

OLYMPIC GAMES – THE BELGIUM NATIONAL TEAMS SINCE 1900

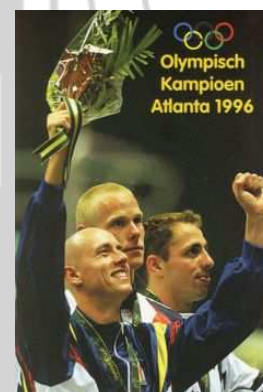
Edition	City	SWI	SY	WP	DIV	OW	Edition	City	SWI	SY	DIV	OW
1900	Paris	1		Men			1980	Moscou	7			
1908	London	9		Men			1984	Los Angeles	6	1		
1912	Stockholm	4		Men			1988	Seoul	8	1		
1920	Antwerp	16		Men			1992	Barcelona	7		1	
1924	Paris	8		Men			1996	Atlanta	4			
1928	Amsterdam	6		Men			2000	Sydney	9			
1936	Berlin	0		Men			2004	Athene	0			
1948	London	6		Men			2008	Beijing	6			1
1952	Helsinki	10		Men			2012	London	12			1
1956	Melbourne	6					2016	Rio de Janeiro	10			
1960	Rome	3		Men			2020	Tokyo				
1964	Tokyo	2		Men			2024	Paris				
1968	Mexico	6					2028	Los Angeles				
1972	Munchen	4					2032					
1976	Montréal	10					2036					

The first Olympic swimming medal for Belgium was won by Gérard Blitz. He was a bronze medallist on the 100m backstroke in the 1920 Olympics in his hometown Antwerp. Joseph De Combe was a silver medallist on the 200m breaststroke in 1924 in Paris. In the first 3 decades of the 20th century the Men's National Waterpolo Team won several medals, but unfortunately they never obtained the title of Olympic champion.

In swimming, we had to wait until 1984 (Los Angeles) for the next medal. Belgian youngster Ingrid Lempereur was a bronze medallist on the 200m breaststroke and she was the first and only Belgian woman to win an Olympic swimming medal so far.

And, who can forget the first Belgian gold medallist of Atlanta (1996)? Frederik De Burghgraeve won the gold medal on the 100m breaststroke. Until today he remains the only Belgian Olympic swimming champion...

Eventually, Belgium had to wait 20 years until Pieter Timmers displayed his "performance of a lifetime" to grab the silver medal in the 100m freestyle final in the Rio De Janeiro Olympics 2016.



The Belgian Olympic Medal Winners:

Gold Medal:

1996 **Atlanta** **Frederik DEBURGHGRAEVE** **100 M Breaststroke**

Silver Medal:

1900	Paris	BEL Team Men	Waterpolo
1908	London	BEL Team Men	Waterpolo
1920	Antwerp	BEL Team Men	Waterpolo
1924	Paris	Joseph De Combe	200 M Breaststroke
1924	Paris	BEL Team Men	Waterpolo
2016	Rio de Janeiro	Pieter TIMMERS	100 M Free

Bronze Medal:

1912	Stockholm	BEL Team Men	Waterpolo
1920	Antwerp	Gerard BLITZ	100 M Backstroke
1936	Berlin	BEL Team Men	Waterpolo
1984	Los Angeles	Ingrid LEMPEREUR	200 M Breaststroke

FINA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS – THE BELGIUM NATIONAL TEAMS SINCE 1973

Edition	City	SWI	WP	DIV	OW	Edition	City	SWI	WP	DIV	OW
1973	Belgrado	2				2005	Montréal	1			
1975	Cali	1				2007	Melbourne	9			1
1978	Berlin	6				2009	Roma	19			2
1982	Guayaquil	2				2011	Shanghai	10			2
1986	Madrid	5	Women	1		2013	Barcelona	11			1
1991	Perth	9				2015	Kazan	10			1
1994	Rome	5		1	1	2017	Budapest	3			1
1998	Perth	10				2019	Gwangju	11			1
2001	Fukuoka	4				2021	Fukuoka				
2003	Barcelona	5			1	2023	Doha				

