

Abstract

Title: Body height of top swimmers

Objectives: The purpose of this bachelor thesis is to find out the profile of finalists and semi-finalists of the Olympic Games in 2012 in London and 2016 in Rio de Janeiro in terms of body height. The thesis compares the height profile of the participants on the Olympic Games in the categories of men and women in general according to the individual swimming strokes, disciplines and length of the tracks.

Methods: Data were obtained through secondary data sources from the internet. The data was then interpreted using descriptive static characteristics. The presentation of the results of the selected variables were used pivot tables and graphical display.

Results: The survey included a total of 327 male swimmers and 296 female swimmers who competed in the semi-finals and finals at the 2012 Olympics and 2016. The average body height of the men was 188 cm for women and 175 cm for women. The utmost highest height of the swimmers is in the range of 200-203 cm for men and 188-189 cm for women. At more than half of the final swim-offs we find a higher average height of the swimmers. Also, when comparing the physical height of the medalists in the cases of more successful individuals the higher absolute body height prevails. In the specification of body height according to the swimming stroke and the length of the line, we find very similar discovery for men and women. Higher swimmers compete in the 50m and 100m tracks and in the freestyle and backstroke disciplines. The shortest average body height is common for male and female swimmers in the 400 m individual medley race. The success of some of the swimmers with shorter body height pointed to the fact that body height is an important parameter of the swimming performance, however, in any given set of elite swimmers this can be partially compensated by another factor of performance.

Keywords: swimming, swimming performance, static factors, height of the swimmers, swimming stroke