won JANG took the gold medal by winning the final against Nia ABDALLAH (USA). Iridia SALAZAR BLANCO (MEX), a fighter who has won three silver medals in the last three World Championships, managed to take the third place and win the bronze, whereas the third place finisher at the 2003 World Championships, Nootcharin SUKKHONGDUMNOEN (THA) failed to reach medal standings.

Women's Under 67kg

In the Women's Under 67kg category, Wei

LUO (CHN) defeated the Greek athlete Elisavet MYSTAKIDOU 7-6. The points were close throughout the whole match, with both athletes scoring a point each in the first round and in the second round MYSTAKIDOU took the lead by scoring 3 points, while LUO scored 1. Round three began with LUO trailing, but she quickly caught up by scoring five points. MYSTAKIDOU tried to defend herself, but couldn't block her opponent. She managed to score 1 point on LUO, before the match finished with LUO taking the gold. The bronze medal was awarded to Kyung Sun HWANG (KOR), after she defeated Heidy JUAREZ (GUA) 5-2, having controlled the majority of the match.

Women's Over 67kg

The Women's Taekwondo tournament came to its conclusion with the gold medal match in the Women's over 67kg class going to Zhong CHEN (CHN), who overcame Myriam BAVEREL (FRA) 12-5. CHEN clearly dominated the match, scoring two points in the first round, four in the second and six in the last. Bronze went to Adriana CARMONA (VEN), who defeated Natalia SILVA (BRA) 7-4.

Women's Under 49kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	CHEN Shih Hsin	TPE
Silver	LABRADA DIAZ Yanelis Yuliet	CUB
Bronze	BOORAPOLCHAI Yaowapa	THA
5th	YAGUE Brigitte	ESP
5th	CARIAS Euda	GUA
5th	GONDA Ivett	CAN
5th	BAIDYA Sangina	NEP
5th	MORA ROMERO Gladys Alicia	COL

Women's Under 57kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	JANG Ji Won	KOR
Silver	ABDALLAH Nia	USA
Bronze	SALAZAR BLANCO Iridia	MEX
5th	KAYDASHOVA Irina	UZB
5th	REYES Sonia	ESP
5th	BAH Mariam	CIV
5th	SUUKHONGDUMNOEN Nootcharin	THA
5th	CORSI Cristiana	ITA

Women's Under 67kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	LUOWei	CHN
Silver	MYSTAKIDOU Elisavet	GRE
Bronze	HWANG Kyung Sun	KOR
5th	DIAZ Ineabelle	PUR
5th	SOLHEIM Nina	NOR
5th	WIHONGI Verina	NZL
5th	JUAREZ Heidy	GUA
5th	RIVERO MaryAntoinette	PHI

Women's Over 67kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	CHEN Zhong	CHN
Silver	BAVEREL Myriam	FRA
Bronze	CARMONA Adriana	VEN
5th	SILVA Natalia	BRA
5th	CASTRIGNANO Daniela	ITA
5th	DAWANI Nadin	JOR
5th	OKAMOTO Yoriko	JPN
5th	STEVENSON Sarah	GBR



This page:

China's Wei Luo is kicked by Greece's Elisavet Mystakidou during the women's under 67kg gold medal taekwondo match. The Chinese won the gold medal.
© REUTERS/K. Kyung-Hoon





Competition Sequence

The Olympic Tennis competition took place within the span of eight days (15-22 August).

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Tennis was first introduced to the Olympic Games in Athens, Greece, in 1896, as one of the nine sports of the programme. There were just two events, the men's singles and doubles (there were no women competing in Athens). During those Games, Dionysios Kasdaglis was the silver winner in the singles event, whilst the silver medal in doubles event was won also by Kasdaglis teamed with Dimitrios Petrokokkinos. Tennis left the Olympics in 1924, after clashes between the IOC and the ITF over the organisation of the Tennis competition, and did not return until 1984, when Tennis was re-introduced in Los Angeles, as a demonstration sport. Tennis went on to become a full Olympic sport again at the 1988 Seoul Games.

Description

Tennis is an attractive, dynamic and highly popular sport at all skill levels. However, athletes must develop special skills such as technique, stamina, speed, reflexes and imagination, in order to compete at a high level successfully. Tennis is played between two or four athletes. To score a point, Tennis players have to hit the ball with their rackets, so that it lands on the opponent's court, without the opponent being able to hit it back. The winner is the athlete or pair to win three sets of six games, each in the men's events (best-of-five set match) and two sets in the women's events (best-of-three set match). A tennis court is 23,7m x 8,23m for singles and a 23,77m x 10,97m for doubles. Tournament courts have lines marked out for both singles and doubles. The court is divided into two by a net, which is 0,914 m high. Each game consists of four points. The first one is called 15, the second 30, and the

third 40. The fourth is simply the "game" ball: the athlete or pair wins the "game" provided that there is a two-point difference. In case of a 40-40 tie (deuce), the athlete or pair must win two subsequent points (advantage, "game"). The Athens Olympic Tennis Tournament was played on hard courts and consisted of four events:

Men's: 2	Women's:2	Total: 4
Singles	Singles	
Doubles	Doubles	

Competitors: 172		
Event	Players	NOC
Men		
Singles	64	32
Doubles	64	25
Women		
Singles	64	32
Doubles	64	22

Venue

During the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, Tennis competitions were staged at the Olympic Tennis Centre of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA), situated at Maroussi. A total of ten courts was used for the competition: the centre court (8.600 seats), court 1 (4.000 seats), court 2 (2.000 seats) and courts 3-9 (200 seats). Competition took place within the span of eight days (15-22 August), whilst the total of men and women athletes competing were 172.

Left page:

Nicolas Massu of Chile follows through on his serve to Mardy Fish of the United States in the men's singles tennis gold medal match. Massu won two Olympic gold medals in Athens, the first ever for Chile.
© Getty Images/C. Brunskill

Games Highlights

It is hard to disagree that Tennis at the 2004 Olympic Games belonged to Chile. The nation came to Athens having never won a gold medal in any Olympic sport, and left the Tennis tournament with two. Chile also won a bronze medal. Chile's three medals were the culmination of wildly unpredictable Men's Singles and Doubles events.

Men's Events

Men's Singles

Tomas BERDYCH (CZE) ousted men's world No.1 Roger FEDERER (SUI) in the second round, the same night that the 2003 Roland Garros Champion also made an early exit from the Men's Singles at the hands of Mardy FISH (USA). A day later in the third round, No.2 seed Andy RODDICK (USA), who had been joint-favourite with FEDERER to win the gold, fell to Fernando GONZALEZ (CHI). No.3 seed Carlos MOYA (ESP) briefly took over as the leading contender for Olympic gold, but swiftly lost to Nicolas MASSU (CHI) in the quarterfinals. GONZALEZ took care of No.8 seed Sebastien GROSJEAN (FRA) in the same round. FISH and Taylor DENT (USA) surpassed expectations and the performance of higher-ranked teammate RODDICK to reach the last four. FISH and GONZALEZ lost their semi-finals, and it was GONZALEZ who claimed the bronze medal in their play-off, winning 16-14 in the third set. Chile defeated USA again in the gold medal match, with MASSU triumphing over FISH in a roller-coaster five setter.

Men's Doubles

By the time he won Singles gold, MASSU had already been crowned Olympic champion in Doubles, teaming with GONZALEZ to claim a historic first gold medal for Chile in any sport. The Chilean duo had battled their way through the Doubles draw with wins over No.6 seeds Gaston ETLIS/Martin RODRIGUEZ (ARG), and top-ranked pair Bob and Mike BRYAN (USA). They saved four match points, in a dramatic five-set Men's Doubles final against Nicolas KIEFER/Rainer SCHUETTLER (GER). KIEFER/SCHUETTLER had upset two seasoned Doubles teams en route to their silver medal, accounting for two-time Olympic medallist Todd WOODBRIDGE (AUS) and partner

Men's Single's		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MASSU Nicolas	CHI
Silver	FISH Mardy	USA
Bronze	GONZALEZ Fernando	CHI
4th	DENT Taylor	USA
5th	GROSJEAN Sebastien	FRA
5th	YOUZHNY Mikhail	RUS
5th	MOYA Carlos	ESP
5th	BERDYCH Tomas	CZE

Wayne ARTHURS in the second round and Mahesh BHUPATHI/Leander PAES (IND) in the semi-finals. The Men's Doubles bronze medal went to wild cards Mario ANCIC/Ivan LJUBICIC (CRO), who -in the longest match of the Olympic Tennis event- took four hours to overcome BHUPATHI/PAES in the bronze medal play-off. They won the third set 16-14.

Women's Events

By comparison, the Women's events ran more true to form, but they were still compelling and contained plenty of surprises.

Women's Doubles

The surprise gold medallists in the Women's Doubles were Ting LI and Tian Tian SUN (CHN), who defeated three seeded teams to win the title. It was a first Tennis medal for China, and bodes well for the 2008 Olympic Tennis event in Beijing. LI/SUN defeated the experienced No.2 seeds Conchita MARTINEZ/Virginia RUANO PASCUAL (ESP) in straight sets in the final. The bronze medal was won by RUANO PASCUAL's regular partner, Paola SUAREZ (ARG), who teamed with Patricia TARABINI to defeat Shinobu ASAGOE/Ai SUGIYAMA (JPN) in the play-off. Top seeds Svetlana KUZNETSOVA/Elena LIKHOVTSEVA (RUS) fell in the first round, while 47-year-old Martina NAVRATILOVA's (USA) dreams of a first Olympic medal with Lisa RAYMOND (USA) ended in the quarterfinals.

Women's Singles

World No.1 Justine HENIN-HARDENNE (BEL) enjoyed a spectacular return, after two and a half months out of tennis, due to a blood virus. She won Belgium's first gold medal of the 2004 Games by defeating world No.2 Amelie MAURESMO (FRA) 6-3, 6-3 in the final. Anastasia MYSKINA (RUS), ranked No.3 in the world, narrowly missed out on a place in the final, when she lost a 1-5 lead in the final set of her thrilling semi-final encounter with HENIN-HARDENNE. She missed out again, when she lost the bronze medal play-off to Alicia MOLIK (AUS). Sydney gold medallist Venus WILLIAMS (USA) lost in the third round to Mary PIERCE (FRA), while Elena DEMENTIEVA (RUS), silver medallist at the 2000 Olympics, fell to MOLIK in the opening round.

Men's Double's		
	Name	NOC
Gold	GONZALEZ Fernando MASSU Nicolas	CHI
Silver	KIEFER Nicolas SCHUETTLER Rainer	GER
Bronze	ANCIC Mario LJUBICIC Ivan	GRO
4th	BHUPATHI Mahesh PAES Leander	IND
5th	ERLICH Jonathan RAM Andi	ISR
5th	BLACK Wayne ULLYETT Kevin	ZIM
5th	LLODRA Michael SANTORO Fabrice	FRA
5th	BRYAN Bob BRYAN Mike	USA



Women's Singles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	HENIN-HARDENNE Justine	BEL
Silver	MAURESMO Amelie	FRA
Bronze	MOLIK Alicia	AUS
4th	MYSKINA Anastasia	RUS
5th	KUZNETSOVA Svetlana	RUS
5th	SUGIYAMA Ai	JPN
5th	SCHIAVONE Francesca	ITA
5th	PIERCE Mary	FRA

Women's Doubles		
	Name	NOC
Gold	LI Ting SUN TianTian	CHN
Silver	MARTINEZ Conchita RUANO PASCUAL Virginia	ESP
Bronze	SUAREZ Paola TARABINI Patricia	ARG
4th	ASAGOE Shinobu SUGIYAMA Ai	JPN
5th	YAN Zi ZHENG Jie	CHN
5th	NAVRATILOVA Martina RAYMOND Lisa	USA
5th	MOLIK Alicia STUBBS Rennae	AUS
5th	DECHY Nathalie TESTUD Sandrine	FRA

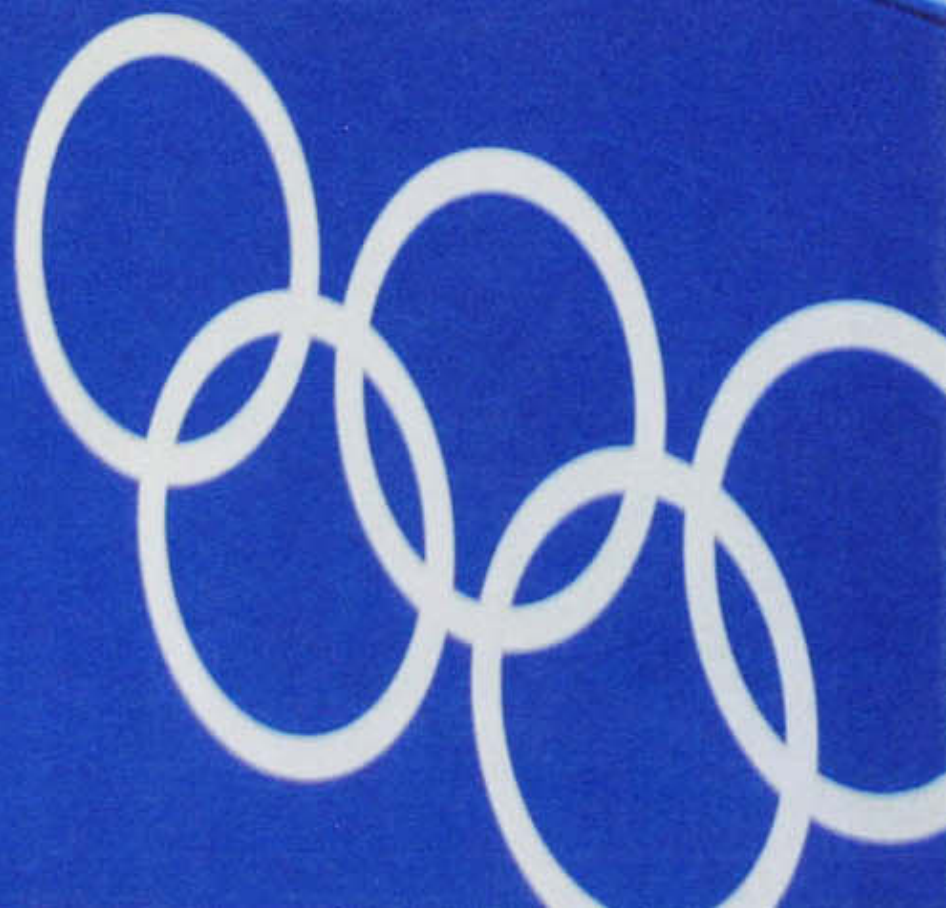
This page:

France's Amelie Mauresmo returns to Belgium's Justine Henin-Hardenne during the women's singles tennis final. The top-seeded Belgian won the match 6-3, 6-3 for the gold.
© AFP/J. Demarthon



ATHENS 2004

2004



Triathlon



Competition Sequence

Olympic Triathlon competition was held on 25 and 26 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun											
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

The strenuous and exciting sport of Triathlon was invented by the San Diego Track Club, as an alternative workout to track training and consisted of three different disciplines: swimming, cycling and running. The first Triathlon event - a 10km run, a 8km cycling race and a 500m swim - was held in 1974, in Mission Bay, San Diego. Triathlon gained public recognition and popularity and in April 1989, the International Triathlon Union was founded in Avignon, France, and the first World Championships were held. The official distance for Triathlon was set at a 1.500m swim, a 40km cycle and a 10km run. These distances were called "Olympic Distances", and now feature in the Olympic Games and in the World Cup series. In 1994, at the IOC Congress in Paris, Triathlon was awarded full medal status in the Olympic programme, whereas it made an impressive Olympic debut at the Sydney Olympic Games, in 2000. Despite its short history, the International Triathlon Union already has more than 75 affiliated nations. The sport has an established international circuit, with World Cup events held in countries throughout the world.

Description

The Olympic Triathlon competition consists of Swimming, Cycling and Running as one continuous event, whereas there are three different types:

The Olympic distance triathlon, which is one of the 28 Olympic sports, consists of 1.500m Swimming, 40km Cycling and 10km Running. The Sprint includes 750m Swimming, 20km Cycling and 5km Running. The Long distance consists of 4km Swimming, 120km Cycling and 30km Running.

The Olympic distance triathlon has prevailed and is included in the Olympic competition schedule.

Athletes competing in Triathlon begin with swimming, then change to cycling and finish with running. The winner is the athlete who crosses the finish line first.

Men's: 1	Total:2
Women's: 1	

Competitors: 100		
Event	Triathletes	NOC
Men's		
Triathlon	50	26
Women's		
Triathlon	50	25

Venue

The sport of Triathlon in the 2004 Games was staged in the wider area of the Municipality of Vouliagmeni, in southern Athens. Swimming took place at one of the most famous beaches, Oceanida. The water quality was excellent and the beach had all the necessary facilities. The start took place from a floating pontoon. The cycling and running were held on the "mountainous" side of the municipality along a scenic route, between the mountains and the sea. The cycling route had intensive technical characteristics with constant ascents and descents and spectators lined the whole route. Only motorcyclists carrying camera operators and judges were allowed to enter the competitive course of the cycling section. The running was staged in three laps of 3,3km. As required, there was provision for water stations for the athletes every 850m. During cycling, there were 6 pits with wheels (wheel

Left page:

Austria's Kate Allen crosses the finish line to win the women's triathlon event. Allen won the gold medal with a time of two hours 4.43 minutes.

© REUTERS/M. Finn-Kelcey

stations) in case of tyre puncture. The test event of Cycling was successfully conducted at this venue in August 2003.

Men's Individual

New Zealand triathletes made history, after 33-year-old Hamish CARTER executed the perfect tactical race to win the Men's Triathlon, holding off teammate Bevan DOCHERTY, the fastest runner in the sport of Triathlon, in the final run to the line. DOCHERTY, the reigning world champion, and one of the few men to have run a sub-30 minute 10km split in a Triathlon, attacked CARTER relentlessly in the final lap of the run, but CARTER maintained his smooth running form and composure to pull away in the final kilometre, to win by 7.87 seconds. Not since the Atlanta 1996 Olympic Games, when Blythe TAIT and Sally CLARK took gold and silver respectively in the Equestrian Three Day Individual Event, have two New Zealanders stood together on an Olympic podium in first and second place. Brilliant young Swiss triathlete Sven RIEDERER claimed the bronze medal in 1:51:33.26, after tenaciously hanging on to the New Zealanders throughout the run leg, only losing touch when the surges began in the closing stages. The medallists had earlier been part of a decisive breakaway group, during the cycle leg, masterminded by the strongest cyclist in the field, Olivier MARCEAU (SUI). In a move that ultimately decided the podium finishers, MARCEAU dragged five other riders up the 700m cycle leg hill on the second of the five laps, opening a narrow break on the ensuing downhill that extended to a lead into T2 (the cycle to run transition) of 47 seconds. The break containing MARCEAU, Andrew JOHNS (GBR), RIEDERER, DOCHERTY, CARTER and Frenchman Frederic BELAUBRE, was launched only minutes after most of the field had swum together for the 1.500m open water swim leg.

Women's Individual

In the women's Triathlon, Austrian Kate ALLEN snatched the gold medal in a spectacular fashion, propelling herself into the lead for the first time in the race in the finish chute, inside the last few hundred metres of the race. Starting the 10km run 2:48 behind the leaders, 35-year-old ALLEN was unstoppable, posting the fastest run split of 34:13.00, and charging past ten other competitors on her way to the finish line at the Vouliagmeni Olympic Centre. The Austrian's surge to the line relegated Loretta HARROP to second place by 6.72 seconds, after the Australian had led the 50-strong field from the water after the 1.500m swim. HARROP headed the field from the moment she exited T1, the swim to bike

transition, working first with American Sheila TAORMINA during the 40km cycle leg, and then building and sustaining a 30-second lead until the final 2km of the 10km run leg. With air temperatures hovering around 30 degrees Celsius, early race conditions for the 10:00 start time were mild for competitors, with only light breezes affecting the open water swim leg. A small group of nine swimmers, including HARROP Barbara LINDQUIST (USA), TAORMINA, Rina HILL (AUS), Jill SAVEGE (CAN), Silvia GEMIGNANI (ITA), Joelle FRANZMANN (GER), Jodie SWALLOW (GBR) and Susan WILLIAMS (USA) broke away rounding the final swim buoy, but HARROP left the water first and soon attacked the 700 metre hill on lap one of the cycle leg, dragging the American trio with her. With WILLIAMS crashing after the first climb, a two-woman breakaway formed, after LINDQUIST also dropped off the pace, leaving HARROP and TAORMINA out in front. At one stage during the third lap of five, the race leaders had extended their lead to 48 seconds over the chasing pair of Americans, with a further 2:25 back to the main group of riders. In laps three, four and five, Belgian cycle specialist Kathleen SMET attempted to bridge the gap between the main pack and WILLIAMS and LINDQUIST getting to within 9 seconds on lap three, before losing ground. On lap four of the five-lap bike leg, TAORMINA dramatically dropped back to her pursuing team mates, leaving HARROP to enter T2 on her own with a slender 15-second lead. HARROP flew out of T2 to a commanding lead of around 30 seconds, pushing hard up the slight inclines to stay ahead of WILLIAMS, who had smoothly moved into second place halfway through the run. With LINDQUIST fading and TAORMINA falling off the pace set by WILLIAMS, HARROP's lead with 4km to go looked unassailable, until the flying Austrian ALLEN rocketed past the crowd going into final 3.3 km lap, having picked up just over two and a half minutes in the first two run loops. In a thrilling conclusion, ALLEN eventually passed a tiring HARROP on the long final downhill with the finish line in sight, crossing in 2:04:43.45 to the Australian's 2:04:50.17. On a day when an American triathlete was never far from the lead, WILLIAMS (2:05:08.92) managed to hang on to the bronze medal position in front of SMET (2:05:35.89), and a charging Nadia CORTASSA (ITA), who posted the second fastest run split. LINDQUIST finished ninth, while TAORMINA faded to 23rd position in the final lap of the run. Forty-four out of the 50 women who started the tough Vouliagmeni course finished within 2:22:39.28.

Men				
	Name	NOC	Time	
Gold	CARTER Hamish	NZL	1:51:07.73	
Silver	DOCHERTY Bevan	NZL	1:51:15.60	
Bronze	RIEDERER Sven	SUI	1:51:33.26	
4th	BENNETT Greg	AUS	1:51:41.58	
5th	BELAUBRE Frederic	FRA	1:52:00.53	
6th	RAELERT Andreas	GER	1:52:35.62	
7th	HENNING Rasmus	DEN	1:52:37.32	
8th	MARCEAU Olivier	SUI	1:52:44.36	

Women				
	Name	NOC	Time	
Gold	ALLEN Kate	AUT	2:04:43.45	
Silver	HARROP Loretta	AUS	2:04:50.17	
Bronze	WILLIAMS Susan	USA	2:05:08.92	
4th	SMET Kathleen	BEL	2:05:35.89	
5th	CORTASSA Nadia	ITA	2:05:45.35	
6th	DILLON Michelle	GBR	2:06:00.77	
7th	BURGOS Ana	ESP	2:06:02.36	
8th	FERNANDES Vanessa	POR	2:06:15.39	



This page:

Competitors of the men's triathlon swim on 26 August. New Zealand's Hamish Carter won the gold medal, his compatriot Bevan Docherty received silver and Switzerland's Sven Riederer took bronze.
© AFP/T. Coex



Beach Volleyball



Competition Sequence

Olympic Beach Volleyball was hosted from 14 until 25 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Beach Volleyball is a high-standard discipline that takes place in a unique setting. Games take place on some of the most beautiful beaches of the world, or in the historic centres of well-known cities. The atmosphere created by the combination of music, rhythm and beat during a Beach Volleyball game has made the sport very popular

Description

Beach Volleyball is played on sand courts measuring 16m x 8m by teams of two athletes. The net divides the court into two equal sections, each of which constitutes one team's court. The objective of the sport is to pass the ball over the net, touching the opponent's court, while avoiding a corresponding action by the opposing team. The match begins with the serve that is hitting the ball with the aim of passing it over the net to the opposing team. Each play continues until the ball "lands" on the ground within or outside the boundaries of the court, or when the opposing team fails to return the ball legally. Each team is allowed to hit the ball up to three times, including contact during an attempted block on the ball, before returning it to the opposing team. In Beach Volleyball, each team that wins a rally also wins a point, regardless of which team has served. Within each team, players execute the service in turn. A match consists of the best three sets, which are won, when a team gets to 21 points with a lead of at least two points over the opposing team. Otherwise the set continues, until one of the two teams takes a two-point lead and is declared winner of the set. The winner of the match is the team that wins two sets. There are men's and women's tournaments both having the same format and rules. The Olympic Beach Volleyball competition comprises a Preliminary Round,

and a Single Elimination Phase, for both Men and Women.

Men's tournament	Total: 2
Women's tournament	

Competitors: 96		
Event	Players	NOC
Men	48	17
Women	48	17

Venue

The Beach Volleyball tournament was held in the Olympic Beach Volleyball Centre in Faliro, a new court with 9,600 seating capacity. The fascinating sport became a dominant spectacle in the warm and sandy environment of South Attica, at the Faliro Coastal Zone.

Games Highlights

Women's

Since Beach Volleyball was introduced to the Games, in 1996, the podium has been dominated by Brazil and Australia. This time around, however at the Women's Olympic Beach Volleyball Tournament of ATHENS 2004, the two participating USA teams brought home the gold and the bronze. Kerri WALSH and Misty MAY were the top seeds and strong favourites coming into the Olympic tournament, shutting out Brazil's Adriana BEHAR/Shelda BEDE, the Sydney 2000 and 2003 World Championship silver medallists, to add the Olympic gold to their already impressive collection of titles in the last three years. WALSH and MAY were joined on the podium by Holly McPEAK and Elaine YOUNGS, defeating Australia's Natalie COOK

Left page:

Mark Williams (playing partner of Julien Prosser) of Australia dives for the ball during their match against Patrick Heuscher and Stephan Kobel of Switzerland in the men's bronze medal match. Switzerland won 19-21, 21-17, 15-13. © Getty Images/R. Laberge

and Nicole SANDERSON 2-1, in one hour eleven minutes match -the longest of the tournament - to win the bronze, the other USA medal. But their victory in the bronze medal match not only capped a brilliant USA presence in the Women's Olympic Beach Volleyball Tournament, but also left Australia without a medal for the first time ever Europe, meanwhile, will have to wait for Beijing 2008 to see if it can get its first team ever in the final four There were two European teams vying for semi-final berths this year, but both fell in the quarter-finals. Germany's 2003 European Champions, Stephanie POHL/Okka RAU, to McPEAK/YOUNGS; and Italy's 2003 and 2004 European Championships bronze medallists, Lucilla PERROTTA and Daniela GATTELLI, to COOK/SANDERSON. Brazil's Ana Paula CONNELLY and Sandra PIRES, the tournament's number three seeds, were also casualties of the quarter-final round, when they lost an all-Brazilian duel with Adriana BEHAR/ Shelda BEDE. For the hosts, a Round of 16 berths escaped them in Sydney 2000, when Vasso KARADASSIOU and Efi SFYRI failed to get in by one single point. ATHENS 2004, however; saw Greece represented by two teams in the Single Elimination Bracket. KARADASSIOU/SFYRI were joined by Greece's new hopefuls, Thalia KOUTROUMANIDOU and Vicky ARVANITI, the youngest team in the tournament.

Men's

Since the sport was integrated into the Games, in 1996, the USA has dominated the men's competition. However; in the men's tournament, for the first time ever; Brazil's men climbed to the highest step of the podium in Olympic Beach Volleyball. Ricardo SANTOS and Emanuel REGO shut out Spain's surprise finalists Javier BOSMA and Pablo HERRERA to

win the gold medal of the Men's 2004 Olympic Beach Volleyball Tournament. It was a moment the country had been waiting for eight years, and the few hundred Brazilian fans who were there to witness it will cherish it for ever But it was not only the Olympic top seeds and reigning world champions that made history at the Olympic Beach Volleyball Centre. Fifteenth seeded Spain has become the highest-ranked European team even bettering the bronze medal won by Germany's Joerg AH MANN and Axel HAGER in Sydney. There was a second European team on the podium. Switzerland's Patrick HEUSCHER and Stefan KOBEL edged Australia's Julien PROSSER and Mark WILLIAMS winning the bronze medal and confirming the continent's increasing pressure on the North and South American dominance of the sport. Meanwhile, the USA, that had never before lost the gold medal, winning with Karen KIRALY/Kent STEFFES in Atlanta 1996 and with BLANTON/FOINOIMOANA in Sydney 2000, failed miserably to uphold the tradition. The pair lost all three of their opening matches, and ranked last in their Preliminary Pool. There was some history for the Australians, too. PROSSER and WILLIAMS became the first Australian men to feature amongst the top four of an Olympic tournament. But more than anything else, the Athens Olympic Games proved how different an Olympic competition is compared to the regular World Tour events. Of the top four seeds of the Olympic tournament, only Ricardo SANTOS/Emanuel REGO kept their seeds. The others (second-seeded Benjamin INSFRAN/Marcio ARAUJO of Brazil, ranked 9th; third-seeded Martin LACIGA and Paul LACIGA of Switzerland, ranked 5th; and fourth-seeded Markus DIECKMANN/Jonas RECKERMANN of Germany ranked 9th) finished below par.

Men		
	Name	NOC
Gold	SANTOS Ricardo Alex REGO Emanuel	BRA
Silver	BOSMA Javier HERRERA Pablo	ESP
Bronze	KOBEL Stefan HEUSCHER Patrick	SUI
4th	PROSSER Julien WILLIAMS Mark	AUS
5th	CHILD John HEESE Mark	CAN
5th	SCHEUERPFLUG Andreas DIECKMANN Christoph	GER
5th	HOLDREN Daxton METZGER Stein	USA
5th	LACIGA Paul LACIGA Martin	SUI

Women		
	Name	NOC
Gold	WALSH Kerri MAY Misty	USA
Silver	BEHAR Adriana BEDE Shelda	BRA
Bronze	McPEAK Holly YOUNGS Elaine	USA
4th	COOK Natalie SANDERSON Nicole	AUS
5th	DUMONT Guylaine MARTIN Annie	CAN
5th	PERROTTA Lucilla GATTELLI Daniela	ITA
5th	POHL Stephanie RAU Okka	GER
5th	CONNELLY Ana Paula PIRES Sandra	BRA

Right page:

USA's Kerri Walsh and Misty May celebrate defeating Adriana Behar and Shelda Bede of Brazil in the women's gold medal match. USA won 21-17, 21-11.
© Getty Images/J. Ferrey







Competition Sequence

The Olympic Volleyball competition was conducted over the full 16-day programme of the Olympic Games (14 to 29 August).

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Volleyball, like Basketball, is a sport, whose origin is known almost to the day. Oddly enough, both sports were invented at the same college and within a few years of one another William G. Morgan, a student of the YMCA at Holyoke, Massachusetts, invented Volleyball in 1895. The game was originally called "Mintonette". Volleyball quickly spread around the world and became popular. The International Volleyball Federation (Federation Internationale de Volleyball - FIVB) was founded in Paris in 1947, where the first regulations were also formulated. The sport continued to grow, and in 1964 made its Olympic Games debut in Tokyo, without it first been contested as a demonstration sport, with the Soviet Union winning the men's gold medal, and the Japanese women being crowned champions in front of their home crowd. Since then, Volleyball has continued to witness the rise and fall of great international teams with countries such diverse as Cuba, Brazil, the former Soviet Union, China, United States, Netherlands, Poland and Japan collecting gold medals. Today, Volleyball is one of the big five international sports, and the FIVB, with 218 affiliated member National Federations, is the largest International Sporting Federation in the world.

Description

Volleyball matches are played between two teams - each team consisting of six field players and six substitutes. The court is rectangular measuring 18x9m, while a net divides the court into two equal parts, two "team courts". Each team aims at having the ball pass over the net and touch the ground of the opposing team, whilst at the same time avoiding such plays by the opposing team. The team has three hits for

returning the ball. The ball is put in play with a service hit by the server over the net to the opponents. A match consists of three to five sets, as the winner is the first team to win three sets. The match is called by two referees, aided by the scorekeeper and the line judges (two to four depending on the level of the match).

Men's tournament with 12 teams	Total: 2
Women's tournament with 12 teams	

Competitors: 288		
Event	Players	NOC
Men	144	12
Women	144	12

The Peace and Friendship Stadium, which is situated on the coast of Faliro in the south of Athens very close to the port of Piraeus, has a distinct modern architectural style. The stadium enjoyed international prestige and an enviable reputation, having been used as a venue for important European and international sport championships, as well as professional and commercial fairs. Its renovation had been undertaken by the General Secretariat of Sports (GSS) and resulted in a 13.200 seated capacity stadium.

Games Highlights

Men's Tournament

Brazil was the Athens Olympic champion, after their amazing 3-1 win over Italy in the gold medal match at the Peace and Friendship Stadium.

Russia also stepped on to the podium, beating the United States in the bronze medal match.

Left page:

Erik Sullivan #5 of the United States spikes the ball against Russia during the men's indoor Volleyball bronze medal match. Russia won 3-0.
© Getty Images/A. Pretty

Brazil and Italy's game was a high-level spectacle. The world champions delivered on their excellent record against Italy and beat them in four sets, 3-1 (25-15, 24-26, 25-20, 25-22). Brazil is now the Olympic gold medallists, world champions, world league and world cup holders. Their supremacy was clearly underlined throughout the Athens Olympic Games tournament. Italy's credentials going into the 2004 Olympic Games were also strong. Bronze medallists in Sydney 2000, they were world champions in 1990, 1994 and 1998. Gilberto GODOY FILHO of Brazil was voted by the accredited Media as the Most Valuable Player of the Athens Olympic Volleyball Tournament. The 28-year-old dynamic wing spiker, better known as "Giba", finished the competition, as the third best scorer with 126 points, and fourth best spiker, as he was one of the leading figures in Brazil's gold-medal-winning performance. GODOY FILHO's teammate Sergio Dutra SANTOS (BRA) was voted by far the best libero at the Tournament. SANTOS had been the best digger in the competition averaging 187 successful digs per set and also the best receiver Italian Andrea SARTORETTI and Lloyd BALL of the United States followed GODOY FILHO. Russia won the bronze medal running past the United States in straight sets, 3-0 (25-22, 27-25, 25-16). This was Russia's second consecutive Olympic medal after winning the silver medal in Sydney.

KULESHOV, TETYUKHIN and BARANOV top scored for the winners with 16, 13 and 12 points respectively, while the USA led by Clayton STANLEY who was the only USA player in double figures with 13 points.

Women's Tournament

In the women's tournament, China celebrated the Athens Olympic Volleyball gold medal after defeating Russia. The two teams have won the last two Olympic silver medals. China achieved second place at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, while Russia were the runners-up at the Sydney Olympic Games. Russia had an exciting semi-final win over Brazil in a final set tiebreaker despite trailing at one stage by two sets to nil. Russia boasted the top two scorers of the competition, in Ekaterina GAMOVA and Liubov SHASHKOVA, and was also the best team in the scoring blockers. China was the best team in terms of statistics. Hao YANG was the fourth highest scorer of the tournament, while Ping ZHANG was top of the spiking efficiency rankings and Lina WANG was top of the scoring servers rankings. China's morale was also high, as in the semi-finals they were the team that put an end to Cuba's 12-year dominance of the Olympic tournaments. Cuba finished third, winning the bronze medal in the women's competition.

