

51 Years of Canadian Artistic Gymnastics Results at the Major FIG Competitions

by Hardy Fink – December 2006

Canada ends 2006 with an all-time total of 15 medals won at official FIG World Level competitions; and significantly, four of them were won this year making it the most successful year ever for Canadian gymnastics. The women ended a 21 year medal drought when Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs won the first ever World Championships medal for the women's program. Our gymnasts had qualified for six finals at major FIG events and medaled four times. Only in 1992 did we also have six finalists, but that resulted in only one medal. The men's program broke into "world status" by placing sixth as a team (qualified in fifth), 9th all-around by Adam Wong (Canada's best ever placing at a World Championships) and winning three world level medals (2 by Kyle Shewfelt and 1 by Brandon O'Neill), also the best ever in one year.

Canada first competed at a world level FIG competition in 1956 in Melbourne when it attended with only one male gymnast (Ed Gagnier) and one female gymnast (Ernestine Russell). The intervening 51 year period saw exactly 52 major FIG competitions of which Canada participated in 47 (12 of 13 Olympic Games, all 26 World Championships, 9 of 12 World Cup Finals).

The 2003 World Championships which resulted in Canada's double team qualification for the 2004 Olympics Games and the double medal wins by Kyle Shewfelt had many Canadians sending me questions related to the comparison of these outstanding results with past performances. I have been involved in one way or another with all of our Olympic qualification efforts since 1968 and with the FIG since 1974, so in this summary I have tried to provide some answers and information for all rather than for one at a time. Most of that information below remains as I wrote it in 1993 after the Anaheim World Championships. However, I added an overview table of Canadian successes and I updated the information to include additional results and information right up to the end of 2006.

Before 2003, the men's and women's teams qualified together for the Olympic Games only in 1979; unfortunately, it was for the Games that were to be boycotted by Canada in its political acquiescence to the wishes of US President Carter. Olympic qualification was not necessary before 1976 but Canada (COA and/or CGF) chose never to send a full team before. Canada was lucky to participate with two full teams in 1984 and in 1988 due to political boycotts. Neither team was able to qualify for the 1996 Games – the only time this has happened. We were one of only eight nations to qualify both teams for the 2004 Olympic Games.

No Canadian gymnast before Kyle Shewfelt in 2003 had ever won two medals at a single FIG competition, let alone a World Championship and certainly before 2004 no Canadian had ever won an Olympic gold medal in artistic gymnastics. By 2003, Kyle Shewfelt had become the most successful Canadian world level medalist and that accomplishment continues to the end of 2006; now with seven medals (in 10 finals appearances) compared with Curtis Hibbert (2 in 10 appearances), Alexander Jeltkov (2 in 5 appearances), Brandon O'Neill (2 in 4 appearances), Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs (1 in 2 appearances) and Elfi Schlegel (1 in 1 appearance). Kyle has had four World Championship, two Olympic, and four World Cup Final top-8 placings for a total of ten at world level competitions. Curtis Hibbert had five World Championship, three Olympic, and two World Cup Final top-8 placings for a total of ten on four apparatus at world level competitions. Stella Umeh had three World Championship top-8 placings and Alexander Jeltkov had two at World Championships and a total of five at world level competitions.

At the 1992 World Championships the combined Canadian contingent had a total of six finalist positions; four for men and two for women. This has not happened at any other World Championships. The second best World Championships was 2003 when the men had three finalist positions.

We have had three Olympic finalists on two occasions – 1988 (all Curtis Hibbert) and 2004 (Kyle Shewfelt (2) and Kate Richardson (1)). The summary chart shows that we have also frequently had the first reserve for finals. (This 1st reserve information might not be complete.)

Kylie Stone's 14th all-around placing in 2003 is the best ever for a Canadian woman at a World Championship. Lori Strong placed 15th in 1987 and Stella Umeh placed 15th in 1993. The best Olympic all-around result was Bonnie Wittmeier's 13th in 1984 and the best World Cup all-around result was Karen Kelsall's 10th in 1978.

Adam Wong with a 9th all-around placing at the 2006 World Championships finally surpassed the 17 year old standard set by Philippe Delesalle who placed 12th all-around at the 1979 World Championships. The best Olympic result was Philippe Chartrand's 18th in 1984 and the best World Cup all-around result was Philippe Delesalle's 8th in 1977. The last World Cup Final for all-around gymnasts was in 1990 where Curtis Hibbert placed 10th; the World Cup resumed in 1998 but for single event gymnasts who had to qualify in a World Cup circuit.

