

Top 30 Throwers [PBs] in 3 Eras

Era	Key Throwers & Marks	Notes on Styles & Content
Soviet Era	Yuri Sedykh (URS) - 86.74 (1986) Sergey Litvinov (URS) - 86.04 (1986) Igor Nikulin (URS) - 84.48 (1990) Juri Tamm (URS) - 84.40 (1984) Andrey Abduvaliyev (URS) - 83.46 (1990) Ralf Haber (GDR) - 83.40 (1988) Gunther Rodehau (GDR) - 82.64 (1985) Vasiliy Sidorenko (RUS, but PB in 1992-transitional) - 82.54	<p>This was the golden age under Bondarchuk's influence: highly structured training with 200+ coaches, emphasizing four-turn technique for power and rhythm. Sedykh and Litvinov epitomized the "countering" style-precise entry, aggressive turns, and massive acceleration. The system produced consistency but was resource-intensive and arguably PED-fueled (though not uniquely so).</p>
Post-Soviet Breakup Era (1992-2010)	Vadim Devyatovskiy (BLR) - 84.90 (2005) Koji Murofushi (JPN) - 84.86 (2003) Igor Astapkovich (BLR) - 84.62 (1992) Ivan Tikhon (BLR) - 84.51 (2008, official PB post-annulments) Adrian Annus (HUN) - 84.19 (2003) Tibor Gecsek (HUN) - 83.68 (1998) Aleksey Zagorniy (RUS) - 83.43 (2002) Szymon Ziolkowski (POL) - 83.38 (2001) Olli-Pekka Karjalainen (FIN) - 83.30 (2004) Heinz Weis (GER) - 83.04 (1997) Balazs Kiss (HUN) - 83.00 (1998) Karsten Kobs (GER) - 82.78 (1999) Sergey Kirmasov (RUS) - 82.62 (1998) Andriy Skvaruk (UKR) - 82.62 (2002) Primoz Kozmus (SLO) - 82.58 (2009) Lance Deal (USA) - 82.52 (1996)	<p>Fragmentation after USSR collapse led to knowledge dispersal, but Belarusians (e.g., Tikhon, Devyatovskiy) carried the torch with similar four-turn foundations. Zagorniy's three-turn style was an outlier-faster entries but riskier for fouls. Internationals like Murofushi brought athleticism and precision (he was a four-turner with exceptional footwork). Doping scandals hit hard here, contributing to some annulled marks.</p>
Drug-Testing Era (2011-present)	Ethan Katzberg (CAN) - 84.70 (2025) Pawel Fajdek (POL) - 83.93 (2015) Bence Halasz (HUN) - 83.18 (2025) Rudy Winkler (USA) - 83.16 (2025) Merlin Hummel (GER) - 82.77 (2025) Krisztian Pars (HUN) - 82.69 (2014)	<p>Post-2010 testing (e.g., ABP, retests) cleaned up the field, causing a temporary regression in marks before recovery. Modern styles vary: Katzberg and Halasz use explosive four-turns with emphasis on speed-strength (influenced by video analysis and biomechanics). Kokhan (assuming Mykhaylo Kokhan, UKR-his PB is around 82.02m, not top 30 yet, but rising) focuses on rhythm. The "young guns" benefit from global coaching exchanges, but without the Soviet monolith, techniques are more individualized. 2025 saw a surge, with Katzberg jumping to #5 all-time. worldathletics.org</p>

Notes:

- Katzberg's PB tied/approached the best toss in 20 years.
- 2025 saw major progression with Katzberg (84.70), Halász (83.18), Winkler (83.16), and deep competitions (e.g., 4 men over 82m at Worlds)