Right page:

Ping Zhang of China goes up against Liubov Shashkova of Russia in the women's indoor Volleyball gold medal match. China won 3-2.
© Getty Images/R. Laberge

Men		
	Team	NOC
Gold	Brazil	BRA
Silver	Italy	ITA
Bronze	Russian Federation	RUS
4th	United States of America	USA
5th	Greece	GRE
5th	Poland	POL
5th	Serbia & Montenegro	SCG
5th	Argentina	ARG

Women		
	Team	NOC
Gold	People's Republic of China	CHN
Silver	Russian Federation	RUS
Bronze	Cuba	CUB
4th	Brazil	BRA
5th	Italy	ITA
5th	Japan	JPN
5th	Korea	KOR
5th	United States of America	USA





Weightlifting



Competition Sequence

Olympic Weightlifting competition schedule was run through ten competition days, from 14 to 25 August, with rest days on 17 August and 22 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Weightlifting has been popular since ancient times, and is also regarded as one of the oldest Olympic sports. It was included at the first Modern Olympic Games, during which six competitors from five nations participated, including Greek competitors. A Greek participant, Sotiris Versis, came third in the 100kg two-hands event, which was finally won by a Dane, Viggo Jensen, who lifted 111,5kg. At the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, the sport celebrated its 21st appearance in the Olympic programme, whereas women's weightlifting was also introduced. The International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) was founded in 1905.

Description

Weightlifting has been described as the sport of the strong, since the winner is the competitor, who lifts the highest number of kilos. However, an athlete's strength almost always needs to be backed by proper technique and the guidance of a good coach to achieve the best results. Weightlifting consists of two movements executed in the following order: a) the snatch, where the athlete raises the bar over the head in a single movement with outstretched arms and b) the clean & jerk, which is divided in two parts. In the first, the athlete lifts the bar to shoulder level and momentarily holds the position. In the second, the athlete raises the bar over the head and keeps it there until the referees' signal to drop it. Only three attempts are allowed for each movement, and at least two of the three referees must be in agreement for the athlete to qualify. The Olympic Weightlifting tournament has a total of 15 categories, and there are both men's and women's events. Weightlifters competed in the following weight categories according to their body weight:

Men's Categories: 8	Total: 15
Women's Categories: 7	

Competitors		
Event	Weightlifters	NOC
Men		
56kg	18	15
62kg	20	18
69kg	19	18
77kg	25	22
85kg	21	19
94kg	27	20
105kg	23	19
+105kg	18	16
Women		
48kg	15	14
53kg	8	8
58kg	14	12
63kg	11	9
69kg	10	10
75kg	17	16
+75kg	13	12

Venue

During the ATHENS 2004 Games, Weightlifting was held in the Nikaia Olympic Weightlifting Hall. Since Weightlifting is very popular in Greece, the Hall, which had a total capacity of 3.500 seats, was one of the first projects that were planned and supported by the General Secretariat of Sports for the 2004 Olympic Games. The venue extended over 8.000sq.m. and had supplementary areas for warming up, resting, changing, training, hygiene-medical care and accommodation, as well as additional areas for security, media, spectator services and recreation.

Left page:

Pyrros Dimas of Greece receives the bronze medal for the men's 85kg category weightlifting event and a standing ovation by a capacity crowd. This was the fourth medal in as many Games for Dimas, who won consecutive gold medals in Barcelona (1992), Atlanta (1996), Sydney (2000).
© Getty Images/A. Bello

Games Highlights

Weightlifting at the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games had its moments of greatness, moments of despair and, not for the first time, moments of shame. Records tumbled, personal milestones were achieved, and China with five gold and three silver medals gave notice that it is poised to become a superpower in the sport. Altogether, 47 world and Olympic records were broken during the 10 days of competition, including an incredible 18 in one event—the women's 69kg. The moment of shame was when the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) issued a press release on 18 August announcing that five competitors had been suspended for failing drug tests carried out before the start of competition, whereas more bans were to follow once the competitions started. Speaking at a news conference, the IWF President, Dr Tamas AJAN of Hungary, vowed to continue his 30-year fight against drugs in sport, adding that his federation was a leader in doping control. An emotional Dr AJAN summed up his reaction to the suspensions by saying: "One of my eyes is smiling at the good competition, the presence of 261 athletes from 79 countries, the excellent facilities at the Nikaia Olympic Weightlifting Hall and the Olympic spirit here. The other eye is crying because of the drug taking".

Men's Events

Men's 56kg

Turkey's Halil MUTLU, whose name in Turkish means "happy", became only the fourth man in weightlifting history to win three consecutive gold medals, joining his idol Naim SULEYMANOGLU (TUR) and the two Greeks Pyrrros DIMAS and Akakios KAKIASVILIS. China's Meijin WU, who had the same entry total as the Turk (390kg), though MUTLU had a personal best over WU of 30kg, won the silver. The bronze was awarded to another Turkish athlete Sedat ARTUC, European Champion in Ukraine. The 35-year-old Romanian Adrian JIGAU was considered one of the most experienced athletes in this category and did not cause a surprise; he ended sixth.

Men's 62kg

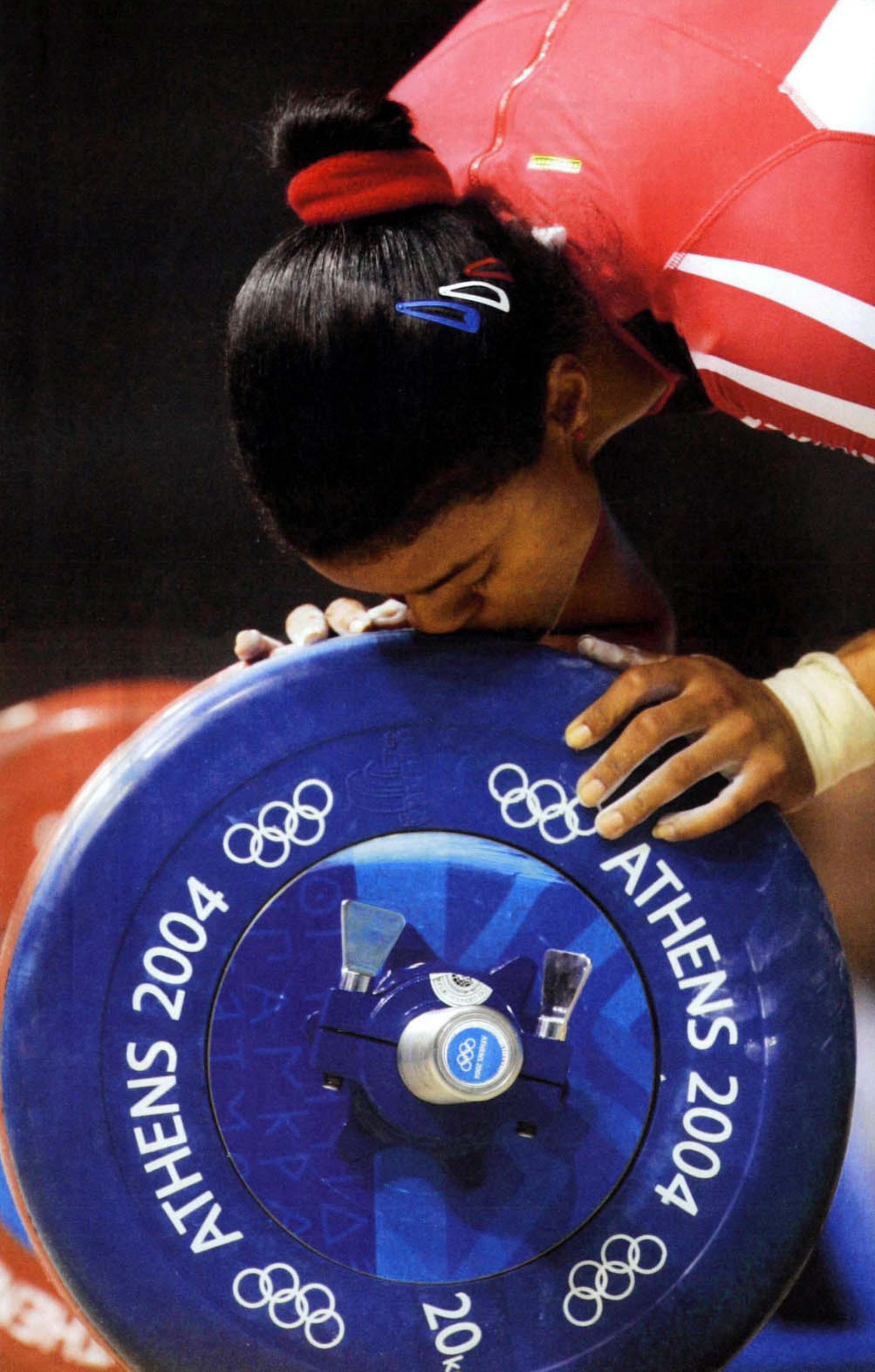
In the men's 62kg category, two Chinese athletes won the first and second place. Zhiyong SHI took the gold, whereas Maosheng LE, fourth in Sydney, the silver LE and SHI were the world record holders in snatch and in clean and jerk respectively. The bronze was awarded to Israel Jose RUBIO (VEN). The 33-year-old Leonidas SAMPANIS (GRE), who won the silver medal in Atlanta and again in Sydney, missed his opportunity to win a medal in the ATHENS 2004 Games.

Right page:

Dominican Republic's Wanda Rijo kisses the weight after her lift during the women's 75kg weightlifting category. Rijo placed tenth in the final rankings.
© REUTERS/A. Comas

Men's 56kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	MUTLU Halil	TUR	295.0
Silver	WU Meijin	CHN	287.5
Bronze	ARTUC Sedat	TUR	280.0
4th	DZERBIANIYOU Vitali	BLR	280.0
5th	FIGUEROA Oscar Albeiro	COL	280.0
6th	JIGAU Adrian Ioan	ROM	275.0
7th	TANCICS Laszlo	HUN	272.5
8th	SETIADI Jadi	INA	262.5

Men's 62kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	SHI Zhiyong	CHN	325.0
Silver	LE Maosheng	CHN	312.5
Bronze	RUBIO Israel Jose	VEN	295.0
4th	GHAZARYAN Armen	ARM	295.0
5th	JUNianto Gustar	INA	292.5
6th	NDICKA Samson	FRA	287.5
7th	BAZARBAYEV Umurbek	TKM	287.5
8th	SUNARTO Sunarto	INA	285.0



ATHENS 2004

ATHENS 2004

20*

Men's 69kg

In the men's 69kg, Guozheng ZHANG (CHN), first in the World Championships and holder of the world record in clean and jerk (197,5kg), won the gold medal. Korea's Bae Young LEE, who appeared to be a threat to ZHANG, as he had a very high entry total (345kg), took the silver Turan MIRZAYEV (AZE), the best weightlifter in his country and third in Vancouver came fourth. ZHANG, LEE and MIPZAYEF competed in the same category in Sydney, but were far from the medals. Nikolay PECHALOV from Croatia took the bronze. Siarhei LAURENAU (BLR), who was third in 2000, ended sixth in the ATHENS 2004 Games. Bulgaria's Galabin BOEVSKI and Georgi MARKOV, winners of the gold and silver medals in Sydney, were the major absentees as they served lengthy bans for violating anti-doping rules.

Men's 77kg

Turkey's Taner SAGIR broke two Olympic records to win the Men's 77kg class and his country's third gold medal of the competition. The 19-year-old set records in the snatch (172kg) and the total (375kg) to finish ahead of two world record holders, Sergey FILIMONOV (KAZ) and Russia's Oleg PEREPET CHENOV, who took the silver and bronze medals. SAGIR, the current European champion, also improved on his three junior world records. The shock of the event was the failure of double Olympic Champion Xugang ZHAN of China to finish after failing all three snatch attempts. Greece's Viktor MITROU, silver medallist in Sydney to ZHAN, finished fifth on bodyweight difference behind Turkey's Reyhan ARABACIOGLU.

Men's 69kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	ZHANG Guozheng	CHN	347.5
Silver	LEE Bae Young	KOR	342.5
Bronze	PECHALOV Nikolay	CRO	337.5
4th	MIRZAYEV Turan	AZE	332.5
5th	DABAYA TIENTCHEU Vencelas	CMR	327.5
6th	LAURENAU Siarhei	BLR	317.5
7th	ERNAULT Romuald	FRA	307.5
8th	PETER Yukio	NRU	302.5

Men's 85kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	ASANIDZE George	GEO	382.5
Silver	RYBAKOU Andrei	BLR	380.0
Bronze	DIMAS Pyrros	GRE	377.5
4th	MARKOULAS Georgios	GRE	372.5
5th	YUAN Aijun	CHN	372.5
6th	ANISHCHANKA Aliaksandr	BLR	370.0
7th	MARTI ROSYAN Tigran	ARM	367.5
8th	SONG Jong Shik	KOR	360.0

Men's 85kg

Greece's Pyrros DIMAS missed out on his fourth consecutive gold medal, but won bronze, and now has four medals from four Olympic Games, a feat achieved by only three other weightlifters - Norbert SCHEMANSKY (USA), Ronny WELLER (GER) and Nikolay PECHALOV of Croatia, who had joined the elite group only three days earlier, when he won bronze in the men's 69kg. In 2000, three athletes lifted the same weight (390kg), but the Greek won gold on bodyweight difference from Mark HUSTER (GER), now a television commentator, and George ASANIDZE (GEO). This time it was ASANIDZE who won the gold, lifting 382,5kg. The silver went to Andrei RYBAKOU from Belarus with 380kg. The 22-year-old Georgios MARKOULAS, seen as Greece's successor to DIMAS, as he has won silver in the Clean and Jerk in Kiev's European Championships, ended fourth. Though Aijun YUAN (CHN) was a strong contender, having won silver in the world championships in Vancouver last November; he managed to win the fifth place.

Men's 94kg

There was despair in the men's 94kg category, when Akakios KAKIASVILIS (GRE), defending his Olympic title and seeking his fourth consecutive gold medal, failed five of his six lifts and did not finish. At 35, he is unlikely to be seen again in top-level competition, despite an emotional post-event interview, in which he said he would continue competing, and might even be a candidate for Beijing. His main opponent, the 24-year-old Milen DOBREV (BUL), the current world and European champion won the gold, lifting 407,5kg. The 19-year-old Khadjimourad AKKAEV (RUS) rose to the occasion and won the silver. The bronze was awarded to Eduard TJUKIN, Russia's second competitor.

Men's 77kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	SAGIR Taner	TUR	375.0
Silver	FILIMONOV Sergey	KAZ	372.5
Bronze	PEREPETCHENOV Oleg	RUS	365.0
4th	ARABACIOGLU Reyhan	TUR	360.0
5th	MITROU Viktor	GRE	360.0
6th	BARKHAH Mohammad Hossein	IRI	357.5
7th	FERI Attila	HUN	355.0
8th	STOITSOV Ivan	BUL	355.0

Men's 94kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	DOBREV Milen	BUL	407.5
Silver	AKKAEV Khadjimourad	RUS	405.0
Bronze	TJUKIN Eduard	RUS	397.5
4th	NASIRINIA Shahin	IRI	392.5
5th	LUNA Julio	VEN	390.0
6th	YILMAZ Hakan	TUR	390.0
7th	AKHMETOV Bakhyt	KAZ	390.0
8th	MUSHYK Anatoliy	UKR	387.5

Men's 105kg

Russia's Dmitry BERESTOV, who was runner-up in this year's European Championship to Alan TSAGAEV (BUL) who did not compete in Athens, won the gold in the men's 105kg category. The Ukraine's 34-year-old Igor RAZORONOV, twice a world champion in the 1990s who finished fourth in Sydney, won the silver. The bronze was awarded to another Russian, Gleb PISAREVSKIY who was considered to be very strong in the clean and jerk. Alexandru BRATAN (MDA), who turned 27 on that day, and was placed third in Kiev's European Championships, behind TSAGAEV and BERESTOV, ended fourth.

Men's + 105kg

In the final event of the competition, Hossein REZA ZADEH (IRI) -the 160kg giant, recognised as the world's strongest man - set new world and Olympic records in the super heavyweight clean and jerk to give Iran its first gold medal of the tournament and his second consecutive gold. Latvia's Viktors SCERBATIHS gave a solid display and was placed second with 455kg, giving his country its first medal in Weightlifting at the Olympic tournament. The 22-year-old Velichko CHOLAKOV (BUL) won the bronze medal with 447,5kg while Ukrainian Gennadiy KRASILNIKOV was placed fourth with 440kg lifted while competing in Group B earlier in the day. German veteran Ronny WELLER, competing in a record fifth Olympic Games, retired with a shoulder injury after his second attempt in snatch. The injury robbed him of the chance of being the first weightlifter to win five consecutive Olympic medals. Armenia's hopes of an Olympic medal in weightlifting vanished when Ashot DANIELYAN failed to finish after missing his three snatch attempts at 200kg.

Men's 105kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	BERESTOV Dmitry	RUS	425.0
Silver	RAZORONOV Igor	UKR	420.0
Bronze	PISAREVSKIY Gleb	RUS	415.0
5th	BRATAN Alexandru	MDA	415.0
5th	VYSNIAUSKAS Ramunas	LTU	410.0
6th	NANIYEV Alan	AZE	410.0
7th	STEINER Matthias	AUT	405.0
8th	URINOV Alexander	UZB	400.0

Women's 48kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	TAYLAN Nurcan	TUR	210.0
Silver	LI Zhuo	CHN	205.0
Bronze	WIRATTHAWORN Aree	THA	200.0
4th	KUNJARANI Namecrakpam	IND	190.0
5th	DRAGNEVA Izabela	BUL	187.5
6th	CHEN Han Tung	TPE	182.5
7th	UDOH Blessed	NGR	180.0
8th	CHOE Un Sim	PRK	177.5

Women's Events

Women's 48kg

The 20-year-old Nurcan TAYLAN set a world and Olympic record in the women's flyweight 48kg, and became Turkey's first female Olympic gold medallist. The young Turkish star broke the world record three times - in the snatch with lifts of 95kg and 97,5kg and with a total of 210kg -to grab victory in a thrilling finish from China's Zhuo LI. LI was second lifting 205kg. She missed twice attempting 120kg in the clean and jerk which would have given her the gold medal and the world record. Thailand's Aree WIRATTHAWORN won the bronze medal with a total of 200kg, including a new Olympic record of 115kg in the clean and jerk. Sydney gold medallist Tara CUNNINGHAM (USA) finished well behind in 11th position with a total of 172,5kg. Izabela DRAGNEVA (BUL), who was disqualified in Sydney after finishing first, took fifth place on that night with a total of 187,5kg in what was reported to be her farewell to competitive Weightlifting.

Women's 53kg

Thailand's Udompom POLSAK became the first woman to win an Olympic gold medal for her country in the featherweight 53kg class, sparking off celebrations in the Thai capital Bangkok. Raema Lisa RUMBEWAS, a silver medallist in Sydney in the 48kg class, repeated her victory in the ATHENS 2004 competition, and became the first Indonesian athlete to win a medal in successive Olympic Games. The bronze was awarded to Mabel MOSQUERA (COL), who lifted 197,5kg. Romania's Marioara MUNTEANU, who won the silver in the 2004 European championships, and Nastassia NOVIKAVA (BLR), who won the third place and was also eighth in Sydney, ended fourth and fifth, respectively. Dika TOUA (PNG), who was 10th in Sydney in the 48kg class, and had the honour of being the first female competitor to lift weights in the Olympic Games, improved her position by winning the sixth place.

Men's +105kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	REZA ZADEH Hossein	IRI	472.5
Silver	SCERBATIHS Viktors	LAT	455.0
Bronze	CHOLAKOV Velichko	BUL	447.5
4th	KRASILNIKOV Gennadiy	UKR	440.0
5th	KOLOKOLTSEV Oleksiy	UKR	437.5
6th	NAJDEK Pawel	POL	430.0
7th	HAMMAN Shane	USA	430.0
8th	AN Yong Kwon	KOR	427.5

Women's 53kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	POLSAK Udompom	THA	222.5
Silver	RUMBEWAS Raema Lisa	INA	210.0
Bronze	MOSQUERA Mabel	COL	197.5
4th	MUNTEANU Marioara	ROM	190.0
5th	NOVIKAVA Nastassia	BLR	190.0
6th	TOUA Dika	PNG	177.5
7th	LACHAUME Virginie	FRA	175.0

Women's 58kg

A close contest was assured in the Women's 58kg class with nine of the 14 competitors having won one or more medals in World Championships. Yanqing CHEN, representing China, the dominant nation in women's weightlifting won the gold. Song Hui RI (PRK), silver medallist in Sydney in the 53kg class, who also has been a world champion three times, won the silver again and confirmed her reputation as the athlete who has never dropped below second place in a major competition. Wandee KAMEAIM (THA) won the bronze. Young Aleksandra KLEJNOWSKA (POL) holder of the European records in clean and jerk and in total, ended fifth, behind Aylin DASDELEN (TUR), one of the strongest European contesters. Alexandra ESCOBAR (ECU), the bestweightlifter in her country, ended seventh, whereas Indonesia's PATMAWATI, who has won three bronze medals in the Vancouver World Championships (2003), was ranked eighth.

Women's 63 kg

In women's 63kg, the gold was won by Nataliya SKAKUN (UKR), holder of the world record in clean and jerk and world champion last November in Vancouver, whereas Hanna BATSIUSHKA (BLR), another strong competitor and holder of the world record in snatch, rose to the occasion and took the silver. The bronze was awarded again to Belarus with Tatsiana STUKALAVA, who lifted 222,5 kg.

Women's 69kg

Chinese teenager Chunhong LIU rewrote the women's record books with a performance hailed as one of the greatest in the sport.

Women's 58kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	CHEN Yanqing	CHN	237.5
Silver	RI Song Hui	PRK	232.5
Bronze	KAMEAIM Wandee	THA	230.0
4th	DASDELEN Aylin	TUR	225.0
5th	KLEJNOWSKA Aleksandra	POL	220.0
6th	PAK Hyon Suk	PRK	217.5
7th	ESCOBAR Alexandra	ECU	215.0
8th	PATMAWATI Patmawati	INA	212.5

Women's 69kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	LIU Chunhong	CHN	275.0
Silver	KRUTZLER Eszter	HUN	262.5
Bronze	KASAEVA Zarema	RUS	262.5
4th	RUZHINSKA Slaveyka	BUL	250.0
5th	MASLOVSKA Vanda	UKR	245.0
6th	TRENDAFILOVA Milena	BUL	237.5
7th	YAMECHI Madeleine	CMR	235.0
8th	VALOYES Ubaldina	COL	232.5

She broke records with each of her five lifts and ended the event holding all six World and Olympic records in the light heavyweight 69kg class for snatch, clean and jerk, and total. As she is only 19, she also holds all three junior World records. Eszter KRUTZLER (HUN) and Zarema KASAEVA (RUS) were awarded with the silver and bronze, respectively. A total of 18 records were broken in the event.

Women's 75kg

POLSAK's teammate, Pawina THONGSUK followed with victory in the middle heavyweight 75kg class to give the Thai women double gold. The second and third place went to Russia with Natalia ZABOLOTNAIA, a contestant who performs regularly in international competition winning the silver and Valentina POPOVA winning the bronze. Gyongyi LIKERECH (HUN), who participated in Sydney as a 17-year-old and was placed fifth, and a year later won the world championships in the Turkish city of Antalya, ended fourth. Young Greek star Christina IOANNIDI made her debut in Olympic Games competition, ending fifth, though she had already won medals in European and World Championships.

Women's +75kg

China's Gonghong TANG, holder of world records for total (302,5kg) and clean and jerk (175kg), took the gold with 305kg, and beat South Korea's Mi Ran JANG (302,5). The bronze was awarded to the 23-year-old Sydney silver medallist, Agata WROBEL (POL). However; the other Sydney medallist, 19-year-old Cheryl HAWORTH (USA) ended sixth. The host nation's athlete Vasiliki KASAPI ended eighth.

Women's 63kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	SKAKUN Nataliya	UKR	242.5
Silver	BATSIUSHKA Hanna	BLR	242.5
Bronze	STUKALAVA Tatsiana	BLR	222.5
4th	SASSI Hayet	TUN	215.0
5th	KIM Soo Kyung	KOR	215.0
6th	NGUYEN Thi Thiet	VIE	205.0
7th	LASSOUANI Leila Francoise	ALG	200.0
	TSAKIRI Anastasia	GRE	DNF

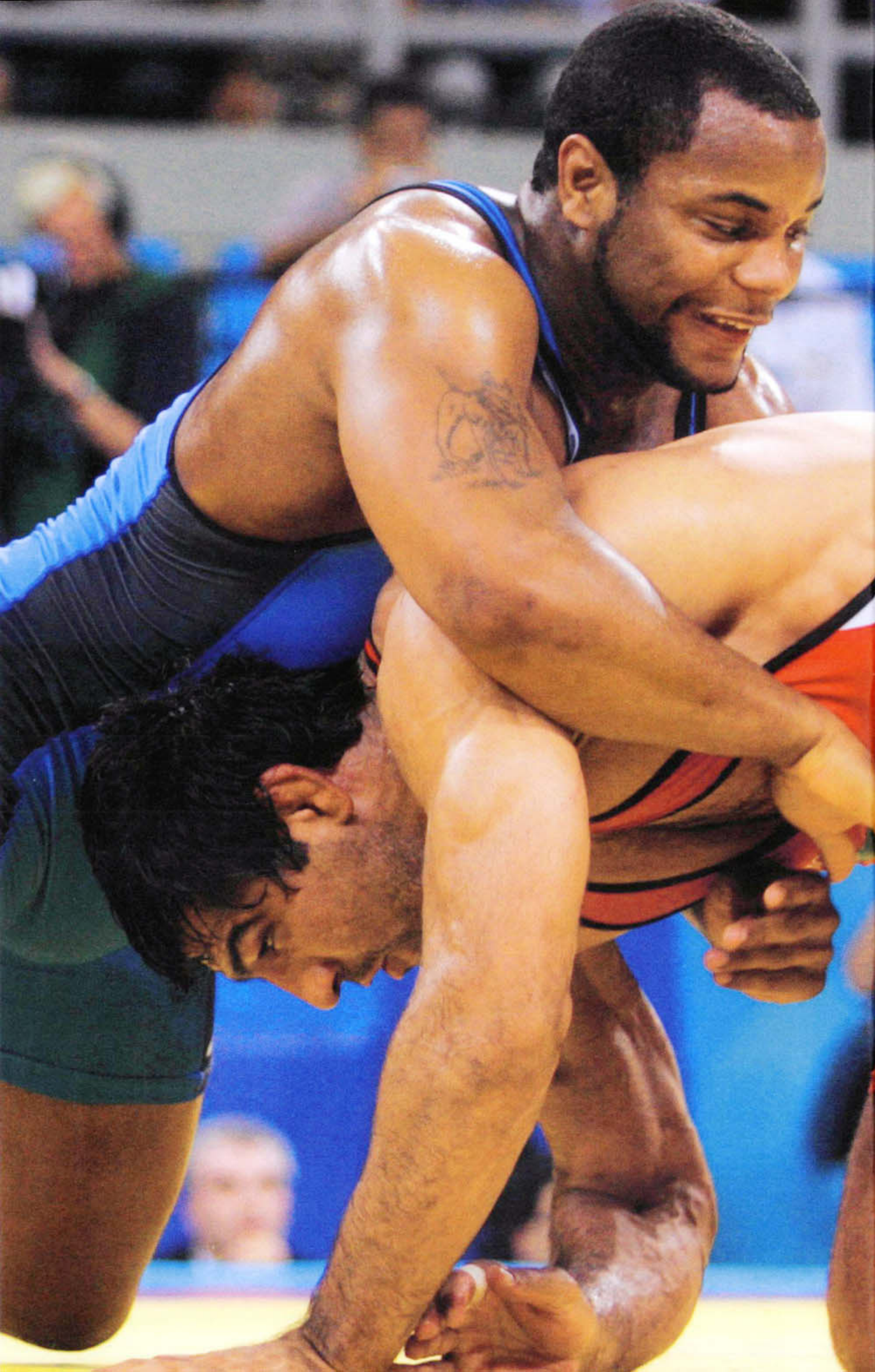
Women's 75kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	THONGSUK Pawina	THA	272.5
Silver	ZABOLOTNAIA Natalia	RUS	272.5
Bronze	POPOVA Valentina	RUS	265.0
4th	LIKERECH Gyongyi	HUN	257.5
5th	IOANNIDI Christina	GRE	255.0
6th	KHROMOVA Tatyana	KAZ	252.5
7th	KIM Soon Hee	KOR	250.0
8th	MEDINA Tulia Angela	COL	245.0



This page:

Viktors Scerbatihs of Latvia lifts during the men's +105 kg weightlifting event. He lifted a total of 455kg to win silver.
© REUTERS/R. Krause

Women's +75kg			
	Name	NOC	Score
Gold	TANG Gonghong	CHN	305.0
Silver	JANG Mi Ran	KOR	302.5
Bronze	WROBEL Agata	POL	290.0
4th	VARGA Viktoria	HUN	282.5
5th	SHAIMARDANOVA Victorij	UKR	280.0
6th	HAWORTH Cheryl	USA	280.0
7th	KOROBKA Olha	UKR	280.0
8th	KASAPI Vasiliki	GRE	277.5





Competition Sequence

Olympic Wrestling competition programme was completed within eight days, from 22 to 29 August.

Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Wrestling was contested in the Olympic Games of 776 BC, and was on the programme of the first modern Olympic Games in Athens, in 1896. Wrestling has since been part of every Olympic Games, except in Paris in 1900. Both Wrestling styles have been held since 1920. Prior to that only one form was used, except in 1908. Three wrestlers have won gold medals in both styles: K. Anttila (FIN), I. Johansson (SWE), K. Palusalu (EST). Only four wrestlers have managed to win three gold medals at the Olympics: I. Johansson (SWE), C. Westergren (SWE), A. Medved (SOV), A. Karelin (RUS). Medved is the only one with three gold medals in Freestyle, whereas Karelin is the only one to have won three gold medals in the same body weight category, Super Heavyweight.

Description

Olympic Wrestling competition has two styles: Greco-Roman and Freestyle. The main difference between them is that Greco-Roman strictly forbids the competitor grasping the opponent below the belt line, to trip the opponent, or to use legs actively to perform any action, whereas with Freestyle all the above are permitted. Matches in both styles consist of two three-minute period with a 30 second rest between periods. Each match must have a winner. Victory is by fall or by minimum of three technical points. The wrestler who has been allocated the most points is declared winner. The match is managed by the referee, who uses his whistle to signal the start and end of a match, and allocates points for the holds of the wrestlers.

In the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, athletes competed in the following weight categories:

Men's Greco-Roman: 7	Total: 18
Women's Freestyle: 4	
Men's Freestyle: 7	

Competitors: 344		
Men's		
Event	Wrestlers	NOC
Freestyle 55kg	22	22
Freestyle 60kg	21	21
Freestyle 66kg	21	21
Freestyle 74kg	21	21
Freestyle 84kg	22	22
Freestyle 96kg	21	21
Freestyle 120kg	20	20
Greco-Roman 55kg	22	22
Greco-Roman 60kg	22	22
Greco-Roman 66kg	20	20
Greco-Roman 74kg	20	20
Greco-Roman 84kg	20	20
Greco-Roman 96kg	22	22
Greco-Roman 120kg	22	22
Women's		
Freestyle 48kg	14	14
Freestyle 55kg	12	12
Freestyle 63kg	12	12
Freestyle 72kg	12	12

Venue

During the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games, Wrestling competitions were staged -along with the Judo tournament- at Ano Liossia Olympic Hall, in the northwest region of Athens, where 9,000 Wrestling and Judo fans had the opportunity to attend their favourite sport.

Left page:

Iran's bronze medal winner Alireza Heidari grapples with Daniel Cormier of the U.S. in the men's freestyle 96kg wrestling competition.
© REUTERS/E. Aponte

Games Highlights

Russia left Athens as the dominant Olympic Wrestling nation, after winning five of the 18 gold medals on offer. Apart from winning most medals (a total of 10), Russia was the only nation to leave Athens with a new double Olympic champion in Wrestling. Buvaysa SAYTIEV (RUS), who had been gold medallist in Atlanta, regained his title, while not one of the Sydney 2000 champions was able to defend their Olympic gold. For the first time, Olympic Wrestling medals were contested in three disciplines - Men's Greco-Roman, Men's Freestyle and Women's Freestyle. Men's Greco-Roman debuted as part of the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896, Men's Freestyle Wrestling entered the programme eight years later; now, 100 years on, Women's Freestyle Wrestling has made it into the Olympic programme. In four weight categories (as opposed to seven in World Championships) 50 women wrestled for the first medals and gave a great boost to the sport. Japan took two gold medals, China and Ukraine one each. Results in the early stages of the Women's categories hinted that the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games might not be a smooth run for the most successful wrestling force historically. The USA team had to hold its collective breath, until the second-to-last day of the tournament, when it finally won its first gold medal. After having lost three gold medal matches (one in Women's Freestyle, two in Men's Freestyle), Cael SANDERSON in the Men's Freestyle category -84kg, finally made the top of the podium. A score of one gold, three silver and two bronze medals does not sound bad, but with a record of 106 Olympic Wrestling medals (48-40-28) before Athens, the number one wrestling nation set out for more. On the other hand, one of the happier NOCs was Egypt. With only three competitors taking part in the wrestling tournament, they won one gold medal by Karam IBRAHIM, their first Olympic top spot since 1928, when Ibrahim MOUSTAFA had won the category -90kg. First Olympic medals ever were won by Uzbekistan, which ended the tournament with two golds and a silver, from only seven competitors. The ATHENS 2004 Olympic tournament was the last major competition being held using the time-consuming pool competition system. The next World Championships will be held with a direct elimination system with a repechage.

Men's Events

Men's Freestyle 55kg

Before SANDERSON'S success, Stephen ABAS was comprehensively beaten 9-1 by Mavlet BATIROV (RUS) in the 55kg gold medal match. In the bronze medal match, Chikara TANABE (JPN) beat Greece's Amiran KARNTANOV, the bronze medallist in Sydney.

Men's Freestyle 60kg

Cuba's Yandro Miguel QUINTANA, the runner up in the 2003 World Championships (60kg), made his way to the top of the podium, claiming a gold medal with a powerful display against Masuod JOKAR (IRI). QUINTANA dominated the match to win 4-0 and claim gold in his first Olympic Games. The bronze medal in the 60kg category went to Kenji INOUE (JPN), who won 6-5 in extension time over Vasyi FEDORYSHYN (UKR).

Men's Freestyle 66kg

Jamill KELLY was also soundly beaten, trailing 5-0 to Elbrus TEDEYEV (UKR) in the -66kg gold medal match, before scoring a consolation point near the end. Makhach MURTAZALIEV (RUS) went for the bronze after beating Leonid SPIRIDONOV (KAZ), with two points in a nine-minute match.

Men's Freestyle 74kg

In the 74kg category, Buvaysa SAYTIEV (RUS) achieved the unusual distinction of winning back a title he won eight years earlier; after he claimed the gold medal at these Games to add to the gold he won at Atlanta in 1996. In Men's Freestyle Wrestling, only Bruce BAUMGARTNER (USA), who was Olympic champion (120kg) at Los Angeles in 1984 and then again at Barcelona in 1992 and Sergej BELOGLASOV (URS), who was Olympic champion (60kg) at Moscow in 1980 and then again at Seoul in 1988, have done the same. SAYTIEV, also a five-time world champion (74kg) 1995, 2003, (76kg) 1997, 1998, 2001, scored a dominant 7-0 win over Gennadiy LALIYEV (KAZ) in the final match, although LALIYEV's silver will be more than welcome, given his just missing the medals in fourth place at Sydney in 2000. Another wrestler from Cuba claimed the bronze medal in the 74kg class. Having been behind 1-0 after the regular time of the bout, Ivan FUNDORA really enjoyed the extension time, and scored three consecutive points, which gave him the win over Krystian BRZOZOWSKI (POL).

