

MEN'S 4 x 400 RELAY

Not A U.S. Slam-Dunk

THE FORMCHART (marks made in 2011 or 2012)

1. United States	2:58.82 ('11) <small>(Wariner 43.45, Merritt 43.75, McQuay 44.49, Nellum 44.80, Mance 44.83, Mitchell 44.96)</small>
2. Belgium	3:00.41 ('11) <small>(K. Borlée 44.56, J. Borlée 44.71, Gillet 46.03, Bouckaert 46.25)</small>
3. Bahamas	3:00.56 ('12) <small>(Brown 44.40, Pinder 44.77, Miller 44.87, Mathieu 45.06)</small>
4. Great Britain	3:00.38 ('11) <small>(Rooney 44.60, Tobin 45.01, Levine 45.11, Lennon-Ford 45.23, C. Williams 45.45)</small>
5. Jamaica	2:59.13 ('11) <small>(Gonzales 44.40, Hyatt 44.83, McDonald 45.10, Nolan 45.25, Bolt? 45.28)</small>
5. South Africa	2:59.21 ('11)
6. Russia	3:00.22 ('11)
8. Cuba	2:59.43 ('11)
9. Trinidad	3:00.45 ('12)
10. Kenya	3:00.97 ('11)

THE SCOOP

With a sub-par Wariner and a perhaps-injured Merritt, is the U.S. vulnerable?... With the 4x1 the next day will Bolt actually run?

THE STATS

WR: 2:54.29 United States '93
 AR: 2:54.29 World Champs Team '93
 WCR: 2:55.39 United States '08
 '08 OG: USA–Bahamas–Russia
 '09 WC: USA–Great Britain–Australia
 '11 WC: USA–South Africa–Jamaica

THE ALL-TIME TOP 10 NATIONS

1. 2:54.29	United States 8/22/93
2. 2:56.60	Great Britain 8/03/96
3. 2:56.75	Jamaica 8/10/97
4. 2:57.32	Bahamas 8/14/05
5. 2:58.00	Poland 7/22/98
6. 2:58.06	Russia 8/23/08
7. 2:58.56	Brazil 7/30/99
8. 2:58.68	Nigeria 9/30/00
9. 2:58.96	France 8/31/03
10. 2:59.13	Cuba 8/07/92

LONDON SCHEDULE

heats — 11:35 August 9
 final — 21:20 August 10



© MARK SHEARMAN

The big question for the U.S. may be the health of Merritt

WINNERS SINCE 1972

1972 — Kenya 2:59.83
 1976 — United States 2:58:65
 1980 — Soviet Union 3:01.08
 1984 — United States 2:57.91
 1988 — United States 2:56.16
 1992 — United States 2:55.74
 1996 — United States 2:55.99
 2000 — currently vacant
 2004 — United States 2:55.91
 2008 — United States 2:55.39