

2012 OLYMPIC GAMES REPORT

Javelin

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INTRODUCTION

The 2012 Olympic Games was held in London from 27th July to 12th August 2012. The Javelin Throw for both male and female athletes took place on the following dates;

Gender	No of Competitors	Qualifying	Final
Female	41	07/08/2012 (AM)	09/08/2012 (PM)
Male	44	08/08/2012 (PM)	11/09/2012 (PM)

The qualifying distances for an athlete to “automatically” advance from the qualifying round to the final were as follows;

Gender	Qualifying Distance
Female:	62m
Male:	82m

This was in relation the qualification standards to take part in the Championships, which were 61 and 82m respectively. There were countries that had sent athletes to the games as discretionary places, who had achieved the ‘B’ standard for the championships. Indeed careful observation of the ranking lists for The Javelin Throw both male and female respectively indicates that only 33 men and 29 women had achieved the qualifying standard for the Olympic Games this season.

THE WOMEN'S EVENT

Qualifying round

Qualifying rounds took place on Tuesday 7th August 2012

POOL A

RANK	BIB	NAME	MARK
1	1544	SPOTAKOVA Barbora	66.19 Q
2	1956	OBERGFOLL Christina	66.14 Q
3	1968	STAHL Linda	64.78 Q/SB
4	2935	RATEJ Martina	63.60 Q
5	2405	PALAMEIKA Madara	60.62 q
6	1310	GLEADLE Elizabeth	60.26 q
7	2403	MUZE Lina	59.91
8	3270	BORMAN Brittany	59.27
9	1076	MICKLE Kimberley	59.23
10	1242	FERER E Silva Laila	58.39
11	1395	ZHANG Li	58.35
12	1643	BICET Nora Aida	57.77
13	2954	JELACA Tatjana	57.09
14	3158	DOROZHON Marhayta	56.74
15	3311	PATTERSON Kara	56.23
16	1442	RUIZ Flor	54.34
17	1091	EBERL Elisabeth	49.66
18	1032	HARUTYUNYAN Kristine	47.35
-	1494	CRUZ Yanet	NM
-	1876	SAYERS Goldie	NM
-	3352	PARRA Yusbelys	DNS

POOL B

RANK	BIB	NAME	MARK
1	2796	VILJOEN Sunette	65.92 Q
2	1384	LU Huihui	64.45 Q
3	2842	ABAKUMOVA Maria	63.25 Q
4	2119	HJALMSDOTTIR Asdis	62.77 Q/NR
5	1953	MOLITOR Katherina	62.05 Q
6	1077	MITCHELL Kathryn	60.11 q
7	1533	KLIMESOVA Jarmila	59.90

8	2248	EBIHARA Yuki	59.25	
9	2434	JAKUBAITYTE Indre	59.05	SB
10	3183	REBRYK Vira	58.97	
11	2404	OZOLINA-KOVALA Sinta	58.86	
12	3162	HATSKO Hanna	58.37	
13	3326	YURKOVICH Rachael	57.92	
14	1995	LIKA Savva	57.05	
15	1503	RIBEAUX Yainelis	56.55	
16	1378	LI Lingwei	56.50	
17	1192	NOVIK Maryna	54.31	
18	2627	FRANCO Leryn	51.45	
19	3339	SVECHNIKOVA Anastasiya	51.27	
20	2054	JUHASZ Vanda	50.01	
-	1737	UTRIAINEN Sanni	NM	

KEY

Q = Automatic qualification	q = qualified for next round	NM = No mark recorded
DNS = Does not start	WR = World record	OR = Olympic record
NR = National record	PB = Personal best	SB = Season's best

Athletes achieving a distance of 62m were automatically through to the final. Once an athlete had achieved this distance, then they had no need to throw in the competition anymore. As is the case with all of the throws, should less than 12 athletes achieve the automatic qualifying standard, then the best 12 throwers would advance to the final. In the case of the women's event at the 2012 Olympic Games, 60.11m was enough to qualify for the final. That was athlete 1077 Kathryn Mitchell from Australia.

