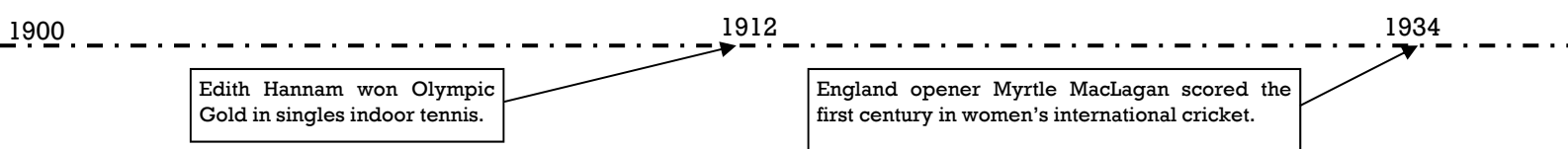




## Facts and figures about women and girls in sport

### Historical timeline of women in sport: 1900—2006



#### 1900

- Charlotte Cooper was the first female Olympic Gold medallist. She won the women's singles tennis.

#### 1908

- Madge Syers won a Gold medal in the Olympic women's figure skating event, the first time the event was held.

- Sybil Newall, an archer, was the oldest woman (at 52) to win an Olympic Gold medal.

- British yachtswoman Frances Clytie Rivett-Carnac and her husband won Gold at the Olympics, the first time a mixed event was sanctioned by the IOC.

- Gwendolyn Eastlake-Smith, and Dorothy Chambers both won Golds for tennis (singles indoor and singles respectively).

#### 1912

- Edith Hannam won Olympic Gold in singles indoor tennis.

- Isabella Mary Moore, Jennie Fletcher, Annie Speirs and Irene Steer won Olympic Gold in the 4x100m freestyle relay

#### 1920

- Dick Kerr Ladies football team beat St Helen's Ladies 4-0 at Goodison Park in front of a

crowd of 53,000 with a further 12,000 unable to gain admission.

- Kathleen McKane and Winifred McNail, won Olympic Gold in doubles tennis

#### 1924

- Lucille Morton won Gold for 200m breast-stroke.

#### 1932

- Cecilia Colledge, competing in the Olympic figure skating, was the youngest ever female in the Winter Games. She was 11 years old.

#### 1933

- Gwen Neligan became the first woman to win the Fencing Foil World Title.

- Peggy Scriven became the first Briton to win the French Tennis Championship.

#### 1934

- England opener Myrtle MacLagan scored the first century in women's international cricket.

#### 1948

- Nilla de Wharton Burr became the only British woman to win the World Individual Archery Title twice.

1956

Gillian Mary Sheen was the only British fencer ever to win an Olympic gold medal.

1973

England won the first women's Cricket World Cup.

## 1950

- Helen Elliot won her second women's Table Tennis World Title.

## 1952

- Jeannette Altwegg won the Olympic Figure Skating Title to add to her World Championship Title in 1951.

## 1954

- Di and Ros Rowe won the women's World Table Tennis Doubles Title.

## 1956

- Gillian Mary Sheen was the only British fencer ever to win an Olympic gold medal.

- Judy Grinham won the Olympic 100m Backstroke, Britain's first swimming medal for 36 years.

## 1960

- Anita Lonsbrough won a gold medal in the Olympic 200m Breaststroke.

## 1961

- Angela Mortimer won the Wimbledon Tennis Singles Title.

## 1964

- Mary Rand won Olympic gold in the long jump, the first ever gold for Britain in women's athletics.

- Ann Packer won Olympic gold in the 800m and silver in the 400m.

## 1966

- Beryl Burton won her fifth Cycling World Championships Individual Pursuit.

## 1967

- Beryl Burton covered 446.19km in a 12-hour cycling time trial, 9.25km beyond the British men's record.

- Jeannette Stewart-Wood became Britain's first water-skier to win a World Title.

## 1969

- Ann Jones won the Wimbledon Tennis Singles Title, the first female left-hander to win the title.

## 1972

- Mary Peters won Olympic gold in the Pentathlon.

- Sylvia Gore scored the first England women's international football goal in the match against Scotland.

## 1973

- England won the first women's Cricket World Cup.

## 1976

- England played Australia in a One-day International at Lord's, the first time women played at the sports headquarters.

## 1977

- Virginia Wade won the Wimbledon Tennis Singles Title.

- Riding Barony Fort, Charlotte Brew was the first woman to ride in the Grand National.

- Heather McKay won her 16th successive British Open Women's Squash Title.

