

Andriy Shevchenko

Date of birth: 29 September 1976 (Dvirkiivshchyna, Kyivska oblast, Ukrainian SSR)

Is a Ukrainian footballer who plays for Dynamo Kyiv and the Ukraine national team as a striker. He is the third-highest goalscorer in Champions League history with 58 goals as of 10 March 2011, behind Ruud van Nistelrooy (60) and Raul (71). Shevchenko is ranked as the third top goalscorer in all European competitions with 67 goals. The most prestigious of Andriy's awards were the Ballon d'Or in 2004 (becoming the third Ukrainian, after Oleg Blokhin and Igor Belanov to receive it) and the UEFA Champions League in 2003 with Milan. Besides the Golden Ball, Shevchenko was awarded other individual awards.



Klitschko brothers

Dates of birth: Wladimir - 25

March 1976 (Semipalatinsk, Kazakh SSR), Vitali - 19 July 1971 (Belovodsk, Kirghiz SSR) in family of Ukrainians

Vitali Klitschko older brother, is the current WBC world heavyweight champion. He has the highest knockout percentage (95%) of any heavyweight boxing champion in overall fights. He also holds the distinction of being a three time world heavyweight champion, having previously held the WBO and WBC titles, and has never been knocked out or knocked down in any professional boxing bout. Vitali is the first professional boxing world champion to hold a Ph.D. (in sports science).

His younger brother, Wladimir Klitschko is a Ukrainian heavyweight boxer. Klitschko is the unified IBF, WBO, IBO and Ring Magazine Champion of the world.



Liliya Podkopayeva

Date of birth: 15 August 1978

(Donetsk, Ukrainian SSR)

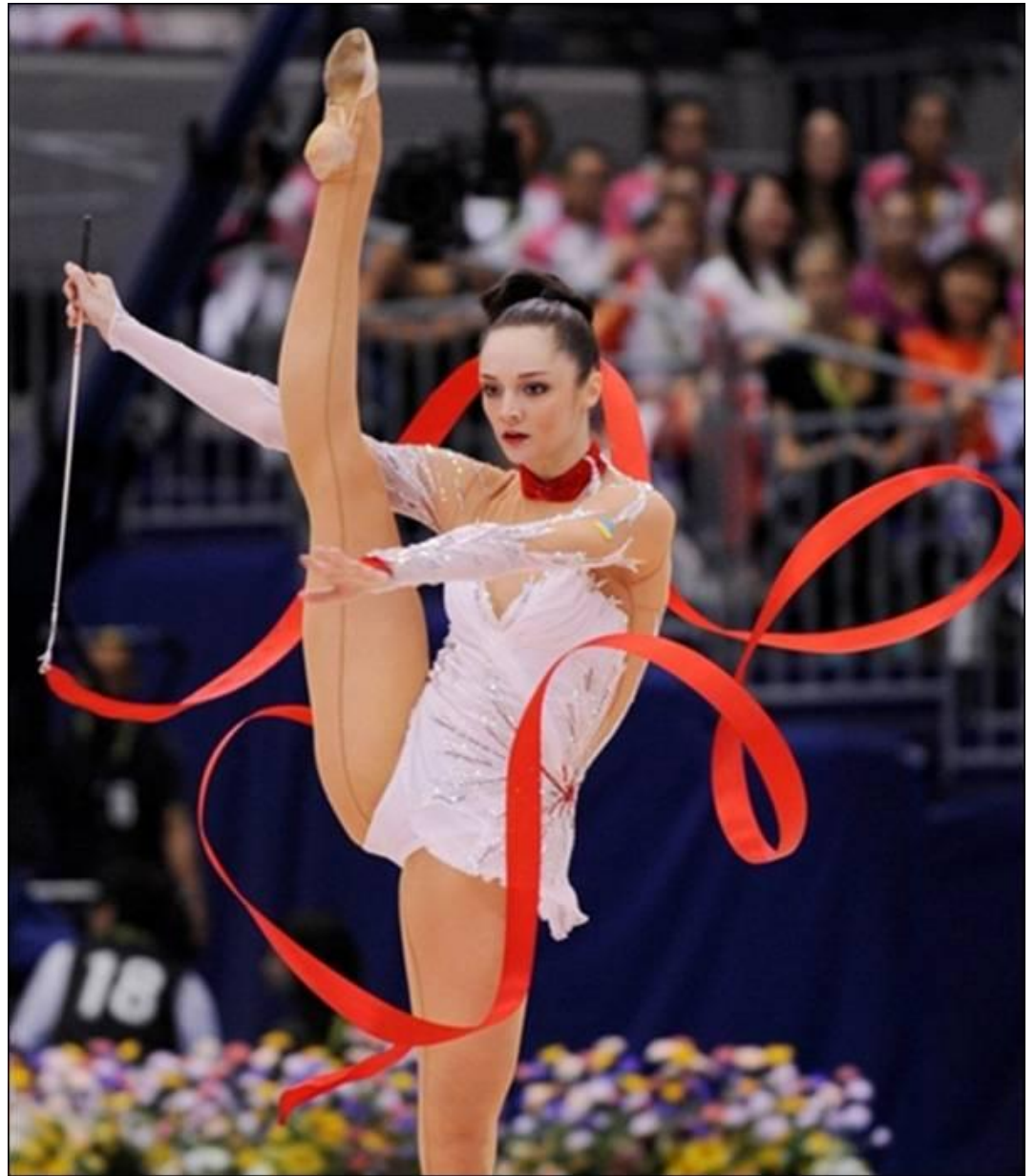
Liliya Podkopayeva is the 1996 Olympic all-around champion. She is widely regarded as one of the best gymnasts in history. She is the proud owner of 45 gold, 21 silver and 14 bronze medals.