Statistical analysis

Careful analysis of the qualifying data, which can be viewed on the attached excel spreadsheet indicated the following;

	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	BMI	PB	SB
Average	26.10	1.75	73.39	24.04	63.41	62.13
Standard Deviation	4.69	0.06	7.57	1.99	3.43	3.14
Max	42.00	1.86	96.00	30.99	72.28	69.35
25th Percentile	23.00	1.70	68.25	22.87	61.08	60.02
75th Percentile	29.50	1.80	78.00	25.08	64.90	64.35
Min	19.00	1.64	57.00	19.27	57.77	55.80

In addition to the above are the following statistics;

Average of best throws in qualifying

(only throwers with a legal throw): **58.53m**

Average throw in qualifying

(measured throws only): **57.35m**

15 of the throwers that started the competition had their best throws in round 1, 7 of whom surpassed the automatic qualifying standard. 11 throwers had their best throws in round 2 of which 1 thrower surpassed the automatic qualifying standard and 12 throwers posted their best result in round 3, again with 1 thrower passing the automatic qualifying standard (9 total). 3 throwers who started the competition had 3 no-throws in the qualifying competition and 1 thrower did not start.

There was 1 personal best set in qualifying which was also a National Record and that was 2119 Asdis HJALMSDOTTIR from Iceland. 2 of the throwers threw seasons bests. These were 1968 Linda STAHL from Germany and 2434 Indre JAKUBAITYTE from Lithuania.

Final

The final took place on Thursday 9th August 2012

RANK	BIB	NAME	MARK	
1	1544	SPOTAKOVA Barbora	69.55	SB
2	1956	OBBERGOLL Christina	65.16	
3	1968	STAHL Linda	64.91	SB
4	2796	VILJOEN Sunette	64.53	
5	1384	LU Huihui	63.70	
6	1953	MOLITOR Katherina	62.89	
7	2935	RATEJ Martina	61.62	
8	2405	PALAMEIKA Madara	60.73	
9	1077	MITCHELL Kathryn	59.46	
10	2842	ABAKUMOVA Maria	59.34	
11	2119	HJALMSDOTTIR Asdis	59.08	
12	1310	GLEADLE Elizabeth	58.78	

KEY

Q = Automatic qualification	q = qualified for next round	NM = No mark recorded
DNS = Does not start	WR = World record	OR = Olympic record
NR = National record	PB = Personal best	SB = Season's best

The protocol in the final of a major championship such as the Olympic Games is that all throwers have 3 throws and then after 3 rounds, the top 8 take a further 3 throws in reverse order (that is the leading thrower throws last). After 3 throws the leader was 1544 Barbora SPOTAKOVA with her 1st round throw of 66.90m. As such not only took the first throw in the final, due to being first in the throwing order, but also the last throw having led through the entire competition. To achieve a top 8 placing a distance of 60.73m was necessary. This distance was achieved by 2405 Madara PALAMEIKA from Latvia in round 2.

Statistical analysis

Careful analysis of the qualifying data, which can be viewed on the attached excel spreadsheet indicated the following;

	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	BMI	PB	SB
Average	27.17	1.77	77.09	24.58	66.57	64.83
Standard Deviation	2.76	0.06	5.38	1.31	3.76	2.94
Max	31.00	1.85	85.00	26.83	72.28	69.35
25th Percentile	25.75	1.74	74.00	23.70	64.47	62.76
75th Percentile	30.00	1.82	80.00	25.49	69.56	66.91
Min	23.00	1.68	68.00	22.69	61.15	60.34

In addition to the above are the following statistics;

Average of best throws from the Final

(only throwers with a legal throw = all): **62.48m**

Average throw in the Final

(measured throws only): **60.80m**

What is noticeable from the above table is that the average measured throw from the final of 60.80m was almost 2m less than the average measured throw from the same 12 throwers from qualifying (62.79m). This is primarily due to the fact that there were less legal throws from those throwers in qualifying and the anxiety levels in the final were likely to be higher due to what was at stake. That is purely a subjective view though and is therefore not measurable. In the same way, the average of the best throws from the qualifying for the 12 athletes that made it through to the final was 63.26m compared to the 62.48m average of the best throws from each of the athletes in the final.

