

# Track and Field



## *Pole Vault*



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## Pole Vault

### The Revolution of 1961

The first pole vault competition took place within the framework of the AAA-championships in England in 1866. A man named Wheeler vaulted 3.05 m. However, the first officially recognized world record only dates from 1912, when it was established by the American Marc Wright, the first man to vault

over 4 m (13'2"). Until the end of World War II, only bamboo poles were used. Logically, aluminium poles should have pushed the record up, but it had been set very high by the American Cornelius Warmerdam. Then came the fibreglass pole which revolutionized the event.

#### CHRONOLOGY OF WORLD RECORD

4.02 m	Marc Wright (USA)	June 8, 1912	5.08 m	Brian Sternberg (USA)	June 7, 1963
4.09 m	Frank Foss (USA)	Aug. 20, 1920	5.13 m	John Pennel (USA)	Aug. 5, 1963
4.12 m	Charles Hoff (NOR)	Sept. 3, 1922	5.20 m	John Pennel (USA)	Aug. 24, 1963
4.21 m	Charles Hoff (NOR)	July 22, 1923	5.23 m	Fred Hansen (USA)	June 13, 1964
4.23 m	Charles Hoff (NOR)	Aug. 13, 1925	5.28 m	Fred Hansen (USA)	July 25, 1964
4.25 m	Charles Hoff (NOR)	Sept. 27, 1925	5.32 m	Bob Seagren (USA)	May 14, 1966
4.27 m	Sabin Carr (USA)	May 27, 1927	5.34 m	John Pennel (USA)	July 23, 1966
4.30 m	Lee Barnes (USA)	April 28, 1928	5.36 m	Bob Seagren (USA)	June 10, 1967
4.37 m	Bill Graber (USA)	July 16, 1932	5.38 m	Paul Wilson (USA)	June 23, 1967
4.39 m	Keith Brown (USA)	June 1, 1935	5.41 m	Bob Seagren (USA)	Sept. 12, 1968
4.43 m	George Varoff (USA)	July 4, 1936	5.44 m	John Pennel (USA)	June 21, 1969
4.54 m	Bill Sefton (USA)	May 29, 1937	5.45 m	Wolfgang Nordwig (EGE)	June 17, 1970
4.54 m	Earl Meadows (USA)	May 29, 1937	5.46 m	Wolfgang Nordwig (EGE)	Sept. 3, 1970
4.60 m	Cornelius Warmerdam (USA)	June 29, 1940	5.49 m	Christos Papanicolaou (GRE)	Oct. 25, 1970
4.72 m	Cornelius Warmerdam (USA)	June 6, 1941	5.51 m	Kjell Isaksson (SWE)	April 8, 1972
4.77 m	Cornelius Warmerdam (USA)	May 23, 1942	5.54 m	Kjell Isaksson (SWE)	April 15, 1972
4.78 m	Bob Gutowski (USA)	April 27, 1957	5.59 m	Bob Seagren (USA)	May 23, 1972
4.80 m	Don Bragg (USA)	July 2, 1960	5.59 m	Kjell Isaksson (SWE)	May 23, 1972
4.83 m	George Davies (USA)	May 20, 1961	5.63 m	Bob Seagren (USA)	July 2, 1972
4.89 m	John Uelses (USA)	March 31, 1962	5.65 m	Dave Roberts (USA)	March 28, 1975
4.93 m	Dave Tork (USA)	April 28, 1962	5.67 m	Earl Bell (USA)	May 29, 1976
4.94 m	Pentti Nikula (FIN)	June 22, 1962	5.70 m	Dave Roberts (USA)	June 22, 1976
5.00 m	Brian Sternberg (USA)	April 27, 1963			

1976 OG: a disappointment for Dave Roberts, only a bronze medallist with 5.50 m