

Irish Athletics Olympic History

Compiled by Pierce O'Callaghan

Venues: 1896 Athens (GRE), 1900 Paris (FRA), 1904 St. Louis (USA), 1906 Athens (GRE), 1908 London (GBR), 1912 Stockholm (SWE), 1920 Antwerp (BEL), 1924 Paris (FRA), 1928 Amsterdam (NED), 1932 Los Angeles (USA), 1936 Berlin (GER), 1948 London (GBR), 1952 Helsinki (FIN), 1956 Melbourne (AUS), 1960 Rome (ITA), 1964 Tokyo (JPN), 1968 Mexico City (MEX), 1972 Munich (FRG), 1976 Montreal (CAN), 1980 Moscow (URS), 1984 Los Angeles (USA), 1988 Seoul (KOR), 1992 Barcelona (ESP), 1996 Atlanta (USA), 2000 Sydney (AUS), 2004 Athens (GRE), 2008 Beijing (CHN), 2012 London (GBR), 2016 Rio de Janeiro (BRA)

Men

100m

1924	William Lowe	4h12	No time		
1928	Denis Cussen	2h15	No time	5 QF	No time
1952	Paul Dolan	3h2	11.12		
1960	Paddy Lowry	6h3	11.11		
1996	Neil Ryan	7h10	10.78		
2000	Paul Brizzel	6h4	10.62		

200m

1924	William Lowe	2h7	23.05	QF	No time		
1924	Sean Lavan	1h16	23.24	QF	No time		
1928	Sean Lavan	4h6	22.9				
1928	Dan Cullen	3h2	No time				
1952	Paul Dolan	2h15	22.04	3 QF	22.15		
1960	Paddy Lowry	5h6	22.30				
1996	Gary Ryan	3h11	20.78	8 QF	20.89		
2000	Paul Brizzel	4h9	20.98				
2004	Paul Brizzel	6h1	21.00				
2008	Paul Hession	3h6	20.59	1 QF4	20.32	5 SF1	20.38

400m

1924	Sean Lavan	2h8	51.2	4 QF	49.8		
1928	Sean Lavan	2h6	No time	5 QF	No time		
1948	Jimmy Reardon	1h1	48.4	2 QF	48.3	5 SF	47.8
1952	Paul Dolan	3h10	48.81				
1968	Noel Carroll	6h6	46.83				
1972	Fanahan McSweeney	5h5	47.07				
1996	Eugene Farrell	6h6	47.18				
2000	Tomas Coman	4h9	46.17				
2008	David Gillick	4h7	45.83				

800m

1924	Norman McEachern	2h6	No time	5 SF	1:58.3	
1928	Norman McEachern	3h8	1:59.8	SF	DNF	
1928	Gerry Coughlan	6h7	No time			
1960	Ronnie Delany	3h8	1:51.19	6 QF	1:51.42	
1964	Noel Carroll	5h5	1:51.1			
1964	Derek McCleane	3h3	1:49.9	7 SF	1:48.4	
1968	Noel Carroll	3h3	1:49.0			
1972	Frank Murphy	3h8	1:51.1	5 SF	1:49.2	
1976	Niall O'Shaughnessy	5h6	1:49.29			
1984	Marcus O'Sullivan	5h2	1:46.85	6 QF	1:46.21	
1996	David Matthews	4h1	1:46.76	5 SF	1:47.83	
2000	David Matthews	5h2	1:48.77			
2008	Thomas Chamney	5h1	1:47.66			

