Final countdown to the Tokyo Olympic Games

The qualifying period has ended, most national trials have taken place, and the world’s best athletes are now counting down the days to the Tokyo Olympic Games.

Some 1900 athletes from more than 190 countries will compete at the Tokyo Olympic Games when the athletics programme begins on 30 July.

The Olympic qualification period for all stadium events finished on June 29 and World Athletics’ Olympic qualification system has now been finalised, showing that about 70 percent of the athletes in individual events have qualified by entry standard and 30 percent by world ranking position, while 100 universality places have been awarded.

The Road to Tokyo tool on the World Athletics website shows which athletes – subject to being officially selected by their national Olympic committee – have qualified to compete at the Olympic Games.

Between now and then, the world’s best athletes will use that time to add the finishing touches to their preparation, competing at various meetings on the Wanda Diamond League and World Athletics Continental Tour circuits in the coming weeks.

World Athletics headline news

World Athletics commits an extra US$1million prize money for athletes at World Athletics Championships

World Athletics has announced it will substantially increase the prize money for athletes at its flagship world championships, starting with the World Athletics Championships Oregon22 next year.

US$2 million has been ringfenced from the fines paid by the Russian Athletics Federation for breaching the sport’s anti-doping rules, to go directly to athletes in the form of prize money at the WCH Oregon22 and at the WCH Budapest 23.

World Athletics President Sebastian Coe said: “The last 18 months have been really tough for thousands of athletes who make their living from competing in events around the world. While we have focused on helping meetings around the world stage as many events as possible over this period – more than 600 events – we know many athletes had a very lean year last year and are still experiencing challenges this year.

Full story

Featured news

Refugee Olympic Team announced

Seven refugee athletes will compete in athletics at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, part of a squad of 29 announced by the International Olympic Committee.

Olympic qualification period ends for marathons and 50km race walk

The fields for the longest road events on the Olympic programme are taking shape.

On track for a successful World Athletics U20 Championships in Nairobi

With 50 days to go, the World Athletics U20 Championships remain on track for a successful staging in Nairobi in August following a four-day visit this month from a World Athletics expert team to monitor the progress of the local organising committee (LOC).

New research reveals running boom during Covid-19 pandemic

More people have taken up running during the Covid-19 pandemic, and all of those intend to maintain their newfound passion for the sport once the pandemic is over.
Other news

• Two-time Olympic 200m champion Campbell-Brown retires
• World Athletics decision on 2022 World Race Walking Team Championships in Minsk
• Chinese Wanda Diamond League meetings exploring possible new dates outside of 2021 series
• World Athletics launches its first Run Smarter City Challenge in Geneva and Lausanne
• Heritage plaques unveiled - Fanny Blankers-Koen and Götzis
• Job vacancy: Broadcast Content Coordinator
• Court of Arbitration decision on second appeal from Blake Leeper
• World Athletics approves the application of 35 (7 June) and 61 (26 June) Russians to compete internationally as neutral athletes

Action replay

McLaughlin smashes world 400m hurdles record in Eugene with 51.90
Crouser smashes world shot put record with 23.37m in Eugene
Warholm breaks world 400m hurdles record with 46.70 in Oslo

FOR THE RECORD

World record watch (as at 1 July 2021)

Ratified: women’s half marathon
1:05:16 Peres Jepchirchir (KEN) Gdynia 17 October 2020
Previous: 1:05:34 Peres Jepchirchir (KEN) Prague 5 September 2020

Ratified: women’s 20km race walk
1:23:49 Yang Jiayu (CHN) Huangshan 20 March 2021
Previous: 1:24:38 Liu Hong (CHN) La Coruna 6 June 2015

US long jumper Shinnick retroactively recognised as world record-breaker
Fifty-eight years after the competition took place, Phil Shinnick’s leap of 8.33m – achieved during the 1963 California Relays in Modesto – has been recognised by World Athletics as a long jump world record in the event’s official progression.

Pending ratification - performances achieved in 2021

• men’s indoor triple jump: 18.07m Hugues Fabrice Zango (BUR) Aubiere 16 Jan 21
• men’s indoor shot put: 22.82m Ryan Crouser (USA) Fayetteville 24 Jan 21
• U20 women’s indoor 800m: Keely Hodgkinson (GBR) Vienna 30 Jan 21
• U20 men’s indoor heptathlon: 6062 Jente Hauttekeete (BEL) Frankfurt 14 Feb 21
• men’s indoor 60m hurdles: 7.29 Grant Holloway (USA) Madrid 24 Feb 21
• U20 women’s indoor 60m hurdles: 7.91 Ackera Nugent (JAM) Lubbock 26 Feb 21
• women’s half marathon: 1:04:02 Ruth Chepngetich (KEN) Istanbul 4 Apr 21
• women’s 10,000m: 29:06.82 Sifan Hassan (NED) Hengelo 6 Jun 21
Transfers of allegiance

Decisions of the World Athletics Nationality Review Panel in 2021 (as at 30 June 2021)

Athletes sanctioned for a doping offence

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

New member federation officers – recent elections / appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member federation</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>General secretary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIE</td>
<td>Manfred Schreiber (elected)</td>
<td>Belinda Kummer (elected)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUD</td>
<td>Abbas Mohamed Al Muez (elected)</td>
<td>Abdallah Ebraheem Al Motha (elected)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GER</td>
<td>Jürgen Kessing (re-elected)</td>
<td>Idriss Gonschinska (re-appointed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>VEN</td>
<td>Wilfredys Jose Leon Garcia (re-elected)</td>
<td>Daniza Soldo Haypex (re-elected)</td>
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<tr>
<td>RSA</td>
<td>James Moloi (elected)</td>
<td>Terrence Magogodela (re-appointed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HUN</td>
<td>Miklos Gyulai (re-elected)</td>
<td>Peter Deutsch (appointed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>LTU</td>
<td>Eimantas Skrabulis (re-elected)</td>
<td>Nijole Medvedeva (re-elected)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IRL</td>
<td>John Cronin (elected)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRE</td>
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<td>Georgios Giatroudakis (appointed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAN</td>
<td>Helen Manning (elected)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUI</td>
<td>Christophe Seiler (re-elected)</td>
<td>Peter Bohnenblust (re-appointed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARU</td>
<td>Virginia Dirksz (elected)</td>
<td>Nizana Solognier (elected)</td>
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<tr>
<td>JPN</td>
<td>Mitsugi Ogata (elected)</td>
<td>Hideo Suzuki (re-appointed)</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.

Obituaries

Two-time world cross-country champion Paola Pigni
Athlete representative Andy Stubbs
Three-time Asian Games champion Milkha Singh
2017 world 400m bronze medallist Abdalelah Haroun
Former world 800m record-holder Vera Nikolic