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Olympic Studies Centre

VOLLEYBALL: History of Beach Volleyball at the Olympic Games

Reference document

Introduction, key stages and evolution in the number of events from this discipline's beginnings to the present time.

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Beach volleyball

Introduction

Beach volleyball made its Olympic debut at the Games of the XXVI Olympiad in [Atlanta in 1996](#), and has been on the programme ever since. Men's and women's events were included at the same time.

Key stages

Entry in 1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1993: At the IOC Executive Board meeting held in September in Monaco, it was decided to include men's and women's beach volleyball on a trial basis for the Games of the XXVI Olympiad in Atlanta in 1996.
Entry in 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1996: At the IOC Executive Board meeting held in November in Cancun, it was decided to provisionally include beach volleyball on the programme of the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney in 2000.
Entry confirmed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2000: At the IOC Executive Board meeting held in December in Lausanne, it was decided to include the provisional disciplines (of beach volleyball and trampoline) on the Olympic programme.

Evolution in the number of events

- 1996: 42 teams (24 men's and 18 women's)
- 2000-2016: 48 teams (24 men's and 24 women's)

[Find out more](#)



Men's and women's events

Beach volleyball	1896	1900	1904	1908	1912	1920	1924	1928	1932	1936	1948	1952	1956	1960	1964	1968	1972	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	1996	2000	2004	2008	2012	2016	Total
Men																													6
Women																													6
Number of events	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	6

Grey column total = number of times on the programme