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Brazilian Gold!

(Photo: USA TODAY Sports/Kyle Terada)



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On the Cover

Brazil's Thiago Braz Da Silva delivered one of the shocks of the 2016 Games with his upset win over France's Renaud Lavillenie in the men's pole vault, clearing 6.03 m (19-9 1/2).
(Photo: USA TODAY Sports/Kyle Terada)



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Lane One: It's Hard to Breathe

The International Olympic Committee has complained, apparently with considerable vigor, to the Rio organizers about the lack of decorative banners and signage around the city for the Olympic Games.

For someone like myself, who has been involved with 20 multi-day, multi-venue events, that says one thing and one thing only: the organizing committee is out of money.

The story of the Rio 2016 organizers has been well chronicled, including its financial troubles thanks to the deep recession which Brazil finds itself in and the attendant political problems that have come with it.

But an Olympic organizing committee should have enough money to get the job done.

The IOC now contributes more than \$1 billion to organizing committees from its television and sponsorship revenues. Organizers also have significant sponsorship income of their own, plus ticket sales, licensing and other programs such as stamp and coin sales.

But if you don't have enough money, decor and signage is one of the first things to get cut, along with hospitality.

These things get cut in the end, when the cash runs short. But the damage may have come years before, when too many people got hired too early in the process. The discipline to stay small and get smart about the organizing process is hard to maintain. I've been there.

For organizing committees, money is like oxygen. When you don't have enough to do what needs to get done – to achieve what you

want with the event you worked so hard to get – it seems hard to breathe.

Rio 2016 has to manage the rest of the Olympic Games, and the Paralympic Games with great care and precision. Bad decisions can get made when you're out of breath and that appears to be where the organizers are now.

Get the athletes to the venues, run the competitions and be sure the stadiums are open for the paying spectators. Then declare victory, because you'll have made past the finish line. Out of breath, but still alive.



Rich Perelman
Editor

What is The Sports Examiner?

The Sports Examiner is a new publication. Our purpose is to cover international sports – with a special emphasis on those sports and events that are part of the Olympic/Winter Games programs. You can get it sent directly to your e-mail inbox (free) by signing up at www.Perelman-Pioneer.com.

These athletes deserve the comprehensive coverage given to a fairly small number of sports which are so popular in individual countries, such as baseball, basketball, football (several kinds), ice hockey and others. Why not offer a journal, available online, which can provide fans with a 360-degree view of the top level of world sport in all its variety?

After the Games are completed, we'll begin the continuous coverage of international sport because even though the program in Rio will be completed, sport does not stop. Tell your friends to join us for free by entering their e-mail address in the subscription form at www.Perelman-Pioneer.com!

Rio 2016: **U.S. leads Russia & Germany on Day 10**

A light finals schedule of 15 events (with two sailing finals delayed to tomorrow) brought down some of the team scores on Day 10 of the Rio Games, but the U.S. continued the lead the daily team scoring.

The Americans piled up 64 points on the day, similar to the early days of the Games, ahead of Russia (44.5) and Germany (32). Points are getting widely diffused, especially with the start of the athletics (track & field) competition.

The U.S. extended its overall lead after 10 days, with 782.1 points in all, ahead of China (535.5). The Americans started out well, scoring 62-66-70.5-69-55-78 across the first six days of finals, then exploded to 112.3-100-93.3 points, then 64 yesterday.

We're using the U.S. collegiate track & field scoring system of 10-8-6-5-4-3-2-1 for eight places (same as the number of diplomas given out by the International Olympic Committee), giving extra weight to the gold and silver medalists, but also recognizing that third and fourth are very close (and shared in some combat sports). After day 10, with 176 of 306 events scored, the leaders:

1.	782.1	USA	19.	85.8	South Africa	37.	39.5	Egypt
2.	535.5	China	20.	85.5	Poland	38.	37	Mexico
3.	473	Great Britain	21.	77	Denmark	39.	36.5	Iran
4.	379.5	Russia	22.	76.5	Belarus		36.5	Chinese Taipei
5.	313	Germany	23.	70.5	Sweden	41.	35.5	Croatia
6.	310	Australia	24.	69	Colombia	42.	34.5	Azerbaijan
7.	297.5	Italy	25.	68.5	Kenya	43.	34	Slovakia
8.	288	France	26.	68	DPR Korea	44.	32	Slovenia
	288	Japan	27.	67.5	Czech Rep.	45.	29	Georgia
10.	162	Canada	28.	61	Switzerland	46.	25	Indonesia
11.	156.5	Netherlands	29.	60	Cuba	47.	24.5	Estonia
12.	145	Korea	30.	52	Uzbekistan	48.	23.8	Argentina
13.	140	Brazil	31.	49.5	Belgium	49.	23	Lithuania
14.	120	New Zealand	32.	48	Thailand	50.	22	Bahrain
15.	118.3	Hungary	33.	47.5	Romania		22	Israel
16.	103.8	Spain	34.	44	Jamaica		22	Vietnam
17.	99	Ukraine	35.	43	Ethiopia	53.	21.5	Austria
18.	94	Kazakhstan	36.	41	Greece		21.5	Turkey

Day 10-only scoring leaders:

1.	64	USA	5.	29	Kenya	9.	21.5	Italy
2.	44.5	Russia	6.	28	Brazil	10.	20	Netherlands
3.	40	Germany		28	Great Britain		20	Uzbekistan
4.	32	China	8.	24	France	12.	19.5	Poland

13.	18	Ukraine	25.	7.5	Belarus	3.5	Estonia	
14.	16	Cuba	26.	7	Japan	3.5	Hungary	
15.	14	Kazakhstan		7	Romania	39.	2.5	Argentina
16.	11	Greece	28.	6	Denmark		2.5	Mauritius
17.	10	Bahamas	29.	5.5	Czech Rep.	41.	2	Chile
	10	Bahrain	30.	5	Colombia		2	Georgia
	10	DPR Korea		5	Iran		2	Sweden
20.	9	Jamaica	32.	4	Australia	44.	1	Belgium
21.	8	Algeria		4	Spain		1	Canada
	8	Armenia		4	Ethiopia		1	Latvia
	8	Azerbaijan		4	Moldova		1	New Zealand
	8	Turkey	36.	3.5	Bulgaria			

Please note that the Olympic Charter, the constitution and rule book of the worldwide Olympic Movement, states with clarity in Rule 57: *“The IOC and OCOG (organizing committee of the Olympic Games) shall not draw up any global ranking per country.”*

So we’re picking up the slack ... unofficially, of course. The IOC and Rio 2016 organizers will award not only medals to the top three finishers, but also elegant diplomas to the top eight place winners. That recognition is the basis on which points can be awarded to each place-winner and totaled up by National Olympic Committee. All together, over 306 events, there are 11,934 points to be awarded!

A total of 47 National Olympic Committees scored on Day 10. We’ll update the scores daily for the leading countries, and have a full tally at the end of the Games.



A happy Emma Coburn of the U.S., celebrating a new American record in the women’s 3000 m Steeplechase, as well as a bronze medal in the 2016 Olympic Games.

(Photo: USA TODAY Sports/ Kirby Lee)

Rio 2016: Capsule Previews of August 16 Finals

Olympic finals tracker:

Days completed: 10 of 16 / Events completed: 176 / Events Remaining: 130

Today: 27 finals in 10 sports

In advance of today's finals, here are capsule overviews of these events, with the likely medal contenders showcased to enhance your viewing experience, either live or on television. Summaries of events held so far are also included for reference.

Will we mention every medal winner? Not a chance. Our perfect record went out the window with the first event of the Games, when American Ginny Thrasher moved from 23rd in the World Rankings – and never a top-3 finisher in a major international event – to receiving the gold medal in the Women's 10 m Air Rifle. But we thought the Chinese would do well and they won silver and bronze.

That's the fun of sport; theater is great, but you know that Hamlet isn't going to be chatting with his old friend Yorick after the curtain comes down! On with the Games!

• **Archery/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 12	M Individual	Ku (KOR)	Valladont (FRA)	Ellison (USA)
Aug 6	M Team	Korea	USA	Australia
Aug 11	W Individual	Chang (KOR)	Unruh (GER)	Ki (KOR)
Aug 7	W Team	Korea	Russia	Chinese Taipei

As expected: the Koreans won both team titles, winning 6-0, 6-0, 6-0 in their three men's matches and then 5-1, 5-1 and 5-1 over Russia to claim the women's crown. And they won both individual events, sweeping the gold medals.

