

# Lacrosse in the Summer Olympics

The modern Summer Olympics began in Athens, Greece in 1896 and lacrosse made its debut at the 1904 games in St. Louis, Missouri. Canada was represented by the Shamrocks of Winnipeg, Manitoba and won gold, defeating the US team from the St. Louis Amateur Athletic Association (silver) and a team comprised of Indigenous Mohawk players from Brantford, Ontario (bronze).

The 1908 Summer Olympics were played in London, England with only two teams: a nationally represented Canadian team and Great Britain. Despite a very closely matched game tied 9-9 at one point, at the final whistle Canada was ahead 14-10 and claimed its second consecutive gold medal.

Since that time, lacrosse has only been played as a demonstration sport on three occasions: 1928 in Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1932 in Los Angeles, California and 1948 at Wembley Stadium in London.

There has been considerable effort made by many individuals and organizations in recent years to bring lacrosse back to the Summer Olympic Games.

Since the World Lacrosse organization was formed in 2008, the number of countries playing lacrosse has continued to rise. Today there are more than 70 countries playing on six continents.

In July 2021, the International Olympic Committee granted Lacrosse full sport status as an approved sport. It is now very possible that lacrosse will be played at the 2028 Olympic games in Los Angeles, California, which will be 120 years after its last appearance.