During the FINA World Championships, these are the most important Belgian achievements:

- ✓ Frederik De Burghgraeve is once more the only Belgian swimmer to have won a gold medal (100m breaststroke in 1998).
- ✓ Four years before, he already was the bronze medallist on the 100m breaststroke at the World Championships Rome 1994.
- ✓ Brigitte Becue also won the bronze medal on the 200m breaststroke at the same World Championships in 1994.
- ✓ In recent history there was Brian Ryckeman with a fabulous silver medal in the 25km Open Water event at the Barcelona 2013 World Championships.



The Belgian Medal Winners (1973 – 2019):

Gold Medal:

1998 Perth **Frederik DEBURGHGRAEVE** **100 M Breaststroke**

Silver Medal:

2013 Barcelona Brian RYCKEMAN 25KM Open Water

Bronze Medal:

1994 Rome Frederik DEBURGHGRAEVE 100 M Breaststroke
1994 Rome Brigitte BECUE 200 M Breaststroke



Les finalistes / De finalisten (TOP 8):

SWIMMING:

5 th place	1994	Rome	Brigitte Becue	100 M Breaststroke
6 th place	1986	Madrid	Ingrid Lempereur	100 M Breaststroke
6 th place	2015	Kazan	Relay MEN	4x200 M Free Style
7 th place	1986	Madrid	Ingrid Lempereur	200 M Breaststroke
7 th place	1998	Perth	Brigitte Becue	200 M Breaststroke
7 th place	2013	Barcelona	Relay MEN	4x200 M Free Style
7 th place	2015	Kazan	Louis Croenen	200 M Butterfly
7 th place	2015	Kazan	Pieter Timmers	100 M Free Style
7 th place	2017	Budapest	Kimberly Buys	50 M Butterfly
7 th place	2019	Gwangju	Fanny Lecluyse	200 M Breaststroke
8 th place	1978	Berlin	Carine Verbauwen	100 M Backstroke
8 th place	1982	Guayaquil	Yolande Van der Straeten	100 M Backstroke
8 th place	1991	Perth	Sandra Cam	400 M Free Style
8 th place	1998	Perth	Brigitte Becue	100 M Breaststroke
DSQ	1998	Perth	Relay WOMEN	4x100M Medley

OPEN WATER:

4 th place	2009	Rome	Brian Ryckeman	25KM
5 th place	2009	Rome	Brian Ryckeman	10KM
6 th place	2007	Melbourne	Brian Ryckeman	10KM
7 th place	2011	Shanghai	Brian Ryckeman	10KM

FINA WORLD SHORT COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS – THE BELGIUM NATIONAL SWIMMERS SINCE 1993

Edition	City	Swimming
1993	Palma de Mallorca (ESP)	3
1995	Rio de Janeiro (BRA)	1
1997	Göteborg (SWE)	0
1999	Hong Kong (HKG)	3
2000	Athene (GRE)	1
2002	Moscow (RUS)	4
2004	Indianapolis (USA)	0
2006	Shanghai (CHN)	1
2008	Manchester (GBR)	2
2010	Dubai (UAE)	4
2012	Istanbul (TUR)	1
2014	Doha (QAT)	8
2016	Windsor (CAN)	9
2018	Hangzhou (CHN)	2
2020	Abu Dhabi (UAE)	
2022	Kazan (RUS)	
2024	Budapest (HUN)	

Since 1993 only a few number of Belgian swimmers took part in these FINA World Short Course Swimming Championships, particularly when colliding with the LEN European Short Course Swimming Championships. So far, the only 2 Belgian participants who could take a medal at these international swimming competitions were Stefaan MAENE (bronze medal) at the very 1st edition in 1993 and Fanny LECLUYSE (also bronze medal) at the most recent edition in 2018.

Below there is also an overview of the finals (World TOP 8) reached by our Belgian swimmers.