There were 2 season's best set in the Final of the Women's Javelin Throw. These were by athlete 1544 Barbora SPOTAKOVA from the Czech Republic, with a throw of 69.55m. This was also a World Leading throw for 2012. The athlete who won the Bronze Medal 1968 Linda STAHL from Germany also threw a season's best of 64.91m in the Final. There were no other personal best performances set or National Records. The weather conditions were very still and not necessarily conducive to those levels of performance.

Run up length

RANK	BIB	NAME	Cyclic	Acyclic	TOTAL
1	1544	SPOTAKOVA Barbora	9	5	14
2	1956	OBERGFOLL Christina	8	5	13
3	1968	STAHL Linda	6	5	11
4	2796	VILJOEN Sunette	12	7	19
5	1384	LU Huihui	10	5	15
6	1953	MOLITOR Katherina	7	5	12
7	2935	RATEJ Martina	14	7	21
8	2405	PALAMEIKA Madara	10	5	15
9	1077	MITCHELL Kathryn	12	5	17
10	2842	ABAKUMOVA Maria	9	5	14
11	2119	HJALMSDOTTIR Asdis	10	7	17
12	1310	GLEADLE Elizabeth	6	7	13
AVERAGES			9.4	5.7	15.1

There was a wide range of different approaches to the run-ups of the athletes that qualified for the final. The numbers in the table above will not be 100% accurate as the approach of the athlete to how they actually carried out their run-up differed. Some were stationary at their initial checkmark and then set off from that point. Others preferred to walk or to jog onto their checkmark. Conventionally athletes are taught so that their first stride would be with their left foot forward (right for left handed throwers). As there were no left handed throwers in the women's final, the terminology used here will reflect that fact. This would give an even number of strides during the cyclic phase of the run up. As can be seen in the table above 3 of the athletes had an odd number of strides in their run-up and therefore their first stride was with their right foot forward. The reason the Acyclic phase is always an odd number is due to the

fact, that during the transition phase where the Javelin is withdrawn, the first stride (or acceleration/ impulse stride – not to be confused with the impulse stride during the final cross over) should always be with the left foot. The average length of run-up based on observations made of the Women's Javelin Final at the 2012 Olympic Games was therefore approximately 15 strides. This is typical of most top level throwers.

The Top 8

As previously mentioned a throw of 60.73m by athlete 2405 Madara PALAMEIKA from Latvia was enough to make the top 8 on the night of the Final.

Statistical Analysis

	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	BMI	PB	SB
Average	27.63	1.77	75.88	24.19	67.49	65.66
Standard Deviation	2.77	0.05	4.49	1.20	2.87	2.71
Max	31.00	1.83	80.00	26.12	72.28	69.35
Min	23.00	1.70	68.00	22.69	64.51	61.45

In addition to the above are the following statistics;

Average of best throws from the Top 8

(only throwers with a legal throw = all): **64.14m**

Average throw in the Top 8

(measured throws only): **61.96m**

What is interesting here is that the average of the best throws in the final of 64.14m was almost exactly the same as the average of the best throw in qualifying of the same 8 throwers. That is not to say that there were no other throws in qualifying that were better, however those throwers failed to make the top 8 in the final, such as athlete 2842 Maria ABAKUMOVA who threw 63.25m in qualifying, but only 59.34m in the final. What did change in the final was the fact that the average throw measured of 61.96m for the top 8 throwers was significantly less than the average measured throw for the same 8 throwers in the final, that being 63.65m. As before this is likely to be due to the total of throws actually measured being only 19 versus 32 in the final.

The Medallists

To win a medal in the Women's Javelin Throw at the 2012 Olympic Games, a throw of 64.91m was required. This was achieved by athlete 1968 Linda STAHL from Germany.

