

János Károly Printz

Hungary's Olympic Successes



Summary

The games that took place in the ancient city of Olympia every four years for over a millennium held great interest for the people of Greece, and the same is true for the modern Olympics, which have recently celebrated their 125th anniversary. The title of Olympic champion has always commanded great respect, granting victorious athletes lifelong recognition in their homeland. Hungary has been a part of the Olympic Movement since the revival of the Games. Our athletes have represented our nation at every Summer and Winter Olympic Games except for two, and they never returned without victories from the Summer Games. Not too long ago, the first Hungarian gold medal was won in the history of the Winter Olympics. The performance of Hungarian Olympians has always been remarkable. As a result, statistics and assessments show that Hungary is a real sports nation, among countries that boast the best results. This has been demonstrated by the six gold medals and altogether twenty podium finishes achieved in Tokyo. With the recent successes at the Tokyo Olympics in mind, the purpose of this paper is to provide a brief overview of certain relevant aspects of the history of the Olympics and the success achieved by Hungarian athletes throughout the years. It also aims to examine the room for maneuver of the evaluation and analysis of the Olympic results, including dynamic approaches and comparisons with international results.

Keywords: Olympia, Olympism, Olympic Games, Olympians, Hungarian team, championship, gold medal, podium finishes

THE 2020 TOKYO SUMMER OLYMPICS IN 2021

One of the most anticipated events of the year 2021 was the Summer Olympics, the organization of which was accompanied by many doubts and worries. In the midst of polemics and austerity measures, the Olympic flame in Tokyo was finally lit on July 23, 2021, and the competition began. More precisely, they continued because, according to the practice developed at the last Olympics, some of the events of the Olympic program took place before the grand

DR. JÁNOS KÁROLY PRINTZ, Honorary University Professor, University of Public Administration, Member of the Hungarian Olympic Academy Council (printzjk@printzestarsa.hu).

opening, including, now traditionally, the soccer matches. The XXXII Summer Olympics definitely fit into the ranks and history of the Olympics in a unique way. As known, the biggest sporting event in the world should have been held a year earlier, in 2020 however, due to the pandemic at the time, a decision was made to postpone the games for a year. During the history of the Olympics, nothing has broken the rigorous four-year rhythm of their organization, except when only two years elapsed between the two Winter Olympics. This created the possibility of the winter and summer competitions to be held in the same years and would not coincide.

The basic principle has been unquestionable so far, that the Olympics can be postponed but, the right to organize them cannot be lost. Three of the designated Summer Olympics have been missed so far, the Games scheduled for Berlin in 1916 due to the First World War and the 1940 Games due to the Second World War, which would have originally taken place in Tokyo, followed by Helsinki and the XIII Games awarded to London four years later.

An important rule is that the numbering of the summer games will remain the same for missed games. This also meant that the current successful Tokyo Olympics bore the XXXII serial number, but it was actually the 29th Summer Olympics held. Of the winter games held for the first time in 1924, two have been missed so far (1940 and 1944) which, however, were not even given a serial number. In the year of the canceled Tokyo Olympics, the director of the Winter Games would also have been the Japanese city of Sapporo, and then St. Moritz of Switzerland was given the right to organize, which was transferred to the Bavarian Garmisch Partenkirchen by another decision. Eventually, none of the three candidates could compete at the time, although two could be later compensated (St. Moritz in 1948, Sapporo in 1972), and „Garmisch”, like the Swiss, had previously (1936) been able to host the Winter Olympics. The Olympic Games could actually take place only 12 years later in the designated city of the 1944 winter venue which was the Italian Cortina d'Ampezzo, and in seven decades, the city will have the opportunity to do so again as a co-organizer with Milan (Horváth, 2021).

The postponement of the Olympic Games last year does not affect the timing or schedule of the next ones. The next Summer Olympics will thus take place in three years in Paris, followed by Los Angeles four years later, according to the original rhythm. By these times, the “world order” in the global fight against the pandemic is hopefully being restored.

Unfortunately, the one-year wait did not bring about any changes that would have made it possible to hold the Olympics in the usual way, naturally in terms of infrastructure and the way it was conducted. The competitions were practically behind closed gates, and the Olympians had to comply with strict pandemic rules, all of which made their mark on the atmosphere of the Olympic Games. Despite the former, it can be said that the second Tokyo Olympics - which kept its place for 2020 - was different from the others, but with its own difficulties and peculiarities, including its appearance, it still entered the ranks of the outstanding games.

From different aspects, the question often arises what makes an Olympics the Olympics? And this question was perhaps particularly legitimate now. The spectators were very missed from the stadiums, halls and swimming pools, but they could watch the fights from a distance. The competitions, which even in the past were sometimes extremely fierce, ended with respectable achievements, results and even records. At the Tokyo Olympics, you could still

admire the great personalities, making the chances come to fruition, or even the big surprises. Strangely this time, the medals were placed around the necks of the winners by their own hands but, as always, they still shone brightly. The Olympics and then the Paralympics were a major celebration of the sport in Japan and worldwide. The members of the Hungarian delegation also took part in all this. The athletes of our Olympic team represented Hungary in a worthy way in the competitions, while holding six Olympic championship titles, 14 additional medal and 156 nominal scores. This is an outstanding achievement for Hungary in any approach, in the light of our past, our Olympic traditions, and in the worldwide expectations.

THE CRADLE AND REBIRTH OF THE OLYMPICS WITH HUNGARIANS

Hungarians also joined the modern Olympic movement from the very beginning. The birthday of the modern games is well known, and at a conference on amateurism at the Sorbonne in Paris on June 23, 1894, participants accepted Pierre de Coubertin's proposal to revive the ancient Olympics and to form the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Undoubtedly, the rebirth of the Olympic idea is mainly due to the French baron and teacher, but his supporters and followers also include the Hungarian Ferenc Kemény, who was a member of the IOC and served on the board until 1907 (Kertész–Vad, 2009).

Nothing characterizes Hungary's rank in the Olympic movement from the very beginning better than the fact that during the uncertainties surrounding the organization of the first Olympics in Athens, Budapest was also mentioned as an option at the millennium celebrations as a possible location. Ferenc Kemény, as a member of the IOC, also played an important role in the fact that the Hungarian Olympic Committee was established on December 19, 1895, a substantial year after the decision of Paris, and was chaired by Albert Berzeviczy (Takács, 2012).

Coubertin's thought went back to ancient ideals and models, which was not without precedent. The ancient Olympic idea was revived by the Renaissance, then, over the centuries, references and even studies of the glorious past appeared more and more frequently, and local competitions under the name Olympic were regularly held in more than one place, such as in England but Greece as well (Szabó, 2012). Local, regional games still exist today, but they are not a real rival to the Olympic Games, in fact many are under the auspices of the IOC (Szikora, 2021). It is known that the modeling events of the ancient Olympia also stood out from the cult competitions of a similar nature, of which the games in Delphi (Pythos), Nemea and Isthmia definitely deserve to be highlighted (Mező, 1929; Keresztényi, 1980; Kertész, 2008). The restoration of the Olympics in the 19th century was undoubtedly given the greatest impetus by the archaeological excavation of ancient sites. The excavations from 1875 to 1881 were conducted under the direction of the German Ernst Curtius (Takács, 2012).

