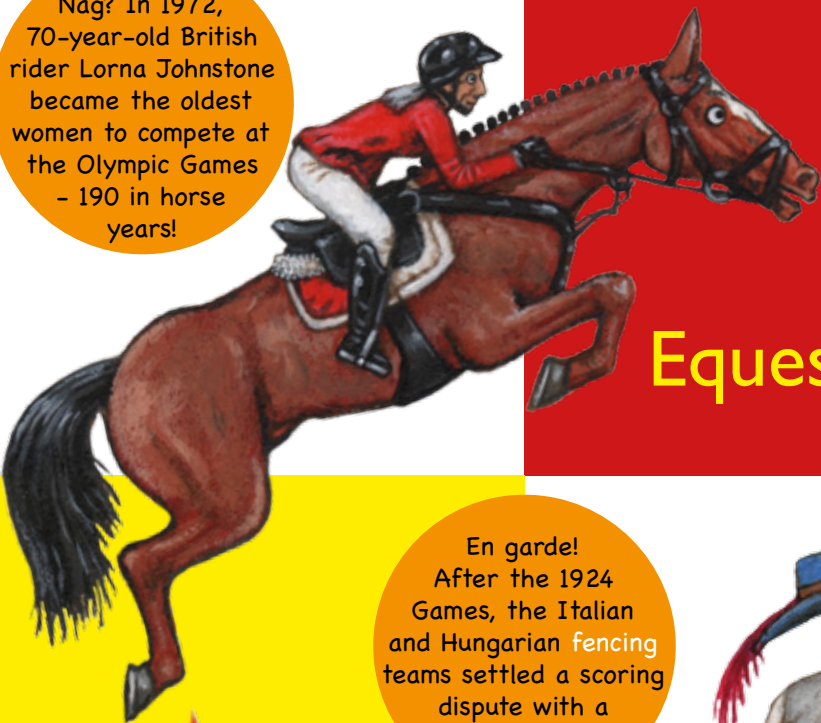


Old
Nag? In 1972,
70-year-old British
rider Lorna Johnstone
became the oldest
woman to compete at
the Olympic Games
- 190 in horse
years!



E

is for
Equestrian



From zero to hero
- Emperor Nero fell
from his chariot at the
Games in AD 67, but
was declared the
winner anyway.

En garde!
After the 1924
Games, the Italian
and Hungarian fencing
teams settled a scoring
dispute with a
real-life duel.



F

is for
Flame



Pheidippides ran 42km from **Marathon** to Athens in 490 BC, with news of Greece's victory over Persia. The marathon is run over the same distance.



Nike, Greek goddess of victory, was sent by Zeus to crown the winners at the ancient games. She now appears on all Olympic medals.

M

is for

Marathon



Lorz unto himself - in 1904, Fred Lorz was about to receive the gold medal when it was discovered that he'd travelled 17km of the **marathon** by car.



N

is for
Nike

All athletes in **Olympia** competed in the nude. Only men took part and any married women caught watching were hurled from a cliff.



O

is for
Olympia



S is for Stadium



King of the swimmers - Johnny Weissmuller, star of **Tarzan** films, won five Olympic gold medals in **swimming** and set 67 world records in the 1920s.



T is for Trampoline



The first **team** sport added to the Olympics was football in 1900.



Trampolines were first used to train acrobats and athletes in the 1930s, and later astronauts.



A sport for men in the 1800s, **synchronised swimming** is now one of just two women-only Olympic events. The other is rhythmic gymnastics.

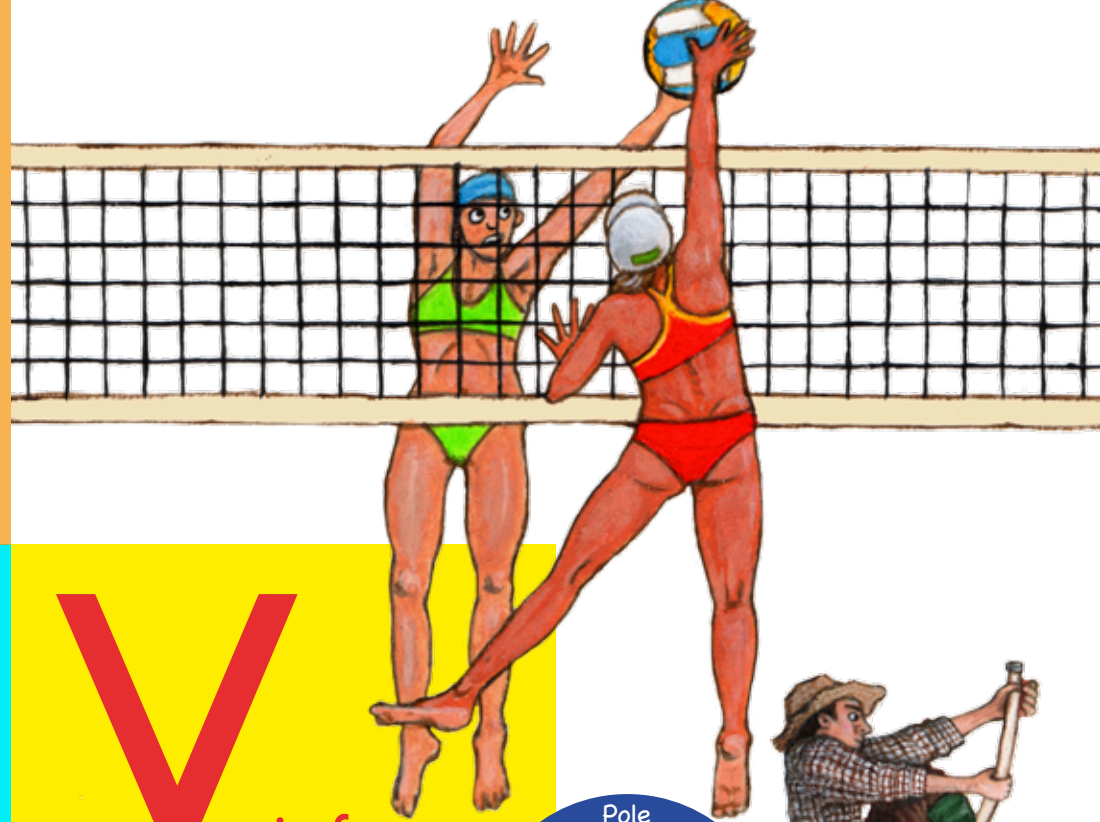


U

is for



Pull the other one! Along with **underwater** swimming, other discontinued events include tug-of-war, rope climbing and pigeon shooting.



Underwater Swimming

Underwater swimmers earned points for the time and distance swum underwater. It wasn't great fun to watch, so was dropped from later games.



V

is for

Volleyball

Pole **vaulting** originated in Holland and the east coast of England, where people used a pole to cross canals and marshy land.