• **Athletics: Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 14	M 100 m	Bolt (JAM)	Gatlin (USA)	DeGrasse (CAN)
Aug 14	M 400 m	van Niekerk (RSA)	James (GRN)	Merritt (USA)
Aug 15	M 800 m	Rudisha (KEN)	Makhloufi (ALG)	Murphy (USA)
Aug 13	M 10,000 m	Farah (GBR)	Tanui (KEN)	Tola (ETH)

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 12	M 20 km Walk	Wang (CHN)	Cai (CHN)	Bird-Smith (NZL)
Aug 15	M Pole Vault	Da Silva (BRA)	Lavillenie (FRA)	Kendricks (USA)
Aug 13	M Long Jump	Henderson (USA)	Manyonga (RSA)	Rutherford (GBR)
Aug 13	M Discus	R. Harting (GER)	Malachowski (POL)	Jasinski (GER)
Aug 13	W 100 m	Thompson (JAM)	Bowie (USA)	Fraser-Pryce (JAM)
Aug 15	W 400 m	Miller (BAH)	Felix (USA)	Jackson (JAM)
Aug 15	W 3000 m Steeplechase	Jebet (BRN)	Jepkemoi (KEN)	Coburn (USA)
Aug 12	W 10,000 m	Ayana (ETH)	Cheruiyot (KEN)	G. Dibaba (ETH)
Aug 14	W Marathon	Sumgong (KEN)	Kirwa (BRN)	M. Dibaba (ETH)
Aug 14	W Triple Jump	Ibarguen (COL)	Rojas (VEN)	Rypakova (KAZ)
Aug 12	W Shot Put	Carter (USA)	Adams (NZL)	Marton (HUN)
Aug 15	W Hammer	Wlodarczyk (POL)	Zhang (CHN)	Hitchon (GBR)
Aug 13	W Heptathlon	Thiam (BEL)	Ennis-Hill (GBR)	Thiesen-Eaton (CAN)

What a way to start: a world record in the first event on the track for Ethiopia's Almaz Anaya with an astonishing 29:17.45! Two days later, South Africa's Wayde van Niekerk – running out of lane 8! – shattered Michael Johnson's 1999 world record in the 400 m (43.18) with an almost-beyond-comprehension time of 43.03. And Johnson, commentating for the BBC, was there to call it.

Then, Poland's Anita Wlodarczyk extends her own women's hammer record to 82.29 m (269-11) in winning the Olympic title on Monday. What a meet!

Did we forget to mention Usain Bolt's history-making third 100 m title in a row? Oh well, no world record there ...

• **Athletics/ Men's 110 m Hurdles**

The formchart:		Gold	Silver	Bronze
OG '12	London	Aries Merritt (USA)	J. Richardson (USA)	Hansle Parchment (JAM)
WCh '13	Moscow	David Oliver (USA)	Ryan Wilson (USA)	Sergey Shubenkov (RUS)
WCh '15	Beijing	Ser. Shubenkov (RUS)	Hans. Parchment (JAM)	Aries Merritt (USA)

The semifinals and finals will be held today, after heats on Monday. All of the favorites made it through the heats without incident: **Omar McLeod** of Jamaica, the American trio of **Devon Allen**,

Ronnie Ash and **Jeff Porter** and France's **Dmitri Bascou** and **Pascal Martinot-Lagarde**.

McLeod has been the world leader almost the entire year (12.98) and is the favorite. Allen is just 21, but ran a huge lifetime best of 13.03 to win the U.S. Trials; Ash ran 12.99 and was U.S. champion in 2014; Martinot-Lagarde ran even faster in 2014 (12.95) but that close since.

Possible spoiler: Spain's **Orlando Ortega**, who was a star for Cuba, but is now cleared to run for his new country. He's run 13.04 this season.

• **Athletics/Men's High Jump**

<i>The formchart:</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12 London	Ivan Ukhov (RUS)	Erik Kynard (USA)	Barshim (QAT)-Drouin (CAN)-Grabarz (GBR)
WCh '13 Moscow	Boh. Bondarenko (UKR)	Mutaz Barshim (QAT)	Derek Drouin (CAN)
WCh '15 Beijing	Derek Drouin (CAN)	Bohdan Bondarenko (UKR)-Guowei Zhang (CHN)	

Ukraine's **Bohdan Bondarenko** and Qatar's **Mutaz Essa Barshim** have been at the top of the high jump game for three years, but they are hardly invincible. When in their best form, they're challenging the world record of 2.45 m (8-0 1/2). But of late, they have been around 2.38-2.40 m (7-9 3/4 to 7-10 1/2) and it will likely take a clearance around that height to win.

There are challengers, however, in Canada's **Derek Drouin** (2.38 m/7-9 3/4 this year), **Erik Kynard** of the U.S. (2.35 m/7-8 1/2 in 2016), **Donald Thomas** of the Bahamas (lifetime best of 2.37 m/7-9 1.4 this year at age 32) and Britain's **Robbie Grabarz** (2.33 m/7-7 3/4).

• **Athletics/Men's Triple Jump**

<i>The formchart:</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12 London	Christian Taylor (USA)	Will Claye (USA)	Fabrizio Donato (ITA)
WCh '13 Moscow	Teddy Tamgho (FRA)	Pedro Pichardo (CUB)	Will Claye (USA)
WCh '15 Beijing	Christian Taylor (USA)	Pedro Pichardo (CUB)	Nelson Evora (POR)

With France's Teddy Tamgho and Cuba's Pablo Pichardo out with injuries, the door is open for another 1-2 for the U.S. duo of **Christian Taylor** and **Will Claye**. Taylor won the gold medal in 2012 and the World Championship last year, but Claye won the U.S. Trials when Taylor was not at 100% due to an ankle problem. If Taylor is healthy, the world record could be in jeopardy.

China's **Bin Dong**, Poland's **Karol Hoffmann** and last year's Worlds bronze winner, **Nelson Evora** of Portugal, will likely be chasing the bronze medal here.

• **Athletics/Women's 1500 m**

<i>The formchart:</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12 London	(Asli Alpketin (TUR)-dq)	Gamze Bulut (TUR)	Maryam Yusuf Jamal (BRN)

WCh '13	Moscow	Abeba Aregawi (SWE)	Jenny Simpson (USA)	Hellen Obiri (KEN)
WCh '15	Beijing	Genzebe Dibaba (ETH)	Faith Kipyegon (KEN)	Sifan Hassan (NED)

Races in the Olympics and World Championships tend to be slow-paced and favor the strongest kickers on the final lap. If so, this race is wide open.

The Ethiopians, Kenyans and Americans all have contenders: **Genzebe Dibaba** (defending World Champion; 3:59.83 this year), **Dawit Seyaum** (3:58.10) and **Besu Sado** (4:00.08) from Ethiopia; **Faith Kipyegon** (2015 Worlds silver; 3:56.41 world leader in 2016) from Kenya, and **Jenny Simpson** (4:01.57) and **Shannon Rowbury** (4:04.46) from the U.S.

Add Britain's **Laura Muir** (3:57.49) and **Sifan Hassan** of the Netherlands (4:00.87) and you have the making of a stampede on the final curve to decide the medalists.

• **Athletics/Women's Discus**

<i>The formchart:</i>		<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12	London	Sandra Perkovic (CRO)	Yanfeng Li (CHN)	Yarelys Barrios (CUB)
WCh '13	Moscow	Sandra Perkovic (CRO)	M. Robert-Michon (FRA)	Yarelys Barrios (CUB)
WCh '15	Beijing	Denia Caballero (CUB)	Sandra Perkovic (CRO)	Nadine Muller (GER)

Croatia's **Sandra Perkovic** has been the dominant discus thrower over the quadrennial and is the favorite, having thrown 70.88 m (232-6) this year and winning the European Championships. She will get a challenge, however, from Cuba's **Denia Caballero**, who won the World Championships in 2015 and teammate **Yaimi Perez** (68.86 m in 2016/225-11).

Germany's duo of **Nadine Muller** (66.84 m/219-3 this year) and **Julia Fischer** (68.49 m/224-8) are also in the mix for medals. A wild card: Australia's **Dani Samuels**, the 2009 World Champion, who has a 67.77 m (222-4) throw to her credit this year.

• **Boxing/Summary**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze(s)</i>
Aug 14	Men's 49 kg	Dusmatov (UZB)	Martinez (COL)	Hernandez (USA) Argilagos (CUB)
Aug 15	Men's 91 kg	Tishchenko (RUS)	Levit (KAZ)	Tulaganov (UZB) Savon (CUB)

The first boxing title goes to 23-year-old Hasanboy Dusmatov of Uzbekistan, who decisioned Yurberjen Martinez of Colombia, 3-0, in the final.