According to the notes on the mention of the Olympic idea in Hungary by Professor János Kisvárdai's lecture in Sárospatak in 1490, his student, László Szalkai, later the Archbishop of Esztergom, left it to posterity and became known as the "Szalkai Codex". From previous times we are left with several works related to the Olympics, one author in particular should be mentioned, Dániel Berzsenyi, who also called for the practical

implementation of the ancient model. Perhaps the best example of the latter was provided by physical educator Lajos Vermes, who organized the “Palic Olympics” in his narrower patriarch near Subotica in the middle of the 19th century (Szabó, 2012; Takács, 2017b).

As for the ancient games that are the benchmark, several scholarly authors say their beginnings are overshadowed by the “foggy past”. The first sure date of the Olympic Games is 776 BC, since the first recorded champion is known from this year, Koroibos who won the stadium race. From then on the Greeks calculated the four-year Olympic cycles. The fixed date before this is still 884 BC when, according to tradition, the king of Elis, Iphitos, the ruler of the neighboring Pisatis, Cleisthenes, and the Spartan lawgiver, Lycurgus, decided to hold the Olympic Games in honor of Zeus every four years (Kertész, 2008, 2021).

The end of the history of the ancient Olympics dates back to the banning of the cult of Zeus, which is associated with the reign of Emperor Theodosius I of Rome, who, according to one version, also banned the Olympic Games. Several sources dates it to 393 AD (Takács, 2017a). Recent research and publications, on the other hand, link the fate and end of the Olympic Games to Theodosius II, who ruled between 408 and 450 AD, and this certainly meant the end of the competitions held in the ancient stadium and other facilities in addition to the Olympic Holy Park (Kertész, 2008, 2021). However, research has shown that the Olympic Games continued for some time in other locations (Keresztényi, 1962, 1980). In fact, the Olympics in these times (especially so in the Sixth Century BC) was stricken by earthquakes and floods, as well as the fact that at the same time we can speak of a history of at least 1,000 years in the ancient Olympics (M. I. Finley–H. W. Pleket, 1980).

The initiative of Pierre de Coubertin modernized the ancient pattern in several respects. Thus, instead of a permanent venue, it “globalized” the right to organize, offering more and more opportunities to the competing cities. However, for the first time, the Olympics remained on Greek soil, and in April 1896 Athens was waiting for the Olympians (K. Georgiadis, 2003), where they came from 13 countries, so did the Hungarian delegation which began the road to successful Olympic performance was paved for other Hungarian athletes and swimmers, thanks to our prized swimmer, Alfréd Hajós for the two championship titles and other athletes’ outstanding results.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW OLYMPIC GAMES

The following can be said in a nutshell about the period after rebirth of the Olympic Games: the range of the games, from the “childhood illnesses” to the beauties and difficulties of growth, through the dynamic and problematic eras, has been carried on with all the hallmarks of a successful history of development (Gallo, 2008, 2011; Keresztényi, 1980). Based on the aforementioned, changes in the conduct of the Olympics, competitions, and appearances can be divided into various sectors (Maraniss, 2008; Preuss, 2015; Printz, 1989). Each author marks the periods and inflection points in the history of the modern Olympics in a variety of approaches, the more detailed discussion of which goes beyond the scope of this study. The first three Olympics of the 1900s, starting with Paris, in the shadow of the world

exhibitions, fit the competitions of the French capital and especially St. Louis with the adjective “chaotic”. Four years later, in 1908, the English tried to separate the two events. Thanks to this, an Olympic atmosphere and a “real” Olympic stadium welcomed the athletes in the city on the banks of the Thames. It should be mentioned that in the midst of preparing for the next Olympics held in Stockholm, Pierre de Coubertin’s highly influential work “*Une Olympie moderne*” was published in 1910. There was an eight-year hiatus after the games, which took place in 1912 in order and in accordance with the needs of the age, then the conclusion of another phase in the history of the Olympics can unfortunately be linked to another world war.

In the 1920s and 1930s, modern Olympism became much richer. The five-ring flag appeared in Antwerp in 1920, and four years later the motto of the Olympics became final and well-known in Paris: *Citius, Altius, Fortius*, which was just augmented with an important word in Tokyo: “Together, or “*Communiter*”. (The four well-known Hungarian meanings are “Faster, Higher, Stronger - Together”.) An Olympic village was opened in the capital of Paris, although it was still a barracks district, but at the gates “*Village Olympique*” is set. Eight years later, this location was far surpassed by the 700 comfortable houses in Los Angeles. Here they also changed to the sixteen-day programs. The Olympic flame was first lit in 1928 in the stadium in Berlin - among other things, through Hungary – which arrived from Olympia for the opening of the grandiose event (Kertész-Vad, 2009).

The post-World War II Olympics, as evidenced by the numbers, showed a balanced development, with serious turbulence. This was especially true of the races held in remote Melbourne in 1956 (shared with Stockholm for the duration of the equestrian races). The time of the Roman Olympics and the 1964 Tokyo Olympics can rightly be called a period of technical change (Maraniss, 2008), when the Games were literally re-launched. The low point at the time for the Olympic movement was the Munich Games, which were hit by a terrorist attack. In the case of Montreal, struggling with organizing and infrastructure funding problems predicted of the ups and downs in the early 1980s, when political factors also had a depressing effect on the directors (Moscow, Los Angeles for the second time) and the entire Olympic movement. Seoul brought hope for recovery in 1988, with the organizers striving to create the “best of all time” Olympics... The content of the concept was adopted by the International Olympic Committee initiating the reforms on 8-9 December 2014 in Monte Carlo; the Olympic Agenda 2020 was used for guidance. However, the year also marked in the title of the material faced new challenges, new challenges had to be faced, which led to the decision to forcibly, postpone the summer games. In the pandemic situation that was considered manageable, the Tokyo Olympics could be opened in an unusual way with a delay of one year, and finally a memorable event and competition took place in Japan.

The history of the winter games began a good quarter of a century later than the summer, in 1924 with the reclassification of competitions in Chamonix, France. The snowy and icy events from then on took place in the same years as the summer games, until the nineties, when they alienated from each other with a change of rhythm. In this way, a summer or winter Olympics is held every two years from Lillehammer. (The 1994 Winter Olympics in

the Norwegian city followed the 1992 Albertville Games.) There has also been turmoil in the history of the latter, warrants due to the war, resignations, and competitions organized in the midst of more modest or even special conditions. All of this has sparked and sustained the interest of the sports-loving world, which today focuses on the Beijing Winter Olympics scheduled for 2022. As is well known, the next Winter Olympics will be held in the Chinese capital from February 4 to 20, 2022. This will make Beijing the first venue to host both summer and winter games.

HUNGARIANS AT THE OLYMPICS

The Hungarian team did not participate in only two of the modern Olympics with a history of 125 years. As the losing central power for the 1920 Antwerp Olympics, Hungary was not invited, but in 1984, along with several nations, it stayed away from the Los Angeles Summer Games for political reasons. The Hungarian Olympic delegation did not return from any of the Summer Olympics without a championship title, the peak being the 16th championship achieved in Helsinki in 1952. Hungary has participated in all the Winter Olympics, but we can only be proud of the Olympic champions since the last competitions, in the short-distance speed skating relay competition.