Right page:

Eui Jae Moon of Korea is defeated by American Cael Sanderson in the men's Freestyle wrestling 84kg gold medal match.
© Getty Images/S. Franklin

Men's Freestyle 55kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	BATIROV Mavtet	RUS
Silver	ABAS Stephen	USA
Bronze	TANABE Chikara	JPN
4th	KARNTANOV Amiran	GRE
5th	LI Zhengyu	CHN
6th	KIM Hyo Sub	KOR
7th	ZAKHARUK Oleksandr	UKR
8th	O Song Nam	PRK

Men's Freestyle 60kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	QUINTANA Yandro Miguel	CUB
Silver	JOKAR Masuod	IRI
Bronze	INOUE Kenji	JPN
4th	FEDORYSHYN Vasyi	UKR
5th	POGOSIAN David	GEO
6th	SISSAOURI Guivi	CAN
7th	JUNG Young Ho	KOR
8th	CIKEL Lubos	AUT





Men's Freestyle 66kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	TEDEYEV Elbrus	UKR
Silver	KELLY Jamill	USA
Bronze	MURTAZALIEV Makhach	RUS
4th	SPIRIDONOV Leonid	KAZ
5th	IKEMATSU Kazuhiko	JPN
6th	TASKOUDIS Apostolos	GRE
7th	CUBUKCI Omer	TUR
8th	BARZAKOV Serafim	BUL

Men's Freestyle 74kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	SAYTIEV Buvaysa	RUS
Silver	LALIYEV Gennadiy	KAZ
Bronze	FUNDORA Ivan	CUB
4th	BRZOZOWSKI Krystian	POL
5th	WILLIAMS Joe	USA
6th	IGALI Daniel	CAN
7th	RINELLA Salvatore	ITA
8th	GEVORGYAN Arayik	ARM

Men's Freestyle 84kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	SANDERSON Cael	USA
Silver	MOON Eui Jae	KOR
Bronze	SAZHIDOV Sazhid	RUS
4th	ROMERO Yoel	CUB
5th	KHODAEI Majid	IRI
6th	LOIZIDIS Lazaros	GRE
7th	DANKO Taras	UKR
8th	ALIEV Shamil	TJK

Men's Freestyle 96kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	GATSALOV Khadjimourat	RUS
Silver	IBRAGIMOV Magomed	UZB
Bronze	HEIDARI Alireza	IRI
4th	CORMIER Daniel	USA
5th	AGHAYEV Rustam	AZE
6th	WANG Yuanyuan	CHN
7th	SHEMAROV Aleksandr	BLR
8th	KURTANIDZE Eldar	GEO

Men's Freestyle 120kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	TAYMAZOV Artur	UZB
Silver	REZAEI Alireza	IRI
Bronze	POLATCI Aydin	TUR
4th	MUTALIMOV Marid	KAZ
5th	RODRIGUEZ Alexis	CUB
6th	KURAMAGOMEDOV Kuramagomed	RUS
7th	McCOY Kerry	USA
8th	BOYADZHIEV Bozhidar	BUL

Men's Greco-Roman 55kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MAJOROS Istvan	HUN
Silver	MAMEDALIEV Gueidar	RUS
Bronze	KIOUREGKIAN Artiom	GRE
4th	VAKULENKO Oleksiy	UKR
5th	RIVAS Lazaro	CUB
6th	CHOCHUA Irakli	GEO
7th	IM Dae Won	KOR
8th	NYBLOM Haakan	DEN

This page:

Japan's Kenji Inoue grapples with Austria's Lubos Cikel in their men's freestyle wrestling 60kg match. Inoue went on to win the bronze, while Cikel ranked eighth. © REUTERS/I. Kato



This page:

Ji Hyun Jung of Korea wrestles Roberto Monzon of Cuba in the men's Greco-Roman wrestling 60kg gold medal match. Jung defeated Monzon 3-0 to win the gold medal.
© Getty Images/D. Pensinger

Men's Freestyle 84kg

After Stephen ABAS (-55kg) and Jamill KELLY (-66kg) lost their gold medal matches, Cael SANDERSON (-84kg) came from behind to take the Olympic title, against his Korean opponent, Eui Jae MOON. The win added to the USA's standing as the most successful nation in Olympic Men's Freestyle Wrestling, with 45 gold medals to date and a record of never failing to win at least one gold at each Olympic Games. In a far tighter encounter, SANDERSON fell 1-0 behind early to MOON. There the score stayed, until SANDERSON scored two late points to win the bout. MOON was left with another silver medal to go with the ones he earned in Sydney in 2000 (in -76kg), the 2001 and 1998 World Championships (-76kg) and the 2004 Asian Championships (-84kg). Sazhid SAZHIDOV, on the other hand, denied Sydney's silver medallist Yoel ROMERO (CUB) a place on the podium.

Men's Freestyle 96kg

Russia's Khadjimourat GATSALOV proved to be the stronger of the two 21-year-olds in the final, overcoming Magomed IBRAGIMOV

(UZB) 4-1. Finally, there was a happy end to the day for Iran's Alireza HEIDARI, who claimed the bronze medal.

Men's Freestyle 120kg

In the 120kg gold medal, the match was won by Artur TAYMAZOV (UZB), when he pinned Alireza REZAEI (IRI) to the ground. TAYMAZOV was silver medallist in Sydney, and is now reigning Olympic and world champion. The heavyweight bronze medal saw Aydin POLATCI (TUR) defeat Marid MUTALIMOV (KAZ).

Men's Greco-Roman 55kg

In the Men's Greco-Roman 55kg class, Gueidar MAMEDALIEV (RUS), world champion in 2002, failed to win the gold, over Hungarian Istvan MAJOROS. The bronze was awarded to the host nation's athlete Artiom KIOUREGKIAN. The Silver medallist at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, Lazaro RIVAS (CUB) failed to be a medal contender again, and ended in the fifth place. The runner up of last year's World Championships, Dae Won IM (KOR) was ranked seventh.

Men's Greco-Roman 60kg

After Ji Hyun JUNG (KOR) beat Armen NAZARIAN (BUL), the double world and double Olympic Champion, to reach the final in the -60kg category, he let nothing get in the way of winning the gold medal. The 21-year-old Korean defeated Roberto MONZON (CUB) 3-0 to take the gold. NAZARIAN, who failed in his attempt to win a third consecutive gold medal, took the bronze medal by a narrow 4-3 over Alexey SHEVTSOV (RUS).

Men's Greco-Roman 66kg

Farid MANSUROV (AZE) enjoyed his victory for the gold, over Seref EROGLU from Turkey. The bronze medal was awarded to Mkkhitar MANUKYAN (KAZ).

Men's Greco-Roman 74kg

Alexandr DOKTURISHVILI (UZB) took gold in the -74kg category over Marko YLI-HANNUKSELA (FIN). "He was just better" said YLI-HANNUKSELA. DOKTURISHVILI won 4-1. In the bronze medal match, Varteres SAMOURGACHEV (RUS), the Sydney Olympic champion, took just 1:07 minutes to beat Reto BUCHER of Switzerland 10-0.

Men's Greco-Roman 84kg

Elsewhere, the gold medal match in the 84kg Greco-Roman category was an extraordinarily close affair. After nine minutes (six minutes regular time plus three minutes extension) Alexei MICHINE (RUS) and Ara ABRAHAMIAN (SWE) were deadlocked 1-1. Hundreds of spectators held their breath waiting for Referee Fredi Gunther Willi ALBRECHT to step in, and announce the new

Olympic Champion. In the end, MICHINE was awarded the gold. Former Olympic Champion Hamza YERLIKAYA (TUR) had to settle for the fourth place, losing his bronze medal match to Viachaslau MAKARANKA (BLR). The match was also close, going into extension at 1:1 with MAKARANKA ended up winning 2:1.

Men's Greco-Roman 96kg

In the 96kg category Karam IBRAHIM (EGY) defeated Ramaz NOZADZE (GEO) 12-1 to earn Egypt's first wrestling gold medal since 1928. The bronze medal went to Mehmet OZAL (TUR), who prevailed 3-2 over Masoud HASHEMZADEH (IRI).

Men's Greco-Roman 120kg

The title of the Olympic Champion in the Men's Greco-Roman 120kg category went back to Russia, after 21-year-old Khasan BAROEV's (RUS) 4-2 victory, over Georgiy TSURTSUMIA (KAZ). It would appear the 120kg category has found its new star, as BAROEV is now reigning world champion, as well as Olympic Champion. Meanwhile, with two yellow cards in his favour and one additional point in extension time, Rulon GARDNER (USA) won the bronze medal. In an emotional moment, GARDNER returned to the mat, following his victory over Sajad BARZI (IRI), sat down in the centre point, took off his wrestling shoes, waved the American flag, bowed and declared his retirement. GARDNER, who became an overnight hero by beating legendary Aleksandre KARELIN (RUS) in the final in the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, said goodbye to his Wrestling career.

Men's Greco-Roman 60kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	JUNG Ji Hyun	KOR
Silver	MONZON Roberto	CUB
Bronze	NAZARIAN Armen	BUL
4th	SHEVTSOV Alexey	RUS
5th	SASAMOTO Makoto	JPN
6th	KOIZHAIGANOV Nurlan	JAZ
7th	DIACONU Eusebiu Iancu	ROM
8th	TUFENK Seref	TUR

Men's Greco-Roman 66kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MANSUROV Farid	AZE
Silver	EROGLU Seref	TUR
Bronze	MANUKYAN Mkkhitar	KAZ
4th	SAMUELSSON Jimmy	SWE
5th	VARDANYAN Armen	UKR
6th	ARKOUDEAS Konstantinos	GRE
7th	ZAMANDURIDIS Jannis	GER
8th	GALUSTYAN Vaghinak	ARM

Men's Greco-Roman 74kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	DOKTURISHVILI Alexandr	UZB
Silver	YLI-HANNUKSELA Marko	FIN
Bronze	SAMOURGACHEV Varteres	RUS
4th	BUCHER Reto	SUI
5th	KHALIMOV Danil	KAZ
6th	AZCUY Filiberto	CUB
7th	SCHNEIDER Konstantin	GER
8th	BERZICZA Tamas	HUN

Men's Greco-Roman 84kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MICHINE Alexei	RUS
Silver	ABRAHAMIAN Ara	SWE
Bronze	MAKARANKA Viachaslau	BLR
4th	YERLIKAYA Hamza	TUR
5th	AVRAMIS Dimitrios	GRE
6th	DARAGAN Oleksandr	UKR
7th	MATSUMOTO Shingo	JPN
8th	GEGHAMYAN Levon	ARM

Men's Greco-Roman 96kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	IBRAHIM Karam	EGY
Silver	NOZADZE Ramaz	GEO
Bronze	OZAL Mehmet	TUR
4th	PENA Ernesto	CUB
5th	CHHAIDZE Genadi	KGZ
6th	KOGUASHVILI Gogi	RUS
7th	KOUTSIOMPAS Georgios	GRE
8th	DINCHEV Kaloyan	BUL

Men's Greco-Roman 120kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	BAROEV Khasan	RUS
Silver	TSURTSUMIA Georgiy	KAZ
Bronze	GARDNER Rulon	USA
4th	BARZI Sajad	IRI
5th	LOPEZ Mijail	CUB
6th	SZCZEPANIAK Yannick	FRA
7th	KOUTSIOMPAS Xenofon	GRE
8th	MOREYKO Serguey	BUL

Women's Events

Women's Freestyle 48kg

In the Women's Freestyle 48kg category Japan's reigning (52kg) world champion Chiharu ICHO lost the gold, after she was defeated by Ukraine's reigning (48kg) world champion, Irini MERLENI (UKR), also known as Irina MELKIN. In the bronze medal match, the Frenchwoman Angelique BERTHENET could not catch up with Patricia MIRANDA (USA), and lost the medal. In the fight for rank five, the former world champion Brigitte WAGNER (GER) lost from Lorisa OORZHAK (RUS), and ended sixth.

Women's Freestyle 55kg

The two times world champion (2002 and 2003), Saori YOSHIDA (JPN) won the gold over Tonya VERBEEK (CAN). Anna GOMIS (FRA), who eased through to the last four without any problems, won the bronze, after defeating Ida-Theres KARLSSON (SWE). A rookie on the international stage, Tela O'DONNELL (USA) ranked sixth, whereas surprisingly Diletta GIAMPICCOLO (ITA), silver medallist in the World Championships in 2001, was out of the competition, final rank 11.

Women's Freestyle 63kg

The final of the 63kg category was a replay of last year's World Championship final. Kaori ICHO from Japan took the gold, after defeating Sara McMANN. Both had won their semi-final matches, without any points against them. Sara McMANN had pinned Stavroula ZYGOURI (GRE), after only 50 seconds, whereas Kaori ICHO had won 4:0 over Use LEGRAND (FRA). The bronze medal fight, between the experienced Use LEGRAND and the surprise semi-finalist, Stavroula ZYGOURI (GRE), saw LEGRAND winning the third place. Canadian Viola YANIK won the fifth place over Volha KHILKO (BLR).

Women's Freestyle 72kg

Xu WANG (CHN) met and defeated Gouzel MANIOUROVA (RUS) in the gold medal match. Kyoko HAMAGUCHI, who had been the world champion of the previous two years, won the third place and took the bronze, after defeating Svitlana SAYENKO (UKR).

Women's Freestyle 48kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	MERLENI Irini	UKR
Silver	ICHO Chiharu	JPN
Bronze	MIRANDA Patricia	USA
4th	BERTHENET Angelique	FRA
5th	OORZHAK Lorisa	RUS
6th	WAGNER Brigitte	GER
7th	KARAMCHAKOVA Lidiya	TJK
8th	TSOGTBAZAR Enkhjargal	MGL

Women's Freestyle 55kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	YOSHIDA Saori	JPN
Silver	VERBEEK Tonya	CAN
Bronze	GOMIS Anna	FRA
4th	KARLSSON Ida-Theres	SWE
5th	SUN Dongmei	CHN
6th	ODONNELL Tela	USA
7th	LEE Na Lae	KOR
8th	LAZAREVATetyana	UKR

Women's Freestyle 63kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	ICHO Kaori	JPN
Silver	McMANN Sara	USA
Bronze	LEGRAND Lise	FRA
4th	ZYGOURI Stavroula	GRE
5th	YANIK Viola	CAN
6th	KHILKO Volha	BLR
7th	GROSS Stephanie	GER
8th	KARTASHOVA Alena	RUS

Women's Freestyle 72kg		
	Name	NOC
Gold	WANG Xu	CHN
Silver	MANIOUROVA Gouzel	RUS
Bronze	HAMAGUCHI Kyoko	JPN
4th	SAYENKO Svitlana	UKR
5th	NORDHAGEN Christine	CAN
6th	SCHAETZLE Anita	GER
7th	MONTGOMERY Toccara	USA
8th	VRYONI Maria Louiza	GRE



Doping Control

ATHOC Doping Control Services organised and implemented the most intensive and efficient Doping Control programme to date in Olympic Games. A total of 3,527 tests were carried out, a notable increase of 25% compared to urine tests in the Sydney Games. 2,863 urine samples were collected, 671 blood samples and 58 samples of expired air.

In order to upgrade the level of provided services, the Doping Control Services adapted their procedures per the ISO 9001/2000 quality control system standards. It is worth noting that during the Games, six new analytical methodologies were applied, and the athletes' samples remained available for research purposes, provided the athletes had consented in writing to this use.

Organisation

Given the particular scientific nature of Doping Control and the fact that it is not directly related to the field of general medical practice, in December 2002, Doping Control Services were separated, administratively and structurally, from Medical Services. They reported directly to the Chief Operating Officer, a strategic choice that stemmed from the high level of confidentiality required by the information and from the high risk in Doping Control issues management.

In June 2003, the second phase of staffing the Doping Control Services was completed, which period coincides with the completion of the volunteer recruitment phase, from related University schools in Athens and the Olympic Cities. The following positions were deemed volunteer positions: Doping Control Medical Officer, Phlebotomist, Doping Control Technical Officer, Escort Coordinator, Escort

(Chaperone), Administrative Staff, Laboratory Support Personnel.

Volunteer response exceeded 1,200 applications, the evaluation of which began in June 2003, with the selection of the first group of volunteers that staffed the Doping Control Services during the test events, and was completed a year later. In the same period, several four-days-training seminars per forty participants each were organised, which were completed with two open workshops on 28 and 29 July 2004.

The last staffing phase of Doping Control Services was completed in July-August 2004, with the hiring of the Olympic and Paralympic Games staff: Venue Doping Control Managers, Head Doping Control Medical Officers, Blood Testing Coordinator; Laboratory Experts.

A total of 744 people of various specialities were involved, of whom 501 were volunteers, mostly chemists and medical doctors / health sciences professionals (15-20%, respectively), as well as pharmacists, biologists, physical education professionals, etc.

Doping Control Laboratory

The organisational and administrative relationship of each Organising Committee with the Doping Control Laboratory responsible for carrying out analysis is a distinctive variable in each Games. In Athens, the Organising Committee handled the staffing of the Laboratory with the necessary scientific staff, but did not retain administrative control of the staff during the Games, since traditionally the Laboratory Director reports directly to the Chairman of the IOC Medical Commission.

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

The Doping Control Laboratory of Athens during the final days before the start of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games.
© Getty Images/I. Waldie

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Chairman Richard W. Pound speaks during a press conference in Athens.
© REUTERS/D. Sagolj

Laboratory technicians work at the Doping Control Laboratory of Athens before the start of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic Games.
© Getty Images/I. Waldie

Thirty percent of the Doping Control Services' budgeted expenditures covered the OAKA Doping Control Laboratory's Games-time needs for procurement of necessary equipment and consumables, as well as staffing. The Laboratory was contracted by the Organising Committee in June 2001 through a Memorandum of Understanding between the General Secretariat of Sport (GSS) and ATHOC, as the WADA Accredited Doping Control Laboratory that would carry out the analysis of the Doping Control samples for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Within the framework of the IOC's decision to apply six new analytical methodologies in the Olympic Games of Athens, it was agreed that the IOC would cover the cost of implementing this decision.

Equipment

The equipment used for Doping Control is distinguished into the equipment for sample collection and the Doping Control Stations, and the analytical equipment installed in the OAKA Doping Control Laboratory for the analysis of the samples for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The technological equipment used in analysis during the Olympic Games came from three sources:

1. The permanent equipment of the OAKA Doping Control Laboratory, belonging to the GSS.
2. The temporary laboratory and supporting equipment supplied by the Organising Committee to the Laboratory.
3. The equipment supplied to the Laboratory by the IOC through the Organising Committee.

Cooperation with WADA

The World Anti-Doping Agency was founded in November 1999, on an IOC initiative, in order to promote and coordinate at an international level the fight against doping in all its forms, according to the principles of the Olympic Charter, as well as to manage and disseminate information, scientific and other, related to the field.

The WADA Anti-Doping Code, and the International Standards that accompany it, is since March 2003, the legal and procedural document that describes the rules governing Doping Control in general, and was first applied in the Olympic Games of Athens, replacing the Anti-Doping Code of the Olympic Movement. The IOC Anti-Doping Rules applicable for the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens were issued in June 2004 and were an illustrative document of the Code and Standards for the specific event having legal validity for the Games, serving as "the Bible" of Doping Control in the Athens Olympic Games. The traditional publication of a Doping Control Guide by the Organising Committee, not legally binding up to and including the Salt Lake Olympic Winter Games, was instituted for the first time as the technical document for the entirety of the Doping Control procedures, from the

distribution of tests and the issuing of TUE (Therapeutic Use Exemption) to reporting and results management and the imposing of sanctions.

The Doping Control programme for the Athens Paralympic Games was created parallel to that of the Olympic Games, for the first time under the same Organising Committee, using the same structure and development lines. The IPC Anti-Doping Rules took their place as a reference document, while an effort was made to introduce the innovations also into the Paralympic Games in tandem, despite the IPCs inability to finance them.

The presence of the WADA Team of Independent Observers, instituted in the Sydney Olympic and Paralympic Games, continued in Athens, with the presence of suitably accredited 9-member and 5-member teams, respectively. The role of the Independent Observers is to observe constantly with physical presence the Doping Control procedures, beginning with the selection of Athletes to be tested, up to the reporting of results, and the drafting of a report thereupon with observations, comments and non-compliances of the procedures with the International Standards and the relevant quality control standards, as well as suggestions for changes and amendments to the articles of the International Standards that suffer in their practical application.

Doping Control in the Olympic and Paralympic Games of Athens was carried out within the framework of the foregoing, with ATHOC Doping Control Services undertaking an institutional role in Doping Control extending beyond the narrow limits of the Games, as per the contract signed between WADA and ATHOC. The IOC and the IPC were entirely responsible for the management of the results reported by the Laboratory and for the imposition of sanctions, while the management of analytical findings and the final results reporting remained the responsibility of the Doping Control Laboratory.

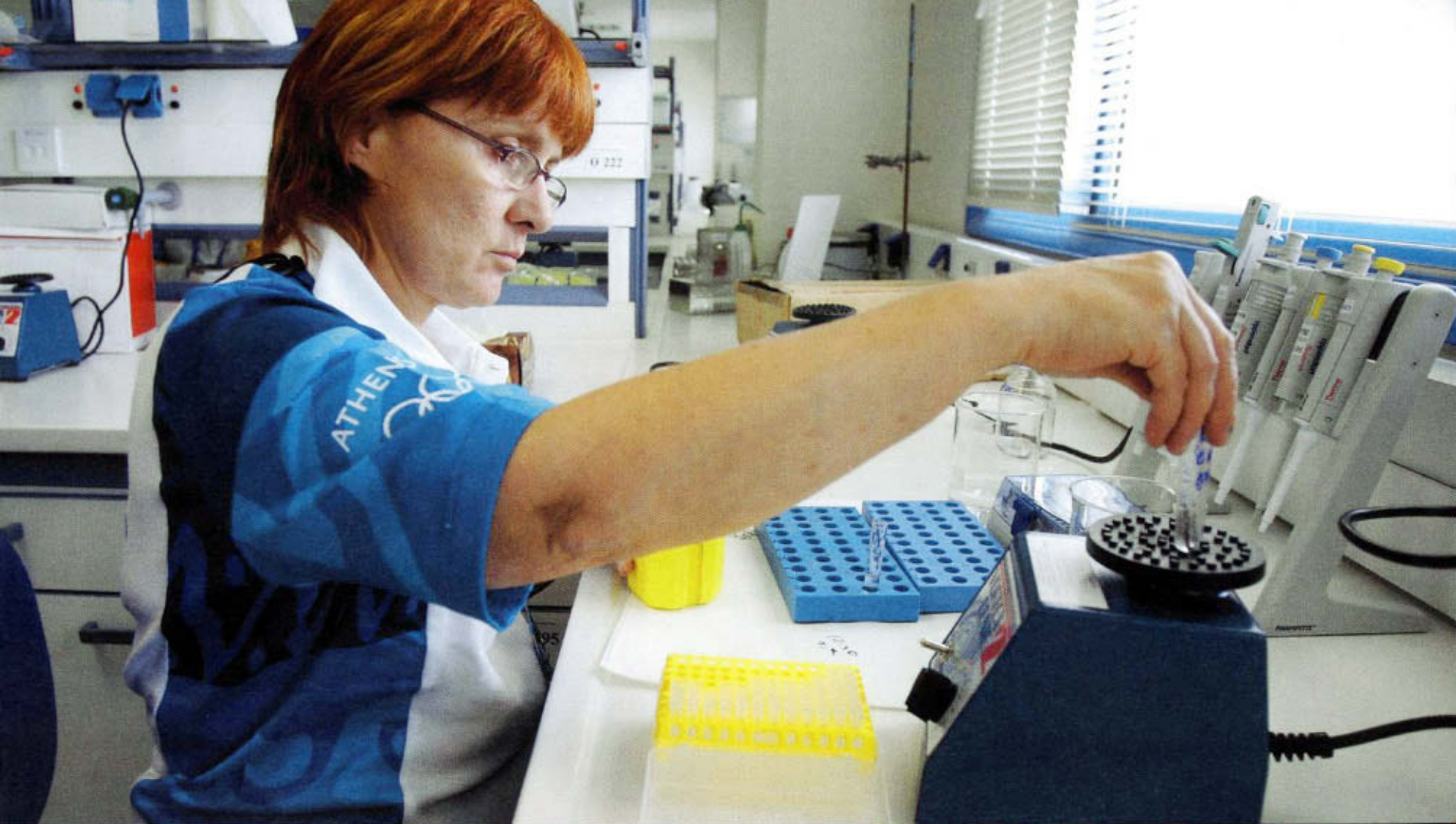
It is worth mentioning that the Doping Control Services budget for the first time also included limited revenues, from carrying out sample collection for third parties other than the IOC, such as WADA, the French Sports Ministry, etc.

Doping Control in Test Events

During the hosting of the test events, ATHOC Doping Control Services carried out a series of tests to verify its policies, procedures and operations, as well as to train, at a practical level, its paid staff and volunteers.

Testing was carried out in all test events and the level of services provided was Olympic level. The only operations that were carried out in a different manner than that of the Olympic period were:

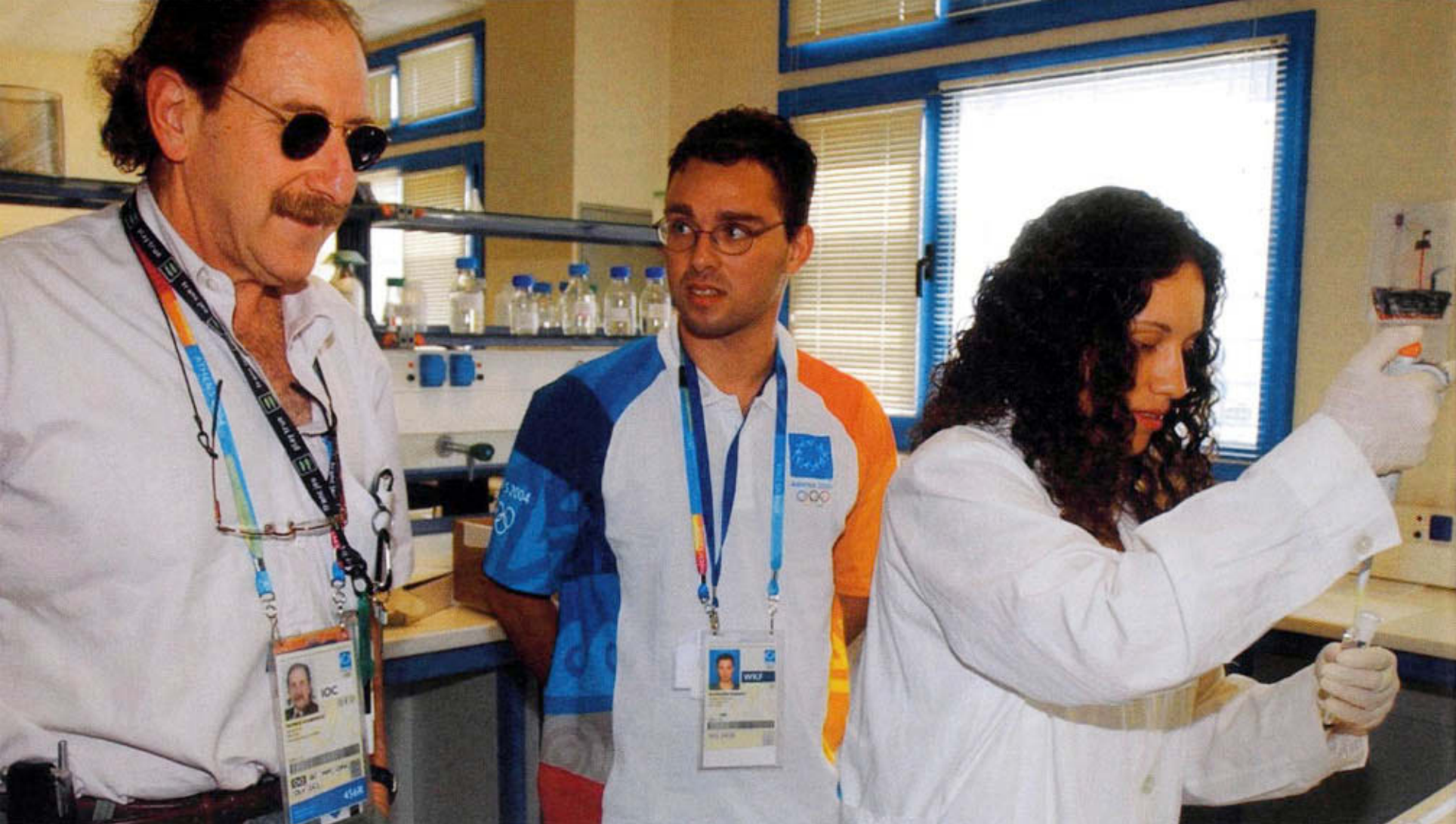
- The transport of the samples from the Doping Control Stations to the OAKA Doping Control Laboratory: it was carried out by the Head Medical Officer and not by the official sponsor (Hellenic Post) sample courier



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

A laboratory technician works at
the Doping Control Laboratory.
© Getty Images/I. Waldie

A laboratory technician operates a
centrifuge at the Doping Control
Laboratory.
© Getty Images/I. Waldie



- The time for results reporting: the time limit of 24 hours for negative results and 36 hours for positive results was not applied. The reporting turn-around times, following an agreement with each event's organisers, ranged within the levels of results reporting of the OAKA Doping Control Laboratory's normal operation (7-10 working days).

- Results management: ATHOC Doping Control Services was the recipient of the results from the OAKA Doping Control Laboratory, as per article 7.0 and Appendix I of the Anti-Doping Code, further to an explanatory note by the IOC (February 2004). The same decision refers to the fact that the OAKA Doping Control Laboratory must also send the test results of the test events to the International Federation concerned, and to WADA.

The number and distribution of tests in the test events were the responsibility of ATHOC Doping Control Services, and was defined in cooperation with the Competition Management of each Sport, which was responsible for forwarding the final proposal to the official organiser of the event.

In all, 625 urine tests were carried out (12 in 2002, 117 in 2003 and 496 in 2004). Of these, 2 samples tested positive in the Laboratory, giving adverse analytical findings. Specifically, cannabinoids were detected in one sample - ISSF World Cup in Shooting - and diuretics (hydrochlorothiazide) in the other - the FILA Athens Women's Wrestling International Tournament 2004.

The only test event in which ATHOC Doping Control Services did not participate, but provided only support in personnel, materials and physical space, were the two Cycling Road Race events in August 2003, as there was not an agreement with UCI on testing procedures or distribution. It should be noted that at that time

UCI had not yet accepted, signed and applied the WADA Anti-Doping Code and corresponding International Standards.

With regard to testing in test events for Paralympic Sports, ATHOC Doping Control Services participated only in that for Goalball in January 2004, where 6 Athletes were tested.

Doping Control in the Olympic Games

Doping control is distinguished into "Out-of-Competition" and "In-Competition" testing. As explained in the WADA Anti-Doping Code, "the distinction between "In-Competition" and "Out-of-Competition" testing is significant because the full Prohibited List is only tested for "In-Competition". Prohibited stimulants, for example, are not tested for Out-of-Competition because they have no performance enhancing benefit unless they are in the athlete's system while the athlete is actually competing. So long as the prohibited stimulant has cleared the athlete's system at the time the athlete competes, it makes no difference whether that stimulant could have been found in the athlete's urine the day before or the day after the Competition. In the case of the Athens Olympic Games, this distinction did not apply, and all tests, from the date that testing came under the responsibility of the IOC, with the simultaneous official opening of the Olympic Village (30 July 2004) until the end of the Closing Ceremony of the Games (29 August 2004), for the first time in the Olympic Games, were considered and handled as In-Competition testing. This fact affected both the athlete notification procedures (Doping Control International Standard, article 5.4), and sample analysis (International Standard List of Prohibited Substances and Methods).

In order to coordinate pre-competition testing, a tripartite team from the IOC, WADA and ATHOC was assembled for the first time in the

This page:

International Olympic Committee medical director Patrick Schamasch visits the Doping Control Laboratory.
© REUTERS/POOL/T. Stavrakis

Olympic Games. Apart from ATHOC Doping Control Services, WADA and the sample collection agencies contracted with it could carry out these tests anywhere in the world, following written authorisation by the IOC. However, the exclusive responsibility for testing in the Olympic Competition and Non-Competition Venues remained with the ATHOC Doping Control Services. Having been contracted with WADA to carry out testing, ATHOC Doping Control Services might also receive an order from WADA (following authorisation by the IOC) to carry out testing in non-Olympic Venues: an eventual case that, primarily due to the heavy workload, did not occur.

The distribution of pre-competition testing was carried out based on the number of participating athletes per National Olympic Committee. One hundred and ninety three NOCs were tested of a total 202 participating in the Games. As a general rule, the following algorithm was applied, not strictly: for NOCs with a number of participating athletes less or equal to 10, there corresponded 1 test, for NOCs with a number of participating athletes 11-50, two tests were planned, for NOCs with 51-100 participating athletes, 3 tests, while for NOCs with more than 100 athletes, there corresponded more than 4 tests. The selection of athletes per NOC was made based on the position of the athletes on the corresponding IF's ranking list, their availability for testing in the past, results of past testing, as well as general information that WADA provided to the team.

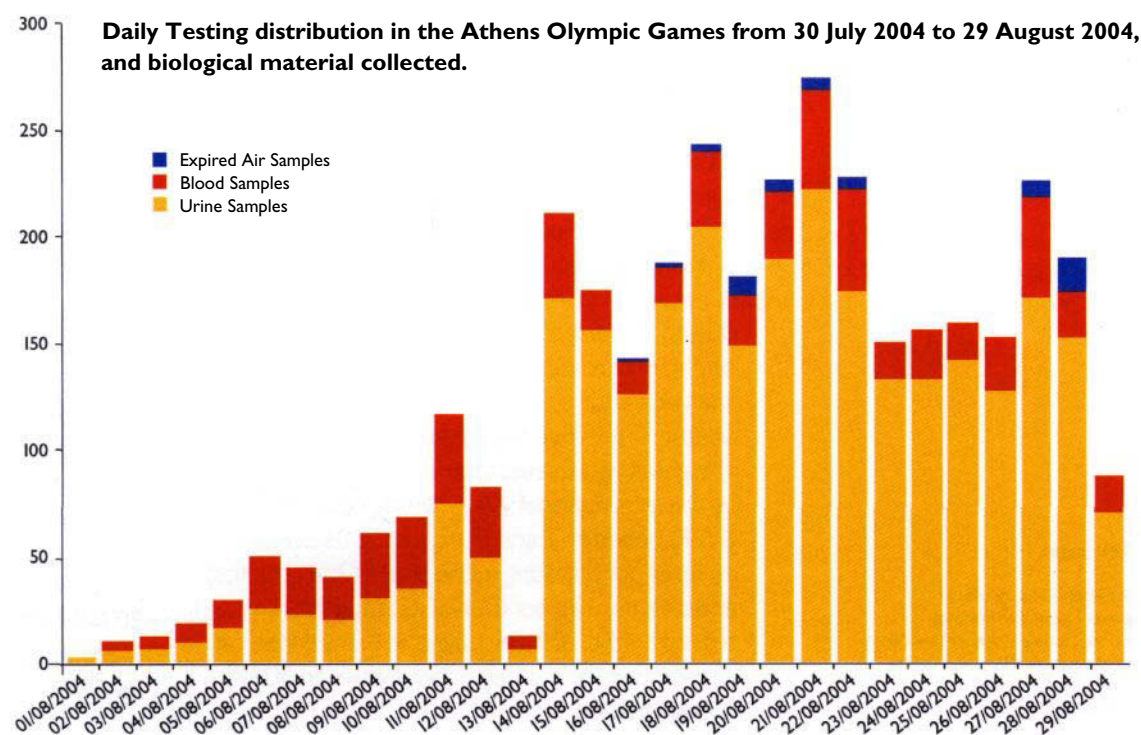
Based on these criteria, an active testing list was drawn up on 29 July 2004, which included 649 athletes in all, to which 42 athletes were later added, further to information reaching the tripartite team at a later date.

