# Montréal 1976

**Games of the XXI Olympiad**
**Montreal (CAN), 17 July – 1 August 1976**

**Financing the Games**

The 21st Olympic Games were allocated to Montreal, in the Canadian province of Quebec.

Initially, the costs to host the Games had been estimated at 23 million Canadian dollars (CAD), whereas the effective costs doubled to reach CAD 47 million, with costs development for the equestrian competitions overrunning by over 400 percent.

Two separate parties presented their estimates to construct the facilities for the Equestrian events and the Montreal Organising Committee decided to award the contract to the cheaper estimate. But an original estimate of CAD 1 million eventually turned into a colossal CAD 4,425 million.

Some good came out of this decisions however. The equestrian stadium built at Bromont, where all the equestrian competitions were held except for team Jumping, was near perfect: on the side of the valley there were seats for 15,000 spectators; on the other side were the facilities for the organisation, the media and the VIPs. The steeplechase was nearby as was the cross-country.

The equestrian programme was held over nine days plus two rest days.

**Veterinary Regulations**

The severe veterinary regulations, especially concerning Piroplasmosis, had a certain influence on participation: Poland and Chile could not send horses at all; France and Italy had to keep some at home.

**Games facts & figures**
- **92** nations
- **6,084** athletes (1,260 women; 4,824 men)
- **21** sports
- **3.3** million paying spectators
- The Games were marred by an African boycott to protest the fact that the national rugby team of New Zealand had toured South Africa and New Zealand was scheduled to compete in the Olympics.
- The Olympic flame arrived by air, sent in the form of an electronic signal by a telephone cable towards a transmitter in the direction of a satellite from the Intelsat network. It was then forwarded to a receiver where the stored energy activated a laser beam which gave it back its original appearance.

**Equestrian facts & figures**
- **23** nations (Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), Great Britain, Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherland, Puerto Rico, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay, USA)
- **Guatemala** and **Puerto Rico** were the newcomers.
- **Family connections:** Mother Rita and daughter Silva de Luna were both on the Guatemala Eventing team. Father Bill, 61, and son Wayne Roycroft were on the bronze-medal winning Australian Eventing team.
- **137** entries (61 in Jumping; 27 in Dressage; 49 in Eventing)

- For the first time in FEI's Olympic history there was a **disqualification due a positive medication case**: San Carlos, the mount of the Irish Army Eventing rider Ronald McMahon. The medical treatment after an injury during transport had been announced to the authorities. But the rules suffered no exceptions. Automatic disqualification followed although there was no additional punishment.

## JUMPING (61 riders from 20 countries)

Course designer for Jumping was Tom Gayford of the 1968 Canadian gold medal team, assisted by Robert Jolicoeur. The courses measured 950m (A), 660m (B) and 470m (jump-off). The speed was 400 m/min. There were 15 obstacles resulting in 18 jumps. The water jump was 5m wide. The biggest oxer in round A measured 1.55m/1.60m – 2.20m, the verticals went up to 1.60m. In round B the oxers were higher – the highest vertical was 1.70m – but slightly narrower.

Alwin Schockemöhle, 39, on the 10-year-old Hanoverian gelding Warwick Rex dominated the Jumping events in Canada. In the individual competition, they achieved two clear rounds to win gold ahead of three riders with 12 penalty points each. In the team competition, in the Olympic stadium in front of 55,000 spectators, Schockemöhle had 4 + 8 penalties (the same as Parot and Rozier from the victorious French team) to lead Germany to team silver.

The individual competition ended with a heavy downpour which luckily did not hamper the surface prepared by Herman Duckek, who was involved in the Olympic footing until the 2000 Sydney Games. During the following days it continued to rain and there was little drainage of the water in the Olympic stadium, 90km north of Bromont. There was a discussion about moving the team Jumping to Bromont. When the decision was made to use the Olympic stadium anyway the dimension of the course had to be reduced.

