



IAAF World U20 Championships **TAMPERE 2018**

10.-15.7.2018 TAMPERE STADIUM

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME



Power TO VICTORY

CELEBRATING ATHLETES AROUND THE WORLD

IAAF

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IAAF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I take great pleasure in welcoming the athletics family to the IAAF World Under 20 Championships in Tampere, Finland, one of our most passionate track and field loving nations.

Boasting 49 Olympic track and field champions to date, Finland has a long and proud history of producing some of our sport's greatest athletes, and an equally strong record of hosting major events, from the 1952 Olympic Games, to the inaugural world championships in 1983 and the 2005 edition, both held in Helsinki.

In 1983, some 1300 athletes from 154 countries attended the first senior world championships and it is a sign of the sport's growth that this edition of the world under 20 championships will feature some 1700 junior athletes from 170 countries.

As one of 17 founding members of the IAAF 106 years ago, Finland has always been a major contributor to the development of our sport.

With such a rich history, it is entirely fitting that it will host the event that will introduce to the world the next generation of champions.

Past championships have launched the careers of future global stars such as Olympic champions Haile Gebrselassie of Ethiopia and Carolina Klüft of Sweden. Also among the graduates are reigning Olympic champions Kerron Clement (USA, 400m hurdles) and Consensus Kipruto (Kenya, 3000m steeplechase).

So those attending the championships at Tampere's 16,000-seat Ratina stadium will have the great privilege of witnessing the arrival of the next crop of athletes who may go on to conquer the world at senior level.

We are confident that Tampere, which sits at the heart of Finland's athletics culture and will become the first Scandinavian city to host a global age group athletics championship, will host an excellent event.

The Tampere organising committee has prepared not only to welcome the future of our sport, it has also considered the future of our planet, by making sustainability part of the fabric in its planning.

It has taken the initiative to dispense with plastic water bottles to dramatically reduce the event's plastic waste. Finland has some of the purest drinking water in the world, of higher quality than most bottled water, so each of the 2500 athletics, staff and volunteers will receive a durable water bottle that can be refilled from the tap.

Tampere will also employ green energy at the stadium and aims to produce a car-free championships, made possible by the proximity of accommodation for athletes and team staff, and the quality of public transport available for spectators.

I applaud these efforts to create a more environmentally-friendly event and the IAAF will endeavour to use this as a blueprint for future championships.

I would like to thank all our partners who have helped to make these championships possible, including the City of Tampere, Ministry of Education and Culture, the Local Organising Committee and their partners and suppliers, the Official Partners and Suppliers of this World Athletics Series event, Asics, Seiko, TDK and Mondo and the Finnish Athletics Federation

And finally, I wish all the young athletes competing in Tampere, an enjoyable and successful week.

Sebastian Coe
IAAF President



WELCOME TO TAMPERE!

In our city sports are not simply a leisure time activity, not only something to do with your spare time. We live and breathe sports - any sport. We people of Tampere take our sports seriously, yet not too seriously, since the main goal is to enjoy.

We love to cheer on our teams and athletes with passion, but we rally also for talented performers who are not representing Tampere or Finland. An athlete operating at their very best while pursuing the world's best records initiates a spark in every heart. It is a spark of passion and enthusiasm. These are the elements needed in becoming one of the very best.

As representatives of the city of Tampere, our main goal is to support and enable the initiation of these sparks. Whether it is about making it possible to train indoors during the winter months or to try out a new sport, it is our mission to lower the barrier for entry to any sports. As a part of this mission we are adding dynamic new elements to our city, for instance a better transportation system around the city enabling easier access to sport venues. You may have noticed the Tram construction sites and also the construction of the Deck and the Arena in the railway station area. Work is also well underway on building Finland's largest multipurpose arena, which will house sport events offering excitement, chills and thrills to crowds of up to 13,000 people.

One of the reasons why sporting opportunity is so important to us is that we are the most popular student city in Finland. Approximately 30,000

students live in Tampere, and a recent survey showed they are more pleased than any others in Finland with the sport services provided to them by our universities. This is one of the strong suits of Tampere, which will be taken into consideration when the new foundation-based Tampere University is formed through a merger between the University of Tampere and Tampere University of Technology. This new university will become one of the biggest in Finland, matching the University of Helsinki in terms of the number of students.

But just as in sports, the scale and size are not what matters most. Caring, enabling and empowerment are among our intrinsic values. Our key driver is to offer possibilities for young people to bloom. Thus, we have been eagerly awaiting the IAAF World U20 Championships. It is our pride and joy to be a part of this.

I wish you all a wonderful stay in our city and all the best in the competition!

Lauri Lyly
The Mayor



IAAF COUNCIL

President	Lord Sebastian Coe (GBR)
Senior Vice-President	Sergey Bubka (UKR)
Vice-Presidents	Dahlan Al Hamad (QAT) Hamad Kalkaba Malboum (CMR) Alberto Juantorena Danger (CUB)
Treasurer	José María Odriozola (ESP)
Individual Members	Roberto Gesta De Melo (BRA) – South America* Nawal El Moutawakel (MAR) Abby Hoffman (CAN) Anna Riccardi (ITA) Pauline Davis-Thompson (BAH) Geoff Gardner (NFI) – Oceania* Sylvia Barlag (NED) Ahmad Al Kamali (UAE) Frank Fredericks (NAM)** Bernard Amsalem (FRA) Zhaocai Du (CHN) Victor Lopez (PUR) – NACAC* Stephanie Hightower (USA) Hiroshi Yokokawa (JPN) Antti Pihlakoski (FIN) Mikhail Butov (RUS) Adille Sumariwalla (IND) Nawaf Al Saud (KSA) Svein Arne Hansen (NOR) – Europe* Karim Ibrahim (MAS) – Asia* Vivian Gungaram (MRI) – Africa*

*Area Group Representative

**Provisionally suspended

WU20 TAMPERE 2018 EVENT DELEGATES

Technical Delegates (2)

Keith DAVIES (GBR)
Mats SVENSSON (SWE)

Medical Delegate (1)

Stéphane BERMON (FRA)

Anti-Doping Delegate (1)

Zakia BARTEGI (TUN)

Broadcast Delegate (1)

Frederic SANCHEZ (FRA)

Press (1)

Olaf BROCKMANN (GER)

Statisticians (1)

Andras SZABO (HUN)

Announcer - English (1)

Kris TEMPLE (GBR)

Photo Finish Judge (1)

Ville AHO (FIN)

International Starter (1)

Vesa ARTMAN (FIN)

Jury of Appeal (3)

Sylvia BARLAG (NED)
Giovanni CARDONA (COL)
Can KORKMAZOGLOU (TUR)

International Technical Officials (10)

Par HÖLM (SWE) - Chief
Suren AYADASSEN (MRI)
Antonio COSTA (POR)
Peter HAMILTON (AUS)
Amit NE'EMAN (ISR)
Ronan O'HART (IRL)
Loreto PEREZ ROMAN (ESP)
Claudia SCHNECK (BRA)
Patrick VAN CAELENBERGHE (BEL)
Luca VERRASCINA (ITA)