## 1978

- As a member of the gold medal British team, Caroline Bradley was the first woman to win a gold medal when the Show Jumping World Championships were opened to men and women competing together.

## 1980

- Jane Bridge became Britain's first Judo World Champion.

## 1981

- Sue Brown became the first female cox in the Oxford v Cambridge Boat Race.

1987  
 England defeated Wales in the first women's home nations rugby union international.

1994  
 Wendy Toms became the first female linesperson in a Football League match.

**1982**

- Wendy Norman won the Modern Pentathlon World Championships.

**1984**

- Tessa Sanderson won Britain's first Olympic gold medal for a throwing event by winning the Javelin.

- Ultra marathon runner Eleanor Adams became the first woman to cover 500 miles in a six-day race.

- Liz Hobbs won her second women's World Water Ski-Racing Championship.

- Partnering Christopher Dean, Jayne Torvill won the Olympic Figure Skating gold medal to add to her four World Title wins.

**1985**

- England's women's squash team won the first of four successive World Team Titles.

- Sarah Springman became the first British triathlete to win a European Title, winning at Ironman distances in 1985 and 1986.

**1987**

- Laura Davies became the first British winner of the US Women's Golf Open.

- Fatima Whitbread won the Javelin title at the World Athletics Championships.

- Judy Leden won the first of two Hang Gliding World Titles.

- England defeated Wales in the first women's home nations rugby union international.

**1988**

- Sharon Rendle won Olympic gold in the Judo (demonstration event).

**1989**

- Martine Le Moignan became the first British woman to win the Individual World Squash Title.

- Karen Briggs won her fourth Judo World Championship Title.

- Molly Samuels won the World Karate Championship.

- Crossfield (Warrington) Ladies beat Halifax Ladies in the first Stones Bitter Women's Rugby League Cup Final.

**1991**

- Liz McColgan won the 10,000m Title at the World Athletics Championships.

- England won the European Hockey Cup.

**1992**

- Sally Gunnell won Olympic gold in the 400m hurdles.

- Susan Thompson became Britain's first female professional pool player.

- Andrea Holmes and Lorraine Lyon became Synchronised Pairs Trampolining World Champions.

**1993**

- England won the Cricket World Cup beating New Zealand in the final at Lord's.

- Sally Gunnell broke the world record on route to taking the 400m Hurdles Title at the Athletics World Championships.

- Karen Pickering became the first British female swimmer to win a world title with the short-course 200m Freestyle in a Commonwealth record time.

- Jan Brittin scored her 1,000th World Cup run during the Cricket World Cup Final.

**1994**

- England won the Rugby Union World Cup beating the USA in the final.

- Wendy Toms became the first female linesperson in a Football League match.

- Allison Fisher won her seventh Women's World Snooker Championship.

**1995**

- Cyclist Yvonne McGregor completed 47.411km in one hour to become the first British woman to hold the one-hour world record.

- Jenny Pitman became the first woman trainer of a Grand National winner with Corbiere.

1997

Amateur Boxing Association implemented rule changes to permit amateur female boxing in Britain.

2001

Ellen MacArthur was the fastest woman and youngest person at age 24 to sail round the world.

**1996**

•Kathryn Leng established a new women's cricket world record sixth wicket (132) and eighth wicket (114) stands with Barbara Daniels and Melissa Reynard respectively against New Zealand.

**1997**

•Alison Nicholas won the US Open Golf Championship.

•England footballer Gill Coultard was awarded her 100th international cap.

•Loretta Sollars won the inaugural London Triathlon.

•Amateur Boxing Association implemented rule changes to permit amateur female boxing in Britain.

**1998**

•Marylebone Cricket Club admitted women as members, ending a 211-year all-male ruling at Lord's.

•Sylvia Brown won the inaugural veterans World Fencing Championships, Britain's first fencing gold medal in over 20 years.

•Lucy Pascoe and Nicole Cotterell won the women's pairs gold medal at the World Sports Aerobics Championships.

•Jane Couch won the right to gain a professional boxing licence in Britain.

•Ashia Hansen won the Triple Jump at the European Indoor Championships with a new indoor world record.

•Oxford won the Women's University Boat Race for the 10th year in succession.

•Di Ellis became a life steward at the Henley Royal Regatta, the first woman to be appointed in 159 years.

•Miriam Batten and Gillian Lindsay became Double Scull World Champions, Britain's first women's gold medal in an Olympic boat class.

**1999**

•Cassie Campion became Squash World Champion.

