

MEN'S Olympics Notes

- 4 countries have participated in all 7 beach volleyball Olympics (BRA, GER, ESP, USA)
- There have been 219 different individuals compete in the Olympics (including Tokyo)
- The countries with the most unique Olympians: USA 20, GER 16, BRA 15, CAN 11, ITA 11, ROC 10, SUI 10
- The countries with the most unique teams: USA 15, BRA 14, GER 11, 6 countries with 8
- 5 of the 6 Golds have been won by teams seeded in the top 3 (USA's #9 Dain Blanton / Eric Fonoimoana in 2000 was exception)
- 18 medals have been given out and 11 of them went to teams seeded #1-#4... 4 double-digit seeds have won medals (#10 ITA Daniele Lupo / Paolo Nicolai won silver in 2016, #15 GER Jorg Ahmann / Axel Hager won bronze in 2000, #15 ESP Javier Bosma / Pablo Herrera won silver in 2004, #17 LAT Martins Plavins / Janis Smedins won bronze in 2012)
- The #1 seed has won 2 golds and 1 silver, along with 3 ninths
- BRA has had the #1 seed 3 times, with the others being AUS (when hosting), CHN (when hosting) and NOR (this year, first time a country other than BRA or host country is #1)
- Of the 297 matches played entering Tokyo, 205 were won by team expected to win by seed (69% of the time)... the 92 "upset" wins have been evenly distributed across the 6 Olympics (from 14 to 17 each Olympics)... POR (9) and AUT (8) are the two countries with the most upset wins
- 23 of the 48 players have previously competed in the Olympics (ESP's Pablo Herrera is in his 5th straight, USA's Phil Dalhausser and Jake Gibb are both in their 4th straight)
- 7 players have previously won a medal (ESP's Pablo Herrera, ITA's Daniele Lupo, ITA's Paolo Nicolai, LAT's Martins Plavins, NED's Alexander Brouwer, NED's Robert Meeuwsen, USA's Phil Dalhausser)
- 6 teams have previous Olympic experience together (#9 NED, #13 ESP, #16 USA, #17 CHI, #18 ITA, #19 POL)
- 2 teams have previously won an Olympic medal (ITA's Daniele Lupo / Paolo Nicolai silver in 2016 and NED's Alexander Brouwer / Robert Meeuwsen bronze in 2016)
- Prior to Tokyo, just one men's player had competed who was at least 41 years old (Angola's Emanuel Fernandes at 41y0m15d)... 3 others had done so who were at least 40 years old, led by USA's Jake Gibb at 40y6m0d... this year there are 5 players competing who become the 5 oldest players to ever play in the beach volleyball Olympics (USA's Jake Gibb 45y5m18d as of 7/24/21, JPN's Katsuhiko Shiratori 44y8m25d, USA's Nick Lucena 41y10m2d, MAR's Mohamed Abicha 41y6m8d), USA's Phil Dalhausser 41y5m28d)
- BRA's Evandro Goncalves and ROC's Konstantin Semenov are listed at 210 cm, the tallest this year... in terms of all time, NED's Christiaan Varenhorst (2016) was 212 cm, then Evandro and Semenov are the next two tallest
- ITA's Adrian Carambula is the shortest this year at 183 cm... 6 other players have competed who were shorter, including POR's 3-time Olympian Miguel Maia at 180 cm
- Before Tokyo the two teams which had the biggest height difference in players was 20 cm by the 2008 NED team of Emiel Boersma / Bram Ronnes and the 2016 USA team of Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena... this year there are three more teams (plus USA's Dalhausser / Lucena again) who have a difference of 20+ cm... BRA's Evandro Goncalves / Bruno Oscar Schmidt are 25 cm different, SUI's Adrian Heidrich / Mirco Gerson are 21 cm different, and ROC's Konstantin Semenov / Ilya Leshukov are 20 cm different