Eventually, 292 athletes were tested pre-competition by the ATHOC Doping Control Services, 83 by WADA, and 4 by both organisations, a total of 375 tested athletes and 383 tests. It should be noted that all pre-competition Doping testing included collection of a urine sample and a blood sample. All blood samples were tested for hGH (human Growth Hormone). In only 4 cases did WADA and its contracted sample collection services not succeed in collecting a blood sample.

The number and the distribution of post-competition testing for urine samples, as well as analysis for EPO (Erythropoietin), had been agreed between the IOC, the International Federation of each Sport and ATHOC, by virtue of signing a doping control protocol. The process of signature of these protocols was completed in July 2004. The distribution of blood samples was decided by the IOC, in cooperation with the ATHOC Doping Control Services, and was communicated to the IFs on 29 July 2004, in a circular letter signed by the Director of the IOC Medical Commission and the ATHOC Doping Control Programme Manager. In all, 2,394 urine tests and 317 blood tests were carried out in a total of 10,862 athletes.

During the Games, a limited number of additional tests were carried out in various sports. Specifically, 12 urine tests were carried out on orders of some NOCs (Australia, Belgium, France, Spain, Mauritius, Slovenia), 1 urine and blood test for hGH on orders of the NOC of Ecuador, 7 targeted urine tests on the Cuban women's Judo team on orders of the International Judo Federation (IJF), 1 urine test on orders of the French Sport Ministry, one urine and blood test for heterologous transfusions/HBOCs (Haemoglobin-Based Oxygen Carriers) on orders of the International Modern Pentathlon Federation (UIPM), as well as 64 routing blood analyses for haematological parameters under the responsibility of UIPM.

The maximum planned sample collection and analysis capacity was 215 samples (180 urine and 35 blood) per day. On average, 122 samples were collected and analysed (96 urine and 24 blood) daily, though for four days in the period 18-22 August 2004 the maximum planned capacity was exceeded without difficulties affecting smooth operations, either during sample collection or analysis and results reporting. The maximum number of samples collected and analysed was on 21 August 2004, with 274 samples (222 urine and 48 blood). In the Sports of Archery and Modern Pentathlon additional testing was carried out on expired air to monitor alcohol.





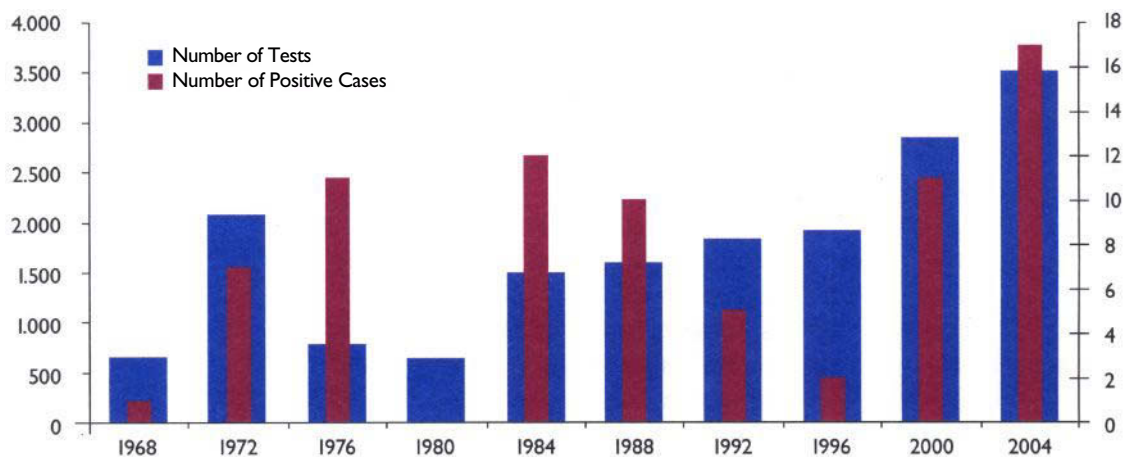
Positive Cases in the Olympic Games

During the Athens Olympic Games, a record number of Doping control tests were carried out, leading at the same time, to a record number of actual positive cases.

Doping Control in the Paralympic Games

In the Athens Paralympic Games, 680 Doping control tests were carried out. The only

Number of tests and number of positive cases in all Olympic Games, in which Doping Control was carried out:



Of the 17 positive Doping Control cases, 12 concern athletes in whose prohibited substances were detected in their urine sample (8 anabolic agents, 1 diuretic and 3 stimulants) and 5 concern athletes who committed other types of anti-doping rules violation (e.g. refusal to submit to testing). It is worth noting that this is the first time in Olympic Games that the failure to collect a sample through fault of the athlete was viewed by the IOC as an anti-Doping rules violation and entailed the sanction of exclusion from the Games. In these specific 5 cases, the anti-Doping rules violation rested on the process and not on the Laboratory's analytical finding. Additionally, there were another 7 positive samples that concerned Weightlifting athletes after controls carried out by the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) between 7 and 13 August 2004 on all athletes participating in the sport (258 athletes) and a further 2 after Out-of-Competition testing by the Hellenic Olympic Committee on all members of the delegation between 30 July - 2 August 2004.

biological specimen was urine. In contrast to the IOC, the IPC decided to distinguish testing into Out-of-Competition for the period of 10 to 18 September 2004, and In-Competition for the period of 18 to 28 September 2004.

A new tripartite team was set up, with representatives of the IPC, WADA and ATHOC, which handled the coordination of pre-competition testing. The process of sample collection during pre-competition testing was handled entirely by the ATHOC Doping Control Services, as WADA did not organise sample-collecting missions. The selection of Athletes to be tested Out-of-Competition was made on 10 September and focused on the high-risk Sports as evaluated by the IPC. The majority of tests concerned Athletics, Powerlifting, Judo, Swimming and Cycling athletes. In all, 166 athletes in 10 Paralympic Sports were tested. It is worth noting that of the 166 athletes, 30 (athletes competing in the Marathon and in Swimming) were also tested with urine analysis for EPO.

This page:

A Greek security officer patrols near the entrance of the Doping Control Laboratory at the Athens Olympics Sports Complex (OAKA). © REUTERS/J. Reed

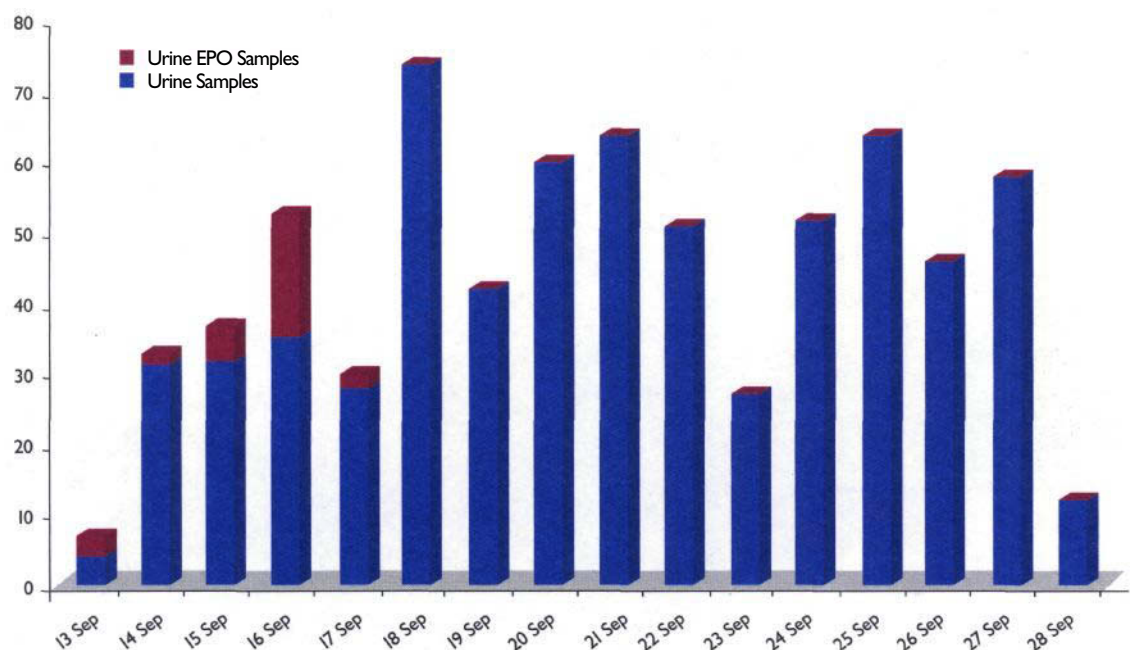


With regard to In-Competition testing, ATHOC Doping Control Services and the IPC agreed the actual number of tests and their daily distribution per sport in April 2004. The criteria for each day's selection of athletes to undergo Doping Control per Sport were defined in the daily Doping Control morning meeting between ATHOC and the IPC.

Doping Control on Competing Horses

Doping Control was carried out on horses participating in both the Olympic and the Paralympic Games. Testing in the Olympic Games was the responsibility of the International Equestrian Federation (FEI). Forty tests (19,6%) were carried out, and as announced in late September 2004 there were

Daily distribution of testing in the Athens Paralympic Games from 13 to 28 September 2004.



Positive Cases in the Paralympic Games

There were 10 positive cases in the Paralympic Games. It is worth noting that the positive cases confirmed the IPC's evaluation of Paralympic Sports, because all the athletes in whose urine prohibited substances were detected, participated in high-risk Sports (Powerlifting, Judo, Track Cycling and Athletics).

4 cases of an adverse analytical finding. The results management process was handled by FEI. In the Paralympic Games, 10 tests were carried out.

This page:

A laboratory technician works at the Doping Control Laboratory of Athens.
© Getty Images/I. Waldie



Sport Presentation

The purpose of Sport Presentation is to showcase each sporting event as a show and handle it as such. The critical choice, consistent with the underlying philosophy of the Games, concerned the format of the presentation, regarding which two trends are emerging: one giving precedence to the show and another placing emphasis on the sport event. The choice made by ATHOC was a Classic Sport Presentation, addressing Sports as self-contained, integrated shows and using all modern means and facilities to showcase and promote them.

The key creative choices were those regarding the Games music and the selections of the videos shown in all Venues. As far as possible, important choices also involved the selection of announcers, both Greek and foreign, based on criteria such as voice quality and proper articulation. On another level, monitoring the creative part and production of the Gymnastics Gala was also critical to ensure a good final result.

"Music of the World" was selected as the musical identity for the Games. Music of all types, from all eras and all countries formed a Musical Library which, taking into consideration the particularities of each individual Sport or Venue, ensured the musical diversity appropriate for such an event. An innovative element introduced in Athens were the DJs - musical supervisors who were members of every Sport Presentation Team - who interpreted through music the atmosphere and mood of every moment, in every Venue. The same approach and philosophy was used for music in the Common Domains of the two largest complexes, OAKA and Helliniko.

An expert contractor, drawing on video material from the IOC archives and applying the aesthetic specifications of the Organising

Committee, produced all the videos. Despite the limited production time available, a large number of video films were produced (around 600), with a good image and content level.

Sport Presentation was initially a Section of the Sports Division. The staffing of the Section and the initial planning began in spring 2002, but the specific nature of the project and the need of organisational enhancement led to the decision to separate the Section from the Sports Division and to form a separate Department, together with Medal Ceremonies, in January 2004.

In all, Sport Presentation involved 476 people: 319 specialist staff (239 Greeks and 80 from abroad) and 145 volunteers in the Venue Teams, and 12 staff in the Central Team.

Sport Presentation Teams in Venues

Specialist personnel staffed the Presentation teams in the Olympic Venues, which were responsible for the presentation of every Sport at every Venue (or in some cases more than one Sports). The number of staff in each Sport Presentation team depended on the Competition Schedule of each Sport. Therefore, for Sports whose total number of Competition hours exceeded 8 hours, double shifts were necessary. Additionally, two Presentation teams were provided in the case of two different Fields of Play running simultaneously (e.g. Tennis, Baseball). During the Olympic Games, the announcements were made in three languages: Greek, English and French, while during the Paralympic Games and the test events, the announcements were made only in Greek and English (except in Fencing where announcements were made in all three languages).

Left page, from top to bottom:

Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA). Videoboard at the Olympic Velodrome.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos

Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA). Olympic Aquatic Centre. The Sport Presentation Team in action.
© ATHOC/P. Vardakas

Panathinaiko Stadium. Spectators watch the Marathon Race on the videoboard.
© ATHOC/N. Christodoulou



In order to secure specialist staff of Olympic calibre, various approaches were used. There was an initial sounding of National and International Federations, soliciting suggestions for announcers with previous experience in major events. The contact with all the suggested announcers resulted in the collection of a great number of resumes and demos, which were evaluated for selection. Because of the limited number of expert staff in Greece, experienced announcers from the Greek radio and television were sourced. All paid staff was initially hired for the test events and then staffed the Olympic and Paralympic Games Sport Presentation teams. The only exceptions were the music producers and the production coordinators, whose positions were created in early 2004. Just before the Games, a special Audio Booth was prepared in the ATHOC Headquarters for the final training and selection of the announcers.

Most Venue Sport Presentation Managers were Greeks, mainly from the Greek television production industry. In certain Sports, there was a need for previous "Sport-specific" production experience, so foreign producers with such experience in previous Olympic Games were hired (e.g. Athletics, Baseball, Softball and Canoe/Kayak Slalom Racing).

Finally, in several Sports (e.g. Archery, Baseball, Mountain Bike, Canoe/Kayak Slalom etc.), apart from announcement, there was a need for commentators during Competition. Experienced commentators were hired, proposed either by the respective National or International Federations or by the Competition Managers. ATHOCs policy was to provide commentating only in Greek, as most spectators were Greeks. Nevertheless, in those cases where there were no specialised Sport-specific Greek commentators, commentating was made in English and the Greek announcers would translate the highlights of the specialised commentating.

This page:

Schinias Olympic Rowing and Canoeing Centre. The Sport Presentation Team operating from their special booth.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

Technological Equipment

The Sport Presentation teams in the Venues were situated either within the Field of Play or in a special booth. In both cases, it was necessary to have the best possible view of the Competition. The technical planning was specified according to the needs of each Sport and the location of the Presentation team in the Venue. Technology used included:

- Commentator Information System (CIS) and INFO 2004: These two systems provided information on the Athletes' statistics, previous records etc, to the announcers and commentators.
- Wired and Wireless Communication Systems.
- Video Standard Kit and Audio Standard Kit, as well as "Click Effects".

Cue Sheets

The Cue Sheets were the fundamental and most important tool for the Sport Presentation teams and guided each moment of the presentation. The initial Cue Sheets were created by the lead producers for the test events and were then enriched by the Venue Sport Presentation Managers and Coordinators for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Cue Sheets were based on information collected from various sources, such as the Competition Managers of each Sport, the International Federations and the Protocol of each Sport.

The Cue Sheets for all Sports were created having taken into consideration the following: Greek, French and English official announcements, languages used during Competition, Spectator Services announcements, video programming, music style, audio cues and timing-scoring.



Music Library

Music was a defining component of Sport Presentation. Contractors, experienced in entertainment and radio production were hired to create the 2.100-song Music Library. Its concept was "Music of the World", which incorporated songs and themes from all the countries participating in the Games, in order to make the music in the Competition Venues as familiar as possible to Athletes and spectators. Greek songs were approximately one-third of the Music Library.

Music themes were divided into high-, mid- and low-tempo categories and were distributed according to the nature of the Sport. The number of themes was decided based on the duration of the Competition. Twenty "jingles" (short original music effects) and thirty-five sound effects (original music effects) were composed for the Games. Sport Presentation was also responsible for the remastering of the 398 musical themes used by the Athletes of Dressage, Synchronised Swimming, Rhythmic Gymnastics and Artistic Gymnastics to accompany their effort.

For the music and live announcements at the OAKA and Helliniko Common Domains, professional announcers, audio producers and music producers were hired. The Music Operators had the entire Music Library at their disposal to cover 18 hours of music per day.

Video Programming

The videos produced for the Olympic and Paralympic Games included: opening video, highlights, historical data about legendary Athletes, flashbacks, the timeline of the Olympic Games, information and rules of the Sports, statistical data, etc.

Their production was assigned, after a tender, to a company with Olympic experience. For the Athens Games, videos were produced using archive footage from the Olympic Television Archive Bureau (OTAB) and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). Moreover, video programming also included videos from the International Olympic Committee (IOC), for example "Celebrate Humanity" and from different Functional Areas within the Organising Committee, for example Sponsor Recognition videos, Torch Relay videos.

Scoreboard Graphics

The Scoreboard graphics were determined by Sport Presentation and were created in-house by the Image & Identity Department of ATHOC. The "still" and "animated" graphics were divided into two categories, the generic graphics, for all Competition Venues, and the Sport-specific graphics. The generic graphics included the mascots, information and welcoming texts, environmental protection themes, medical information, information on the Medal Ceremonies, Spectator Services information, etc.. while the Sport-specific graphics included "still" and "animated" graphics, as well as Sport-specific themes.

Overall, Sport Presentation, as well as Medal Ceremonies, was a component of the Games in which the creative part was as important as the operational aspect. Beyond their shared aesthetic, they developed, during operation, interlinked activities and close cooperation, and achieved a generally acknowledged technically excellent result.

This page:

Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA). Olympic Aquatics Centre. The Sport Presentation Team is situated near the Field of Play for Synchronised Swimming.
© ATHOC/C. Cunliffe



Medal Ceremonies

Medal Ceremonies are self-contained, integrated shows of a short duration. As is the case with every show, Ceremonies involve two distinct stages of activity: the creative part, and the production.

Creative Part

A proposal was submitted and approved regarding the creative part. This consisted of the creative concept for the overall aesthetic look and the individual concepts for sound, stage direction and Medal Ceremony items look. The overall proposal envisaged Ceremonies with a Greek character, full of colour and yet simple, diverse in form and yet consistent. The individual creative proposals included the following:

The Costumes

Cooperation with the "Lykeion ton Ellinidon" (Lyceum Club of Greek Women) was proposed, on the grounds that the wealth of Greek tradition could be presented for the first time in these Games. In contrast to the thus-far prevailing monotony of using a single costume in hundreds of Ceremonies, authentic traditional costumes of the "Lykeion ton Ellinidon" were used, different in each Ceremony.

The costumes of the Paralympic Medal Ceremonies needed to correspond to a different concept and to different specifications. The Medal Ceremonies Team consisted of children, and their costume - in the primary color of the Paralympic Games - was designed in order to emphasise their youth.

The Musical Theme

The composition of a complete musical theme was assigned to a representative artist of

modern Greek music. The requirement - successfully achieved - for this theme was that it should express all the feelings of that particular moment, such as emotion and pride, while simultaneously being a Greek theme that could also touch international audiences.

The National Anthems

The choice was made to use a specific recording of the National Anthems using a large orchestra - instead of a military band - so as to ensure uniformity in the quality of music being played during the Games.

The Podiurns

In terms of both their construction and aesthetic quality podiums met exacting specifications. They needed to be consistent with the visual identity of the Games and to blend harmoniously into the aesthetic context of the Medal Ceremonies.

The Trays

The simplicity and unobtrusive nature of oval velvet trays was selected to carry the flowers and medals.

The Flowers and Wreaths

Drawing on the abundance of Greek flora for inspiration and in line with the colourful character of the costumes, bouquets were created of small Greek flowers, surrounded with olive branches.

However, the trademark of the Games turned out to be the olive wreath that crowned the medallists - a simple, well-made wreath of densely-leaved olive branches, which will stand as the symbol of the Greek Olympic Games in posterity.

Left page:

Ancient Olympia Stadium.
A ceremony for the shot put competition - the medals were actually awarded two days later at the Olympic Stadium in Athens.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



The Medals

Finally, the medals were a great success, as the proposal for their new design not only was adopted by the IOC and will apply in future Games, but was also received enthusiastically by Athletes, the Media and the public. This new design, with its central elements, the correct depiction of Nike -Winged Victory in flight - and the Panathinaiko Stadium, restored historical accuracy on an aesthetically impeccable medal.

Production

Production required many months of effort in procurement, selection and training of the workforce required, and operational planning, with the ultimate aim to ensure accurate implementation and a high aesthetic level in the end result. After the overall proposal was approved, Medal Ceremonies worked intensively to meet the requirements of preparing and implementing the production, meanwhile participating in all the test events.

The Medal Ceremonies paid staff comprised:

- The Venue Medal Ceremony Managers (12 staff), responsible for conducting Medal Ceremonies in one or more Venues.
- The Venue Medal Ceremony Assistant Managers (14 staff), one for each team of volunteers, primarily responsible for coordinating and preparing these teams.
- The Central Production Team, which coordinated Medal Ceremonies from their Operations Centre, located at ATHOC Headquarters. The Production Team consisted of 17 people, responsible for managing volunteer teams, ensuring transport to/from the Competition Venues, preparing Ceremony items and overall coordination of operations.

The volunteers of Medal Ceremonies were divided into:

- Medal Ceremonies Teams, 14 in all, comprising fifteen to thirty-five persons, depending on the team, who undertook the Medal Ceremonies at the Venues. The Teams included women volunteers who acted as flower and medal bearers and escorts, and a Navy detail of sailors acting as flag bearers.
- Administrative support volunteers, who provided services at the Operations Centre of the Medal Ceremonies; specifically, in the printing process for Olympic and Paralympic Diplomas.
- Especially for the Paralympic Games, volunteer teams consisted of schoolchildren aged 12-15, members of the Scouts of Greece and of the Greek Girl Guides Association.

Overall, in the Medal Ceremonies held for the Olympic Games, a total of 235 volunteers and 114 Navy sailors participated, while in those held for the Paralympic Games participations numbered 195 volunteers and 110 Navy sailors.

Medal Ceremonies Operations Centre

During the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Medal Ceremonies Central Team operated on a 24-hour basis, from its Operations Centre, located in the ATHOC Headquarters. The dedicated premises created for the Operations Centre included the following:

- Two wardrobes (100sq.m. and 32sq.m.).
- Separate men's and women's changing rooms.
- Volunteers waiting area (230sq.m.).
- Storeroom (155sq.m.), fitted with a custom-made refrigerated space and safe, where all Ceremony items were kept (medals, flags, flowers, trays, general-purpose equipment).

This page:

Athens Olympic Complex (OAKA). Olympic Aquatic Centre. Medal Ceremony for Synchronised Swimming. © ATHOC/C. Cunliffe



- Space for printing Diplomas (approximately 30sq.m.). A total of 7.500 such Diplomas and corresponding cases were produced.

Transport of Medal Ceremonies Team

Transport of Medal Ceremonies Teams and Ceremony items to the Venues, both on rehearsal days as well as on the days of the actual Ceremonies, took place using dedicated coaches departing from the Operations Centre. Due to the particular needs of the costumes and of the items transported, in addition to the coaches being security-sealed so that transport could take place from "clean to clean venue", a special Security checking procedure was also required.

Medal Ceremonies Operation

In each Competition Venue, a special Preparation Area for the Medal Ceremony Team was provided, where Ceremony items were kept and prepared, while the same space was used for the preparation of the Teams. The second key area of activity was the Marshalling Area, where the Medal Ceremonies Team, the presenting officials and the Olympic medallists assembled prior to the Ceremony. In addition

to the 247 Ceremonies held during the test events, at least two dress rehearsals were conducted for Medal Ceremonies, with the cooperation of Sport Presentation, Technology and Sport Competition.

During Games-time, an impressive operation was set up, within which everyone functioned extremely precisely, transporting Medal Ceremony Teams to all Venues and coordinating suppliers and associates so as to ensure that the Ceremonies would run flawlessly. The final outcome was an achievement: 822 Medal Ceremonies of a high organisational and aesthetic standard.

Statistical Information

303 Medal Ceremonies for the Olympic Games
519 Medal Ceremonies for the Paralympic Games

Awarded:

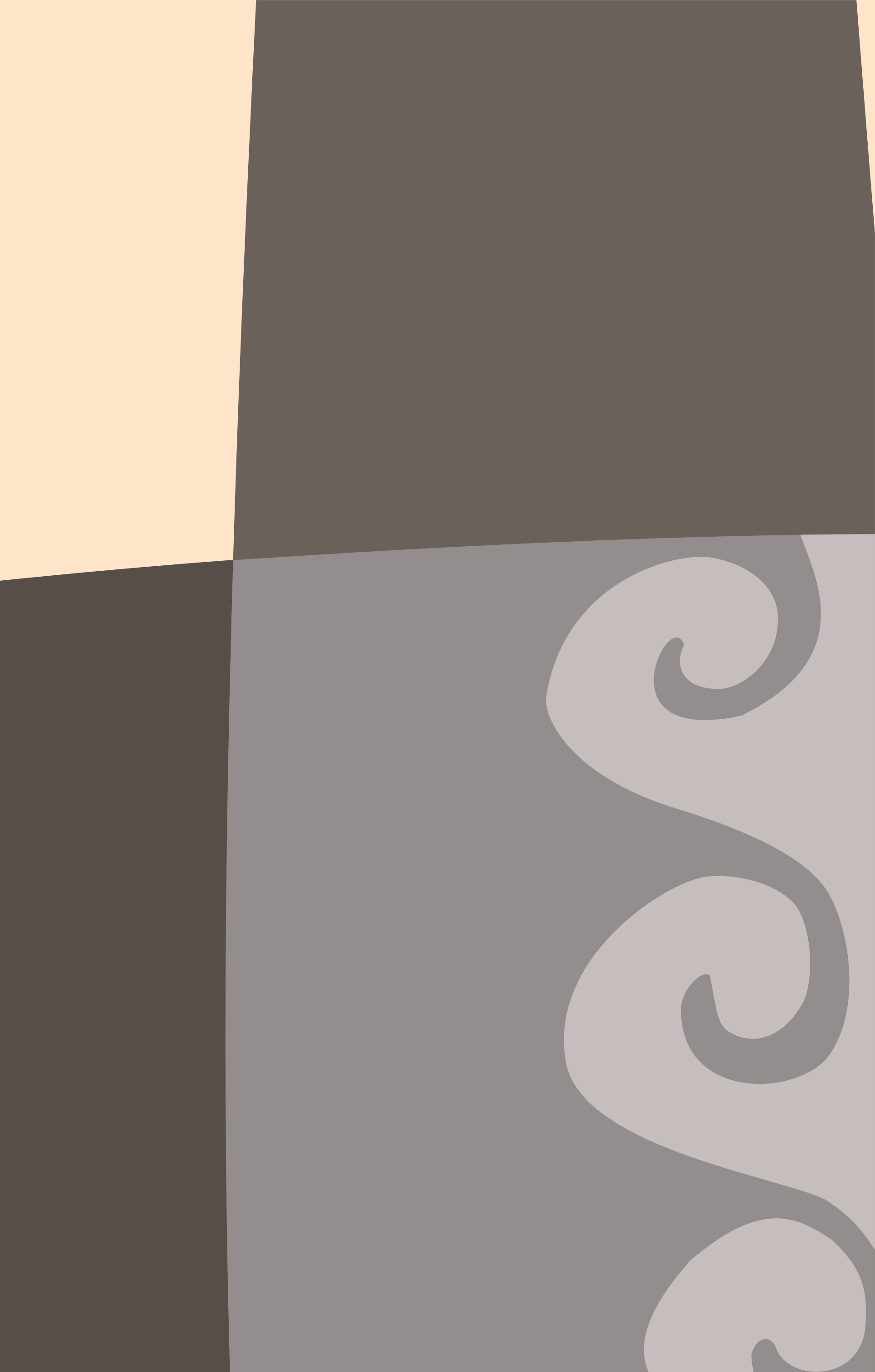
Olympic Medals: 682 gold, 678 silver, 696 bronze
Paralympic Medals: 737 gold, 730 silver, 741 bronze

Workforce:

588 (44 paid staff, 544 volunteers)

This page:

Panathinaiko Stadium.
Medal Ceremony for
Archery Competition.
© ATHOC/N. Christodoulou



Closing Ceremony



Closing Ceremony

As the greatest Celebration of humanity reached its final phase, Host City Athens bade a final farewell to the Athletes and its guests. The Ceremony was held on 29 August at the Athens Olympic Stadium, under Attica's full moon.

Just like Dimitris Papaioannou, artistic director of the Ceremonies had said, the Closing Ceremony was "a human celebration, full of music and singing", dances in "the Greek way", and "a patchwork of music from all over Greece on a continuous flow, just like an energy river".

May the Dances Last Forever

"May God keep us healthy,
so we can always meet and celebrate,
dancing in circles as free as a river"
(Dionysis Sawopoulos)

"May the dances last forever" was the first song to be heard in the Olympic Stadium that evening, and many others followed, by some of the most beloved Greek singers.

For millennia, everyday life and singing have walked hand in hand in Greece. Marriages, deaths, births, love, immigrations, historical and political facts, joy and sorrow, separations, everything becomes a song that can be shared by everyone. Through singing, Greeks have kept their bonds with their history and heritage alive.

The Closing Ceremony of the Olympic Games featured a profoundly Greek festive atmosphere, a warm goodbye to the people and athletes of the world. The Olympic Stadium of Athens was transformed into a wheat field, where a traditional Greek party took place. The wheat field was made up of 45.000 individually "planted" wheat stalks, in a spiral

formation that took 100 man-hours to plant, and covered an area of 5.940 square metres.

Golden wheat is the fruit of the marriage between the virgin earth and the glorious sun. In Greek festivities, wheat symbolised the fertility of the earth, the awakening of life, life that arises from death. The spiral depicts the development of infinity. It is found in shells and galaxies. Our own galaxy has a spiral scheme. Spirals are also typically found in Ionian pillars.

"Our Christ had bunches of grapes hanging from his ears." (Giannis Ritsos) Myth has it that the ancient god of Greek mythology, Dionysus, taught the art of wine to ordinary people in Attica. Grape juice belongs to him, as does any juice of life. Grape is his sacred plant, a symbol of Christ in later times. In an unintermittible sequence, painting, sculpture, poetry, divinity, morals, traditions and songs reveal the continuous bonding of Greeks with this generous plant, manifested during more or less important moments in life. The gift of the goddess Demeter to the land of Attica was the mastering of cultivation of wheat and bread. A sacred land, Eleusis, was dedicated to this offering.

Lots of wine drinking and traditional folklore dancing was revived in the Stadium, with 3.691 volunteer performers from 15 countries and 2.200 support volunteers from 32 countries.

"Let the angels come down to dance to tsiftéti." (Costas Ferris)

Tsestos: a dance from northern Thrace, practiced by men and women alike.

Tsamikos: a very well-known dance, performed with variations by men and women in the Peloponnese, central Greece, Epirus and Thessaly.

Tsakonikos: a typical Peloponnesian rhythm

Left page:

Fireworks during the Closing Ceremony. The Olympic Stadium was transformed into a wheat field, with 45.000 stalks planted in spiral formation.
© Getty Images/S. Hannagan

based on five steps, danced by men and women alike. Dancers form a circle approaching its centre, like the shape of a snail, and opening to the outside in a helix-like format.

Maleviziotis or kastrinos: a fast mixed dance performed in circles. It is mainly danced in the area of Heraklio and in eastern Crete.

Ballos: a dance from the Aegean islands.

An exceptionally erotic dance, performed in couples.

Kalamatianos: danced in circles on a typical 7 tempo, it is comprised of twelve basic steps. It is the Greeks' favourite dance.

Sera: perhaps the most impressive dance of Pontian Hellenism. A dance for warriors, it is performed exclusively by men. Its name comes from the river Serra, located in the west of Trabzon, in Asia Minor. It is a very difficult dance to perform, as it requires great dancing skills and extreme energy.

Men's Marathon Medal Ceremony

Then, the medal ceremony for the Men's Marathon took place. It was the first time ever that a medal ceremony was included in an Olympic Games Closing Ceremony. Italy's Stefano Baldini took gold; USA's Mebrahtom Keflezighi took silver, while Brazil's Vanderlei de Lima was awarded bronze, and the Pierre de Coubertin medal for sportsmanship.

"Unforgettable, Dream Games"

Then, the flag-bearers entered in single file with all the countries' flags, followed by the Athletes, who rushed in the Stadium without distinction of nationality, to celebrate united the end of the greatest celebration of humanity and to begin preparing for new competitions at the upcoming 2008 Olympic Games.

Short speeches were delivered by the Presidents of ATHOC and of the IOC. President Rogge delighted a home crowd by speaking in Greek:
"My Greek friends, you have won!"

Proceeding in English, "You have won by brilliantly meeting the tough challenge of holding the Games." He paid tribute to the President of ATHOC, for leading the Organising Committee with "great vision and charisma". He cited Greek government officials for leaving the city with "an extraordinary urban and sporting heritage", and he thanked "the marvellous volunteers who have charmed us with their confidence and kindness." The Games were held "in peace and brotherhood". "These were the Games where it became

increasingly difficult to cheat and where clean Athletes were better protected." Jacques Rogge praised the Athletes, who "have touched our hearts by your performances, your joys and your tears."

The Athens Olympic Games went down in history as "unforgettable, dream Games".

The President of the IOC declared the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad closed and called on the youth of the world to gather in Beijing in 2008. Once more in Greek, he concluded with "Thank you, Athens! Thank you, Greece!" flooding the entire nation with pride and joy.

The national anthems of Greece and China were heard. The Olympic flag was returned to the President of the IOC by the Mayor of Athens, and entrusted to the Mayor of Beijing, Host City of the 2008 Games.

There followed the creative segment by Beijing: from Olympia to the Great Wall, directed by Zhang Yimou. Flying silk, dancing Beijing, embracing the Games. Red lanterns rising, the melody of "Jasmine Flower", forming the great charm of Beijing. Playing traditional Chinese musical instruments, girls in "Chinese red" demonstrated the excitement of the Chinese people as they look forward to the world's greatest gathering in Beijing. Lofty Olympia and the Great Wall joined hands in Athens. Superb Chinese kung fu, powerful drum dance and colourful Peking Opera drove the performance to its climax. The red lantern glowed, brightening the child's face. Jasmine flowers bloomed. Beijing awaits the world in 2008.

There followed the solemn lowering of the Olympic Flag, to the strains of the Olympic Anthem, written by Kostis Palamas in 1895.

Then arrived the moment of farewell to the Flame. The cauldron descended once again, young Fotini took a spark from the flame, accompanied by Olympic gold medallists (Sailing 470) Sofia Bekatorou and Aimilia Tsoulfa. Alone through the crowd she walked to the centre of the Stadium and gently blew out the flame.

The Closing Ceremony ended with a live concert by a number of well-known Greek singers, that engaged the audience in the Stadium, as well as the athletes, in emotional festivities and a heartfelt wish: hope to see you again, "kali antàmossi".



