Looking forward to the World Athletics Half Marathon Championships Gdynia 2020

Little more than a year since the last World Athletics Series drew to a close, the focus of the athletics world will fall on Poland on 17 October when it hosts the World Athletics Half Marathon Championships Gdynia 2020.

The mass race has now become a virtual one (to enter, simply click on the banner below), but the elite contest remains relatively unaltered and has attracted some of the biggest names in distance running, including Uganda’s world 10,000m champion Joshua Cheptegei, world 1500m and 10,000m champion Sifan Hassan of the Netherlands, and women’s world record-holders Ababel Yeshaneh and Peres Jepchirchir.

Having already hosted World Athletics Series events on the track outdoors and indoors, as well as at cross country, this will be the first time Poland has hosted a global athletics event on the roads. And with the finish line area located on the sandy beach in the heart of ‘the city of dreams and sea’, it is bound to be a memorable event.

Organisers of the Beirut Marathon, a World Athletics Silver Label road race, are holding a virtual 5km run during the first week of October to raise money for the 300,000+ people whose lives were affected by the tragic explosion in Beirut on 4 August. Every registration or donation will assist the Lebanese Red Cross with their efforts. Click on the banner further down this newsletter for more information.

World Athletics publishes Annual Report


As part of the 2019 Constitution, World Athletics stated that it would produce publicly available financial statements as part of its ongoing efforts to deliver greater transparency.

The financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2019 were filed in line with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and approved by an auditing firm. The 2019 consolidated financial accounts mark the end of our four-year funding cycle with cash reserves of US$34.3m at 31 December 2019. Full story

Featured news

New way to judge jumps take-off fouls among recent competition rule changes introduced for 2020 and 2021

World Athletics will be introducing a significant change to the way take-off fouls are judged in long and triple jumps, starting on 1 November 2021 - one of a number of rule changes that were passed at Council Meetings in 2018 and 2019.

World Athletics Road Running Championships to be included in the global calendar

World Athletics will launch a new global event in 2023 – the World Athletics Road Running Championships – as part of calendar changes approved at the most recent Council meeting.

Call to host 2022 World Athletics U20 Championships

The World Athletics Council has selected Cali, Colombia, to host the 2022 World Athletics U20 Championships.
Other news

- World Athletics statement on Paris Criminal Court ruling
- World Athletics welcomes Swiss Federal Tribunal decision on its Eligibility Rules for Athletes with Differences of Sex Development (DSD)
- World Athletics Council extends deadline for RusAF’s reinstatement plan
- Label Races recommence with robust anti-doping measures in place
- World Athletics appoints Nielsen as official research supplier
- Young, holder of oldest men’s track world record, donates singlet to Heritage

GLOBAL VIRTUAL 5KM CHARITY RACE
1-8 OCTOBER 2020
Click to register!

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

Decisions of the World Athletics Nationality Review Panel in 2020 (as of 28 September 2020)

Please scroll down to the bottom of the linked page to the section ‘Athlete Transfers of Allegiance’.

New member federation officers – recent elections / appointments

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<tr>
<th>Member federation</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>General secretary</th>
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<tr>
<td>SOL</td>
<td>Nelson Kabitana (elected)</td>
<td>Chris Walasi (re-appointed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALB</td>
<td>Gjergj Ruli (re-elected)</td>
<td>Nikolin Dionisi (re-appointed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUR</td>
<td>Francis Sidibe (re-elected)</td>
<td>Amadou Diallo (re-elected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLR</td>
<td>Ivan Tsikhan (elected)</td>
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The above information is supplied by the World Athletics governance, member and international relations department and represents member federation election results received since the last World Athletics newsletter.

World record watch (as at 28 September 2020)

Pending ratification - performances achieved in 2020

- U20 women’s indoor 1500m: 4:01.57 Lemlem Hailu (ETH) Lievin 19 Feb 2020
- U20 women’s indoor 60m hurdles: 7.93 and 7.91 Grace Stark (USA) College Station 28-29 Feb 2020
- women’s 4x1500m: 16:27.02 USA (Colleen Quigley, Elise Cranny, Karissa Schweizer, Shelby Houlihan) Portland 31 Jul 2020
- men’s 5000m: 12:37.36 Joshua Cheptegei (UGA) Monaco 14 Aug 2020
- women’s one hour: 18:930 Sifan Hassen (NED) Brussels 4 Sep 2020
- men’s one hour: 21:330 Mohamed Farah (GBR) Brussels 4 Sep 2020
- women’s half marathon (women only): 1:05:34 Peres Jepchirchir (KEN) Prague 5 Sep 2020
- women’s 50km race walk: 3:50:42 Yelena Lashmanova (RUS) Voronovo 5 Sep 2020
Rejected / unratifiable

• U20 women’s javelin: 63.96m Elina Tsenggo (GRE) Ioannina 1 Aug 2020
  (Doping control was not conducted until the next day)

Notable world bests

• men’s 20,000m: 56:20.02 Bashir Abdi (BEL) Brussels 4 Sep 2020
• men’s pole vault (outdoor): 6.15m Armand Duplantis (SWE) Rome 17 Sep 2020