

Olympians from the Beach and East Toronto, 1908-2020/21

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Introduction

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Year and Host City	Name, dates and Sport	Olympic highlights	Link to Team Canada Official Olympic Team Website	Local connection	Additional links	Notes
1908 Rome	John "Jack" Tait, 1888 – 1971 (runner)	4th 1,500 metres DNF - 5 miles DNF - marathon	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/john-jack-tait/	Trained with Harriers Club, foot of Silver Birch Avenue Resided 207 Wineva Avenue, 1926-71	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Tait_(runner)	Grandfather of Paul Williams, Olympian in 1984, 1988 and 1992
1912 Stockholm	John "Jack" Tait, 1888 – 1971 (runner)	4th Relay 4x400m 800m 1500m DNF - marathon	See 1908 Rome	See 1908 Rome	See 1908 Rome	See 1908 Rome
1920 Antwerp	Alex Ponton, 1898 –1949 (runner)	4th Semi-finals 200m Quarter-finals 100m		Balmy Beach Club, Resided 19 Greenwood Avenue, 1920s; 78 Maclean Avenue, 1940s	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_Ponton	Broadview Y.M.C.A. Won football's Grey Cup with Balmy Beach 1927 and 1930
1924 Winter Chamonix	Reginald Joseph "Hooley" Smith, 1903-1963 (ice hockey)	Gold (Toronto Granites)	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/reginald-smith/	Resided 134 Lake Front, 1910s; 75 Lee Avenue, 1920s	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hooley_Smith	Hockey Hall of Fame, 1972 100 most influential east enders Beach Metro News, 2000

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1924 Paris	Roy C. Nurse, 1899-1974 (paddler)	Gold C-1, C-4 Silver C-2, K-1, K-2, K-4 (Paddling was a demonstration sport with only two teams)	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/roy-nurse/	Balmy Beach Club Resided 6 Beaufort Road in a house he designed in 1925		Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame, 1956 100 most influential east enders Beach Metro News, 2000
1924 Paris	Anthony J. Vince, 1902–1986 (runner)	7th Relay 4x100m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/anthony-vince/	Riverdale Collegiate Dental practice at Danforth Avenue, nw corner of Pape Avenue, from 1920s Resided 364 Glen Manor Drive, from 1930s	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anthony_Vince	Broadview Y.M.C.A.
1928 Amsterdam	Myrtle Cook-McGowan, 1902-1985 (runner)	Gold 4x100m Relay 48.4 World record FS - 100m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/myrtle-mcgowan/	Kew Beach Club War Canoe Resided 476 Victoria Park Avenue, 1920s	https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/myrtle-cook-mcgowan	Member, 'Matchless Six', Canada's first women's Olympic track team. Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, 1955 Attended ten more Olympics as a trainer or a journalist for the <i>Montreal Star</i>
1928 Amsterdam	Ethel Smith, 1907-1979 (runner)	Gold 4x100m Relay 48.4 World record Bronze 100m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/ethel-stewart/	Norway Public School Beaches Ladies Athletic Club Resided 33 Norway Avenue, 1910s-1970s	http://www.sportshall.ca/hall-of-famers/hall-of-famers-search.html?proID=281&lang=EN	Member, 'Matchless Six', Canada's first women's Olympic track team. Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, 1955

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1936 Berlin	Harvey Charters, 1912-1995 (paddler)	Bronze C-2 1,000m Silver C-2 10,000m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/harvey-charters/	Balmy Beach Club Resided at 334 Lake Front, 1910s-20s; 21 Balsam Avenue, 1930s-1940s	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvey_Charters	Competed with Frank Warren Saker
1936 Berlin	Frank Warren Saker, 1907-1980 (paddler)	Bronze C-2 1,000m Silver C-2 10,000m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/frank-saker/	Balmy Beach Club	https://olympics.com/en/athletes/frank-warren-saker	Competed with Harvey Charters
1936 Berlin	William "Bill" Williamson, 1915-1991 (kayaker)	14th K-1 10,000m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/william-williamson/	Balmy Beach Club	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Williamson_(canoeist)	
1948 Winter Saint Moritz	Murray Dowey, 1926-2021 (ice hockey goalie)	Gold (Ottawa RCAF Flyers)	https://olympic.ca/sports/hockey/	Resided 1587 Gerrard Street East, 1930s; 66 Beech Avenue, 1940s Pitcher in Beaches Fastball League, 1940s	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Murray_Dowey https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/thestar/obituary.aspx?n=murray-a-dowey&pid=198825281	Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame, 2008
1948 London	Norman Lane, 1919-2014 (paddler)	Bronze C-1 10,000m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/norman-lane/	Balmy Beach Club Resided 44 Fernwood Park Avenue, 1930s-1940s	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norman_Lane	Brother of Kenneth Lane, Olympian in 1952
1948 London	Viola Myers, 1928-1993 (runner)	4th 100m Bronze Relay 4x100m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/viola-myers/	Member, late 1940s, Malvernnettes, a local athletic club for women's relay and softball teams	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viola_Myers	Athletics Ontario Hall of Fame, 2011