International Race Walking Judges (6)

Rolf MÜLLER (GER) - Chief
Kirsten CROCKER (AUS)
Anne FRÖBERG (FIN)
Wang Tak FUNG (HKG)
Joaquim Daniel RAMOS DA GRACA (POR)
Reginald WEISSGLAS (USA)



LOC ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Perttu Pesä
Saila Asumaniemi
Elisa Hakanen
Ilkka Vilonen
Tuuli Merikoski
Antti Pihlakoski
Saara Saarteinen
Anna-Maria Maunu
Pekka P. Paavola
Mikko Heinonen
Jari Tolvanen
Pasi Oksanen
Jarmo Hakanen
Eira Kähtävä
Tiina Haapanen
Esa Koivisto
Ari Kuusela
Mika Muukka
Jarmo Mäkelä
Pirjo Puskala
Jukka Ahonen

Jori Järvensalo
Leila Huuki
Eveliina Jussila
Kalle Kurikka
Tytti Meriluoto

President
Vice-president
General Secretary
President / Sport Club Tampereen Pyrintö
Member of the Board / Sport Club Tampereen Pyrintö
IAAF Council
Visit Tampere / Head of Event Services
City of Tampere / Director of Communication
City of Tampere / Director Sport and Youth Services
City of Tampere / Sport Services
City of Tampere / Sport Services
Competition Director
Finance
Office Manager
Marketing Manager, Ticketing
Security
Security
Finnish Athletics Federation
Finnish Athletics Federation
Finnish Athletics Federation
HB YLE Producer

Sales
Team Service
Volunteers
Transportation
Marketing

FINLAND:

LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

Population: 5.5 million

Form of Government: Parliamentary Republic

Head of State: President of the Republic, elected every six years, two-term maximum, currently Sauli Niinistö, elected in 2012 and re-elected in 2018. The next presidential elections will be held in January 2024.

Head of Government: Prime Minister, appointed by the President, currently Juha Sipilä. The next parliamentary elections will be held in April 2019.

EU Membership: joined in 1995. The next European elections will be held in mid-2019.

Schengen Area Membership: joined in 1996

Currency: euro

Time zone: UTC+2, summer time UTC+3

National languages: Finnish (91%), Swedish (5.4%); Sámi languages (circa 3,000 speakers)

Religion: Lutheran (75.2%), Orthodox (1.1%), Islam (1%), others (0.5%); no religious affiliation (22.1%) (2013). In practice the Finnish society is secular.

Life expectancy: women 84.1 years, men 78.4 years (2016)

Traffic: right-hand

Electricity: standard voltage is 230 V, standard frequency 50 Hz, plug type F

Portable phones: GSM, 3G and 4G mobile networks

IAAF WORLD U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS IN TAMPERE, FINLAND

Dates: 10–15.7.2018

Competition venue: Tampere Stadium, Tampere, Finland

Seating capacity: 16 800, covered 3800, uncovered 13 000

Expected participants: 1 800 Athletes, 1000 Team Officials, 150 Media, 500 VIP

Entry deadline: 25.6.2018

Weather in Tampere: in July temperatures hover around +20° Celsius

Altitude: 78 metres above sea level

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- 7 SUPREME TOE-OFF + RESPONSIVENESS**
FlyteFoam™ Propel



DAY 1

TUESDAY, 10 JULY

MORNING

9:00	Javelin Throw	W	QA
9:05	100m Dec	M	
9:10	Shot Put	M	QA
9:30	3000m SC	W	R1
9:50	Long Jump Dec	M	AB
10:05	1500m	M	R1
10:20	Javelin Throw	W	QB
10:24	Shot Put	M	QB
10:40	800m	W	R1
11:20	Long Jump	M	QAB
11:30	100m	M	R1
11:45	Shot Put Dec	M	AB

EVENING

16:00	High Jump Dec	M	AB
16:15	Pole Vault	W	QAB
16:45	Discus Throw	W	QA
16:50	400m	W	R1
17:40	5000m	W	F
18:05	Discus Throw	W	QB
18:10	Shot Put	M	F
18:15	400m Dec	M	
18:50	10,000m	M	F



DAY 2

WEDNESDAY, 11 JULY

MORNING

9:00	110m H Dec	M	
9:30	110m H	M	R1
9:50	Discus Throw Dec	M	A
10:15	Shot Put	W	QA
10:30	400m H	W	R1
11:00	Discus Throw Dec	M	B
11:20	400m	M	R1
11:30	Shot Put	W	QB
12:20	Hammer Throw	M	QA
12:27	100m	W	R1
12:40	Pole Vault Dec	M	AB
13:40	Hammer Throw	M	QB

EVENING

16:30	Javelin Throw Dec	M	A
16:35	Shot Put	W	F
16:40	110m H	M	SF
17:00	Pole Vault	M	QAB
17:10	800m	W	SF
17:40	Javelin Throw Dec	M	B
17:50	100m	M	SF
17:55	Long Jump	M	F
18:25	400m	W	SF
18:50	Javelin Throw	W	F
18:55	3000m	W	F
19:25	1500m Dec	M	F
20:05	100m	M	F

DAY 3

THURSDAY, 12 JULY

MORNING

9:30	100m H Hep	W	
9:40	Hammer Throw	W	QA
10:00	3000m SC	M	R1
10:18	Long Jump	W	QAB
10:30	High Jump Hep	W	AB
10:35	400m H	M	R1
10:55	Hammer Throw	W	QB
11:30	200m	M	R1

EVENING

18:00	100m	W	SF
18:05	Shot Put Hep	W	AB
18:20	Pole Vault	W	F
18:25	200m	M	SF
18:50	400m H	W	SF
19:15	200m Hep	W	
19:20	High Jump	M	AB
19:35	Discus Throw	W	F
19:40	400m	M	SF
20:10	400m	W	F
20:25	1500m	M	F
20:48	800m	W	F
21:02	110m H	M	F
21:15	100m	W	F

DAY 4

FRIDAY, 13 JULY

MORNING

9:30	Javelin Throw	M	QA
9:35	100m H	W	R1
10:00	Long Jump Hep	W	AB
10:25	800m	M	R1
10:45	Javelin Throw	M	QB
11:20	1500m	W	R1
11:40	High Jump	W	QAB
12:00	200m	W	R1
12:10	Javelin Throw Hep	W	A
13:20	Javelin Throw Hep	W	B

EVENING

17:50	Hammer Throw	M	F
18:00	Triple Jump	M	QAB
18:05	4 x 100m Relay	W	R1
18:30	4 x 100m Relay	M	R1
19:00	800m Hep	W	F
19:28	400m H	M	SF
19:43	Long Jump	W	F
20:02	200m	W	SF
20:26	400m H	W	F
20:35	400m	M	F
20:45	3000m SC	W	F
21:20	200m	M	F