Anna Bessonova

**Date of birth: 29 July 1984
(Kyiv, Ukrainian SSR)**

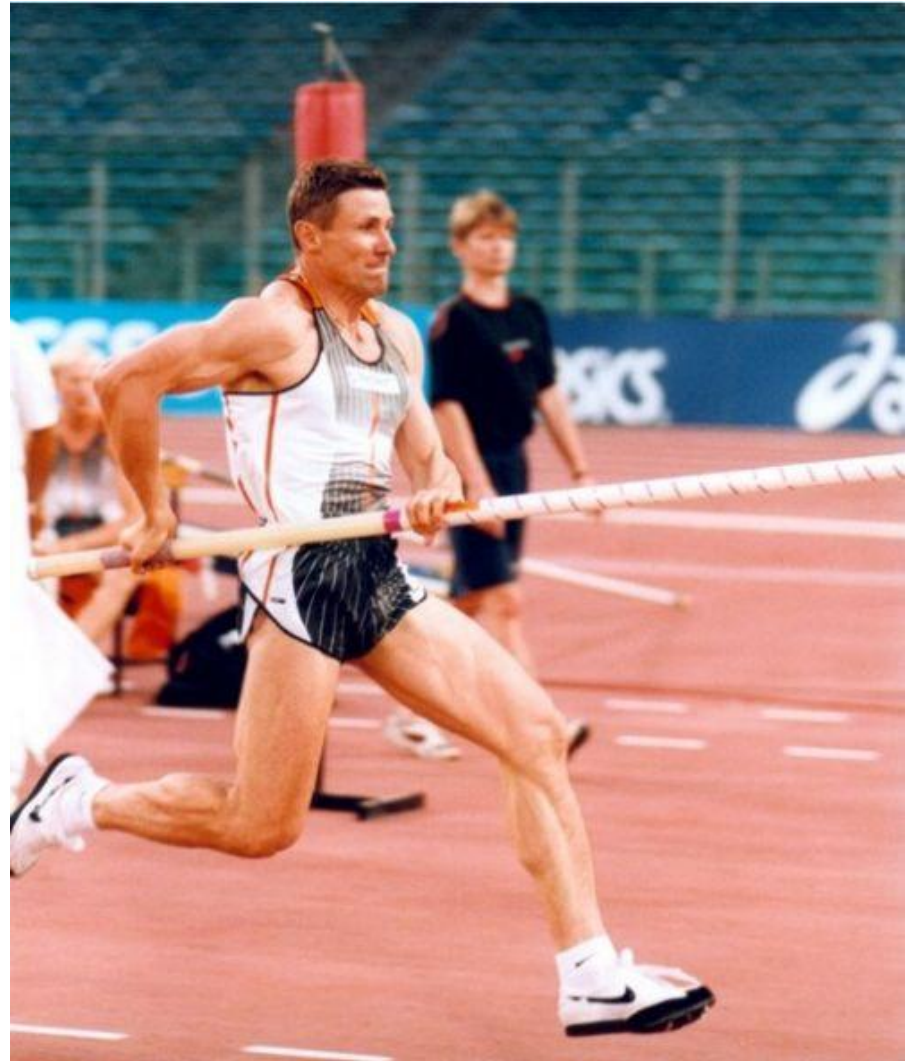
Anna Bessonova is the number one rhythmic gymnast in Ukraine. In 2007, Bessonova became world champion at the World Rhythmic Gymnastics Championship in Patras winning the all-around gold medal. She won the bronze individual all around medals at the 2008 Beijing and 2004 Athens Olympics. Over the course of her career she has won 24 World Championship medals, 2 Olympic medals, 24 European Championship medals and 10 World Cup medals (60 in total).



