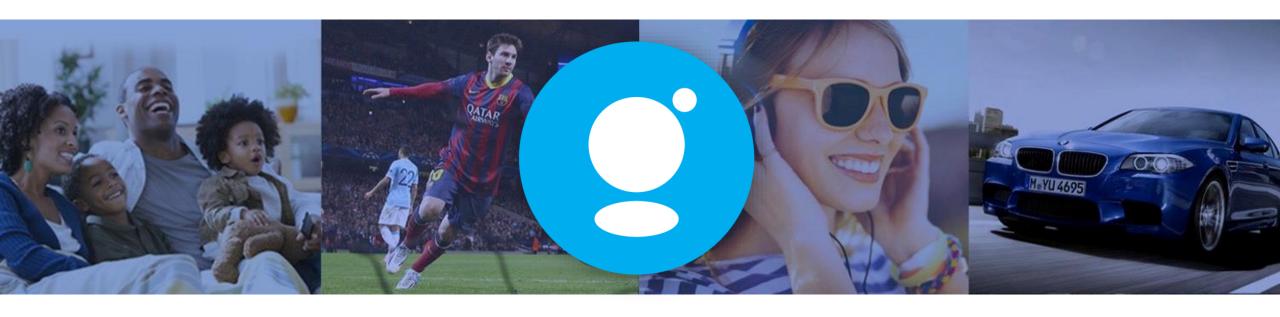


Predicting the Olympic Games

16 January, 2018

#### COMPANY OVERVIEW



World's leading entertainment data and technology company

We power the world's top music services, consumer electronics, automakers, cable and satellite providers

