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# TENNIS

## History of Tennis at the Olympic Games

19.10.2017

## > TENNIS



Seoul 1988  
Singles (M)



Beijing 2008  
Singles (M)



London 2012  
Doubles (W)



Rio 2016  
Singles (M)

### INTRODUCTION

Tennis was on the Olympic programme from the Games of the I Olympiad in Athens in 1896, until the Games of the VIII Olympiad in Paris in 1924. It was then removed from the programme owing to a difference of opinion between the IOC and the International Tennis Federation. Tennis made its Olympic return as a demonstration sport in 1968 and 1984 and has featured on the Olympic programme since the Games of the XXIV Olympiad in Seoul in 1988.

### KEY STAGES

Entry	1894: At the Paris Congress held in June, the desire was expressed for "athletics games (football, lawn tennis, real tennis, etc.)" to feature on the Olympic programme.
Withdrawal	1928: At the 27 <sup>th</sup> IOC Session held in Amsterdam in July and August, the IOC Executive Board's decision to remove tennis from the Olympic programme was approved. This decision was supported following the breakdown in negotiations between the IOC and the International Federation over the latter's various demands (being able to apply its own definition of amateurism in particular).
Return to the programme	1981: At the 84 <sup>th</sup> IOC Session held in Baden-Baden in September and October, it was decided to add tennis to the programme of the Games of the XXIV Olympiad in Seoul in 1988.
Mixed doubles	2009: At the IOC Executive Board meeting held in Berlin in August, the addition of mixed doubles for the Games in London in 2012 was approved.

#### EVOLUTION IN THE NUMBER OF EVENTS

1896: 2 events (men's)

1900: 4 events (2 men's, 1 women's, 1 mixed)

1904: 2 events (men's)

1908: 6 events (4 men's, 2 women's)

1912: 8 events (4 men's, 2 women's, 2 mixed)

1920-1924: 5 events (2 men's, 2 women's, 1 mixed)

1988-2008: 4 events (2 men's, 2 women's)

2012-2020: 5 events (2 men's, 2 women's, 1 mixed)

[Find out more about tennis](#)



## > CREDITS

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