WOMEN'S Olympics Notes

- 5 countries have participated in all 7 beach volleyball Olympics (AUS, BRA, GER, NED, USA)
- There have been 217 different individuals compete in the Olympics (including Tokyo)
- The countries with the most unique Olympians: USA 19, BRA 17, GER 17, AUS 16, CHN 14, NED 12, CAN 11
- The countries with the most unique teams: USA 15, BRA 14, AUS 13, GER 13, CHN 10, NED 10
- All 6 Golds have been won by teams seeded in the top 4 (3 by seed #1, 1 each by seed #2, #3 and #4)
- 18 medals have been given out and 15 of them went to teams seeded #1-#4... the only teams seeded lower to win a medal were #5 BRA Monica Rodrigues / Adriana Samuel silver in 1996, #5 BRA Sandra Pires / Adriana Samuel bronze in 2000, and #6 AUS Natalie Cook / Kerri Pottharst bronze in 1996... in the last 4 Olympics no team seeded below #4 has won a medal
- The #1 seed has advanced to the semifinals each Olympics (won 3 golds, 1 silver, 1 bronze, 1 fourth)
- BRA has had the #1 seed 3 times, with the others being AUS (when hosting), CHN (when hosting), USA's Misty May-Treanor / Kerri Walsh in 2004, and CAN's Melissa Humana-Paredes / Sarah Pavan this year
- Of the 285 matches played entering Tokyo, 219 were won by team expected to win by seed (77% of the time)... the 66 "upset" wins have varied across the 6 Olympics (from 7 to 14 each Olympics)... Beijing saw only 7 upsets, and Sydney only 9, while Rio de Janeiro had the most at 14 and Atlanta had 13 (which percentage-wise is the most as there were just 34 matches)... AUS (8), ROC (6) and USA (5) are the countries with the most upset wins
- 19 of the 48 players have previously competed in the Olympics (GER's Laura Ludwig is playing in her 4th straight, 7 players are competing in their 3rd straight)
- 4 players have previously won a medal (BRA's Agatha Bednarczuk, CHN's Chen Xue, GER's Laura Ludwig, USA's April Ross)
- 2 teams have previous Olympic experience together #14 ESP and #19 CZE (but CZE is forfeiting their matches)
- NED's Raisa Schoon is just 19y9m21d as of the start of the Tokyo Olympics, the youngest in the field... however there have been 6 other Olympians who have competed before turning 20 years old, 5 of them younger than Schoon (EGY's Nada Meawad 18y3m25d, GRE's Vasiliki Arvaniti 19y4m28d, CHN's Chen Xue 19y5m22d, CHN's Jia Tian 19y7m7d and INA's Timy Yudhani Rahayu 19y7m12d)
- A total of 9 women have competed at the age of 37+ (including Tokyo Olympians)... on that list are 4 Americans... 3 of those players are competing this year (KEN's Brackcides Khadambi 37y2m10d, BRA's Agatha Bednarczuk 38m1m2d, USA's April Ross 39y1m4d)... the only player older than Ross to compete was AUS' Kerri Pottharst in 2004 (39y1m20d)
- 2 of the 3 tallest players to ever play in the Olympics are competing in Tokyo... CAN's Sarah Pavan and MEX's Bibiana Candelas (2008) are both 196 cm, while USA's Alix Klineman is the next tallest at 194 cm... in a tie for the 4th tallest ever is AUS's Tamsin Hinchley (2008, 2012) at 193 cm along with this year's competitor from BRA Ana Patricia Silva
- JPN's Megumi Murakami is the shortest this year at 165 cm... the only other Olympian who was shorter was MEX's Teresa Galindo (2000) who was 162 cm... 5 other female Olympians have also been listed at 165 cm, including BRA's Shelda Bede, who won silver medals in both of her two Olympics)
- CAN's Sarah Pavan has been 2 of the 3 teams which had the biggest height difference in players in Olympic history... in 2016 Pavan and Heather Bansley had a difference of 26 cm, the 2008 MEX team of Bibiana Candelas / Mayra Garcia had a difference of 23 cm, and this year's CAN team Melissas Humana-Paredes / Sarah Pavan have a difference of 21 cm