1500m

1948	JJ Barry	8h1	4:00.7				
1956	RONNIE DELANY	3h2	3:47.48			1F	3:41.49
1964	Basil Clifford	8h1	3:54.9				
1968	Frank Murphy	10h5	3:54.85				
1972	Frank Murphy	5h5	3:43.4				
1976	Niall O'Shaughnessy	4h4	3:40.12				
1976	Eamonn Coghlan	1h5	3:39.87	1 SF	3:38.60	4F	3:39.51
1980	Ray Flynn	6h3	3:41.92				
1984	Paul Donovan	4h2	3:45.70				
1984	Frank O'Mara	4h4	3:41.76				
1984	Marcus O'Sullivan	3h1	3:49.65	9 SF	3:39.40		
1988	Marcus O'Sullivan	6h1	3:42.01	6 SF	3:38.84	8F	3:38.39
1988	Gerry O'Reilly	10h3	3:43.23				
1992	Marcus O'Sullivan	4h4	3:37.07	8 SF	3:37.16		
1996	Marcus O'Sullivan	6h4	3:38.16				
1996	Shane Healy	5h3	3:37.28	11 SF	3:39.81		
1996	Niall Bruton	3h1	3:37.42	12 SF	3:42.88		
2000	James Nolan	9h1	3:40.50				
2004	James Nolan	8h1	3:41.14	10 SF	3:42.61		
2008	Alistair Cragg	8h2	3:44.90				

5000m

1948	JJ Barry	DNF					
1960	Mick Hoey	10h1	15:00.52				
1964	Tom O'Riordan	9h2	14:08.8				
1972	John Hartnett	12h3	14:34.6				
1972	Mike Keogh	5h1	13:57.8				
1976	Eddy Leddy	11h1	13:40.54				
1980	Eamonn Coghlan	3h3	13:45.39	2 SF	13:28.79	4F	13:22.74
1980	John Treacy	4h1	13:40.29			7F	13:23.62
1980	Mick O'Shea	10h2	14:02.97				
1984	Ray Flynn	4h1	13:46.84	4 SF	13:40.74	11F	13:34.50
1988	Eamonn Coghlan	7h3	13:43.48	15 SF	14:02.16		

1988	John Doherty	7h1	13:47.99	5 SF	13:24.61	9F	13:27.71
1988	Frank O'Mara	10h2	13:59.46				
1992	John Doherty	6h1	13:41.27				
1992	Paul Donovan	10h3	14:03.79				
1992	Frank O'Mara	4h2	13:38.79				
1996	Cormac Finnerty	10h2	13:54.01	10 SF	14:08.88		
2000	Mark Carroll	7h2	13:30.60				
2004	Mark Carroll	15h2	13:46.81				
2004	Alistair Cragg	7h1	13:23.01			12F	13:43.06
2008	Alistair Cragg	6h1	13:38.57			DNF	

10000m

1924	John Joe Ryan	DNF					
1924	John Clarke	DNF					
1948	Paddy Fahy	DNF					
1964	Jim Hogan	DNF					
1972	Neil Cusack	10h2	28:45.80				
1976	Eddy Leddy	9h2	28:55.49				
1980	John Treacy	h1	DNF				
1984	John Treacy	5h3	28:18.13			9F	28:28.68
1992	Noel Berkeley	17h2	29:23.58				
1992	Sean Dollman	16h1	28:55.77				
1996	Sean Dollman	19h2	29:19.03				

110m Hurdles

1928	Alastair Clark	3h4	No time				
1956	Eamon Kinsella	4h1	14.66				
1988	TJ Kearns	4h2	14.17	7 QF	14.30		
1992	TJ Kearns	4h1	13.63	7 QF	13.87		
1996	TJ Kearns	3h6	13.67	5 QF	13.55		
1996	Sean Cahill	7h2	14.28				
2000	Peter Coghlan	6h2	14.03	7 QF	13.86		

400m Hurdles

1932	BOB TISDALL	1h2	54.8	1 SF	52.8	1F	51.67
1996	Tom McGuirk	5h6	50.76				
2000	Tom McGuirk	7h4	51.73				

3000m Steeplechase

1924	John Kelly	DNF					
1928	Gerry Coughlan	DNF					
1932	Michael Murphy	DNF					
1972	Eddie Leddy	9h2	8:47.4				
1984	Liam O'Brien	8h3	8:31.89	11 SF	8:34.90		
1988	Brendan Quinn	9h3	8:40.87	11 SF	8:43.34		

