

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Sunday, August 1, 2021



2020 Olympic Games – Day Eight Recap, August 1

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USA Swimming Event Medal Count at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
USA	11	10	9	30

Team USA Athlete Medal Count at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020

Athlete	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Caeleb Dressel	5	0	0	5
Katie Ledecky	2	2	0	4
Ryan Murphy	1	1	1	3
Lilly King*	0	2	1	3
Regan Smith	0	2	1	3
Zach Apple	2	0	0	2
Bobby Finke	2	0	0	2
Blake Pieroni*	2	0	0	2
Lydia Jacoby	1	1	0	2
Erika Brown*	0	1	1	2
Allison Schmitt*	0	1	1	2
Abbey Weitzeil	0	1	1	2
Hali Flickinger	0	0	2	2
Michael Andrew	1	0	0	1
Hunter Armstrong*	1	0	0	1
Bowe Becker	1	0	0	1
Brooks Curry*	1	0	0	1
Chase Kalisz	1	0	0	1
Tom Shields*	1	0	0	1
Andrew Wilson*	1	0	0	1
Claire Curzan*	0	1	0	1
Brooke Forde*	0	1	0	1
Torri Huske	0	1	0	1

Jay Litherland	0	1	0	1
Paige Madden	0	1	0	1
Katie McLaughlin	0	1	0	1
Bella Sims*	0	1	0	1
Erica Sullivan	0	1	0	1
Alex Walsh	0	1	0	1
Emma Weyant	0	1	0	1
Rhyan White*	0	1	0	1
Catie DeLoof*	0	0	1	1
Kate Douglass	0	0	1	1
Natalie Hinds	0	0	1	1
Annie Lazor	0	0	1	1
Simone Manuel	0	0	1	1
Kieran Smith	0	0	1	1
Olivia Smoliga*	0	0	1	1

**Includes medal(s) from prelim swims in relay event(s)*

Men's 50m Freestyle – Final

Gold – Caeleb Dressel (Green Cove Springs, Fla./Gator Swim Club), 21.07*

Silver – Florent Manaudou (FRA), 21.55

Bronze – Bruno Fratus (BRA), 21.57

4. Michael Andrew (Encinitas, Calif./MA Swim Academy), 21.60

**Olympic record*

Race Notes

- Dressel wins his third individual gold of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.
- U.S. wins gold in back-to-back Olympics for second time in history. Last time was in 2000 and 2004.
- Dressel becomes fourth U.S. gold medalist in the event and tallies the sixth U.S. gold medal in the event.
- Dressel's 21.07 is the sixth-fastest swim in history – he now holds the fourth, fifth and sixth fastest swims.
- The 21.07 is three tenths faster than any other American has ever gone.

Quotes

Caeleb Dressel: "I tried to convince myself that world [championships] was the same and it's the same competition, but it's a lot different here. It's a different type of pressure and I'm aware of that now and will stop lying to myself. It does mean something different. If it happens every four years for a race that takes 40-something seconds or 20-something seconds, you have to be so perfect in that moment, especially when you have an extra year, so a five-year buildup. Or 24-year buildup – whatever you want to call it. To be perfect, there's so much pressure in one moment. Your whole life boils down to a moment that could take 20 or 40 seconds – how crazy is that?"

Women's 50m Freestyle – Final

Gold – Emma McKeon (AUS), 23.81*

Silver – Sarah Sjoestroem (SWE), 24.07

Bronze – Prenille Blume (DEN), 24.21

8. Abbey Weitzeil (Santa Clarita, Calif./California Aquatics), 24.41

**Olympic record*

Race Notes

- This swim marks the third individual Olympic final of her career.
- McKeon's gold makes her the first female swimmer to win seven medals in a single Olympiad.