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1952 Helsinki	Donald Hawgood, 1917-2010 (paddler)	Silver C-2 10,000m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/donald-hawgood/	Balmy Beach Club	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donald_Hawgood	Competed with Kenneth Lane
1952 Helsinki	Kenneth Lane, 1923-2010 (paddler)	Silver C-2 10,000m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/kenneth-lane/	Balmy Beach Club, Resided at 44 Fernwood Park Avenue, 1930s-1940s	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenneth_Lane_(canoeist) https://olympic.ca/2010/01/26/remembering-ken-lane/	Brother of Norman Lane, Olympian in 1948, 1952 Competed with Donald Hawgood Manager, Canada's canoe team, 1972 Olympics Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame, 2003
1952 Helsinki	Norman Lane, 1919-2014 (paddler)	5th C-1 10,000m	See 1948 London	See 1948 London	See 1948 London	See 1948 London
1964 Tokyo	Fred Heese, b. 1943 (paddler)	7th C-2 1,000m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/fred-heese/	Resided at 106 Scarborough Road, 1990s Balmy Beach Club	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fred_Heese	Father of Mark Heese, Olympian in 1996, 2000, 2004
1964 Tokyo	Bruce Kidd b. 1943 (runner)	9th in heat 5,000m 26th 10,000m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/bruce-kidd/	Malvern Collegiate	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruce_Kidd	Lou Marsh Trophy, 1961 Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, 1966 Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame, 1966 (athlete), 1994 (builder) 100 most influential east enders. Beach

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						Metro News, 2000 Order of Canada, 2004
1964 Tokyo	Amy Marion Snider, b. 1942 (hurdler)	DNF 80m hurdles	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/amy-marion-snider/	Resided at 227 Beech Avenue, 1960s	https://theolympians.co/2015/06/24/thrills-and-spills-one-hurdle-too-high-for-marion-snider/	Born Marion Munroe Trained at East York Track Club with Bruce Kidd
1968 Winter Grenoble	Brian Glennie, 1946-2020 (ice hockey defenceman)	Bronze	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/brian-glennie/	Later lived at bottom of Beech Avenue	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brian_Glennie	
1968 Mexico City	Beverly Boys, b. 1951 (diver)	4th Platform 10m 7th Springboard 3m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/beverly-boys/	Trained at Donald D. Summerville pool	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beverly_Boys	Bobbie Rosenfeld Award, 1969, 1970
1968 Mexico City	Angela Coughlan, 1952-2009 (swimmer)	Bronze Freestyle Relay 4X100m 200m 7th 400m 6th 800m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/angela-coughlan/	Later resided in area and worked as a registered massage therapist at Kingston Road Therapeutics	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angela_Coughlan	Canadian Female Athlete of the Year, 1970. Order of Ontario, 1985
1968 Mexico City	Karl-Heinz Merschenz, b. 1936 (walker)	9th 50km 18th 20km	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/karl-heinz-merschenz/	Resided at 45 Leuty Avenue, 1990s	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karl-Heinz_Merschenz	
1968 Mexico City	Elaine Tanner b. 1951 (swimmer)	Silver Backstroke 100m Silver Backstroke 200m Bronze Freestyle Relay 4X100m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/elaine-tanner-watt/	Resided on Glen Manor Drive, south of Queen, 1990s	https://www.elainetanner.ca/	Nicknamed "Mighty Mouse" Order of Canada, 1966 Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, 1971

