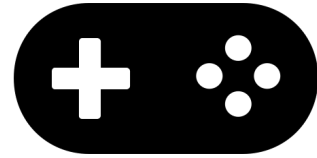


Lane Matches  
SOLUTION

Spring 2018

The lanes throughout the puzzle are in reference to the stripes in countries' flags. In addition, the three digit country codes hint to look at the flag of countries, as flags are typically displayed in olympic lane assignments as seen [here](#). Each swimmer has three letters in their last name, corresponding to the three stripes in their countries flag. In the Moscow lane assignments, we compare each competitors flag with the Russian Flag (White, Blue, Red) and extract letters from their last name corresponding to which stripes match in the two flags. We repeat this process with the Cameroon Olympics (Green, Red, Yellow) and the 8 vertical stripe flags.

## Horizontal

Russia (White, Blue, Red)

Bulgaria (**White**, Green, **Red**) Andrei **POH**,  
 Estonia (Blue, Black, White) Maja **SAM**  
 Lithuania (Yellow, Green, **Red**) Marty **ABE**  
 Ethiopia (Green, Yellow, **Red**) Yonas **GAL**  
 Myanmar (Yellow, Green, **Red**) Aung **SAP**  
 Netherlands (Red, White, Blue) Selena **ZHU**  
 Sierra Leone (Green, White, Blue) Zainab **ELI**  
 Serbia (Red, **Blue**, White) Aleksandra **ASH**

## Vertical

Cameroon (Green, Red, Yellow)

Chad (Blue, Yellow, Red) Fidel **DAY**  
 Afghanistan (Black, **Red**, Green) Taara **UCY**  
 Ivory Coast (Orange, White, Green) Youssef **LEE**  
 Italy (**Green**, White, Red) Luca **OLA**  
 Ireland (**Green**, White, Orange) Margaret **ALI**  
 France (Blue, White, Red) William **POL**  
 Nigeria (**Green**, White, Green) Obasi **COH**  
 Senegal (**Green**, Yellow, Red) Cheik **HSU**

The resulting extraction is:

PHELPS COACH, a clue phrase referring legendary swimmer Michael Phelps' coach, BOB BOWMAN.