### Medallists – Individual

| 1. Gold | Alwin Schockemöhle (FRG) | Warwick |
|---------|--------------------------|---------|
| 2. Silver | Michel Vaillancourt (CAN) | Branch County |
| 3. Bronze | François Mathy (BEL) | Gai Luron |

### Medallists – Team

| 1. Gold | France | Marcel ROZIER (Bayard de Maupas), Michel ROCHE (Un Espoir), Marc ROGUET (Belle-de-Mars), Hubert PAROT (Rivage) |
|---------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. Silver | FRG | Alwin SCHOCKEMöHLE (Warwick Rex), Paul SCHOCKEMöHLE (Agent), Sönke SöNKSEN (Kwept), Hans Günter WINKLER (Torphy) |
| 3. Bronze | Belgium | Henry-Edgar CUEPPER (Le Champion), Stanny VAN PAESSCHEN (Porsche), Eric WAUTERS (Gute Sitte), François MATHY (Gai Luron) |

## DRESSAGE (27 riders from 11 nations)

Christine Stückeberger/Granat, Harry Boldt/Woycek and Riner Klimke/Mehmed were nearly everybody's choice for the individual medals. And they won, with impressive differences: Granat was 51 points ahead of Woycek and Woycek another 40 points ahead of Mehmed. For the team medals nearly everybody expected Germany, Switzerland and the Soviet Union to be in the medal ranks. But the United States managed to beat the Soviets to win the first Dressage medal for their country since 1948.

The Grand Prix test lasted 10 minutes and had 39 movements. The maximum number of points was 500 per judge or 2,500 points in total. Christine Stückelberger's 1869 points thus represented 74.7%. In the Grand Prix Special, to be ridden in 8min 45sec, the maximum total was 1,950 points – Granat's 1,486 points correspond therefore to 76.2%.

## Medallists – Individual

| 1. Gold | Christine Stückelberger (SUI) | Granat |
|---|---|---|
| 2. Silver | Harry Boldt (FRG) | Woycek |
| 3. Bronze | Reiner Klimke (FRG) | Mehmed |

## Medallists – Team

| 1. Gold | FRG | Harry BOLDT (Woycek), Gabriela GRILLO (Ultimo), Reiner KLIMKE (Mehmed) |
|---|---|---|
| 2. Silver | Switzerland | Christine STÜCKELBERGER (Granat), Ulrich LEHMANN (Widin), Doris RAMSEIER (Roch) |
| 3. Bronze | USA | Hilda GURNEY (Keen), Edith MASTER (Dahlwitz), Dorothy MORKINS (Monaco) |

## EVENTING (49 riders from 13 countries)

Barbara Kemp became the first woman to design an Olympic cross-country course – the first woman to design a Jumping course was Linda Allen in 1996.

The total length of the track on endurance day was 27,465m.

Of the 7,695m of the cross-country, which contained 36 obstacles, 3,200m went over a golf course (obstacles 10 to 25); 900m were in the forest, 1,300m on gravel roads and 2,300m over meadows.

## Medallists – Individual

| 1. Gold | Edmund"Tad" Coffin (USA) | Bally Cor |
|---|---|---|
| 2. Silver | John Michael Plumb (USA) | Better and Better |
| 3. Bronze | Karl Schultz (FRG) | Madrigal |

## Medallists – Team

| 1. Gold | USA | Mary-Anne TAUSKEY (Marcus Aurelius), Bruce DAVIDSON (Irish Cap), John Michael PLUMB (Better and Better), Edmund COFFIN (Bally Cor) |
| 2. Silver | FRG | Karl SCHULTZ (Madrigal), Herbert BLÖCKER (Albrant), Otto AMMERMANN (Volturno), Helmut RETHEMEIER (Pauline) |
| 3. Bronze | Australia | Wayne ROYCROFT (Laurenson), Mervyn BENNETT (Regal Reign), William ROYCROFT (Version), Denis PIGOTT (Hillstead) |