

= Archery at the 2004 Summer Olympics =

Archery at the 2004 Summer Olympics was held at Panathinaiko Stadium in Athens , Greece with ranking rounds on 12 August and regular competition held from 15 August to 21 August . One hundred twenty @-@ eight archers from forty @-@ three nations competed in the four gold medal events ? individual and team events for men and for women ? that were contested at these games .

The stadium , often called Kallimarmaro , is notable as the site of the first Olympic Games and even earlier , where the Ancient Greeks ' Panathenean Games were hosted . At the behest of James Easton , president of the International Archery Federation , archery events were held in the historic stadium , hoping that its history and natural beauty would attract the public to the sport . Laurence Godfrey , the fourth @-@ place finisher in the men 's individual event , remarked that the stadium inspired pride , while American Vic Wunderle spoke for most of the archers in saying , " It 's a great honor and a privilege to be able to compete inside the 1896 Olympic Stadium . "

The Korean team won three out of the four gold medals contested . Four Olympic records and several other world records were broken at these games , despite poor weather conditions during the preliminary rounds of competition .

= = Qualification and format = =

There were four ways for National Olympic Committees (NOCs) to qualify individual archers for the Olympics in archery . For each gender , the host nation (Greece) was guaranteed three spots . The 2003 World Target Competition 's top 8 teams (not including the host nation) each received three spots , and the 19 highest ranked archers after the team qualifiers were removed also received spots . Fifteen of the remaining eighteen spots were divided equally among the five Olympic continents for allocation in continental tournaments . The last three spots in each gender were determined by the Tripartite Commission . Sixty @-@ four archers of each sex took part in the Olympics , with each NOC being able to enter a maximum of three archers .

For all archery events at the Olympics , archers stand 70 metres from their target . The target consists of concentric circles , and has a total diameter of 122 cm . Archers earn points based on which circle their arrow landed in , with ten points awarded for hitting the center circle , and one point awarded for hitting the outermost circle . During the ranking rounds , each archer shot twelve ends , or groups , of six arrows per end . The score from that round determined the match @-@ ups in the elimination rounds , with high @-@ ranking archers facing low @-@ ranking archers . The first three rounds of elimination used six ends of three arrows , narrowing the field of archers from 64 to 8 . The three final rounds (quarterfinals , semifinals , and medal matches) each used four ends of three arrows .

Thirteen men 's and fifteen women 's teams competed in the team competitions . The teams consisted of the country 's three archers from the individual round , and the team 's initial ranking was determined by summing the three members ' scores in the individual ranking round . Each round of eliminations consisted of each team firing 27 arrows (9 by each archer) .

= = Medal summary = =

= = Event summary = =

For the sixth Olympics in a row , the South Korean team came out as the clear victor , taking three out of the four gold medals in Athens . Korean archers set new world records in the women 's individual (Park Sung @-@ Hyun) and team (Park , Yun Mi @-@ Jin , and Lee Sung @-@ Jin) ranking rounds and the men 's individual ranking round (Im Dong Hyun) , though none of those scores counted as Olympic records because the ranking round was held before the opening ceremony . Olympic records were broken in both the men 's and women 's 36 @-@ arrow 1 / 16 and 1 / 8 rounds combined (by Chen Szu Yuan of Chinese Taipei and Yun of Korea) , as well as in the

men 's 18 @-@ arrow match (by Park Kyung Mo of Korea) and 36 @-@ arrow finals rounds combined (by Tim Cuddihy of Australia) .

In the men 's events , the Korean team shot 12 maximum scores of 10 to win the gold medal against Chinese Taipei 251 @-@ 245 . Losing by two points , the United States failed to fend off the Ukraine team to capture the bronze . The event causing the most upset however was the men 's individual , the only event that the Korean team has never won and yet again failed to clinch . Defending champion Simon Fairweather was ousted from the competition in a first round loss due to blustery weather conditions . The wind caused some archers like Fairweather to make one @-@ point shots , and its strength even caused others to miss their targets completely . The final matches of this event also saw competitors coming close in score , with Italian Marco Galiazzo beating the Japanese Hiroshi Yamamoto by only two points to win gold . Even closer still was the bronze medal match , in which Britain 's Laurence Godfrey was outshot 112 @-@ 113 by seventeen @-@ year @-@ old Australian Tim Cuddihy , who himself only managed to get into the semifinals by one point .

The woman 's individual event fell easily to the Koreans ; they have won this event continuously since the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles and swept all three medals at the 2000 Olympics . Though both gold and silver fell to Korean archers , Alison Williamson captured the bronze medal , giving Britain its first medal in archery since 1992 . In the team event , the Korean women beat the Chinese team 241 @-@ 240 to win the gold medal , making this their eleventh straight women 's team championship win . Taiwan easily took the bronze medal over France .

= = Participating nations = =

Forty @-@ three nations contributed archers to compete in the events . Below is a list of the competing nations ; in parentheses are the number of national competitors .

= = Medal table = =

Korea continued its domination of the sport , winning three of the four gold medals as well as a silver . Marco Galiazzo won the men 's individual competition , earning Italy the nation 's first gold medal in Olympic archery , blocking Hiroshi Yamamoto 's attempt to win Japan 's first gold medal . Chinese Taipei , which had never before won a medal in archery , won a silver and a bronze .