High Level Canadian Results at Major FIG Championships – Olympic Games, World Championships, World Cup Finals

Competition	Location	Canadian Men's High Level Results			Canadian Women's High Level Results		
		Team – top 12	All-around – top 16	Apparatus – top 8	Team – top 12	All-around – top 16	Apparatus – top 8
1974 World Championships	Varna BUL				11		
1976 Olympic Games	Montreal CAN				9		
1977 World Cup	Oviedo ESP		Philippe Delesalle 8	<i>Philippe Delesalle PH 1st reserve</i> Philippe Delesalle PB 4 Philippe Delesalle HB 4			
1978 World Championships	Strasbourg FRA				8		
1978 World Cup	Sao Paulo BRA					Karen Kelsall 10	Karen Kelsall UB 8 Karen Kelsall FX 7
1979 World Championships	Fort Worth USA	11	Philippe Delesalle 12		10		
1980 World Cup	Toronto CAN		Warren Long 14	Warren Long FX 6 Warren Long V 5			Elfie Schlegel V 3
1981 World Championships	Moscow URS				10		
1983 World Championships	Budapest HUN				10		
1984 Olympic Games	Los Angeles USA	7		Warren Long V 7	5	Bonnie Wittmeier 13	Kelly Brown V 6
1985 World Championships	Montreal CAN	11	Brad Peters 14		9		
1986 World Cup	Beijing CHN		Brad Peters 12	Brad Peters PB 6 Brad Peters HB 7			
1987 World Championships	Rotterdam NED			Curtis Hibbert HB 2	8	Lori Strong 15	
1988 Olympic Games	Seoul KOR	9		Curtis Hibbert FX 8 Curtis Hibbert PB 6 Curtis Hibbert HB 7	11		
1989 World Championships	Stuttgart GER			<i>Alan Nolet PB 1st reserve</i> Curtis Hibbert HB 5	6		Larissa Lowing V 8
1990 World Cup	Brussels BEL		Curtis Hibbert 10	Curtis Hibbert PB 8 Curtis Hibbert HB 7		Leah Homma 16	
1991 World Championships	Indianapolis USA			Mike Inglis V 5	12		
1992 World Championships	Paris FRA			Curtis Hibbert V 3 Curtis Hibbert PB 7 Curtis Hibbert HB 6 Rob Doyle HB 7			Stella Umeh V 8 Stella Umeh BB 5 <i>Stella Umeh FX 1st reserve</i>
1992 Olympic Games	Barcelona ESP				10	Stella Umeh 16	
1993 World Championships	Birmingham GBR					Stella Umeh 15	Stella Umeh FX 8
1994 World Championships	Dortmund GER				10		
1996 World Championships	San Juan PUR			Richard Ikeda HB 8			
1997 World Championships	Lausanne SUI				8		
1999 World Championships	Tianjin CHN			Alexander Jeltkov HB 2	10		Yvonne Tousek FX 8
2000 Olympic Games	Sidney AUS				9	Kate Richardson 15	
2000 World Cup Final	Glasgow GBR			Kyle Shewfelt FX 2 Alexander Jeltkov HB 3 Alexander Jeltkov FX 8			
2001 World Championships	Ghent BEL	12			10	Kate Richardson 16	
2002 World Championships	Debrecen HUN			Kyle Shewfelt V 4			
2002 World Cup Final	Stuttgart GER			Kyle Shewfelt FX 2 Kyle Shewfelt V 5 Alexander Jeltkov HB 5			

2003 World Championships	Anaheim USA	9		Kyle Shewfelt FX 3 Kyle Shewfelt V 3 Alexander Jeltkov HB 6	11	Kylie Stone 14	
2004 Olympic Games	Athens GRE	11		Kyle Shewfelt FX 1 Kyle Shewfelt V 4	10		Kate Richardson FX 8
2004 World Cup Final	Birmingham GBR			Brandon O'Neill FX 4			
2005 World Championships	Melbourne AUS			Brandon O'Neill FX 2			Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs UB 1 st res.
2006 World Championships	Aarhus DEN	6	Adam Wong 9	Kyle Shewfelt FX 3		Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs 16	Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs BB 3
2006 World Cup Final	Sao Paulo BRA			Kyle Shewfelt FX 2 Brandon O'Neill FX 3 Brandon O'Neill V 7			Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs BB 5

For the following chart, I have listed the significant results with much more detail for all major world-level FIG Competitions (World Championships, Olympic Games and World Cup Finals) since Canada first participated in 1956. The evidence of some Canadian participation at the beginning of the 20th century is so confused that I haven't bothered to include it.