• **Boxing/Men's Lightweight (60 kg)**

<i>The formchart:</i>		<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12	London	V. Lomachenko (UKR)	Sun-cheol Han (KOR)	Yasnier Toledo (CUB)-E. Petruskas (LTU)
WCh '13	Almaty	Lazaro Alvarez (CUB)	Rob. Conceicao (BRA)	D. Valentino (ITA)-B. Abdrakhmanov (KAZ)
WCh '15	Doha	Lazaro Alvarez (CUB)	Albert Selimov (AZE)	Rob. Conceicao (BRA)-E. Abduraimov (UZB)

Robson Conceicao (BRA) vs. Sofiane Oumiha (FRA)

No doubt the crowd will be into this one! Brazil's **Robson Conceicao** has won two World Championships medals, but finally defeated Cuba's Lazaro Alvarez in the semis to become the favorite in this class. He's won his matches by a TKO and two 3-0, unanimous decisions.

France's **Sofiane Oumiha** also hasn't lost a bout on any judge's scorecard, winning three bouts by 3-0 decisions, plus one TKO in an early round. He outfought 2015 World silver medalist Albert Selimov of Azerbaijan in the quarterfinals, then scored a unanimous decision against Mongolia's Otgondalai Dorjnyambul in his semi.

But when you beat the reigning champ, you are the favorite, and Conceicao is.

• **Canoeing/Summary**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze(s)</i>
Aug 9	Slalom/M Single	Gargaud Chanut (FRA)	Benus (SVK)	Haneda (JPN)
Aug 10	Slalom/M Kayak	Clarke (GBR)	Kauzer (SLO)	Prskavec (CZE)
Aug 11	Slalom/M Doubles	Slovakia	Great Britain	France
Aug 11	Slalom/W Kayak	Chourraut (ESP)	Jones (NZL)	Fox (AUS)

The Slalom races have been completed, with four races and winners from four countries, and all from Europe. Sprint races started on August 15, with the first final on the 16th.

• **Canoeing: Sprint/Men's Single 1,000 m**

<i>The formchart:</i>		<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12	London	Seb. Brendel (GER)	David Cal (ESP)	Mark Oldershaw (CAN)
WCh '13	Duisberg	Attila Vajda (HUN)	Seb. Brendel (GER)	Isaquais Querioz (BRA)
WCh '14	Moscow	Seb. Brendel (GER)	Martin Fuksa (CZE)	Attila Vajda (HUN)
WCh '15	Milan	Seb. Brendel (GER)	Martin Fuksa (CZE)	Serghei Tarnovschi (MLD)

The six-man final will be headed by defending Olympic champion **Sebastian Brendel** of Germany, who qualified directly to the final by posting the fastest heat time of 3:58.044. He's the favorite.

Most of the semifinal action was in race two, where Russia's **Ilia Shtokalov** – fifth in the 2015 Worlds at this distance – led four racers under 4:00, winning in 3:58.259 – not far behind Brendel. He was trailed by **Pavlo Altukhov** of Ukraine (3:58.574; he was fourth at the Worlds last year) and **Gerasim Kochnev** of Uzbekistan (3:59.489). Czech Republic's **Martin Fuksa** – twice Worlds silver medalist – won the first semi in 4:01.793.

But Brendel is the one to beat.

• **Canoeing: Sprint/Men's Kayak Single 1,000 m**

<i>The formchart:</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12 London	Eirik V. Larsen (NOR)	A. van Koeverden (CAN)	Max Hoff (GER)
WCh '13 Duisberg	Max Hoff (GER)	Ken Wallace (AUS)	Bence Dombvari (HUN)
WCh '14 Moscow	Josef Dostal (CZE)	Miroslav Kirchev (BUL)	Rene Holten Poulsen (DEN)
WCh '15 Milan	Rene Holten (DEN)	Josef Dostal (CZE)	Fernando Pimenta (POR)

Eight boats are into the final, with most of the stars getting through. Russia's **Roman Anoshkin**, a Worlds medalist at 500 m in 2015, led semifinal one at 3:34.833, ahead of 2013 World Champion **Max Hoff** (GER) at 3:36.136. **Peter Gelle** of Slovakia was also close in semi one at 3:36.193, but 2014 World Champion **Josef Dostal** (CZE) was only four (3:36.384).

The fastest time in the semis – by far – came from the second race, with **Murray Stewart** of New Zealand posting a 3:32.602 mark and winning by almost a second over Portugal's Worlds 2015 bronze medalist, **Fernando Pimenta**. Spain's **Marcus Walz** also posted a strong time in third (3:33.781) over 2015 World Champion, **Rene Holten** (3:34.644).

What about the final? Stewart sits in lane 5, with Anoshkin and Hoff on each side. He progressed the most in the semis, he's the one to watch. But with World Champions Holten (lane 1) and Dostal (8) on the ends of the field, don't be surprised if they hatch a surprise.

• **Canoeing: Sprint/Women's Kayak Single 200 m**

<i>The formchart:</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12 London	Lisa Carrington (NZL)	Osipenko-Radomska (UKR)	Natasa Douchev-Janic (HUN)
WCh '13 Duisberg	Lisa Carrington (NZL)	M. Walczykiewicz (POL)	Spela Ponomarenko Janic (SLO)
WCh '14 Moscow	Lisa Carrington (NZL)	M. Walczykiewicz (POL)	Nikolina Moldovan (SRB)
WCh '15 Milan	Lisa Carrington (NZL)	M. Walczykiewicz (POL)	Teresa Portela (ESP)

A replay of 2012? New Zealand's **Lisa Carrington**, winner of five straight World or Olympic titles in this event, led the semifinals in 39.561. But there was 2012 silver winner **Inna Osipenko-Radomska** of Ukraine, also under 40 seconds at 39.803.

Poland's **Marta Walczykiewicz** – three-time silver medalist at the World Championships in 2013-14-15 – won the third semi in 40.619, only the sixth-fastest time of the round. But she's shown her competitive merit and will be a favorite for a medal.

This trio will have to fight off three bronze medalists from the last four years: **Natasa Douchev-Janic** (HUN), **Spela Ponomarenko Janic** (SLO) and Spain's **Teresa Portela**.

• **Canoeing: Sprint/Women's Kayak Double 500 m**

<i>The formchart:</i>		<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12	London	Germany	Hungary	Poland
WCh '13	Duisberg	Germany	Hungary	Poland
WCh '14	Moscow	Hungary	Serbia	Poland
WCh '15	Milan	Hungary	Serbia	Germany

The heat winners – **Franziska Weber and Tina Dietze** of Germany (1:42.184) and the reigning World Champion Hungarian duo of **Gabriella Szabo and Danuta Kozak** (1:41.092) – qualified directly to the final.

Only **Karolina Naja and Beata Mikolajczyk** of Poland broke 1:42 in the semis (1:41.684) and head to the final as a medal favorite with the Germans and Hungarians. Challenging them could be Russia's **Elena Aniushina and Kita Stepanova** (1:42.439) and **Nadyeza Liapeshka and Maryna Litvinchuk** (1:42.285) of Belarus.

• **Cycling/Summary**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze(s)</i>
Aug 14	M Sprint	Kenny (GBR)	Skinner (GBR)	Dmitriev (RUS)
Aug 11	M Team Sprint	Great Britain	New Zealand	France
Aug 12	M Team Pursuit	Australia	Germany	Denmark
Aug 15	Men's Omnium	Viviani (ITA)	Cavendish (GBR)	Hansen (DEN)
Aug 13	W Keirin	Ligtlee (NED)	James (GBR)	Meares (AUS)
Aug 12	W Team Sprint	China	Russia	Germany
Aug 13	W Team Pursuit	Great Britain	United States	Canada
Aug 6	M Road Race	Van Avernaet (BEL)	Fuglsang (DEN)	Majka (POL)
Aug 10	M Time Trial	Cancellara (SUI)	Dumoulin (NED)	Froome (GBR)
Aug 7	W Road Race	Van der Breggen (NED)	Johansson (SWE)	Longo Borghini (ITA)
Aug 10	M Time Trial	Armstrong (USA)	Zabelinskys (RUS)	van der Breggen (NED)

Great Britain has owned the velodrome so far, with six medals in seven total events contested thus far, including three wins and a world record in the women's Team Pursuit. Wow!

The road races produced four winners from four different countries. Two late crashes on the final descent decided both of the individual road races: late-race leaders – Vincent Nibali of Italy and Sergio Henao Montoya of Colombia in the men’s event, and Annemiek Van Vleuten (NED) on the women’s side – all crashed and opened the way for Greg Van Avermaet of Belgium with Dane Jakob Fuglsang close behind and Anna van der Breggen (NED), Emma Johansson of Sweden and Elisa Longo Borghini of Italy.

• **Cycling/Men’s Keirin**

<i>The formchart:</i>		<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12	London	Chris Hoy (GBR)	Maximilian Levy (GER)	Teun Mulder (NED)-S. van Velthooven (NZL)
WCh '13	Minsk	Jason Kenny (GBR)	Maximilian Levy (GER)	Matthijs Buchli (NED)
WCh '14	Cali	Francois Pervis (FRA)	Fabian Puerta (COL)	Matthijs Buchli (NED)
WCh '15	St. Quentin	Francois Pervis (FRA)	Eddie Dawkins (NZL)	Azizulhasni Awang (MAS)
WCh '16	London	Joachim Elders (GER)	Eddie Dawkins (NZL)	Azizulhasni Awang (MAS)

The wild Keirin race appears to be wide open in Rio, with nine of 10 medalists from the past four World Championships all in attendance. The first two riders in each of the four heats will advance to the second round, while all others head to the repechage round.

