

Sport in Kazakhstan



Kazakhstan consistently performs in Olympic competitions. It is especially successful in boxing. This has brought some attention to the Central Asian nation, and increased world awareness of its athletes. Kazakhstan's city of Almaty submitted twice bid for the Winter Olympics: In 2014 and again for the 2022 Winter Olympics. Astana and Almaty hosted the 2011 Asian Winter Games.

- **Athletics**

- [Dmitriy Karpov](#) is a distinguished decathlete, taking bronze in both the [2004 Summer Olympics](#), and the [2003](#) and [2007 World Athletics Championships](#).

[Olga Rypakova](#) is an athlete, specialized in [triple jump](#) (women's), taking silver in the [2011 World Championships in Athletics](#) and Gold in the [2012 Summer Olympics](#).



- **Boxing**

- Kazakh boxers are generally well known in the world. In the last three Olympic Games, their performance was assessed as one of the best and they had more medals than any country in the world, except Cuba and Russia (in all three games). In 1996 and 2004, three Kazakhstani boxers (Vasiliy Jirov in 1996, Bakhtiyar Artayev in 2004 and Serik Sapiyev in 2012)) were recognized as the best boxers for their techniques with the Val Barker trophy, awarded to the best boxer of the tournament.
- In boxing, Kazakhstan performed well in the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia. Two boxers, Bekzat Sattarkhanov and Yermakhan Ibraimov, earned gold medals. Another two boxers, Bulat Jumadilov and Mukhtarkhan Dildabekov, earned silver medals.
- It should also be noted that Oleg Maskaev, born in Zhambyl, representing Russia, was the WBC Heavyweight Champion after knocking out Hasim Rahman on 12 August 2006.
- The reigning WBA, WBC, IBF and IBO middleweight champion is Kazakh boxer Gennady Golovkin.



- **Cycling**

- Cycling is Kazakhstan's most successful sport. Alexander Vinokourov represented Kazakhstan in his cycling career for the Astana team. Vinokourov had an impressive cycling record finishing third overall in the 2003 Tour de France. Vinokourov finished 5th in the 2005 Tour de France, while two other young Kazakhstanis, Andrej Kashechkin, who later finished 3rd in the 2006 Vuelta a España, and Maxim Iglinsky, winner of 2012 Liege-Bastogne-Liege and now one of the world's best punchers, finished 19th and 37th, respectively. In 2006, Vinokourov's team became known as Astana, after a drug doping scandal forced his team Liberty Seguros from the 2006 Tour de France. Vinokourov helped form a new team funded by a conglomeration of Kazakhstan businesses and adopted the color of the Kazakhstani flag for its uniforms. That same year, Vinokourov and Kashechkin took first and third places in general classification at Vuelta a España in Spain. Vinokourov won the gold medal in the Cycling Road Race at the 2012 London Olympic Games.



- **Ice hockey**

- [Evgeni Nabokov](#), a Kazakhstani ice hockey player
- The [Kazakh national ice hockey team](#) have competed in [ice hockey](#) in the 1998 and [2006 Winter Olympics](#), as well as in the [2006 Men's World Ice Hockey Championships](#).
- The [Kazakhstan Hockey Championship](#) is held since 1992. [Barys Astana](#) is the main domestic Kazakhstani ice hockey professional team, and having played in the Kazakhstani national league until the 2008–09 season, when they were transferred to play in the [Kontinental Hockey League](#). Meanwhile, the [Kazzinc-Torpedo](#) and play in the [Supreme Hockey League](#) since 1996 and the [Saryarka Karagandy](#) since 2012.
- Top Kazakhstani ice hockey players include [Nik Antropov](#), [Ivan Kulshov](#) and [Evgeni Nabokov](#).

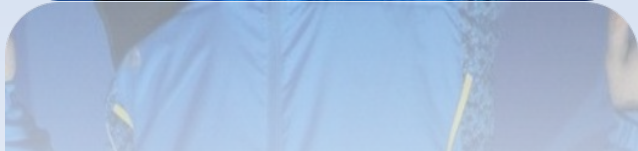


- **Rhythmic gymnastics**
- [Aliya Yussupova](#) was placed 4th in the [Summer Olympic Games](#) in [Athens](#). She has been among the medalist winners in several previous tournaments. Currently, she is considered to be one of the top rhythmic gymnasts in the world. After the retiring of [Aliya Yussupova](#) in the end of 2009, [Kazakhstan](#) maintained its top place in the world thanks to the emerge of [Anna Alyabyeva](#) who now represents the nation at the international tournaments, grand prix, and world championship. As of 2015 [Sabina Ashirbayeva](#) started her senior career and is growing and achieving good results, she is following the footsteps of former fellow rhythmic gymnast [Aliya Yussupova](#).



- **Weightlifting**

- [Ilya Ilin](#) – Competing in the 105 kg men's category, he is currently one of the best [weightlifters](#) of his generation. In his first international competition, the [2005 World Weightlifting Championships](#), he came first in the total (386 kg) and [clean and jerk](#) (216 kg) at the age of 17 in the 85 kg men's category. He is one of the few weightlifters who have won two consecutive gold medals at the Olympics, the first at the [Beijing 2008 Summer Olympics](#), and then second in the 94 kg men's category at the [London 2012 Summer Olympics](#) in the 94 kg men's category. He set a new world record in the 94 kg category for clean & jerk (233 kg) and the total (418 kg) at London. He has been undefeated in all [World](#) and [Olympic](#) competitions that he has entered in. Recently, in the [2014 World Weightlifting Championships](#), competing in the 105 kg men's category, he won gold in the total (432 kg) and in the clean and jerk with the world record (242 kg)



- The **2016 Summer Olympics** ([Portuguese](#): *Jogos Olímpicos de Verão de 2016*), officially known as the **Games of the XXXI Olympiad** and commonly known as **Rio 2016**, was a major international [multi-sport event](#) held in [Rio de Janeiro](#), Brazil, from 5 August to 21 August 2016.
- More than 11,000 athletes from 205 [National Olympic Committees](#), including first time entrants [Kosovo](#), [South Sudan](#), and the [Refugee Olympic Team](#), took part.^{[1][2]} With 306 sets of medals, the games featured 28 [Olympic sports](#), including [rugby sevens](#) and [golf](#), which were added to the Olympic program in 2009. These sporting events took place at 33 venues in the host city, and at five in [Sao Paulo](#), [Belo Horizonte](#), [Salvador](#), [Brasília](#), and [Manaus](#)



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Рахимов



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Баландин



Данияр
Елеусинов



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Сметов



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Василий
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Манжурова



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Фархад
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Карина
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Ольга
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Александр
Зайников



Эльмира
Сыздыкова



Екатерина
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