Looking forward to the year ahead in athletics

An exciting year of athletics may be drawing to a close, but another packed programme is on the horizon for 2019.

There will be three IAAF World Athletics Series events in 2019, starting with the IAAF World Cross Country Championships Aarhus 2019 on 30 March. Six weeks later, on 11-12 May, Japan will host the IAAF World Relays Yokohama 2019.

The big focus of the year, though, will be the IAAF World Athletics Championships Doha 2019.

And of course, throughout the year the world's leading athletes will compete in various annual series such as the IAAF Diamond League, the IAAF World Challenge, IAAF Label Road Races, the IAAF World Indoor Tour, the IAAF Combined Events Challenge, the IAAF Hammer Throw Challenge, the IAAF Race Walking Challenge and IAAF Cross Country Permit meetings.

Factoring in various area championships across a range of age groups and surfaces, 2019 is set to be a busy and enthralling year for the sport.

KIPCHOGE AND IBARGUEN NAMED 2018 WORLD ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Eliud Kipchoge and Caterine Ibarguen have been named the male and female World Athletes of the Year at the IAAF Athletics Awards 2018, held at the Grimaldi Forum in Monaco on 4 December.

Kipchoge underlined his status as the world’s most dominant distance runner. The 34-year-old Kenyan won the London Marathon in April in 2:04:17 to finish comfortably ahead of one of the deepest marathon fields in history.

Five months later, he won the Berlin Marathon in 2:01:39 to smash the world record. His time in the German capital was 78 seconds faster than the previous world record, representing the biggest single improvement on a men’s marathon world record since 1967.

Not content with being the best triple jumper in the world, Ibarguen also tested herself against the world’s best in the long jump this year – and consistently came out on top in that too.

The 34-year-old Colombian won both horizontal jumps at the
Central American and Caribbean Games, the IAAF Continental Cup and at the IAAF Diamond League finals — winning the latter two titles in two different cities within the space of 24 hours.

She was unbeaten in all eight of her triple jump competitions, ending the year with a world-leading mark of 14.96m in her specialist event and a national record of 6.93m in the long jump.

Full story, including list of all award winners

QNB and IAAF sign worldwide sponsorship agreement in Qatar

QNB, the largest financial institution in the Middle East and Africa, became the latest worldwide level Official IAAF Partner signing a four-year deal that will see the Bank support all World Athletic Series Events from 1 January 2019 to the end of 2022.

OTHER NEWS

• Coe discusses sport policy and education during two-day visit to Aruba
• 2018 IAAF Race Walking Challenge standings revised
• Tickets for IAAF World Athletics Championships Doha 2019 now on sale
• Disciplines confirmed for 2019 IAAF Diamond League
• Disciplines confirmed for 2019 IAAF World Indoor Tour
• IAAF Doping Review Board approves Guidance Note for 2019 neutral athlete status
• Coe launches IAAF World Athletics Heritage Plaque award
• Owens and Blankers-Koen headline magnificent seven’s donation of historic artefacts to IAAF Heritage Collection
• GebreSelassie and Kluft kit donated to IAAF Heritage Collection
• Winner chosen for fan photograph of the year
• Radcliffe joins UN Campaign for Clean Air
• Stadium air quality monitor installed in Addis Ababa, first in Africa
• Bermon addresses upcoming hot environment training and competition challenges at Endurance Summit
• IAAF Vetting Panel Chair resigns

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETES SANCTIONED FOR A DOPING OFFENCE

An up-to-date list is available on the Athletics Integrity Unit website.

TRANSFERS OF ALLEGIANCE

IAAF Nationality Review Panel clears 10 athletes to compete under new flags

NEW MEMBER FEDERATION OFFICERS – RECENT ELECTIONS / APPOINTMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member federation</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>General secretary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSD</td>
<td>Samir Khamis Suleiman (re-elected)</td>
<td>Advo. Marco Akol Deng (elected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DJI</td>
<td>Said Ismael Hassan (elected)</td>
<td>Moussa Mohamed Moussa (elected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUR</td>
<td>Dennis Mac Donald (re-elected)</td>
<td>Raymond Gilson (appointed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCA</td>
<td>Cornelius Breen (elected)</td>
<td>Lisa Joseph (elected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COK</td>
<td>Billy Foster (appointed)</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRQ</td>
<td>Talib Faisal Al Saif (re-elected)</td>
<td>Dr. Adel Mohammed Dahash (elected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYR</td>
<td>Bakkour Fayyad (re-elected)</td>
<td>Ahmad Abou Alzahad (appointed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHR</td>
<td>Goran Bosnjak (elected)</td>
<td>Milan Pedalo (re-elected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRO</td>
<td>Ivan Vestic (re-elected)</td>
<td>Mihaela Majurec (elected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAH</td>
<td>Drumeco Archer (elected)</td>
<td>Mabelene Miller (appointed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHI</td>
<td>Philip Ella Juico (re-elected)</td>
<td>Agapito Capistrano (elected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAT</td>
<td>Andris Smocs and Janis Upenieks (appointed)</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLR</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Nadya But-Husaim (appointed)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The above information is supplied by the IAAF governance, member and international relations department and represents member federation election results received since the last IAAF newsletter.

### WORLD RECORDS RATIFIED

#### U20 men's pole vault
5.95m, 6.00m and 6.05m Armand Duplantis (SWE) Berlin 12 August 2018
Previous: 5.92m Armand Duplantis (SWE) Austin 31 March 2018

#### Men's half marathon
58:18 Abraham Kiptum (KEN) Valencia 28 October 2018
Previous: 58:23 Zersenay Tadese (ERI) Lisbon 21 March 2010

### OBITUARIES

1980 Olympic javelin silver medallist Saida Gunba
Czech athletics official and author Viktor Trkal

To contribute to the IAAF website or newsletter, please contact editor@iaaf.org