Men's 1500m Freestyle – Final

Gold – Bobby Finke (Clearwater, Fla./Saint Petersburg Aquatics/University of Florida), 14:39.65

Silver – Mykhailo Romanchuk (UKR), 14:40.66

Bronze – Florian Wellbrock (GER), 14:40.91

Race Notes

- Finke also won gold in the 800m freestyle. Katie Ledecky also won gold in the women's 800m and 1500m freestyle events.
- Finke shaves six seconds from his personal best and moves up to second on the all-time list of U.S. 1500m freestyle swimmers. His time was .17 off the American record.
- Finke's final 50-meter split was 25.79, which was exactly one faster than the next-closest competitor in the field.
- First U.S. gold in the event since Mike O'Brien in 1984.

Quotes

Bobby Finke: "I saw how all three of us [Finke, Romanchuk and Wellbrock] were kind of neck and neck. I knew from my 800 that I had the ability to switch gears for the last 50. I was trying to just gain confidence from that last, I think 300, really to just try and hold on and sprint my butt off at the end."

Bobby Finke: "I came in trying to medal. I knew that the competition was really tough. Those guys have been there for years now, especially [Gregorio] Paltrinieri. I've looked up to them ever since I first saw them swim. To be able to race with them is a big honor."

Bobby Finke: "During that one, I was kind of thinking about how hard that was in the beginning, but I was still with the guys and that just gave me confidence and the ability to keep pushing."

Bobby Finke: "Our whole team [at University of Florida] is always sprinting – especially a couple of our distance guys – Alfonso Mestre, Brennan Gravley, even Kieran (Smith) sometimes is hopping in with our group. We're always going all out in that last rep, so without them, I don't think I'd be able to have that finishing speed. Big thank you to those guys."

Bobby Finke: "For myself, I didn't know I had these swims in me. I've just gained a lot of confidence with coach [Anthony] Nesty, especially being here. Even during the training trip, I was having some of the best practices of my life. It gave me a huge confidence boost going into this meet and then when I noticed during the 800 [freestyle] prelims that I was still hanging with the guys, I was just trying to ride the wave and have fun."

Women's 4x100m Medley Relay – Final

Gold – Australia, 3:51.60*

Silver – United States, 3:51.73

Regan Smith (Lakeville, Minn./Riptide)

Lydia Jacoby (Seward, Alaska/Seward Tsunami Swim Club)

Torri Huske (Arlington, Va./Arlington Aquatic Club)

Abbey Weitzel (Santa Clarita, Calif./California Aquatics)

Bronze – Canada, 3:52.60

**Olympic record*

Race Notes

- Smith posted a 58.05 backstroke split, Jacoby posted a 1:05.03 breaststroke split, Huske posted a 56.16 butterfly split and Weitzel posted a 52.49 split.
- This performance was the third fastest by a U.S. medley relay team in history.
- Smith wins her third medal in Tokyo, Weitzel and Jacoby win their second and Huske wins her first.
- Rhyan White, Lilly King, Claire Curzan and Erika Brown win medals as well via their prelim swim in the event.

Quotes

- **Regan Smith:** “I just wanted to go out there and leave it all in the pool for these girls and this whole team, and I really think I did that, and these girls did as well. We all just gave it our all in that last race and there was nothing more we could do. We really gave it everything. For this Olympic experience, it’s crazy to think that I’ll never be a rookie again - that’s super interesting. This is a great experience; I learned a lot and I loved getting to spend time with so many women and men on this team. I think that was the best part, just getting to spend some time with people and bond with them and have Team USA grow closer.”
- **Torri Huske:** “I feel like Regan [Smith] did a great job at getting us the lead in the beginning, then Lydia [Jacoby] even more so and Abbey [Weitzel] just brought it home like a champ. I’m so thankful that I got this opportunity to swim with such amazing women. It was so much fun being with you guys.”
- **Lydia Jacoby:** “I don’t think anyone has ever been happier to have their goggles on when they hit the water. It was definitely satisfying. I definitely was very nervous – that was an element of nerves that I never had to think about before, so getting past that was a little tough, but I think we pulled through.”
- **Abbey Weitzel:** “I was very nervous; I was trying to control my emotions after the 50 [freestyle final]. I just had to keep having positive self-talk and telling myself that I could do it and I could dive in and do the best that I could. It was definitely nerve-wracking trying to get my hand to the wall.”
- **Abbey Weitzel:** “Gold is always the goal here, we have high standards here on Team USA and for ourselves, so it hits you at the wall when you don’t see the gold next to your team. Just even that, a few minutes after, you take into perspective that, like Lydia [Jacoby] said, we’re racing the best in the world and we’re so close to being gold. We’re just so proud of ourselves – you have just got to walk away proud. I think Lilly [King] said it best in a quote somewhere out there, that silver and bronze don’t get celebrated as much so it’s hard to forget about, but it’s what we’re trying to still tell ourselves – it’s amazing.”

