

1046-N1-2062 **Elizabeth C Rogers*** (brogers@piedmont.edu), Piedmont College, Central Ave., Demorest, GA 30535. *Mathematics of the Olympics: From the Ancient Greeks to the Present.*

From the first Olympics held in 776 BC until today, mathematics has permeated every event in height, distance, weight, timing, scoring and multiple other facets of the games. This paper focuses mathematically on the sports that were included during 1100 years of the ancient games and compares them to the sports of the modern Olympic era. Many of the original sports such as the pentathlon continue in varied forms today. As man and mathematics have developed over the centuries, the Olympics have changed in a variety of ways, but some classic events such as the marathon still exist. Just as the ancient Greeks went to great lengths to insure fair competition, the modern games continue to struggle with the mathematics of "fairness." (Received September 17, 2008)