

Looking forward to new opportunities as the world emerges from lockdown

During the 11 weeks that the headquarters were closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, World Athletics developed and finalised its strategy to grow athletics. This culminated in the [launch this month of our new Strategic Plan](#).

"A huge amount of work has been put into developing our four-year Strategic Plan, led by our CEO Jon Ridgeon and with input and involvement from all at HQ, our Executive Board, our Area Presidents, Commission Chairs and Commissions," said World Athletics President Sebastian Coe. "This is an exceptional body of work that brings together all the great things we do as a global sport body with a laser sharp focus on doing it better, and includes some innovative and creative ideas to drive growth in our sport. It is exactly the type of roadmap our sport needs to bring together all our stakeholders with a single vision, mission and clear priorities.

"Over the next few months we have an unprecedented opportunity on the back of the increased physical activity of people in lockdown," added Coe. "We need to inspire these people to continue the habits they have learned and we will with our own campaigns but also by embracing campaigns that many others in our sport are driving."

Download Strategy for Growth: [English](#) | [French](#)

Download one-page summary: [English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#)

World Athletics headline news



[193 athletes offered grants from Athlete Welfare Fund](#)

World Athletics and the International Athletics Foundation (IAF) announced that 193 athletes from 58 member federations will be offered one-time grants of US\$3000 through an Athlete Welfare Fund announced in April to help support professional athletes experiencing financial hardship due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Initially totalling US\$500,000 when its creation was announced on 28 April, generous contributions since have made US\$600,000 ultimately available to athletes in need.

[Full story](#)

Featured news

[World Athletics launches 'Road to Tokyo' qualification tracking tool](#)

World Athletics has launched 'Road to Tokyo', an online tool to help athletes, media and fans track the qualification process for next year's Olympic Games.



[World Athletics announces new partnership with parkrun](#)

World Athletics and parkrun Global Limited are delighted to announce a new partnership by which they will combine their resources to grow the sport of athletics and deliver good health and fitness outcomes for communities around the world.



[ASOIF governance review recognises significant progress in World Athletics reform agenda](#)

World Athletics has been recognised for its governance improvements, including its constitutional reforms and sustainability strategy, in the Third Review of International Federation Governance conducted by ASOIF (the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations).



Other news

- [World Athletics publishes outbreak-prevention guidelines for competition organisers](#)
- [Outbreak Prevention Taskforce launches online risk assessment tool for endurance event organisers](#)
- [Oceania Area President Sapong: post-Covid-19, 'I think we're going to come out stronger'](#)
- [Asian Athletics President Al Hamad: 'This pandemic has underlined the importance of caring for one another'](#)
- [World Athletics appoints Head of Global Development](#)
- [Wanda Diamond League announces updates to 2020 calendar](#)
- [World Athletics launches Fitter With Friends campaign](#)
- [Walker donates warm-up suit to World Athletics Heritage Collection](#)

For the record

Athletes sanctioned for a doping offence

An up-to-date list is available on the [Athletics Integrity Unit website](#).

World record watch (as at 30 June 2020)



Ratified: U20 men's 4x100m

38.62 USA (Arian Smith, Justin Ofotan, Marcellus Moore, Matthew Boling) San Jose 21 July 2019
Previous: 38.66 USA (Trell Kimmons, Demi Omole, Ivory Williams, LaShawn Merritt) Grosseto 18 July 2004



Ratified: men's pole vault

6.17m Armand Duplantis (SWE) Torun 8 February 2020
Previous: 6.16m Renaud Lavillenie (FRA) Donetsk 15 February 2014



Ratified: U20 women's indoor 1500m

4:01.79 Lemlem Hailu (ETH) Torun 8 February 2020
Previous: 4:01.81 Gudaf Tsegay (ETH) Glasgow 20 February 2016



Ratified: men's 5km

12:51 Joshua Cheptegei (UGA) Monaco 16 February 2020
Previous: 13:18 Rhonex Kipruto (KEN) Valencia 12 January 2020



Ratified: women's indoor triple jump

15.43m Yulimar Rojas (VEN) Madrid 21 February 2020
Previous: 15.36m Tatyana Lebedeva (RUS) Budapest 6 March 2004

Pending ratification - performances achieved in 2020

- men's pole vault: 6.18m Armand Duplantis (SWE) Glasgow 15 Feb 2020
- U20 women's indoor 1500m: 4:01.79 Lemlem Hailu (ETH) Lievin 19 Feb 2020
- women's half marathon: 1:04:31 Ababel Yeshaneh (ETH) Ras Al Khaimah 21 Feb 2020
- U20 women's indoor 60m hurdles: 7.93 and 7.91 Grace Stark (USA) College Station 28-29 Feb 2020

Obituaries

[European Athletics President Svein Arne Hansen](#)

[1956 triple Olympic champion Bobby Morrow](#)

[1956 Olympic javelin silver medallist Marlene Ahrens](#)

To contribute to the World Athletics website or newsletter, please contact editor@worldathletics.org

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