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

"Unforgettable, dream Games."
IOC President Jacques Rogge
delivers his final speech in Athens.
Standing by is ATHOC President
Gianna Angelopoulos-Daskalaki.
In the background are the four
newly-elected members of the IOC
Athletes' Commission, Moroccan
runner Hicham El Guerrouj,
Czech javelin thrower Jan Zelezny,
Namibian sprinter Frank Fredericks,
and Egyptian swimmer Rania Elwani.
© AFP/J. Haynes

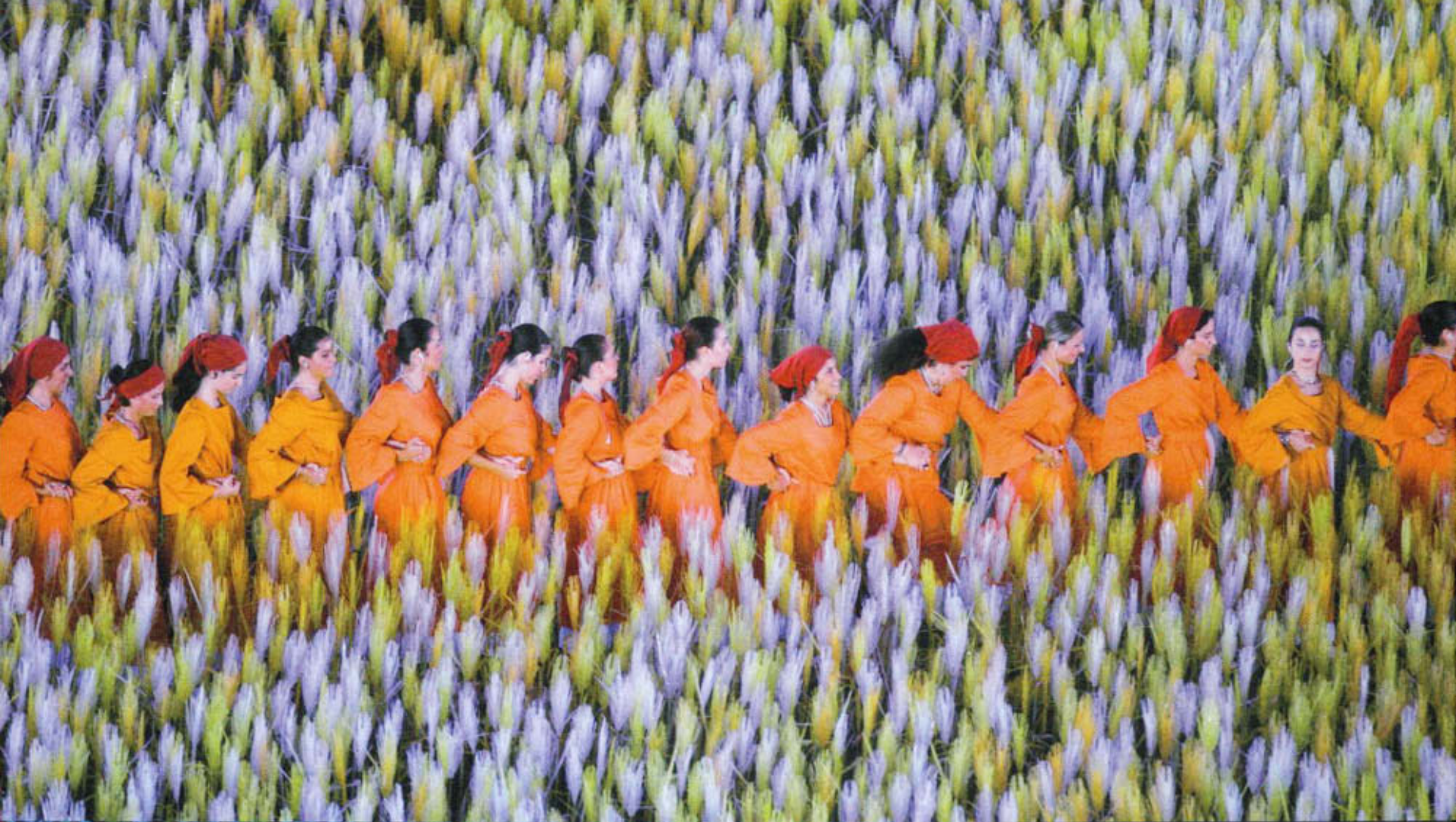
Eros reappears in the Closing
Ceremony to join in a human
celebration, full of music and
dancing.
© Getty Images/M. Dadswell



Top:

Fireworks light up the sky.
© AFP/E. Feferberg





**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Women dancers weave through
the wheat field.
© AFP/G. Wood

A sailboat makes its way to the
centre of the Stadium, where it
shed its sails to become a table
for the feast.
© Getty Images/S. Franklin



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Dancers leap over fires.
© AFP/A. Dennis

A truly Dionysian celebration.
© Getty Images/C. McGrath



Both pages:

"May God keep us healthy,
so that we can always meet and
celebrate, dancing in circles
as free as a river."
Dionysis Savvopoulos
© Getty Images/S. Franklin





**This page,
from top to bottom:**

A young girl carrying a red lantern sings "Jasmine", a Chinese folk song, on a lantern-shaped stage. As next host city, in 2008, Beijing presented a creative segment at the end of the Athens Closing Ceremony.

© AFP/J. Haynes

© AFP/G. Wood



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

From Olympia to the Great Wall:
Chinese girls dressed in red play
traditional musical instruments in
Beijing's segment, directed by
Zhang Yimou.
© REUTERS/E. Gaillard

Colourful Peking Opera.
© AFP/J. Haynes





Left page:

Beijing Mayor Wang Qishan waves the Olympic flag in the handover Ceremony. Beijing will host the next Summer Olympic Games in 2008.
© AFP/A. Dennis

**This page,
from top to bottom:**

Lowering of the Olympic flag.
© AFP/G. Wood

Young Fotini Papaleonidopoulou carries a lantern with the light taken from the cauldron flame during the Closing Ceremony. Behind her are Greek Olympic gold medallists Sofia Bekatorou and Aimilia Tsoulfa.
© Getty Images/S. Hannagan



Top:

Farewell to the Flame:
"Give me hope,
give me a wish
may eternal love spread
on the earth
like a prayer."
Manos Hatzidakis
© AFP/F. X. Marit





Top:

Young Fotini gently
blows out the flame.
Hope to see you again -
"kali antámossi".
© REUTERS/A. Latif



Paralympic Games



Paralympic Torch Relay

A few days after the Closing Ceremony of the Olympic Games, the flame of the Paralympic Games illuminated the venues and the rest of the greater Athens area again, carrying the excitement of this top sporting event and announcing the imminent opening of the Paralympic Games in Athens, for the first time in history.

The Paralympic flame, unlike the Olympic flame, is not lit in an established formal ritual. Every Organising Committee, besides designing the route of the Paralympic Torch Relay, is also expected to select the location and method for the Lighting of the Paralympic flame.

The first Paralympic Torch Relay was carried out at the 8th Paralympic Games in Seoul, in 1988. The Lighting Ceremony was carried out at the sacred Mount Mani on Kwang-wha Island. 282 Torchbearers, 111 of whom were people with a disability, carried the flame over a distance of 105 kilometres.

In 1992, there was no separate Lighting Ceremony for the Barcelona Paralympic Games. The Olympic flame kept lit in a special cauldron for the Paralympic Torch Relay at the city's Town Hall. However, in the Opening Ceremony of the Barcelona Olympic Games, it was Antonio Rebollo, a Paralympic Archer, who lit the Cauldron in the Stadium with an arrow. More than 500 Torchbearers carried the Barcelona flame over a distance of 248 kilometres, passing through 30 municipalities.

In the Atlanta Paralympic Games, the Torch was lit with the undying flame from the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial. US President Bill Clinton handed the flame to the first Torchbearer in front of the White House. One thousand Torchbearers carried the flame over 1.660 kilometres in 10 days.

In Sydney, the flame was lit in the forecourt of the Parliament House of Canberra, by members of the Ngunnawal aboriginal community. Nine hundred and twenty Torchbearers carried the flame to the Australian Games, over 14 days.

The Lighting Ceremony in Athens

The first Lighting Ceremony of a Paralympic flame in Athens was designed to go down in history. The Organising Committee wished to organise a distinctive Ceremony, combining Greek culture and the modern aspect of the Paralympic Games.

The Lighting Ceremony of the Paralympic flame was held in the heart of Athens, in the Theseio area, which is connected to the myth of Hephaestus. Hephaestus was one of the twelve gods of Greek mythology, protector of fire and of the art of smithing. According to Greek mythology, the Greek gods appear to be possessed by many human failings, among which anger and jealousy. During one of many quarrels between Zeus and Hera, Hephaestus sided with his mother, Hera, incurring the wrath of Zeus, who smote him from the heavens to earth. This fall caused one more of Hephaestus' attributes, his disability. Hephaestus, according to Greek myth, was the most skilful of gods. Among his creations figured the elaborate palaces of Olympus, the thunderbolts of Zeus, the weapons of Achilles and other celebrated works.

The myth of Hephaestus thus combines fire, a special ability for achievement, and disability. The Lighting Ceremony of the Paralympic flame showcased the spirit of the Paralympic Games, woven with Greek culture and mythology.

**Left page,
from top to bottom:**

Lighting ceremony of the
Paralympic flame.

© ATHOC/D. Krezias

© ATHOC/Y. Kontos

© ATHOC/Athens News Agency
(ANA)/M. Maroyianni

The Route of the Paralympic Torch Relay in the Greater Athens Area

The Lighting Ceremony was held in the Temple of Hephaestus on Thursday 9 September 2004, with a spark struck symbolically from an anvil with an iron bar. Immediately after the Lighting, the flame arrived at the Odeum of Herod Atticus, beneath the Acropolis, where it spent the night before setting off on its route around the greater Athens area, which would host all the Paralympic Sports and the Paralympic athletes, in September 2004.

The greater Athens area combined a long historical tradition and the modern face of Greece, one of the most representative areas of Greece, with a large population, a beautiful natural setting with modern infrastructure. The Paralympic flame, in passing through the Municipalities and Local Communities of the greater Athens area, spread the spirit and values of the Games, not only to its residents, but also to all Greeks and the world watching the beautiful route of the Relay as it was broadcast, a Route symbolising the values of equality and harmonious coexistence of all humans.

Day by day, the highlights of the Relay included:

The first day, the Lighting of the Paralympic flame, as organised by ATHOC, was held in the centre of Athens, in Thiseio. Torchbearers carried the flame to the Odeum of Herodes Atticus, where the National Theatre held a performance of "Lysistrata". The flame overnights outside the theatre.

The second day, the flame continued its route bearing southeast, passing through Daphne, Hymettus, Argyroupoli, and Helliniko, which was one of the two hubs of the Paralympic Games, hosting six of the nineteen Sports: Fencing, Sitting Volleyball, Football 5-a-side and 7-a-side, Wheelchair Rugby and Archery. After Helliniko, the Relay continued on to Glyfada, Voula and Vari, to end in Vouliagmeni, where it spent its second night. Vouliagmeni was to host another Paralympic Sport, the Cycling Road Race.

On the third day, a Saturday morning, the flame continued its route along the coastal road to Sounion, through Saronida, Palaia Fokaia, and passing by the Temple of Poseidon at Sounion, a site combining history and the natural beauty of the Aegean Sea. It spent the night in the historic city of Lavrion, at its pretty port.

On the fourth day, the route continued heading north from Lavrio to Keratea, Kalyvia, and Markopoulo, which would host Shooting and the Equestrian competition, to Porto Rafti. There, the flame travelled 3 miles by sea, with boats from the Porto Rafti Sailing Club and swimmers, and returned to dry land heading to Artemis. In the area of Brauron, the flame passed by the Temple of Artemis, through particularly beautiful scenery. The night was spent in Spata, the Municipality hosting the modern gateway to Greece, the Athens International Airport "Eleftherios Venizelos".

The fifth day, leaving Spata, the flame travelled through the heartland of Attica, by Koropi, Peania and Pallini, and returned east to Rafina and Nea Makri. It then headed to Marathon, where it spent the night.

On the sixth day, from Marathon the flame went to Kaletzi, and after passing by the Marathon dam continued on to the northern suburbs of Athens, Stamata, Drosia and Ekali, Nea Erythraia, and Kifissia. For the first time the flame passed by Marousi, near the largest hub of Paralympic Venues, continued through Pefki, Lykovrysi, Metamorphosi and Acharnes, the Municipality hosting the Paralympic Village which would be home to all Athletes, Officials and Technical Officials of the Paralympic Games.

On the seventh day, the flame travelled west, through Zefyri and Ano Liosia, where Judo and Boccia would be held. From there, it went to Kamatero, Agious Anargyrous, Ilion, Petroupoli and Peristeri. The eighth night was spent at Megara.

The next day, from Megara, the flame went to Nea Peramos and historical Elefsina. It then changed direction, beginning its return to Athens, stopping first at Mandra, then passing - through Magoula and Keratsini, before stopping at the largest Greek port, Piraeus, where it spent its last night before reaching its final destination.

On 17 September, the flame left Piraeus, and passed through Agios Ioannis Rentis, Nikaia, where Powerlifting would be hosted, Korydallos, Agia Varvara, Haidari, Aigaleo. By Iera Odos, one of the most famous thoroughfares of antiquity, it headed back to the centre of Athens, passing Omonoia, the Pedio tou Areos, and Kifissias Avenue, to Maroussi, where it entered the Olympic Stadium triumphantly for the Opening Ceremony of the Paralympic Games.

Assessment

The Paralympic Torch Relay lasted nine days, and travelled a total of 410 kilometres. Six hundred and eighty Torchbearers carried the Paralympic flame throughout the greater Athens area, among whom were top athletes, Olympians and Paralympians, ordinary and prominent citizens.

During the Torch Relay, the flame succeeded in sharing Pursuit, Strength and the Inspiration of the Paralympic Games, and inaugurated in the best possible way this great sporting Celebration.

The ATHENS 2004 Paralympic Torch Relay travelled through historical areas and monuments, as well as sites with a modern Greek character. It was an excellent tour of locations with unique natural beauty and highlighted the achievements and works of modern Greece. The Lighting Ceremony of the Paralympic flame at the Temple of Hephaestus in Thiseio delighted the International Paralympic Committee, while the Organising Committee proposed its institution.



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

IPC President Phil Craven receives
the flame.
© ATHOC/D. Krezias

On the third day of the Paralympic
Torch Relay, the flame passes by
the southern coast of Athens
towards Sounio.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos



Opening Ceremony of the Paralympic Games

Greece, the birthplace of the values of humanity, sports and culture, hosted for the first time in its history the Paralympic Games. The organisation of the XII Paralympic Games was in fact an invitation to the greatest athletes with a disability to compete in technically excellent conditions and demonstrate their greatest sporting abilities.

"The Opening Ceremony basically aimed to honour the remarkable Paralympic Athletes, who possess a characteristic and paradigmatic form of energy. It is this kind of energy that inspires each one of us to exceed our limits. This ceremony honoured the Athletes by calling on the energy of the universal elements, from which man draws the strength for life. The Ceremony offered a spectacular journey through the elements and was completed with the sun, which inspired the emblem of the XII Paralympic Games.

These fundamental elements, which bestowed upon Greece the myths and the richness of its history, were expressed here through music, choreography, gigantic images, scenery and a number of technological means, which, however, always bring man to the centre of attention.

The Opening Ceremony of the XII Paralympic Games paid homage to the Athletes. For them, it took the form of a hymn to life."

Yves Pépin and Martin Arnaud, Producer and Director of ECA2 (creation and production company for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Paralympic Games)

The Enlighteners

The ceremony began on 17 September at 20:30 with the Enlighteners. "The children come from the past, bringing with them knowledge and

modernity. At the end of their journey in time, they pass their wisdom on to us."

150 children, covered in brown capes, entered the Stadium in an atmosphere of mystery, and approached the tree at the centre of the field.

The Tree of Life

The tree, a construction made of metallic, polystyrene, bamboo and fabric, was 26 metres tall, 23 metres across and weighed 35 tons. The trunk was made of 300 cubic metres of polystyrene carved by 8 sculptors in 15 days. It took almost a week to assemble it, with 195.000 leaves supported by 1.800 square metres of net.

It symbolised life-giving energy and humanity without boundaries. Hippocrates, who is regarded as the Father of Medicine, is supposed to have transmitted his knowledge under a plane tree (420 BC) on the island of Kos. This historic tree, which is considered by many to be the oldest tree in Europe, has a circumference of approximately 12 metres. In Ancient Greece, the sick used to lie down under plane trees and hoped for a cure through simply touching this incarnation of strength and longevity.

The magic tree transmitted its light to the children, who formed a luminous procession. They moved slowly in the dark, and, facing the audience, raised their light to the sky as an offering. A golden pyrotechnic display blew from the roof.

Welcome

In the Welcome segment, the Official Tribune was illuminated, while the field of play remained dark. The President of the Hellenic Republic, the President of the IPC and the President of ATHOC were introduced in Greek and English.

The stage, where 750 choir members stood,

Left page:

The Tree of Life.
© ATHOC



was illuminated. The choir began singing the Greek National Anthem. The soloist, Vicky Leandros, walked to the stage and joined them, while the Navy boys hoisted the National flag of the host country.

There followed the Parade of the Delegations, the first time in history that so many nations took part in the Paralympic Games.

The sound of percussion instruments could be heard in the background. Six soloists entered the Stadium and stood in front of the Official Tribune. The soloists invited the first delegation to lead the parade into the Stadium. The drums continued to play until the end of the parade. The drummers played various percussion instruments from different regions of the world: jembe, snare drums, tom, derbouka, as well as some traditional Greek instruments, such as daouli or zilia. The symbolism behind the selection of the percussion instruments represented the human values extolled by the Paralympic Games. The percussion instruments marked the values deeply rooted in the history of man and the earth. The music was divided into 10 ten-minute pieces, whose main theme was reminiscent of the music of the five continents. Each solo was a variation of the main theme and was inspired by the culture of a participating country: a musical crossing of cultures.

The delegations entered the Stadium in two groups. At the head of each delegation there was a placard-bearer, with the name of the country in Greek and English. The names were also translated into sign language by a volunteer standing next to the placard-bearer. When each delegation reached the Official Tribune, it was announced in Greek, English and sign language. The Deaf Theatre is a troupe of sign language interpreters, called "Coryphaeus". In ancient Greek drama, the "Coryphaeus" was the Chorus leader, who stepped forward to speak with the protagonists.

Five shell players introduced the speeches. The Presidents of ATHOC and of the IPC stood on the stage and in turn made short speeches. Speaking from the Official Tribune, the President of the Hellenic Republic declared the Paralympic Games open. A pyrotechnic display filled the air and concluded the official opening.

A santouri player, Eleni Filipa, improvised a variation on the IPC Hymn. A very old instrument, the santouri is possibly the ancient "psalterion" or "epigonio", and its name may derive from the Persian santour. Its shape is trapezoid, with a sound box of 4-5 cm in length and 50-65 cm in width. With 100-140 strings, it produces 30-32 notes. The high strings are made of bronze or steel and the bass strings of copper. It is played by using two mallets that have thread or cotton at the end so they can produce a soft sound.

Eight Paralympic athletes brought in the IPC Flag, with its three tae-geuks symbolising the IPC motto: Mind-Body-Spirit, and made a round of the Stadium to the sounds of the santouri. As the athletes reached the stage, the choir started performing the Paralympic Hymn and the Navy girls raised the flag. An athlete and a judge declared the Paralympic oaths on behalf of the participating athletes and judges.

A Journey to the Sun

The Ceremony honoured the athletes by calling on the basic energy from which man draws the strength for life: the energy of the universal elements. The universal elements -fire, water, earth, air - were at the heart of the poetic fable, the stage of which was the field of the Olympic Stadium and the central symbol of which was the tree. This hymn to life was accompanied by the successful interaction of a spellbinding music and a minutely detailed choreography, performed by several hundreds of dancers and interspersed with plays of images, which sometimes gave an impression of irrationality.

This page:

© ATHOC/G. Prinos



The lights were dimmed; the image of a small maze, which gradually became bigger and spread, was projected onto the field of play. The dancers moved around, as if confused, trying to find their way through the maze. The whole scene was an allegory of the human drama. The fable started with a world marred by violence, depicted by a beautiful choreography, plays of light and music. It was an allegory of the human drama, the fact that during their life men constantly have to face external obstacles and test their own limits.

Magma

Fire, the primary source of energy at the creation of the Earth, illuminated the Olympic Stadium. The field was overrun by lava flows.

Hephaestus, the god of fire, was known as the son of Zeus and Hera. Zeus threw him from Mount Olympus after Hephaestus had sided with his mother in a quarrel. Legend has it that he fell for nine days and nine nights, and finally landed off the island of Lemnos, where he built his forges under a volcano.

The image of fire was projected onto the tree, while the dancers performed in "cocoon costumes", huge pouches of lycra that fit up to 6 dancers, on which images were projected. A troupe of dancers performed an act, expressing the flow of magma on the surface of the earth.

Water

The primary source of life. Red, the colour of fire, was succeeded by blue, the colour of the sea.

Poseidon was a god of many names: most famous as the god of the sea, protector of all waters. Poseidon was one of the six siblings who eventually divided the power of the world. The division of the universe involved him and his brothers Zeus and Hades. Poseidon became lord of the sea; Zeus ruled the sky, and Hades got the underworld. Poseidon's weapon was the trident, which could shake the earth and shatter

any object. He was second in power only to Zeus.

The dancers, holding fans, recreated the movement of the waves.

Earth

Waves gave way to the fertile and nourishing Earth, in the centre of which stood the giant tree, adorned with human roots. The tree roots became animated, they became human roots, which expanded and covered the entire field of play. A symbol of fertility of the Earth.

Dionysus was the god of wine and ecstasy, agriculture, and the fertility of nature, and also patron god of the arts. According to one myth, he was the son of Zeus and a mortal woman named Semele. Semele was killed by Zeus' display of lightning bolts, while Dionysus was still in her womb. Zeus rescued Dionysus, who undergoes a second birth by Zeus, after growing in his thigh, and is raised by nymphs.

The magic of the show lay in the projections of images onto the dancers' costumes. The optical illusion of giant computerised images breathed life into the representations of fire, earth, water and air.

Air

The breeze blew the clouds away and the stadium reflected the sky. Grey and white clouds surrounded the tree as the wind blew.

Aeolus, god of the winds, was known as the guardian of the winds (anemoi) that lived on the floating island of Aeolia. He played an important part in the Odyssey as the one who gave Odysseus the bag of winds to blow the ships home to Ithaca. Unfortunately, the crew thought Odysseus was hiding gold and opened the bag, letting out the winds that blew the ships to the opposite direction towards the islands of Lipari. The winds are immortals who had chosen the air as their bodies. In the oldest myths there are only four winds: Boreas (north),

This page:

© ATHOC/G. Prinos

Eurus (east), Notus (south) and Zephyros (west).

Eighteen deaf people approached the tree, fighting against the wind, and signed out words, the names of the winds, which they sent out to the tree.

Sun

Helios, the source of light and hope, finally appeared, before it stood back to give way to the Paralympic Flame.

Helios was the young Greek god of the sun, the son of Hyperion and Theia. Each morning, at dawn, he rose from the ocean in the east and rode in his chariot, pulled by four horses (Pyrois, Eos, Aethon, and Phlegon) through the sky, to descend at night in the west. He saw and knew all, and this was why he was called upon as witness.

One hundred and twenty volunteers represented the sunrays, from the tree towards the track. The Sun was revealed on the field of play, surrounded by Angels.

The Torch Relay and the Lighting of the Cauldron

The lights were dimmed. A video clip of the Torch relay around Athens ran on the screens. The Flame entered the Stadium and was passed by eight Paralympic athletes to the cauldron. As the last Torchbearer climbed the stairs to the cauldron, the children progressively lit up their lights. Looking up into the sky the Torchbearer raised the Torch and launched a succession of fireworks, which brought the flame to the cauldron.

At the end of a celebration where emotional intensity and impressive visual spectacle mingled, the Flame lit up the Olympic Stadium of Athens. A total blackout followed.

A 12-year-old female lead, Kalli Georgellis, singing a capella and supported by the choir, appeared on the stage. She crossed the field to light up the human sun and returned to the stage. A duet of a female and a male voice, the internationally renowned Mario Frangoulis, followed, and the rest of the cast stepped in. The sun started shimmering; a series of successive fireworks lit up the sky and the ceremony concluded.

General production facts

• Volunteers:

400 volunteer performers

150 children with 20 parents

145 placard bearers

600 marshals

8 Navy girls + 1 Officer (hoisting the flag)

20 deaf comedians (coryphaeus sequence)

80 backstage volunteers

Youngest volunteer: 8 years old

Oldest volunteer: 70 years old

Majority: Greek nationals, other volunteers from Argentina, Australia, France, Germany, Spain.

• Rehearsals:

250 dancers

12 days of dance rehearsals at the end of July

Rehearsals with the cast from 3 to 16 September

Over 268 hours of rehearsals

• Music:

96 musicians

750 choir singers

6 percussionist soloists

29 percussionists

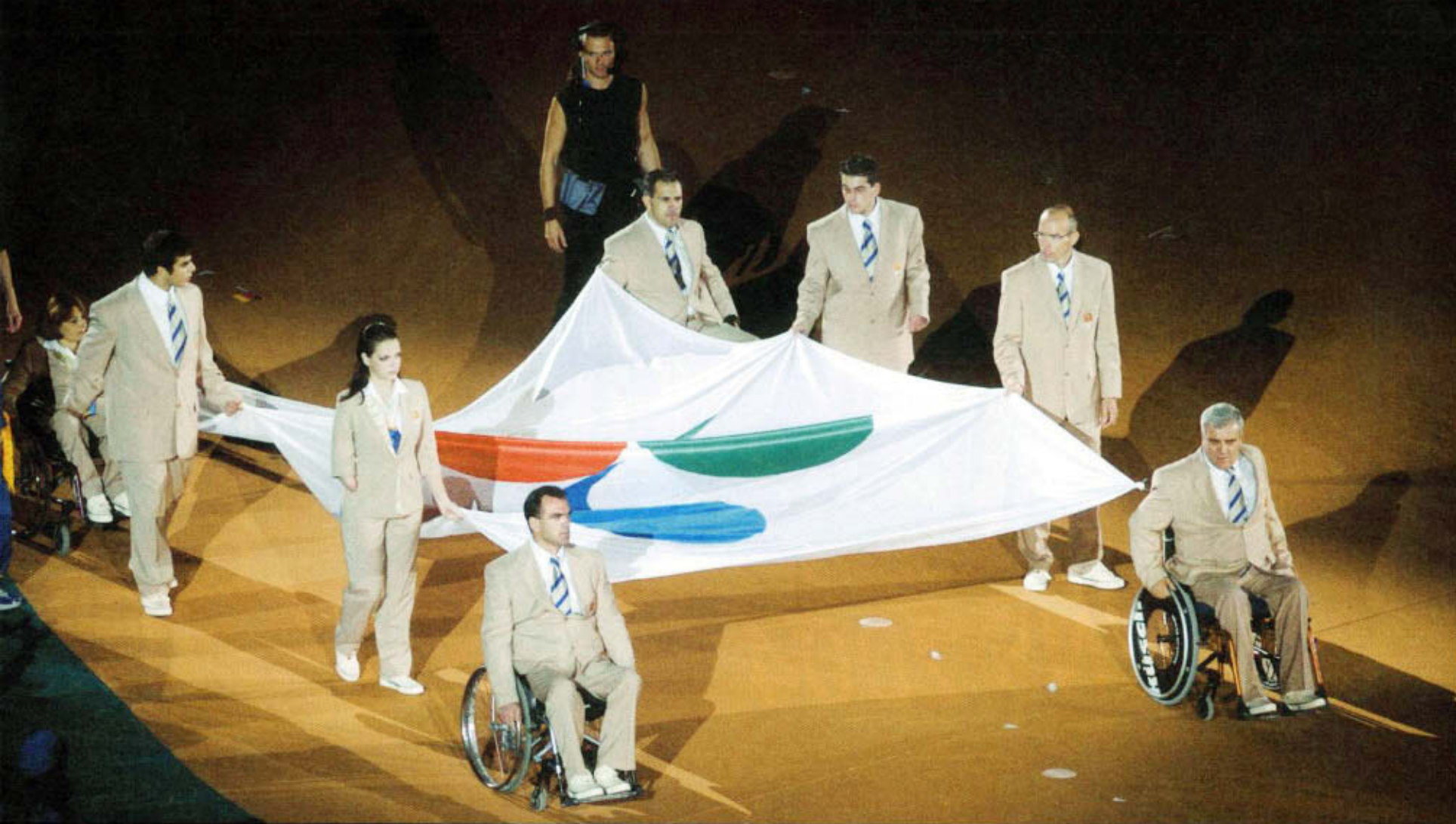
• Costumes:

2.600 costumes

15 placard bearers' dresses produced per person per day

18.953 metres of cloth

60 make-up artists and hairdressers



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

The Paralympic flag is brought into
the Stadium.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos

The last torchbearer, Greek
Paralympian jumper Georgios
Toptsis, runs with the flame.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos



ATHENS 2004



The Paralympic Games



Archery

Competition Sequence

Paralympic Archery competition took place within the span of six days from 21 to 26 September

Description

As the majority of sports for persons with a disability, Archery originally started as a rehabilitation and recreation activity. Over the past fifty years, this sport gives the chance to athletes with a disability to practice their expertise, accuracy, strength and concentration. Athletes with a physical disability such as spinal injuries, cerebral palsy, amputations and Les Autres participate in Paralympic Archery.

The competition format in the Paralympic Games is called the "Olympic Round". A total of 96 archers (64 men and 32 women) participate in the Olympic round. For each of the three classes -ARW1, ARW2, and ARST- there are individual men and women events. In the individual women event, archers from ARW1 and ARW2 classes may choose to compete together

In the team events, every team consists of three athletes with the same nationality. Both men and women team events are open to all categories, meaning that athletes from all three classes can form a team.

ARW2 athletes are mainly athletes with paraplegia and limited movement of the lower limbs. Athletes compete in a wheelchair.

ARST athletes are athletes with limited mobility of the lower limbs, who are though able to walk. Athletes in this category can choose to compete either standing or on a stool.

In Archery each athlete's aim is to land the arrows in the "inner" ring of the target, so as to earn the highest score. The targets are placed 70 metres away from the athletes. Each target is 1,22 metres in diameter and consists of ten scoring zones marked out as ten concentric circles or rings.

A hit in the innermost ring scores 10 points, a hit in the outermost ring scores 1 point, and a hit in one of the rings between scores from 2 to 9 points, depending on which ring the arrow will pierce. If the arrow lands on the boundary between two rings, the higher score is awarded. If it pierces another arrow, valid is the score earned by the first arrow. If the arrow bounds on the target, the draw counts only when a trace is left on the target.

Men's: 2	Women's: 3	Total: 7
Individual Events: 3	Individual Events: 2	
Team Events: 1	Teams Events: 1	

Venue

At the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens, the Archery events were held at the Olympic Baseball Centre of the Helliniko Olympic Complex.

Athletes are classified into three classes: ARW1, ARW2 and ARST.

ARW1 athletes are mainly athletes with tetraplegia and with limitation on the movements of the upper and lower limbs. ARW1 athletes compete in a wheelchair.

Left page,
from top to bottom:

Paralympic Archery at the Olympic Baseball Centre of the Helliniko Complex.
© ATHOC/P. Vardakas

© ATHOC/S. Tsakiris

© ATHOC/C. Voulgari



Athletics

Competition Sequence

Athletics competition programme was completed within nine days from 19 to 27 September 2004.

Description

Athletics is one of the most popular Paralympic sports. Athletics was included in the competition programme of the first Paralympic Games in 1960 in Rome. It involves the largest number of men and women athletes and the largest number of events.

Participants in the Paralympic Games are men and women athletes with cerebral palsy, spinal chord injuries, amputations or other physical disabilities, blind athletes and athletes with vision impairment. The competition programme includes track and field events, throwing and jumping events, the marathon and pentathlon.

Athletes compete in a wheelchair or using prosthetic legs or arms (artificial limbs), while blind athletes compete with the help of a guide.

Athletes are classified in various classes, based on their type of disability:

Athletes with cerebral palsy are classified in classes 32 to 38. In classes 32 to 34, athletes compete in a wheelchair and in classes 35 to 38 in an upright standing position.

Athletes with spinal cord injuries or other physical disabilities, other than cerebral palsy, are classified according to their mobility profile, in classes 51 to 54 for track events and 51 to 58 for throwing events. In these classes athletes compete in a wheelchair.

Athletes with an amputation of one or more limbs, as well as other physical disabilities (les autres) who compete in a standing position, are classified into classes 42 to 46.

Athletes with vision impairment and blind athletes are classified in the three classes 11, 12 and 13.

Athletes with dwarfism due to lack of cartilage formation ("achondroplasia") compete only in throwing events in category 40.

Venue

The Athletics competition took place at the Olympic Stadium of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA).

This page:

Paralympic Athletics at the Olympic Stadium.
© ATHOC/S. Tsakiris

Right page:

Poland's F42 long jumper Ewa Zielinska, who achieved a new personal best of 3.38 and placed fourth in the final rankings.
© ATHOC/S. Tsakiris



ATHENS 2004
PARALYMPIC GAMES

1829

ODD

2004



Boccia

Competition Sequence

Paralympic Boccia competition was completed within six days from 23 to 28 September 2004.

Description

Boccia is a competitive sport that is played by individuals, pairs or teams of three. Boccia is a sport for people with cerebral palsy and other loco motor disabilities, who are wheelchair users, on both recreational and competition levels. The sport requires concentration, coordination, muscular control, accuracy, teamwork, cooperation and strategy.

Boccia matches are held in indoor halls, on specially marked courts. The players' aim is to throw their coloured leather balls, which may be either red or blue, as close as they can to a white target ball, which is called the "jack". The match begins with the toss of a coin by the referee. The winning side chooses whether to play with red or blue balls. The side with the red balls initiates the first end (round) by throwing the "jack" first and then the first red ball. The ball can be propelled by the hand, the foot, or by using an assistive device, when players have a severe loco motor disability that affects all four extremities. The match continues with the opponents taking turns in trying to throw their balls as close as possible to the "jack". At the end of each end the referee measures the distances of the balls that are closest to the "jack". Points are awarded accordingly and are accumulated to declare the winner. Players with cerebral palsy classified as CP1 or CP2 athletes, as well as athletes with other severe loco motor disabilities (e.g. muscular dystrophy), are eligible to compete.

Players are classified into four classes depending on their functional ability:

BC1: for both CP1 and CP2 players. Athletes may compete with the help of an aide, who must remain outside the athlete's playing box. The assistant can only stabilise or adjust the playing chair and give a ball to the player.

BC2: for CP2 players. Players are not eligible for assistance by an aide.

BC3: for players with a very severe loco motor dysfunction. Players use an assistive device and are allowed to be assisted by an aide, who will remain in the player's box but who must keep his/her back to the court and eyes averted from play.

BC4: for players with other loco motor disabilities. Players are not eligible for assistance by an aide.

There are seven divisions of play. Each division is played by competitors of either gender. The divisions are:

Individual BC1

Individual BC2

Individual BC3

Individual BC4

Pairs for players classified as BC3

Pairs for players classified as BC4

Team for players classified as BC1 and BC2

Venue

During the Paralympic Games of Athens, Boccia was held at the Ano Liossia Olympic Hall.

This page:

Boccia at the Ano Liossia Olympic Hall.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos



Cycling Road Race

Competition Sequence

Paralympic Cycling Road Race took place from 24 to 27 September 2004.

Description

Cycling Road consists of individual time trials and endurance races.

Endurance races

Athletes participate in the following races depending on their class:

Athletes with total or partial vision impairment

100 - 120 km for men Tandem
50 - 70 km for women Tandem
60-80 km for mixed Tandem

Athletes with a physical disability and amputees

LC1 class for men: 70-110 km
LC2 class for men: 60-90 km
LC3 class for men: 50-70 km
LC4 class for men: 40-60 km
LC1 class for women: 60-90 km
LC2 class for women: 50-70 km
LC3 class for women: 40-60 km
LC4 class for women: 30-50 km

Handcycling Athletes (HC)

Men's Division A: 1 hour or 35-70 km.
Men's Division B: 1 hour or 35-70 km.
Men's Division C: 1 hour or 35-70 km.
Women's Division A: 20-60 km.
Women's Division B: 20-60 km.
Women's Division C: 20-60 km.

