

Beat: Sports

## THE DRAW FOR THE MEN'S & WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAMS WAS MADE BY NOTORIOUS ATHLETES

### PARIS 2024 & FIFA at COJO St Denis

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**USPA NEWS** - Four months before the start of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, the Organizing Committee for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, in collaboration with FIFA, has revealed the highly anticipated draw for the football event, men's and women's, at the COJO (Saint Denis Olympic Games Committee), in front of a group of international journalists. The happy few make up Sixteen teams make up the men's draw, twelve for the women's. The Men's Olympic Football Tournament, Paris 2024, kicks off on July 24, with France - United States opening at the Stade de Marseille. France, the host country, will face great teams on both the men's and women's sides, notably Canada, the reigning Olympic champion, in women's football.

- The French men's team (Les Bleus), Thus, France will face the United States, New Zealand and the winner of the play-off between a team from the AFC (a country from the Asian continent) and Guinea in the Men's Tournament (July 24 to August 9).
- On the men's football side, Thierry Henry French, sports broadcaster and Selector of the Football Team, and former player (in Arsenal Team, and French World Champion, 1998, "We will have to try to get this victory." he said.

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  - On the men's football side, Thierry Henry French, sports broadcaster and Selector of the Football Team, and former player (in Arsenal Team, and French World Champion, 1998, alongside Zinedine Zidane) Bleu Team, declared in a very optimistic but humble manner : "We will have to try to get this victory." He insisted on the importance of the French team's participation in the Olympic Games.
  - The French football players (les Bleues), will face Canada, Colombia and New Zealand. As for Herve Renard, the sectionalist of the French women's team, also present at the drawing ceremony, he declared "When we see the quality of the teams which make up the other groups, it announces very difficult Olympics but it 'is the price of being crowned'
- Arsene Wenger (Ex coach of the coach among others of FC Arsenal, for his part expressed his co-financing on the quality of the teams frankly "I think that the two French teams, men and women have a good chance of going to the quarterfinals final »

### LIST OF THE 7 STADIUMS WHERE THE TOURNAMENTS WILL TAKE PLACE IN FRANCE DURING PARIS 2024 OLYMPIC GAMES

The tournament will take place in seven stadiums in France:

- 1-Parc des Princes, Paris
- 2-Stade de Bordeaux, Bordeaux
- 3-Stade de la Beaujoire, Nantes
- 4-Stade de Lyon, Lyon
- 5-Stade de Marseille, Marseille
- 6-Nice Stadium, Nice
- 7-Stade Geoffroy-Guichard, Saint-Etienne

## THE DRAW FOR THE MEN'S & WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAMS WAS MADE BY LEGENDARIES OF INTERNATIONAL SPORT

- Marie-Jose Perec (French, Triple Olympic athletics champion)
- Didier Drogba (Franco-Ivorian, The famous number 11 striker of Chelsea Club)
- Javier Saviola (Argentinian Striker number 11 of Club Atletico River Plate)
- Stephanie Labbe (Goalkeeper for the Canadian women's soccer team)

## OLYMPIC MEN'S FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

### Groupe A

- France
- USA
- AFC-CAF play-off winner
- New Zealand

### Groupe A

- France
- USA
- AFC-CAF play-off winner
- New Zealand

### Groupe B

- Argentina
- Morocco
- AFC 3
- Ukraine

### Groupe C

- AFC 2
- Spain
- Egypt
- Dominican Republic

### Groupe D

- AFC 1
- Paraguay
- Mali
- Israël

On July 24, the French will face the Americans at the Vélodrome stadium in Marseille, at 9 p.m.

Their second match of the Olympics will take place on July 27, against Guinea or an Asian team in Nice, still at 9 p.m. Then, a new match at the Veldorome in Marseille on July 30 (7 p.m.) to play against New Zealand. According to Thierry Henri, "This is an affordable group while the duel between Argentina and Morocco will undoubtedly excite football fans in Group B". France, which was eliminated in the preliminary round of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, will try to win the second gold medal in its Olympic history. Thierry Henri adds "When I talk about visualizing gold, I mean: 'I'm here, I'm looking.' But to get there, there's a long way. If you don't see gold, there's no point in coming to the tournament. »Indeed, the last five South American victories, with Argentina at the Athens 2004 and Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, then Mexico at the London 2012 Olympic Games and finally Brazil at Rio 2016, Tokyo 2020.