All Olympics are success and participation; there are many stories that don't fit within the framework of a short writing. The list of results can be found in the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled *Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016* (Aján et al., 2016), which will be published again at the beginning of next year, supplemented by the Hungarian successes of the recent Olympics. The rankings of Hungarian athletes at the Summer and Winter Olympics are summarized in the following tables. At the Olympics, the gold medal is popularly the title of the championship, and the number of gold medals is synonymous with the first place in communication and publications. Therefore, the context according to which the Hungarian Olympians won a total of 183 gold medals, 158 silver and 181 bronze medals at the previous summer and winter games is completely accepted.

On the podium, each member of the doubles and teams will receive their own medal, therefore in the case of such victories, the number of medals actually received may be a multiple of the (one) gold, silver or bronze counted and communicated as a priority. At the Olympic History Exhibition, which opened in the Millennium Park from July 21 till October 10, 2021, entitled "Our World-Speaking Champions," 302 portraits were available interactively on the wall of the champions. The number of Hungarian athletes with Olympic gold medals at the Tokyo Olympics increased, as Bálint Kopasz, Tamás Lőrincz, Kristóf Milák, and Sándor Tótká took part in the competition. Dóra Baranyi and Anna Kárász won the medal for the first time among the ladies in the kayak race, while Tamra Csipes and Danuta Kozák experienced the Olympics five times before and Áron Szilágyi twice, in London and Rio. According to this the total of 308 Hungarian gold medals has been won so far. Fencing competitors would immediately announce that at the closing ceremony of the first Athens Olympics, all Olympic winners received a diploma, as well as silver or copper

medals (not gold) and an oil branch (Szabó, 2012). However, the statistics, of course, record this as a gold medal recognition.

Unfortunately, 165 of the 308 Hungarian champions of the Olympics are no longer alive, while 143 are still living in Hungary or abroad. The five-time gold medalist Ágnes Keleti is the world's oldest living Olympic champion and is still an active and cheerful participant in various events. The youngest Hungarian Olympic winner is Kristóf Milák, who also successfully competed in Tokyo at the age of 21, while Alda Magyari, is the youngest, who as a goalkeeper greatly contributed to the bronze medal of the women's water polo team (www.mob.hu).

Based on the tables, at a glance, the tendencies that characterized the success of the Hungarian Olympic Games are outlined, and this is confirmed by the figures. The number of podium finishes achieved by the Hungarians was ten or less until Amsterdam, and our athletes initially enriched the Hungarian success with typically two or three gold medal positions per Olympics.

In terms of the number of gold medals, the pre-World War II peak (Berlin) was achieved in London 12 years later, followed by the all-time 16 in Helsinki, which has since stood out on the charts illustrating the Hungarian Olympic victories.

In a narrow statistical approach, the Hungarians won an average of 8.2 gold medals in the Olympics held after 1945. One of the extremes is Beijing where three gold medals were won, the other that is mentioned are 16 gold medals. Interestingly, the middle value (the median) is also eight in the row, and the Olympics of the last almost 75 years most often ended with eight Hungarian gold medals. Does this suggest that we Hungarians are “quadrant” to eight gold medals per Olympics? Not at all. The history of the Olympics has so far proved that their records and beauty include the realization and failure of chances and dreams. That is why it is not even unrealistic to expect that the performance of the Hungarians will surpass the triumph of Helsinki one day. Helsinki is also the leader in terms of the number of Hungarian medals (42), followed by Munich (35) and Mexico City and Moscow (32-32). Expectations and evaluations must also take into account the growing radiance of the Olympic movement. (This is well illustrated by the tables and related figures). The number of countries participating in the Summer Olympics has been growing steadily and dynamically, with minor problems, for some time.

The number of participating countries doubled for the 1900 Paris Games following the first Athens Olympics (from 13 to 26), approaching fifty in Berlin (49) and surpassing it in London in 1948 (59). Athletes from more than a hundred nations first took part in the Olympics in Mexico City in 1968, and the number of countries in Greece in the 2000s exceeded 200 (Athens: 202 countries) and has remained above that number ever since. (The team of athletes with refugee status was also there at the Olympics in Tokyo.)

The winter competitions in Chamonix were attended by athletes from 16 countries, with the number of delegations participating in the Winter Olympics approaching fifty (49) in Sarajevo six decades later, and more than half a hundred in Calgary four years later (57).

Eighty or more countries have already participated in the last four Olympics, and their number in Pyongyang (92) is approaching a hundred.

245 competitors took part in the first modern Olympics. The number of athletes competing in the Olympics has already exceeded 1,000 in Paris (1,225), which has doubled in 12 years to Stockholm (2,547 Olympians). The number of athletes in the Roman Olympics, which was one of the inflection points of the development of the Games, exceeded 5,000, and in 1996 it exceeded 10,000 for the first time in Atlanta (10,306 people). After the Olympics on the centenary of the modern Games, the number of people “stabilized” around 11,000, and in Tokyo it began to approach 12,000 again. The dynamic growth of the number of participating athletes is related to the expansion of the number of countries, the enriching program of the Olympics, which was accompanied by the appearance of new sports and competitions, and the proportion of Olympic and women’s mixed competitions.

For the first time, competitions in skateboarding, karate, sports climbing and surfing were held in Tokyo, but 3x3 basketball, freestyle BMX, was also a novelty. The application of the qualification system and the recurrent revision of the Olympic program (e.g. the omission of certain competitions or organizing them in a round) are used to control the number of participants. The curtail of the program can be classified as the so-called artificial elimination of placements (Nagy, 2020), whereas in the past it was possible to achieve two Olympic places (individual and team - by simply adding up the individual results of the team members, the number of points, the number of individual places, etc.), for example in pentathlon, and in gymnastics.

The number of participants in the Winter Olympics was close to 500 at the second time (St. Moritz, 1928), 1, 000 exceeded in Innsbruck in 1964 (1,186), more than 2,000 took part in the 1998 Winter Games in Nagano for the first time (2,177), and the number of competitors at the last Pyongyang Winter Olympics approached 3,000 (2,833). According to preliminary expectations, approximately 2,900 athletes from 85 countries will compete at the Beijing Winter Olympics in February 2022 (www.mob.hu).

In addition to expanding opportunities, but in the face of increasing competition, Hungarian athletes have to do well at the Olympics. Five of the seven members of the Hungarian delegation to the Athens Olympics in 1896 took the podium. As it is well known, our first champion had two priorities in swimming. He returned with three points out of the four Hungarian Olympians who traveled to St. Louis in 1904. This time Zoltán Halmay won two championship titles in swimming. Of course, similar proportions could not be expected from the larger Hungarian delegations of the later Olympics. The number of Hungarian athletes already exceeded one hundred at the Stockholm Olympics; later more than two hundred Olympians represented Hungary at six Olympic venues (Berlin, Munich, Moscow, Barcelona, Atlanta, and Athens). Not far behind was the Hungarian team in Tokyo, in which the number of our female competitors participating in the Olympics (93 people) exceeded that of men (82 people) for the first time. This has happened several times during the Winter Olympics.