DAY 5

SATURDAY, 14 JULY

MORNING

9:30	Discus Throw	M	QA
9:35	10,000m R.Walk	W	F
10:00	Triple Jump	W	QAB
10:40	High Jump	M	F
10:45	10,000m R.Walk	M	F
10:50	Discus Throw	M	QB
11:50	4 x 400m Relay	W	R1
12:15	4 x 400m Relay	M	R1

AFTERNOON

13:20	Hammer Throw	W	F
13:50	Pole Vault	M	F
13:55	100m H	W	SF
14:30	800m	M	SF
14:59	Triple Jump	M	F
15:05	200m	W	F
15:20	5000m	M	F
15:25	Javelin Throw	M	F
15:52	400m H	M	F
16:04	4 x 100m Relay	W	F
16:40	4 x 100m Relay	M	F

DAY 6

SUNDAY, 15 JULY

AFTERNOON

13:30	High Jump	W	F
13:35	100m H	W	F
13:40	Discus Throw	M	F
13:45	3000m SC	M	F
14:00	Triple Jump	W	F
14:15	1500m	W	F
14:34	800m	M	F
14:58	4 x 400m Relay	W	F
15:28	4 x 400m Relay	M	F



IAAF MEMBER FEDERATIONS PER COUNTRY CODE

Country Code	Name
1	AFG Afghanistan Athletic Federation
2	AIA Anguilla Amateur Athletic Association
3	ALB Albanian Athletics Federation
4	ALG Fédération Algérienne d'Athlétisme
5	AND Federacio Andorrana d'Atletisme
6	ANG Federacao Angolana de Atletismo
7	ANT Athletic Association of Antigua & Barbuda
8	ARG Confederacion Argentina de Atletismo
9	ARM Armenian Athletic Federation
10	ARU Arubaanse Atletiek Bond
11	ASA American Samoa Track & Field Association
12	AUS Athletics Australia
13	AUT Osterreichischer Leichtathletik-Verband
14	AZE Azerbaijan Athletics Federation
15	BAH Bahamas Association of Athletic Associations
16	BAN Bangladesh Athletic Federation
17	BAR Athletics Association of Barbados
18	BDI Fédération d'Athlétisme du Burundi
19	BEL Ligue Royale Belge d'Athlétisme
20	BEN Fédération Béninoise d'Athlétisme
21	BER Bermuda National Athletics Association
22	BHU Bhutan Amateur Athletic Federation
23	BIH Athletic Federation of Bosnia & Herzegovina
24	BIZ Belize Athletics Association
25	BLR Belarus Athletic Federation
26	BOL Federacion Atletica de Bolivia
27	BOT Botswana Athletics Association
28	BRA Confederação Brasileira de Atletismo
29	BRN Bahrain Athletics Association
30	BRU Brunei Darussalam Athletics Federation
31	BUL Bulgarian Athletic Federation
32	BUR Fédération Burkinabe d'Athlétisme
33	CAF Fédération Centrafricaine d'Athlétisme
34	CAM Khmer Amateur Athletics Federation
35	CAN Athletics Canada
36	CAY Cayman Islands Athletic Association
37	CGO Fédération Congolaise d'Athlétisme
38	CHA Fédération Tchadienne d'Athlétisme
39	CHI Federacion Atletica de Chile
40	CHN Chinese Athletic Association
41	CIV Fédération Ivoirienne d'Athlétisme
42	CMR Fédération Camerounaise d'Athlétisme
43	COD Fédération d'Athlétisme du Congo
44	COK Athletics Cook Islands Inc.
45	COL Federacion Colombiana de Atletismo
46	COM Fédération Comorienne d'Athlétisme
47	CPV Federação Caboverdiana de Atletismo
48	CRC Federacion Costarricense de Atletismo
49	CRO Croatian Athletics Federation
50	CUB Federacion Cubana de Atletismo
51	CYP The Amateur Athletic Association of Cyprus
52	CZE Czech Athletic Federation
53	DEN Dansk Atletik Forbund
54	DJI Fédération Djiboutienne d'Athlétisme
55	DMA Dominica Amateur Athletics Association
56	DOM Federacion Dominicana de Asociaciones de Atletismo
57	ECU Federacion Ecuatoriana de Atletismo
58	EGY Egyptian Athletic Federation
59	ERI Eritrean National Athletics Federation
60	ESA Federacion Salvadoreña de Atletismo
61	ESP Real Federacion Española de Atletismo
62	EST Estonian Athletic Association
63	ETH Ethiopian Athletic Federation
64	FIJ Athletics Fiji
65	FIN Suomen Urheiluliitto RY
66	FRA Fédération Française d'Athlétisme
67	FSM Federated States of Micronesia Athletic Association
68	GAB Fédération Gabonaise d'Athlétisme
69	GAM The Gambia Athletics Association
70	GBR UK Athletics
71	GBS Federacao de Atletismo da Guinea-Bissau
72	GEO Athletic Federation of Georgia
73	GEQ Federacion Ecuatoguineana de Atletismo
74	GER Deutscher Leichtathletik Verband
75	GHA Ghana Athletics Association
76	GIB Gibraltar Amateur Athletic Association
77	GRE Association Hellénique d'Athlétisme Amateur
78	GRN Grenada Athletic Association
79	GUA Federacion Nacional de Atletismo de Guatemala
80	GUI Fédération Guinéenne d'Athlétisme
81	GUM Guam Track and Field Association
82	GUY Athletics Association of Guyana
83	HAI Fédération Haitienne d'Athlétisme Amateur
84	HKG Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association
85	HON FENHATLE
86	HUN Hungarian Athletics Association
87	INA Indonesian Athletics Federation
88	IND Athletics Federation of India
89	IRI Athletic Federation of I.R Iran
90	IRL Athletic Association of Ireland
91	IRQ Iraqi Athletics Federation
92	ISL Icelandic Athletic Federation
93	ISR Israeli Athletic Association
94	ISV Virgin Islands Track & Field Federation
95	ITA Federazione Italiana di Atletica Leggera
96	IVB British Virgin Islands Athletics Association
97	JAM Jamaica Athletics Administrative Association
98	JOR Jordan Athletics Federation
99	JPN Japan Association of Athletics Federations
100	KAZ Athletic Federation of the Republic of Kazakhstan