#### Gracenote - leveraging the power of metadata



Music













**Auto** 











Video







COMCAST





Sports















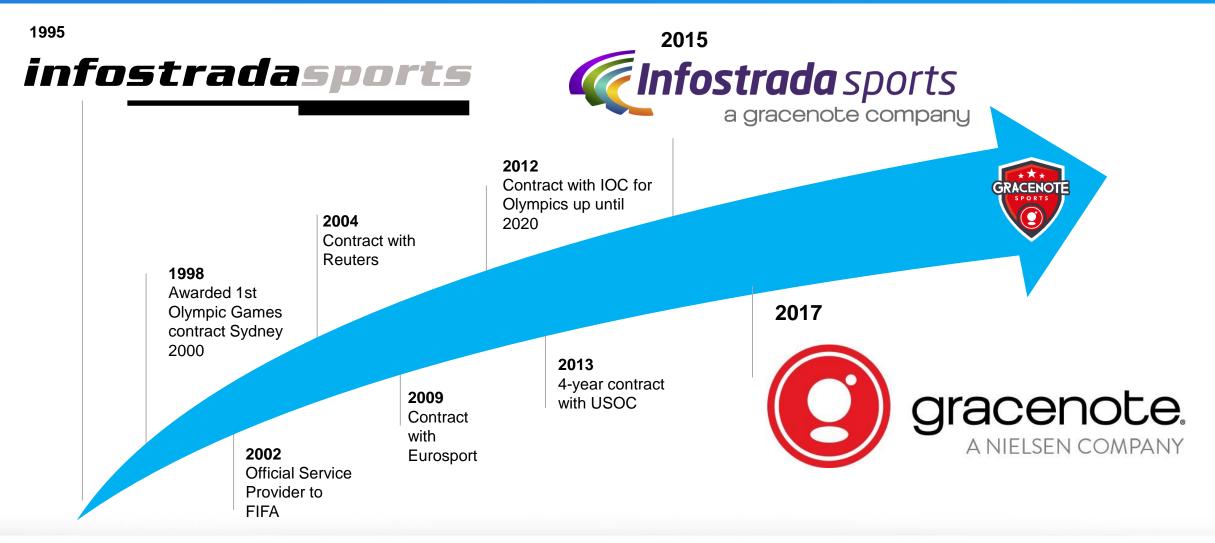


**Personalization** 





#### Gracenote Sports - History





### Sports Services - Analytics

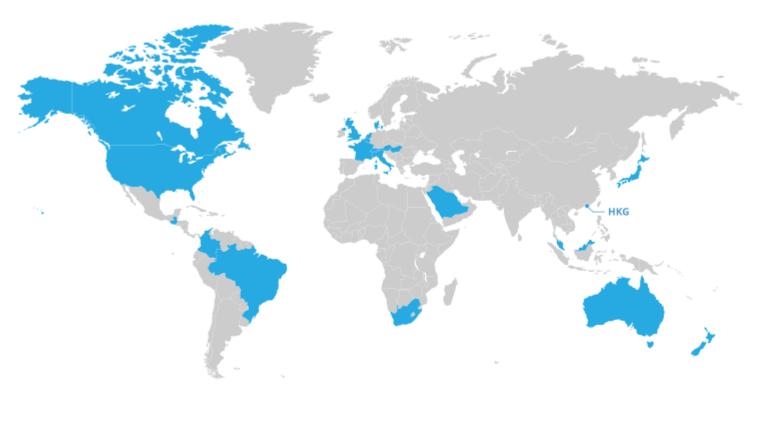


Gracenote can dive deep into the numbers to provide business intelligence for decision making.



#### **Gracenote Sports High Performance Customers**

#### **High Performance clients - Gracenote Sports Analytics**







#### Storytelling

- "..There are 8 million stories..." in our sports database
- Analytical tools and statistical models help tell them















THE WALL STREET JOURNAL





















#### **Prediction**



Prediction is very difficult, especially if it's about the future.

(Niels Bohr)



## **Projecting Olympic Medals**

Economic factors

Expertise

Results or other performance data





#### **Economic factors**

Needs to include previous
 Olympic performance

Static

 Provides no information on who might win medals

Works poorly for Winter Olympics



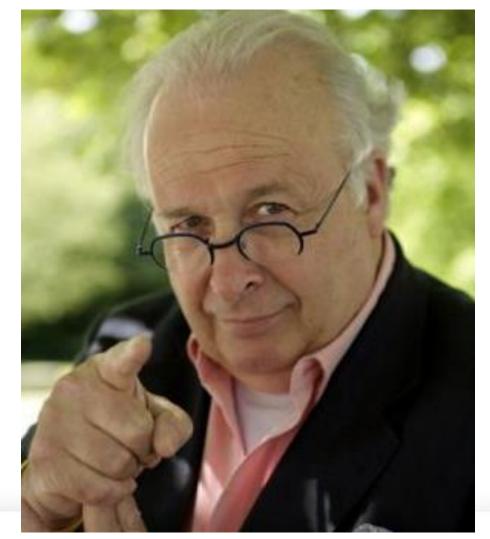


## **Expertise**

Available only just before the Olympics

Static

Potential for recency bias





#### Results

More information

Dynamic

full Results						0
Date / - PhaseName	Rank	Person/Team	Country		Age (days)	Result
14-Jan-2018   Alpine Skiing Downhill Women - Bad Kleinkirchheim 2017/2018	1	Sofia Goggia (ITA, 15 Nov 1992)	Italy		25-060	1:04.00
14-Jan-2018 Alpine Skiing Slalom Men - Wengen 2017/2018	1	Marcel Hirscher (AUT, 02 Mar 1989)	Austria		28-318	1:45.45
14-Jan-2018 Biathlon 12.5km Mass Start Women - Ruhpolding 2017/2018	1	Kaisa Mäkäräinen (FIN, 11 Jan 1983)	Finland		35-003	34:05.6
14-Jan-2018 Biathlon 15km Mass Start Men - Ruhpolding 2017/2018	1	Johannes Bø (NOR, 16 May 1993)	Norway	-	24-243	37:11.2
14-Jan-2018 Bobsleigh 4-Man Competition Open - St. Moritz 2017/2018	1	Germany (Johannes Lochner)	Germany		26-053	2:08.42
14-Jan-2018 Cross Country Skiing Team Sprint Freestyle Men - Dresden 2017/2018	1	Nöckler / Pellegrino	Italy		28-121	12:18.31
14-Jan-2018 Cross Country Skiing Team Sprint Freestyle Women - Dresden 2017/2018	1	Ingemarsdotter / Dahlqvist	Sweden		28-086	13:33.40
14-Jan-2018 Equestrian - Dressage Individual Open - Wellington 2017/2018	1	Vilhelmson Silfvén (Paridon Magi)	Sweden		50-186	
4-Jan-2018 Freestyle Skiing Ski Cross Men - Idre 2017/2018	1	Jean Frédéric Chapuis (FRA, 02 Mar 1989)	France		28-318	
4-Jan-2018 Freestyle Skiing Ski Cross Women - Idre 2017/2018	1	Sandra Näslund (SWE, 06 Jul 1996)	Sweden		21-192	
4-Jan-2018 Golf Individual Men - BMW SA Open 2018	1	Chris Paisley (ENG, 24 Mar 1986)	Great Britain		31-296	-2
4-Jan-2018 Luge Single Men - Oberhof 2017/2018	1	Felix Loch (GER, 24 Jul 1989)	Germany		28-174	1:25.59
4-Jan-2018 Luge Team - Relay Mixed - Oberhof 2017/2018	1	Germany	Germany		28-100	2:20.95
4-Jan-2018 Nordic Combined Gundersen Large Hill / 10km Men - Val di Fiemme 2017/2018	1	Jan Schmid (NOR, 24 Nov 1983)	Norway	-	34-051	26:19.
4-Jan-2018 Short Track 1000m Men - European Championships 2017/2018	1	Sjinkie Knegt (NED, 05 Jul 1989)	Netherlands		28-193	1:24.63
4-Jan-2018 Short Track 1000m Women - European Championships 2017/2018	1	Arianna Fontana (ITA, 14 Apr 1990)	Italy		27-275	1:30.35
4-Jan-2018   Short Track 3000m Relay Women - European Championships 2017/2018	1	Russia	Russia		23-212	4:10.25
4-Jan-2018   Short Track 5000m Relay Men - European Championships 2017/2018	1	Netherlands	Netherlands		25-175	6:36.19
14-Jan-2018   Short Track Overall Men - European Championships 2017/2018	1	Sjinkie Knegt (NED, 05 Jul 1989)	Netherlands		28-193	10
4-Jan-2018   Short Track Overall Women - European Championships 2017/2018	1	Arianna Fontana (ITA, 14 Apr 1990)	Italy		27-275	8
14-Jan-2018 Ski Jumping Individual - Normal Hill Women - Sapporo 2017/2018	1	Maren Lundby (NOR, 07 Sep 1994)	Norway	-	23-129	251.6