A small Hungarian delegation usually traveled to the Winter Olympics. The most populous delegation of the Hungarian Olympians took part in the 1964 Innsbruck Games. True, the Hungarian team made it to the ice hockey tournament at that time. Eight years

later, only one competitor, the figure skater Zsuzsa Almássy, represented Hungary in Sapporo and took the fifth place. The 19 members of the latest Hungarian team in Pyongyang have collected 15 Olympic points and finally have “broken the ice”. Our athletes were able to return from the 23rd Winter Olympics with a gold medal due to the success of the men’s relay in the short track speed skating competition, not even by one in terms of numbers.

Table 1: Rankings and “Olympic” scores of Hungarian athletes at the Summer Olympics (1896-2020)

Year	Place of the Olympics	I. place gold	II. place silver	III. place bronze	IV. place	V. place	VI. place	Score
1896	Athens	2	1	3	2	-	1	38
1900	Paris	1	2	2	3	3	-	40
1904	St. Louis	2	1	1	1	1	-	28
1908	London	3	4	2	5	4	1	73
1912	Stockholm	3	2	3	5	3	2	66
1924	Paris	2	4	4	2	4	5	69
1928	Amsterdam	5	5	-	3	4	3	80
1932	Los Angeles	6	5	5	4	6	2	113
1936	Berlin	10	1	5	7	8	4	136
1948	London	10	5	13	10	10	2	199
1952	Helsinki	16	10	16	6	9	7	269
1956	Melbourne	9	10	7	10	11	6	199
1960	Rome	6	8	7	9	7	4	155
1964	Tokyo	10	7	5	7	15	6	182
1968	Mexico City	10	10	12	4	7	2	196
1972	Munich	6	13	16	9	9	10	226
1976	Montreal	4	5	13	10	9	10	163
1980	Moscow	7	10	15	13	13	10	234
1988	Seoul	11	6	6	14	15	12	215
1992	Barcelona	11	12	7	5	11	9	211
1996	Atlanta	7	4	10	8	6	7	152
2000	Sydney	8	6	3	5	10	4	137
2004	Athens	8	6	3	8	8	6	144
2008	Beijing	3	5	2	8	6	4	94
2012	London	8	4	6	4	5	7	129

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Year	Place of the Olympics	I. place gold	II. place silver	III. place bronze	IV. place	V. place	VI. place	Score
2016	Rio	8	3	4	4	5	1	110
2020	Tokyo	6	7	7	10	9	3	156
	TOTAL	182	156	177	176	198	128	3 814

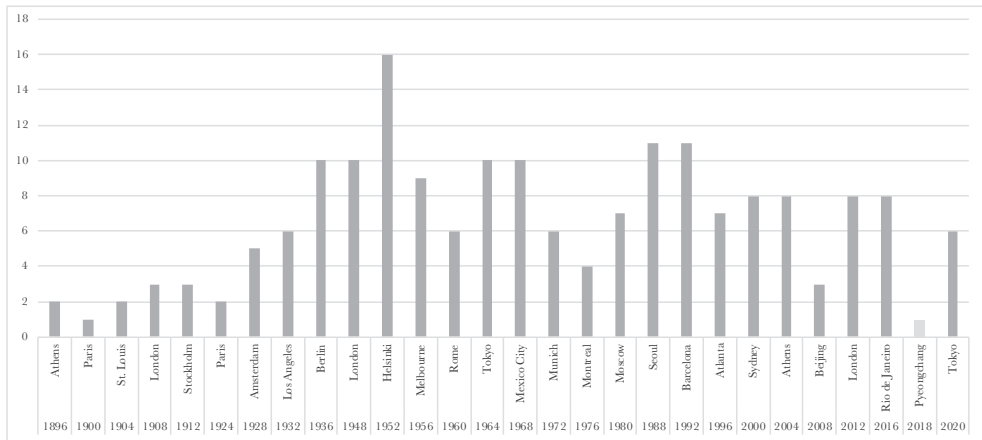
Source: Own editing based on the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled *Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016*

Table 2: Rankings and “Olympic” scores of Hungarian athletes at the Winter Olympics (1924-2018)

Year	Place of the Olympics	I. place gold	II. place silver	III. place bronze	IV. place	V. place	VI. place	Score
1932	Lake Placid	-	-	1	1	-	-	7
1936	Garmisch-P.	-	-	1	1	-	-	7
1948	St. Moritz	-	1	-	1	1	-	10
1952	Oslo	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
1956	Cortina d' A.	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
1968	Grenoble	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
1972	Szapporo	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
1976	Innsbruck	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
1980	Lake Placid	-	1	-	-	-	-	5
2006	Torino	-	-	-	1	1	-	5
2010	Vancouver	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
2014	Szocsi	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
2018	Pyeong-Chang	1	-	-	1	2	1	15
	TOTAL	1	2	4	5	7	4	66

Source: Own editing based on the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled *Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016*

Figure 1: Changes in the number of Olympic championship titles won by Hungarian athletes at the modern Games



Source: Own editing based on the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled *Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016*

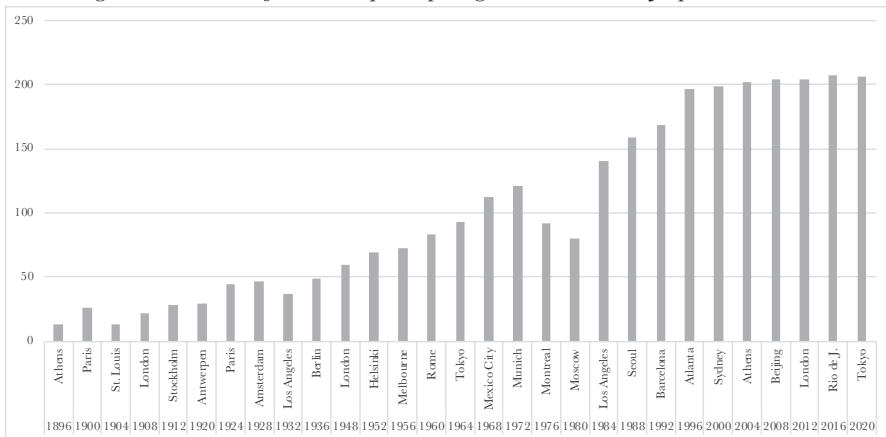
Table 3: Changes in the number of countries and athletes participating in the Summer Olympics and in the number of sports and competitions in the program (1896-2020)

Year of the Olympics	Place of the Olympics	Number of countries	Competitors (per capita)	Number of sports	Number of events	HUN men (per capita)	HUN women (per capita)	HUN participation (per capita)
1896	Athens	13	245	9	43	7	-	7
1900	Paris	26	1 225	18	87	17	-	17
1904	St. Louis	13	687	15	87	4	-	4
1908	London	22	2 035	22	110	63	-	63
1912	Stockholm	28	2 547	14+1	102	119	-	119
1920	Antwerpen	29	2 669	22+1	154	-	-	-
1924	Paris	44	3 092	18+1	126	86	3	89
1928	Amsterdam	46	3 014	15+1	109	93	16	109
1932	Los Angeles	37	1 408	15+1	117	52	2	54
1936	Berlin	49	4 066	20+1	129	197	19	216
1948	London	59	4 099	18+1	136	107	21	128
1952	Helsinki	69	4 925	18	149	162	27	189
1956	Melbourne	72	3 342	18	151	91	20	111

