

Accepted Manuscript

Title: Dying to Win? Olympic Gold Medals and Longevity

Author: Adam Leive

PII: S0167-6296(18)30337-0

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2018.07.005>

Reference: JHE 2140

To appear in: *Journal of Health Economics*

Received date: 11-4-2018

Revised date: 22-7-2018

Accepted date: 27-7-2018



Please cite this article as: Leive A, Dying to Win? Olympic Gold Medals and Longevity, *Journal of Health Economics* (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhealeco.2018.07.005>

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

Dying to Win? Olympic Gold Medals and Longevity^{*}

Adam Leive

University of Virginia

^{*}I am grateful to helpful comments from Iwan Barankay, Henry Bergquist, Guy David, Matt Grennan, Scott Harrington, Jon Kolstad, Ambar La Forgia, Luis Rayo, Chris Ruhm, Jay Shimshack, Amanda Starc, Bob Town, Nicolas Ziebarth, and seminar participants at ASHEcon, NBER Health Economics, UVA, and Wharton. I thank Steve Holman for his feedback and insights about his experiences in Olympic Track and Field. Funding from the National Institute of Aging through Grant Number T32-AG000186 to the National Bureau of Economic Research and from the Ackoff Fellowship from the Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center is gratefully acknowledged.

Address: 109 Garrett Hall, Batten School of Leadership & Public Policy, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, 22904.

Email: leive@virginia.edu.

Abstract

This paper compares mortality between Gold and Silver medalists in Olympic Track and Field to study how achievement influences health. Contrary to conventional wisdom, winners die over one year earlier than losers. I find strong evidence of differences in earnings and occupational choices as a mechanism. Losers pursued higher-paying occupations than winners according to individual Census records. I find no evidence consistent with selection or risk-taking. How people respond to success or failure in pivotal life events may produce long-lasting consequences for health.

JEL codes: I12, I31, J10

Keywords: longevity, achievement, rank, mortality, income

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/11004854>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/11004854>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)