At the 2016 World Championships, held in London, Germany’s **Joachim Eilers** won all three rounds, but earned the gold medal by just 0.020 over New Zealand’s **Eddie Dawkins**, with Malaysia’s **Azizulhasni Awang** just another 0.048 back. **Maximilian Levy** of Germany (+0.266 seconds), **Yuta Wakimoto** (Japan, +0.565) and **Jason Kenny** of Britain (+2.75 seconds) were also in the final. It could just as close in Rio.

• **Cycling/Women’s Sprint**

<i>The formchart:</i>		<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12	London	Anna Meares (AUS)	Vict. Pendleton (GBR)	Shuang Guo (CHN)
WCh '13	Minsk	Becky James (GBR)	Kristina Vogel (GER)	Wai Zse Lee (HKG)
WCh '14	Cali	Kristina Vogel (GER)	Tianshi Zhong (CHN)	Junhong Lin (CHN)
WCh '15	St. Quentin	Kristina Vogel (GER)	Elis Ligtlee (NED)	Tianshi Zhong (CHN)
WCh '16	London	Tianshi Zhong (CHN)	Lin Junhong (CHN)	Kristina Vogel (GER)

The quarterfinals, semis and final will all take place today. Germany’s **Kristina Vogel**, the dominant racer of this quadrennial, was the quickest in the round of 16 with a win in 11.197, followed closely by **Becky James** of Great Britain, who won heat one in 11.375, and then **Wai Zse Lee** of Hong Kong, 11.551, to win heat three.

Lee and Vogel are matched in the quarterfinals, as are James and reigning World Champion **Tianshi Zhong** of China. **Elis Ligtlee** of the Netherlands, the 2015 silver winner, is pitted against Russia’s **Anastasiia Voinova**, who defeated Zhong in the round of 16.

• **Cycling/Women's Omnium-Points Race**

<i>The formchart:</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12 London	Laura Trott (GBR)	Sarah Hammer (USA)	Annette Edmondson (AUS)
WCh '13 Minsk	Sarah Hammer (USA)	Laura Trott (GBR)	Annette Edmondson (AUS)
WCh '14 Cali	Sarah Hammer (USA)	Laura Trott (GBR)	Annette Edmondson (AUS)
WCh '15 St. Quentin	Ann. Edmondson (AUS)	Laura Trott (GBR)	Kirsten Wild (NED)
WCh '16 London	Laura Trott (GBR)	Laurie Berthon (FRA)	Sarah Hammer (USA)

Cycling's version of the decathlon is the Omnium, a six-race package that tests riders over two days with a Scratch Race, Individual Pursuit and Elimination Race on day one and a Time Trial, Flying Lap and Points Race on day two. It was introduced to the Olympic program in 2012.

Heading into the Time Trial, the reigning World Champion, **Laura Trott** of Great Britain has the lead with 118 points overall. **Jolien D'Hoore** of Belgium, sixth at the 2016 Worlds, is currently second (110) with 2013-14 World Champion **Sarah Hammer** (U.S.) sitting third at 108. Those three are 16 points ahead of all others starting day two.

In fact, Hammer will be trying to give herself an early birthday present, as she will turn 33 on August 18!

• **Diving/Summary**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze(s)</i>
Aug 10	M 3 m Synchronized	Laugher-Mears (GBR)	Dorman-Hixon (USA)	Cao-Qin (CHN)
Aug 8	M 10 m Synchronized	Chen-Lin (CHN)	Boudia-Johnson (USA)	Daley-Goodfellow (GBR)
Aug 14	W 3 m Springboard	Shi (CHN)	He (CHN)	Cagnotto (ITA)
Aug 7	W 3 m Synchronized	Shi-Wu (CHN)	Cagnotto-Dallape (ITA)	Kenney-Smith (AUS)
Aug 9	W 10 m Synchronized	Chen-Liu (CHN)	Cheong-Pamg (MAS)	Benfeito-Filion (CAN)

After big wins on the platform and in the women's synchronized springboard, the Chinese express was slowed temporarily in the men's synchronized springboard, by the British and American duos. But China still has a perfect record of medaling in every event in Rio so far.

• **Diving/Men's 3 m Springboard**

<i>The formchart:</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12 London	Ilya Zakharov (RUS)	Kai Qin (CHN)	Chong He (CHN)
WCh '13 Barcelona	Chong He (CHN)	Evg. Kuznetsov (RUS)	Yahel Castillo (MEX)
WCh '15 Kazan	Chao He (CHN)	Ilya Zakharov (RUS)	Jack Laugher (GBR)

The shock was the failure of defending World Champion Chao He to make the semifinals. After an opening 85.00 on his first dive, he scored only 51.00 and then 27.75 on dives two (inward 3 1/2 somersaults) and three (forward 3 1/2 somersaults and one twist) and ended the qualifying round in 21st place.

In the semis, the leader is China's **Yuan Cao** at 498.70, well ahead of Mexico's **Rommel Pacheco** (488.25) and **Kristian Ipsen** of the U.S. (461.35). Cao was fourth at last year's World Championships, missing a medal by 4.95 points. Pacheco was sixth at the 2015 Worlds, but won the pre-Olympic Diving World Cup held in Rio earlier this year. Ipsen was third at that event.

The semis will start with 18 athletes, then cut to 12 for the finals. Likely competitors for medals once the finals start will include Russia's **Evgeny Kuznetsov** (fourth after the prelims), **Sebastian Morales** of Colombia (fifth), German veteran **Patrick Hausding** (sixth) and the 2015 Worlds bronze-medal winner, **Jack Laugher** of Great Britain (seventh).

• **Equestrian/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 15	Dressage Individual	Dujardin (GBR)	Werth (GER)	Broring-Sprehe (GER)
Aug 12	Dressage Team	Germany	Great Britain	United States
Aug 9	Eventing/Individual	Jung (GER)	Nicolas (FRA)	Dutton (USA)
Aug 9	Eventing/Team	France	Germany	Australia

Big days for Germany and France, and for the veteran Michael Jung and the youngster Astier Nicolas, who has a long and bright future ahead of him. Congratulations to the ageless Mark Todd of New Zealand, seventh at age 60!

• **Fencing/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 9	M Epee	Park (KOR)	Imre (HUN)	Grumier (FRA)
Aug 14	M Epee Team	France	Italy	Hungary
Aug 7	M Foil	Garrozzo (ITA)	Massialas (USA)	Safin (RUS)
Aug 12	M Foil Team	Russia	France	United States
Aug 10	M Sabre	Szilagyi (HUN)	Homer (USA)	Kim (KOR)
Aug 6	W Epee	Szasz (HUN)	Fiamingo (ITA)	Sun (CHN)
Aug 11	W Epee Team	Romania	China	Russia

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 10	W Foil	Deriglazova (RUS)	Di Francisca (ITA)	Boubakri (TUN)
Aug 8	W Sabre	Egorian (RUS)	Velikaya (RUS)	Kharlan (UKR)
Aug 13	W Sabre Team	Russia	Ukraine	United States

Countries from four continents – including Africa – won fencing medals in Rio, but the Russians showed strongest, with two individual wins on the women’s side and two team golds, and three additional medals. Hungary and the United States both won four medals.

• **Golf/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 14	Men	Rose (GBR)	Stenson (SWE)	Kuchar (USA)

Britain’s Justin Rose was steady throughout the rounds with scores of 67-69-65-67 on the par-71 course to win at 268, just two strokes ahead of Sweden’s Henrik Stenson, who shot a final-round 68. Bronze medalist Matt Kuchar (USA) ran off a brilliant 63 on the last day to claim the bronze medal.