Statistical Analysis

	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	BMI	PB	SB
Average	29.00	1.77	79.33	25.25	69.76	66.71
Standard Deviation	2.65	0.04	1.15	1.00	2.76	2.21
Max	31.00	1.82	80.00	26.12	72.28	68.73
Min	26.00	1.75	78.00	24.15	66.81	64.35

In addition to the above are the following statistics;

Average of best throws from the Medallists

(only throwers with a legal throw = all): **66.54m**

Average throw in the Medallists

(measured throws only): **65.04m**

Average of best throws from the Medallists in the Qualifying round:

65.70m

Average throw of the Medallists in the Qualifying round

65.70m

A quick glance at the above shows that the average of the best throws from the medallists at the Olympic Games in the Final was lower in the qualifying round (66.54m to 65.70m). However all 3 of the athletes who won medals only took 1 throw in the qualifying round. That is because they all achieved the automatic qualifying standard of 62m on their first throw. The average measured throw for the 3 medallists in the Olympic Final was 65.04m which was slightly less than the 65.70m for the same 3 throwers in qualifying. That being said, with only 3 measured throws in qualifying and 9 in the final, it is clear to see the reasons why. At this level of competition the athletes know immediately when they have performed a good throw. That would explain the reason why 50% of the throws that the medallists took (9 out of the 18) were fouls. It is unlikely that any of these throws were due to the athletes being out of control at the end of the run-up, moreover more likely they walked over the line due to being dissatisfied after a particular attempt.

THE MEN'S EVENT

Qualifying round

Qualifying rounds took place on Wednesday 8th August 2012

POOL A

RANK	BIB	NAME	MARK	
1	2599	THORKILDSEN Andreas	84.47	Q
2	1982	LEBESIS Spiridon	82.40	Q
3	2609	FARQUHAR Stuart	82.32	Q
4	1725	MANNIO Ari	81.99	q
5	1901	HABER Tino	80.39	Q
6	1716	COPELAND Leslie	80.19	SB
7	3122	AVRAMENKO Roman	80.06	
8	1160	KAZLOU Uladzimir	80.06	
9	1475	MARTINEZ Guillermo	80.06	
10	2390	KOVALS Ainars	79.19	
11	2651	JANIK Igor	78.90	
12	1667	MATAS Risto	78.56	
13	1296	MOSS Curtis	78.22	
14	2228	MURAKAMI Yukifumi	77.80	
15	2669	RAKOCZY Pawel	77.36	
16	1587	EL SAYED Ihab Abdelrahman	77.35	
17	3222	HOSTETLER Cyrus	75.76	
18	2811	KOROTKOV Ilya	75.68	
19	1515	FRYDRYCH Petr	75.46	
20	3331	ZAYTSEV Ivan	73.94	
21	2396	VASILEVSKIS Vadims	72.81	
22	1357	QIN Qiang	72.29	

POOL B

RANK	BIB	NAME	MARK	
1	1525	VESELY Vitezslav	88.34	Q/PB
2	1726	PITKAMAKI Tero	83.01	Q
3	3143	PYATNYTSYA Oleksandr	82.72	Q
4	2219	DEAN Roderick Genki	82.07	Q
5	2322	YEGO Julius	81.81	q/NR
6	3052	WALCOTT Keshorn	81.75	q

7	1727	RUUSKANEN Antti	81.74	q
8	2999	AMB Kim	78.94	
9	3075	AVAN Fatih	78.87	
10	3227	KINSLEY Craig	78.18	
11	1524	VADLEJCH Jakub	77.61	
12	1415	MARQUEZ Dayron	77.59	
13	1037	BANNISTER Jarrod	77.38	
14	1024	TOLEDO Braian	76.87	
15	2353	JUNG Sangjin	76.37	
16	1819	LUCKWELL Mervyn	74.09	
17	3215	FUREY Sean	72.81	
18	1029	JANOYAN Melik	72.64	
19	2931	KRANJC Matija	72.63	
20	2666	OSEWSKI Bartosz	71.19	
-	1896	DE ZORDO Matthias	NM	
-	2393	SIRMAIS Zigismunds	NM	