Allocates medals



#### Predicting Olympic medals using results data

Relative Medal Table

Virtual Medal Table

Ranking methodology

Relative Medal Table	e 20	18 W	/inte	r Ga	mes	
† Country	<b>1</b> $\nabla$	2	3	Т	4	5
	103	101	102	306	104	103
Germany	17	11	7	35	15	1
United States	12	7	8	27	11	12
Norway	11	7	9	27	8	7
Netherlands	10	3	5	18	5	5
Austria	8	5	6	19	2	9
Canada	5	14	8	27	7	11
France	5	9	9	23	1	5
Japan	5	7	4	16	2	4
Sweden	5	5	6	16	4	1
Switzerland	4	6	5	15	7	2
China	4	3	4	11	3	4
Russia	3	6	8	17	10	9
Czech Republic	3	4	1	8	4	4
Korea	3	1	4	8	0	7
Australia	2	1	2	5	0	0



#### Relative Medal Table

Result at last World Championships

 Adjusted for entries at the Olympic Games

Current Medalists Netherlands - 2018 Winter Games Events							
Date 7	Rank	Person/Team	Country 0	Sport	Discipline		
12-Mar-2017	3	Suzanne Schulting (	Netherlands	Short Track	1000m		
12-Mar-2017	1	Netherlands	Netherlands	Short Track	5000m Relay		
11-Mar-2017	1	Sjinkie Knegt (NED,	Netherlands	Short Track	500m		
12-Feb-2017	1	Kjeld Nuis (NED, 10	Netherlands	Speed Skating	1500m		
12-Feb-2017	3	Sven Kramer (NED,	Netherlands	Speed Skating	1500m		
12-Feb-2017	2	Ireen Wüst (NED, 01	Netherlands	Speed Skating	1500m		
11-Feb-2017	1	Kjeld Nuis (NED, 10	Netherlands	Speed Skating	1000m		
11-Feb-2017	3	Kai Verbij (NED, 25	Netherlands	Speed Skating	1000m		
11-Feb-2017	3	Jorien ter Mors (NED	Netherlands	Speed Skating	1000m		
11-Feb-2017	1	Sven Kramer (NED,	Netherlands	Speed Skating	10000m		
11-Feb-2017	2	Jorrit Bergsma (NED	Netherlands	Speed Skating	10000m		
10-Feb-2017	1	Jan Smeekens (NED	Netherlands	Speed Skating	500m		
10-Feb-2017	1	Netherlands	Netherlands	Speed Skating	Team Purs		
10-Feb-2017	1	Netherlands	Netherlands	Speed Skating	Team Purs		
09-Feb-2017	1	Ireen Wüst (NED, 01	Netherlands	Speed Skating	3000m		
09-Feb-2017	3	Antoinette de Jong (	Netherlands	Speed Skating	3000m		
09-Feb-2017	1	Sven Kramer (NED,	Netherlands	Speed Skating	5000m		
09-Feb-2017	2	Jorrit Bergsma (NED	Netherlands	Speed Skating	5000m		