Sergey Bubka

Date of birth: 4 December 1963 (Lugansk, Ukrainian SSR)

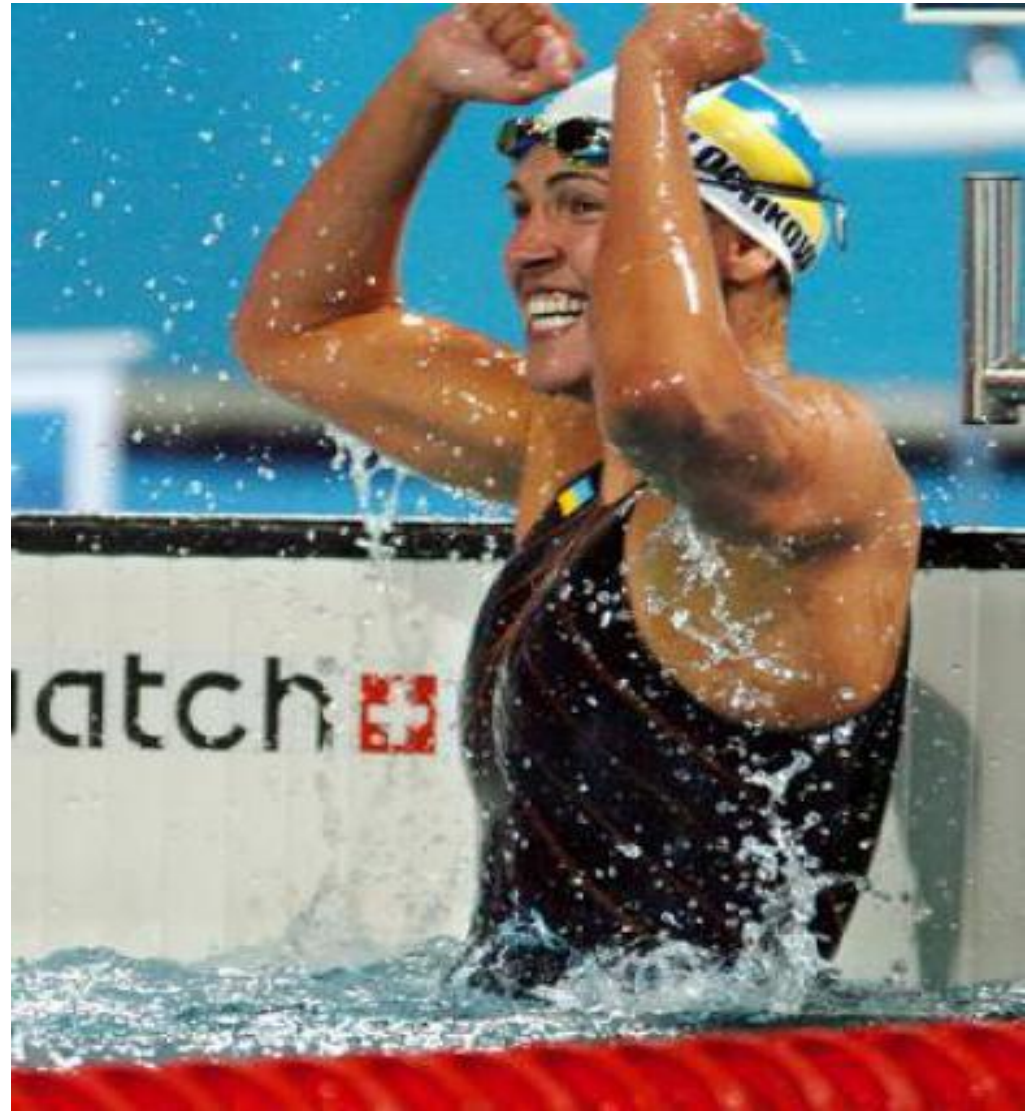
Serhiy Bubka is six times world champion (between 1983 and 1997), European champion in 1986 and Olympic champion in 1988. He broke the world record for men's pole vaulting 35 times (17 outdoor and 18 indoor records). He was the first to clear 6.0 metres and the first and only to clear 6.10 metres (20 ft). He holds the current outdoor world record of 6.14 metres (20 feet 1 3/4 inches), set on 31 July 1994 in Sestriere, Italy and the current indoor world record of 6.15 meters, set on 21 February 1993 in Donetsk, Ukraine.



Yana Klochkova

Date of birth: 7 August 1982
(Simferopol, Crimea,
Ukrainian SSR)

Yana Klochkova is a Ukrainian swimmer, who has won five Olympic medals. 4 gold medals came in the 200 meter individual medley and the 400 meter individual medley at the 2000 and 2004 Summer Olympics. Her silver medal came in the 800 meter freestyle at the 2000 Summer Olympics.



Oksana Baiul

**Date of birth: 16 November
1977 (Dnipropetrovsk,
Ukrainian SSR)**

Oksana Baiul (Оксана
Баяул) is a Ukrainian
professional figure skater.
She is the 1994 Olympic
champion in ladies' singles
and the 1993 World
champion.



Vasyl Virastyuk

Date of birth: 22 April 1974
(Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukrainian SSR)

Vasyl Virastyuk is a strongman competitor from Ukraine. He competed in the finals of the World's Strongest Man contest in 2003 (3rd place) and 2004 (1st place). As well he won the 2007 IFSA Strongman World Championship.