101	KEN	Athletics Kenya	160	PRK	Amateur Athletic Association of DPR of Korea
102	KGZ	Athletics Federation of Kyrgyz Republic	161	PUR	Federacion de Atletismo de Puerto Rico
103	KIR	Kiribati Athletics Association	162	PYF	Fédération d'Athlétisme de Polynésie Française
104	KOR	Korea Association of Athletics Federations	163	QAT	Qatar Athletics Federation
105	KOS	Kosovo Athletic Federation	164	ROU	Federatia Romana de Atletism
106	KSA	Saudi Arabian Athletics Federation	165	RSA	Athletics South Africa
107	KUW	Kuwait Athletics Federation	166	RUS*	Russian Athletic Federation
108	LAO	Laos Amateur Athletic Federation	167	RWA	Fédération Rwandaise d'Athlétisme
109	LAT	Latvian Athletics Association	168	SAM	Athletics Samoa
110	LBA	Libyan Athletics Federation	169	SEN	Fédération Sénégalaise d'Athlétisme
111	LBN	Fédération Libanaise d'Athlétisme	170	SEY	Seychelles Athletics Federation
112	LBR	Liberia Athletics Federation	171	SIN	Singapore Athletic Association
113	LCA	Saint Lucia Athletics Association	172	SKN	Saint Kitts & Nevis Amateur Athletic Association
114	LES	Lesotho Amateur Athletics Association	173	SLE	Sierra Leone Amateur Athletic Association
115	LIE	Liechtensteiner Leichtathletik Verband	174	SLO	Slovenian Athletics Association
116	LTU	Athletic Federation of Lithuania	175	SMR	Federazione Sammarinese Atletica Leggera
117	LUX	Fédération Luxembourgeoise d'Athlétisme	176	SOL	Athletic Solomons
118	MAC	Associação de Atletismo de Macau	177	SOM	Somali Athletics Federation
119	MAD	Fédération Malagasy d'Athlétisme	178	SRB	Athletic Federation of Serbia
120	MAR	Fédération Royale Marocaine d'Athlétisme	179	SRI	Athletic Association of Sri Lanka
121	MAS	Malaysia Athletic Federation	180	SSD	South Sudan Athletics Federation
122	MAW	Athletics Association of Malawi	181	STP	Federação Santomense de Atletismo
123	MDA	Federatia de Atletism din Republica Moldova	182	SUD	Sudan Athletic Association
124	MDV	Athletics Association of Maldives	183	SUI	Schweizerischer Leichtathletik-Verband
125	MEX	Federación Mexicana de Asociaciones de Atletismo, A.C	184	SUR	Surinaamse Athletiek Bond
126	MGL	Mongolian Athletic Federation	185	SVK	Slovak Athletic Federation
127	MHL	Marshall Islands Athletics Federation	186	SWE	Swedish Athletic Association
128	MKD	Athletic Federation of Macedonia	187	SWZ	Swaziland Athletics Association
129	MLI	Fédération Malienne d'Athlétisme	188	SYR	Syrian Arab Athletic Federation
130	MLT	Malta Amateur Athletic Association	189	TAN	Athletics Tanzania
131	MNE	Athletic Federation of Montenegro	190	TGA	Tonga Athletic Association
132	MNT	Montserrat Amateur Athletic Association	191	THA	Athletic Association of Thailand
133	MON	Fédération Monégasque d'Athlétisme	192	TJK	Athletics Federation of the Republic of Tajikistan
134	MOZ	Federação Moçambicana de Atletismo	193	TKM	Amateur Athletic Federation of Turkmenistan
135	MRI	Mauritius Athletics Association	194	TKS	Turks & Caicos Islands Amateur Athletic Association
136	MTN	Fédération d'Athlétisme R.I Mauritanie	195	TLS	Federação Timor-Leste de Atletismo
137	MYA	Myanmar Track & Field Federation	196	TOG	Fédération Togolaise d'Athlétisme
138	NAM	Athletics Namibia	197	TPE	Chinese Taipei Athletics Association
139	NCA	Federacion Nicaragüense de Atletismo	198	TTO	Nat'l Association of Athletics Admin. of Trinidad & Tobago
140	NED	Royal Dutch Athletics Federation	199	TUN	Fédération Tunisienne d'Athlétisme
141	NEP	Nepal Athletics Association	200	TUR	Turkish Athletic Federation
142	NFI	Athletics Norfolk Island	201	TUV	Tuvalu Athletics Association
143	NGR	Athletic Federation of Nigeria	202	UAE	UAE Athletics Federation
144	NIG	Fédération Nigérienne d'Athlétisme	203	UGA	Uganda Athletics Federation
145	NMI	Northern Marianas Athletics	204	UKR	Ukrainian Athletic Federation
146	NOR	Norwegian Athletics Federation	205	URU	Confederacion Atletica del Uruguay
147	NRU	Nauru Athletics Association	206	USA	USA Track & Field
148	NZL	Athletics New Zealand	207	UZB	The Athletic Federation of Uzbekistan
149	OMA	Oman Athletic Association	208	VAN	Athletics Vanuatu
150	PAK	Athletics Federation of Pakistan	209	VEN	Federacion Venezolana de Atletismo
151	PAN	Federacion Panameña de Atletismo	210	VIE	Vietnam Athletics Federation
152	PAR	Federacion Paraguaya de Atletismo	211	VIN	Team Athletics Saint Vincent & The Grenadines
153	PER	Peruvian Athletics Sports Federation	212	YEM	Yemen Athletics Federation
154	PHI	Philippine Athletics Track & Field Association	213	ZAM	Zambia Amateur Athletic Association
155	PLE	Palestine Athletic Federation	214	ZIM	National Athletic Association of Zimbabwe
156	PLW	Palau Track and Field Association			
157	PNG	Athletics Papua New Guinea			
158	POL	Polish Athletics Association			
159	POR	Federação Portuguesa de Atletismo			

* Currently Banned



TIME IS MORE THAN
JUST A NUMBER.

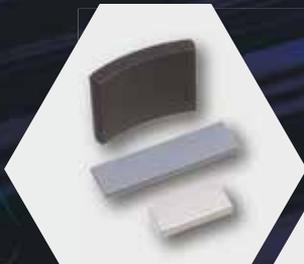
OFFICIAL TIMER
SEIKO

Attracting Tomorrow



TDK Technology Advancing power solutions.

Rare-earth magnets with high magnetic field strength for wind power generators



Varistors and surge arresters with high surge capability



EMC filters and sine-wave filters for currents up to 8 kA



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TAMPERE STADIUM – OUR RATINA

SITUATED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TOWN

700 metres from the Central Square and 1000 metres from the Main Railway Station.