Year of the Olympics	Place of the Olympics	Number of countries	Competitors (per capita)	Number of sports	Number of events	HUN men (per capita)	HUN women (per capita)	HUN participation (per capita)
1960	Rome	83	5 348	18	150	153	27	180
1964	Tokyo	93	5 140	20	163	150	32	182
1968	Mexico City	112	5 531	19	172	135	32	167
1972	Munich	121	7 123	22	195	187	45	232
1976	Montreal	92	6 028	22	198	124	54	178
1980	Moscow	80	5 217	22	203	182	81	263
1984	Los Angeles	140	6 797	22	221	-	--	-
1988	Seoul	159	8 465	24	237	152	36	188
1992	Barcelona	169	9 367	26	257	159	58	217
1996	Atlanta	197	10 306	27	271	148	66	214
2000	Sydney	199	11 084	29	300	109	69	178
2004	Athens	202	11 902	29	301	119	90	209
2008	Beijing	204	10 904	28	302	88	83	171
2012	London	204	10 958	26	302	93	59	152
2016	Rio de J.	207	11 237	28	306	88	66	154
2020	Tokyo	206	11 417	33	339	82	93	175

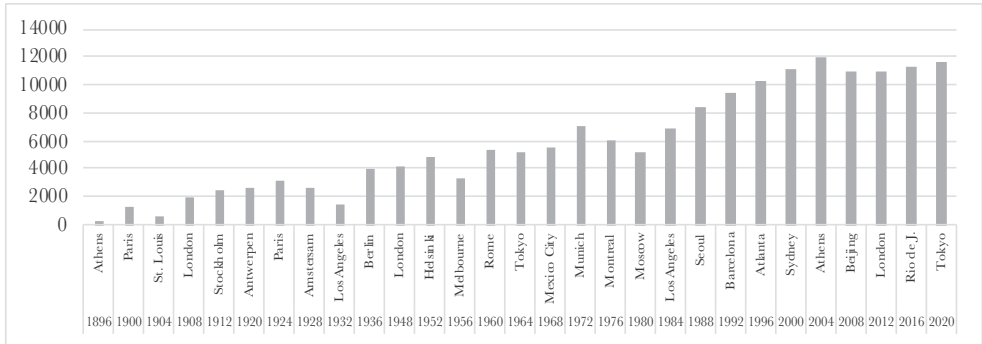
Source: Own editing based on the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled *Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016*

Figure 2: Changes in the number of countries participating in the Summer Olympics



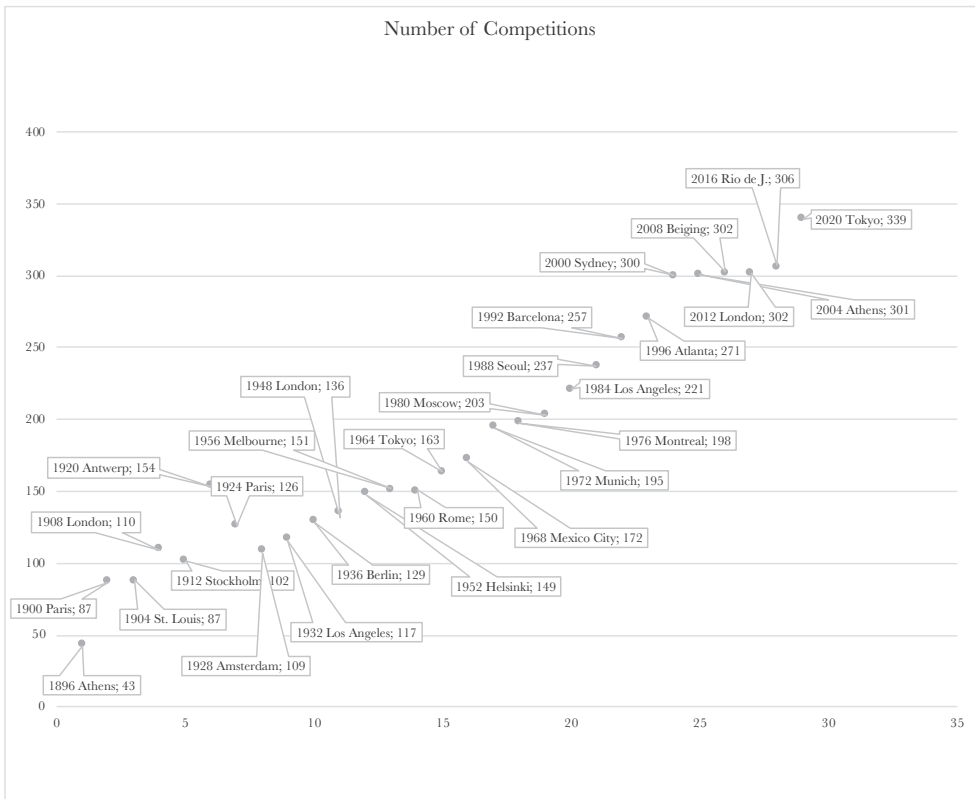
Source: Own editing based on the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled *Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016*

Figure 3: Changes in the number of athletes participating in the Summer Olympics



Source: Own editing based on the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled *Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016*

Figure 4: Development of the number of competitions at the Summer Olympics



Source: Own editing based on the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled *Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016*

Table 4: Changes in the number of countries and athletes participating in the Winter Olympics and in the number of sports and competitions in the program (1924-2018)

Year of the Olympics	Place of the Olympics	Number of countries	Competitors (per capita)	Number of sports	Number of events	HUN men (per capita)	HUN women (per capita)	HUN participation (per capita)
1924	Chamoniox	16	294	4	14	4	-	4
1928	St Moritz	25	495	5	13	12		12
1932	Lake Placid	17	306	4	14	2	2	4
1936	Garmisch-P.	28	755	4	17	22	3	25
1948	St. Moritz	28	713	5	22	17	5	22
1952	Oslo	30	732	4	22	8	4	12
1956	Cortina d' A.	32	818	4	24	1	1	2
1960	Squaw V.	30	665	4	27	2	1	3
1964	Innsbruck	36	1 186	6	34	22	6	28
1968	Grenoble	37	1 293	6	35	8	2	10
1972	Sapporo	35	1 232	6	35	-	1	1
1976	Innsbruck	37	1 128	6	37	2	1	3
1980	Lake Placid	37	1 071	6	38	1	1	2
1984	Sarajevo	49	1 277	6	39	7	2	9
1988	Calgary	57	1 428	6	46	3	2	5
1992	Albertville	64	1 808	6	57	13	11	24
1994	Lillehammer	67	1 801	6	61	5	11	16
1998	Nagano	72	2 177	8	68	8	9	17
2002	Salt Lake C.	77	2 399	8	78	14	11	25
2006	Torino	80	2 608	7	84	11	8	19
2010	Vancouver	82	2 632	7	86	6	9	15
2014	Sochi	88	2 780	7	98	7	9	16
2018	Phjongcs-hang	92	2 833	7	102	9	10	19

Source: Own editing based on the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016

According to the data, the number of sports in the Winter Olympics is relatively stable, while the number of participants and competitions is expanding dynamically. The reason for this can be found in the fact that the specialist materials and statistics classify the competitions into some traditional sports groups, but the internal structure of the program is expanding. Consequently several sources divide competitions into 15 sports / disciplines.

