

THE 1900 OLYMPIC GAMES

*Results for All Competitors
in All Events, with Commentary*

by
Bill Mallon

RESULTS OF THE EARLY MODERN OLYMPICS, 2



McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers
Jefferson, North Carolina, and London

702 : 0

MA 12783/2 + 4

DOC

R 229002160

British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication data are available

Library of Congress Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Mallon, Bill.

The 1900 Olympic Games : results for all competitors in all events, with commentary / by Bill Mallon.

p. cm. — (Results of the early modern Olympics ; 2)

Includes bibliographical references (p.) and index.

ISBN 0-7864-0378-0 (library binding : 50# alkaline paper) ∞

1. Olympic Games (2nd : 1900 : Paris, France) 2. Olympics — Records. I. Title. II. Series: Mallon, Bill. Results of the early modern Olympics ; 2.

GV721.8.M35 1998

[GV722 1900]

796.48 — dc21

97-36094

CIP

©1998 Bill Mallon. All rights reserved

No part of this book, specifically including the table of contents and index, may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Manufactured in the United States of America

McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers
Box 611, Jefferson, North Carolina 28640



Archery

The archery events at the 1900 Paris Exposition are very confusing. If I had to nominate any sport on the "Olympic" program in 1900 to be eliminated for consideration from the official 1900 Olympic results, it would be archery. While there were foreign entrants, the events were basically French national championships and were open to anyone in France. In fact, they were open to virtually everybody. While in most of the sports and events in this summary I have been able to find complete results of all competitors, I have not even approached that in archery, nor will anyone ever be able to do so. Literally, almost anybody in France was eligible to enter these contests, and over 5,000 archers competed in all the events. The newspapers and sporting magazines only mentioned the archery events at the beginning of the contests in late May and gave no detailed results. What you see below is a scant summary of the competitions, but it is all that is available and is based on the 1900 Official Report, *La Vie au Grand Air*, and the recent book by Karl Lennartz and Walter Teutenberg.

I quote from an excellent source for a description of the 1900 archery events, *Archers d'Autre Fois: Archers d'Aujourd'hui* by Henri Stein (Paris: D. A. Longuet, 1925):

Le premier grand concours fédéral de championnat entre sociétés fédérées, a eu lieu à Fontainebleau en 1898, le second à Crépy-en-Valois en 1899, le troisième à Paris (Bois de Vincennes) en 1900, pendant l'Exposition.... Le concours du tir à l'arc au berceau débuta par la fête traditionnelle de la parade, le dimanche 27 mai, s'ouvrit le lendemain 28 et dura trois mois, pendant lesquels quarante-huit journées furent consacrées au jeu. Le concours de tir à la perche ne dura que deux jours (15 et 16 juillet) et comprit deux sortes de perches, à la pyramide et à la herse.... 5,244 tireurs prirent part à l'ensemble du concours, dont 4,569 pour le tir au berceau; la compagnie de Saint-Pierre-Montmartre fut classée première avec 178 coups.... Le Championnat de France se tire en deux épreuves: classement et finales. Pour être classé, l'archer doit placer au moins 25 flèches sur 40 en dedans du cordon de la cible qui a 0.48 metres de diamètre. L'épreuve finale se tire le jour de la distribution du bouquet, entre tous les classés, en 40 flèches également; et les points obtenus sont additionnés avec ceux de la première épreuve.... À la parade du grand prix de l'Exposition de 1900, il y eut 178 compagnies d'arc et 25 d'arbalète^{1*} représentées; en tout, 1,723 délégués accompagnés de 182 drapeaux et bannières, de 82 tambours et de 2 fanfares.

*See Notes on page 36.

T.P.R.

The Field also gave a description of the 1900 archery events.

On Sunday the 27th, the various societies will assemble on the Place de la Nation with drums beating and colours flying, and will be received from 7 to 10:30 AM by the members of the committee. The drums will beat the "fall in," and the societies having been marshalled in columns of fours in the order in which they are to shoot, will march to the butts, which will be prepared in the enclosure of the Velodrome Municipal at Vincennes. Throughout the march the bows will be carried strung in the right hand, distances being kept by the officers, the champions of 1898 and 1899, invested with scarves of honour leading, the drums beating and colours flying as before. On arriving at the ground the contest for the Grand Prix de l'Exposition will commence at 50 metres. The shooting will be resumed on the following Monday and Tuesday, and recommence on Sunday, June 3, from which date it will continue, with certain intervals, till August.