Athletes with cerebral palsy (CP)

Division 4 for men: 1 hour or 35-70 km.
Division 3 for men: 1 hour or 35-70 km.
Division 2 for men: 1/2-hour or 15-30 km.
Division 1 for men: 1/2-hour or 15-30 km.
Division 4 for women: 45' or 30-50 km.
Division 3 for women: 45' or 30-50 km.
Division 2 for women: 1/2-hour or 15-30 km.
Division 1 for women: 1/2-hour or 15-30 km.

Individual Time Trial Races

Athletes participate in the following races, depending on their class:

Athletes with total or partial vision impairment

10-50 km for men's Tandem
5-40 km for women's Tandem
5-40 km for mixed Tandem

Athletes with an amputation or other mobility disabilities

LC1 class for men: 5-40 km
LC2 class for men: 5-40 km
LC3 class for men: 5-30 km
LC4 class for men: 5-30 km
LC1 class for women: 5-40 km
LC2 class for women: 5-30 km
LC3 class for women: 5-30 km
LC4 class for women: 5-20 km

Handcycling athletes (HC)

Men's Division A: 5-30 km
Men's Division B: 5-30 km
Men's Division C: 5-30 km
Women's Division A: 5-30 km
Women's Division B: 5-30 km
Women's Division C: 5-30 km

Athletes with cerebral palsy (CP)

Division 4 for men: 5-40 km
Division 3 for men: 5-40 km
Division 2 for men: 1.5-10 km
Division 1 for men: 1.5-10 km
Division 4 for women: 5-30 km
Division 3 for women: 5-20 km
Division 2 for women: 1.5-10 km
Division 1 for women: 1.5-10 km

In the cycling road events no round can be less than 7 km and the tilts must not exceed 25% of the total lap distance. For the tricycle and handcycling events easier courses are chosen. Every class, team or group starts off with a 2-minute time difference, so that the cyclists from the various classes do not get mixed up.

Venue

The road cycling events took place in the Vouliagmeni area in the south of Athens.

This page:

Paralympic Road Cycling in Vouliagmeni.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



Cycling Track

Competition Sequence

Paralympic Cycling Track took place from 18 to 22 September 2004.

Description

Cycling Track in the Paralympic Games includes the following events:

1.000m Individual Time Trial, for:

- a. men and women with physical (locomotor) disability from classes: LC1, LC2, LC3 and LC4,
- b. men and women with cerebral palsy from groups 3 and 4, and
- c. men and women with partial or total vision impairment (men's, women's, and mixed Tandem)

4.000m Individual Pursuit, for:

- a. men and women with physical (locomotor) disability from classes LC1 and LC2, and
- b. athletes with total or partial vision impairment (men's Tandem)

3.000m Individual Pursuit, for:

- a. men and women with physical (locomotor) disability from classes LC3 and LC4,
- b. men and women with cerebral palsy, from group 3 and 4, and
- c. men and women with total or partial vision impairment (women's and mixed Tandem)

Team sprint, for:

- a. men and women with physical (locomotor) disability from classes LC1, LC2, LC3, LC4, and
- b. men and women with cerebral palsy from groups 3 and 4

Sprint, for:

- a. men and women athletes with total or partial vision impairment (men's and women's Tandem) participate.

One is positioned in the middle of one of the track's straights while the other in the middle of the opposite straight. During the race one tries to reach the other or to record the fastest time. The athletes with the best times qualify to the final. The sprint race consists of three rounds. In the qualifying round athletes compete against the clock. Only the last 200 metres are timed. In the next stages of the race the important thing is to win, because the riders compete against each other

In the team sprint, two teams of three athletes each compete against each other. Athletes from classes LC1, LC2, LC3 and LC4 can participate as members of a team. However, each team must be comprised of at least two different categories (e.g. one athlete from category LC1 and two from category LC3).

The total of the athletes' class number (L1, L2 etc.) for each team must be at least 6 (e.g. if one team consists of one athlete from category LC1, one from LC2 and one from LC3, the total number of points for the team is respectively $1+2+3=6$). The teams start from diametrically opposite sides on the track, one team in the middle of one of the track's straights and the other in the middle of the opposite straight. Each race consists of three laps. Each athlete completes one lap and then withdraws. The team with the best time is the winner of the race. The competition area of a velodrome, the cycling track, is a wooden, inclined, ellipsoid surface consisting of two straights and two bends. The total length of a track built to Paralympic specifications is 250 or 333,33 metres. The tilt of the track on the straights starts at 12 degrees and on the bends reaches up to 43 degrees.

Venue

The Cycling Velodrome, at the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA), was the venue that hosted the Track Cycling event during the Paralympic Games.

In the 1.000m individual time trial, each athlete competes by himself against the clock. The winner is the one with the best time. In individual pursuit two cyclists start on diametrically opposite sides of the track

This page:

Paralympic Track Cycling at the Olympic Velodrome of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA).
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



Equestrian

Competition Sequence

Dressage was the only Equestrian discipline that was included in the competition schedule of the 2004 Paralympic Games, held over six days between 21 and 26 September 2004.

Description

Although horse riding has long constituted a means for the rehabilitation and improvement of the physical skills of people with a disability, it evolved as a sport during the 1970s. The 1984 World Games in New York marked the beginning of international Dressage competitions for riders with a disability. Dressage was included in the competition programme of the 1996 Paralympic Games in Atlanta, with riders from 16 countries. In the 2000 Paralympic Games in Sydney, participation increased with 72 slots, and riders from 24 countries competing.

Equestrian is a multi-disability sport. Athletes with visual impairment, cerebral palsy, amputation or other physical impairments can compete in Equestrian Sports. There are four distinct grades:

Grade I

Mainly wheelchair users with poor trunk balance and or impairment of function in all four limbs or no trunk balance and good upper limb function or moderate trunk balance with severe impairment of all four limbs.

Grade II

Mainly wheelchair users or those with severe loco motor impairment involving the trunk, and with good to mild upper limb function or severe unilateral impairment.

Grade III

They are usually able to walk without support. Moderate unilateral impairment, or moderate impairment in four limbs, severe arm

impairment. They may need a wheelchair for longer distances or due to lack of stamina. Total loss of sight in both eyes or intellectually impaired. Blacked out glasses or blindfold must be worn by Profile 36 riders.

Grade IV

Impairment in one or two limbs or some visual impairment.

The classification takes also into account the weighting system for the body areas most important for riding.

Equestrian is unique among Paralympic sports, since men and women compete on the same terms and horse and rider are both declared Paralympic medal winners.

Men and women riders perform two programmes: a predetermined test (Individual Championship) and a freestyle to music test. There is also a Team Test that determines the result of the all-important Team Competition with the Individual Championship.

In the Individual Championship Test, athletes perform a series of compulsory movements with transitions between them (walk, trot and, for some riders, canter). The Freestyle to Music test is a competition of artistic equitation. There are some compulsory movements, but the tests are free in the form and manner of the presentation that the rider chooses within a fixed time. The I.P.E.C. accredited International judges assess the coordination, harmony and accuracy of the movements, as well as the willingness, obedience and trust of the horse towards the rider. The final scores ranging from 0 to 10 for each movement are added up and are shown as a percentage of all five judges' marks.

Venue

Paralympic Equestrian competition was held at the Markopoulo Olympic Equestrian Centre, in sand arenas 20m x 40m and 20m x 40m.

This page:

Aneta Matysiak of Poland competes with horse Jacht during the Individual Dressage-grade II event at the Paralympic Games on 22 September 2004.
© Getty Images/M. Bicanski



Football (5-a-side)

Competition Sequence

Paralympic Football (5-a-side) programme was completed within six competition days: 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 September 2004.

Description

There has been a rapid development of Football (5-a-side) around the world. The first National Championship took place in Spain in 1986. Since then, the sport has been expanding in many countries. The Athens Paralympic Games are a landmark for 5-a-side, since the sport was included for first time in the Games competition programme.

The Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA), in cooperation with the Football Committee of the International Blind Sports Association (IBSA), is responsible for the development of the sport.

Football (5-a-side) is a very popular and exciting sport for blind athletes and athletes with vision impairment. Every Football match is played between two teams with four blind athletes and one sighted or visually impaired goalkeeper on the field and five substitutes. A Football match lasts 50 minutes with two halves lasting 25 minutes each and a 10-minute half time in between. The winning team is the one that scores most of the goals during a match.

Athletes participate in 5-a-side Football from the following classes:

B1: Athletes with total vision loss

B2, B3: Athletes with partial vision impairment.

In Football (5-a-side) athletes who have full vision can compete as goalkeepers. In the event that the goalkeeper is sighted, he may not have been registered with any Football five-a-side or Football Federation (FIFA) in the last five years.

This page:

5-a-side Football at the Olympic Hockey Centre at the Helliniko Complex.
© ATHOC/C. Voulgari



Football (7-a-side)

Competition Sequence

Paralympic Football (7-a-side) programme was completed within five days: 19, 21, 23, 25 and 27 September 2004.

Description

The Football (7-a-side) is one of the most spectacular sports for athletes with a physical disability. It first appeared as a sport at the International Games in 1978, in Edinburgh. A few years later, in 1984, it was incorporated into the official competition programme of the Paralympic Games and in 1986 the first International Tournament took place. The Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA), in cooperation with the Football Committee of the Cerebral Palsy International Sport and Recreation Association (CP-ISRA), are responsible for the international development of the sport.

Athletes from the following classes compete in Football (7-a-side):

C5: This class consists of athletes, who might need help when walking, but not in standing posture or when kicking the ball. Usually, a small shift in the central equilibrium of these athletes leads to the loss of balance.

C6: This class consists of athletes with athetosis, who can walk without any help although they have some visible difficulties.

C7: This class consists of athletes with hemiplegia. Although the athletes in this class can walk without assistance, they have visible difficulties in walking.

C8: The C8 class consists of athletes with a small degree of hemiplegia. Athletes in this class walk and run freely without assistance and without a visible difficulty.

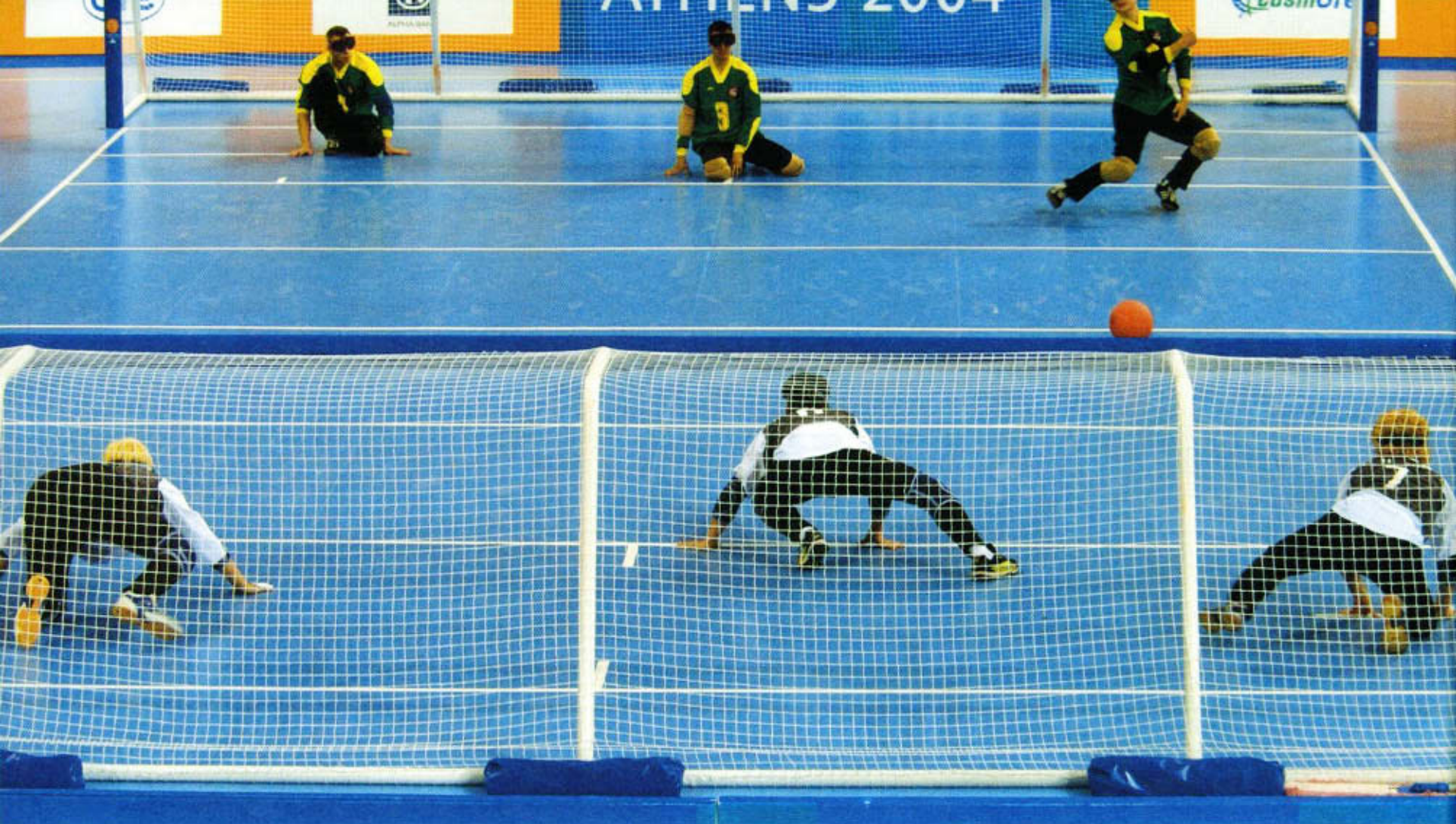
Every team consists of 12 players. Every Football match is played between two teams with seven players on each side, including the goalkeeper. A Football (7-a-side) match lasts 60 minutes and is played in two halves of 30 minutes each, with a 15-minute halftime in between. The winner is the team that scores most of the goals. At least one C5 or C6 class athlete per team must play throughout the game. If there isn't one, then the team is obliged to play with six players. Furthermore, no more than three players from category C8 are allowed to play at the same time.

Venue

At the Athens Paralympic Games the Football (7-a-side) tournament took place on Pitch 1 of the Olympic Hockey Centre at the Helliniko Olympic Complex.

This page:

7-a-side Football at the Olympic Hockey Centre at the Helliniko Olympic Complex.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



Goalball

Competition Sequence

Competition events took place within seven days (from 20 to 26 September 2004).

Description

Goalball was introduced as a demonstration sport during the 1976 Paralympic Games in Toronto with the participation of men's teams from seven countries. In 1978 the first Goalball World Championships were held in Austria. Goalball was officially included in the Paralympic Games competition programme in 1980 in Arnhem. Ever since 1982, Goalball has been under the authority of the International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) and is managed by the IBSA Goalball Subcommittee. IBSA was founded in Paris in 1981 with the purpose of developing and promoting sports activities for blind and visually impaired athletes. IBSA is an official member of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), which leads the Paralympic Movement. Goalball is considered to be one of the most popular Paralympic sports and is played in more than 112 countries around the world.

Goalball is conducted in an indoor Volleyball court. It is played by both men and women athletes. Each team consists of three players with a maximum of three substitutes.

The objective of the game is for each team to roll the ball with their hands to the opposite side and score a goal, while the opposing players try to block the ball with any part of their body. The winner is the team that scores the most goals. A game is played in two halves of 10 minutes each. Competition classes in Goalball are based on the level of visual acuity and visual field of the athletes:

B1 class athletes have total absence of perception of the light in both eyes or some perception of the light, but with inability to recognise the form of a hand at any distance and in any direction.

B2 class athletes have the ability to recognise the form of a hand to a visual acuity of 2/60.

B3 class athletes have the ability to recognise the form of a hand to a visual acuity of 2 - 6/60. To ensure equal terms during the contest, all players are obliged to use eyeshades to ban all access of light.

Venue

During the Athens Paralympic Games, Goalball competitions were held at the Sports Pavilion of the Faliro Coastal Zone Olympic Complex. Athens hosted 12 men's and 8 women's Goalball teams.

This page:

Goalball at the Sports Pavilion of the Faliro Coastal Zone Olympic Complex.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



Judo

Competition Sequence

Judo competition events took place within the span of three days (18 - 20 September).

Description

Men's Judo was the first sport originating from Asia to be introduced in the Paralympic Games schedule at the 1988 Games in Seoul. Women's Paralympic Judo has been developing at a fast pace and was included in the Paralympic Games schedule for the first time at the Athens Paralympic Games. Paralympic Judo is governed by the International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA). IBSA was founded in Paris in 1981 and aims to organise sports events and championships for blind and vision impaired athletes. IBSA is a member of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), which leads the Paralympic Movement.

There are seven categories for men and six for women in which visually impaired or blind athletes compete:

Men	Women
-60kg	-48kg
-66kg	-52kg
-73kg	-57kg
-81kg	-63kg
-90kg	-70kg
-100kg	+70kg
+100kg	

This page:

Paralympic Judo at the Ano Liossia Olympic Hall.
© ATHOC

Judo has two main elements, the sporting skills of attack and defence and the culture of the sport through which these skills are performed. The moral code of Judo is politeness, courage, sincerity, self-control, honour, modesty, friendship and respect. In Judo competition, a judoka can be disqualified for deliberately hurting their opponent.

The two judokas (athletes) one in a white and one in a blue uniform (judogi) - compete for five minutes. In Paralympic Judo, the athletes are blind or vision-impaired. They are guided by their touch, sensibility, instinct and sense of balance. A main referee and two further technical officials arbitrate a Judo contest. All officials are of equal status and calls are decided by vote. The main referee calls all points and penalties while performing the designated hand gestures. The referee gives the signal for the beginning of the match after the two athletes have come into contact.

A judoka must score an Ippon (a degree equalling 10 points) by using a successful technique to win the contest. If none of the judokas completes an Ippon by the end of the game, the winner is the one that has scored the greatest value point.

A total of 120 Judo athletes, 84 men and 36 women competed in the Athens Paralympic Games.

Venue

During the ATHENS 2004 Paralympic Games, Judo competitions were staged in the Ano Liossia Olympic Hall.



Powerlifting

Competition Sequence

Paralympic Powerlifting competition schedule was completed over seven days from 20 to 27 September 2004, with a rest day on 23 September.

Description

Powerlifting for athletes with a disability made its appearance at the 1964 Paralympic Games in Tokyo, under the name of Weightlifting. Only men athletes with spinal cord injuries participated. The sport was later renamed "Powerlifting". The incorporation of regulations similar to those that apply in Weightlifting for able-bodied athletes and the participation of athletes with other physical disabilities, such as athletes with cerebral palsy and amputee athletes, contributed to the radical development of Powerlifting. Athletes from 25 countries participated in Powerlifting at the Barcelona Paralympic Games in 1992. Four years later, at the Atlanta Paralympic Games in 1996, the number of participating countries reached 58. Since then the number has increased reaching 109 countries from five continents. At the 2000 Paralympic Games in Sydney, women also participated for the first time. The Powerlifting Committee of the International Paralympic Committee was founded in 1989 and constitutes the competent administrative body for the international organisation and development of the sport.

In Powerlifting, men and women athletes compete in a horizontal lying position (on their back) on a specially designed bench. An athlete's official assistants give the bar to the competitor at the level of his or her outstretched arms. The athlete must complete

his or her attempt within two minutes through the following moves: lower the bar to the chest, hold it immobile for a short period and then lift it upwards as far as the arms can stretch.

Men and women compete in specific categories according to their body weight. In addition, the athlete must have the ability to stretch the arms out to the maximum. If an athlete has not the ability to fully stretch his or her arms out, this inability should not exceed 20 degrees. Specifically, the classes of athletes are:

Men	Women
- 48 kilos	-40 kilos
- 52 kilos	- 44 kilos
- 56 kilos	- 48 kilos
- 60 kilos	- 52 kilos
- 67.5 kilos	- 56 kilos
- 75 kilos	- 60 kilos
- 82.5 kilos	- 67.5 kilos
- 90 kilos	-75 kilos
- 100 kilos	- 82.5 kilos
+ 100 kilos	+ 82.5 kilos

Classification, based on a minimal disability, means that the athletes must fulfil the conditions of a minimum degree of disability.

The athletes that are eligible to participate are the ones with locomotor disabilities such as amputations, cerebral palsy, spinal cord injuries, les Autres.

Venue

Powerlifting during the Athens Paralympic Games took place at the Nikaia Olympic Weightlifting Hall.

This page:

Powerlifting at the Nikaia Olympic Weightlifting Hall.
© ATHOC/C. Voulgari



Sailing

Competition Sequence

Sailing competition took place within the span of six days from 18 to 23 September 2004.

Description

Sailing has some of the most enthusiastic supporters worldwide. It is also one of the very few sports in which age does not play a significant role. In fact, the experience gained through years of involvement often enhances the athlete's abilities.

Sailing started to attract sailors with a disability in the 1980s. The first international Sailing tournament for athletes with a disability was held in Switzerland. The International Handicap Sailing Committee (IHSC) was established in 1988 and organised competitions and forums to promote Sailing for persons with a disability. Two years later, in 1990, Sailing made its debut as an exhibition sport at the World Games for the Disabled. In 1991 the International Sailing Federation recognised the IHSC; a little later the same year, the IHSC was renamed "The International Foundation for Disabled Sailing" (IFDS). The first Sailing World Championship for persons with a disability was held in Switzerland in 1991. It was followed by other world championships in Spain (1992), USA

(1993), and UK (1994). Sailing appeared as an exhibition sport at the 1996 Atlanta Games; at the 2000 Sydney Games, the Paralympic competition programme included events for Sonar boat with a crew of three and for 2.4mR single-handed boat.

Sailing events take place on waterways delineated by buoys. These waterways define the courses that competitors have to complete. During the Paralympic Sailing events in Athens, athletes competed in Sonar and 2.4mR classes.

Athletes competing in Paralympic Sailing are placed in competition classes according to their particular disability, which must cause visible limitation to their functionality. After the evaluation of athletes with a movement disability, they are awarded points ranging from 1 to 7, the lowest and highest level of functionality respectively. Athletes with vision impairment and blind athletes are placed into one of three competition classes based on their visual acuity and field of vision.

Venue

Sailing during the Athens Paralympic Games was held at the Agios Kosmas Olympic Sailing Centre.

This page:

John Robertson, Stephen Thomas and Hannah Stodel of Great Britain compete in the mixed sonar sailing on 19 September 2004 at the Agios Kosmas Olympic Sailing Centre.
© Getty Images/P. Cole



Shooting

Competition Sequence

Shooting competition programme was completed from 18 to 23 September 2004 (six competition days).

Description

Shooting is one of the most popular sports worldwide. It requires technical perfection and excellent mental conditioning.

Shooting is open to men and women of all ages on both the recreational and championship levels. It was first included in the Paralympic Games sports programme in 1980 in Arnhem.

Shooting events differ as to the distance, the type of target and arm, the shooting position, the number of shots and the time within which the shots have to be fired.

Both men and women athletes are classified into more than one category, according to their type of physical disability (amputation,

paraplegia, quadriplegia or other physical disability). Depending on the existing limitations (degree of body trunk functionality, balance while seating, muscle strength, mobility of both upper and lower limbs), and on the skills that are necessary in Shooting, athletes are divided into two classes: SH1 and SH2. The basic difference between the two classes is that SH2 athletes may use a special support for the arm, which complies with the IPC specifications. The competition chair, which can be a wheelchair or a bench, must comply with IPC specifications, regarding its back and the supports used (table or bench). Chair specifications vary depending on the category. The ATHENS 2004 Shooting competition programme included air gun and firearm events from shooting distances of 10,25 and 50 metres.

Venue

Shooting at the Athens Paralympic Games took place at the Markopoulo Olympic Shooting Centre.

This page:

Gold medallist Li Jian Fei of China during the air pistol men's SH1 competition at the Markopoulo Olympic Shooting Centre, 18 September 2004.
© Getty Images/M. Bicanski



Sitting Volleyball

Competition Sequence

Paralympic Sitting Volleyball competition programme was completed over seven days, from 21 to 27 September 2004, with a resting day on 23 September 2004.

Description

Sitting Volleyball first appeared in 1956 in Holland and was a combination of Volleyball with Sitzbal, a game of German origin, which was played on the floor without a net, for athletes with limited mobility. Many international events took place up until 1978. The year 1980 was a landmark in the history of Volleyball for athletes with a disability, when it was first included into the competition programme of the Paralympic Games in Amhem, the Netherlands, with the participation of seven teams. Since 1993, there have been Sitting Volleyball World championships for men and women. Until the Sydney Paralympic Games in 2000, the sport consisted of two disciplines: Standing and Sitting Volleyball. Today, following a decision by the International Paralympic Committee, only Sitting Volleyball is included in the Paralympic Games competition programme.

The differences between Paralympic and Olympic Volleyball are minimal. Specifically, in Sitting Volleyball the dimensions of the court are smaller, the "filet" (net) is lower and the athletes play sitting down. The sport requires

determination, cooperation and good strategy from the participants. Each team consists of six players and up to six substitutes.

In Sitting Volleyball the men and women athletes are not classified into classes, as in many other sports. There is only a classification on minimal disability, which means they must fulfil the conditions of a minimum degree of disability.

Eligible to participate are athletes with locomotor disabilities such as:

Amputations,
Cerebral palsy,
Spinal cord injuries and
Les Autres.

Eligible to compete are athletes with disabilities such as athletes with:

Above and below the knee or below or above the elbow amputations.

Dysmelia, motor paresis or total paralysis of lower or upper limbs.

Les Autres athletes with disabilities such as dysplasia or luxation of the coxae, total endoprosthesis of knee or hip(s), circulation defect of lower limb(s), pseudoarticulation of lower limb(s), instability forward/backward of 1.5 cm of the knee, luxation of humeroscapular joint.

Venue

Sitting Volleyball at the Athens Paralympic Games took place at the Helliniko Fencing Hall which is situated at the Helliniko Olympic Complex.

This page:

Sitting Volleyball at the Helliniko Fencing Hall in the Helliniko Olympic Complex.
© ATHOC/S. Tsakiris



Swimming

Competition Sequence

Swimming competition programme was completed in 9 days from 19 to 27 September 2004.

Description

Swimming began as a rehabilitation and leisure activity, but soon developed into one of the most popular and highly competitive sports for athletes with a disability.

Swimming was included as a Paralympic sport at the first Games, which took place in Rome in 1960 and has since constituted an integral part of the Paralympic Games competition programme.

In Swimming competitions participants are men and women with a physical disability or vision impairment. Athletes with vision impairment depending on the degree of vision loss are classified into the following categories: S11-SB11-SM11, S12-SB12-SM12 and S13-SB13-SM13

For swimmers with a physical disability, classification is relatively more complex. Depending on the type of disability, one first examines the degree of muscle strength;

movement coordination or the scope of movement and then the functional ability and movement limitations in the water are assessed in the various swimming styles. After the above assessment, athletes are classified into: 10 classes, S1-S10, for freestyle, backstroke and butterfly; 8 classes for breaststroke, SB2-SB9; and 8 classes for the individual medley, SM3-SM10.

The Paralympic Games programme included seven individual events and two relays for men's and women's categories.

The events included were:

50m, 100m and 400m freestyle
100m backstroke
100m breaststroke
100m butterfly
200m individual medley
4x100m freestyle relay and 4x100m medley relay

Venue

The Swimming events took place at the indoor pool of the Olympic Aquatic Centre of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA).

This page:

Paralympic Swimming at the Olympic Aquatic Centre of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA).
© ATHOC/S. Tsakiris

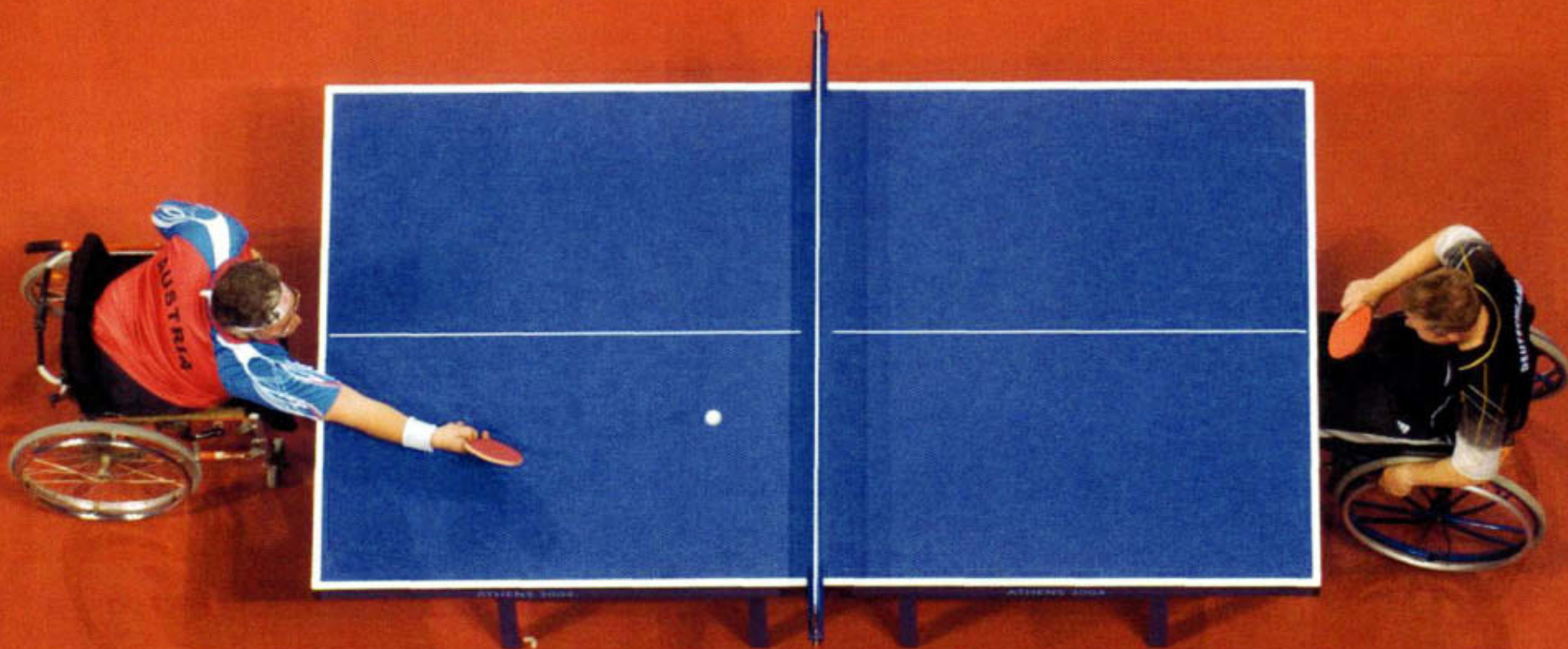


Table Tennis

Competition Sequence

Paralympic Table Tennis competition programme was completed within nine days from 18 to 27 September 2004, with a one-day intermission on 22 September.

Description

Speed and quick reactions constitute the two main characteristics of Table Tennis athletes. Each game consists of best of five sets. The first athlete or team that scores 11 points wins the set.

Table Tennis at the Paralympic Games presents only minor differences compared to the corresponding game in the Olympic Games. Only a few modifications have been made for athletes who use a wheelchair. Participants are athletes with cerebral palsy, spinal cord injuries and athletes with an amputation or other locomotor disabilities.

The athletes compete in a wheelchair or standing and are classified in 10 classes based on their functional ability.

In classes 1 to 5, athletes with tetraplegia or paraplegia compete in a wheelchair. Athletes who choose to compete in a wheelchair can

also be classified in classes 1 to 5. Athletes with the biggest difficulties in body movement and the upper limbs (usually athletes with tetraplegia) are classified into class 1. As one rises in class, e.g. to 4 and 5, one finds athletes who, although using a wheelchair, present greater mobility abilities. In cases where the athletes cannot hold the racket, they are allowed to tie it to their hands.

In classes 6 to 10, athletes compete in standing position. Athletes with a combination of disabilities such as locomotor disorders in the hand with which the athlete plays, as well as in the lower limbs which limit one's balance are classified into class 6. Higher up the list of classes, the athletes present greater mobility potential. For example, in class 10 are athletes with an amputation of the free hand (the hand which does not hold the racket).

For every class of men and women players there are single and double matches. In the doubles it is possible to unite the classes.

The combinations of classes for women are the following: class 1 and 2, class 4 and 5 and classes 6 to 10.

For men it is possible to combine classes 1 and 2.

Venue

Table Tennis at the Paralympic Games in Athens was held at the Galatsi Olympic Hall.

This page:

Paralympic Table Tennis at the Galatsi Olympic Hall.
© ATHOC/Y. Kontos



Wheelchair Basketball

Competition Sequence

Wheelchair Basketball competition was completed within 11 days from 18-28 September 2004.

Description

Wheelchair Basketball is one of the most spectacular and popular sports of the Paralympic Games. It is distinguished for its unique style, the quick flow of the game and the endless action.

Wheelchair Basketball was first created in 1946. The sports development began at the Stoke Mandeville Rehabilitation Hospital. Dr. Ludwig Gutman, in an attempt to help in the rehabilitation of veterans who had fought in World War II, organised Wheelchair Basketball games. Since then, the game developed rapidly around the world and was introduced at the first Paralympic Games, in Rome in 1960. Today, Wheelchair Basketball has spread to more than 80 countries. The highest administrative body for the sport is the International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF), which became an independent federation in 1993.

Each Wheelchair Basketball team consists of five players playing in the court, and seven substitutes. Substitutions take place during breaks in the game. The objective of every team is to score in the opponents' basket and prevent the opposing team from scoring. The winner is the team that at the end of the game has scored the most points.

There are only a few differences between Paralympic Games Wheelchair Basketball and Olympic Games Basketball, with regard to the layout and dimensions of the court, the standard equipment and the rules and regulations. The main difference is the use of a wheelchair, which the athlete has to use with dexterity as an instrument with which he can achieve his sporting objectives. Participants in Wheelchair Basketball are men and women with spinal cord injuries, amputation, cerebral palsy or other physical disabilities.

In the ATHENS 2004 Paralympic Games, eight teams participated in the women's tournament and twelve in the men's tournament.

Venue

Wheelchair Basketball at the Athens Paralympic Games took place at the Olympic Indoor Hall of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA).

This page:

Wheelchair Basketball at the Olympic Indoor Hall of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA). Men's preliminary Group B, Greece vs. Iran. Iran won 81-33 and ranked ninth in the final standings.
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



Wheelchair Fencing

Competition Sequence

Paralympic Wheelchair Fencing competition programme was completed within six days from 18 to 23 September 2004.

Description

Fencing is a sport that calls for adaptability, inventiveness, good organisation and patience. The fencer spends long hours practicing in order to master it.

There are five fencing events in the Olympic Games, and each can be an individual event or a team event:

Foil (Men's). Class A and class B

Foil (Women's). Class A and class B

Epee (Men's). Class A and class B

Epee (Women's). Class A and class B

Sabre (Men's). Class A and class B

Athletes compete on wheelchairs. During a bout, the wheelchairs are fixed to the ground.

This nevertheless allows the fencer the freedom to execute rapidly alternating movements.

An athlete is classified in one of three classes (A, B, or C) depending on his or her movement ability. At the Paralympic Games only the class A and class B events are conducted.

Class A is for athletes who can keep their balance when sitting down, can move the trunk of their body in all directions and have no restrictions to the fencing hand.

Class B is for athletes whose ability to keep balance is limited and who therefore need a support.

Class C comprises athletes with greater restriction of trunk movement and fencing hand (e.g. tetraplegic athletes).

Venue

Fencing at the Paralympic Games in Athens was held at the Fencing Hall - Preliminaries Terrain of the Helliniko Olympic Complex.