Popularised by Luciano Barra



#### Virtual Medal Table

Developed in 2010

Results from events with world class fields

Weighted by recency & event importance





#### Virtual Medal Table application

Media

Professional sports organisations

Anti-doping organisations





#### Virtual Medal Table improvements over time

Home advantage (2014)

Winning margins (2016)

Best 10 results (2016)

Personal bests (2016)





#### Virtual Medal Table issues

Generic model

Weighting is subjective

Probabilties not easy to compute





### Ranking methodologies

Elo method as starting point

Adjustment for multi-competitor

Skill sharing across events





#### Ranking methodologies

 Strength of field is calculated from participants

 Every result can therefore be included

Updated every day

Short Track	500m	Men	1	Wu Dajing (CHN, 24 Jul 1994)	23-174	China	-
Short Track	500m	Women	1	Choi Minjeong (KOR, 09 Sep 1998)	19-127	Korea	(0)
Short Track	1000m	Men	1	Hwang Dae Heon (KOR, 05 Jul 19	18-193	Korea	(0)
Short Track	1000m	Women	1	Choi Minjeong (KOR, 09 Sep 1998)	19-127	Korea	(0)
Short Track	1500m	Men	1	Hwang Dae Heon (KOR, 05 Jul 19	18-193	Korea	(0)
Short Track	1500m	Women	1	Choi Minjeong (KOR, 09 Sep 1998)	19-127	Korea	(0)
Short Track	3000m Relay	Women	1	Korea	-	Korea	(0)
Short Track	5000m Relay	Men	1	Korea	-	Korea	(0)
Skeleton	Individual	Men	1	Yun Sungbin (KOR, 23 May 1994)	23-236	Korea	(0)
Skeleton	Individual	Women	1	Jacqueline Lölling (GER, 06 Feb 1	22-342	Germany	
Ski Jumping	Individual - Large Hill	Men	1	Kamil Stoch (POL, 25 May 1987)	30-234	Poland	
Ski Jumping	Individual - Normal Hill	Men	1	Kamil Stoch (POL, 25 May 1987)	30-234	Poland	
Ski Jumping	Individual - Normal Hill	Women	1	Maren Lundby (NOR, 07 Sep 1994)	23-129	Norway	-
Ski Jumping	Team - Large Hill	Men	1	Norway	-	Norway	-
Snowboard	Big Air	Men	1	Maxence Parrot (CAN, 06 Jun 1994)	23-222	Canada	1+1
Snowboard	Big Air	Women	1	Anna Gasser (AUT, 16 Aug 1991)	26-151	Austria	68
Snowboard	Halfpipe	Men	1	Scott James (AUS, 06 Jul 1994)	23-192	Australia	***
Snowboard	Halfpipe	Women	1	Chloe Kim (USA, 23 Apr 2000)	17-266	United States	
Snowboard	Parallel Giant Slalom	Men	1	Nevin Galmarini (SUI, 04 Dec 1986)	31-041	Switzerland	
Snowboard	Parallel Giant Slalom	Women	1	Ester Ledecká (CZE, 23 Mar 1995)	22-297	Czech Republic	
Snowboard	Slopestyle	Men	1	Chris Corning (USA, 07 Sep 1999)	18-129	United States	
Snowboard	Slopestyle	Women	1	Jamie Anderson (USA, 13 Sep 1990)	27-123	United States	
Snowboard	Snowboard Cross	Men	1	Pierre Vaultier (FRA, 24 Jun 1987)	30-204	France	
Snowboard	Snowboard Cross	Women	1	Chloé Trespeuch (FRA, 13 Apr 1994)	23-276	France	
Speed Skating	500m	Men	1	Alex Boisvert-Lacroix (CAN, 08 Apr	30-281	Canada	1+1
Speed Skating	500m	Women	1	Nao Kodaira (JPN, 26 May 1986)	31-233	Japan	•
Speed Skating	1000m	Men	1	Kai Verbij (NED, 25 Sep 1994)	23-111	Netherlands	
Speed Skating	1000m	Women	1	Miho Takagi (JPN, 22 May 1994)	23-237	Japan	•
Speed Skating	1500m	Men	1	Denis Yuskov (RUS, 11 Oct 1989)	28-095	Russia	
Speed Skating	1500m	Women	1	Miho Takagi (JPN, 22 May 1994)	23-237	Japan	•
Speed Skating	3000m	Women	1	Miho Takagi (JPN, 22 May 1994)	23-237	Japan	•
Speed Skating	5000m	Men	1	Sven Kramer (NED, 23 Apr 1986)	31-266	Netherlands	
Speed Skating	5000m	Women	1	Martina Sáblíková (CZE, 27 May 1	30-232	Czech Republic	
Speed Skating	10000m	Men	1	Sven Kramer (NED, 23 Apr 1986)	31-266	Netherlands	
Speed Skating	Mass Start 16 Laps	Men	1	Lee Seung-Hoon (KOR, 06 Mar 19	29-314	Korea	
Speed Skating	Mass Start 16 Laps	Women	1	Francesca Lollobrigida (ITA, 07 Fe	26-341	Italy	
Speed Skating	Team Pursuit 6 Laps	Women	1	Japan	-	Japan	•
Speed Skating	Team Pursuit 8 Laps	Men	1	Netherlands	-	Netherlands	