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1972 Munich	Beverly Boys, b. 1951 (diver)	14th Platform 10m 5th Springboard 3m	See 1968 Mexico City	See 1968 Mexico City	See 1968 Mexico City	
1972 Munich	Karl-Heinz Merschenz, b. 1936 (walker)	DNF 50km	See 1968 Mexico City	See 1968 Mexico City	See 1968 Mexico City	
1976 Montreal	Beverly Boys, b. 1951 (diver)	9th Springboard 3m	See 1968 Mexico City	See 1968 Mexico City	See 1968 Mexico City	
1976 Montreal	Sue (Bradley) Kameli, b. 1956 (hurdler)	DNF Hurdles 100m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/sue-kameli/	Malvern Collegiate	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sue_Kameli	
1976 Montreal	Jim McAndrew b. 1956 (long jumper)	22nd Long Jump	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/jim-mcandrew/	Malvern Collegiate	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_McAndrew_(athlete)	
1984 Los Angeles	Sue (Bradley) Kameli, b. 1956 (hurdler)	14th Hurdles 100m	See 1976 Montreal	See 1976 Montreal	See 1976 Montreal	
1984 Los Angeles	Paul Williams, b. 1956 (runner)	21st 10,000m 22nd 5,000m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/paul-williams/	Riverdale Collegiate Started "his career in the late 1960s as an age-class runner in the Beach community" Wikipedia	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Williams_(runner)	Grandson of John (Jack) Tait, Olympian in 1908 and 1912
1988 Seoul	Paul Williams, b. 1956 (runner)	DNF 10,000m 25th 5,000m	See above	See above	See above	See above
1992 Barcelona	Paul Williams, b. 1956 (runner)	30th 10,000m	See above	See above	See above	See above

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1994 Winter Lillehammer	Manny Legace b. 1973 (ice hockey goalie)	Silver	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ice_hockey_at_the_1994_Winter_Olympics	Corpus Christie Catholic School	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manny_Legace	Back-up goalie. Gold at 1993 World Junior.
1996 Atlanta	John Child b. 1967 (beach volleyball)	Bronze	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/john-child/	Trained and taught at Ashbridges Bay	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Child_(volleyball)	Competed with Mark Heese. Known as “the crazy defenders” Had played with Ed Drakich
1996 Atlanta	Ed Drakich, b. 1962 (beach volleyball)	17th	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/ed-drakich/	Resided on Silver Birch Avenue, 1990s Malvern Collegiate Balmy Beach Club		Later chair of AthletesCAN Beach High Performance Director of Volleyball Canada
1996 Atlanta	Mark Heese, b. 1969 (beach volleyball)	Bronze	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/mark-heese/	Resided on Scarborough Road, 1990s Balmy Beach Club Malvern Collegiate	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Heese	Competed with John Child, known as “the crazy defenders” Son of Fred Heese, Olympian in 1964
1996 Atlanta	Liam Jewell, b. 1968 (kayaker)	7th K-4 1,000m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/liam-jewell/	Balmy Beach Club	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liam_Jewell	K-4 1,000 2:56.664 Also at West Rouge Canoe Club
2000 Sydney	John Child b. 1967 (beach volleyball)	5th	See 1996 Atlanta	See 1996 Atlanta	See 1996 Atlanta	Competed with Mark Heese
2000 Sydney	Mark Heese, b. 1969 (beach volleyball)	5th	See 1996 Atlanta	See 1996 Atlanta	See 1996 Atlanta	Competed with John Child
2004	John Child b.	5th	See 1996 Atlanta	See 1996 Atlanta	See 1996 Atlanta	Competed with

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Athens	1967 (beach volleyball)					Mark Heese
2004 Athens	Mark Heese, b. 1969 (beach volleyball)	5th	See 1996 Atlanta	See 1996 Atlanta	See 1996 Atlanta	Competed with John Child
2008 Beijing	Victoria Nolan (rower)	6th PR3 Mixed Coxed Fours	https://paralympic.ca/team-canada/victoria-nolan	Teacher at Gledhill Junior Public School	https://canadianathletesnow.ca/athletes/victoria-nolan/	
2012 London	Aaron Brown, b. 1992 (runner)	9th 200m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/aaron-brown/	Bowmore Road Public School	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aaron_Brown_(sprinter)	
2012 London	Victoria Nolan (rower)	7th PR3 Mixed Coxed Fours	https://paralympic.ca/team-canada/victoria-nolan	See 2008 Beijing	See 2008 Beijing	
2016 Rio	Javier Acevedo, b. 1998 (swimmer)	17th 100m Backstroke 16th 4x100m medley	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/javier-acevedo/	Neil McNeil High School	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Javier_Acevedo	
2016 Rio	Aaron Brown, b. 1992 (runner)	Bronze Relay 4x100m 16th 200m 31st 100m	See 2012 London	See 2012 London	See 2012 London	
2016 Rio	Kathleen (K. C.) Fraser, b. 1986 (kayaker)	13th K-2 500m 8th K-4 500m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/kathleen-fraser/	Trained at Balmy Beach Club for seven years	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kathleen_Fraser_(kayaker)	Competed with Genevieve Orton
2016 Rio	Penny Oleksiak, b. 2000 (swimmer)	Gold 100m Freestyle 52.70 OR Silver 100m Butterfly Bronze Freestyle	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/penny-oleksiak/	Kew Beach Public School, Glen Ames Senior Public School and Monarch Park Collegiate	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penny_Oleksiak	2016 Lou Marsh Trophy as Canada's top athlete and Bobbie Rosenfeld Award as Canada's