The Field stated that the event was basically a French analogue of the British Grand National Archery Meeting, but it also stated that it was open to any nationality and that Englishmen could compete. It appears that none did.

The 1900 Official Report confirmed the numbers given in Stein's book. Per that report, the following number of competitors took part:

Tir à l'arc au berceau	
Grand prix à 50 metres	2,214
Grand prix à 33 metres	557
Prix général à 50 metres	1,081
Prix d'amateurs à 50 metres	644
Tir d'exercices à 33 metres	73
Total au berceau	4,569
Tir à l'arc à la perche	129
Total des archers	4,698
Tir à l'arbalète	
Au bloc à 35 metres	184
À la flèche è 28 metres	200
À la fléchette à 20 metres	172
Total des arbalétriers	556
Total des tireurs	5,254

However, on closer inspection, not this many athletes can be considered to actually have competed in the Olympics. An analogy would be to consider all Olympic qualifying events for the 1996 swimming events, and to consider every competitor, from every country, who tried to qualify, as having competed in the Olympics. The only difference was that in 1900, the qualifying all took place in France and was basically all but limited to Frenchmen, especially given the constraints of international travel in 1900.

It turns out, after reading the 1900 Official Report closely, that the team events *au berceau* served as qualifying for the individual events. The top eight finishers in the team events *au cor-*

don doré were eligible to compete for the individual titles. The top six finishers in the team events *au chapelet* were eligible to compete for the individual titles. Thus, I have counted as Olympians only the qualifiers for the individual championships. This is exactly analogous to modern Olympic gymnastics, in which all team members compete for the team title, some advance to the individual all-around, and only eight on each apparatus advance to the apparatus final. Only those eight on each apparatus are currently considered to have competed officially in those apparatus events.

Archery expert Fred Lake has further commented on the 1900 archery events, "The two types of archery — short-range butt shooting in a covered gallery (*au berceau*) and popinjay (*à la perche*)— were practised mainly in France and Belgium and were immensely popular." Were there archers competing from nations other than France and Belgium? The 1900 Official Report mentions that 6 Dutch (Netherlands) archers competed. However, it appears that none of them qualified for any of the individual event finals.

A further case could be made that only one event took place *au berceau*, that of "Championnat du Monde." This event was apparently contested between the two *au berceau* archers who performed best in the various individual events *au cordon doré* and *au chapelet* (Henri Hérouin and Hubert Van Innis). Thus, all the earlier events could be considered qualifying for that one final event.

There were individual events in tir à l'arbalète, but there were apparently no foreign entrants. Thus, I have not included these among the Olympic events.

<i>Site:</i>	Bois de Vincennes
<i>Dates/Times:</i>	27–29, 31 May; 3–5, 7, 10–12, 14, 17–19, 21, 24–26, 28 June; 1–3, 5, 8–17, 19, 22–24, 26, 29–31 July; 2, 5–7, 9, 12–14 August
<i>Events:</i>	7
<i>Competitors:</i>	17 known (17 Men, 0 Women), see above for discussion of estimates
<i>Nations:</i>	2

	<i>Known Competitors</i>	<i>Possible Competitors</i>	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Belgium	4	<i>circa</i> 100	3	3	1	7
France	13	<i>circa</i> 5,100	4	5	4	13
The Netherlands	0	6	–	–	–	–
Totals	17	<i>circa</i> 5,200	7	8	5	20
Nations	2	3	2	2	2	2

Championnat du Monde

A: 2; C: 2; D: August²; F: The world championship was contested among the top two *au berceau* archers in the other individual events.

1.	Henri Hérouin	FRA	22
2.	Hubert Van Innis	BEL	16

Au Cordon Doré— 50 meters

A: 8; C: 2; D: 27 May–14 August³; F: The individual championships *au cordon doré* were contested among the top eight archers in the team events.

1.	Henri Hérouin	FRA	31
2.	Hubert Van Innis	BEL	29
3.	Emile Fisseux	FRA	28
4.	Henri Helle	FRA	27
5.	-- Beaudoin, Jr.	FRA	26
6.	-- Denet	FRA	26
7.	-- Galinard	FRA	26
8.	-- Lecomte	FRA	25

Au Chapelet— 50 meters

A: 6; C: 2; D: 27 May–14 August⁴; F: The individual championships *au chapelet* were contested among the top six archers in the team events.