### Virtual Medal Table PyeongChang 2018



Germany number 1

Followed by Norway and Canada

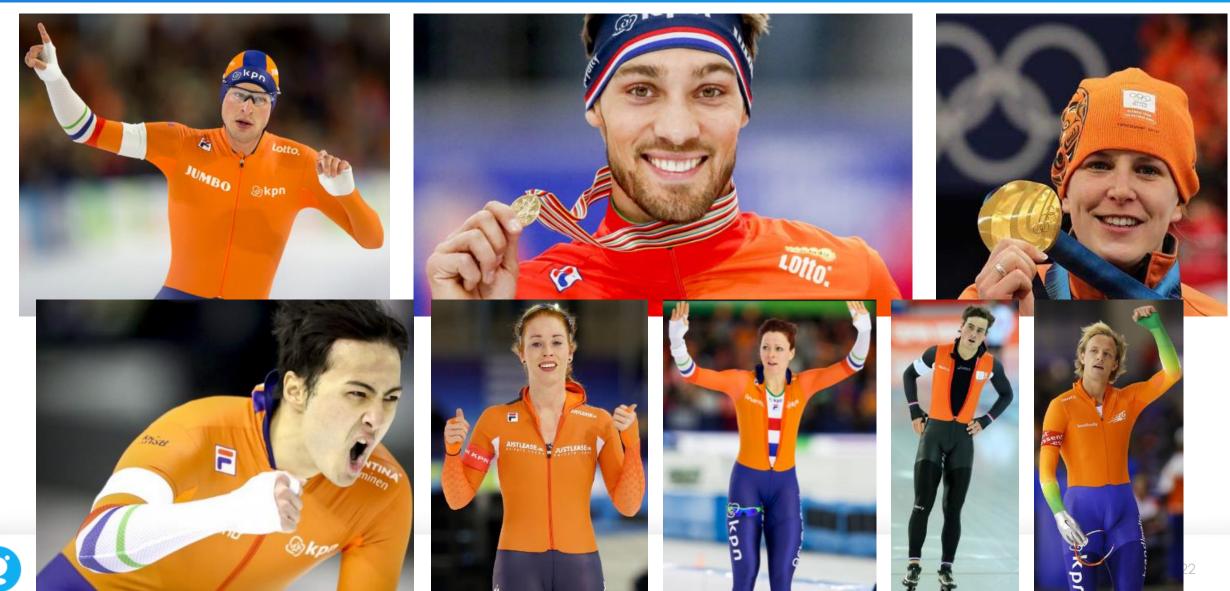
Netherlands in top-10

More medals for Japan than hosts

28 countries to win medals

(g) g	racenote.  A NIELSEN COMPANY	Virtual Me	dal Tal	ble 15	5-27
# NOC		G	s	В	Т
15	Poland	2	0	1	3
16	Italy	1	2	3	6
17	Belgium	1	0	1	2
17	Slovenia	1	0	1	2
19	Latvia	1	0	0	1
19	Liechtenstein	1	0	0	1
21		0	2	3	5
22	Slovakia	0	1	2	3
23	Belarus	0	1	1	2
23	Hungary	0	1	1	2
23	Spain	0	1	1	2
26	Finland	0	0	7	7
27	New Zealand	0	0	1	1
27	Ukraine	0	0	1	1