• **Gymnastics/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 8	Artistic/M Team	Japan	Russia	China
Aug 10	Artistic/M All-Around	Uchimura (JPN)	Verniaiev (UKR)	Whitlock (GBR)
Aug 14	Artistic/M Floor Exercise	Whitlock (GBR)	Hypolito (BRA)	Mariano (BRA)
Aug 14	Artistic/M Pommel Horse	Whitlock (GBR)	Smith (GBR)	Naddour (USA)
Aug 15	Artistic/M Rings	Petrounias (GRE)	Zanetti (BRA)	Abylazin (RUS)
Aug 15	Artistic/M Vault	Ri (PRK)	Abylazin (RUS)	Shirai (JPN)
Aug 9	Artistic/W Team	United States	Russia	China
Aug 11	Artistic/W All-Around	Biles (USA)	Raisman (USA)	Mustafina (RUS)
Aug 15	Artistic/W Balance Beam	Wevers (NED)	Hernandez (USA)	Biles (USA)
Aug 14	Artistic/W Uneven Bars	Mustafina (RUS)	Kocian (USA)	Scheder (GER)
Aug 14	Artistic/W Vault	Biles (USA)	Paseka (RUS)	Steingruber (SUI)
Aug 13	M Trampoline	Hancharou (BLR)	Dong (CHN)	Gao (CHN)

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 12	W Trampoline	MacLennon (CAN)	Page (GBR)	Li (CHN)

Outstanding performances on the parallel bars in Rotation 4 and floor exercise in Rotation 6 keyed Japan's seventh Olympic men's title, and its first since 2004. The U.S. women were expected to win easily and did, eight points ahead of Russia. Kohei Uchimura got his gold in the Men's All-Around, and Simone Biles got hers. Our correspondent Jan Fambro notes that by winning the vault, Biles became the first American female gymnast to win three golds in a single Games. She will also need a bigger trophy case: she now has more Olympic/World Champs medals than any female gymnast in U.S. history, with 18.

• **Gymnastics~Artistic/Men's Horizontal Bar**

The formchart:		Gold	Silver	Bronze
OG '12	London	Epke Zonderland (NED)	F. Hambuchen (GER)	Kai Zou (CHN)
WCh '13	Antwerp	Epke Zonderland (NED)	F. Hambuchen (GER)	Kohei Uchimura (JPN)
WCh '14	Nanning	Epke Zonderland (NED)	Kohei Uchimura (JPN)	Marijo Moznik (CRO)
WCh '15	Glasgow	Kohei Uchimura (JPN)	Danell Leyva (USA)	Manrique Larduet (CUB)

Reigning world champ Kohei Uchimura of Japan did not qualify for the individual finals in this event, which leaves the door open for those who have dominated the bar in the last four years. The leading qualifier was Germany's **Fabian Hambuchen**, owner of an Olympic bronze from 2008 and silver from 2012. Time for a full set: gold, silver and bronze?

Behind him is **Nile Wilson** of Great Britain, who had an excellent qualifying routine, with 2012 Olympic champ **Epke Zonderland** of the Netherlands and 2015 silver medalist **Danell Leyva** of the U.S. All four were within two points.

The crowd will be cheering loudest for Brazil's **Francisco Barretto Jr.**, who qualified fifth for this eight-man final. Last on the list, but certainly not least, is the 2015 bronze medalist, Cuba's **Manrique Larduet**. Qualifying scores:

15.533	Fabian Hambuchen (GER)	15.266	Francisco Barretto Jr. (BRA)
15.500	Nile Wilson (GBR)	15.133	Sam Mikulak (USA)
15.366	Epke Zonderland (NED)	15.133	Oleg Vernaiev (UKR)
15.333	Danell Leyva (USA)	15.116	Manrique Larduet (CUB)

• **Gymnastics~Artistic/Men's Parallel Bars**

The formchart:		Gold	Silver	Bronze
OG '12	London	Zhe Feng (CHN)	Marcel Nguyen (GER)	Hamilton Sabot (FRA)
WCh '13	Antwerp	Kohei Uchimura (JPN)-Chaopan Lin (CHN)		John Orozco (USA)
WCh '14	Nanning	Oleg Vernaiev (UKR)	Danell Leyva (USA)	Ryohei Kato (JPN)



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WCh '15 Glasgow Hao You (CHN) Oleg Vernaiev (UKR) Oleg Stepko (AZE)-Shudi Deng (CHN)

The 2014 World Champion, **Oleg Vernaiev** of Ukraine, was spectacular in the qualifying with the only score over 16 points and ahead of all others by a remarkable 0.233. He's the favorite in the final that features prior Worlds medalists **Shudi Deng** of China (2015 bronze), **Hao You** of China (2015 gold), **Danell Leyva** of the U.S. (2014 silver) and **Ryohei Kato** of Japan (2014 bronze).

Ahead of all but Vernaiev in the qualifying was Russia's **David Belyavskiy**, the 2016 European champion on the p-bars, well familiar to gymnastics fans for the double somersault dismount in this event known as the "Belyavskiy." Qualifying scores:

16.166	Oleg Vernaiev (UKR)	15.733	Hao You (CHN)
15.933	David Belyavskiy (RUS)	15.600	Danell Leyva (USA)
15.800	Shudi Deng (CHN)	15.500	Ryohel Kato (JPN)
15.766	Manrique Larduet (CUB)	15.466	Andrei Vasile Muntean (ROM)

• **Gymnastics~Artistic/Women's Floor Exercise**

<i>The formchart:</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12 London	Aly Raisman (USA)	Catalina Ponor (ROU)	Aliya Mustafina (RUS)
WCh '13 Antwerp	Simone Biles (USA)	Vanessa Ferrari (ITA)	Larisa Iordache (ROU)
WCh '14 Nanning	Simone Biles (USA)	Larisa Iordache (ROU)	Kyla Ross (USA)
WCh '15 Glasgow	Simone Biles (USA)	K. Afanasyeva (RUS)	Maggie Nichols (USA)

Simone Biles of the U.S. is the three-time defending World Champion in this event and will face teammate and 2012 gold medalist **Aly Raisman** in the final. They were 1-2 in the qualifying and well ahead of all others, scoring more than 15 points.

Italy's **Vanessa Ferrari** was third and 0.2 ahead of Switzerland's **Giulia Steingruber** and China's **Yan Wang**, making the medal favorites clear. Qualifying scores:

15.733	Simone Biles (USA)	14.666	Yan Wang (CHN)
15.275	Aly Raisman (USA)	14.600	Amy Tinkler (GBR)
14.866	Vanessa Ferrari (ITA)	14.566	Mai Murakami (JPN)
14.666	Giulia Steingruber (SUI)	14.333	Erika Fasana (ITA)

• **Judo/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 6	M 60 kg	Mudranov (RUS)	Smetov (KAZ)	Takato (JPN) Urozboev (UZB)

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 7	M 66 kg	Basile (ITA)	An (KOR)	Sobirov (UZB) Ebinuma (JPN)
Aug 8	M 73 kg	Ono (JPN)	Orujov (AZE)	Shavdatuashvili (GEO) van Tichelt (BEL)
Aug 9	M 81 kg	Khalmurzaev (RUS)	Stevens (USA)	Toma (UAE) Nagase (JPN)
Aug 10	M 90 kg	Baker (JPN)	Liparteliani (GEO)	Gwak (KOR) Cheng (CHN)
Aug 11	M 100 kg	Krpalek (CZE)	Gasimov (AZE)	Maret (FRA) Haga (JPN)
Aug 12	M +100 kg	Riner (FRA)	Harasawa (JPN)	Silva (BRA) Sasson (ISR)
Aug 6	W 48 kg	Pareto (ARG)	Jeong (KOR)	Kondo (JPN) Galbadrakh (KAZ)
Aug 7	W 53 kg	Kelmendi (KOS)	Giuffrida (ITA)	Nakamura (JPN) Kuziutina (RUS)
Aug 8	W 57 kg	Silva (BRA)	Dorjsuren (MGL)	Montiero (POR) Matsumoto (JPN)
Aug 9	W 63 kg	Trstenjak (SLO)	Agbegnenou (FRA)	Gerbi (ISR) Van Emden (NED)
Aug 10	W 70 kg	Tachimoto (JPN)	Alvear (COL)	Conway (GBR) Vargas Koch (GER)
Aug 11	W 78 kg	Harrison (USA)	Tcheumeo (FRA)	Aguiar (BRA) Velensek (SLO)
Aug 12	W +78 kg	Andeol (FRA)	Ortiz (CUB)	Yamabe (JPN) Yu (CHN)

The loudest cheers of the tournament so far were for Brazil's Rafaela Silva – the 2013 World Champion – winning in front of her home fans! And almost as loud for Rafael Silva, who scored bronze in the Men's +100 kg division. Ten different countries won gold medals.

• **Rowing/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 13	M Single Sculls	Drysdale (NZL)	Martin (CRO)	Synek (CZE)
Aug 11	M Double Sculls	Croatia	Lithuania	Norway
Aug 11	M Quad Sculls	Germany	Australia	Estonia
Aug 11	M Pair	New Zealand	South Africa	Italy
Aug 12	M Four	Great Britain	Australia	Italy
Aug 13	M Eight	Great Britain	Germany	Netherlands
Aug 13	W Single Sculls	Brennan (AUS)	Stone (USA)	Duan (CHN)
Aug 11	W Double Sculls	Poland	Great Britain	Lithuania
Aug 11	W Quad Sculls	Germany	Netherlands	Poland
Aug 12	W Pair	Great Britain	New Zealand	Denmark
Aug 13	W Eight	United States	Great Britain	Romania
Aug 12	M Lightweight Dbl Sculls	France	Ireland	Norway
Aug 11	M Lightweight Four	Switzerland	Denmark	France
Aug 12	W Lightweight Dbl Sculls	Netherlands	Canada	China

After losing a day of finals to the weather, 15 countries won medals on a busy first day of rowing finals. The win by the U.S. women in the eights ran their streak of Olympic or World Championships victories to an amazing 11 in a row.