The Belgian Medal Winners (1993 – 2018):

Bronze Medal:

1993	Palma de Mallorca	Stefaan MAENE	200 M Backstroke
2018	Hangzhou	Fanny LECLUYSE	200 M Breaststroke

Les finalistes / De finalisten (TOP 8):

SWIMMING:

4 th place 1993	Palma de Mallorca	Brigitte Becue	200 M Breaststroke
4 th place 2014	Doha	Relay MEN	4x50 M Freestyle
5 th place 1999	Hong Kong	Brigitte Becue	100 M Breaststroke
5 th place 2014	Doha	Relay MEN	4x200 M Freestyle
6 th place 1993	Palma de Mallorca	Brigitte Becue	100 M Breaststroke
6 th place 2014	Doha	Relay MEN	4x100 M Freestyle
6 th place 2014	Doha	Pieter Timmers	100 M Freestyle
6 th place 2016	Windsor	Fanny Lecluyse	200 M Breaststroke
7 th place 1999	Hong Kong	Brigitte Becue	200 M Breaststroke
7 th place 2014	Doha	Kimberly Buys	100 M Butterfly
7 th place 2018	Hangzhou	Fanny Lecluyse	50 M Breaststroke
7 th place 2018	Hangzhou	Fanny Lecluyse	100 M Breaststroke
8 th place 2014	Doha	François Heersbrandt	50 M Butterfly
8 th place 2014	Doha	Fanny Lecluyse	100 M Breaststroke
8 th place 2016	Windsor	Fanny Lecluyse	50 M Breaststroke
8 th place 2016	Windsor	Relay MEN	4x200 M Freestyle

FINA YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS – THE BELGIUM NATIONAL SWIMMERS SINCE 2006

Edition	City	Swimming
2006	Rio de Janeiro	1
2008	Monterrey	0
2011	Lima	0
2013	Dubai	0
2015	Singapore	4
2017	Indianapolis	2
2019	Budapest	0
2021		

At the 1st edition of these new FINA Youth World Championships, Yoris GRANDJEAN realised some very amazing achievements by winning 2 gold medals (50 & 100m Freestyle) and 1 silver medal (200m Freestyle). A new Belgian World Champion! Unfortunately there were no other Belgian participants at the next editions of these Youth World Championships until 2015. Since then our Belgian swimmers did not manage to qualify for a TOP8-final.

The Belgian Medal Winners (2006 – 2019):

Gold Medal:

2006	Rio de Janeiro	Yoris GRANDJEAN	100 M Freestyle
2006	Rio de Janeiro	Yoris GRANDJEAN	50 M Freestyle

Silver Medal:

2006	Rio de Janeiro	Yoris GRANDJEAN	200 M Freestyle
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LEN EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS – THE BELGIUM NATIONAL TEAM SINCE 1987

Edition	City	Swimming	Synchro	Waterpolo	Diving	Open Water
1987	Strasbourg	18	1	Women	1	
1989	Bonn	13		Women		1
1991	Athene	10			1	
1993	Sheffield	7			1	
1995	Vienna	10	1		1	
1997	Sevilla	8	1			1
1999	Istanbul	15	1			1
2000	Helsinki	16				2
2002	Berlin	7			1	2
2004	Madrid	14				1
2006	Budapest	14				1
2008	Eindhoven	14				
2010	Budapest	15				3
2012	Debrecen	14				1
2014	Berlin	15				
2016	London	18				
2018	Glasgow	16				1
2020	Budapest					
2022	Rome					

The first Belgian gold medal winner ever was Raymonda Vergauwen (200m breaststroke) in Vienna 1950.

Then again, Belgium had to wait until 1993 to see Brigitte Becue becoming European Champion on the 200m breaststroke at the European Championships in Sheffield. Apparently Vienna was an excellent city for Belgian swimmers to perform, since without any doubt the European Championships of 1995 in the Prater-stadium were the most successful in Belgian swimming history: Frederik De Burghgraeve (100m breaststroke) and Brigitte Becue (100m and 200m breaststroke) became European Champions. "Fredje" also was bronze medallist on the 200m breaststroke during these same Championships. Brigitte won silver on the 200m individual medley as well and Stefaan Maene won his only European medal ever (bronze on the 100m backstroke).