THE VALUE AND EVALUATION OF OLYMPIC SUCCESSES

First of all, when remembering the value of the Olympic successes, we must not forget the classic statement that in the Olympics it is not (so much) victory that is important, but the participation. The idea quoted is more than once attributed to Pierre de Coubertin, the father of the modern Olympics, from whom many of the foundations of modern games are indeed derived, but the theorem in question was not uttered by him for the first time, but on July 19, 1908, during the then Olympics, at St. Paul's Cathedral in London from Bishop Ethelbert Talbot of Pennsylvania. However, according to the rumor, a few days later, the president of the IOC himself used this wording that remained the archbishop's proverb for posterity. It is undeniable that young people who choose to play Olympic sports may have the strongest desire to take part in the biggest sporting event in the world, representing their country, sensing and feeling its greatness, and atmosphere.

However, the focus of the Olympic Games is only on contest and competition, and "winning the Olympics" is an incomparable experience for those who experience it, just as cheering for the success of competitors on behalf of our nation, whether on the spot or remotely, in front of screens, or in other ways. Olympic successes can be clearly measured in Olympic championship titles, medals, rankings or "simply" in the participants' excellent performance that surpassed others or in the past. In the case of an athlete, the greatest result is the Olympic championship title, but the number of gold medals is also the main indicator of the Olympic role of athletes in each nation. All podium finishes are very serious, the silver or bronze medals also shine beautifully, and the "non-medal" excellent achievements deserve recognition.

As a result of the above, Olympic successes are typically measured in championship titles, gold medals and the number of medals. This is where the preliminary expectations are expressed, and then the number of gold medals and additional medals is the focus of the subsequent analysis and evaluations. Competitors typically professionals and fans consider the actual results in the light of the preliminary odds, expectations and the Olympic performances of others nations or previous periods. In the meantime, we cannot forget about good rankings, of which scoring positions - in addition to the winners traditionally the 4-6 places have the greatest value. Although there is no official competition for the overall performance at the Olympics among the nations and certain countries' sport delegates, the number of first places won is still counted on the medal table, supplemented by an unofficial points competition, which calculates the number of places in the various sports transfers and aggregates and ranks countries using this method. The values of the scoring places in the currently more widely used tables are; I place: 7, II: place 5, III: place 4, IV:

place 3, V: place 2, and finally VI place: 1. The scores listed are used by an “agreement”. By assigning different orders of magnitude and other differences to each placement, the overall scores may change mathematically, but the ranking based on the test calculations performed will not be substantially affected. Just one example, if the first place were recognized with 10 points instead of 7 points (there is such a version), only three changes (changes of places) would take place in the first 25 places of the last Tokyo Olympics, which would not affect Hungary's 13th place.

Experience has shown that the ‘unofficial’ Olympic score table is increasingly being relegated to communication and publications, and that the performance of each country's Olympic delegation is being compared with that of the medals won. It is known that according to the logic of the medal table, the ranking is determined primarily by the number of gold medals, in the event of a tie, the number of silver medals decides the result, and the same is true for the silver and bronze medals won.

The delegation of Hungarian athletes took a prominent place in the medal table of the Summer Olympic Games and in the unofficial points competition on several occasions. In this respect, the Helsinki Olympics were also the peak, when Hungary was third in both rankings. The Hungarian delegation also took the “podium” position on the medal table of the Berlin Olympics, and together with 1952, there were six Olympics between 1948 and 1988, when our nation could be found in one of the first six places on the medal table and according to the Olympic points. In the rankings in question, the Hungarians also finished among the best (in the first twenty) at the last Olympics, but - due to the completion of the Olympic field, they reached somewhat more modest positions than previously.

With the expansion of the program of the Olympics and the number of participants, and in connection with this the intensification of competition, the methods of more complex analysis and evaluation of the results came to the fore, which relied on several criteria for presenting the performance of each country. These include, in particular, specific indicators such as changes in the number of Olympic titles, medals or ‘Olympic points’ per capita in a given country (e.g. per million people), or the inclusion of economic indicators in the analysis (e.g. changes in the GDP per capita) correlation with the numerical Olympic results). More than once, research examines the effectiveness of each country in certain groups of countries and participants (e.g. geographical regions, categorized according to their Olympic traditions). Hungary is well placed in all of the above approaches, and is one of the leaders in terms of Olympic success per capita (or even one million).

In terms of population-based Olympic successes, there is few other nations ahead of Hungary, and this applies to the history of the modern Olympics until recently. Undoubtedly, this is fundamentally true of the Summer Olympics, as nations with a long tradition of winter sports diligently collect medals and placements on snow and ice. Consequently, taking into account the first places in the Summer and Winter Olympics, we have Sweden with a long sports tradition, a similar population and Norway, which currently has a population of just over half of Hungary's population, which is also valid for the specific data. However, it is only on the basis of the Summer Olympics that we are ahead of the two northern countries in terms of league titles and the number of medals. As for the

recent performance in Tokyo, the Hungarian delegation finished 15th in the medal table and 13th in the leaderboard. In the case of a dozen of the countries participating in the Olympics, including Hungary, the number of medals per one million people reached or exceeded two, and the six gold medals were in the top twenty in terms of the number of championship titles per one million people. All this means that according to the data, the position achieved so far in the list of results projected for the population has been maintained, although so far Hungarian athletes have not had the opportunity to take advantage at the time of the Olympics. The success of even a small number of athletes in a small country can take its Olympics to the forefront. A good example of this is Tokyo, where, for example, the San Marino delegation won medals for the first time in the history of the Olympics and even three at a time (1 silver and 2 bronze ones in sport shooting and wrestling), which is a very high specific performance based on a population of 30,000. An interesting comparison is provided by an analysis of the proportion of championship titles, gold medals / medals or unofficial points available to the participating delegation at each Olympics. Available points can be calculated based on the competition numbers. However, when applying points 22 (7 + 5 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 1) per number, it should be noted that not all places can be considered in the same way for all, for example because the fate of third-fourth places is not decided. In this case there are two bronze medals, but there is no fourth place. When the results of the 339 events in Tokyo (National Sports, 2021) were announced, 340 champions (individuals or teams) could have reached the top of the podium due to the tie between the two winners of the men's high jump, bringing the number of second place winners by one less than 338. There was also a tie (bronze medal) among the bronze medalists, and in martial arts typically 2-2 bronze medals were found (18 in wrestling, 15 in judo, 15 karate, 8 in boxing and 8 in taekwondo). According to the above, the number of 3rd places were 402 in Tokyo.

Assessing the Hungarian performance in Tokyo with this method, they won almost 2% (1.8%) of all championship titles and a similar share of medals, including gold, at the Olympics, and roughly "every 50th" also applies to the share of all Olympic scores. The data for the top six finishers in the medal table, supplemented by the percentage of medals won, show that more than a tenth of the medals (medal placements) to be won in Tokyo were taken by US competitors. The performance of Chinese athletes has approached 10% of all medals, and thanks to their more balanced medal collection, the Russian team and Britain have overtaken Japan in this approach. In terms of Olympic championship titles, athletes from the U.S. and China went head-to-head, with both delegations eventually accounting for more than 11% of the "gold medals". The 0.3 percentage point (11.5% - 11.2%) difference is due to a single gold medal discrepancy (39-38) in favor of the United States.

