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Tokyo Olympics Highlights

Highlights From
This Year's
Legendary
Olympic Games

NDA NEWS

Tokyo Olympics Highlights

The 2020 Olympic Games have come to an epic close and they were certainly a games to remember. Originally scheduled to take place during the summer of 2020, they were delayed due to the pandemic, but finally got underway and the host country Japan put in maximum effort to ensure it was a memorable and record-breaking event. Here are the highlights of this magnificent sporting event.

By far the most exciting part of this year's Olympics was the athletic events. World Athletics President Sebastian Coe has hailed the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and the people of Japan for allowing the dreams of the world's athletes to come to life at what has proven to be the most globally successful edition of the Games for athletics. A record 83 teams reached



finals in Tokyo, highlighting the global reach of the sport, with 43 teams featuring on the medal podium and 23 of those winning gold. Over ten days of competition, three world records, 12 Olympic records, 28 area records and 151 national records were set in these history-making Games.

Elaine Thompson-Herah of Jamaica made

Olympic history when she became the first woman ever to win both the 100m and 200m titles in back-to-back races. Her times also made her the quickest woman alive across both sprint distances.



Neeraj Chopra also won a historic Gold in javelin throw, receiving India's first athletics medal in 100 years. Chopra's historic triumph on Saturday night means India has racked up its best-ever Olympic medal haul of seven and caps a resurgence of national pride.

In winning gold for Norway, Warholm broke his own world record in the 400-metre hurdles at 45.94, ripping his shirt in celebration. It was a dizzyingly fast race – six out of seven who finished behind him blazed to season bests, regional or national records.



For the first time since 1912, Italy and Qatar walked away with a shared gold medal after competing against each other in the men's high jump heats. Both Qatar's Mutaz Essa Barshim and Italy's Gianmarco Tamberi ended up with



jumps of 2.37m, and had no failed attempts until 2.39m. After three failures at this height each, Barshim asked an Olympic official if they could share the award, and he willingly obliged.

Great Britain also had excellent results, finishing fourth in the final medals table. Former chef Charlotte Worthington made history when she became the first to successfully land a 360 BMX backflip in the Olympics. It secured her a gold medal, and the highest score across both the men's and women's events.



13-year-old Sky Brown made two epic achievements in the skateboarding final: she became the youngest British Olympian to compete at a Summer Games, and then walked away with a bronze medal – making her GB's youngest ever Olympic medalist.

Team GB came home with an impressive haul of 65 medals (the same as London 2012) with 22 golds, 21 silvers and 22 bronze medals.

It was an successful year for female athletes at Tokyo too, with many firsts from a range of different countries.

Feryal Ashraf won Egypt's first gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics, in Karate (-61kg). She also made history by becoming the first Egyptian woman to win a gold Olympic medal. President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi of Egypt stated that a new bridge



that intersects with the Taha Hussein Axis in the Fifth Settlement district will be named after Olympic champion as a result.

Competing in the women's 55kg weightlifting category, Air Force servicewoman Hidilyn Diaz beat out world-record holder Liao Qiuyun to win the Philippines first ever Olympic gold medal.



In her fourth Olympics, the 30-year-old lifted a combined weight of 224 kg, an Olympic record.

Lisa Carrington from New Zealand walked away with three golds from the kayaking heats. This makes a total of six medals that she has secured in her career five of them gold. She remains unbeaten for nine years in the event, securing her place New Zealand's greatest ever Olympian.



The International Olympic Committee has called the Tokyo Olympics the most gender equal Games off all time, with women comprising a record-breaking 49 per cent of participants. Several countries, including Australia, Britain, Canada and China, sent teams to Tokyo with more women than men. For Canada, women dominated the medal haul in the first week of competition, taking 13 medals before a male

athlete made it to the podium.

Saudi Arabia sent its largest delegation of participants in the history of the Olympic Games this year to Tokyo to represent the Kingdom. The athletes competed in eight events including, karate, weightlifting, archery, athletics, rowing, swimming, judo, and table tennis.

There was history made, as Judoka athlete Tahani Al-Qahtani, became the first Saudi athlete to play against a player from Israel. Despite her young age of 20, she had risen to fame and though she lost the match she gained much support from the Saudi public.



Saudi Arabia karate star Tareg Hamedi was also rewarded a silver medal in the men's Karate Kumite (+75kg). He was controversially disqualified from his +75kg Kumite final after a head-kick rendered his Iranian opponent Sajad Ganjzadeh unconscious. He was however awarded a generous token of appreciation by the Saudi government, and praised by his country for his excellent achievement.

"Because he is the hero in the eyes of all of us... Our Olympic



champion Tareq Hamdi will be honored with the gold medal award [5 million riyals] for his excellence, creativity and honorable representation of the homeland in front of the stars The world.. in Tokyo 2020, you deserve it, hero, and the future is in front of you,” tweeted Prince Abdulaziz.

Overall, there were 22 world records broken in the whole Olympic games, and the table stood in the end with the USA coming first with 39 medals, China in second with 38 medals, and Japan in third with 27 medals. A historic games indeed for all involved and one that will not soon be forgotten.

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