Many of the results cannot be understood without knowledge of the evolving rules and other changes in competition format. I have tried to add some of this information where I thought it might be enlightening or interesting. Lots more could be said about every rule change, every result and every person mentioned, but that will have to wait for another day. Noteworthy is Canada's influence in much of the sport's evolution.

A Summary of Best Canadian Artistic Gymnastics Results at the Major FIG Competitions since 1956

Prepared by Hardy Fink – December 2006

Competition Information <small>(Total # of participants are presented in brackets)</small>		Results for Canadian Men			Results for Canadian Women		
		Team Rank	Best All Around Rank	Top 8 Apparatus Rank	Team Rank	Best All Around Rank	Top 8 Apparatus Rank
1956 Olympic Games	Melbourne AUS	na (7)	Ed Gagnier 49 (63)		na (9)	Ernestine Russel 56 (65)	
This was the last time a women's group floor exercise was held. It eventually became Rhythmic Gymnastics which held its first World Championship in 1963.							
1958 World Champs.	Moscow URS	na (15)	-		na (13)	Ernestine Russel 60 (88)	
1960 Olympic Games	Rome ITA	na (20)	Richard Montpetit 85 (130)		na (17)	Ernestine Russel 76 (124)	
1962 World Champs.	Prague TCH	18 (20)	Richard Montpetit 100 (132)		16 (17)	Gail Daley 91 (116)	
Canada sent teams for the first time. Gail Daley became the first Canadian to earn an FIG pin for earning a 9-point average.							
1964 Olympic Games	Tokyo JPN	na (18)	Richard Kihn 82 (130)		na (10)	Gail Daley 55 (86)	
1966 World Champs.	Dortmund FRG	18 (20)	Wilhelm Weiler 77 (143)		15 (22)	Sandra Hartley 71 (156)	
1968 Olympic Games	Mexico City MEX	16 (16)	Gilbert Larose 65 (117)		11 (14)	Jennifer Diachun 51 (101)	
Canada sent two teams but for internal political reasons that still irk me, chose to send only five men. In those days six competed and five scores counted (6-6-5 format).							
1970 World Champs.	Ljubljana YUG	19 (22)	Andre Simard 80 (154)		13 (21)	Jennifer Diachun 41 (137)	
1972 Olympic Games	Munich FRG	na (16)	Steve Mitruk 97 (113)		11 (19)	Jennifer Diachun 50 (118)	
An all-around final of the top 36 was held for the first time, but there was no restriction as to numbers per nation. All 6 Japanese men qualified – all placed in the top 11.							
1974 World Champs.	Varna BUL	17 (18)	Bruce Medd 87 (126)		11 (22)	Nancy McDonnell 54 (148)	
1975 World Cup	London GBR	--	na (12)		--	na (10)	
The USGF hosted an event they called the World Cup in Miami in 1971. The FIG then decided to adopt this concept and held its first such competition in 1975. The best all-around gymnasts were invited by the FIG to the first eight such optional-only competitions (12 in 1975 and 18 plus, variously, one or two from the host country in the next seven). These World Cups were held in 1975, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1982, 1986, and 1990 (note the evolution to the non-Olympic even years). A rudimentary qualification competition system was used for the 1990 World Cup. These competitions used six apparatus finalists in 1975 and eight in all subsequent years.							
The FIG Congress in 1990 decided on annual World Championships of different formats and the World Cup disappeared for eight years. In 1998 a World Cup series for single apparatus was introduced (taken from the example of the European Grand Prix System). The World Cup Final is now held every two years for the best eight gymnasts on the ranking list but after 2004, qualification							

will probably be through Continental Unions.