Marathon

1948	Frank Mulvihill	26	2:57.35
1952	Joe West	49	2:56.23
1960	Willie Dunne	42	2:33.09
1960	Bertie Messit	DNF	
1960	Gerry McIntyre	22	2:26.04
1964	Jim Hogan	DNF	
1968	Pat McMahon	12	2:29.21
1968	Mick Molloy	41	2:48.14
1972	Danny McDaid	23	2:22.26
1972	Donie Walsh	47	2:31.13
1972	Dessie McGann	42	2:28.32
1976	Jim McNamara	39	2:24.58
1976	Danny McDaid	42	2:27.08
1976	Neil Cusack	55	2:35.48
1980	Dick Hooper	38	2:23.53
1980	Pat Hooper	42	2:30.28
1984	JOHN TREACY	2	2:09.56
1984	Jerry Kiernan	9	2:12.20
1984	Dick Hooper	51	2:24.41
1988	Dick Hooper	24	2:17.16
1988	John Treacy	DNF	
1988	John Woods	52	2:25.38
1992	Tommy Hughes	72	2:32.55
1992	Andy Ronan	DNF	
1992	John Treacy	51	2:24.11
2008	Martin Fagan	DNF	

4 x 100m Relay

2000	Paul Brizzel, Gary Ryan, Tom Comyns, John McAdorey, Mark Howard (Sub), Donal McCarthy (Sub)	4h3	39.26
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4 x 400m Relay

1948	Charles Denroche, Paul Dolan, Jimmy Reardon, Reggie Myles. Cormac O'Cleirigh (sub)	DSQ	
2000	Tomas Coman, Paul McKee, Paul Opperman, Robert Daly, Gordon Kennedy (Sub)	3h2	3:07.42

High Jump

1924	Larry Stanley	Q 10	1.80m
1996	Mark Mandy	Q 23	2.20m
2000	Brendan Reilly	Q 23	2.20m
2004	Adrian O'Dwyer	Q -	NH

Pole Vault

No Irish representation yet.

Long Jump

1928	Patrick Anglim	Q 21	6.81m
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Triple Jump

1924	John O'Connor	10	13.99m
1928	Theo Phelan	Q 19	13.73m
1932	Eamonn Fitzgerald	4	15.01m

Shot Put

1924	John O'Grady	Q 17	12.75m
1948	David Guiney	Q 16	14.01m
1972	Phil Conway	Q 27	16.69m
1992	Victor Costello	Q 22	17.15m
1992	Paul Quirke	Q 23	17.01m

Discus

1924	Paddy Bermingham	Q 11	40.42
1948	Cummin Clancy	Q 22	40.73m
1992	Nick Sweeney	Q 23	57.68m
1996	Nick Sweeney	Q 13	62.04m
2000	Nick Sweeney	Q 36	57.37m
2000	John Menton	Q 40	54.21m

Hammer

1928	PAT O'CALLAGHAN	Q 3	47.49m	1F	51.39m
1932	PAT O'CALLAGHAN			1F	53.92m
1948	Dan Coyle	Q 19	47.11m		
1960	John Lawlor	Q 7	62.10m	4 F	64.95m
1964	John Lawlor	Q 23	59.12m		
1980	Sean Egan	Q 16	63.94m		
1984	Declan Hegarty	Q 16	70.56m		
1984	Conor McCullough	Q 21	65.56m		
1988	Conor McCullough	Q 24	68.66m		
1996	Roman Linscheid	Q 33	68.14m		
2000	Paddy McGrath	Q 41	67.00m		