Belgian swimmers have been quite successful at European Championships during the editions of 1987-2000 by winning several silver and bronze medals. The most recent victory in 2011 was established by Brian RYCKEMAN who became European Champion 25KM Open Water. The big question now is who will be the next Belgian medal winner in an EC SWI Long Course since 2010...?

And the answer is...the 4x200m Men's Relay Team that won the Bronze medal at the EC Berlin 2014 after a very exciting race!

Only 2 years later at the EC London 2016 the relay team Men added another 2 medals to this table: 1 silver and 1 bronze!

During the 1st edition of the European Championships in Glasgow Kimberly BUYS finally got what she deserved after all those years: bronze medal in the 50M butterfly.

The Belgian EC-Medal Winners:

Gold Medal:

1950	Vienna	Raymonda VERGAUWEN	200 M Breaststroke
1993	Sheffield	Brigitte BECUE	200 M Breaststroke
1995	Vienna	Brigitte BECUE	100 M & 200 M Breaststroke
1995	Vienna	Frederik DEBURGHGRAEVE	100 M Breaststroke
2011	Eilat	Brian RYCKEMAN	25KM Open Water

Silver Medal:

1926	Budapest	Louis VAN PARIJS	200 M Breaststroke
1987	Strasbourg	Ingrid LEMPEREUR	200 M Breaststroke
1989	Bonn	Brigitte BECUE	200 M Breaststroke
1995	Vienna	Brigitte BECUE	200 M Individual Medley
2000	Helsinki	Women's Relay Team	4 x 100 M Medley
2016	London	Men's Relay Team	4 x 200 M Freestyle

Bronze Medal:

1938	London	Fernande CAROEN	400 M Freestyle
1947	Monte-Carlo	Fernande CAROEN	400 M Freestyle
1989	Starigrad	Annemie LANDMETERS	21 KM Open Water
1995	Vienna	Frederik DEBURGHGRAEVE	200 M Breaststroke
1995	Vienna	Stefaan MAENE	100 M Backstroke
1997	Sevilla	Brigitte BECUE	100 M & 200 M Breaststroke
1999	Istanbul	Brigitte BECUE	100 M Breaststroke
2000	Helsinki	Yseult GERVY	400 M Individual Medley

2000	Helsinki	Women's Relay Team	4 x 100 M Freestyle
2014	Berlin	Men's Relay Team	4 x 200 M Freestyle
2016	London	Men's Relay Team	4 x 100 M Freestyle
2018	Glasgow	Kimberly BUYS	50 M Butterfly

LEN EUROPEAN SHORT COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS – THE BELGIUM NATIONAL TEAM SINCE 1996

Edition	City	Swimming
1996	Rostock	2
1998	Sheffield	11
1999	Lissabon	8
2000	Valencia	6
2001	Antwerp	12
2002	Riesa	8
2003	Dublin	5
2004	Vienna	4
2005	Trieste	6
2006	Helsinki	8

2007	Debrecen	15
2008	Rijeka	13
2009	Istanbul	4
2010	Eindhoven	12
2011	Szczecin	8
2012	Chartres	18
2013	Herning	17
2015	Netanya	11
2017	Copenhagen	10
2019	Glasgow	4
2021	Kazan	

In the short history of European Championships Short Course it is also necessary to mention the 2 consecutive European titles of Brigitte Becue on the 100m breaststroke (1998 & 1999). In 1999 she also won the Bronze medal at the 200m Breaststroke.