KEY

Q = Automatic qualification

DNS = Does not start

NR = National record

q = qualified for next round

WR = World record

PB = Personal best

NM = No mark recorded

OR = Olympic record

SB = Season's best

Athletes achieving a distance of 82m were automatically through to the final. Once an athlete had achieved this distance, then they had no need to throw in the competition anymore. As is the case with all of the throws, should less than 12 athletes achieve the automatic qualifying standard, then the best 12 throwers would advance to the final. In the case of the men's event at the 2012 Olympic Games, 80.39m was enough to qualify for the final. That was athlete 1901 Tino Haber from Germany.

Statistical analysis

Careful analysis of the qualifying data, which can be viewed on the attached excel spreadsheet indicated the following;

	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	BMI	PB	SB
Average	25.86	1.88	93.69	26.65	84.41	82.68
Standard Deviation	3.51	0.05	5.87	1.53	3.08	2.31
Max	32.00	2.00	108.00	31.01	91.59	88.11
25th Percentile	23.00	1.85	90.00	25.56	82.09	81.10
75th Percentile	29.00	1.90	98.00	27.64	86.17	84.29
Min	18.00	1.75	85.00	24.08	79.71	77.33

In addition to the above are the following statistics;

Average of best throws in qualifying

(only throwers with a legal throw): **78.38m**

Average throw in qualifying

(measured throws only): **77.19m**

12 of the throwers that started the competition had their best throws in round 1, of which only 2 surpassed the automatic qualifying standard. 17 throwers had their best throws in round 2 of which 4 of the throwers surpassed the automatic qualifying standard and finally 13 throwers posted their best result in round 3, with only 1 thrower (1726 Tero PITKAMAKI) passing the automatic qualifying standard (7 total). 2 throwers who started the competition had 3 no-throws in the qualifying competition.

There were 2 personal bests set in qualifying by the following athletes;

1525 Vitezslav VESELY with 88.34m

2322 Julius YEGO with 81.81m

The latter was also a new National Record for Kenya. Athlete 1716 Leslie COPELAND from Fiji set a seasons best in the qualifying round, but failed to advance to the final.

Final

The final took place on Saturday 11th August 2012

RANK	BIB	NAME	MARK	
1	3052	WALCOTT Keshorn	84.58	NR
2	3143	PYATNYSYA Oleksandr	84.51	
3	1727	RUUSKANEN Antti	84.12	
4	1525	VESELY Vitezslav	83.34	
5	1726	PITKAMAKI Tero	82.80	
6	2599	THORKILDSEN Andreas	82.63	
7	1982	LEBESIS Spiridon	81.91	
8	1901	HABER Tino	81.21	
9	2609	FARQUHAR Stuart	80.22	
10	2219	DEAN Roderick Genki	79.95	
11	1725	MANNIO Ari	78.60	
12	2322	YEGO Julius	77.15	

KEY

Q = Automatic qualification

DNS = Does not start

NR = National record

q = qualified for next round

WR = World record

PB = Personal best

NM = No mark recorded

OR = Olympic record

SB = Season's best

As mentioned in the Women's analysis above, the protocol in the final of a major championship such as the Olympic Games is that all throwers have 3 throws and then after 3 rounds, the top 8 take a further 3 throws in reverse order (that is the leading thrower throws last). After 3 throws the leader was 3052 Keshorn WALCOTT with his 2nd round throw of 84.58m. Incidentally this throw from Walcott was enough to win the gold medal. To achieve a top 8 placing a distance of 81.21m was necessary. This distance was achieved by 1901 Tino HABER from Germany in round 3.