• **Rugby Sevens/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 11	Men	Fiji	Great Britain	South Africa
Aug 8	Women	Australia	New Zealand	Canada

Australia's women claimed a 10-5 halftime lead over longtime foes New Zealand and held on for a 24-17 victory and the gold medal in rugby's return to the Olympic Games. The Aussies finished 5-0-1 for the tournament, with only a draw against the U.S. to mar their record. On the men's side, Fiji walloped Great Britain, 43-7, in the final: impressive!

• **Sailing/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 14	M RS:X	van Rijsselberghe (NED)	Dempsey (GBR)	La Coq (FRA)
Aug 14	W RS:X	Picon (FRA)	Chen (CHN)	Elfutina (RUS)

Dorian van Rijsselberghe of the Netherlands had no trouble winning the men's RS:X division, scoring just 25 points over 12 races, against 52 for silver medalist Nick Dempsey of Great Britain. The women's RS:X division came down to the medal race, with France's Charline Picon of France finishing fourth to move up from a tie for third to the top spot.

• **Sailing/Men's Laser ~ postponed from August 15**

The formchart:		Gold	Silver	Bronze
OG '12	London	Tom Slingsby (AUS)	Pavlos Kontides (CYP)	Rasmus Myrgren (SWE)
WCh '13	Al-Mussanah	Robert Scheidt (BRA)	Pavlos Kontides (CYP)	Philipp Buhl (GER)
WCh '14	Santander	Nicholas Heiner (NED)	Tom Burton (AUS)	Nick Thompson (GBR)
WCh '15	Kingston	Nick Thompson (GBR)	Philipp Buhl (GER)	Tom Burton (AUS)
WCh '16	Nuevo Vallarta	Nick Thompson (GBR)	Jean-B Bernaz (FRA)	Rutiger van Schaardenburg (NED)

Going into the final race (where points are doubled), the 46 sailors in the Laser class are still led by the winner of the first race, unheralded **Tonci Stipovanic** of Croatia. His 57 points are ten ahead of Australia's **Tom Burton** and 20 in front of New Zealand's **Sam Meech**.

The familiar names to sailing fans – **Jean Baptiste Bernaz** (FRA, 86), **Robert Scheidt** of Brail (87) and **Nick Thompson** of Great Britain (87) – are next in places 4-6 and could make a charge to the medals with some help from the leaders. But Stipovanic has held the lead by sailing eight of his nine races that counted (one of the 10 prelim race results gets thrown out) in the top ten, keeping him at the top of the chart. If he can do that one more time, his chances of a medal are excellent, and maybe a gold.

• **Sailing: Women's Laser Radial ~ postponed from August 15**

The formchart:		Gold	Silver	Bronze
OG '12	London	Lijia Xu (CHN)	M. Bouwmeester (NED)	Evi van Acker (BEL)
WCh '13	Rizhao	Tina Mihelic (CRO)	Tuula Tenkanen (FIN)	Paige Railey (USA)
WCh '14	Santander	M. Bouwmeester (NED)	Josefin Olsen (SWE)	Evi van Acker (BEL)
WCh '15	Al-Mussanah	Anne-M. Rindom (DEN)	M. Bouwmeester (NED)	Evi van Acker (BEL)

A crowded field of 37 sailors has made it through the ten preliminary races and ready for the medal race today. The leader, as usual, is **Marit Bouwmeester** of the Netherlands, leading with 47 points, a scant eight ahead of long-time rival **Anne-Marie Rindom** of Denmark (55) and Ireland's **Annalise Murphy** (57). All three have won once during the first 10 races.

With such a large field, nothing can be taken for granted, as medal-race points (athlete's placement in this race) are doubled. So, Belgium's **Evi van Acker** and Finland's **Tuula Tenkanen** are absolutely in contention, sitting in fourth and fifth at 66.0 and 68.6 points, respectively. With no one having won more than one race, a wild finish could throw the final standings into confusion. Good thing the arithmetic is handled by computers now!

• **Sailing/Men's Finn**

<i>The formchart:</i>		<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12	London	Ben Ainslie (GBR)	Hugh-Christensen(DEN)	Jonathan Lobert (FRA)
WCh '13	Tallinn Bay	Jorge Zarif (BRA)	Edward Wright (GBR)	Pieter-Jan Postma (NED)
WCh '14	Santander	Giles Scott (GBR)	Ivan K. Gaspic (CRO)	Edward Wright (GBR)
WCh '15	Takapuna	Giles Scott (GBR)	Jonathon Lobert (FRA)	Vasilij Zbogor (SLO)
WCh '16	Gaeta	Giles Scott (GBR)	Hugh-Christensen(DEN)	Pieter-Jan Postma (NED)

After the 10-race series and heading into the medal race, Britain's **Giles Scott** has wrapped up the gold medal in the Finn Class. He's won three races, been second twice and third twice for a 10-race total of just 32 points – he's averaging third place, in a field of 23!

Slovenia's **Vasilij Zbogor** has also separated himself from the pack, at 56 points, but could face a threat from Croatia's **Ivan Kljakovic Gaspic** (69) or **Caleb Paine** of the U.S. and **Max Salminen** of Sweden (both at 74).

• **Sailing: Mixed Nacra 17**

<i>The formchart:</i>		<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12	London	not held		
WCh '13	The Hague	France	Great Britain	Switzerland
WCh '14	Santander	France	Argentina	Australia
WCh '15	Aarhus	France	Australia	Netherlands
WCh '16	Clearwater	France	Denmark	Italy

The Nacra 17 competition uses a two-person catamaran and is new to the Olympic program; the class began holding world-championship events beginning in 2013.

Billy Besson and Marie Riou of France have dominated the competition, winning four straight world titles, but they are only in seventh place after 12 races, with 83 points. The leaders are the 2014 World silver medalists, **Santiago Lange and Cecilia Carranza Saroli** of Argentina, with two wins, three seconds and just 65 points after 12 races.

Certainly within striking distance for the medal race are **Silvia Sicouri and Vittorio Bissaro** of Italy at 70, Austria's **Tanja Frank and Thomas Zajac** at 72, **Lisa Darmanin and Jason Waterhouse** of Australia (74), **Jason Saunders and Gemma Jones** of New Zealand (79) and **Nathalie Brugger and Matias Buhler** of Switzerland (80).

Points count double in the medal race, so a placement of third adds six points to the total. With 20 racers in the class, the final standings are still quite fluid.

• **Shooting/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 6	M 10 m Air Pistol	Hoang (VIE)	Wu (BRA)	Pang (CHN)
Aug 13	M 25 m Rapid Pistol	Reitz (GER)	Quiquampoix (FRA)	Li (CHN)
Aug 10	M 50 m Pistol	Jin (KOR)	Hoang (VIE)	Kim (PRK)
Aug 8	M 10 m Air Rifle	Capriani (ITA)	Kulich (UKR)	Maslennikov (RUS)
Aug 12	M 50 m Rifle/Prone	Junghaenel (GER)	Kim (KOR)	Grigoryan (RUS)
Aug 14	M 50 m Rifle/3 Pos.	Campriani (ITA)	Kamenskiy (RUS)	Raynaud (FRA)
Aug 13	M Skeet	Rossetti (ITA)	Svensson (SWE)	Alrashidi (IOA/KUW)
Aug 8	M Trap	Glasnovic (CRO)	Pelliello (ITA)	Ling (GBR)
Aug 10	M Double Trap	Aldeehani (IOA/KUW)	Innocenti (ITA)	Scott (GBR)
Aug 7	W 10 m Air Pistol	Zhang (CHN)	Batsarashkina (RUS)	Korakaki (GRE)
Aug 9	W 25 m Air Pistol	Korakaki (GRE)	Karsch (GER)	Diethelm Gerber (SUI)
Aug 6	W 10 m Air Rifle	Thrasher (USA)	Du (CHN)	Li (CHN)
Aug 11	W 50 m Rifle/3 Pos.	Engleder (GER)	Zhang (CHN)	Du (CHN)
Aug 12	W Skeet	Bacosi (ITA)	Cainero (ITA)	Rhode (USA)
Aug 7	W Trap	Skinner (AUS)	Rooney (NZL)	Cogdell (USA)

A great moment for shooting as Fehaid Aldeehani of Kuwait, competing under the Olympic flag as his National Olympic Committee is suspended, won the Men's Double Trap event over favorite Marco Innocenti of Italy. Kim Rhode of the United States won an amazing sixth medal in shooting in her sixth Olympic Games.