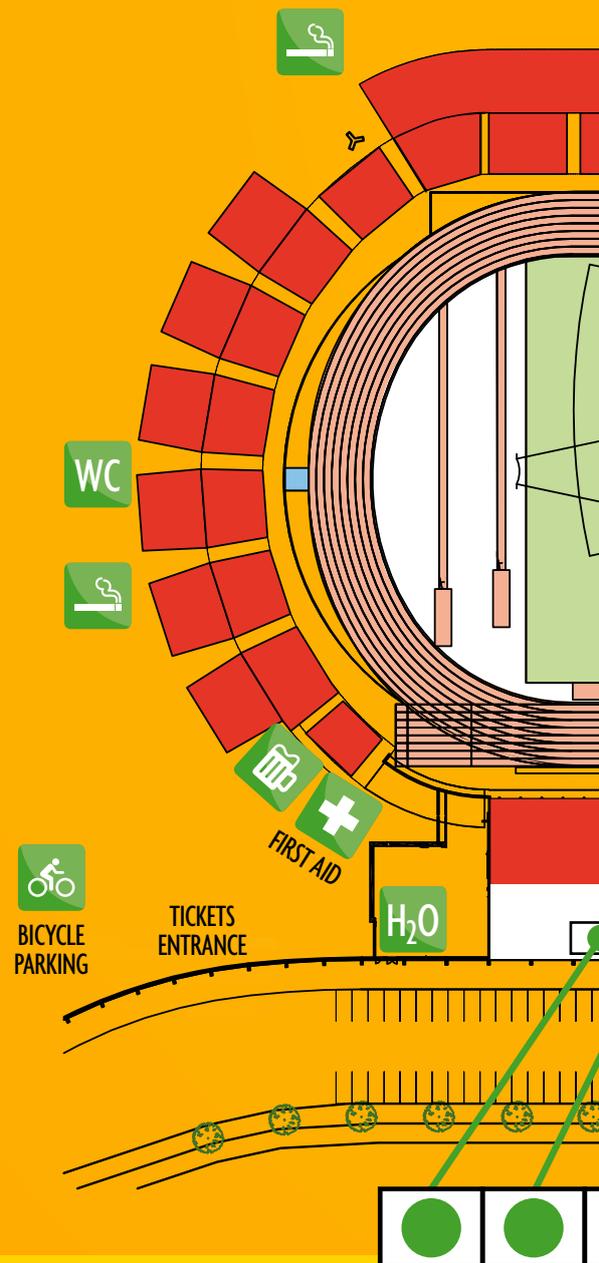
PART OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT

Prior to the construction of the current stadium, in Ratina there was a sports field on the site which hosted a number of football matches during the Helsinki Olympic Games of 1952.

CURRENT STADIUM

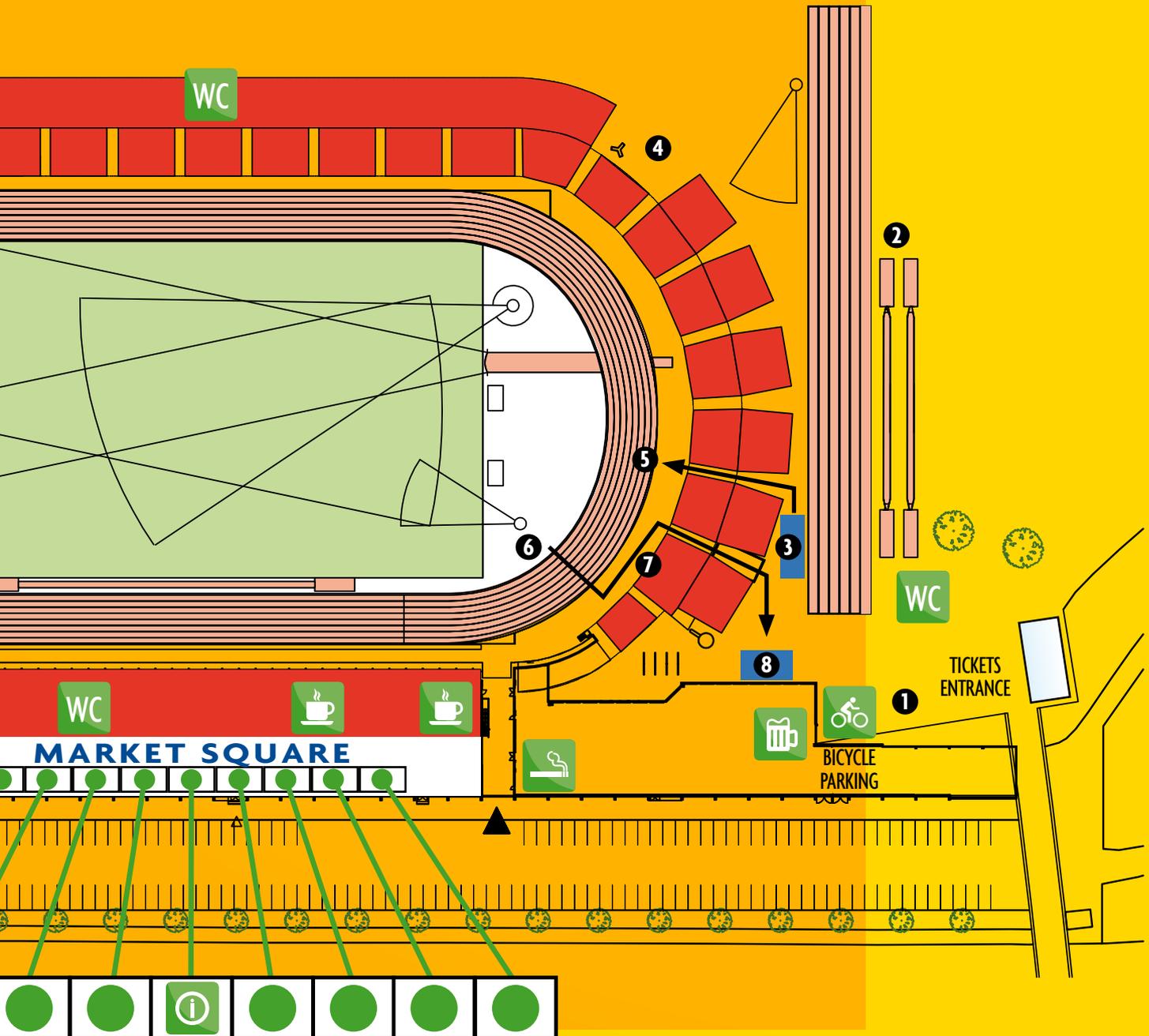
- Construction was completed in 1966.
- Major renovations have been made over the years. For example: partly new layout and new track surface 2016
- Has IAAF class 1 certificate

Tampere Stadium has approximately 16,800 seats, of which 4000 are located in the main tribune. When the field area is in use, for example in concerts, the audience capacity can increase to around 30000.



- 1 Entrance for Athletes
- 2 Warm-up area (+ Ratinanniemi)

TRACK LAYOUT



THE SPONSOR COUNTERS

- 3** Call Room
- 5** To infield
- 7** Mixed zone
- 4** Teams physio (Ratinanniemi)
- 6** To mixed zone
- 8** Kit collection