1976 Olympic Games	Montreal CAN	na (12)	Philippe Delesalle 22 (90)		9 (12)	Karen Kelsall 27 (86)	
<p>For the first time, only 12 teams were permitted into the Olympic Games. All countries had to go through a complex qualification system of dual meets and the results were accumulated and compared. The system became so corrupt, that at the behest of a Canadian contingent (Lou Lefaive (Sport Canada), Bryce Taylor, Carol Anne Letheren, and Hardy Fink), the FIG abandoned the system and agreed to count only 40% of the qualification system points towards Olympic Qualification. The other 60% would come from all country Olympic Qualification competitions in Hamburg GER for women and in Wiesbaden GER for men, both held in May 1976. The top six teams from Varna were automatically qualified. The Canadian women placed 3rd from among the rest and essentially qualified for the Olympic Games in 9th place. The Canadian men placed 6th but by the next morning, the result had been changed to 8th putting Poland and Italy marginally ahead and leaving Canada's men's team out of its own Olympics. Somehow these countries managed to be allocated some more points to contribute to the 40% earned at earlier competitions.</p> <p>For the first time also, only the top three per country could enter the All-around Final and the top two per country, the Apparatus Finals. This was to prove a huge incentive for world-wide participation and success. As late as 1972 for example, five Japanese men competed in the high bar final. In 1974 all but two women's apparatus finalists were from the Soviet Union and East Germany.</p>							
1977 World Cup	Oviedo ESP	--	Philippe Delesalle 8 (18)	Philippe Delesalle PB-4 th Philippe Delesalle HB-4 th <i>Philippe Delesalle PH 1st reserve</i>	--	na (17)	
1978 World Champs.	Strasbourg FRA	14 (22)	Warren Long 28 (147)		8 (22)	Karen Kelsall 17 (145)	
<p>Following the example of the 1977 World Cup, eight finalists per apparatus was introduced as the standard. This change could not be included in the Olympic Games until 1984.</p>							
1978 World Cup	Sao Paulo BRA	--	na (19)		--	Karen Kelsall 10 (16)	Karen Kelsall UB-8 th Karen Kelsall FX-7 th
1979 World Cup	Tokyo JPN	--	na (19)		--	na (16)	
<p>Because Philippe Delesalle did not compete in the 1978 World Championships due to illness, he was not eligible to be invited to the 1978 or 1979 World Cups.</p>							
1979 World Champs.	Fort Worth USA	11 (23)	Philippe Delesalle 12 (151)		10 (26)	Elfi Schlegel 20 (164)	