Medals 1-6 delegations can claim for themselves almost half of the gold medals (48.0%), 42.3% of the second place, and one third of the bronze (33.6%).

The former series of numbers indicate a strong concentration of the performance of the members of the Olympic family in medals, while the proportions in terms of the color of the medals also indicate a growing amount the countries achieving the podium finish.

This is supported by Figures 1-25 of the Medal Board. According to them, they won three-quarters of the medals (74.9%) and 80.9% of the championship titles. The virtue of this method is that it is suitable for measuring concentration in the light of all the medals available, but needs to be refined to determine the exact percentages / proportions. In a significant part of the competitions, according to the rules, it is not even theoretically possible for a nation to be represented by more than one entrant, for example to achieve more than seven points. For example, ball games with teams, among others, are typical, although the Olympics at the “dawn” of modern games provided exceptions (Miller, 2003).

Table 5: Number of medals in some countries and share of total medals available at the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics

Rank	Country	Gold pcs.	Silver pcs.	Bronze pcs.	Medals pcs.	Gold %	Silver %	Bronze %	Medals %
1.	USA	39	41	33	113	11,5	12,1	8,2	10,5
2.	China	38	32	18	88	11,2	9,5	4,5	8,1
3.	Japan	27	14	17	58	7,9	4,1	4,2	5,5
4.	United Kingdom	22	21	22	65	6,5	6,2	5,5	6,0
5.	Russian Team	20	28	23	71	5,9	8,3	5,7	6,6
6.	Australia	17	7	22	46	5,0	2,1	5,5	4,2
1-6.	Total	163	143	135	441	48,0	42,3	33,6	40,9
15.	Hungary	6	7	7	20	1,8	2,1	1,7	1,9
1-25.	Total	275	258	276	809	80,9	76,3	68,7	74,9

Source: Own editing based on the Medal Table published on the National Sport online interface

The above information proves that the examination of the Olympic results cannot miss more complex, specific approaches and the use of information that can be compared in a relevant way. A good example of the above is an analysis published in National Sports, which evaluated the Tokyo Olympic performance among Central European countries (National Sports, 2021), highlighting Hungary's traditionally outstanding performance in maintaining its leading position in the region.

Ultimately, the Olympic performance can also be evaluated in a strict way for individual Olympians, based on their medals and points. The closer the analysis is to the particular athlete, the better the former classic quantitative criteria can be supplemented with qualitative elements, trait personality traits, preparation conditions, background, etc. As for the individual medal table of the Hungarian Olympians, Tokyo made a difference among the best in that Danuta Kozák was included in the group of six-time Hungarian Olympic champions, Rudolf Kárpáti and Pál Kovács, with his success in the kayak four.

Table 6: List of Hungarian athletes who have won more than three Olympic championship titles

Name	Sports	Number of gold medals	Period of Olympic participation
Aladár Gerevich	Fencing	7	1932-1960
Rudolf Kárpáti	Fencing	6	1948-1960
Pál Kovács	Fencing	6	1936-1960
Danuta Kozák	Kayak- Canoe	6	2008-2020
Krisztina Egerszegi	Swimming	5	1988-1996
Ágnes Keleti	Gymnastics	5	1952-1956
Tamás Darnyi	Swimming	4	1988-1992
Dr. Jenő Fuchs	Fencing	4	1908-1912
Győző Kulcsár	Fencing	4	1964-1976

Source: Own editing based on the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016

When evaluating individual performances, it should also be taken into consideration that the possibilities for collecting Olympic medals vary from sport to sport and competition to competition. In ball games, team members have the opportunity to win one medal per Olympics. The same can be said for a significant portion of individual numbers, such as boxing, weightlifting, or just sailing. It is no coincidence that in the interactive program of the conference in honor of the heroes of the Olympics at the time of the study (www.mob.hu, 2021), the participants nominated a number of Olympians among the biggest individuals who did not appear in the former list or did not win a championship, but with their other achievements and individualities they stood out from the Hungarian participants in the Olympics. (Among others, the three-time gold medal excellence, the pentathlete András Balczó and the water polo player Dr. György Kárpáti, the soccer player Károly Palotai and Ferenc Puskás, the hammer thrower Gyula Zsivótzky and the women's basketball team, which qualified but did not make it to the 1984 Olympics, was also on the ballot papers submitted for the heroes ballot papers.)

A number of conclusions can also be drawn from the examination of Olympic successes by sport. Some countries and nations have particularly successful Olympic sports and competitions, and fortunately Hungary is no exception. For decades, only Hungarian success in men's fencing was achieved, both in teams and individuals, Krisztina Egerszegi won at three consecutive Summer Olympics on 200m backstrokes, Danuta Kozák (so far) sitting in the kayak foursome, Papp "Laci" boxing, the dueling team from 1964 to 1972, and the men water polo team from 2000 to 2008. In Tokyo, Áron Szilágyi also signed up for the triples, and even before that he was in the 51st year (National Sports, 2021), when he won the seventh gold medal in fencing in Rome. It may come as a surprise to younger people that Hungary tops the medal table for men's football tournaments at the Olympics with three first places (1952, 1964, and 1968) and a second place (1972) and a third place (1960).

According to the following table, Hungarian athletes (including art competitions) have won Olympic gold medals in about fifteen sports and have won medals in thirty sports. Only one of these, skating, is part of the Winter Olympics program.

Almost all of the items listed in the table can be considered successful sports in some way. Here you can refer to for example the nine triumphs of water polo players. This water sport was featured in 28 Olympic programs, but on one occasion (in 1904) the tournament was “held” with the participation of only one team.

It follows from the above that the competition of the men's polo team ended with Hungarian primacy in one third of the Olympic competitions. Gold medal placements from fencing, swimming and kayaking (95) account for more than half (51.9%) of all Hungarian Olympic championship titles (183), with a high share (1781 points, ie 45.9%) also from the Olympic points achieved by Hungarian athletes. This is illustrated in Diagram 5 and 6 as well.

