

THE OLYMPIC GAMES



The original Olympic Games took place at Olympia in Ancient Greece in 776 BC. They included art competitions as well as athletics, boxing, wrestling and chariot racing. The first modern games took place in Athens in 1896, and continue to take place every four years in different countries of the world. The Olympic flag, with its five rings, represents the five continents of the world. The Olympics are the traditional "world championships" of athletics, but there are many other sports competitions- swimming, rowing, gymnastics and others. At each Olympics, the Olympic committee includes new sports, making each Olympics more exciting than the last. The winter Olympics are for sports such as skating and skiing. They take place two years after each Olympic Games. Competitors in the events win medals: a gold medal for first place, silver for second, and bronze for third. The very best athletes from all over the world compete in the Olympics. The Paralympics are for people with physical disabilities. Some of the competitors are blind or deaf and many of them compete in wheelchair. The Paralympics take place after the Olympic Games.

