



## Track Cycling Events (12)

<b>Men's Sprint</b>	<b>Women's Sprint</b>
<b>Men's Team Sprint</b>	<b>Women's Team Sprint</b>
<b>Men's Keirin</b>	<b>Women's Keirin</b>
<b>Men's Team Pursuit</b>	<b>Women's Team Pursuit</b>
<b>Men's Madison</b>	<b>Women's Madison</b>
<b>Men's Omnium</b>	<b>Women's Omnium</b>

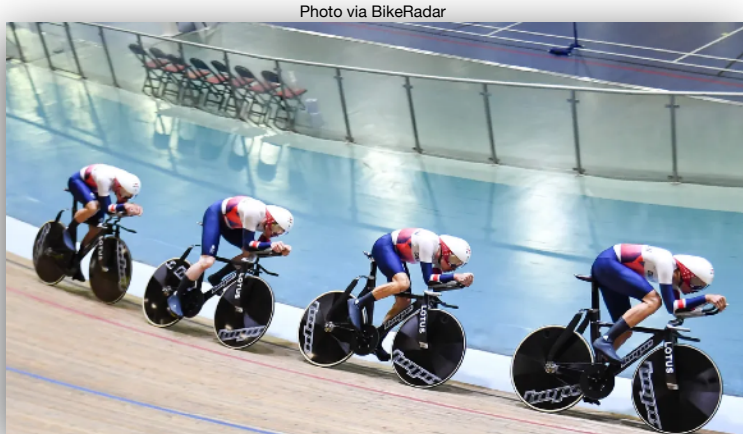


Photo via BikeRadar

## How Olympic Track Cycling Works

In the 2024 Games, six track cycling disciplines are competed.

The **sprint** is a three-lap, individual event. In the qualification for the sprint, riders complete their three laps, but the last lap is the one that is timed and the one that determines if a rider will advance to the knockout stage. In the knockout stage, the format changes. Riders face off in a 1-on-1 competition where the winner advances to the next round and the losing rider is at risk of elimination (and most compete in a repechage round for survival). In this head-to-head format, riders often play a “cat and mouse” game as each competitor looks for the best position possible before the inevitable sprint to the finish.

The **team sprint** is also a three-lap race but the format is quite different than the individual sprint event. The team sprint features teams of three. One rider exits the course after each lap until the last remaining rider on the team sprints to the finish. In qualifying, teams are competing against the clock, but in the first round and finals, teams are competing against one another in a head-to-head format.

In the **Keirin**, a motorized bike paces the first three laps of the race and then exits, allowing the riders to go all out in the final three laps of the event. Riders can grapple for the best position in those first three laps but they must stay behind the pace bike while doing so.

The **team pursuit** is a 16-lap race where riders on a team often alternate being the lead rider. In the first round and final, two teams compete against one another and start on opposite ends of the track. If, in the unlikely circumstance that one team passes another, the race automatically ends.

The **Madison** is a long, two-person relay event (200 laps or 50km) that is points-based. “Sprints” are held every ten laps and teams earn points based on how they finish in those sprint laps. A team can earn five points for finishing first in the sprint, three points for finishing second, two points for third place, and one point for fourth place. The final sprint (Sprint #20) is typically worth double points. If a team gets lapped by another team, they lose 20 points.

The **Omnium** is actually made up of four races and cyclists earn points based on how they finish each of those race. The *scratch race* is a simple race to the finish that covers 40 laps. The *tempo race* is also a 40 lap competition and riders earn points based on the number of laps they have “won.” Following the first 5 laps, the winner of each lap earns 1 point. If a cyclist manages to lap the field, they earn 20 points. In the *elimination race*, the last-place cyclist is eliminated every two laps and riders earn points based on how long they last in the event. Finally, the *points race* is very similar to the Madison with the main exception being a distance of 25 kilometers instead of 50.

### Term to Know: “Velodrome”

The arena that is typically used in track cycling isn't just any old multipurpose arena, instead, it's an arena specifically catered to track cycling and it's called a “velodrome.”

### All Gas, No Brakes

Typically, track bicycles don't have brakes, so you'll often see riders completing a lap or two around the track even after the race has concluded in an effort to slow down their momentum.