Statistical analysis

Careful analysis of the qualifying data, which can be viewed on the attached excel spreadsheet indicated the following;

	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	BMI	PB	SB
Average	26.17	1.86	90.83	26.31	85.95	84.40
Standard Deviation	3.81	0.05	4.65	1.55	3.31	1.94
Max	30.00	1.95	100.00	29.22	91.59	88.11
25th Percentile	24.50	1.85	87.50	25.40	83.35	82.97
75th Percentile	29.00	1.88	92.50	27.32	87.53	85.24
Min	19.00	1.75	85.00	24.08	81.12	81.12

In addition to the above are the following statistics;

Average of best throws from the Final

(only throwers with a legal throw = all): **81.75m**

Average throw in the Final

(measured throws only): **79.98m**

What is noticeable from the above table is that the average measured throw from the final of 79.98m was almost the same distance of the average throw in qualifying from the same 12 throwers (slightly less than the 80.30m from qualifying in fact). There were 25 legal throws in qualifying from the 12 finalists in comparison to the 47 legal throws from the final. However the 6 rounds that the throwers took in the final (top 8 only) would account for this. The most striking statistic is that the longest throw in qualifying of 88.34m would clearly have won the gold medal in the final. The person who produced that throw

Vesely from the Czech Republic finished 4th in the final with a throw of 83.34m. One can only assume that anxiety alone on what was a perfect night for Javelin Throwing contributed to this underperformance.

However, the average of the best throws from the qualifying for the 12 athletes that made it through to the final was 81.75m compared to the 82.75m average of the best throws from each of the athletes in the final. Despite the performance of Vesely that would suggest that the standard of throwing overall in the final for the top 12 throwers was still higher than that of the qualifying round. Again though, the total number of throws taken in the final is obviously greater, so perhaps this would account for the difference.

There was 1 personal best and National Record set in the final and that was set by the winner athlete 3052 Keshorn WALCOTT from Trinidad and Tobago with 84.58m. This throw was also the second longest throw in the History of the event by an U20 Male Javelin Thrower. 4 weeks prior to the Olympic Games, Walcott had won the World Junior Championships held in Barcelona.

The weather conditions were very warm and summery and therefore it was a surprise that more throwers didn't step up to the plate and perform.

Run up length

RANK	BIB	NAME	Cyclic	Acyclic	TOTAL
1	3052	WALCOTT Keshorn	8	5	13
2	3143	PYATNYSYA Oleksandr	12	5	17
3	1727	RUUSKANEN Antti	10	5	15
4	1525	VESELY Vitezslav	10	7	17
5	1726	PITKAMAKI Tero	10	5	15
6	2599	THORKILDSEN Andreas	10	5	15
7	1982	LEBESIS Spiridon	6	5	11
8	1901	HABER Tino	10	5	15
9	2609	FARQUHAR Stuart	12	5	17
10	2219	DEAN Roderick Genki	10	5	15
11	1725	MANNIO Ari	10	5	15
12	2322	YEGO Julius	10	7	17
AVERAGES			9.8	5.3	15.1

There was a wide range of different approaches to the run-ups of the athletes that qualified for the final. The numbers in the table above will not be 100% accurate as the approach of the athlete to how they actually carried out their run-up differed. Some were stationary at their initial checkmark and then set off from that point. Others preferred to walk or to jog onto their checkmark. Conventionally athletes are taught so that their first stride would be with their left foot forward (right for left handed throwers). As there were no left handed throwers in the men's final, the terminology used here will reflect that fact (there were left handed throwers in the competition however – notably Matthias de Zordo from Germany the reigning World Champion). This would give an even number of strides during the cyclic phase of the run up. As can be seen in the table above 3 of the athletes had an odd number of strides in their run-up and therefore their first stride was with their right foot forward. The reason the Acyclic phase is always an odd number is due to the fact, that during the transition phase where the Javelin is withdrawn, the first stride (or acceleration/impulse stride – not to be confused with the impulse stride during the final cross over) should always be with the left foot. The average length of run-up based on observations made of the men's Javelin Final at the 2012 Olympic Games was therefore approximately 15 strides. This is typical of most top level throwers.

The Top 8

As previously mentioned a throw of 81.21m by athlete 1901 Tino HABER from Germany was enough to make the top 8 on the night of the Final.

