



Lawn Bowls Sport

Why in News?

In **Commonwealth Games 2022**, Indian women's team scripted history by winning the **country's first-ever Gold Medal** in **"Women's Four Lawn Bowls"** Sport.

What is Lawn Bowls Sport?



▪ About:

- Lawn bowls is often considered a mix of **"Ten-pin Bowling"** and the winter sport of **"Curling"**.
 - While in ten-pin bowling, **the goal is to take down all the pins at the end of a lane.**
 - In lawn bowling, the team has to get the **'Bowl' (the Ball)** closest to a target, which is known as the **'Jack'**.
- Bowls are **mostly spherical ball-like objects**, typically made of **wood, rubber or plastic resin**, having flattened sides.

▪ Playing Process:

- Players stand on either side of a 600mm long and 360mm wide mat and take turns **rolling these bowls in an attempt to get closest to the jack.**
 - The jack is either **white or yellow in colour** and is **smaller and lighter than the bowl.**
- In the fours event, **the first bowler, called the lead**, is followed by the second and the

third.

- **The last bowler is called the 'skip' and is the leader of the team.**
- Each team member **gets two bowls per round.**
- Umpires use a device called "**Box Measure**" which uses a string to measure the distance between the jack and the bowls.
- **India's Participation:**
 - Since its inaugural edition in 1930, **lawn bowls has been a part of the Commonwealth Games.**
 - So far, **England, Australia and South Africa** have won the most medals in the game, having won 51, 50 and 44 medals respectively.
 - Scotland has won 20 gold medals at the Commonwealth Games so far.
 - **India has participated in lawn bowls events** at the 2010, 2014 and 2018 Commonwealth Games.
 - The country's previous best was at **fourth place in the 2010 women's triples lawn bowling event in Delhi** and in the **2014 men's fours event at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.**

What are Commonwealth Games?

- **About:**
 - **Commonwealth Games** is a multisport event contested by **athletes from the [Commonwealth of Nations](#).**
 - **The Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF)** is the organisation responsible for the **direction and control** of the Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Youth Games.
 - It is an organisation **headquartered and incorporated in the UK**, but working across **72 member nations and territories.**
- **Evolution:**
 - **Australian-born Astley Cooper** first broached the idea of such games in 1891, calling for **sports competitions** to be held so as to demonstrate the unity of the British Empire.
 - In 1911 a "**Festival of the Empire**" was organized, celebrating the coronation of King George V.
 - Teams from the United Kingdom, Australasia (Australia and New Zealand), Canada, and South Africa participated in a series of events that included **athletics, boxing, wrestling, and swimming.**
 - The 1954 event, in Vancouver, marked the first time the **Games were contested by countries that were no longer part of the British Empire.**
- **Opening Ceremony:**
 - Akin to the Olympic Games, the **Commonwealth Games also begin with an opening ceremony.**
 - It typically starts with **hoisting the host country's flag** and a **performance of its national anthem.**
 - After an artistic performance, **athletes parade into the stadium**, starting with those from the **country that hosted the previous Games** and then the other countries, grouped first by region and then in alphabetical order.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

Q. Consider the following statements in respect of the 32nd Summer Olympics:

1. The official motto for this Olympics is 'A New World'.
2. Sport Climbing, Surfing, Skateboarding, Karate and Baseball are included in this Olympics.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

Explanation:

- The Games of the 32nd Summer Olympiad (Tokyo 2020) were held from 23 July to 8 August 2021. The Olympics have been held every four years since 1948. However, Tokyo Olympic 2020 was not held after four years as it was postponed for 2021, because of Covid pandemic.
- The official motto for Olympics 2020 was “United by Emotion”. The motto emphasised the power of sport to bring together people from diverse backgrounds of every kind and allow them to connect and celebrate in a way that reaches beyond their differences. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- A total of 46 Olympic Sports were contested at the Tokyo 2020 Games including Rugby, Sport Climbing, Fencing, Football, Skateboarding, Handball, Surfing, Karate, Baseball, among others. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.**

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