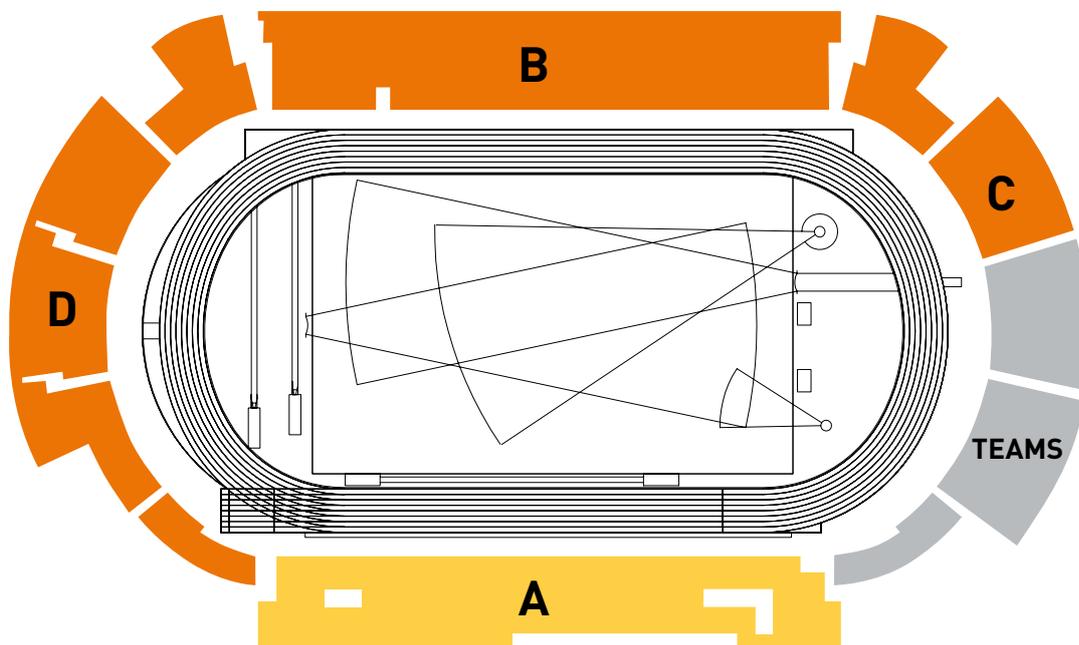
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TICKETS:

TRIBUNES	DAY-TICKET	YOUTH (7-16 YEARS)	TICKETS FOR DISABLED CUSTOMERS*	SIX DAY TICKET PACKAGE
Grand tribune, A Covered	17,50 €	-	17,50 €	59,00 €
Tribunes B, C, D Not covered	12,50 €	6,50 €	12,50 €	45,00 €

*Includes free access for carer.

There is unreserved seating in every tribune. So there is no stadium seat maps available at the ticket shop. You can sit where ever is free at selected ticket category.

The ticket prices include VAT but no delivery fee.

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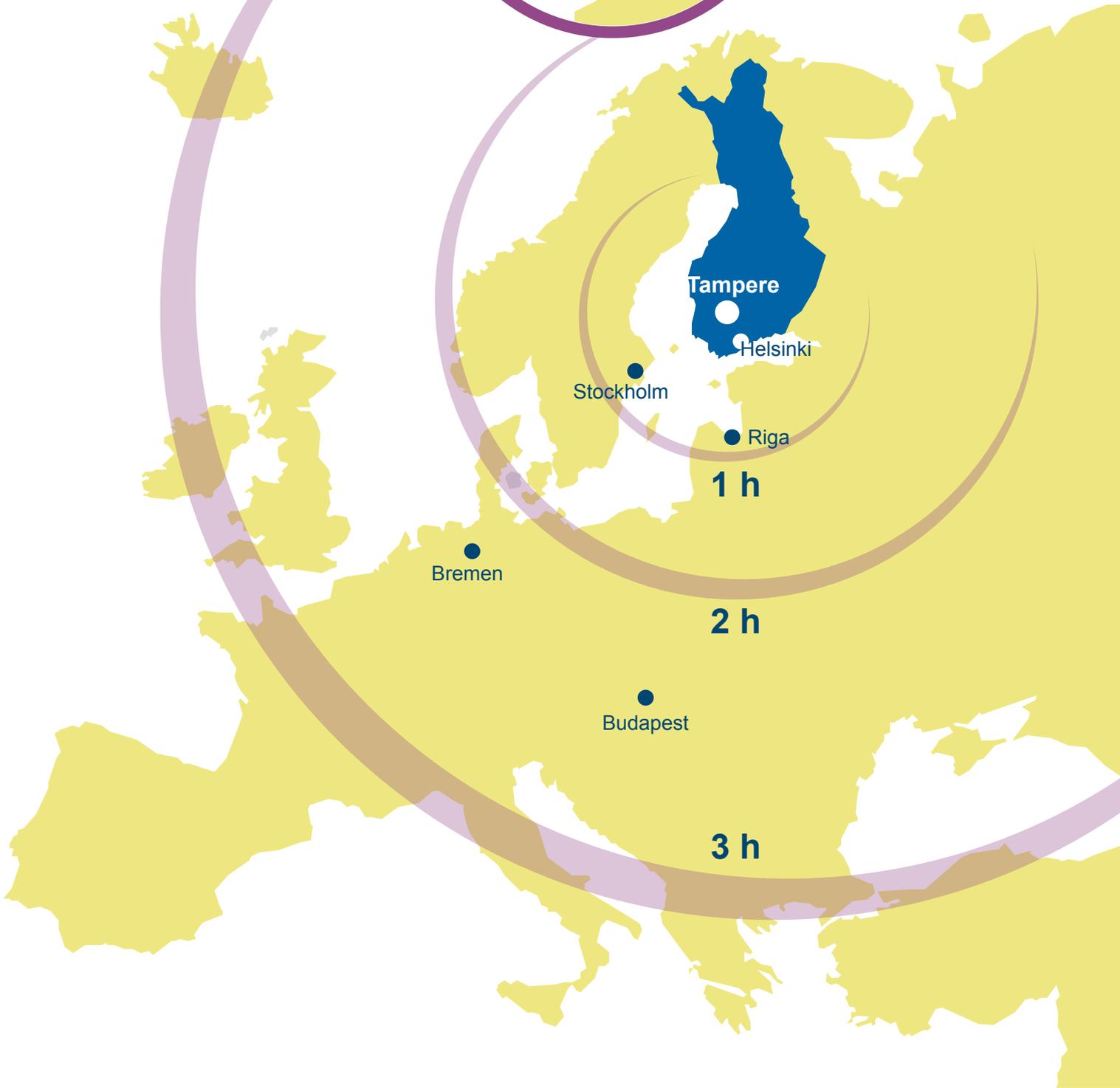


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ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

Tampere has been a Fairtrade City since 2007 and has made a strong commitment to implement and promote ecologically sustainable policies in the city. The City of Tampere intends to be a pioneer in hosting sustainable events and has been actively greening events by, for example, advising event organizers and cooperating with projects that aim to make events and the city more sustainable. Tampere aims to have a carbon neutral status by 2030.

The main goal of the IAAF U20 World Championships 2018 regarding the preservation of the environment is to underline the quality of Finnish tap water and how it is the primary source of drinking water. Unlike in most countries in the world, the water coming from any household or public tap is completely safe to enjoy and even purer than most bottled water.

Other important aspects of the event are sustainable choices and the proper recycling of waste. The goal is to set an example as a pioneer of responsible large-scale events. The idea is to not only learn and teach, but to also ensure that future events in the city will automatically function in a responsible manner.

The preservation of natural resources is considered in all aspects of the event. Tampere Stadium uses green energy for the duration of the event. The lighting of the Stadium is planned in an energy efficient way and due to the abundance of natural light during the Finnish summer less artificial lighting is needed. The event area is equipped with spots to charge mobile devices, which are available for both team members and volunteers.

