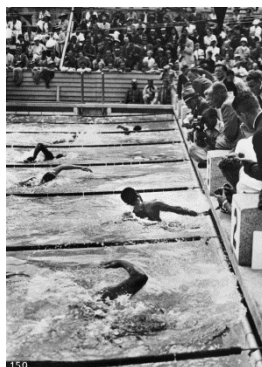


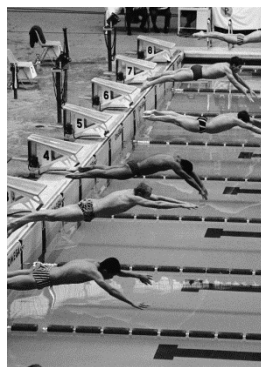
AQUATICS History of Swimming at the Olympic Games

19.10.2017

> SWIMMING



Berlin 1936
400m freestyle (M)



Mexico 1968
1500m freestyle (M)



Seoul 1988
200m breaststroke (W)



Atlanta 1996
100m backstroke (W)

INTRODUCTION

Swimming has featured on the programme of all the Summer Olympic Games. In the first half of the 20th century, only the “freestyle”, “breaststroke” and “backstroke” styles were present. It was only in 1956 that “butterfly” was introduced. Women’s swimming made its debut in 1912 and has been on the programme ever since. The women’s programme now has the same number of events as the men’s. For the Games of the XXXII Olympiad in Tokyo in 2020, three new events, including a 4x100 medley relay mixed event, will be added.

KEY STAGES

Entry 1894: At the Paris Congress held in June, the desire was expressed for water sports (rowing, sailing and swimming) to be on the Olympic programme.

1912: At the 15th IOC Session held in July in Stockholm, it was decided to divide the sports on the programme into three categories: indispensable, desirable and eligible. Swimming was among the first category.

Women’s inclusion 1910: In the minutes of the 13th IOC Session (Luxembourg), published in the Olympic Review (June 1910), it was announced that women would undoubtedly be accepted for swimming at the Games of the V Olympiad in Stockholm in 1912.

1911: At the 14th IOC Session held in May in Budapest, a request was made to add a 300m and 400m (team) race for women on the programme of the Games of the V Olympiad in Stockholm in 1912. The Organising Committee promised to do its utmost to fulfil this request.

1934: At the 33rd IOC Session held in May in Athens, women’s participation in some sports was called into question. A vote was held, and women’s participation in swimming was accepted unanimously.

Butterfly	1954: At the 50 th IOC Session held in Athens in May, it was decided to add men's and women's butterfly for the Games of the XVI Olympiad in Melbourne in 1956. This would later gave birth to the medley events.
10km open water	2005: At the IOC Executive Board meeting in October in Lausanne, it was agreed to add the men's and women's 10km open water event for the programme of the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing in 2008.
4x100m medley relay mixed	2017: A decision was taken during the IOC Executive Board meeting held in Lausanne in June to introduce a 4x100m medley relay mixed event at Tokyo in 2020.

EVOLUTION IN THE NUMBER OF EVENTS

1896: 4 events (men's)
1900: 7 events (men's)
1904: 10 events (men's)
1908: 6 events (men's)
1912: 9 events (7 men's, 2 women's)
1920: 10 events (7 men's, 3 women's)
1924-1952: 11 events (6 men's, 5 women's)
1956: 13 events (7 men's, 6 women's)
1960: 15 events (8 men's, 7 women's)
1964: 18 events (10 men's, 8 women's)
1968-1972: 29 events (15 men's, 14 women's)
1976-1980: 26 events (13 men's, 13 women's)
1984: 29 events (15 men's, 14 women's)
1988-1992: 31 events (16 men's, 15 women's)
1996-2004: 32 events (16 men's, 16 women's)
2008-2016: 34 events (17 men's, 17 women's)
2020: 37 events (18 men's, 18 women's, 1 mixed)

[Find out more about swimming](#)

> EVENTS PER GAMES EDITION

SWIMMING MEN	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	2020	TOTAL
50y freestyle																														1
50m freestyle																														9
100m freestyle (1)																														28
200m freestyle (2)																														16
400m freestyle (3)																														28
800m freestyle																														1
880y freestyle																														1
1500m freestyle (4)																														29
4000m freestyle																														1
100m freestyle for sailors																														1
Underwater swimming																														1
200m obstacle event																														1
200m team swimming																														1
100m backstroke (5)																														26
200m backstroke																														16
Plunge for distance																														1
440y breaststroke																														1
100m breaststroke																														14
200m breaststroke																														26
400m breaststroke																														2

> CREDITS

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