•Yvette Baker became Orienteering World Champion.

•Cath Bishop won the World Indoor Rowing Championships.

•Caroline McAllister retained the World Indoor Bowls Singles Title.

•England hockey player Karen Brown announced her retirement from international hockey. During her career she collected 355 international caps, including 140 for Great Britain, making her the most capped player in the world.

**2000**

•Denise Lewis won Olympic Gold in Track and Field Heptathlon.

•Shirley Robertson won Olympic Gold in Sailing.

•Stephanie Cook won Olympic Gold in Modern Pentathlon.

•Sarah Piercy won the London Marathon wheelchair event.

**2001**

•Ellen MacArthur was the fastest woman and youngest person at age 24 to sail round the world.

•Tanni Grey-Thompson won the London Marathon wheelchair event.

**2002**

•Paula Radcliffe won the London Marathon with the second best time in world record history in her very first race at marathon distance. She finished in 2:18:56, just 9 seconds off the mark.

•Margaret Morton, Rhona Martin, Deborah Knox, Fiona Macdonald and Janice Rankin won Olympic Gold in Curling.

•Tanni Grey-Thompson won the London Marathon wheelchair event.

**2003**

•Paula Radcliffe won the London Marathon beating her previous time by 3 minutes and 31 seconds (male pace setters)

**2004**

•Kelly Holmes won two gold medals at the Olympics, Track and Field 1500m and 800m.

2006

Arsenal Women's Football Team became the 1st British club to reach the UEFA Women's Cup Final.

- Shirley Robertson won her second gold Olympic medal in Sailing (2004, Kneelboat – Yngling along with Sarah Webb and Sarah Aytton).

## 2005

- Anna Hemmings became World Canoeing Champion.
- Beverley Jones became 100m and 200m Paralympic World Champion.
- British women quadruple sculls team won Gold at the World Rowing Championships.
- England Women's Cricket team won the Ashes from Australia.
- England hosted the Women's Euro 2005.
- Ellen Macarthur beat the world record for sailing solo around the world
- Elena Little beat the world record for shooting and gold at the European Champion.
- Isabel Newstead became Open European Air Pistol Champion.
- Kim Lumley became British water-ski racing Champion, World Champion and European Champion.
- Paula Radcliffe set a new woman's-only record at the London Marathon, finishing in 2:17:42, beating her own record from 2002.
- Victoria Pendleton became Cycling World Champion
- Zara Phillips achieved individual and team golds at the European Eventing Championships.

## 2006

- Aileen McGynn and Ellen Hunter achieved Gold at the Paralympic World Cup, Cycling 1k Tandem Time Trial.
- Arsenal Women's Football Team became the 1st British club to win the UEFA Women's Cup Final.
- Beth Tweddle became World and European Champion (asymmetric bars).
- Danielle Eatts won 3 Golds at IPC Swimming World Championships.
- England Women's Football Team qualified for the World Cup in China.

- England Women's Rugby Team became World Cup finalists.

- Georgina Harland, Mhairi Spence and Katy Livingstone became Modern Pentathlon World Champions.

- Kirsty Balfour won Gold at the European Championships, 200m Breaststroke.

- Nicole Cooke won the World Cup and Tour de France (Cycling).

- Nyree Lewis won 2 Golds at IPC Swimming World Championships.

- Shelley Rudman achieved Silver at 2006 Winter Olympics in Skeleton.

- Tracey Hallam won Gold at Commonwealth Games for Badminton.

- Tracely Hinton won Gold at Paralympics World Cup Athletics T11 400m.

- Tracey Mosley became Downhill and Mountain Biking Champion.

- Zara Phillips became World Champion Equestrian, and wins BBC Sports Personality of the Year.



**Third Floor, Victoria House  
London, WC1B 4SE**

Tel: 020 7273 1740

Fax: 020 7271 1981

Email: [info@wsf.org.uk](mailto:info@wsf.org.uk)

Web: [wsf.org.uk](http://wsf.org.uk)

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The Women's Sports Foundation has a vision of a society which celebrates the diversity of women and girls, and enables them to benefit from, excel at and fulfil their potential through the sport of their choice.

### Supporting women's sport

The Women's Sports Foundation is the only organisation that works solely to increase opportunities for women and girls. We are a small team of seven people, campaigning for women's sport. These fact files are provided to you free of charge to help raise awareness of the issues – and empower you to advocate for change. However, if you would like to make a contribution to cover admin costs, and to support women's sport, please visit our website and follow the links to the 'make a donation' section.