Then, Belgium had to wait more than 10 years to obtain another medal at European Short Course Championships with a silver medal for Kimberly Buys (200m Individual Medley) at the Eindhoven 2010 European Short Course Champs. The next 2 years, Belgium had very successful European Championships by obtaining 3 Bronze medals (Fanny LECLUYSE, François HEERSBRANDT and Men's Relay Team 4x50m Free) in Szczecin - Poland 2011 and 2 Silver – 1 Bronze medals in Chartres – France 2012 (Pieter TIMMERS, Kimberly Buys and once more the Men's Relay Team 4x50m Free, which again won a 3rd consecutive Bronze medal at the 2013 Herning Championships and which established a World Record time during the heats (4x50m Free / 1.25.52)! In 2015 BELGIUM finally had a new European Champion, Fanny LECLUYSE!! Beside this, several other silver and bronze medals were collected by Pieter TIMMERS at this very successful event! At the 2017 edition in Copenhagen Pieter TIMMERS (silver) and Fanny LECLUYSE (bronze) were once more the proud of our nation.

The Belgian EC Short Course Medal Winners:

Gold Medal:

1998	Sheffield	Brigitte BECUE	100 M Breaststroke
1999	Lissabon	Brigitte BECUE	100 M Breaststroke
2015	Netanya	Fanny LECLUYSE	200 M Breaststroke

Silver Medal:

2010	Eindhoven	Kimberly BUYS	200 M Individual Medley
2012	Chartres	Kimberly BUYS	100 M Butterfly
2012	Chartres	Pieter TIMMERS	200 M Freestyle
2015	Netanya	Fanny LECLUYSE	50 M Breast
2015	Netanya	Pieter TIMMERS	200 M Freestyle
2015	Netanya	Pieter TIMMERS	100 M Freestyle
2017	Copenhagen	Pieter TIMMERS	100 M Freestyle

Bronze Medal:

1999	Lissabon	Brigitte BECUE	200 M Breaststroke
2011	Szczecin	Fanny LECLUYSE	200 M Breaststroke
2011	Szczecin	François HEERSBRANDT	100 M Butterfly
2011	Szczecin	Men's Relay Team	4 x 50 M Freestyle (F.HEERSBRANDT-L.CROENEN-E.VANLUCHENE-J.AERENTS)
2012	Chartres	Men's Relay Team	4 x 50 M Freestyle (E.VANLUCHENE-P.TIMMERS – Y. GRANDJEAN - J.AERENTS)
2013	Herning	Men's Relay Team	4x50M Freestyle (J.AERENTS–P.TIMMERS – F.HEERSBRANDT-Y. GRANDJEAN)
2015	Netanya	Glenn SURGELOOSE	200 M Freestyle
2017	Copenhagen	Fanny LECLUYSE	200 M Breaststroke

LEN EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS – THE BELGIUM NATIONAL SWIM TEAM SINCE 1967

Edition	City	Girls	Boys	Total\$
1967	Linköping	1	5	6
1969	Vienna	5	2	7
1971	Rotterdam	5	3	8
1973	Leeds	10	4	14
1975	Geneva	5	2	7
1976	Oslo	3	1	4
1978	Florence	3	2	5
1980	Skövde	2	0	2
1982	Innsbrück	3	1	4
1983	Mulhouse	5	2	7
1984	Luxemburg	2	2	4
1985	Geneva	3	0	3
1986	Berlin	8	4	12
1987	Rome	9	6	15
1988	Amersfoort	6	5	11
1989	Leeds	9	6	15
1990	Dunkerque	6	7	13
1991	Antwerp	5	4	9
1992	Leeds	6	5	11
1993	Istanbul	5	2	7
1994	Pardubice	4	2	6
1995	Geneva	6	5	11
1996	Copenhagen	5	5	10
1997	Glasgow	4	5	9
1998	Antwerp	6	3	9

Edition	City	Girls	Boys	Total\$
1999	Moscow	4	3	7
2000	Dunkerque	7	4	11
2001	Malta	8	6	14
2002	Linz	1	6	7
2003	Glasgow	5	4	9
2004	Lissabon	7	1	8
2005	Budapest	8	1	9
2006	Palma	5	3	8
2007	Antwerp	9	7	16
2008	Belgrado	10	6	16
2009	Prague	12	11	23
2010	Helsinki	3	9	12
2011	Belgrado	5	6	11
2012	Antwerp	5	3	8
2013	Poznan	3	4	7
2014	Dordrecht	1	9	10
2015	Baku (EOC Eur.Games)	2	8	10
2016	Hodmezovasarhely	8	4	12
2017	Netanya	7	2	9
2018	Helsinki	4	2	6
2019	Kazan	7	2	9
2020	Aberdeen	cancelled (COVID-19)		
2021				
2022				
2023				