<p>Up until 1978, World Championships were held every four years. This Championship began the new cycle of every odd year so as not to interfere with the Olympic Year. It was also the first World Championship to serve as Olympic Qualification. And in that year, Canada qualified both its men's and women's teams for the 1980 Olympic Games.</p> <p>Philippe Delesalle placed 4th in the All Around Final with an incredible 58.65 (9.775 average), but in those days the preliminary compulsory and optional scores were carried forward. The subsequent Olympic boycott ended his career at age 21. He competed at one Olympic Games, one World Cup and one World Championship, yet experts from around the world still ask me about him and how he trained.</p>							
1980 Olympic Games	Moscow URS	na (9)	na (65)		na (8)	na (62)	
<p>These Olympic Games were boycotted by many western countries at the instigation of the USA.</p>							
1980 World Cup	Toronto CAN	--	Warren Long 14 (20)	Warren Long FX-6 th Warren Long V-5 th	--	Monica Goermann 17 (20)	Elfi Schlegel V-3rd
<p>Elfi Schlegel became the first Canadian to win a World level gymnastics medal.</p>							
1981 World Champs.	Moscow URS	14 (27)	Warren Long 22 (171)		10 (19)	Elfi Schlegel 30 (135)	
1982 World Cup	Zagreb YUG		na (20)			na (17)	
1983 World Champs	Budapest HUN	15 (26)	Danny Gaudet 69 (175)		10 (28)	Bonnie Wittmeier 25 (176)	
1984 Olympic Games	Los Angeles USA	7 (9)	Philippe Chartrand 18 (71)	Warren Long V-7 th	5 (9)	Bonnie Wittmeier 13 (65)	Kelly Brown V-6 th
<p>These Games were boycotted by many Soviet Bloc countries, but not Romania. Eight finalists per apparatus was introduced at the Olympic Games for the first time. Rhythmic Gymnastics- all-around only - became part of the Olympics for the first time (notwithstanding the fact that a group FX routine was part of women's gymnastics in 1956). Lori Fung of Canada won the gold medal.</p>							
1985 World Champs.	Montreal CAN	11 (21)	Brad Peters 14 (147) Philippe Chartrand 19 (147)		9 (23)	Christina McDonald 26 (158)	
1986 World Cup	Beijing CHN	--	Brad Peters 12 (17)	Brad Peters PB-6 th Brad Peters HB-7 th	--	na (14)	
1987 World Champs	Rotterdam NED	14 (27)	Curtis Hibbert 30 (176)	Curtis Hibbert HB-2nd	8 (31)	Lori Strong 15 (201)	
1988 Olympic Games	Seoul KOR	9 (12)	Curtis Hibbert 22 (89)	Curtis Hibbert FX-8 th , Curtis Hibbert PB-6 th Curtis Hibbert HB-7 th	11 (12)	Monica Covacci 22 (91)	
<p>The Canadian men qualified because North Korea and Cuba chose not to attend. Canada's men beat the '84 Olympic Champions, USA which placed 11th.</p>							
1989 World Champs.	Stuttgart FRG	16 (29)	Curtis Hibbert 20 (190)	Curtis Hibbert HB-5 th <i>Alan Nolet PB 1st-L reserve</i>	6 (28)	Larissa Lowing 18 (187)	Larissa Lowing V-8 th
<p>Canada's proposal to the 1988 FIG Congress resulted in "new-life-finals" which were used for the first time in 1989. Canada also successfully proposed that individuals be grouped as Mixed Groups and drawn randomly with the teams rather than always start the competition. This was also the year (right at the time of the Championships) when East Germany dissolved and influenced much of the changes to occur in the Eastern Bloc (URS, YUG, TCH, ROM) in the subsequent two years.</p>							