A plan for the disposal of waste has been made in cooperation with Tampere Regional Solid Waste Management. The sorting options plastic, organic waste, paper, cardboard and waste-to-energy have been chosen through careful consideration of the effects of waste on the environment. There are clearly marked sorting stations placed next to walking paths. The waste containers are marked with clear international instructions and guidance is provided. All waste is collected from the stations and later reused primarily as recycled materials or used as a source for energy production. The venue is equipped with a sufficient amount of public lavatories, which are kept neat throughout the event.

International Sports Events in Tampere

UWW Junior Wrestling World Championships	2017
IOF Junior World Orienteering Championships	2017
FIFA World Cup Qualifiers	2016-2017
Finland-Sweden Athletics International	2016
AETF Taekwon-Do European Championships	2016
IFF Women's Floorball World Championships	2015
IIHF Inline Hockey World Championship	2015
ETTU European Veterans Table Tennis Championships	2015
CEV U19 Volleyball European Championships for Women	2014
EKF European Seniors Karate Championships	2014
EAA European Athletics U23 Championships	2013
ISIH Standing Amputee Ice Hockey World Championship	2012
ETU Long Distance Triathlon European Championships	2011
IRF World Ringette Championships	2010
UEFA Women's EURO	2009
EOC European Youth Olympic Festival	2009
FILA Wrestling European Championships	2008
EAME Waterskiing U21 Championships	2008
EMF Minigolf European Championships	2008
IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championships	2007
WKF Karate World Championships	2006
IFAGG Aesthetic Group Gymnastics World Championships	2006
EJU European Judo Championships	2006
ITF Taekwon-Do European Senior Championships	2004
IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships	2003
EAA European Athletics Junior Championships	2003
FIFA U17 World Championship	2003

Upcoming International Sports Events

IAAF World U20 Championships	2018
LEN European Junior Swimming Championships	2018
EDSO 5th European Futsal Championships	2018
EKF Junior & Cadet U21 Karate European Championships	2021
IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships	2022

WATER AND ECOBIKES

THE IAAF WORLD U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS IN TAMPERE, FINLAND ARE SHOWING FUTURE LARGE SCALE SPORTS EVENTS HOW IT 'S DONE, RESPONSIBLY

When it comes to environmental responsibilities of sporting events, the IAAF World U20 Championships in Tampere are going the extra mile by setting clear sustainability goals to reduce waste and emissions during the event. The event organizers are making visible sustainable choices to become pioneers in large scale sports events.

TAP WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK IN FINLAND

One of the goals is to considerably reduce the amount of the most difficult waste of them all – plastic.

At sports events, water plays a big role. Yet, the side product of keeping everyone hydrated is the abundant amount of thrown away plastic bottles. The event in Tampere is set on reducing plastic waste by making sure that disposable plastic bottles will become a thing of the past. Finland's tap water is among the highest quality in the world and is not only completely safe but a pleasure to drink. In Finland tap water has been found to be significantly cleaner than bottled water. Research by the National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) has shown that bottled water may have up to 100 times more microbes than tap water. Tap water fulfills both Finnish and the European Union requirements and recommendations for the quality of drinking water (Decree of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health).

Drinking water supply in Tampere is provided by Tampere Water, the municipal enterprise for water services. Most of the raw water is surface water from two lakes (Lake Roine and Lake Näsijärvi) and it is thoroughly treated before distribution. About one third of the tap water is groundwater, which is treated and pumped at multiple groundwater intakes. Groundwater is formed from rainwater by natural filtration through sand and gravel layers of the eskers (ridges) in Tampere and its neighbourhood.



The microbiological quality of all water (both surface water and groundwater) is ensured by disinfection with chlorine or sodium hypochlorite before pumping to the distribution network. Municipal health authorities and Tampere Water monitor water quality frequently.

Tampere Water is celebrating its 120th anniversary (1898 – 2018). Tampere Water will provide the estimated 2500 team members and athletes at the IAAF World U20 Championships with an empty water bottle made of BPA free plastic, which can be filled and refilled straight from the tap.



© AlexMazurov

CITY BIKES FROM ECOFELLOWS

The company Ecofellows Ltd. promotes the Championships' sustainability plan by providing 30 city bikes to be used during the event.

The IAAF World U20 Championships promote sustainable choices in transportation and together with Ecofellows are able to provide a more sustainable alternative for a car. The city centre of Tampere is compact and distances are easy to tackle by bike. The Tampere Stadium is in the heart of the city, which makes travelling by bike not only more responsible, but also easier.

“It is important to consider environmental aspects in events like this. Ecological arrangements are necessary and sensible. Many things are easier to do by bike, without having to use a car,” the project manager of Ecofellows, Olli Vakkala explains.

The city bikes are primarily offered to help the local event organisers and team members to get around quickly and efficiently.

