

= Pan American Games sports =

The Pan American Games sports comprise all the sports contested in the Summer Olympic Games . In addition , traditional and popular sports throughout the Americas which are not contested at the Olympic Games are also contested such as bowling and baseball . As of 2015 , the Pan American Games included 36 sports with 51 disciplines and 364 events . The number and kinds of events may change slightly from one Pan American Games to another .

= Sports , disciplines , events =

For purposes of Pan American Games competition , the Pan American Sports Organization (PASO) makes a distinction between sports and disciplines . A sport , in Pan American Games terms , is a single or group of disciplines as represented by an international governing body , namely an International Federation . For example , aquatics , represented at the Olympic level by the International Swimming Federation , is a sport at the Pan American Games that includes the swimming , diving , synchronized swimming and water polo disciplines .

Canoe slalom is the only Olympic discipline not on the Pan American Games program . It was , in fact , scheduled to be held at both the 2007 and 2011 Pan American Games , but due to the small number of countries competing in the discipline , the event was dropped . However , the discipline is scheduled to make its debut at the 2015 Pan American Games in Toronto , Canada .

Medals are awarded on a per @-@ event basis ; there can be one or more events per sport or discipline . In fact , besides baseball , rugby sevens , and softball , every current Pan American Games discipline has at least two events .

= = Changes = =

A sport or discipline appears on the Pan American Games program if it is included on the Olympic program . For the traditional Pan American Games sports , PASO determines if they are widely practised around the Americas ; that is , the number of countries that compete in a given sport is the indicator of the sport 's prevalence . PASO 's requirements reflect participation in the Pan American Games as well , especially more stringent toward men (as they are represented in higher numbers) .

Previous Pan American Games have included sports which are no longer present on the current program , like futsal and polo .

The International Olympic Committee voted on October 9 , 2009 , during the 121st IOC Session in Copenhagen , to elevate both rugby sevens and golf as official Olympic sports and to include them in the Olympics , beginning with the 2016 Olympic Games . With this development , rugby sevens made its debut at the 2011 Pan American Games in Guadalajara , and golf was played at the 2015 Pan American Games . During a PASO general assembly in 2015 , surfing was included into the 2019 Pan American Games programme .

= = Current Pan American Games program = =

The following sports (or disciplines of a sport) make up the current Pan American Games official program and are listed alphabetically according to the name used by PASO . The figures in each cell indicate the number of events for each sport contested at the respective Games ; a bullet (?) denotes that the sport / discipline was scheduled to be competed , but was dropped do to a lack of entries .

Eight of the 36 sports (Aquatics , Canoeing , Cycling , Football , Gymnastics , Volleyball , Equestrian) consist of multiple disciplines . Disciplines from the same sport are grouped under the same heading :

For equestrian and wrestling , the figures in each cell indicate the number of events for each sport , and not for each discipline separately .

The following sports have been contested at the Pan American Games :

= = = Discontinued sports = = =

The following sports were previously part of the Pan American Games program as official sports , but are no longer on the current program .

= = = Winter sports = = =