Olympic Sports: Cycling

Cycling is a sport where athletes on bicycles race in individual and team events. Cycling is one of the oldest sports in the history of the modern Olympics.

There were four types of cycling events for the 2016 Summer Olympics. In **Track** Cycling, cyclists race around an indoor track. In Road Cycling, cyclists compete in the outdoors on roads.

The Mountain Bike event was added in 1996. Cyclists race outdoors across a rough outdoor course. Mountain Bike cyclists ride heavier bikes than in Track Cycling or Road Cycling.

The newest Olympic cycling event is **BMX**, which was introduced at the 2008 Olympics. In BMX, cyclists race across a manmade course with obstacles and jumps. BMX racers ride on specially designed bicycles.

Men and women compete separately in Olympic cycling events. Women first competed in Olympic cycling in 1984. Now, there are as many women's events as men's.

> = Y = Z

Secret Code Word

Use the secret code to find a word about cycling events. Write the letter in the blank that matches the number from the code.

| 18 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 14 | 7 |
|----|---|---|---|----|---|
| | | | | | |

Secret code:

Name ____

| 1 = A | 7 = G | 13 = M | 19 = S | 25 |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|----|
| 2 = B | 8 = H | 14 = N | 20 = T | 26 |
| 3 = C | 9 = I | 15 = O | 21 = U | |
| 4 = D | 10 = J | 16 = P | 22 = V | |
| 5 = E | 11 = K | 17 = Q | 23 = W | |
| 6 = F | 12 = L | 18 = R | 24 = X | |
| | | | | |



Questions

1. When was the BMX event introduced at the Olympics? _____

- 2. When did women cyclists start competing in the Olympics?
- 3. Which Olympic cycling event is held indoors?

4. Which Olympic cycling event takes place over rough outdoor course?

2016 Olympic Cycling Events

Track Cycling: 5 men's and 5 women's events

Road Cycling: 2 men's and 5 women's events

Mountain Bike: 1 men's and 1 women's event

BWX. 1 men's and 1 women's event



Men's Road Cycling, Rio 2016 Olympics



Women's Track Cycling, Rio 2016 Olympics