Men’s 4x100m Medley Relay – Final

Gold – United States, 3:26.78*

Ryan Murphy (Jacksonville, Fla./California Aquatics/Bolles)

Michael Andrew (Encinitas, Calif./MA Swim Academy)

Caeleb Dressel (Green Cove Springs, Fla./Gator Swim Club)

Zach Apple (Trenton, Ohio/Mission Viejo Nadadores)

Silver – Great Britain, 3:27.51

Bronze – Italy, 3:29.17

**World record*

Race Notes

- Time bests the previous world record, set by the U.S. at the 2009 World Championships, by half a second.
- 10th-consecutive gold for the U.S. in the event, dating back to 1984. U.S. has won gold in 14 of 15 Olympic Games in the event.
- Murphy posted a 52.31 backstroke split, Andrew posted a 58.49 breaststroke split, Dressel posted a 49.03 butterfly split and Apple posted a 46.95 freestyle split.
- Gold medal gives Dressel his fifth medal during his time in Tokyo. Murphy earned his third, Apple earned his second and Andrew earned his first.
- With his fifth win, Dressel joins American swimmers Michael Phelps, Mark Spitz and Matt Biondi and East Germany's Kristin Otto, as the only swimmers to win as many as five gold medals at one Olympic Games.
- Hunter Armstrong, Andrew Wilson, Tom Shields and Blake Pieroni earn medals as well via their prelim swim in the event.
- Dressel becomes the fifth U.S. swimmer to record five (or more) medals at a single Olympiad.

Quotes

Zach Apple: “Obviously the middle of my meet didn’t go to plan. Coming into this swim, I really wanted to have a redemption swim, and I think I did. I was very, very excited to get up there with these three guys. As I’ve mentioned earlier, to have two world-record holders and the fastest American breaststroker ever in front of me gives me a lot of confidence and kind of set the tone for that relay.”

Zach Apple: “I wasn’t really looking over [at the clock when I dove in], the competition was several lanes away and I had confidence in Caeleb [Dressel] that he was going to give me a lead. I didn’t know how fast he was going but I knew he was giving it his best effort and that was what I was going to do as well, and it worked out.”

Caeleb Dressel: “It was really fun competing here - I wouldn’t change a single thing. Once the meet is over, of course I’m happy, but I was also very happy when it was going on. Nerves are a little bit different during a meet than after a meet – they don’t exist after a meet. I’m pretty over it, to be honest, so to end it like we did is so special. It’s a really special moment.”

Caeleb Dressel: “I’m proud of myself. I feel like I reached what my potential was here at these Games. It was just really fun racing. I’ll give myself a pat on the back, and then I just want to go home and put it away and move forward. I’m going to take a break. I’m going to take a little break here. I’m pretty over swimming, so we’ll go home, enjoy time with my family – see them, talk to them, but I really enjoyed my time here.”

Ryan Murphy: “I think we knew, given kind of the composite splits that we have put together just this week, that we could put together a special performance. That is all the hype we needed. We were really, really excited to go into that one – really excited to show what we could do and really proud of the result.”

Ryan Murphy: “It is incredible, the Olympics, there is a whirlwind of emotion and so it is really a challenge to move in and out of all these emotions and step up to each race with a clear mind and go in there and swim tough. To come out at the end of this meet with a world record and with a gold medal alongside these guys - I couldn't ask for anything better.”

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