Statistical Analysis

	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	BMI	PB	SB
Average	27.00	1.88	90.13	25.59	86.75	84.59
Standard Deviation	3.59	0.04	2.42	1.12	3.56	1.95
Max	30.00	1.95	94.00	27.17	91.59	88.11
Min	19.00	1.83	86.00	24.08	82.83	82.10

In addition to the above are the following statistics;

Average of best throws from the Top 8

(only throwers with a legal throw = all): **83.14m**

Average throw in the Top 8

(measured throws only): **81.15m**

The most noticeable statistic here is that the average of the best throws in the final of 83.14m was almost exactly the same as the average of the best throw from qualifying for the same 8 throwers of 83.10. There were no throwers who made the final but failed to make the top 8, that threw further than the 83.14m average "best" throw from the final, however 2 throwers who surpassed the automatic qualifying throw of 82m failed to make the top 8. These were athletes 2609 Stuart FARQUHAR from New Zealand and 2219 Roderick GENKI-DEAN from Japan. The average throw measured of 81.15m in the final for the top 8 was more than the 80.66m for the same 8 throwers from the qualifying round. The fact that Farquhar and Geni-Dean didn't make the top 8, but both having thrown 82m+ in qualifying may account for this somewhat. This was in contradiction to that which occurred in the women's competition where the standard in qualifying was higher. The top 8 had 38 legal throws between them in qualifying compared to 17 in qualifying. 47 of the 48 throws were taken in the final by the top 8 (Walcott passed the 6th round given he knew he had won the gold). Only 19 throws out of 24 were taken by those same 8 throwers in qualifying. This was due to the fact that 2 of those throwers surpassed the 82m automatic qualifying distance in round 1 and 3 in round 2.

The Medallists

To win a medal in the men's Javelin Throw at the 2012 Olympic Games, a throw of 84.12m was required. This was achieved by athlete 1727 Antti Ruuskanen from Finland.

Statistical Analysis

	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	BMI	PB	SB
Average	24.67	1.86	88.67	25.65	85.43	84.63
Standard Deviation	4.93	0.03	2.31	1.43	2.33	1.67
Max	28.00	1.89	90.00	26.87	87.33	86.12
Min	19.00	1.83	86.00	24.08	82.83	82.83

In addition to the above are the following statistics;

Average of best throws from the Medallists

(only throwers with a legal throw = all): **84.40m**

Average throw in the Medallists

(measured throws only): **81.97m**

Average of best throws from the Medallists in the Qualifying round:

82.07m

Average throw of the Medallists in the Qualifying round

79.57m

The average of the best throws from the medallists at the Olympic Games in the Final was greater than in the qualifying round (84.40m to 82.07m). What was different compared to the women's event was that of the men that won the medal's, none of them were in the top 3 qualifiers for the final (compared to Spotakova and Obergfoll in the women's who were the top 2 qualifiers). The medallists in the men's event took 8 throws between them in qualifying. All 3 medallists in the women's event qualified on their first round throw. Only athlete 3143 Oleksandr Pyatnytsya threw the automatic qualifying distance of 82m. That came on his second throw. None of the men that won medals were expected to win these medals. Indeed the top 3 qualifiers, which included the World's leading thrower from 2012 1525 Vitezslav VESELY from the Czech Republic, the 2007 World Champion 1726 Tero PITKAMAKI from Finland the reigning and 2 time Olympic Champion 2599 Andreas THORKILDSEN from Norway finished 4th, 5th and 6th respectively in the final ensuring that the men's event did not go to form. The average throw for the medallists in the final was therefore significantly further than that of the qualifying round (81.97m to 79.57m).

What was different to the women's event was that the medallists in the men's event seemed a lot more accepting of sub standard throws. Indeed the lowest measure throw in the men's Final was 77.47m and of the 18 throws that the athletes had 15 of them were legal with 2 foul throws and 1 throw passed. These were all by the Gold medallist 3052 Keshorn WALCOTT from Trinidad and Tobago. He naturally passed his last throw, as given he was leading after 3 rounds, he was last to throw in the order and therefore knew at this stage that he had become the Olympic Champion.