The women's 6 th place team finish in a "wide-open" un-boycotted world competition remains one of the high points of Canadian gymnastics history.							
1990 World Cup	Brussels BEL	--	Curtis Hibbert 10 (20)	Curtis Hibbert PB-8 th Curtis Hibbert HB-7 th	--	Leah Homma 16 (19)	
1991 World Champs.	Indianapolis USA	16 (30)	Curtis Hibbert 30 (212)	Mike Inglis V-5 th	12 (28)	Stella Umeh 17 (189)	
<p>The 1990 FIG Congress introduced a new competition system with different format World Championships every year. Also introduced for the first time in Indianapolis was 6-judges on the panel. This was the last World Championships that the Soviet Union competed as a team – it was soon to split into 15 distinct countries. This also led to a world wide distribution of Soviet coaches and gymnasts that improved the level of numerous countries. In the 1992 World Championships and the 1992 Olympic Games the Soviet Union competed as the Soviet Unified Team and afterwards as separate countries.</p> <p>A formal judges' control system largely proposed by Canada was used for the first time. The FIG-WTC computerized and expanded it into the controversial JOE (Judge's Objectivity Evaluation) System.</p>							
1992 World Champs.	Paris FRA	--	--	Curtis Hibbert V-3rd , Curtis Hibbert PB-7 th Curtis Hibbert HB-6 th Rob Doyle HB-7 th	--	--	Stella Umeh V-8 th and BB-5 th and FX-1 st <i>reserve</i>
This was the first World Championships exclusively for individual apparatus – an unbelievable step for a tradition bound sport, but one that would advance gymnastics opportunities everywhere. Prize money was awarded for the first time.							
1992 Olympic Games	Barcelona ESP	na (12)	Curtis Hibbert 36 (93)		10 (12)	Stella Umeh 16 (92)	
1993 World Champs.	Birmingham GBR		Curtis Hibbert 42 (123)			Stella Umeh 15 (97)	Stella Umeh FX-8 th
This competition was for all-around gymnasts and for individual apparatus specialists. Only 24 gymnasts (2 per country) were allowed in the all around final. The Codes of Points contentiously introduced a large amount of bonus for difficulty; something that would drive the sport in unanticipated and controversial ways for the next decade.							
1994 World Champs.	Brisbane AUS	--	Alan Nolet 30 (86)		--	Marilou Cousineau 24 (66)	
A format similar to Birmingham was used, but there was no All-around Final competition. It was decided afterwards that this format is too cumbersome for continued use.							
1994 World Champs.	Dortmund GER	15 (21)	--	--	10 (16)	--	--
<p>This was the one and only World Team Championships. Twenty-four men's and women's teams were eligible but had to qualify through their Continental Unions. Each Continental Union was allocated a number of teams that could be eligible from its region based on past results. No all-around or apparatus results were announced, but it is noteworthy that Alan Nolet placed 8th on floor.</p> <p>A 7-6-5 team format was used here and continued until Atlanta. This permitted teams to include specialists (or non-all-arounders) for the first time. For example at the 1995 World Championships Nadia Hatagan ROM competed only on optional uneven bars and scored 9.825.</p>							
1995 World Champs.	Sabae JPN	14 (24)	Peter Schmid 55 (209)		15 (26)	Yvonne Tousek 45 (197)	
This is the first and only year in which neither of Canada's teams qualified for the Olympic Games.							
1996 World Champs.	San Juan PUR	--	--	Richard Ikeda HB-8 th	--	--	
The second World Championships for individual apparatus. The women judges mistakenly used the wrong rules to judge uneven bars and therefore twelve gymnasts had to be permitted into finals.							
1996 Olympic Games	Atlanta USA	na (12)	Alan Nolet 56 (112)		na (12)	Yvonne Tousek 26 (105)	
1997 World Champs.	Lausanne SUI	17 (35)	Peter Schmid 47 (236)		8 (19)	Yvonne Tousek 20 (149)	
For the first time, there were no compulsory exercises in accordance with the hard fought 1994 FIG Congress decision (This was proposed by Canada already in 1976.). Also a Team Final (for 6 teams) was introduced. This made the first day(s) of competition a true Qualification Competition for all subsequent medal rounds (Finals). The concept of an A-jury to determine the Start Value and the B-jury to register only execution deductions which would be subtracted from the Start Value was also introduced in Lausanne. Start Values were displayed for the first time. In addition a new team format of 6-5-4 was introduced to make eventual room for the addition of other Olympic disciplines without exceeding the IOC quota for the gymnastics sports. (Trampoline was eventually given the extra spots.)							
1998 World Cup Final	Sabae JPN	--	--		--	--	
This was the first World Cup Final to follow a qualification series and for individual apparatus only. The six best gymnasts were invited to the Final and the host country was permitted to have one gymnast on each apparatus if none had qualified.							
1999 World Champs.	Tianjin CHN	18 (43)	Alexander Jeltkov 28 (293)	Alexander Jeltkov HB-2nd	10 (39)	Kate Richardson 19 (260)	Yvonne Tousek FX-8 th
2000 Olympic Games	Sydney AUS	na (12)	Neither Jeltkov nor Kyle Shewfelt competed all-around			Kate Richardson 15 (97)	
At the urging of the IOC, the FIG introduced a tie-breaking system (but only for Olympic Games). Each of men's and women's gymnastics gave up 10 spots and Rhythmic Gymnastics gave up 4 so that Trampoline could be in the Olympics for the first time with 24 athletes (12 men and 12 women). Incidentally both Canadians (Karen Cockburn and Mathieu Turgeon) won bronze medals. Five "Wild Cards" for men and for women were made available for developing countries but based on one per Continental Union. This Olympic Games had a controversy over the incorrect setting of the height of the vault in All Around Finals and over the use of drugs by Andrea Raducan of ROM who was stripped of her all-around gold medal but her qualifying scores were allowed to stand and she was permitted into finals.							
2000 World Cup Final	Glasgow GBR	--	--	Kyle Shewfelt FX-2nd Alexander Jeltkov HB-3rd Alexander Jeltkov FX-8 th	--	--	

