

National Heroes In Sport



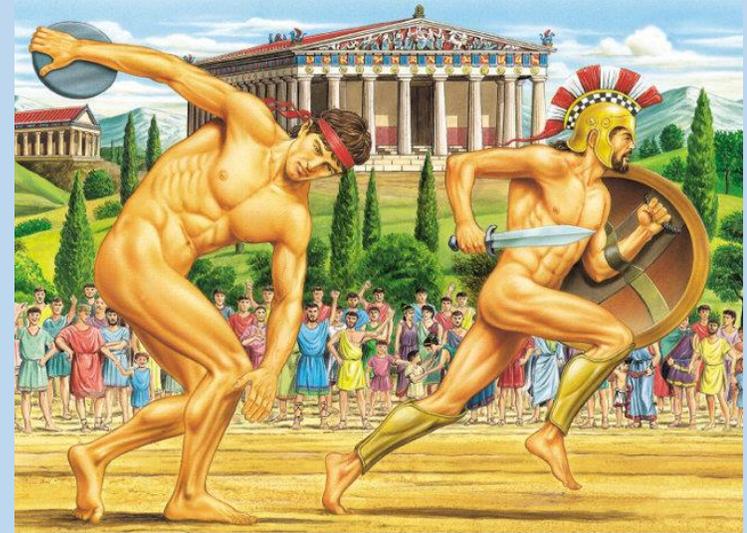
Eleni – Argyro Selekou C3

Fit 4 Life

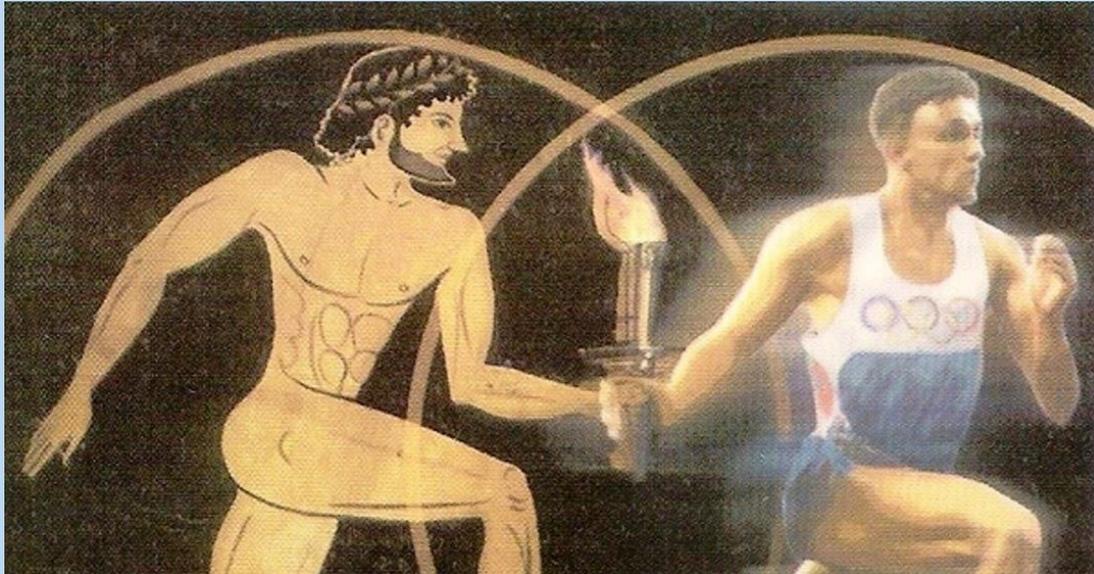
2022 - 2023

SPORT IN GREECE

The ancient Greeks, who staged the first formal Olympic Games in 776 B.C., gave the world the idea of organized big-time sports events as entertainment for arenas full of spectators. More than that, they were the first culture in which people idolized their favorite athletic superstars, to a level that even today's most fanatical sports fans might find extreme.



The ancient Greeks may have loved sports because males grew up participating in them. Every Greek city had its own gymnasium. The Greeks also simply loved to watch competitions. In addition to the Olympics every four years, they held games at other religious festivals—the Pythian Games for Apollo at Delphi and the Nemean Games, which honored Zeus.



WELL-KNOWN ATHLETES

In Greece there are many well-known athletes who have received medals and cups for their effort and competitiveness. Some of them are:

1. Giannis Antetokounmpo (Basketball)
2. Lefteris Petrounias (Gymnastics)
3. Katerina Stefanidi (Pole vaulting)
4. Stefanos Tsitsipas (Tennis)

1.



2.



3.



4.



GIANNIS ANTETOKOUNMPO

Giannis Antetokounmpo is a professional basketball player for the Milwaukee Bucks of the National Basketball Association (NBA).

Antetokounmpo's country of origin, in addition to his size, speed, strength, and ball-handling skills have earned him the nickname "**Greek Freak**". During the 2012–13 Greek A2 League season, Antetokounmpo shot 46.4% from the field (62.1% on two-point field goals), 31.3% from three-point range, and 72.0% from the free throw line, while averaging 22.5 minutes per game. Over 26 games, he averaged 9.5 points, 5.0 rebounds, 1.4 assists, and 1.0 blocks per game.

He was also selected by the coaches as a special participant in the 2013 Greek League All-Star Game. Even though he was not selected as an all-star, the coaches let him play in the game as a treat for the fans.



LEFTERIS PETROUNIAS



Leteris Petrounias is a Greek gymnast. He is the 2016 Olympic champion, 2020 Olympic bronze medalist, three-time World champion (2015, 2017, 2018) and a six-time (2011, 2015–18, 2021, 2022) European medalist on the still rings (six gold and one bronze). He was named the Greek Male Athlete of the Year, for the years 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

KATERINA STEFANIDI

Katerina Stefanidi is a Greek pole vaulter. She won the gold medal at the 2016 Rio Olympics with a jump of 4.85 meters and has also competed at the 2012 London and the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Stefanidi was the 2017 World champion and earned bronze at the 2019 World Championships. Indoors, she is a two-time World Indoor bronze medallist from 2016 and 2018. At the European Athletics Championships, she won two gold medals (2016, 2018) and two silvers (2014, 2022). She also earned two medals at the European Indoor Championships and is a four-time Diamond League winner.



STEFANOS TSITSIPAS



Stefanos Tsitsipas is a Greek professional tennis player. He has been ranked as high as world No. 3 by the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP), which he first achieved on 9 August 2021, making him the highest-ranked Greek player in history. He has won nine ATP singles titles (including two Masters 1000 championships) and appeared in a major final at the 2021 French Open, finishing runner-up to Novak Djokovic. He is also a three-time semifinalist at the Australian Open.



Thank you!

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page
- <https://www.history.com/news/ancient-greece-sports>