Javelin

1988	Terry McHugh	Q 22	76.46m
1992	Terry McHugh	Q 27	73.26m
1996	Terry McHugh	Q 29	72.84m
2000	Terry McHugh	Q 20	79.90m

Decathlon

1924	Bill Shanahan	19	4931 pts
1928	Con O'Callaghan	DNF	
1932	Bob Tisdall	8	6398 pts
1988	Carlos O'Connell	29	7310 pts

20km Walk

1988	Jimmy McDonald	17	1:22.45
1992	Jimmy McDonald	6	1:25.16
1992	Bobby O'Leary	DSQ	
1996	Jimmy McDonald	51	1:32.11
2000	Robert Heffernan	28	1:26.04
2004	Robert Heffernan	DSQ	
2008	Robert Heffernan	8	1:20.36

50km Walk

1960	Frank O'Reilly	20	4:54.40
1968	John Kelly	DNF	
2000	Jamie Costin	38	4:24.22
2008	Jamie Costin	44	4:15.16
2008	Colin Griffin	DSQ	

10km Cross Country

1924	John Joe Ryan	DNF	
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Women

100m

1956	Maeve Kyle	6h4	12.48	
1960	Maeve Kyle	5h5	12.59	
2000	Sarah Reilly	3h2	11.56	7 QF 11.53

200m

1956	Maeve Kyle	5h1	26.57
1960	Maeve Kyle	5h6	25.06
2000	Sarah Reilly	5h2	23.43

400m

1964	Maeve Kyle	4h2	55.4	7 SF	55.3
2000	Karen Shinkins	4h3	53.27		
2008	Joanne Cuddihy	6h4	53.32		

800m

1964	Maeve Kyle	5h2	2:11.3	8 SF	2:12.9		
1972	Claire Walsh	7h2	2:08.98				
1972	Mary Tracey-Purcell	4h1	2:04.18				
1984	Caroline O'Shea	2h1	2:03.60	4 SF	2:02.70	8F	2:00.11

1500m

1972	Mary Tracey-Purcell	6h3	4:16.43				
1976	Mary Tracey-Purcell	5h4	4:08.63				
1992	Sonia O'Sullivan	5h3	4:07.70	11 SF	4:06.24		
1996	Sonia O'Sullivan	10h1	4:19.77				
1996	Sinead Delahunty	5h1	4:10.20	9 SF	4:12.52		
2000	Sinead Delahunty	7h3	4:11.75				

3000m

1984	Roisin Smyth	8h1	9:01.69				
1984	Monica Joyce	5h3	8:54.34				
1988	Ann Keenan-Buckley	13h2	9:03.10				
1992	Sonia O'Sullivan	1h3	8:50.08			4F	8:47.41
1992	Catherina McKiernan	8h2	8:57.91				

5000m

1996	Sonia O'Sullivan	1SF1	15:15.80			DNF	
1996	Kathy McCandless	10SF3	15:55.66				
1996	Marie McMahon	14SF2	15:59.12				
2000	SONIA O'SULLIVAN	1SF1	15:07.91			2 F	14:41.02
2000	Breda Dennehy-Willis	13SF3	15:49.58				
2000	Rosemary Ryan	8SF1	15:33.05				
2004	Sonia O'Sullivan	7SF2	14:59.61			14F	16:20.90
2004	Maria McCambridge	15SF1	15:57.42				

10000m

1996	Catherina McKiernan	6h1	32:32.10			11F	32:00.38
2000	Sonia O'Sullivan	7h1	32:29.93			6F	30:53.37
2000	Breda Dennehy-Willis	11h2	33:17.45				
2004	Marie McMahon-Davenport					14F	31:50.49

3000m Steeplechase

2008	Roisin McGettigan	2h2	9:28.92	14F	9:55.89
2008	Fionnuala Britton	10 h1	9:43.57		

100m Hurdles

1972	Margaret Murphy	6h3	15.89
2004	Derval O'Rourke	7h4	13.46
2008	Derval O'Rourke	6h2	13.22

400m Hurdles

1984	Mary Parr	7h4	61.66		
1988	Barbara Johnson	6h4	58.61		
1996	Susan Smith	3h1	55.22	5 SF	54.93
2000	Susan Smith-Walsh	4h4	57.08		
2008	Michelle Carey	7h2	57.99		

Marathon

1984	Carey May	28	2:41.27
1984	Regina Joyce	23	2:37.57
1988	Marie Rollins-Murphy	57	2:54.37
1988	Ailish Smith	46	2:44.17
2008	Pauline Curley	63	2:47.16

4 x 100m Relay

No Irish representation yet.