### 2020 Track Cycling Medal Count - Top 3 Countries



12



12



6

## Track Cycling Schedule

Events in ET, medal events in **bold**

Date	Time	Event
Mon, Aug 5	11:00 AM	Women's Team Sprint Qualifying
Mon, Aug 5	11:27 AM	Men's Team Pursuit Qualifying
Mon, Aug 5	12:55 PM	Women's Team Sprint First Round
Mon, Aug 5	1:09 PM	Men's Team Sprint Qualifying
Mon, Aug 5	1:46 PM	<b>Women's Team Sprint Finals</b>
Tue, Aug 6	11:30 AM	Women's Team Pursuit Qualifying
Tue, Aug 6	12:59 PM	Men's Team Sprint First Round
Tue, Aug 6	1:14 PM	Men's Team Pursuit First Round
Tue, Aug 6	1:55 PM	<b>Men's Team Sprint Finals</b>
Wed, Aug 7	6:45 AM	Men's Sprint Qualifying
Wed, Aug 7	7:26 AM	Women's Keirin First Round
Wed, Aug 7	7:52 AM	Women's Team Pursuit First Round
Wed, Aug 7	8:30 AM	Men's Sprint Round of 32
Wed, Aug 7	9:10 AM	Women's Keirin Repechages
Wed, Aug 7	9:30 AM	Men's Sprint Repechages
Wed, Aug 7	11:30 AM	Men's Sprint Round of 16
Wed, Aug 7	12:04 PM	<b>Men's Team Pursuit Finals</b>
Wed, Aug 7	12:42 PM	Men's Sprint Repechages
Wed, Aug 7	12:57 PM	<b>Women's Team Pursuit Finals</b>
Wed, Aug 7	1:38 PM	Men's Sprint Round of 16
Wed, Aug 7	2:14 PM	Men's Sprint Repechages
Thu, Aug 8	11:00 AM	Men's Omnium Scratch Race
Thu, Aug 8	11:18 AM	Women's Keirin Quarterfinals
Thu, Aug 8	11:38 AM	Men's Omnium Tempo Race
Thu, Aug 8	12:01 PM	Men's Sprint Quarterfinals
Thu, Aug 8	12:15 PM	Women's Keirin Semifinals
Thu, Aug 8	12:25 PM	Men's Omnium Elimination Race
Thu, Aug 8	1:01 PM	<b>Women's Keirin Finals</b>
Thu, Aug 8	1:27 PM	<b>Men's Omnium Points Race</b>
Thu, Aug 8	2:04 PM	Men's Sprint Placement Finals
Fri, Aug 9	8:00 AM	Women's Sprint Qualifying
Fri, Aug 9	8:41 AM	Men's Sprint Semifinals
Fri, Aug 9	8:48 AM	Women's Sprint Round of 32

Date	Time	Event
Fri, Aug 9	9:38 AM	Women's Sprint Repechages
Fri, Aug 9	12:00 PM	<b>Men's Sprint Finals</b>
Fri, Aug 9	12:09 PM	<b>Women's Madison</b>
Fri, Aug 9	1:10 PM	Women's Sprint Round of 16
Fri, Aug 9	1:58 PM	Women's Sprint Repechages
Sat, Aug 10	11:00 AM	Women's Sprint Round of 16
Sat, Aug 10	11:19 AM	Men's Keirin First Round
Sat, Aug 10	11:50 AM	Women's Sprint Repechages
Sat, Aug 10	11:59 AM	<b>Men's Madison</b>
Sat, Aug 10	1:07 PM	Women's Sprint Quarterfinals
Sat, Aug 10	1:21 PM	Men's Keirin Repechages
Sun, Aug 11	5:00 AM	Women's Omnium Scratch Race
Sun, Aug 11	5:22 AM	Women's Sprint Semifinals
Sun, Aug 11	5:29 AM	Men's Keirin Quarterfinals
Sun, Aug 11	5:57 AM	Women's Omnium Tempo Race
Sun, Aug 11	6:25 AM	Women's Sprint Placement Finals
Sun, Aug 11	6:29 AM	Men's Keirin Semifinals
Sun, Aug 11	6:45 AM	<b>Women's Sprint Finals</b>
Sun, Aug 11	6:53 AM	Women's Omnium Elimination Race
Sun, Aug 11	7:23 AM	<b>Men's Keirin Finals</b>
Sun, Aug 11	7:56 AM	<b>Women's Omnium Points Race</b>