\$ (for the period 1967-2000: total of individual swimmers, swimmers only for relay team are not included)

In the early years of the European Junior Championships there regularly were Belgian silver and bronze medal winners. In 1997 in Glasgow, Fabienne Dufour became the first Belgian swimmer to become European Champion on the 100m butterfly. But the last 6 years the Belgian Junior swimmers obtained quite some good results at the European Championships. In 2006 in Palma de Mallorca, Yoris Grandjean won gold on the 100m freestyle. One month later in Rio de Janeiro Yoris also became World Juniors Champion on the 50 and 100m freestyle.

At the following EC Junior in Antwerp 2007, one of the best Belgian national junior teams ever performed also in an excellent way. Yoris Grandjean renewed his European title on the 100m freestyle and the Antwerp youngster Elise Matthysen won the silver medal in the 50m breaststroke event in front of her home crowd. Back to Belgrado 2008: Jolien Sysmans was the most important star by winning both 50m and 100m freestyle events for Belgium. In 2017 Valentine DUMONT was outstanding during the EC JUNIOR event in Netanya. Of course we hope to see another Belgian Juniors very soon on the podium!



The Belgian EC JUNIOR Medal Winners:

Gold Medal:

1997	Glasgow	DUFOUR Fabienne	100 M Butterfly
2006	Palma de Mallorca	GRANDJEAN Yoris	100 M Freestyle
2007	Antwerp	GRANDJEAN Yoris	100 M Freestyle
2008	Belgrado	SYSMANS Jolien	50 M & 100 M Freestyle

Silver Medal:

1975	Geneva	VERBAUWEN Carine	800 M Freestyle
1976	Oslo	VERBAUWEN Carine	400 M & 800 M Freestyle
1980	Skövde	VANDERSTRAETEN Yolande	200 Backstroke
1985	Geneva	ARNOULD Isabelle	800 M Freestyle
1989	Leeds	GOOSSENS Nancy	200 M Breaststroke
1995	Geneva	TAFNIEZ Stéphanie	200 M Individual Medley
1997	Glasgow	DUFOUR Fabienne	100 M Freestyle
2005	Budapest	AERENTS Jorina	50 M Backstroke
2010	Helsinki	AERENTS Jasper	50 M Freestyle
2010	Helsinki	BAUWENS Ward	1500 M Freestyle
2017	Netanya	DUMONT Valentine	200 M Freestyle
2017	Netanya	Women's Relay Team	4 x 200 M Freestyle

Bronze Medal:

1978	Florence	VERBAUWEN Pascale	400 M Freestyle
1983	Mulhouse	LEMPEREUR Ingrid	200 M Breaststroke
1990	Dunkerque	DEBURGHGRAEVE Frederik	100 M & 200 M Breaststroke
1996	Copenhagen	JANSSEN Roel	200 M Individual Medley
1999	Moscow	VAN KOECKHOVEN Nina	100 M & 200 M Freestyle
2006	Palma de Mallorca	GRANDJEAN Yoris	50 M Freestyle
2007	Antwerp	MATTHYSEN Elise	50 M Breaststroke
2007	Antwerp	SURGELOOSE Glenn	200 M Freestyle
2007	Antwerp	Boys Relay Team	4 x 100 M Freestyle
2010	Helsinki	AERENTS Jasper	100 M Freestyle
2010	Helsinki	BAUWENS Ward	800 M Freestyle
2017	Netanya	DUMONT Valentine	200 M Freestyle
2017	Netanya	Women's Relay Team	4 x 100 M Freestyle