## THE DRAW FOR THE FEMALE'S TEAMS WAS MADE BY FAMOUS FOOTBALLER DIDIER DROGBA AND STEPHANIE LABBE

After the draw for the men's football tournament for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, which took place this Wednesday evening, by these famous athletes and legendary football players, they run the draw for the Female Olympic Football Tournaments, Paris 2024, at the Pulse Building in Saint-Denis (COJO). The draw for the twelve women's football teams was carried out by Didier Drogba and

Stéphanie Labbé. The twelve teams will be divided into three groups of four. The pools of women's football teams, whose fame and fan interest grows from year to year... is represented by twelve best teams in the World which are as follows. Herve Renard's France women will face Colombia, Canada and New Zealand in the Women's Tournament (from July 25 to August 10) while Thierry Henry's Bleuets will face the United States, New Zealand and the winner of the play-off between an AFC team.

- 1-Australia
- 2-Brazil,
- 3-Canada,
- 4-Colombie
- 5-Germany
- 6- Japan
- 7- New Zealand
- 8-Spain
- 9- USA
- 10- Nigeria, South Africa, Morocco, Zambia, (Two African teams, to be selected, AFC)

The level of these twelve women's teams is very high, to compete during the next Olympic Games (July 26 to August 11) in Paris 2024.

On the French side, the women's team (Les Bleues) is automatically placed in group A. The USA inherits group B, and Spain in C. The French women's team will have to win during the tournament Olympic if it wants to achieve the objectives set by the FFF, given its defeat in the final of the League of Nations, the challenge promises to be enormous in a global competition and in an Olympic framework. The coach of the women's team, Herve Renard, with great lucidity, does not underestimate adversity, and spoke of the Blue's future opponents: "Colombia is a team that had a very good World Cup. Canada is the reigning Olympic champion. New Zealand created a surprise during the World Cup against Norway. »

Groupe A  
France  
Colombia  
Canada  
New-Zealand

Groupe B  
USA  
AFC 2  
Germany  
Australia

Groupe C  
Spain  
Japan  
AFC1  
Brazil

THIERRY HENRY IS DELIGHTED AT THE INCLUSION OF THE MERGES OLYMPICS WITH THE PARALYMPICS FOR PARIS 2024

The famous coach of the France Espoirs team, Thierry Henry, coach now has the opportunity to make his fans and players dream, he who not only represents a football legend, alongside Zinedine Zidane, having marked the 1998 championship, from the first world champion title to the coronations at EURO 2000 and the 2003 Confederations Cup. He is a role model for all young people who love or practice this sporting and Olympic discipline. Thierry Henri confides "We don't know where we will end up, but we will do everything to get this medal at home", and remembers his years spent in New York, a city which "still fascinates him" and his attachment to the USA. The last time France brought home Olympic gold was 40 years ago, in 1984 in Los Angeles. Thierry Henry confides his optimism, and

satisfaction, following the draw "Now we know. We have a friendly match against the United States on Monday, that was not planned. We will prepare in the best possible way and try to go as far as possible. "

INTERVIEW BY USPA'S CORRESPONDENT, Rahma Sophia RACHDI

USPA QUESTION: You are a very engaged man towards the underprivileged people, and especially the most vulnerable. How do you see the merge of Olympics with Paralympics, by Paris 2024, as a one of a kind gesture towards the inclusion of people with disability?

ANSWER THIERRY HENRY : Yes of course, I'm so glad, and couldn't be happier that Paralympics merged with the Olympics, as a matter of fact, I usually do not even make a difference, because I see the performance of the athletes, whether they have impairment or not, as an obstacle. This is the inclusion.

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