• **Swimming/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 12	M 50 m Freestyle	Ervin (USA)	Manaudou (FRA)	Adrian (USA)
Aug 10	M 100 m Freestyle	Chalmers (AUS)	Timmers (BEL)	Adrian (USA)



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Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 8	M 200 m Freestyle	Sun (CHN)	le Clos (RSA)	Dwyer (USA)
Aug 6	M 400 m Freestyle	Horton (AUS)	Sun (CHN)	Detti (ITA)
Aug 13	M 1500 m Freestyle	Paltrinieri (ITA)	Jaeger (USA)	Detti (ITA)
Aug 8	M 100 m Backstroke	Murphy (USA)	Xu (CHN)	Plummer (USA)
Aug 11	M 200 m Backstroke	Murphy (USA)	Larkin (AUS)	Rylov (RUS)
Aug 7	M 100 m Breaststroke	Peaty (GBR)	van der Burgh (RSA)	Miller (USA)
Aug 10	M 200 m Breaststroke	Balandin (KAZ)	Prenot (USA)	Chupkov (RUS)
Aug 12	M 100 m Butterfly	Schooling (SIN)	Cseh (HUN)-la Clos (RSA)-Phelps (USA)	
Aug 9	M 200 m Butterfly	Phelps (USA)	Sakai (JPN)	Kenderesi (HUN)
Aug 11	M 200 m Ind. Medley	Phelps (USA)	Hagino (JPN)	Wang (CHN)
Aug 6	M 400 m Ind. Medley	Hagino (JPN)	Kalisz (USA)	Seto (JPN)
Aug 7	M 4x100 m Free Relay	United States	France	Australia
Aug 9	M 4x200 m Free Relay	United States	Great Britain	Japan
Aug 13	M 4x100 m Medley Rly	United States	Great Britain	Australia
Aug 13	W 50 m Freestyle	Blume (DEN)	Manuel (USA)	Herasimenia (BLR)
Aug 11	W 100 m Freestyle	Manuel (USA) and Oleksiak (CAN)		Sjostrom (SWE)
Aug 9	W 200 m Freestyle	Ledecky (USA)	Sjostrom (SWE)	McKeon (AUS)
Aug 7	W 400 m Freestyle	Ledecky (USA)	Carlin (GBR)	Smith (USA)
Aug 12	W 800 m Freestyle	Ledecky (USA)	Carlin (GBR)	Kapas (HUN)
Aug 8	W 100 m Backstroke	Hosszu (HUN)	Baker (USA)	Masse (CAN)-Fu (CHN)
Aug 12	W 200 m Backstroke	Dirado (USA)	Hosszu (HUN)	Caldwell (CAN)
Aug 8	W 100 m Breaststroke	King (USA)	Efimova (RUS)	Meili (USA)
Aug 11	W 200 m Breaststroke	Kaneto (JPN)	Efimova (RUS)	Shi (CHN)
Aug 7	W 100 m Butterfly	Sjostrom (SWE)	Oleksiak (CAN)	Vollmer (USA)
Aug 10	W 200 m Butterfly	Belmonte (ESP)	Groves (AUS)	Hoshi (JPN)
Aug 9	W 200 m Ind. Medley	Hosszu (HUN)	O'Connor (GBR)	Dirado (USA)

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 6	W 400 m Ind. Medley	Hosszu (HUN)	Dirado (USA)	Belmonte (ESP)
Aug 6	W 4x100 m Free Relay	Australia	United States	Canada
Aug 10	W 4x200 m Free Relay	United States	Australia	Canada
Aug 13	W 4x100 m Medley Rly	United States	Australia	Denmark
Open Water				
Aug 15	W 10 km	van Rouwendaal (NED)	Bruni (ITA)	Okimoto (BRA)

It's the Olympics, right? A great meet with multiple world records, in seven events, including the final event of the meet, as Ryan Murphy (USA) set the mark in the lead-off 100 m Backstroke in the 4x100 m Medley Relay. In order:

- *Women's 400 m Ind. Medley:* *Katinka Hosszu (HUN)*
- *Women's 4x100 m Freestyle:* *Australia*
- *Men's 100 m Breaststroke:* *Adam Peaty (GBR) – twice*
- *Women's 100 m Butterfly:* *Sarah Sjostrom (SWE)*
- *Women's 400 m Freestyle:* *Katie Ledecky (USA)*
- *Women's 800 m Freestyle:* *Katie Ledecky (USA)*
- *Men's 100 m Backstroke:* *Ryan Murphy (USA) in the 4x100 m Medley Relay*

Almost lost in the shuffle: now 28 Olympic medals (and 23 gold) for Michael Phelps on the U.S.'s winning all three relays, the 200 m Butterfly and 200 m Individual Medley.

• **Swimming/Men's 10 km Open Water**

<i>The formchart:</i>		<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12	London	Ous. Mellouli (TUN)	Thomas Lurz (GER)	Richard Weinberger (CAN)
WCh '13	Barcelona	Spyrid. Gianniotis (GRE)	Thomas Lurz (GER)	Oussama Melliouli (TUN)
WCh '15	Kazan	Jor. Willimovsky (USA)	Ferry Weertman (NED)	Spyridon Giannotis (GRE)

Plenty of familiar names among the 25 swimmers who are scheduled to start the 10 km swim at Fort Copacabana early Tuesday morning. At the top of the list is the defending World Champion, **Jordan Wilimovsky** of the U.S., two days removed from his fourth-place finish in the pool in the 1,500 m, just five seconds short of a medal.

He will have plenty of company in the open-water event, which will take about 1:50 for the leaders to complete. Defending Olympic champion **Oussama Mellouli** of Tunisia, 2013 World Champion **Spyridon Gianniotis** of Greece and Canada's **Richard Weinberger** are all ready to go, as is 2015 silver medalist **Ferry Weertman** of the Netherlands.

Wild cards: **Simone Ruffini** of Italy won the last major World Cup race prior to the Games in 1:5025.04, with Weinberger third and **Sean Ryan** of the U.S. fourth. **Lijun Zu** of China won the last qualification race to get into the Games on June 12; all are in shape to challenge the recent medal-winners.

• **Synchronized Swimming: Duets**

<i>The formchart:</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12 London	Russia	Spain	China
WCh '13 Barcelona	Russia	China	Spain (Free routine)
WCh '15 Kazan	Russia	China	Ukraine (Free routine)

Russia has dominated this event, winning four gold medals in a row in Olympic competition. No change in store for 2016, either, as the pair of **Natalia Ishchenko and Svetlana Romashina** is three points ahead of China (**Xuechen Huang and Wenyan Sun**) and more than seven points ahead of everyone else.

Ishchenko and Romashina won in London in 2012 and took the World Championships Duet title in Kazan last year. Huang returns for China; she and Sun won silver at the Worlds last year. The Russians were two points up after the Preliminary Free Routine and added another point after the Technical Routine.

The bronze medal will be a fight between three teams separated by only 1.25 points: Japan (**Yukiko Inui and Risako Mitsui** – fourth in the World Champs Free Routine last year), Ukraine (**Lolita Ananasova and Anna Voloshyna** – third in the Free Routine in 2015) and Spain (**Olga Carbonell and Gemma Mangual**). Carbonell has been part of Spain’s medal-winners in 2012 and 2013 and was fifth in the 2015 Worlds Duet Free Routine with Paula Klamburg.

• **Table Tennis/Summary**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze(s)</i>
Aug 11	Men’s Singles	Ma (CHN)	Zhang (CHN)	Mizutani (JPN)
Aug 10	Women’s Singles	Ding (CHN)	Li (CHN)	Kim (PRK)

China continued its winning ways in women’s singles with gold and silver twice; as expected.

• **Table Tennis/Women’s Team**

<i>The formchart:</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>
OG '12 London	China	Japan	Singapore
WCh '14 Tokyo	China	Japan	Hong Kong-Singapore
WCh '16 Kuala Lumpur	China	Japan	DPR Korea-Chinese Taipei

The Chinese won in 2008 and 2012, with Xiaoxia Li and Ning Ding back for 2016. Adding in Shiwen Liu and they have raced through the rounds, winning each of their three matches by 3-0 scores. They will be the heavy favorites over Germany, which surprised Japan in their semifinal, 3-2.

In fact, the Germans will be the first team from outside of Asia to win an Olympic medal in the women's team event, which was first played in the Games in 2008. The trio of Ying Han, Xiaona Shan (both originally from China) and Petrissa Solja overcame Japan in the semis, with Han defeating Ai Fukuhara in the final match. The German had earlier defeated the U.S., 3-0, and Hong Kong, 3-1.

Singapore and Japan will meet for the bronze medal.