4 x 400m Relay

2000	Karen Shinkins, Martina McCarthy, Ciara Sheehy, Emily Maher, Adrienne McIvor (Sub)	6h3	3:32.24
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High Jump

No Irish representation yet.

Pole Vault

No Irish representation yet.

Long Jump

No Irish representation yet.

Triple Jump

No Irish representation yet.

Shot Put

No Irish representation yet.

Discus

1984	Patricia Walsh	Q10	54.42m		9F	55.38m
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Hammer

2008	Eileen O'Keeffe	Q 23	67.66m	
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Javelin

No Irish representation yet.

Heptathlon

1972	Margaret Murphy	(Pent)	27	3770 pts
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20km Walk

1992	Perri Williams	(10km)	37	54:53
1996	Deirdre Gallagher	(10km)	23	45:47
2000	Gillian O'Sullivan		10	1:33.10
2000	Olive Loughnane		35	1:38.23
2004	Olive Loughnane		DNF	
2008	Olive Loughnane		7	1:27.45

Top 8 finishes by Irish Track and Field Athletes since 1924

1928 –	Pat O'Callaghan	Hammer	1 st
1932 –	Pat O'Callaghan	Hammer	1 st
1932 –	Bob Tisdall	400m Hurdles	1 st
1932 –	Eamon Fitzgerald	Triple Jump	4 th
1932 –	Bob Tisdall	Decathlon	8 th
1956 –	Ronnie Delany	1500m	1 st
1960 –	John Lawlor	Hammer	4 th
1976 –	Eamonn Coghlan	1500m	4 th
1980 –	Eamonn Coghlan	5000m	4 th
1980 –	John Treacy	5000m	7 th
1984 –	John Treacy	Marathon	2 nd
1984 –	Caroline O'Shea	800m	8 th
1988 –	Marcus O'Sullivan	1500m	8 th
1992 –	Sonia O'Sullivan	3000m	4 th
1992 –	Jimmy McDonald	20km Walk	6 th
2000 –	Sonia O'Sullivan	5000m	2 nd
2000 –	Sonia O'Sullivan	10000m	6 th
2008 –	Robert Heffernan	20km Walk	8 th
2008 –	Olive Loughnane	20km Walk	7 th

Irish Athletes who held Olympic Records

1932	Bob Tisdall	400m Hurdles	52.60 (SF)
1932	Bob Tisdall	400m Hurdles	51.67 (F)*
1956	Ronnie Delany	1500m	3.41.49 (F)
1996	Sonia O'Sullivan	5000m	15:15.80 (SF)

* In the final Tisdall knocked the final hurdle which disallowed records at that time, but this rule was subsequently disregarded.

Olympic Team Managers in Athletics

1924	Major General William Murphy
1928	Dr Robert Rowlette
1932	General Eoin O'Duffy
1948	Jack Palmer and Charlie Rothwell
1952	Billy Morton
1956	Lord Killanin
1960	Louis Vandendries
1964	Louis Vandendries
1968	Brendan Foreman
1972	Eddie Spillane
1976	Ronnie Long
1980	Liam Hennessy
1984	PL Curran
1988	Chris Wall
1992	Paddy Marley
1996	Nick Davis
2000	Patsy McGonagle
2004	Michael Quinlan
2008	Patsy McGonagle
2012	Patsy McGonagle