This page:

Wheelchair Fencing at the Fencing Hall of the Helliniko Olympic Complex. Women's team epee open: Germany's Waltraud Antonie Stodwerck defeats USA's Susan Gilmore 22-11 in 3:00. Germany placed fifth in the final rankings for the event.
© ATHOC/S. Tsakiris



Wheelchair Rugby

Competition Sequence

Wheelchair Rugby was completed over a period of six days from the 19 to 25 September 2004 with the participation of eight teams, while on 22 September Wheelchair Rugby matches did not take place.

Description

Wheelchair Rugby began in Canada in 1977. Although it is a relatively new sport for people with a disability, it has been developed rapidly throughout the world. Wheelchair Rugby is a combination of the pace, regulations and skills required in Basketball and Rugby.

Men and women athletes with a physical disability can participate in Wheelchair Rugby. The athletes are assessed, as to their balance and the mobility of the upper part of their body (trunk), the handling of the ball (passing, catching, receiving, dribbling) and the use of the competition wheelchair (fast forward movement, stopping, changing direction). Depending on their potential and limitations, the athletes are graded between 0.5 and 3.5 points. The highest grade is given to the player

with the lowest degree of mobility impairment. The classification of the athletes is made by specialised personnel, usually doctors, physical education teachers and physiotherapists.

The wheelchairs require constant maintenance during a game, because of the hard collisions. Each game consists of four periods of eight minutes each, with intermissions in between. Each team consists of four players and eight substitutes. The objective of each team is to score a goal by touching or passing with the two wheels over the goal line of the opposing team, while holding the ball. The team with the highest score at the end of the game is proclaimed winner. The teams consists of both men and women athletes. The games are held on a basketball ground and the ball used is similar to the one used in Volleyball. ATHENS 2004 Paralympic competition schedule consisted of 24 matches with 12 qualifying matches, four placement matches, four semi-finals and four finals.

Venue

Wheelchair Rugby at the Athens Paralympic Games took place at the Helliniko Indoor Arena at the Helliniko Olympic Complex.

This page:

Wheelchair Rugby at the Helliniko Indoor Arena.
Canada's captain Garrett Hickling tackles Germany's Joerg Holzem in the first round. Canada defeated Germany 33-30, and went on to win silver.
© ATHOC/S. Tsakiris



Wheelchair Tennis

Competition Sequence

Wheelchair Tennis competition took place within the span of eight days (19 - 26 September 2004).

Wheelchair Tennis is a spectacular sport that enjoys great popularity during the Paralympic Games. Athletes must develop technique, stamina, persistence, speed and reflexes in order to compete successfully at a high level. Wheelchair Tennis developed in the United States of America in the 1970s. The International Wheelchair Tennis Federation (IWTF) was founded in 1988. The International Tennis Federation has fully integrated Wheelchair Tennis since 1998. Today, the ITF is the responsible governing body and has the full responsibility for the development of the sport worldwide. Wheelchair Tennis was a demonstration sport in the 1988 Seoul Games and was introduced in the Paralympic Games schedule at the 1992 Games in Barcelona. The sport has developed rapidly ever since and has spread to more than 70 countries.

Description

A Wheelchair Tennis match is played between two or four athletes with loss of motor function

in one or both lower extremities. There is a special class for quadriplegics (quads) or athletes with loss of motor function in the lower extremities and functional disability or amputation in the upper extremities. To score a point, Wheelchair Tennis players have to hit the ball with their rackets so that it lands on the opponent's court without the opponent being able to hit it back. The winner is the athlete or pair to win three "sets" of six "games" each (best-of-three set match). In the ATHENS 2004 Paralympic Games, the total of men and women athletes competing were 112.

Paralympic Wheelchair Tennis consists of six events:

1. Men's singles
2. Women's singles
3. Men's doubles
4. Women's doubles
5. Quads singles
6. Quads doubles

Venue

During the ATHENS 2004 Paralympic Games, Wheelchair Tennis competitions were staged at the Olympic Tennis Centre of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA).

This page:

Wheelchair Tennis at the Olympic Tennis Centre of the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA).
© ATHOC/C. Vergas



Closing Ceremony of the Paralympic Games

Athens, host city of the ATHENS 2004 Olympic and Paralympic Games, bade farewell to the greatest sports competition for athletes with a disability with a Closing Ceremony that was held at the Olympic Stadium of Athens (OAKA).

Due to a tragic road accident that claimed the lives of high school students who were travelling to Athens to attend the Paralympic Games, the Closing Ceremony included only the protocol segments required for the completion of the Games.

At the beginning of the Ceremony, one minute's silence was observed, and then the flags and athletes of the participating National Paralympic Committees entered the Stadium. 3.837 athletes were applauded for their sporting achievements over 11 days of competition. 73 of the competing 136 nations won at least one medal during these Paralympic Games; several of these countries secured their first medal in Paralympic history. For 17 countries, these were their first Paralympics ever.

The final medal tally for the ATHENS 2004 Paralympic Games saw China take the top spot. The future host won 141 medals in total, 63 of which were gold. Great Britain finished second overall, capturing 35 gold medals, followed by Canada with 28 gold.

These Games had been extremely well attended, both by media representatives and broadcasters, in record numbers confirming growth in international interest, and by local spectators, greatly surpassing original projections (850.000 tickets were sold, against 400.000 forecast) and participating enthusiastically in the athletes' efforts.

In the word of IPC President Phil Craven: "In Athens we experienced state-of-the-art

sporting venues, large numbers of cheering spectators and tough but fair competition resulting in 304 world records and 448 Paralympic records. The athletes who participated in these Paralympics excited and inspired the world and thereby brought the Paralympic Movement to a new, more advanced level."

A new record number of 1.829 athletes (47,67%) voted for the IPC Athletes' Committee candidates during the Games; the newly elected members include Robert Balk (USA), Konstantinos Fykas (GRE), Beatrice Hess (FRA), Ljiljana Ljubisic (CAN), Rutger Sturkenboom (NED) and Ana Garcia-Arcicollar Vallejo (ESP).

During the Closing Ceremony, the Whang Youn Dai Overcome Prize was awarded to Rainer Schmidt from Germany and Zanele Situ from South Africa, from a total of 54 nominations from 34 different countries. This prize recognises and awards elite athletes that have exemplified an exceptional level of determination to overcome their adversities through sports and the Paralympic Games.

In his closing speech, IPC President Phil Craven began: "tonight should have been a night for celebration. Millions of people around the world have experienced 11 days of exceptional Paralympic sport. The children of Greece, especially, have learned firsthand the meaning of Paralympic Spirit. It is their infectious enthusiasm and open-mindedness that motivate the world to embrace tolerance and change. They are the messengers of a better world. This simple truth magnifies the tragedy that has befallen their families and friends. Tonight we mourn their loss and dedicate, to these young people, the ATHENS 2004 Paralympic Games."

Left page:

China's creative segment of the Closing Ceremony of the Paralympic Games.
© ATHOC/G. Prinos



This page:

The Paralympic flag, bearing the new IPC logo symbolising "spirit in motion", is carried into the Stadium by Greek Navy officers.
© AFP/F. Nureldine

The President of the IPC continued with a few words of appreciation, to the President and organisation of ATHOC, "whose efforts and cooperation made these Paralympic Games unique. To all Athenians and people of Greece: your passion, your friendliness and hospitality will travel on, way beyond tonight. Continue to carry that sparkle in your eyes and keep the flame burning in your hearts."

He thanked the athletes for their "incredible" performances, which raised their sports "to a new level". He thanked the officials, members of the Paralympic family and the "remarkable" volunteers, whose "smiles have reflected the dedication felt deep within their hearts towards the Paralympic Games".

The new logo of the IPC, symbolising "spirit in motion" was unveiled to the world as the new Paralympic flag was raised in the Stadium.

The Mayor of Athens, Dora Bakoyannis, then returned the Paralympic flag to the IPC President, who in turn handed it over to the Vice-Mayor of Beijing, Liu Jingmin.

Dancers from China performed on a golden scene bearing the new IPC logo, promoting the "special art" and transforming their impairment into ability, to set the stage for the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games.

The Paralympic Flame was then extinguished, bringing the Closing Ceremony and the ATHENS 2004 Paralympic Games to an end.



**This page,
from top to bottom:**

The Olympic Stadium during the
Closing Ceremony.
© ATHOC/C. Cunliffe

Chinese athletes carry a banner
inviting people to the next
Olympic and Paralympic Games
that will be held in Beijing.
© AFP/F. Nureldine



ATHOC Financial Report



Public Financial Report

The purpose and mission of the ATHENS 2004 Organising Committee for the Olympic Games S.A. (ATHOC) was the organisation and hosting of the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, as per the "Host City Contract" of the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad, which was agreed between the Greek side underwritten by the Greek Government, and the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and in accordance with relevant legislation (L.2598/1998, as in force).

By legislative regulation and contract with the International Paralympic Committee, ATHOC also assumed responsibility for the preparation and hosting of the Paralympic Games. It should be noted that this was the first time in history that an Olympic Games Organising Committee was responsible for both Games.

The information and notes that follow constitute the public financial report of ATHOC, as this was made public on 12 May 2005.

This report pertains exclusively to the institutionally and contractually defined competences of ATHOC, as these stem from the aforementioned relevant legislation, the Bid File and the Host City Contract and are limited to the preparation and hosting of the Games. It should be noted that the studies and construction of infrastructure public works and of the necessary sports venues was the responsibility of the Greek State.

ATHOC was in a position, only eight months after the conclusion of the Games, to publish its financial report, having effectively completed in their entirety its financial transactions, that is, its own obligations toward third parties and the obligations of third parties to itself.

This completion was made possible thanks to the cooperation of ATHOC with the IOC, the Greek State, the international and national sponsors, as well as its suppliers and contractors.

The information and notes that follow do not constitute statutory financial statements. ATHOC's audited financial statements were approved and published as provided by relevant legislation. They constitute a precise summary of the material information that composes the public report and the results of the financial management of ATHOC.

Report of Revenues and Expenditures of ATHOC

Revenues	Euro (million)	%
Broadcasting Rights	578,7	27,6%
International and National Sponsorships	536,7	25,6%
Contractual Participation of the Greek State	282,5	13,5%
Financial Revenues	226,0	10,8%
Ticketing	194,1	9,2%
Licensing	119,7	5,7%
Provision of Accommodation Services	113,7	5,4%
Other Revenues	47,0	2,2%
TOTAL	2.098,4	100%

Left page:

© ATHOC/N. Tassoulas

Revenues	Euro (million)	%
Technology (information technology, telecoms, energy)	338,8	17,2%
Games Operations (transport, food services, accreditation, waste, management, venue operations, etc)	309,6	15,7%
Games Support (volunteerism, training, accommodation, sports, etc)	298,0	15,1%
Olympic and Paralympic Overlay expenditures	190,2	9,7%
Production and transmission of Games Broadcasting Signal	171,7	8,7%
Torch Relay - Opening and Closing Ceremonies - Culture	133,4	6,8%
Administration Services	101,4	5,2%
Paralympic Games (cost of hosting)	99,4	5,1%
Financial Services & Logistics	93,5	4,8%
Support of Promotion & Marketing Programmes (ticketing, sponsoring, licensing, website)	92,4	4,7%
Image and Promotion	69,8	3,5%
IOC and HOC rights	69,6	3,5%
TOTAL	1.967,8	100%

ATHOC Olympic Budget Surplus	130,6
-------------------------------------	--------------

Notes

1. The final revenues of ATHOC, as depicted in the table, are greater than the revenues forecast in the "Bid File for the Olympic Games" which was submitted on 14/08/1996 at the IOC Headquarters in Lausanne. The projected revenues in the Bid File were \$1,607 million US Dollars.

2. The largest percentage (38,3%) of the revenues came to ATHOC from the IOC through broadcasting rights and the rights from the International Sponsors.

3. The financial participation of the Greek State to the budget of ATHOC was in absolute conformity with the original amount included in the Bid File and was not increased. Thus, the Greek State paid ATHOC a total amount of \$235 million US Dollars for the preparation and hosting of the Olympic Games, and a total amount of €45,5 million euro as its participation in the organisation and hosting of the Paralympic Games, as originally forecast (total percentage 13,5%).

4. ATHOC's revenue targets for broadcasting rights, sponsoring and ticketing were surpassed, despite the unfavourable international circumstances that followed in the critical timeframe after the attacks of 9/11.

5. ATHOC, upon completion of its work, has ensured a surplus from the delivery of its Olympic budget. This surplus derived primarily from:

- the limitation of expenditures during the final stage of preparations and hosting of the Games,

- the complete and analytical planning of its activities,
- the surplus achieved over the expected revenues from broadcasting rights, sponsoring and ticketing,
- the discounts achieved in tenders, and
- the successful "Management of Exchange Risk", that is, revenues forecast in US Dollars (\$1 billion US Dollars) were converted into euros in time, before the devaluation of the dollar against the euro during 2002-2004.

In conclusion, not only was the strategic objective of the balanced budget achieved by ATHOC, but also at the same time a surplus of €130,6 million was secured.

Report on actions carried out by ATHOC for and on behalf of the Greek State

By virtue of decisions by the Interministerial Committee for Coordination of Olympic Preparation (DESOP), ATHOC was assigned the tendering for provision of services and supply of goods for and on behalf of the Greek State and involved public agencies, such as actions, works and procurements with post-Olympic use (sports equipment, furniture, venue equipment), as well as a series of other actions, such as covering expropriation expenditures, which were deemed necessary for the hosting of the Games, and always on instructions of the Greek State.

The Greek State undertook the obligation to subsidise ATHOC correspondingly to cover the cost of these actions, according to the relevant decisions of the Interministerial Committee.

The purpose of these decisions was the best possible coordination between the Greek State and ATHOC and the most expedient possible completion of the related procedures for the timely completion of the entire project.

These expenditures, amounting in total to €303,8 million, remained within their approved budget, as per the relevant decisions of the Interministerial Committee (DESOP).

For the aforementioned actions, which were approved by the Interministerial Committee (DESOP) and were assigned for implementation to ATHOC, the Greek State subsidised ATHOC with a total amount of €180,2 million, while the related expenditures amounted to €303,8 million.

The remaining cost of these actions, amounting to €123,6 million, was covered by the surplus of ATHOC's Olympic Budget.

Final Financial Result

The surplus in the financial statements published by ATHOC amounted to seven million twenty one thousand and a hundred and sixteen euros (€7.021.116).



This page:

© ATHOC/N. Tassoulas



Legacy

Legacy



ATHENS 2004 - A Legacy for Greece and the Olympic Movement

The people of Greece worked for seven years to host the largest number of countries participating in the Games (202), the largest number of athletes participating in Olympic history (10.862) and the largest number of journalists and broadcasters (more than 16.000).

ATHOC held the first ever global Torch Relay, uniting the Olympic family all over the world and visiting all five continents, and attracted the largest volunteer commitment in Olympic history - 160.000 individuals from all over the world pledged their support.

Greece reconnected the Olympic movement to its history and to the principles of Olympism; Greece gave the athletes the glorious celebration of Sport they deserve; the Games reintroduced Greece to the world, winning billions of new friends and conquering old doubts.

This did not happen by accident. There was a strategy from the beginning for ATHENS 2004; how best to tell the story of these Games from the perspective of the Olympic Movement and the goals of Greece, while delivering a state-of-the-art infrastructure.

In Athens, the goal was to inspire the athletes: not with words, but with actions - with deeds that would make Athens great for the athletes.

Competition Venues were designed and built with athletes' needs considered foremost. Beautiful, and yet practical, venues allowed athletes to focus on their events, knowing that the technical and physical needs of their competition would be taken care of. Training facilities were located near Competition Venues and the Olympic Village. The Olympic

Village itself was called the "best ever" by IOC President Jacques Rogge and his predecessor Juan Antonio Samaranch.

Athletes respond to facilities. But they respond even more to people. Athletes found joyous welcomes everywhere in Athens and enthusiastic fans who supported athletes from every nation. ATHENS 2004 volunteers backed the technical excellence of the facilities with the human warmth that made athletes feel at home - and break world records.

The Olympic Games are more than an athletic event. They are a tradition, and they are a brand. Both the brand and tradition are enhanced when spectators recall the core values in which the Games are rooted. This is why we aimed for unique Games on a human scale, one closer in feel to the ancient Games than to a modern athletic extravaganza.

We focused on athletes. Venues were built that correctly anticipated spectator interest. We worked closely with all stakeholders - the IOC, the NOCs, the International Federations, Sponsors and Broadcasters. We worked closely with several foreign Governments on security issues.

We took advantage of the great assets of Greek history, and brought shot-putters, men and women, to Olympia; our marathoners ended their run along the original course of 490 BC, in the marble stadium that hosted the first Modern Games; we sent cyclists past some of the world's greatest antiquities as they raced through Athens.

We reduced the number and visibility of Sponsors, giving them less but better exposure, and keeping focus where it belonged, on

Left page:

The sun sets over the Agora at the Athens Olympic Sports Complex (OAKA).
© ATHOC

athletes and sport. The battle for marks protection and total control of ambush was won from the outset and up to the last day of the Games.

The human focus, the historic venues, and the call of values and history not only brought new strength to the Games, but also played a role in the record global television audiences who watched our Games.

Though the Games and the athletes came first, we were eager to bring permanent benefits to Greece, by bringing global perceptions of Greece in line with 21st century Greek reality. We wanted the world to see the modern nation we are, and the economic opportunities we offer.

We wanted to inspire the athletes, re-energise the Games, and advertise Greece - but all three goals would be reached by the same strategy: to host a secure and technically excellent Games.

From the very beginning, security was our highest priority. Greece committed to the record security budget, the record security force deployment and the comprehensive security strategy that would ensure a safe and secure Games. We worked very closely with the Security forces in Greece. The Ministry of Public Order and other involved agencies in Greece provided a safe and secure environment for all people visiting Greece. We worked to discourage even low-level street crime and give visitors a sense of safety with visible security not only at venues, but also through out the city.

But, through it all, we remembered that the Olympic Games are a celebration. If our security presence was visible, it was never overwhelming. Visitors felt safe and had a great time in Athens and around Greece.

Venues are the most tangible way we have of demonstrating our respect and commitment to the athletes. In addition to the quality of the facilities, however, there are other considerations.

In line with our commitment to a human-scale Games, we determined to build venues sized so that spectators would feel part of the event - that people weren't just "at" the Olympic Games, they were part of them. And, finally, we worked hard to make certain that what happened outside the facilities helped build spirit and enthusiasm.

Most Venues were in one of three major clusters, we designed traffic patterns and planned transport routes which almost over-served the Venues, and we delivered on our event and transport timing. Public transport was never over-crowded, and waits were short. Transport was a particularly high-profile issue in Athens, and we knew that once the Games began, the 20.000 journalists in Athens would see Athens' transport effort as a symbol for the Games' overall organisation.

We adopted a three-tiered approach: use new facilities; craft and refine an operations strategy that maximised capacity; and teach visitors and

residents alike how to take advantage of Athens' new transport network.

At the same time as hundreds of kilometres of roads and rails were being built and renovated, we were developing a comprehensive plan that covered concerns like frequency and capacity of bus transport between the Olympic Village and individual Venues; creation of special bus routes between rail stops and certain Venues; and traffic and parking restrictions.

Routes between major Venues were meticulously timed, allowing calm, staggered departures from hotels and Olympic Villages, enabling our guests to make their events on time.

These buses were among the official vehicles permitted in the "Olympic Lanes" set aside on major routes through the city, and otherwise closed to traffic.

Well before the Games began, we launched a multi-media public education campaign, designed to let the people of Athens learn about parking restrictions, transport to and from the Venues, new traffic patterns, etc, well before the Games began.

This messaging focused not just on logistics, but also on the importance of observing Olympic traffic plans to the Games' success. Because Athenians understood the importance of Games-time transport, they were happy to observe them and to contribute to the perception of an efficient, well-run Games. In addition, every hotel, every Venue and every rail-stop was staffed by volunteers offering maps and an Olympic handbook outlining in detail the public transport options for every Olympic Venue.

The Games were used as an opportunity to build housing capacity for after the Games. The Olympic Village was converted into needed disabled-accessible moderate-income housing; one Media Village is housing a Government ministry, while others will become university dormitories.

Greek hotels used the opportunity of the Games and incentives from the Greek Government to renovate virtually every three-star, four-star and luxury hotel room in the region, and to modestly expand capacity.

We looked beyond traditional solutions, as well, to handle the short-term surge of guests. The Port of Piraeus was turned into a floating hotel district, with more than 4.500 cabins available on luxury ocean liners during the Games.

In hosting the Paralympic Games, also, we created new standards: a record number of 3.837 athletes, from 136 nations, participating for the first time without a fee, brought a new awareness of what people with a disability can achieve. The venues and the ancient city were made fully accessible to athletes, members of the Olympic and Paralympic Family and spectators. The performances of the Paralympic athletes were cheered on by an extraordinarily warm and young home crowd.

A Legacy for the Olympic Movement...

When we launched our bid for the 2004 Olympic Games, we asked ourselves, first, what could Athens contribute to the Olympic tradition. The Athens Games have given the world unique memories and a vision. But they may also be a solid benchmark that can provide real, tangible benefits to the Olympic Movement:

The return of the Games to their physical and spiritual birthplace revitalised the Games and lit the way for the next decades. It gave the global community a vision for the ideals that only the Olympic Games can give the youth of the world.

It demonstrated that the Games can be hosted by a small country, if it has faith in the Olympic institutions and values, and showcased most clearly those benefits which remain as legacy to the host country's citizens. It highlighted the involvement of the overwhelming majority of the population in an active and absolutely quantifiable way, with a dramatic impact on the success of the Olympic Games.

With the International Torch Relay, it highlighted the value and the acceptance by the wider public of an institution that has been an integral part of the Olympic Games for many decades, but whose level of acceptance by the wider public had never been evaluated.

The Athens Games sent out a loud-and-clear message that the IOC is serious about Clean Games, which was also one of ATHOC's priorities.

A Legacy for Greece...

But we also knew that the Games could be a moment of transformation for Greece; that a successful Games could cap the extraordinary growth Greece was experiencing; create an unprecedented sense of unity and pride; and show the world the modern face of Greece.

We recognise that not every improvement the Olympic Games brought can be quantified. But some tangible benefits from the Games are as follows: in 2005, our new and renovated urban rail and underground system can carry more than 1.000.000 passengers a day - that's 20% of Athens' population.

Athens built 90 kilometres of new road, widened a further 120 kilometres, and installed a computerised traffic management system to help minimise traffic. Less traffic and better circulation means less pollution, but that's just the beginning of the environmental benefits.

Urban wasteland along the coast was reclaimed for parkland and sports facilities, and made accessible to downtown by public transport. The course and spectator areas cover only one-tenth of the rowing facility; the rest is a

reclaimed wetland that has been designated a wildlife preserve. Hundreds of thousands of trees and shrubs were planted.

While some sport facilities have been converted to parkland or mixed-use sites, a number of them remain: extraordinary facilities which will host regional, European and world championships - as well as local Greek teams and clubs and many cultural events as well.

From new lighting on the Acropolis, to the thousands of buildings renovated and repainted, to the billboards that have disappeared, Athens is a more beautiful city.

And the extraordinary cooperation that brought all this about has showcased a civic spirit that will help us preserve the important gains we have made, and continue to make our city a more beautiful place to live.

Because of the Games, Greece is a more economically vibrant nation. 100 thousand Greeks received technical, managerial or other Games-related training, a tremendous investment in a small nation.

And, perhaps most important, the Olympic Games were a 17-day advertisement for our competence and sophistication. Potential investors discovered that Greece has the talent, attitude and infrastructure - and the EU membership - to compete internationally.

Finally, we Greeks proved to ourselves that we can do whatever we set ourselves to doing, under extraordinary pressure, with a global audience. After the Olympic Games, we know that we can compete with anybody.

Beyond the challenges every host nation faces, we were challenged to revitalise one of our most cherished traditions, return it to its roots. And we did so. By focusing first on the athletes and the Games, and devoting ourselves to the technical and logistical support that would allow them to shine, we helped make the 2004 Olympic Games a triumph for Greece.

Their physical, economic and psychological legacy will benefit our nation for years and decades to come. And what is most important is that the "Unforgettable, Dream Games" that we hosted came as a result of a unified effort of the Greek public, the Government and public agencies, the workforce, volunteers and spectators. A team effort that was a great example of the great things Greek people can do and achieve.



Gianna Angelopoulos-Daskalaki

President, ATHENS 2004 Organising Committee for the Olympic Games



Appendices

Appendices

Abbreviation Codes of National Olympic Committees

Code	
AFG	Afghanistan
AHO	Netherlands Antilles
ALB	Albania
ALG	Algeria
AND	Andorra
ANG	Angola
ANT	Antigua and Barbuda
ARG	Argentina
ARM	Armenia
ARU	Aruba
ASA	American Samoa
AUS	Australia
AUT	Austria
AZE	Azerbaijan
BAH	Bahamas
BAN	Bangladesh
BAR	Barbados
BDI	Burundi
BEL	Belgium
BEN	Benin
BER	Bermuda
BHU	Bhutan
BIH	Bosnia-Herzegovina
BIZ	Belize
BLR	Belarus
BOL	Bolivia
BOT	Botswana
BRA	Brazil
BRN	Bahrain
BRU	Brunei Darussalam
BUL	Bulgaria
BUR	Burkina Faso
CAF	Central African Republic
CAM	Cambodia
CAN	Canada
CAY	Cayman Islands
CGO	Congo
CHA	Chad
CHI	Chile
CHN	People's Republic of China
CIV	Cote d'Ivoire
CMR	Cameroon
COD	Democratic Republic of the Congo
COK	Cook Islands
COL	Colombia
COM	Comoros
CPV	Cape Verde
CRC	Costa Rica
CRO	Croatia
CUB	Cuba
CYP	Cyprus

Code	
CZE	Czech Republic
DEN	Denmark
DJI	Djibouti
DMA	Dominica
DOM	Dominican Republic
ECU	Ecuador
EGY	Egypt
ERI	Eritrea
ESA	El Salvador
ESP	Spain
EST	Estonia
ETH	Ethiopia
FIJ	Fiji
FIN	Finland
FRA	France
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GAB	Gabon
GAM	Gambia
GBR	Great Britain
GBS	Guinea-Bissau
GEO	Georgia
GEQ	Equatorial Guinea
GER	Germany
GHA	Ghana
GRE	Greece
GRN	Grenada
GUA	Guatemala
GUI	Guinea
GUM	Guam
GUY	Guyana
HAI	Haiti
HKG	Hong Kong, China
HON	Honduras
HUN	Hungary
INA	Indonesia
IND	India
IRI	Islamic Republic of Iran
IRL	Ireland
IRQ	Iraq
ISL	Iceland
ISR	Israel
ISV	Virgin Islands
ITA	Italy
IVB	British Virgin Islands
JAM	Jamaica
JOR	Jordan
JPN	Japan
KAZ	Kazakhstan
KEN	Kenya
KGZ	Kyrgyzstan
KIR	Kiribati

Code	
KOR	Korea
KSA	Saudi Arabia
KUW	Kuwait
LAO	Lao People's Democratic Republic
LAT	Latvia
LBA	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
LBR	Liberia
LCA	Saint Lucia
LES	Lesotho
LIB	Lebanon
LIE	Liechtenstein
LTU	Lithuania
LUX	Luxembourg
MAD	Madagascar
MAR	Morocco
MAS	Malaysia
MAW	Malawi
MDA	Republic of Moldova
MDV	Maldives
MEX	Mexico
MGL	Mongolia
MKD	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
MLI	Mali
MLT	Malta
MON	Monaco
MOZ	Mozambique
MRI	Mauritius
MTN	Mauritania
MYA	Myanmar
NAM	Namibia
NCA	Nicaragua
NED	Netherlands
NEP	Nepal
NGR	Nigeria
NIG	Niger
NOR	Norway
NRU	Nauru
NZL	New Zealand
OMA	Oman
PAK	Pakistan
PAN	Panama
PAR	Paraguay
PER	Peru
PHI	Philippines
PLE	Palestine
PLW	Palau
PNG	Papua New Guinea
POL	Poland
POR	Portugal
PRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Code	
PUR	Puerto Rico
QAT	Qatar
ROM	Romania
RSA	South Africa
RUS	Russian Federation
RWA	Rwanda
SAM	Samoa
SCG	Serbia & Montenegro
SEN	Senegal
SEY	Seychelles
SIN	Singapore
SKN	Saint Kitts and Nevis
SLE	Sierra Leone
SLO	Slovenia
SMR	San Marino
SOL	Solomon Islands
SOM	Somalia
SRI	Sri Lanka
STP	Sao Tome and Principe
SUD	Sudan
SUI	Switzerland
SUR	Suriname
SVK	Slovakia
SWE	Sweden
SWZ	Swaziland
SYR	Syrian Arab Republic
TAN	United Republic of Tanzania
TGA	Tonga
THA	Thailand
TJK	Tajikistan
TKM	Turkmenistan
TLS	Timor-Leste
TOG	Togo
TPE	Chinese Taipei
TRI	Trinidad and Tobago
TUN	Tunisia
TUR	Turkey
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UGA	Uganda
UKR	Ukraine
URU	Uruguay
USA	United States of America
UZB	Uzbekistan
VAN	Vanuatu
VEN	Venezuela
VIE	Vietnam
VIN	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
YEM	Yemen
ZAM	Zambia
ZIM	Zimbabwe

ATHOC GAMES OPERATIONS: Command Centres and Central Teams

Chief Operating Officer: Marton Simitsek
Chief Technical Officer: Yannis Pyrgiotis
Chief Financial Officer: Theodore Papapetropoulos

Head of Sports Command Centre: Makis Assimakopoulos
Head of Communications Centre: Michalis Zacharatos
Head of Region Operations Management Centre: Thanasis Kantartzis
Head of Technology Operations Centre: Dimitris Beis
Head of Olympic Transport Operations Centre: Panos Protopsaltis
Security Liaison at the MOC, OGSD Director: Major-General Vassilios Konstantinides
Head of Main Operations Centre Operating Team: Efharis Skarveli

Head of Accreditation Central Team: Stratis Telloglou*
Head of Risk Management Central Team: Apostolos Nathanail*
Head of Games Workforce Planning: Yannis Sidiropoulos*
Head of Volunteers Central Team: Dimitrios Caramitsos-Tziras*
Head of Image & Identity Central Team: Theodora Mantzaris*
Head of Ticketing Central Team: Stephanos Kakarantzas*
Head of Doping Control Services Central Team: Christina Tsitsibikou*
Head of Medical Services Central Team: Constantinos Parissis*
Head of Venue Operations Central Team: Andreas Tsochantaris*
Head of Legal Services Central Team: Nicolaos Papadimitriou (representative at MOC: Dimitris Filis*)
Head of Olympic Family & Protocol Services Central Team: Dionyssi Gangas*
Head of Environmental Operations & Waste Management Central Team: George Kazantzopoulos*
Head of National Olympic Committee Services Central Team: Laszlo Vajda*
Head of Broadcasting Coordination Unit: Dimitra Kitsiou*
Head of Medal Ceremonies & Sport Presentation Central Teams: Antonis Zaglakoutis*
Head of Press & Media Office: Serafim Kotrotsos*
Head of Food Services Central Team: Makis Fokas*
Head of Press Operations Central Team: Costas Vernikos*
Head of Logistics Central Team & Support Venues: Apostolos Tzimourtas*
Head of Accommodation Central Team: Basile Niadas*
Head of Sponsors & Torch Relay Central Teams: George Bolos*

**The above General Managers and Managers were MOC members representing the Central Team(s) of their responsibility, including those mentioned below:*

Head of Tendering Procedures Central Team: Charalambos Kallis
Head of Internet & Interactive Media Central Team: Dimitris Paneras
Head of Personnel Central Team: Diamantis Nikolaou
Head of International Sponsors Central Team: Catherine Anne Couch
Head of Administration Services: Thanasis Papageorgiou
Head of Greek Torch Relay Central Team: Penny Mikelopoulou
Head of Education & Training Central Team: Costas Politis
Head of Licensing Central Team: Theocharis Diamantidis
Head of Energy Central Team: John Karangelos
Head of Ambush Marketing Central Team: Giannis Zourdos
Head of Transfer of Knowledge Central Team: Constantinos Zaharopoulos
Coordinator of Venue Operations & Sports Equipment Central Team: Giannis Giannouris
Head of Accounting Central Team: Christos Mademlis
Head of Information Technology Central Team: Alexios Argyris
Head of Culture & Public Relations Central Team: Evelyn Kanellea
Head of Procurement Central Team: Panagiotis Daveros
Coordinator of Opening Ceremony: Tito Komninos
Head of Opening & Closing Ceremonies Central Team: Loukia Antoniadou
Coordinator of Venue Site Management Central Team: Theodore Azas
Head of Site Management of OAKA Venues: Haris Batsios
Head of Site Management of Helliniko & Faliro Venues: Spyros Kapeletzis
Head of Site Management of Olympic Villages: Chloe Patrinely
Head of Site Management of Accommodation Facilities: Constantinos Baklessis
Head of Telecommunications Central Team: Alexis Iliadis
Head of Language & Interpretation Services: Anna Kyrtsoy
Head of Internal Audit Services Central Team: Nikolaos Themelis
Head of Spectator Services Central Team: Vassilis Vavakos
Head of Rate Card Services Central Team: Antonis Gravanis
Head of Translation Services: Ioannis Dimolitsas

Head of President's Office: Evgenia Papathanassopoulou
Head of Board of Directors Secretariat: Katia Apostolopoulou
Manager of Managing Director's (I. Spanudakis) Office: Nota Tsouni
Manager of Executive Director's (Th. Papapetropoulos) Office: Maria Rantou
Manager of Executive Director's (Y. Pyrgiotis) Office: Chryssoula Mendrinou
Manager of Executive Director's (M. Simitsek) Office: Natalia Hadji

ATHOC GAMES OPERATIONS: Venue and District Managers

Olympic Stadium Venue Manager: Thanasis Papageorgiou
Olympic Aquatics Centre Venue Manager: Kyriakos Giannopoulos
Olympic Indoor Hall (OAKA) Venue Manager: Manolis Dretoulakis
Olympic Velodrome Venue Manager: Andreas Mavromatis
Olympic Tennis Centre Venue Manager: Manolis Koutsoudakis
OAKA Common Domain Venue Manager: Konstantinos Dikaos
Sponsors Hospitality Centre Venue Manager: Helena Fornier
International Broadcast Centre (IBC) Venue Manager: Christos Theocharopoulos
Main Press Centre (MPC) Venue Manager: Aris Nikolakis

Helliniko Indoor Arena & Fencing Hall Venue Manager: Roula Kokkota
Olympic Hockey Centre Venue Manager: Dimitris Iatridis
Olympic Softball Stadium Venue Manager: Annie Constantinides
Olympic Baseball Centre Venue Manager: Dean Dowdy
Olympic Canoe/Kayak Slalom Centre and Helliniko Common Domain Venue Manager:
Konstantinos Zirinis

Schinias Olympic Rowing & Canoeing Centre Venue Manager and District Manager for East Attica
Venues: Fotis Skountzos
Markopoulo Olympic Equestrian Centre Venue Manager: Konstantinos Meimaridis
Markopoulo Olympic Shooting Centre Venue Manager: Vassilis Stefanidis

Pankritio Stadium (Heraklio) Venue Manager: Dimitris Tsirakos
Pampeloponnisiako Stadium (Patra) Venue Manager and City Manager of Patra: Nasos
Nassopoulos
Panthessaliko Stadium (Volos) Venue Manager and City Manager of Volos: Dimitris Dervenis
Kaftantzoglio Stadium (Thessaloniki) Venue Manager: George Tzetzis

Olympic Beach Volleyball Centre Venue Manager and District Manager for Faliro Venues: Alekos
Paraskevopoulos
Faliro Sports Pavilion Venue Manager: Leonidas Politis
Peace & Friendship Stadium Venue Manager: Andreas Theodoridis

Olympia Venue Manager: Rita Papadopoulos
Panathinaiko Stadium Venue Manager: Costas Barlogiannis
Agios Kosmas Olympic Sailing Centre Venue Manager: Takis Nikiforidis
Galatsi Olympic Hall Venue Manager: Adam Sotiriadis
Ano Liossia Olympic Hall Venue Manager: George Leventakis
Nikaia Olympic Weightlifting Hall Venue Manager: Thanos Gianakopoulos
Peristeri Olympic Boxing Hall Venue Manager: Sophia Gritsi
Goudi Olympic Complex Venue Manager: Konstantinos Hadjis
Karaiskaki Stadium Venue Manager: Alketas Panagoulas
Main Uniform Distribution & Accreditation Centre (UDAC) Venue Manager: Andreas Hadjis

Marathon (Start & Course) and Athens City Centre Cycling Road Race Course Venue Manager:
Stratis Angelidakis
Vouliagmeni Olympic Centre Venue Manager: Solomon Katsafados
Parnitha Olympic Mountain Bike Venue Manager: Thomas Mittas

Dekelia Olympic Complex Venue Manager: Iris Vlachoutsikou
Olympic Independent Training Sites Manager: Nikos Georgopoulos

District Manager of OAKA Complex: Mary Manolopoulou
District Manager of Helliniko Complex: Nikos Anastassiou
District Manager for Road Events: George Tsakmakidis
District Manager of Olympic Football Tournament: Patrick Comninou

Olympic Village: Media Villages & Accommodation Facilities General Manager: Sotiris Vaos
Media Villages Manager: Panagiotis Anoussis
Technical Officials Accommodation Facilities Manager: Konstantinos Bogdanos

Airport Venue Team Manager: Dimitris Theofilidis
Port of Piraeus Non Competition Venue Team Manager: Konstantinos Veloudakis
Olympic Family Hotels Venue Manager: Alexandra Grispou
Olympic Youth Camp Venue Manager: Maria Eleftheriou

City Manager of Thessaloniki: Efthimios Kioumourtzoglou
City Manager of Heraklio: Zacharias Doxastakis

Transport Support Venues for Olympic Bus Fleet: George Kolovinos
Transport Support Venues for T1-T2-T3 Fleet: Dimitris Papatheodoropoulos

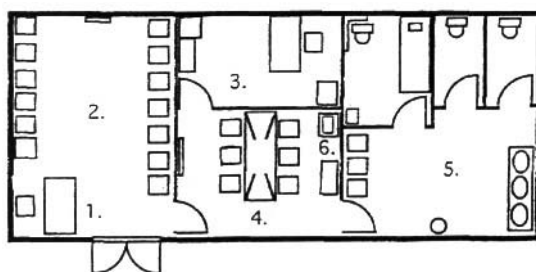
ATHOC Headquarters Venue Manager: Nikos Sismanidis

Doping Control: Sample Collection and Analytical Technologies

Sample Collection

The sample collection procedure during the Athens Olympic and Paralympic Games was carried out according to the International Standard for Testing (version 3.0, June 2003) and in general conformity to the Models of Best Practice for Urine Collection and Blood Collection (versions 4.0, June 2004 and 2.0, July 2004, respectively) of the World Anti-Doping Code of WADA.