1.	Eugène Mougin	FRA
2.	Henri Helle	FRA
3.	Emile Mercier	FRA
4.	Hubert Van Innis	BEL

Au Cordon Doré— 33 meters

A: 8; C: 2; D: 27 May–14 August⁵; F: The individual championships *au cordon doré* were contested among the top eight archers in the team events.

1.	Hubert Van Innis	BEL
2.	Victor Thibaud	FRA
3.	Charles Frédéric Petit	FRA

Au Chapelet— 33 meters

A: 6; C: 2; D: 27 May–14 August⁶; F: The individual championships *au chapelet* were contested among the top six archers in the team events.

1.	Hubert Van Innis	BEL
2.	Victor Thibaud	FRA
3.	Charles Frédéric Petit	FRA

Sur la Perche à la Herse

A: 129(?)⁷; C: 2(?)⁸; D: 15–16 July; F: Targets on a pole of 28 meters in height.

1.	Emmanuel Foulon	BEL
----	-----------------	-----

=2.	Auguste Serrurier	FRA
	-- Druart, Jnr.	BEL

Sur la Perche à la Pyramide

A: 129(?); C: 2(?); D: 15-16 July; F: Targets on a pole of 28 meters in height.

1.	Emile Grumiaux	FRA
2.	Auguste Serrurier	FRA
3.	Louis Glineux	BEL

NON-OLYMPIC EVENTS***Au Cordon Doré— 50 meters, Team***

A: ?; C: 3?; D: 27 May-14 August; F: Eight archers per team.

1.	Compagnie de Saint-Pierre-Montmartre	FRA	178
2.	Compagnie de Vincennes	FRA	143
3.	Compagnie de Villemonble	FRA	129
4.	Compagnie d'Ulysse (Paris)	FRA	128
5.	2nd Compagnie de Champigny-sur-Marne	FRA	119
6.	1st Compagnie de Nogent-sur-Marne	FRA	116
7.	2nd Compagnie de Villers-Cotterets (Aisne)	FRA	110
8.	2nd Compagnie de Fontena-sous-Bois	FRA	108

Au Chapelet— 50 meters, Team

A: ?; C: 3?; D: 27 May-14 August; F: Eight archers per team.

1.	Compagnie de Saint-Pierre-Montmartre	FRA	24
2.	Compagnie de Vincennes	FRA	19
3.	2nd Compagnie de Champigny-sur-Marne	FRA	18
4.	Compagnie d'Ulysse (Paris)	FRA	17
5.	Compagnie de Montry (Seine-et-Marne)	FRA	16
6.	Compagnie du Centre de Noisy-le-Sac	FRA	14

Au Cordon Doré— 33 meters, Team

A: ?; C: 3?; D: 27 May-14 August; F: Eight archers per team.

1.	Compagnie de Saint-Pierre-Montmartre	FRA	195
2.	Compagnie de Villemonble	FRA	178
3.	Compagnie d'Ulysse (Paris)	FRA	155
4.	Compagnie de Caudry (Nord)	FRA	152

Tir à l'Arbalète, Flèche à 28 Meters, Individual

A: 200(?); C: 1(?); D: 27 May-14 August.

1.	-- Josenin	FRA	5
2.	-- Hébert	FRA	4

Tir à l'Arbalète, Fléchette à 20 Meters, Individual

A: 172(?); C: 1(?); D: 27 May-14 August.

1.	-- Chambroy	FRA	9
2.	-- Petit ⁹	FRA	8

Championnat de Tir à l'Arbalète, Individual

A: 200(?); C: 1(?); D: 27 May-14 August.

1.	-- Chambroy	FRA	13
----	-------------	-----	----

NOTES

1. "Arbalète" is French for crossbow.
2. Exact dates are unknown.
3. Exact dates are unknown.
4. Exact dates are unknown.
5. Exact dates are unknown.
6. Exact dates are unknown.
7. It is not certain if all archers à la perche (129) competed in both events.
8. It is possible that some of the Dutch archers competed in this event, although no definite evidence to that effect can be found.
9. KLWT list this athlete as Charles Frédéric Petit, who competed and won a medal in Tir à l'Arc. However, it is not at all certain that this is the same athlete. In fact, by the reasoning given for the number of archers in the OR, it appears that no archers competed in both Tir à l'Arc and Tir à l'Arbalète, although that is also not certain.