

= Antigua and Barbuda at the 2008 Summer Olympics =

Antigua and Barbuda competed at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing , China , submitting a delegation that included athletes Daniel Bailey , Brendan Christian , James Grayman , and Sonia Williams in track and field events , and Kareem Valentine in swimming . Antigua and Barbuda 's appearance in Beijing marked its eighth appearance at the Summer Olympics since the nation 's debut at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montréal , Canada . There were no medalists from Antigua and Barbuda in 2008 , although Bailey reached the quarterfinals and Christian the semifinals of their respective events .

= = Background = =

Antigua and Barbuda participated in eight Olympic Games between its debut at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montréal and its 2008 appearance in Beijing , competing in every edition except for the 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow . The 2008 Summer Olympic delegation was smaller than those of the 1980s and 1990s , when they were composed of thirteen or more athletes , but , with five participants , it was the same size that it had been at the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens . As of the conclusion of the Beijing Games , no Antiguan or Barbudan athlete has won a medal , although Brendan Christian progressed to semifinals and Daniel Bailey to quarterfinals of their respective events in 2008 . At the 2008 games Kareem Valentine was the youngest athlete at fifteen years of age and Sonia Williams was the eldest at twenty @-@ nine .

The Foreign Ministry of Antigua and Barbuda supported the Chinese handling of the civil unrest in Tibet , an issue marred in controversy due to self @-@ immolations by Tibetans and numerous crackdowns on protesters , and expressed support for Chinese efforts to host the Olympics in Beijing despite the controversy . The flag @-@ bearer for the Games was James Grayman , an Antiguan athlete .

= = Athletics = =

= = = Men 's 100 meters = = =

Antigua Track Club athlete Daniel Everton " Bakka " Bailey competed in the men 's 100 m dash on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda and was that year 's only Antiguan to take part in the event . His participation in Beijing marked his second appearance in the Olympic games , following the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens . In Beijing he was assigned to Heat 1 during the first round on August 14 , competing against Usain Bolt of Jamaica and Vicente Lima of Brazil , among others . Bailey ran the event in 10 @.@ 24 seconds , coming in second place in a heat of eight people , placing behind heat leader Bolt by 0 @.@ 04 seconds and ahead of Lima by 0 @.@ 02 seconds . Overall , in the first round , Bailey tied Trinidad and Tobago 's Richard Thompson for tenth place out of eighty athletes .

Bailey advanced to the quarterfinals , which occurred later that day . Bailey was placed in Heat 5 against , among others , the United States ' Walter Dix and Jamaica 's Asafa Powell , completing the second round in 10 @.@ 23 seconds . He ranked fourth out of eight in the event , falling behind Derrick Atkins of the Bahamas (3rd place with a time of 10 @.@ 14 seconds) and ahead of Ghana 's Aziz Zakari (5th place with a time of 10 @.@ 24 seconds) . Overall , Bailey tied Japan 's Naoki Tsukahara for twentieth place out of forty remaining athletes and did not progress to semifinals .

= = = Men 's 200 meters = = =

Former University of Texas at Austin student Brendan Kyle Akeem Christian participated on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda in the 200 m dash at the Beijing Olympics . Christian , who broke the best American high school time in the 100 m and 200 m dashes , is the son of former Olympian Donald

Christian , a cyclist for Antigua and Barbuda at the 1976 Summer Olympics . Brendan 's participation marked his second Olympic appearance , having competed in the 2004 Summer Olympics . In Beijing he raced in Heat 8 during the first round of the event on August 17 . He ranked second place out of eight athletes , falling behind heat leader Aaron Armstrong of Trinidad and Tobago by 0 @.@ 01 seconds and placing ahead of Canada 's Jared Connaughton by 0 @.@ 02 seconds . Overall , Christian tied Trinidad and Tobago 's Rondel Sorrillo and Japan 's Shinji Takahira for ninth place out of sixty @-@ six athletes .

The next day Christian participated in the quarterfinals and was placed in Heat 3 against athletes that included Churandy Martina of the Netherlands Antilles and Kristof Beyens of Belgium . Christian took first place in the race with a time of 20 @.@ 26 seconds , beating second @-@ place finalist Martina by 0 @.@ 18 seconds and ranking second overall out of thirty @-@ two athletes . Christian fell behind the overall quarterfinal leader Brian Dzingai of Zimbabwe by 0 @.@ 03 seconds and defeated the United States ' Walter Dix by 0 @.@ 01 seconds . Christian advanced to semifinals , which took place on the same day .

Christian competed in Heat 2 against Usain Bolt of Jamaica , Shawn Crawford of the United States , and Kim Collins of Saint Kitts and Nevis , among others , and ranked fifth out of eight after running a time of 20 @.@ 29 seconds . Collins ran 0 @.@ 04 seconds faster than Christian , while Mauritius ' Stephen Buckland ran 0 @.@ 11 seconds slower . Christian did not advance to the final round .

= = = Men 's high jump = = =

James Grayman competed in the Beijing Olympics as Antigua and Barbuda 's sole high jumper , where he participated in the second qualifying heat on August 17 against athletes that included Brazil 's Jesse Lima and the Czech Republic 's Tomas Janku . Grayman cleared a 2 @.@ 20 meter height on his second attempt , placing behind tenth @-@ place heat finalist Dmytro Dem 'yanyuk of the Ukraine , who made the height on his first try , and eleventh @-@ place heat finalist Linus Thörnblad of Sweden , who also made the height on his second attempt , but had fewer overall misses than Grayman . He finished ahead of the three thirteenth @-@ place heat finalists (Italy 's Alessandro Talotti , Spain 's Javier Bermejo , and Botswana 's Kabelo Kgosiemang) and the sixteenth @-@ place heat finalist (Hup Wei Lee of Malaysia) who achieved the same height , but did so in three tries . Overall , Grayman ranked 28th out of 40 competitors and did not advance to finals on August 19 .

= = = Women 's 100 meters = = =

Sonia Williams competed for Antigua and Barbuda in the women 's 100 m dash and was the only female member of the Antiguan national delegation in Beijing . Her participation these Games marked her second Olympic appearance , her first having been at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta . In Beijing Williams participated in the first round of the event on August 15 , when she was placed in Heat 5 against athletes that included Belgian Kim Gevaert and Belarusian Yuliya Nestsarenka . She completed the race in 12 @.@ 04 seconds , finishing sixth out of eight athletes . Guam 's Cora Alico , the seventh place finalist , ran 1 @.@ 35 seconds slower than Williams , while the fifth place finalist , Chisato Fukushima of Japan , ran 0 @.@ 3 seconds faster . Gevaert , who was the heat leader , earned a time that was 0 @.@ 71 seconds faster than Williams ' . Overall , Williams ranked 54th out of 85 athletes and did not progress to quarterfinals .

= = = Summary = = =

Key

Note ? Ranks given for track events are within the athlete 's heat only