• **Tennis/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 14	Men's Singles	Murray (GBR)	Del Potro (ARG)	Nishikori (JPN)
Aug 12	Men's Doubles	Spain	Romania	United States
Aug 13	Women's Singles	Puig (PUR)	Kerber (GER)	Kvitova (CZE)
Aug 14	Women's Doubles	Russia	Switzerland	Czech Rep.
Aug 14	Mixed Doubles	United States	United States	Czech Rep.

Joy for Puerto Rico, an independent National Olympic Committee, with the women's singles gold medal in Monica Puig. Same for Britain, with Andy Murray defending his 2012 Olympic title from London.

• **Weightlifting/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 7	M 56 kg	Long (CHN)	Om (PRK)	Kruaitong (THA)
Aug 8	M 62 kg	Figueroa (COL)	Irawan (INA)	Kharki (KAZ)
Aug 9	M 69 kg	Shi (CHN)	Ismayilov (TUR)	Artykov (KGZ)
Aug 10	M 77 kg	Rahimov (KAZ)	Lyu (CHN)	Mahmoud (EGY)
Aug 12	M 85 kg	Rostami (IRI)	Tian (CHN)	Sincraian (ROU)
Aug 13	M 94 kg	Moradi (IRI)	Straltsou (BLR)	Didzbalis (LTU)
Aug 15	M 105 kg	Nuruidinov (UZB)	Martirosyan (ARM)	Zaichikov (KAZ)
Aug 6	W 48 kg	Tanasan (THA)	Agustiana (INA)	Miyake (JPN)

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 7	W 53 kg	Hsu (TPE)	Diaz (PHI)	Yoon (KOR)
Aug 8	W 58 kg	Srisurat (THA)	Sirikaew (THA)	Kuo (TPE)
Aug 9	W 63 kg	Deng (CHN)	Choe (PRK)	Goricheva (KAZ)
Aug 10	W 69 kg	Xiang (CHN)	Zhapparkul (KAZ)	Ahmed (EGY)
Aug 12	W 75 kg	Rim (PRK)	Naumava (BLR)	Valentin (ESP)
Aug 14	W +75 kg	Meng (CHN)	Kim (KOR)	Robles (USA)

The first weightlifting world record of the 2016 Games was delivered by Wei Deng of China, who lifted a combined 262 kg (578 lbs.) to add one kilogram to the prior standard. Not to be outdone, Kianoush Rostami of Iran set a new world mark in the 85 kg division at 396 kg (873 lbs.). Wow!

• **Weightlifting: Men's +105 kg**

The formchart:		Gold	Silver	Bronze
OG '12	London	Behdad Salimi (IRI)	S. Anoushiravani (IRI)	Ruslan Albegov (RUS)
WCh '13	Wroclaw	Ruslan Albegov (RUS)	Bahador Molaei (IRI)	Aleksey Lovchev (RUS)
WCh '14	Almaty	Ruslan Albegov (RUS)	Behdad Salimi (IRI)	Mohamed Ihsan (EGY)
WCh '15	Houston	L. Talakhadze (GEO)	Mart Siem (EST)	Gor Minasyan (ARM)

Eleven lifters in Group A will contend for medals, led by reigning World Champion **Lasha Talakhadze** of Georgia. Originally second last year to a world record by Russia's Aleksey Lovchev, he ascended to champion after Lovchev was disqualified for doping. Nevertheless, Talakhadze's combined lift total in Houston of 454 kg (1,001 lbs.) was more than impressive.

He will be challenged by the medalists right behind him last year – **Mart Siem** of Estonia (lifted a combined 438 kg/966 lbs. in 2015) and **Gor Minasyan** of Armenia (437 kg/963 lbs. in 2015), and defending Olympic champion **Behdad Salimi**, now 26, who lifted 455 kg (1,003 lbs.) in 2012 to win the title.

Outsiders? **Irakli Turmanidze** of Georgia lifted 435 kg (959 lbs.) in 2015, ranking seventh in the world, but fourth among contestants in Rio. **Ruben Aleksanyan** of Armenia was seventh in Houston and ranked ninth worldwide in 2015 with his combo lift of 433 kg (955 lbs.), same as **Almir Velagic** of Germany (sixth at the World Champs). Please don't forget **Ahmed Mohamed** of Egypt, who lifted 429 kg (946 lbs.) to rank 12th in the world in 2015.

• **Wrestling/Summary**

Date	Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze(s)
Aug 14	Greco-Roman/M 59 kg	Borrero (CUB)	Ota (JPN)	Tasmuradov (UZB) Berge (NOR)
Aug 14	Greco-Roman/M 75 kg	Vlasov (RUS)	Madsen (DEN)	Kim (KOR) Abdavi (IRI)
Aug 15	Greco-Roman/M 85 kg	Chakvetadze (RUS)	Beleniuk (UKR)	Hamzatu (BLR) Kudla (GER)
Aug 15	Greco-Roman/M 130 kg	Lopez (CUB)	Kayaalp (TUR)	Shariati (AZE) Semenov (RUS)

A copy of the 2015 World Championships on the first day of Greco-Roman wrestling as the reigning World Champions at 59 kg and 75 kg added Olympic gold medals to their trophy cases. The challengers took over on day two.

• **Wrestling: Men's Greco-Roman 66 kg**

The formchart:		Gold	Silver	Bronze
OG '12	London	Omid Noroozi (IRI)	Revaz Lashkhi (GEO)	Z. Kuramagomedov(RUS)-Matsumoto(JPN)
WCh '13	Budapest	Han-su Ryu (KOR)	Islambek Albiev (RUS)	Sandeep T. Yadav (IND)-F. Stabler (GER)
WCh '14	Tashkent	Davor Stefanek (SRB)	Omid Noroozi (IRI)	Tamas Lorincz (HUN)-Edg. Venckaitis (LTU)
WCh '15	Las Vegas	Frank Stabler (GER)	Han-su Ryu (KOR)	Davor Stefanek (SRB)-Artem Surkov (RUS)

The most consistent wrestler in this class over the quadrennial has been Germany's **Frank Stabler**. He won the World Championship in 2015 and has been winning in his tune-ups for Rio. But he has lot of competition in Rio.

Chief among his rivals will be **Han-su Ryo** (KOR) and **Davor Stefanek** (SRB), the two prior World Champions and defending Olympic gold medalist **Omid Noroozi** of Iran. All three have won multiple medals in this cycle: in fact, Stabler, Ryu and Stefanek were 1-2-3 in Las Vegas in 2015.

The matches between the top-level wrestlers are so closely contested that no one will be surprised to see **Islambek Albiev** (RUS) or **Tamas Lorincz** (HUN) make it all the way to the top of podium. Albiev, especially, has been strong, winning the European Champs over Stefanek earlier this year.

• **Wrestling: Men's Greco-Roman 98 kg**

The formchart:		Gold	Silver	Bronze
OG '12	London	Ghasem Rezaei (IRI)	Rustam Totrov (RUS)	Jimmy Lidberg (SWE)-Art Aleksanyan (ARM)
WCh '13	Budapest	Nikita Melnikov (RUS)	Artur Aleksanyan (ARM)	Balazs Kiss (HUN)-Shalva Gadabadze (AZE)
WCh '14	Tashkent	Artur Aleksanyan (ARM)	Oliver Hassler (GER)	Ghasem Rezaei (IRI)-Cenk Ildem (TUR)
WCh '15	Las Vegas	Artur Aleksanyan (ARM)	Ghasem Rezaei (IRI)	Is. Magomedov (RUS)-D. Timchenko (UKR)



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This class was at 96 kg in 2012-13 and then changed to 98 kg in 2014. No matter for Armenia's **Artur Aleksanyan**, World Champion in this class for two straight years and a medalist in 2012 and 2013. With Iran's defending Olympic champ (and Worlds medalist in 2014-15) **Ghasem Rezaei**, they are the favorites.

Russia has produced a medalist in three of the four years in this quadrennial and will be represented by **Islam Magomedov**, a bronze winner in Las Vegas last year. An early loss will be suffered by one of the bronze medalists from the last two Worlds, as Turkey's **Cenk Ildem** and **Dmitry Timchenko** of Ukraine are pitted against one other in an opening match. Wild card? How about Hungary's 2009 World Champion **Balazs Kiss**, who was also a bronze winner in 2013, but quiet since then.

Trials Tracker

One of the raging debates, especially in track & field, is about the dates selected for the U.S. Olympic Trials vs. the competition dates at the Olympic Games. Too soon, and it makes it hard for athletes to keep their edge, some say. Too late and there isn't enough recovery time.

So we're keeping track of the Trials vs. Games performance of U.S. athletes in swimming and track & field (coming soon), comparing the Trials finals marks vs. the last round achieved in the Games. The swimmers were amazing, with the men bettering their Trials marks in 14/26 instances (53.8%) and the women were even better: 16 of 26 for 61.5 percent!

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