

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 9 MORNING EDITION

### PARIS 2024 SCHEDULE/RESULTS

**JULY 25**  
SOC France vs. **Colombia** Pool Izquierdo, Perez FRA, 3-2

**JULY 26**  
ALL Opening Ceremony Ceremonies All

**JULY 27**  
MT Singles vs. Navone (ARG) First Rd. Borges Canceled / Weather

**JULY 28**  
MT Singles vs. Navone (ARG) First Rd. Borges Navone, 6-2, 6-2  
SOC New Zealand vs. **Colombia** Pool Izquierdo, Perez COL, 2-0  
MT Doubles vs. Greece First Rd. Borges POR, 3-6, 6-3, [12-10]

**JULY 30**  
MT Doubles vs. Germany Second Rd. Borges GER, 6-2, 6-2

**JULY 31**  
SOC **Colombia** vs. Canada Pool Izquierdo, Perez CAN, 1-0

**AUGUST 3**  
SOC **Colombia** vs. Spain Quarterfinals Izquierdo, Perez ESP, 2-2 (4-2)

**AUGUST 6**  
TF Men's Javelin Qualifying Peters 88.63m, 2nd (Q)  
Thompson 76.79m, 27th

**AUGUST 7**  
TF Men's 800m First Round Arop 1:45.74, 17th (Q)  
Anderson 1:46.82, 37th

**AUGUST 8**  
TF Men's 800m Repechage Anderson 1:46.10, 17th  
TF Men's Javelin Final Peters 88.54m, **Bronze**

**AUGUST 9**  
TF Men's 4x400m Relay First Round Eppie 2:57.76, 1st (Q)\*  
\*did not run with team  
TF Men's 800m Semifinal Arop 1:45.05, 8th (Q)

**AUGUST 10**  
TF Men's 800m Final Arop 12:05 p.m.  
TF Men's 4x400m Relay Final Eppie 2 p.m.

### WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING...



#### Lee Eppie (BOT)

2:57.76, 1st (Q)

\*Eppie did not run with team



#### MEN'S 800M - SEMIFINAL

#### Marco Arop (CAN)

1:45.05, 8th (Q)

### NOTEWORTHY

#### RECAPING THE ACTION

- Marco Arop (CAN) reached his first career Olympic final and became the first Canadian man to reach the 800m final at the Olympics since 2008.
- He was an automatic qualifier in Friday morning's semifinals, winning his heat in 1:45.05.
- Meanwhile, Lee Eppie's (BOT) squad is finals bound after Botswana ran a season-best and world-leading 2:57.76 in the first round of the men's 4x400m relay.
- Eppie did not run with the team in the first round, but he is eligible to run in Saturday's final should the coaching staff opt to utilize him.

#### POSSIBLE PROGRAM HISTORY

- Mississippi State's record for medals at a single Games is three in the 1996 Atlanta Games, but only two of those medals were won by an athlete (Falilat Ogunkoya, NGR) and not a coach (Ron Polk, USA).
- State has never had more than one individual athlete win a medal at a single Games.
- Anderson Peters (GRN) won bronze in the men's javelin on Thursday, and Marco Arop (CAN) and Lee Eppie (BOT) could medal in the men's 800m and 4x400m relay, respectively, on Saturday.
- If Arop makes the podium, he'll record State's best Olympic finish in the 800m, surpassing the first Bulldog Olympian, American Don Scott, who placed fifth at the 1920 Antwerp Games.

#### MONUMENTAL MEDALS - MEN'S 800M

- The reigning world champion, Marco Arop (CAN) is a favorite for the podium in the men's 800m. No Canadian man has ever won gold at the Olympics, and Arop was the first to win a World Championships gold in the event.
- Canada has not seen an athlete medal in the men's 800m since Bill Crothers won silver in 1964 with a time of 1:45.6, which would have broken the Olympic record at the beginning of those Games.
- Canada boasts four Olympic medals in the 800m: silver and bronze in 1932, bronze in 1936 and silver in 1964.

#### MEET YOUR HEROS

- Marco Arop (CAN) received his 2023 World Championships 800m gold medal from world record holder David Rudisha (KEN).
- When he was younger, Arop learned how to run the perfect 800m, by watching Rudisha's record run in the 2012 Olympic final on YouTube.

#### LONG LIVE THE KING

- Marco Arop (CAN) is attempting to become just the second reigning world champion in the 800m to win Olympic gold the following year. David Rudisha (KEN) did so at both the 2016 Rio and 2012 London Games.
- The only other reigning world champions to medal in the event were Wilson Kipketer (DEN), who won silver at the 2000 Sydney Games, and Alfred Kirwa Yego (KEN), who won bronze in Beijing in 2008.
- The men's 800m is the only track and field event at this year's Olympic Games where the reigning gold medalist is not present in the field.

#### RELATING TO RELAYS

- Lee Eppie (BOT) is eligible to run in the men's 4x400m relay final as a member of Botswana's athlete pool, but the decision is up to the coaching staff when they set the lineup tomorrow.
- State has a tradition of success in the 4x400m relay. Three of the Bulldogs' five Olympic medals in track and field have come in that event.
- Jude Monye (NGR) won gold in 2000 after the United States was disqualified for doping offenses. Monye and Nigeria set an African record in the race.
- Falilat Ogunkoya (NGR) won a silver medal in the relay at the 1996 Atlanta Games.
- Commodore Scott Cochran (USA) won the Bulldogs' first medal in school history at the 1924 Paris Games 100 years ago, setting a world record in the process.

#### MONUMENTAL MEDALS - MEN'S 4X400M

- Lee Eppie (BOT) will run on Botswana's 4x400m relay team, which won its first medal in the event in Tokyo in 2021. Botswana has clocked national records in the Olympic final in each of the last two Games.
- Botswana has raced in the men's 4x400m relay six times at the Olympics, reaching the finals three times (2004, 2016, 2020).
- Botswana had never won an Olympic gold in any sport prior to Thursday when Letslie Tebogo won the men's 200m.
- Tebogo ran the opening leg on the 4x400m relay this morning. The African nation clocked national records in the 4x400m relay in each of the last two Olympic finals, winning bronze in Tokyo.
- Botswana's only other medal in track and field came when Nijel Amos won silver in the men's 800m at the 2012 London Games.

### UPCOMING EVENTS



#### MEN'S 800M - FINAL

**FINAL:** August 10 | 12:05 p.m.

**NOTEWORTHY:** Marco Arop (CAN) is trying to become just the second reigning world champion to win Olympic gold in the men's 800m...Arop has reached three world championships finals, but has not reached an Olympic final...the world record (1:40.91) was set at the 2012 London Games by David Rudisha (KEN)...Arop is only man in the final that has not yet run a personal best this year...He will run out of Lane 9, which may play into his traditional front-running strategy.



#### MEN'S 4X400M RELAY - FINAL

**FINAL:** August 10 | 2 p.m.

**NOTEWORTHY:** Lee Eppie (BOT) will look to continue State's tradition of success in the 4x400m relay...Three of the Bulldogs' five Olympic medals in track and field have come in this event, and two were won by African nations...Botswana won its first Olympic gold on Thursday in the men's 200m and the winner, Letslie Tebogo, ran leadoff in the first round of the 4x400m relay...Eppie has the sixth-fastest 400m time in Botswana this year...The No. 4 time was also left off the opening relay.