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		Relay 4x100m Bronze Freestyle Relay 4x200m 5th Medley Relay 4x100m				top female athlete
2016 Rio	Victoria Nolan (rower)	Bronze PR3 Mixed Coxed Fours	https://paralympic.ca/team-canada/victoria-nolan	Co-Grand Marshall Beaches Easter Parade 2017	See 2008 Beijing	Received Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal from local MP 2017
2016 Rio	Erica Scarf, b. 1996 (kayaker)	7th KL3 200m	https://paralympic.ca/team-canada/erica-scarff	Balmy Beach Club	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erica_Scarff	
2016 Rio	Kristina Valjas b.1987 (beach volleyball)	9th Beach Volleyball	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/kristina-valjas/	Trained at Ashbridges Bay	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kristina_May	Married to coach John May
2020 (2021) Tokyo	Javier Acevedo, b. 1998 (swimmer)	DNA Mixed 4x100 medley relay	See 2012 London	See 2012 London	See 2012 London	
2020 (2021) Tokyo	Emily Armstrong, b. 2000 (artistic swimmer)	6th women's team	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/emily-armstrong/	Blantyre Public School, Malvern Collegiate	https://beachmetro.com/2021/07/26/local-resident-emily-armstrong-to-compete-for-canada-in-team-artistic-swimming-events-at-tokyo-olympic-games/	
2020 (2021) Tokyo	Aaron Brown, b. 1992 (runner)	6th 200m Bronze Relay 4x100m	See 2012 London	See 2012 London	See 2012 London	Co-captain of track squad
2020 (2021) Tokyo	Sarah Douglas, b. 1994	6th laser radical sailing	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/sarah-	Ashbridges Bay Yacht Club	https://www.sarahdouglassailing.com/about	Won Ashbridge Trophy 2016, 18, 19.

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	(sailing)		douglas/			Also coached youth at Ashbridges Bay
2020 (2021) Tokyo	Melissa Humana-Paredes, b. 1992 (beach volleyball)	Quarter-finals	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/melissa-humana-paredes/	Trained at Ashbridges Bay, won 2008 Canadian Championship there	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melissa_Humana-Paredes	Competed with Sarah Pavan Daughter of Hernán Humaña, coach of John Child & Mark Heese, 1996 Olympics
2020 (2021) Tokyo	Nicholas Matveev, b. 1997 (kayaker)	Semi K-1 200m 10th K-4 500m	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/nicholas-matveev/	Balmy Beach Club	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicholas_Matveev	
2020 (2021) Tokyo	Andrea Nelson, b. 1991 (kayaker)	8th KL2 200m	https://paralympic.ca/team-canada/andrea-nelson	Balmy Beach Club	https://beachmetro.com/2021/07/23/balmy-beach-canoe-club-sends-support-to-local-athletes-as-tokyo-olympics-officially-open-today/	
2020 (2021) Tokyo	Penny Oleksiak, b. 2000 (swimmer)	Silver Freestyle Relay 4x100m Bronze 200m Freestyle 4th 100m Freestyle Bronze Medley Relay 4x100m 4th Freestyle Relay 4x200m	See 2016 Rio	See 2016 Rio	See 2016 Rio	Canada's all-time most decorated summer Olympian, 2021
2020 (2021)	Courtney Stott,		https://olympic.ca/team	Balmy Beach Club		

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Tokyo	b. 1992 (kayaker)		m-canada/courtney-stott/			
2022 winter Beijing	Jack McBain, b. 2000 (ice hockey)	Quarter-finals	https://olympic.ca/team-canada/jack-mcbain/	Malvern Collegiate	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_McBain	