International Technical Officials appointed by IOC/IAAF

1924	Dr Robert Rowlette
1928	Dr Robert Rowlette
1928	Eamon Flemming
1932	Percy Kirwan
1932	Peter O'Connor
1988	Al Guy
2008	Pierce O'Callaghan
2012	Pierce O'Callaghan

Athletes who carried the Irish flag in the Opening Ceremony:

1924	John O'Grady
1932	Pat O'Callaghan
1960	Ronnie Delany
1964	John Lawlor
2000	Sonia O'Sullivan

Youngest Athletics Olympian:

2000	4x400m Relay	Martina McCarthy	(18 years, 338 days)
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Oldest Athletics Olympian:

2008	Marathon	Pauline Curley	(39 years, 161 days)
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Youngest Team Manager:

1980	Liam Hennessy	(31 years, 294 days)
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Most Olympic Starts:

13 starts	Sonia O'Sullivan 3 x 1500m starts, 2 x 3000m starts, 6 x 5000m starts, 2 x 10000m starts over 4 Olympics 1992-2004
10 starts	Marcus O'Sullivan 2 x 800m starts, 8 x 1500m starts over 4 Olympics 1984-1996
9 starts	John Treacy 3 x 5000m starts, 3 x 10000m starts, 3 x Marathon starts over 4 Olympics 1980-1992
8 starts	Maeve Kyle 2 x 100m starts, 2 x 200m starts, 2 x 400m starts, 2 x 800m starts over 3 Olympics 1956-1964
8 starts	Eamonn Coghlan 3 x 1500m starts, 5 x 5,000m starts over 3 Olympics 1976, 1980, 1988

Irish Olympic Relations:

Pat & Con O'Callaghan (Brothers)
 Dick & Pat Hooper (Brothers)
 Brendan & Sarah Reilly (Husband & Wife)
 Monica & Regina Joyce (Sisters)

Clubs with most Olympians:

Clonliffe Harriers – 14 Irish Olympians

1924	x1	McEachern
1928	x1	McEachern
1948	x3	Barry, Dolan, Guiney plus Manager Rothwell
1952		Manager Morton
1960	x2	Hoey, McIntyre
1968	x1	Murphy
1972	x1	Murphy, Walsh, McDaid
1984	x1	Kiernan
1988	x1	Keenan-Buckley
1992	x1	O'Leary plus Manager Marley
1996	x1	Bruton
2004	x1	Cragg
2008	x1	Cragg, plus International Technical Official O'Callaghan

Crusaders AC - 13 Irish Olympians

1948	x2	Gregory, Myles, Coyle
1956	x2	Delany,
1960	x2	Delany, plus Manager Vandendries
1964	x2	McCleane plus Manager Vandendries
1972	x2	Tracey-Purcell, Conway
1976	x1	Tracey-Purcell
1984	x2	O'Shea, McCullough
1988	x2	O'Connell, McCullough
1992	x1	Quirke
2000	x1	Coghlan
2008	x1	Chamney

Donore Harriers – 12 Irish Olympians

1948	x2	Clancy, Reardon, plus Manager Palmer
1956	x1	Kinsella
1960	x2	Dunne, Messit
1964	x2	O'Riordan, Clifford
1968		Manager Foreman
1972		Manager Spillane
1976	x2	McNamara, Coghlan
1980	x2	Coghlan, Egan
1996	x1	Linscheid,
2000	x1	Menton

Notes:

In **Athens 2004** Jamie Costin, (50km Walk), Gillian O'Sullivan (20km Walk) & Nick Sweeney (Discus) were all selected and in Athens, but forced to withdraw from competing due to injury.

Results explanations

5h3 - 5th place in Heat 3

QF - Quarter Final

SF - Semi Final

Q23 - 23rd position in qualification for a field event

DNF - Did not Finish

DSQ - Disqualified

NH - No Height cleared

Pierce O'Callaghan

November 2011