Doping Control was carried out, as a rule, in the Doping Control Station (DCS) of each Venue, as ATHOC Doping Control Services was entirely responsible for carrying out sample collection within the Olympic Competition and Non-Competition Venues. There were two cases reported in which testing, specifically urine collection, was carried out, after a targeted order by the IOC, in the Athlete's room in the Olympic Village due to injury, while in four other cases of pre-competition testing in Volos, urine and blood sample collections were carried out in the room of the Athletes' hotel.



A typical Doping Control Station:

1. Reception
2. Waiting Room
3. Blood Doping Control Processing Room
4. Urine Doping Control Processing Room
5. Wet Room
6. Waste, Refrigerator

Depending on the maximum number of simultaneous sample collections, which depends on the Competition Schedule, the number of Blood Doping Control Processing Rooms and Urine Doping Control Processing Rooms had to increase, as well as that of the Wet Rooms. The largest DCSs were those of the Olympic Stadium (5 Urine Doping Control Processing Rooms and Wet Rooms), of the Olympic Village (4 Urine Doping Control Processing Rooms and Wet Rooms, 3 Blood Doping Control Processing Rooms), of the Olympic Aquatics Centre (4 Urine Doping Control Processing Rooms and Wet Rooms), etc.

There were DCSs in every Competition Venue and in the Olympic Village Polyclinic, a total of 33, and in each DCS testing was carried out exclusively for the Sport being held in the

specific Competition Venue. The DCSs complied with the following specifications: proximity to the Field of Play, the Athletes Locker Rooms and Athletes Medical Care Station, away from the media and spectator areas, with a Security officer on guard at the entrance, with a comfortable reception area allowing 1,2 sq.m. per person, with provision of a TV according to the regulations of the International Federations (IFs), a Urine Doping Control Processing Room separated from the reception, an isolated Wet Room, easily cleanable and disinfected materials, and with a secure route from the DCS to the parking space to transport samples.

It is worth noting that the DCS design did not include, as per a joint decision between ATHOC and the IOC in April 2003, blood collection facilities, which had originally been included in the design after the experience of the Salt Lake Olympic Winter Games. Consequently, ATHOC, adapting to the IOC decision in May 2004 to officially introduce blood testing into the Doping Control programme of the Olympic Games, had to modify the construction of the Polyclinic's DCS, in order to create suitable Blood Doping Control Processing areas. At the same time, and in order to satisfy requests by the International Rowing Federation (FISA), as well as by various National Olympic Committees (NOCs), during Games-time, the DCS of the Olympic Rowing and Canoeing Centre was temporarily modified for blood collection during the final phase of the Sports of Rowing and Canoe-Kayak Flatwater (21-22 and 27-28 August, respectively). A similar course of action was followed on 29 August 2004 at the Olympic Aquatic Centre and the Olympic Stadium to serve the needs of blood collection of the Men's Water Polo Finals (8 samples) and Men's Marathon (4 samples), respectively, as the Olympic Games testing had to be completed within 29 August, at which point the IOC's responsibility ended, and the competitions in question ended late, making the transport of the Athletes to the Olympic Village inadvisable.

Notification of an Athlete for Doping Control

The process of notification did not differ between pre- and post-competition testing. The Doping Control Escort approached the Athlete selected for Doping Control upon completion of competition or training at the Olympic Training Sites, or upon location at the Olympic Village in pre-competition testing.

The Athlete selected for Doping Control had to read and sign the Athlete Doping Control Notification Form, which recorded the Athlete's identification data (full name, country, Accreditation number), the biological specimen to be collected, the identification data of the Escort, the time of notification and the time allowed for the Athlete to present himself at the DCS for sample collection (urine and/or blood).

All tests carried out in the Olympic Games were considered In-Competition, therefore the Athlete's time limit to appear for urine collection was one hour (no advance notice notification). In pre-competition testing the time limit for blood collection was exactly the same as for urine collection, whereas in post-competition testing the Escort arranged with the Athlete the time to appear for blood collection at the DCS of the Polyclinic, depending on the capacity of the Polyclinic and the Athlete's availability. In any case, the Athlete had to appear for blood collection within a maximum of 12 hours from completion of competition. The Athlete signed the notification form and the Escort presented him with a copy of the form.

An exception to the foregoing notification procedure was made in cases of Athletes who became medallists by virtue of an appeal or other later change in results, of Athletes arriving at the Olympic Village at an unsuitable time for testing, or were duly sought by all available means without success in locating them, or were target tested (2% of pre-competition testing and 2 post-competition tests). In these cases, the procedure followed is that described in article 5.3 of the International Standard for Testing and the relevant articles of the Doping Control Guide. The Escort delivered the Athlete's notification form to the Athlete's Chef de Mission, so as to ensure that the Athlete would receive the notice (article 5.3.13), and any necessary clarifications were provided to the Chef de Mission. The Chef de Mission signed the notification and was presented with a copy of the form by the Escort.

In the case that the Chef de Mission would not sign the notification form and/or could not guarantee that the Athletes were in the Village, as occurred with Chefs de Mission of Great Britain, Hungary, etc, the Doping Control was interrupted and was no longer the responsibility of ATHOC, while the information was delivered to the IOC without there having been committed an Anti-Doping rules violation.

Upon arrival of the Athlete at the DCS, the arrival was noted in the DCS Check-in Check-out List and the Athlete was presented with a second copy of his notification, which at this point also indicated the time of his arrival at the DCS.

Urine Collection

When the Athlete was ready to produce a sample, he was led to the Urine Doping Control Processing Room. After identification using the Athlete's Accreditation card, the Athlete, accompanied by a Doping Control Technical Officer of the same gender went into the wet room to produce a sample. In the meanwhile, the Doping Control Officer (DCO) entered the Athlete's identification data in the Doping Control Official Record for Urine Sample, by "reading" the Athlete's Accreditation card bar code and entering the data in special software developed and used for the first time in the Athens Olympic and Paralympic Games.

When the Athlete returned with his sample, accompanied by the Technical Officer, to the processing table, the process of transferring the sample from the urine collection vessel to the

bottles and sealing them in the BEREG kit took place. After sealing the sample, the sample code dictated by the Athlete to the DCO was added in the Doping Control Official Record. At the same time, the Technical Officer proceeded to measuring the specific gravity of the urine remaining in the urine collection vessel and dictated the measured value to the DCO, having first asked the Athlete to confirm it.

The Doping Control Official Record included for the first time a document requesting the Athlete's permission to use his sample after the analytical procedure had been concluded for research purposes without consequences. Upon completion of the Record, the Athlete verified all the information included and signed the Record. There followed the signature by all the officers involved in the process and finally the Record was signed by the DCO, as the main person responsible for the successful and according to rules and regulations completion of the Control.

The sample, sealed in its container, was placed for safekeeping and conservation in a locked refrigerator within the Urine Doping Control Processing Room until Doping Control session was completed and collected samples were placed in the transport bag. In the case that the Athlete had produced a partial sample, it was preserved in its specific sealed plastic container, in the refrigerator for better conservation, within the Urine Doping Control Processing Room, and the Athlete was provided with a special receipt-stub that bore the code of the partial sample kit.

The average time of the Athlete's stay in the Urine Doping Control Processing Room did not exceed 12,3 minutes. The minimum time recorded to complete the procedure was 7 minutes. The most time-consuming part of the process was the stage of filling out the field of the Doping Control Official Record, in which the Athlete had to declare the medications and medical preparations that had been administered in the three days prior to the urine collection. When the Athlete had a large number of preparations to declare, the process was significantly longer (3 minutes on average, maximum delay 18 minutes).

Particularities of Doping Control Process for Disabled Athletes

The doping control process for disabled athletes applied during the Paralympic Games in Athens had several differences with regards to that of the Olympic Games, depending on the athlete's disability, according to the International Standard for Testing (version 3.0, June 2003) of WADA. Namely:

- Athletes using condom drainage or indwelling catheter should remove the existing collection bag and drain the system before providing the sample.
- Self-catheterised athletes had the right to use their own catheter that had to be new and in a sealed package. In every DCS there was a limited collection of catheters available just in case.
- Athletes with visual disability had to be escorted by one of their representatives during

the whole doping control process, even in the toilet while providing the sample. The said representative had to sign on the Doping Control Official Record. In order to facilitate the athletes, urine collection vessels with a wider diameter were available.

- Athletes with restricted mobility/manual dexterity to be escorted by one of their representatives. The said representative could help the athlete while sealing his sample. This fact had to be written down on the Doping Control Official Record. In order to facilitate the athletes, urine collection vessels with a wider diameter were available.

Blood Collection

During the Athens Olympic Games, for the first time there was systematic testing for detection of prohibited substances and methods also on blood samples of participating Athletes. Blood Doping Control had been applied in a pilot scale and for a limited range of analytical processes in the Sydney and Salt Lake Olympic Games.

In Athens, the percentage of testing on blood samples reached 24% of total testing. Specifically, following a decision by the IOC, ATHOC agreed to carry out testing for human growth hormone (hGH) and Haemoglobin-based Oxygen Carriers (HBOCs) in blood serum, as well as testing to detect illegal (non-therapeutic) use of heterologous blood transfusions in a whole blood specimen, on Athletes of all Sports, regardless of the aerobic or non-aerobic nature of the Sport. Testing for human growth hormone concerned all Athletes who submitted to pre-competition testing (379), as well as a gold-medal winner from all Olympic sports, further to drawing lots on 29 July 2004. Testing for haemoglobin derivatives and heterologous blood transfusion concerned the first four in the final rankings of all the sports considered aerobic, as well as a medallist from the non-aerobic sports and disciplines (266), selected by lots at the DCS in the presence of a representative from the corresponding International Federation before the beginning of the final phase of each sport/discipline:

The foregoing was communicated to the International Federations and the National Olympic Committees on 29 July 2004 through a circular letter signed by the IOC Medical Commission Director and the ATHOC Doping Control Programme Manager which was distributed to the NOC pigeonholes at the Olympic Village and to the Presidents of the IFs. As it is evident, the whole process was a new and untested practice both for the Athletes and for the Team Officials. For this reason, and in order to avoid turning the blood collection into an unpleasant or traumatic experience for the Athletes, the phlebotomists were trained intensively, and an effort was made to make the attitude of the personnel and the blood collection facilities as friendly as possible. The results were satisfactory, given that only two cases were noted in which the Athletes felt uncomfortable with venipuncture and in one case the appointment for blood collection was rescheduled.

Blood Collection Process

In order to collect a blood sample, vacuumtainers of 4,7ml and 2,4ml were used to

collect serum and whole blood samples respectively. The same syringes were used as tubes, and thus the pouring of the sample into another tube for sealing and transfer to the Laboratory was avoided. The 4,7ml syringes contained gel beads in order to separate permanently serum from the cellular particles of the blood after centrifugation, as well as a coagulation activator; while the 2,4ml syringes contained potassium EDTA salts as an anticoagulant agent.

Blood samples, as well as urine samples, had to be sealed as A and B samples of the same collection process. The same BEREG kit used for urine collection was used for blood collection, with the exception of the foam box of the kit, which in the case of blood collection was not part of the kit and did not bear the sample code number. In the cases where the blood sample was to be tested only for hGH in serum, 2 x 4,7ml = 9,4ml blood was collected from the Athlete, while in all other cases, 14,2ml of blood (2 x 2,4ml = 4,8ml whole blood plus 2 x 4,7ml = 9,4ml of blood to be separated to serum) was collected. Regardless of the number of blood samples to be collected, the Athlete was venipunctured only once, as the needles had a multiple adjustable insert. In the case where the phlebotomist failed three consecutive times to locate the Athlete's vein, which never occurred, the Athlete had the right to refuse to continue the process.

Following blood collection, the whole blood samples were placed into A and B bottles of the BEREG kit. Samples dedicated to serum analysis were let stand for 20 minutes in order to complete the coagulation process and were then centrifuged. The entire process took place in front of the Athletes. The blood tubes were sealed in the A and B bottles of the BEREG kit. The blood collection procedure lasted minimum of 32 minutes.

The BEREG bottles were placed in a refrigerator at 4°C for 30 minutes minimum, before packing and sending them to the OAKA Doping Control Laboratory, in the usual transport procedure.

Doping Control Forms

As part of the Doping Control process, a series of Forms were used to secure the Doping Control chain of custody. These forms were printed in colour multiples, so a copy could be distributed to each involved party.

Types of forms and recipients of each form:

Forms		1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9
Copies	Recipient								
White	IOC Medical Commission	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Pink	WADA/IF(Form 6)/ Pharmacist (Form 9)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Yellow	Athlete/IF (Form 1)	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+
Green	Doping Control Services/ Physician (Form 9)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Blue	Doping Control Laboratory	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	-

1. Doping Control Selection Form: was completed in cases that additional lots had to be drawn, according to the Doping Control Protocol of the IF, or in cases of Doping Control tests beyond those already agreed was being carried out.

2. Doping Control Notification Form: this informed the Athlete of the biological specimen required for Doping Control, the time he was required to appear at the DCS and the appointment for blood collection, if applicable.

3. DCS Check-in Check-out List: recorded all the people entering and exiting the DCS, except the permanent staff of the DCS.

4. Urine Doping Control Official Record: was completed immediately after the sample collection process. It recorded the full name of the Athlete and the sample code, and ensured the Athlete's anonymity during the analysis of his sample at the Laboratory. The Athlete was entitled to record his observations on the process on this form.

5. Blood Doping Control Official Record: as above.

6. Doping Control Official Record /Alcotest: for the first time in the Olympic Games of Athens such a form was designed and produced, as it was the first time that expired air sample collection was included in the official doping control programme of the IOC.

7. Doping Control Laboratory Advice Form

8. Doping Control Transport Form - Forms 7 and 8 attested in writing the safe transport of the samples from the venue to the Doping Control Laboratory.

9. a) TUE form - Glucocorticosteroids administered via systematic routes

b) Abbreviated TUE form - Glucocorticosteroids administered via non-systematic routes

c) Abbreviated TUE form - β 2-agonists administered via inhalation: for the first time in the Olympic Games of Athens such forms were designed and produced, as it was compulsory by the International TUE Standard of WADA.

In total, 517 applications of the 9c form were completed, of which 45 were rejected. In 29 cases positive laboratory findings were corresponded that did not lead to the Athlete's sanctioning. With regard to the 9b form, 858 applications were filed and in 302 cases positive laboratory findings were attributed referring only to inhaled Glucocorticosteroids.

Innovations of the Forms

In relation to the forms used in previous Olympic Games, there were several differences and innovations in the forms used in the Athens Games, most important of which are the following:

- In form 2, the biological specimen to be collected could be selected from 3 options. It also had a special shadowed field with the date

and time of the blood collection appointment. Also, in the case that the Athlete delayed in arriving at the DCS, the DCS administrative staff could distinguish on the Form whether the delay was justified or not.

- In form 3, the full name of the Doping Control Escort accompanying the Athlete was added.

- In forms 4 and 5 the Athlete's date of birth was added as additional identification data.

- In form 4, in the case that an additional sample was required, the related data was recorded on the same form. The sample's pH indication was removed, as it was not required by the OAKA Doping Control Laboratory and also according to Appendix C, article C1b and C4.15 of the International Standard for Testing (version 3.0, June 2003).

- In forms 4 and 5 there was a field to specify the analytical methodology to be followed at the Laboratory. The Athlete's statement of consent for research at a WADA-accredited Laboratory or not without implications was added.

- Form 7 specified analysis for EPO or not for each urine sample.

Sample Collection Software

Doping Control in the Athens Games, apart from technical excellence in organisation and effectiveness in application, had one important innovation: for the first time during Doping Control, forms 4, 5, 7 and 8 were completed electronically, using custom-made software, in order to minimise and even eliminate mistakes and omissions, as most fields (Athlete data, sample codes, specific gravity of samples) were entered electronically through a bar code reader or through digital connection of the refractometer with the computer. The benefits of this application include:

- Minimisation of mistakes while entering Athlete's personal info

- Reduction of time usually required to complete forms

- Legibility of data

- Legibility of medications and preparations

- Automatic creation of a report recording the whole day's activity, with all the process information immediately accessible and available for statistic use.

- Minimisation of reproduction time of the form in the case of error

- Obliteration of the risk of mistaken transcription of the sample codes, as their transfer from the control file to the transport form was carried out electronically without user intervention at any stage.

In conclusion, this application is recommended for wider use and adoption, especially in major events, as mentioned in the evaluation report written by the group of WADA independent observers.

Transport of Doping Control Samples

Upon completion of the Doping Control procedure at the DCS, the samples were placed by the dozen (12) in special plastic bags that were sealed with a zip that could be locked, and Form 7 was completed and placed in each bag. The bags were securely sealed with single-code locks and one Form 8 was completed per bag. In addition, all the coloured copies of the forms for the IOC, WADA and ATHOC were sealed in appropriately marked envelopes, which were signed on sealing by the Venue Doping Control Manager and the Head Medical Officer.

The special bags, the sealed envelopes and the Forms 7 were handed over to the trained and accredited staff of the Courier Service of the Hellenic Post at the DCS, who gave the Venue Doping Control Manager a copy of the Courier Accompanying Documents. An exception to this process was made for the Olympic Cities of Thessaloniki and Heraklio, where the handover process was carried out at the city's airport.

For the needs of the Games, 20 staff and 34 cars of the Hellenic Post were duly accredited. The arrival of the Hellenic Post staff had been agreed to be about 2 hours after the end of each Venue's Daily Competition Schedule. The Courier service had scheduled deliveries from more than one Venue per car, depending on the Doping Control programme per Venue.

Hellenic Post staff departed the Venue accompanied by a Security vehicle, and within one hour delivered the special bags and the forms to the OAKA Doping Control Laboratory. The Security vehicle escorted and protected the Hellenic Post car within and outside the Venue perimeter up to the perimeter of the Laboratory. The sealed envelopes were delivered the next day to the ATHOC Headquarters, to WADA and to the IOC Medical Commission Headquarters.

Analytical Technologies

The main analytical technology used in Doping Control Laboratories is Mass Spectrometry (MS), conjugated with various separation techniques: Gas Chromatography (GC) and Liquid Chromatography (LC).

The introduction of new prohibited Doping Control Substances and Methods, such as peptide hormones and blood doping, created the need to expand the analytical methodologies applied in the Doping Control Laboratories towards more bioanalytical technologies, such as electrophoresis and immunoassays.

GC/MS was used for the first time as an analytical technology during the Montreal Games (1976). Currently, technology provides the possibility to detect very low concentrations of the target analyte via High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry (HRMS), as well as the possibility to distinguish exogenous administration of endogenous hormones (such as testosterone) through Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (IRMS). The former application was introduced into the Olympic Doping Control programme in Atlanta (1996), while the latter was tested for the first time in Athens (2004).

Sample preparation before instrumental analysis consists of liquid-liquid extraction, hydrolysis (chemical or enzymatic) and derivatisation to form more volatile derivatives in the case of a gas chromatographic separation.

As a result of the effort to detect increasing prohibited substances and methods, in the last five years there has been a notable production of research, which has been applied for the first time in Olympic Games at Athens.

Analysis carried out for the first time during the Athens Olympic Games:

1. EPO
2. Haemoglobin-based Oxygen Carriers (HBOCs)
3. Heterologous blood transfusions
4. Human Growth Hormone (hGH)
5. Plasma expanders: hydroxy-ethyl-starch
6. Glucocorticosteroids



INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

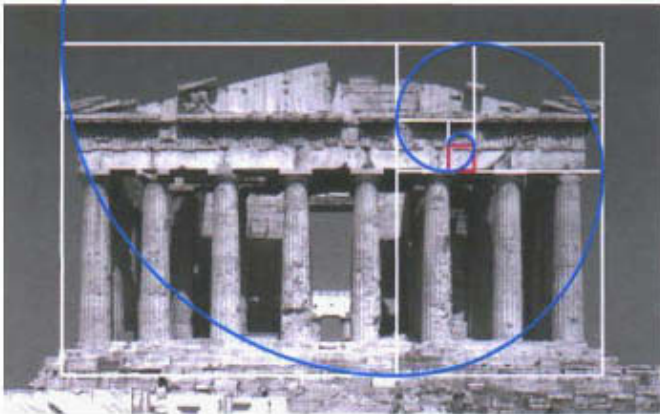
Information concerning results' update for the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad.

The IOC Executive Board has approved several modifications to the results for the Games of the XXVIII Olympiad in Athens in 2004. These modifications are presented in the following table corresponding to the latest update on 30 October 2005.

NOC	Name	Medals & Diplomas	Redistributed to
Athletics, Men's Hammer Throw			
HUN	ANNUS Adrian*	Gold medal	MUROFUSHI Koji (JPN)
JPN	MUROFUSHI Koji	Silver medal	TIKHON Ivan (BLR)
BLR	TIKHON Ivan	Bronze medal	APAK Esref (TUR)
TUR	APAK Esref	4th place	DEVYATOVSKIY Vadim (BLR)
BLR	DEVYATOVSKIY Vadim	5th place	PARS Krisztian (HUN)
HUN	PARS Krisztian	6th place	KOZMUS Primoz (SLO)
SLO	KOZMUS Primoz	7th place	CHARFREITAG Libor (SVK)
SVK	CHARFREITAG Libor	8th place	KOBS Karsten (GER)
Athletics, Men's Discus Throw			
HUN	FAZEKAS Robert*	Gold medal	ALEKNA Virgilijus (LTU)
LTU	ALEKNA Virgilijus	Silver medal	KOVAGO Zoltan (HUN)
HUN	KOVAGO Zoltan	Bronze medal	TAMMERT Aleksander (EST)
EST	TAMMERT Aleksander	4th place	KAPTYUKH Vasily (BLR)
BLR	KAPTYUKH Vasily	5th place	KRUGER Frantz (RSA)
RSA	KRUGER Frantz	6th place	MALONE Casey (USA)
USA	MALONE Casey	7th place	RIEDEL Lars (GER)
GER	RIEDEL Lars	8th place	HOPLEY Hannes (RSA)
Athletics, Women's Shotput			
RUS	KORZHANENKO Irina*	Gold medal	CUMBA Yumileidi (CUB)
CUB	CUMBA Yumileidi	Silver medal	KLEINERT Nadine (GER)
GER	KLEINERT Nadine	Bronze medal	KRIVELYOVA Svetlana (RUS)
RUS	KRIVELYOVA Svetlana	4th place	OSTAPCHUK Nadezhda (BLR)
BLR	OSTAPCHUK Nadezhda	5th place	KHORONEKO Natalia (BLR)
BLR	KHORONEKO Natalia	6th place	ZABAWSKA Krystyna (POL)
POL	ZABAWSKA Krystyna	7th place	GONZALEZ Misleydis (CUB)
CUB	GONZALEZ Misleydis	8th place	ADAMS Valerie (NZL)
Equestrian, Individual Eventing			
GER	HOY Bettina**	Gold medal	LAW Leslie (GBR)
GBR	LAW Leslie	Silver medal	SEVERSON Kimberly (USA)
USA	SEVERSON Kimberly	Bronze medal	FUNNEL Philippa (GBR)
Equestrian, Individual Jumping			
IRL	Cian O'CONNOR*	Gold medal	Rodrigo PESSOA (BRA)
BRA	Rodrigo PESSOA	Silver medal	Chris KAPPLER (USA)
USA	Chris KAPPLER	Bronze medal	Marco KUTSCHER (GER)
Equestrian, Team Eventing			
GER	HOY Bettina**	Gold medal	BOITEAU Arnaud (FRA)
GER	ROMEIKE Hinrich	Gold medal	COURREGES Didier (FRA)
GER	OSTHOLT Frank	Gold medal	TOUZAIN Nicolas (FRA)
GER	DIBOWSKI Andreas	Gold medal	TEULERE Jean (FRA)
GER	KLIMKE Ingrid	Gold medal	LYARD Cedric (FRA)
FRA	BOITEAU Arnaud	Silver medal	LAW Leslie (GBR)
FRA	COURREGES Didier	Silver medal	FUNNEL Philippa (GBR)
FRA	TOUZAIN Nicolas	Silver medal	FOX-PITT William (GBR)
FRA	TEULERE Jean	Silver medal	BRAKEWELL Jeanette (GBR)
FRA	LYARD Cedric	Silver medal	KING Mary (GBR)
GBR	LAW Leslie	Bronze medal	RICHARDS Julie (USA)
GBR	FUNNEL Philippa	Bronze medal	WILLIAMS John (USA)
GBR	FOX-PITT William	Bronze medal	TRYON Amy (USA)
GBR	BRAKEWELL Jeanette	Bronze medal	SEVERSON Kimberly (USA)
GBR	KING Mary	Bronze medal	CHIACCHIA Darren (USA)
USA	RICHARDS Julie	4th place	DIBOWSKI Andreas (GER)
USA	WILLIAMS John	4th place	ROMEIKE Hinrich (GER)
USA	TRYON Amy	4th place	OSTHOLT Frank (GER)
USA	SEVERSON Kimberly	4th place	KLIMKE Ingrid (GER)
USA	CHIACCHIA Darren	4th place	HOY Bettina (GER)
Equestrian, Team jumping			
GER	AHLMANN Christian	Gold medal	KAPPLER Chris (USA)
GER	KUTSCHER Marco	Gold medal	MADDEN Beezie (USA)
GER	BECKER Otto	Gold medal	WARD McLain (USA)
GER	BEERBAUM Ludger*	Gold medal	WYLDE Peter (USA)

* Doping Case
** Sport decision

NOC	Name	Medals & diplomas	Redistributed to
Equestrian, Team Jumping (continued)			
USA	KAPPLER Chris	Silver medal	FREDRICSON Peder (SWE)
USA	MADDEN Beezie	Silver medal	BENGTSSON Rolf-Göran (SWE)
USA	WARD McLain	Silver medal	ERIKSSON Peter (SWE)
USA	WYLDE Peter	Silver medal	BARYARD Malin (SWE)
SWE	FREDRICSON Peder	Bronze medal	AHLMANN Christian (GER)
SWE	BENGTSSON Rolf-Göran	Bronze medal	KUTSCHER Marco (GER)
SWE	ERIKSSON Peter	Bronze medal	BECKER Otto (GER)
SWE	BARYARD Malin	Bronze medal	n/a
Rowing, Women's Quad Sculls			
UKR	OLEFIRENKO Olena*	Bronze medal	FALETIC Dana (AUS)
UKR	MOROZOVA Olena	Bronze medal	SATTIN Rebecca (AUS)
UKR	KOLESNIKOVA Tetyana	Bronze medal	HORE Kerry (AUS)
UKR	DEMENTYEVA Yana	Bronze medal	BRADLEY Amber (AUS)
AUS	FALETIC Dana	4th place	LEVINA Yulya (RUS)
AUS	SATTIN Rebecca	4th place	MERK Larisa (RUS)
AUS	HORE Kerry	4th place	SERGEYEVA Anna (RUS)
AUS	BRADLEY Amber	4th place	DORODNOVA Oksana (RUS)
RUS	LEVINA Yulya	5th place	GUERETTE Michelle (USA)
RUS	MERK Larisa	5th place	GEHMAN Hilary (USA)
RUS	SERGEYEVA Anna	5th place	SALCHOW Kelly (USA)
RUS	DORODNOVA Oksana	5th place	HOLBROOK (-HARRIS) Danika (USA)
USA	GUERETTE Michelle	6th place	PEDERSEN Dorthe (DEN)
USA	GEHMAN Hilary	6th place	LAURITZEN Sarah (DEN)
USA	SALCHOW Kelly	6th place	RINDOM Christina (DEN)
USA	HOLBROOK (-HARRIS) Danika	6th place	NIELSEN Majbrit (DEN)
DEN	PEDERSEN Dorthe	7th place	BREL Maryia (BLR)
DEN	LAURITZEN Sarah	7th place	NARELIK Tatsyana (BLR)
DEN	RINDOM Christina	7th place	BERAZNIOVA Volha (BLR)
DEN	NIELSEN Majbrit	7th place	VARONA Maryia (BLR)
BLR	BREL Maryia	8th place	n/a
BLR	NARELIK Tatsyana	8th place	n/a
BLR	BERAZNIOVA Volha	8th place	n/a
BLR	VARONA Maryia	8th place	n/a
Weightlifting, Women 48kg			
MYA	NAN Aye Khine*	4th place	KUNJARANI Namecrakpam (IND)
IND	KUNJARANI Namecrakpam	5th place	DRAGNEVA Izabela (BUL)
BUL	DRAGNEVA Izabela	6th place	CHEN Han Tung (TPE)
TPE	CHEN Han Tung	7th place	UDOH Blessed (NGR)
NGR	UDOH Blessed	8th place	CHOE Un Sim (PRK)
Weightlifting, Men's 62kg			
GRE	SAMPANIS Leonidas*	Bronze medal	RUBIO Israel Jose (VEN)
VEN	RUBIO Israel Jose	4th place	GHAZARYAN Armen (ARM)
ARM	GHAZARYAN Armen	5th place	JUNIANTO Gustar (INA)
INA	JUNIANTO Gustar	6th place	NDICKA Samson (FRA)
FRA	NDICKA Samson	7th place	BAZARBAYEV Umurbek (TKM)
TKM	BAZARBAYEV Umurbek	8th place	SUNARTO Sunarto (INA)
Weightlifting, Men's 105kg			
HUN	GYURKOVICS Ferenc*	Silver medal	RAZORONOV Igor (UKR)
UKR	RAZORONOV Igor	Bronze medal	PISAREVSKIY Gleb (RUS)
RUS	PISAREVSKIY Gleb	4th place	BRATAN Alexandru (MDA)
MDA	BRATAN Alexandru	5th place	VYSNIAUSKAS Ramunas (LTU)
LTU	VYSNIAUSKAS Ramunas	6th place	NANIYEV Alan (AZE)
AZE	NANIYEV Alan	7th place	STEINER Matthias (AUT)
AUT	STEINER Matthias	8th place	URINOV Alexander (UZB)
Weightlifting, Women 53kg			
IND	SANAMACHA CHANU Thingbajjam*	4th place	MUNTEANU Marioara (ROM)
ROM	MUNTEANU Marioara	5th place	NOVIKAVA Nastassia (BLR)
BLR	NOVIKAVA Nastassia	6th place	TOUA Dika (PNG)
PNG	TOUA Dika	7th place	LACHAUME Virginie (FRA)
FRA	LACHAUME Virginie	8th place	n/a
Wrestling, Women's Freestyle 55kg			
PUR	FONSECA Mabel*	5th place	SUN Dongmei (CHN)
CHN	SUN Dongmei	6th place	O DONNELL Tela (USA)
USA	O DONNELL Tela	7th place	LEE Na Lae (KOR)
KOR	LEE Na Lae	8th place	LAZAREVA Tetyana (UKR)



The Golden Section

Connected to the understanding of the conceptions of ratio and proportion to geometry as developed by Plato and the Pythagoreans, but also to an overall philosophy of balance found in nature, the golden section offers a mathematical formula that can be used to enhance the meaning and beauty of an art object or architectural work. It can be found in the Parthenon of Athens, Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa and other renowned works of art. The shape and size of the Official Report of the XXVIII Olympiad are based on this formula.



מורה ויהוה

מורה ויהוה

מורה ויהוה



80025 75540



Copyright, © 2007, LA84 Foundation

Notes on the digitized version of the Official Report of the XXVIII Olympiad 2004 at Athens, Volume 2: The Games

The digital version of the Official Report of the XXVIII Olympiad was created with the intention of producing the closest possible replica of the original printed document. These technical notes describe the differences between the digital and printed documents and the technical details of the digital document.

The original document

The original paper version of the 2004 Official Report of the XXVIII Olympiad has dimensions of 10" x 15.75" (25.5 cm x 40 cm).

The volume's spine has the following text: Official Report of the XXVIII Olympiad, The Games. The number "2" and the Athens 2004 Olympic emblem are also printed on the spine.

The book has 544 pages.

The fonts used in the digital version book for text, photograph captions and chapter headings are Gill-Sans and such system fonts as best approximate the original fonts.

Special features of the digital version:

- The spine is not included in the digital version.
- Blank pages are not included in the digital version.
- The digital version includes a bookmark list that functions as a hyper linked table of contents. Selecting a topic heading will take you to the corresponding section in the document.

Profile of the digital version:

File name: or2004b.pdf

File size: 59,461 KB

Format: Portable Document Format (PDF) 1.4 (Adobe Acrobat 5.0)

Source document: Official Report of the XXVIII Olympiad, The Games

Printed by: Haidemenos SA

Creation Platform: Windows XP

Creation Date: March 2007

Conversion Software: Adobe Acrobat, FineReader, VistaScan, FahrenEX

Image Resolution: 100 dpi for color and grayscale images

Digital Fonts: Gill-Sans

Conversion Service: Exgenis Technologies, Goa, India