

Rhythmic Gymnastics – Bessonova eyes gold

Ukrainian Anna Bessonova is aiming to follow Alina Kabaeva and Ekaterina Serebrianskaya who, in 2004 and 1996 respectively, became Olympic Champion the year after winning the world title

ACHIEVEMENT OF REIGNING WORLD CHAMPION AT OLYMPIC GAMES*

Year	Name	Nation	Olympic Games	Rank
2007	Anna Bessonova	UKR	Beijing 2008	TBD
2003	Alina Kabaeva	RUS	Athens 2004	1st
1999	Alina Kabaeva	RUS	Sydney 2000	3rd
1995	Ekaterina Serebrianskaya	UKR	Atlanta 1996	1st
1991	Oksana Skaldina	URS	Barcelona 1992	3rd
1987	Bianka Panova	BUL	Seoul 1988	4th
1983	Diliana Georgieva**	BUL	Los Angeles 1984	DNP

Set to music, gymnasts must display grace and coordination using rope, hoop, ball, clubs and ribbon

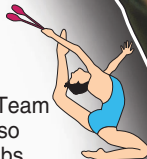


Ribbon:

Thrown in loops, circles and spirals

Ball: Thrown, caught, rolled and bounced

Clubs: Team event also uses clubs



*All-round individual

** Did not participate at Los Angeles Olympics because of boycott

Anna Bessonova



Beijing University of Technology Gymnasium

1 Medal events

AUG 21 22 23 24



Picture: Getty Images

Sources:
Infostrada Sports, IOC

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