## Netherlands at PyeongChang 2018





## Netherlands at PyeongChang 2018







## The Esmee Visser problem



Competition	n Mutations									
Date √ Sp	port	Discipline	Gender (	Competition	Rank	Person/Team		Age	Country	Forecast
06-Jan-2018 Sp	beed Skating	3000m	Women I	European Single Dist	1	Esmee Visser (NED	), 27 Jan 19	21-344	Netherlands	13
19-Nov-2017 Sp	peed Skating	5000m	Women :	Stavanger B Group	1	Esmee Visser (NED	), 27 Jan 19	21-296	Netherlands	19
21-Feb-2015 Sp	peed Skating	3000m	Women 1	World Junior Champi	7	Esmee Visser (NED	), 27 Jan 19	19-025	Netherlands	16
20-Feb-2015 Sp	peed Skating	1500m	Women 1	World Junior Champi	22	Esmee Visser (NED	), 27 Jan 19	19-024	Netherlands	13



### Podium Rankings PyeongChang 2018

 Norway now top ahead of Germany

Korea look more realistic

U.S.A. perhaps a bit low

NOC	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Norway	15	8	16
Germany	14	16	8
France	11	6	8
Korea	9	4	4
United States	8	6	9
Japan	7	3	2
Canada	5	13	9
Netherlands	4	6	6
Sweden	4	5	2
Austria	4	2	7
Olympic Athletes from Russia	3	6	8
Switzerland	3	4	3
China	3	4	1
Italy	2	5	5



### PyeongChang 2018 insights

Top of the medal table looks like a fight between Norway & Germany

Canada, France and U.S.A will round off the top-5 medal winners

Host nation Korea will gain medals from being at home

Laura Dahlmeier (Germany, Biathlon) to win most medals

Record number of countries to win medals at a Winter Games



## So how good are these methods?

Rio 2016	Virtu	al Medal	Table	Podium Rankings
Prediction	Result	Total	Percentage	
Gold	Gold	133	43.46%	114 37.13%
Medal	Gold	211	68.95%	206 67.75%
Top-8	Gold	269	87.91%	
Medal	Medal	517	53.24%	520 53.44%
Top-8	Medal	769	79.20%	811 83.35%
Top-8	Top-8	1601	65.56%	1651 67.44%

Sochi 2014	Virtu	al Medal	Table	Podium Rankings
Prediction	Result	Total	Percentage	
Gold	Gold	30	30.61%	33 33.33%
Medal	Gold	67	68.37%	70 70.71%
Top-8	Gold	88	89.80%	
Medal	Medal	141	47.96%	146 49.49%
Top-8	Medal	243	82.65%	236 80.00%
Top-8	Top-8	494	63.01%	494 63.01%



### So how good are these methods?

More accurate than the economic models

Top of ranking more or less same as reality



At least as good as expert forecasts



### Most predictable winter sports events

- Figure Skating Team (89% of medallists correct)
- Ice Hockey Women's Team (85%)
- Snowboard Women's Big Air (83%)
- Cross Country Skiing Men's Team Sprint (78%)
- Speed Skating Women's 3000m (78%)
- o Ice Hockey, Figure Skating, Speed Skating, Skeleton all predictable



#### Least predictable winter sports events

- Nordic Combined Men's Normal Hill/10km (19% of medallists correct)
- Cross Country Skiing Men's 50km Classic Style (22%)
- Cross Country Skiing Men's Sprint (22%)
- Speed Skating Men's Mass Start (22%)
- Alpine Skiing Men's Super G (23%)
- Nordic Combined, Alpine Skiing, Snowboard, Biathlon all unpredictable



## The men's ice hockey problem

# NHL will not participate in 2018 Olympics

League announces no break in 2017-18 schedule for PyeongChang Games, says 'matter officially closed'

by Dan Rosen @drosennhl / NHL.com Senior Writer

April 4th, 2017

₹ Share





#### To summarise

- Results data provides a very good forecast of Olympic medal table
- At individual event level, accuracy still above 50% for medals
- Sport will always have surprises,
- Some sports are more unpredictable than others
- Allows post-hoc analysis of under- or over-performance
- Forecasts an important part of the debate



#### Thanks for listening

# **QUESTIONS?**

Twitter: @simongleave (@GracenoteGold)