From this year on, eight gymnasts on each apparatus were invited based on the results of the World Cup qualifying competitions which were used to determine a World Cup ranking list.							
2001 World Champs.	Ghent BEL	12 (40)	Grant Golding 22 (268)		10 (27)	Kate Richardson 16 (172)	
For the first time, one-touch warm-ups were not permitted for Team Finals and Apparatus Finals. The Team Final format was changed to 6-3-3 and included the top eight qualified teams. The new Vault Table was introduced and only 32 gymnasts were allowed into the All Around Final and these competed in seeded groups of 16. The team and all-around finals were seeded and staged for maximum suspense leading up to the last performance. This format which was invented and promoted by Slava Corn was so successful that it would be used at future competitions.							
2002 World Champs.	Debrecen HUN	--	--	Kyle Shewfelt V-4 th	--	--	
This was the third and the last of the World Championships exclusively for individual apparatus. For 2005 the combined individual apparatus and all-around format would be tried again.							
2002 World Cup Final	Stuttgart GER	--	--	Kyle Shewfelt FX-2nd Kyle Shewfelt V-5 th Alexander Jeltkov HB-5 th	--	--	
2003 World Champs.	Anaheim USA	9 (52)	David Kikuchi 20 (322)	Kyle Shewfelt FX-3rd Kyle Shewfelt V-3rd Alexander Jeltkov HB-6 th	11 (35)	Kylie Stone 14 (223)	
Only 24 gymnasts (2 per country) were allowed into the All Around Final. Vault finalists qualified by demonstrating two vaults (under Finals rules) during Qualification – a long anticipated first which was proposed by Canada as long ago as 1976.							
2004 Olympic Games	Athens GRE	11 (12)	Adam Wong 29 (98)	Kyle Shewfelt FX-1st Kyle Shewfelt FX V-4 th	10 (12)		Kate Richardson FX-8 th
The Olympic gold medal for Kyle is certainly among the main highlights of Canadian gymnastics history. However, the Olympic men's competition had more highly public scandals related to medals than ever before in history including a controversy over the gold medal for all-around, 10 gymnasts qualified for horizontal bar finals, and totally incorrect medals on rings and vault. Canada initiated then withdrew a protest to the IOC regarding the silver medal that Kyle had earned on vault if only the mandatory deductions were taken from the gold and bronze medalist. Seven judges were suspended: Three for giving impossible scores on vault and the Chair of the Apparatus Jury for not performing his duties. In addition, the Chair and the two A-judges on parallel bars were suspended for the errors that led to the incorrect all-around gold medal.							
2004 World Cup Final	Birmingham GBR	--	--	Brandon O'Neill FX-4 th	--	--	
Kyle Shewfelt was ranked near the top of the World on floor and vault but chose not to compete.							
2005 World Champs.	Melbourne AUS	--	na (177 gymnasts; 49AA)	Brandon O'Neill FX-2nd	--	na (95 gymnasts; 55AA)	<i>Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs</i> <i>UB- 1st reserve</i>
An all-around and individual apparatus World Championships similar to Birmingham '93 and Brisbane '94. For financial reasons, Canada chose not to send a full contingent of gymnasts – only one male and one female but neither competed all-around. This was the last use of the 2001 Code of Points because the already finished and expected 2005 Code was cancelled due to the Olympic scandals. Instead a Code with a new additive A-score paradigm will be used beginning in 2006. Hardy Fink had promoted this paradigm for over two decades but with many additional important details and features that are not being included at this time.							
2006 World Champs.	Aahrus DEN	6 (43)	Adam Wong (9) (279)	Kyle Shewfelt FX-3rd	14 (33)	Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs 16 (223)	Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs BB-3rd
This competition served as the first qualification for the 2008 Olympic Games. For the first time the top 24 teams had to qualify to advance to the 2007 World Championships which will serve as the final Olympic qualification. Lower ranked countries will be permitted to send up to three gymnasts. Also for the first time, the "open-Code" paradigm promoted for over two decades by Hardy Fink and used by the Canadian Men's Program between 1993 and 1996 was implemented; and though the Codes as prepared and published were beset with numerous problems within the detail of the rules, the paradigm proved successful and was applauded even by the staunchest supporters of the "perfect-10" which now no longer exists in the total score. Minor modifications are expected to be made to the Codes but this may (and should) be declared unacceptable because the Olympic qualification process has already begun. The scandals in men's gymnastics during the 2004 Olympic Games also led to the removal of the Technical Committee members as actual members of the Apparatus Jury at the apparatus. Instead they served as "Supervisors" and, with the use of the now fully implemented IRCOS system, often controlled the scores as much as or more than ever before. For the first (and hopefully last) time, numerous real-time scores were re-evaluated with slow motion video.							
2006 World Cup Final	Sao Paulo BRA	--	--	Kyle Shewfelt FX-2nd Brandon O'Neill FX-3rd Brandon O'Neill V-7 th	--	--	Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs BB-5 th
The expected system of Continental Qualification and the inclusion of an all-around competition were both quietly abandoned over the past two years and a now normal World Cup Final based on the World Cup ranking list for apparatus was organized. The competition was moved from Monte Carlo to Sao Paulo very late. This competition left our gymnasts ranked as follows on the FIG World Ranking list which includes results from attendance at the major FIG competitions and the World Cup qualifying competitions: O'Neill FX 3 rd ; Shewfelt FX 5 th ; Hopfner-Hibbs BB 13 th ; O'Neill V 14 th .							
2007 World Champs.	Stuttgart GER	A full World Championships but with only the best 24 teams from 2006 as well as an unrestricted number of individuals (3 per country).					
2008 Olympic Games	Beijing CHN						
2008 World Cup Final	TBA						
2009 World Champs.	London GBR						