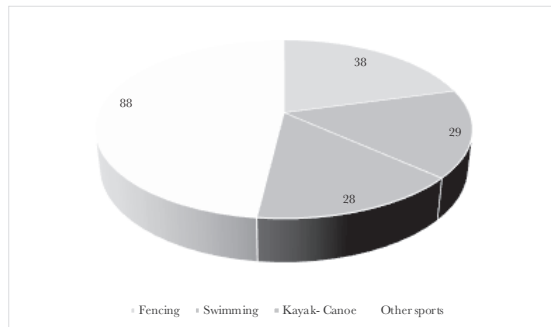
Table 7: Olympic “scoring” positions of Hungarian athletes by sport (1896-2020)

Rank	Sports	I. place gold	II. place silver	III. place bronze	IV. place	V. place	VI. place	Score
1.	Fencing	38	24	28	26	25	14	640
2.	Swimming	29	27	20	29	27	19	578
3.	Kajak-kenu	28	31	27	21	14	13	563
4.	Kayak- Canoe	20	17	19	29	24	14	450
5.	Gymnastics	15	11	14	13	11	14	291
6.	Athletics	10	12	18	19	21	13	314
7.	Boxing	10	2	8	2	21	-	160
8.	Pentathlon	9	8	6	3	3	3	145
9.	Water polo	9	3	5	4	5	2	122
10.	Shooting	7	3	7	4	9	11	133
11.	Soccer	3	1	1	-	1	-	32
12.	Weight lifting	2	9	9	7	6	15	143
13.	Judo	1	3	6	-	12	-	70
14.	Skating	1	2	4	5	7	4	66
15.	Art competi- tions	1	2	1	-	-	-	21
16.	Handball	-	1	2	7	1	1	37
17.	Rowing	-	1	2	2	6	4	35
18.	Sailing	-	1	1	-	-	-	9
19.	Equestrianism	-	-	1	2	1	1	13
20.	Tennis	-	-	1	-	1	-	6
21.	Karate	-	-	1	-	-	-	4

Rank	Sports	I. place gold	II. place silver	III. place bronze	IV. place	V. place	VI. place	Score
22.	Volleyball	-	-		2	1	1	9
23.	Table tennis	-	-	-	2	-	-	6
24.	Cycling	-	-	-	1	6	2	17
25.	Basketball	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
26.	Polo	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
27.	Diving	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
28.	Taekwondo	-	-	-	-	2	-	4
29.	Archery	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
30.	Rythmic gymnastics	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	Total	183	158	181	181	205	132	3880

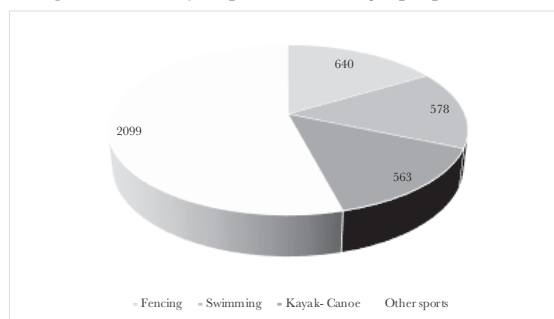
Source: Own editing based on the official publication of the Hungarian Olympic Committee entitled *Hungarians at the Olympic Games 1896-2016*

Figure 5: The share of Hungarian “successful sports” in the Hungarian Olympic



Source: Own editing based on Table 7 of the study

Figure 6: The share of Hungarian “successful sports” in the Olympic points achieved by Hungarian athletes



Source: Own construction based on the data in Table 7 of the study

The Hungarian championship titles also increased in Tokyo in the three sports that took the “podium” of the list, as well as in the wrestling “lined up” behind them, as follows.

Table 8: Hungarian Olympic champions in Tokyo in the XXXII. Summer Olympics

Olimpian Champions	Sport	Event
Tamás Lőrincz	Wrestling	Men's Greco-Roman 77kg
Bálint Kopasz	Kayak and Canoe	Men's Single Kayak 1000m
Sándor Tótká	Kayak and Canoe	Men's Single Kayak 200m
Dóra Bodonyi Tamara Csípes Anna Kárász Danuta Kozák	Kayak and Canoe	Women's Kayak Four 500m
Kristóf Milák	Swimming	Men's Butterfly 200m
Áron Szilágyi	Fencing	Men's Individual Sabre

Source: Own editing

Two of the Tokyo silver medal winners were won by Hungarian athletes in the kayak-canoe and swimming competitions, and one each in wrestling, fencing and - for the first time in the history of the Olympics - in sailing (Zsombor Berecz). In addition to the kayak-canoe and fencing, which won one bronze medal, judo, karate and pentathlon was entered and the men's and women's teams were also in third place on the podium. Among the scorers, cycling, sport shooting and taekwondo were also “introduced to” 4-6 places. Thus, our Olympians have collected a total of 156 Olympic points in a dozen sports based on 42 points. At the last Winter Olympics, Hungarian athletes scored five points in short-distance speed skating. One of these was the medal place, but the gold went to the members of the 5,000-meter relay (Csaba Burján, Viktor Knoch, Shaolin Sándor Liu), and this success meant the first Winter Olympic Championship for Hungary (Amler, 2018).

Beijing here we come!

CONCLUSION

One of the greatest “inventions” left to mankind by the ancient Greeks is the OLYMPICS. The summer and winter games, which take place every four years with a two-year postponing, touch even those who are not sports fans. As the opening of the Olympics approaches, the question arises more and more often - in the public discourse, in the press, but also officially, how many gold, how many medals can be expected, and during the competitions

every day many people count how expectations and dreams have come true. In such cases, the probability of success of the potential competitors and teams can be pondered again and again, always expecting pleasant surprises. Then the evaluation can follow after all the competitions and matches that have taken place!

The success of the Hungarian delegations in the Olympics consists of the performance of individual competitors and teams. Effective methods are needed to evaluate the achievement of the set goals and to compare them with other countries and nations. As a result of countries concentrating about obtaining medals, it is obvious to use medal tables to compare delegations, but there is an unofficial ‘points race’ that converts the rankings of individual nations (delegations) into single-point data, thus providing a basis for ranking the performance of countries participating in the Olympics. In both approaches, Hungary was one of the leaders in Tokyo, and this is especially true when the population of each country is included in the evaluation as another criterion.

Based on a deeper examination of the methods of analysis of the Olympic results, the study also draws attention to the need to use models for complex evaluations that reach appropriate conclusions in terms of sports, social and economic impacts in addition to the mentioned quantitative categories. Regular analyzes can provide continuous support for the assessment and confirmation of the effectiveness of the Hungarian Olympians, and at the same time they can contribute to the current Olympic preparations and the new successes of the Hungarian athletes.

Concerning the future vision, let the study close with the idea expressed by Thomas Bach, Chairman of the International Olympic Committee, when igniting the Olympic flame going to Beijing according to which in our fragile world, the Olympic Games always form a bridge and never raise walls (www.mob.hu., 2021).

NOTES

- ¹ At the time of the conclusion of the study, the news came that the flame of the Beijing Olympics had been ignited in Olympia, “speaking out” of the Winter Games and the Paralympics Games starting a hundred days later (www.mob.hu, October 18, 2021), and that the flame arrived in China, where after a brief ceremony, it was transported to the Beijing Olympic Tower. From here, it will reach the Olympic Stadium by about 1,200 torchbearers, touching the competition zones of Beijing, Zhangjiakou and Yanqing (www.mob.hu, October 21, 2021).
- ² The data used in the official publication of the MOB, which is considered to be authoritative even in the case of discrepancies in the literature, are supplemented here and in the additional tables and figures of the study with the data of the 2018 Pyongyang and / or 2020 Tokyo Olympics.
- ³ The table only includes the Winter Olympics in which Hungarian athletes achieved a “score” (1-6).
- ⁴ Due to the ban on the importation of Australian horses, the equestrian competitions of the 1956 Summer Olympics were held in Stockholm. The data in the table contains the combined data for the two locations. The intellectual competitions held from 1912 to 1948 are not classified as independent sports by some authoritative sources, which is why the table also marks them separately (as +1).

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