

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.

IAAF HQ HEADLINE NEWS



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

FEATURED NEWS

IAAF Council makes key decisions in Monaco

At the 215th IAAF Council Meeting in Monaco, key decisions were made on the venue of the 2023 World Athletics Championships, the status of the Russian Federation and a new marketing opportunity for Member Federations.



Former international athlete and businessman Jon Ridgeon announced as new IAAF Chief Executive Officer

The IAAF has announced the appointment of Jon Ridgeon as its new CEO following approval by the IAAF Council at the 215th IAAF Council Meeting in Monaco.



Council decisions on rules and events for 2019 and beyond

The 215th IAAF Council Meeting made a range of competition decisions on subjects including rule changes, entry standards and programme changes for World Athletics Series events, and the new World Rankings system.



Qualifying standards approved for IAAF World Athletics Championships Doha 2019

The IAAF Council has approved the qualifying standards for the IAAF World Athletics Championships Doha 2019. While the performance standards themselves are similar to those used for the 2017 World Championships, Doha will witness two notable differences.



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**
- **Gebrselassie and Klufft 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

Member federation	President	General secretary
SSD	Samir Khamis Suleiman (re-elected)	Advo. Marco Akol Deng (elected)
DJI	Said Ismael Hassan (elected)	Moussa Mohamed Moussa (elected)
SUR	Dennis Mac Donald (re-elected)	Raymond Gilson (appointed)
LCA	Cornelius Breen (elected)	Lisa Joseph (elected)
COK	Billy Foster (appointed)	---
IRQ	Talib Faisal Al Saffar (re-elected)	Dr. Adel Mohammed Dahash (elected)
SYR	Bakkour Fayyad (re-elected)	Ahmad Abou Alzahad (appointed)
BIH	Goran Bosnjak (elected)	Milan Pedalo (re-elected)
CRO	Ivan Vestic (re-elected)	Mihaela Majurec (elected)
BAH	Drumeco Archer (elected)	Mabelene Miller (appointed)
PHI	Philip Ella Juico (re-elected)	Agapito Capistrano (elected)
LAT	Andris Smocs and Janis Upenieks (appointed)	---
BLR	---	Nadya But-Husaim (appointed)

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

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