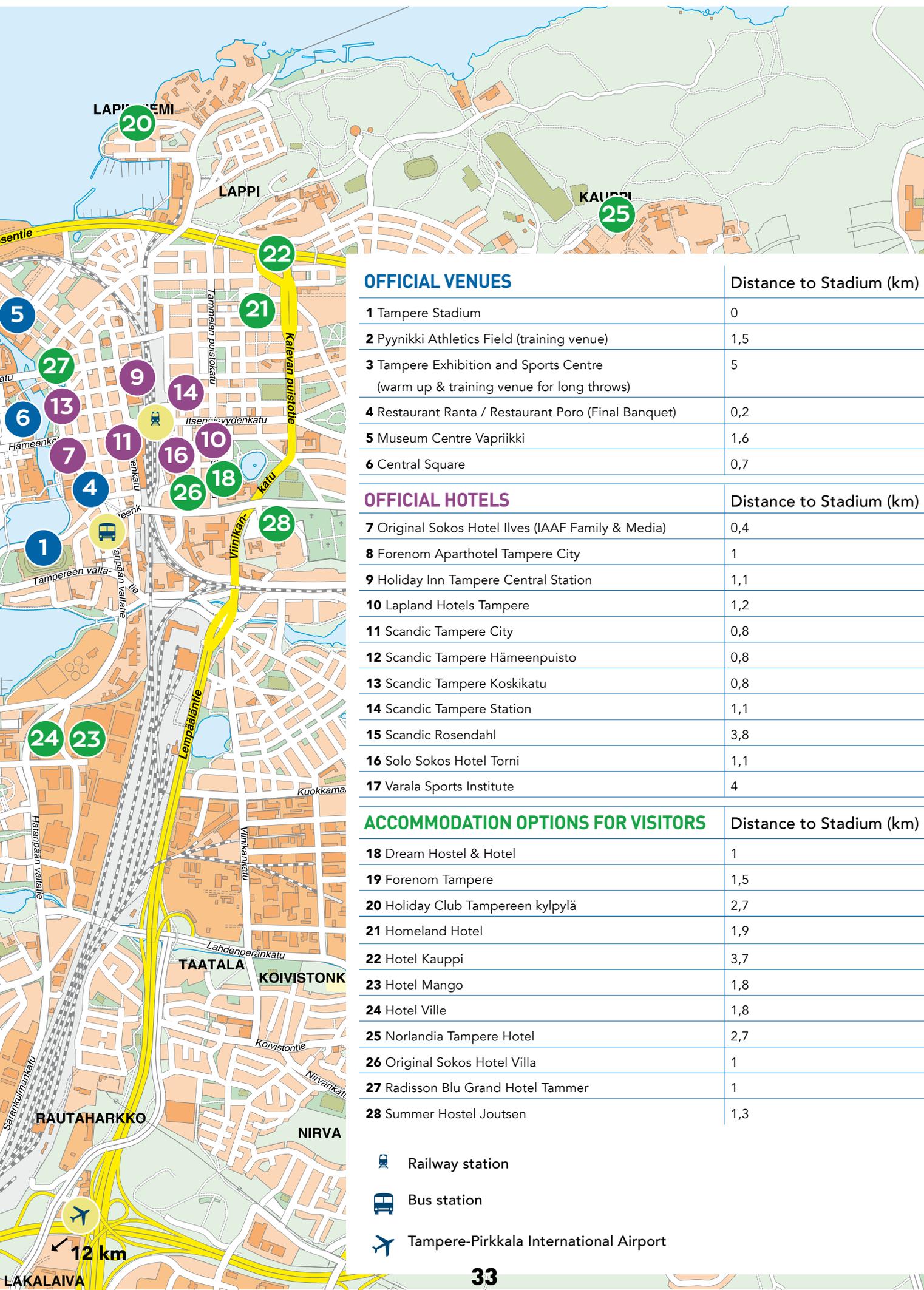


Näsijärvi

TAMPERE



© Kaupunkimittaus Tampere 2013



OFFICIAL VENUES

	Distance to Stadium (km)
1 Tampere Stadium	0
2 Pyynikki Athletics Field (training venue)	1,5
3 Tampere Exhibition and Sports Centre (warm up & training venue for long throws)	5
4 Restaurant Ranta / Restaurant Poro (Final Banquet)	0,2
5 Museum Centre Vapriikki	1,6
6 Central Square	0,7

OFFICIAL HOTELS

	Distance to Stadium (km)
7 Original Sokos Hotel Ilves (IAAF Family & Media)	0,4
8 Forenom Aparthotel Tampere City	1
9 Holiday Inn Tampere Central Station	1,1
10 Lapland Hotels Tampere	1,2
11 Scandic Tampere City	0,8
12 Scandic Tampere Hämeenpuisto	0,8
13 Scandic Tampere Koskikatu	0,8
14 Scandic Tampere Station	1,1
15 Scandic Rosendahl	3,8
16 Solo Sokos Hotel Tornii	1,1
17 Varala Sports Institute	4

ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS FOR VISITORS

	Distance to Stadium (km)
18 Dream Hostel & Hotel	1
19 Forenom Tampere	1,5
20 Holiday Club Tampereen kylpylä	2,7
21 Homeland Hotel	1,9
22 Hotel Kauppi	3,7
23 Hotel Mango	1,8
24 Hotel Ville	1,8
25 Norlandia Tampere Hotel	2,7
26 Original Sokos Hotel Villa	1
27 Radisson Blu Grand Hotel Tammer	1
28 Summer Hostel Joutsen	1,3



Railway station



Bus station



Tampere-Pirkkala International Airport

TAMPERE

- A CITY BETWEEN TWO LAKES

Tampere is one of the best-kept secrets in Northern Europe. Surrounded by two lakes that give the city its distinctive spacious feel, Tampere is a vibrant regional capital with active cultural life and a versatile event scene. A big city by Finnish standards, Tampere still manages to feel like a small town. In the compact city centre, everything is within a convenient walking distance.

Tampere is the central city of the sixth-largest urban area in the Nordic countries after Stockholm, Copenhagen, Helsinki, Oslo and Gothenburg; it is the third-largest city in Finland and one of the most rapidly developing regions in the country. Currently there are 231,964 inhabitants in Tampere and half a million inhabitants in the Tampere Region.

Tampere was founded in 1779 by Gustav III of Sweden on an isthmus between the great lakes Pyhäjärvi and Näsijärvi; the majestic Tammerkoski rapids connecting the two lakes runs through the city centre. The rapids banks were the birthplace of Finnish industry at the turn of the 19th century. Tampere quickly became the industrial powerhouse of Finland, and by the end of the century, the initial hamlet of 200 – 300 people had expanded into a bustling city of 35,000 inhabitants.

Most of the factories along the rapids were closed down during the structural change of the late 20th century, and the impressive industrial buildings have subsequently been converted into offices, apartments, educational and recreational facilities, museums and business spaces. The locals have, however, managed to retain the old working-class spirit that manifests itself, among other things, in a straight-forward can-do attitude and a no-nonsense atmosphere.

Today Tampere is a city of culture, sports and education as well as a centre of technology, research and business. Tampere is also one of Northern Europe's hotspots in the fields of information and communications technology, biomedical engineering and biotechnology as well as automation and mechanical engineering.

The main tourist attraction in the city is the Särkänniemi Amusement Park that also features the landmark Näsinneula tower, topped by a revolving restaurant. Other places of interest include the world's only Moomin Museum, Tampere Cathedral with its iconic artwork by the symbolist painter Hugo Simberg, Tampere Market Hall and the open-air markets Tammelantori and Laukontori, the idyllic Pyylikki and Pispala districts and the Pyylikki Observation Tower. Also worth a visit is the sky bar at Hotel Tornii Tampere.

The city and its surroundings offer splendid opportunities for trekking and other outdoor activities, and there are numerous public beaches, some of them with lakeside saunas. Also worth mentioning are the 44 nature conservation areas in Tampere, the most famous being Pyylikki, Viikinsaari and Iidesjärvi, all of them near the city centre. Whether you are an active sauna-goer or a newbie interested in experiencing authentic Finnish sauna culture, Tampere is the place to be. In May 2018, Tampere was granted the official status of the Sauna Capital of Finland for its record amount of public saunas (24). Home to both the oldest public sauna in Finland and the newest one, it offers everything from traditional lakeside saunas to modern urban versions with restaurants. Warmly welcome to the Sauna Capital of the World!

For more information: www.visittampere.fi



ATHLETES FEATURES

DAS AIMS TO MAKE HISTORY FOR INDIA

Words: Jon Mulkeen

Before heading to Gold Coast for the Commonwealth Games earlier this year, few athletics fans had heard of Hima Das.

The Indian teenager is still very much a new name in the sport, but she is fast becoming one of the most talked-about sprint prospects in the world.

Das, meanwhile, just lets her feet do the talking.

The youngest of five siblings, Das initially showed promise as a footballer before her PE teacher suggested in 2016 that she focused on athletics. Das switched to sprinting and trained on muddy turf. After a few months, she entered her first competition – the state championships – and earned the bronze medal in the 100m.

That performance led to an appearance at the national junior championships. Although she didn't win a medal there, she was spotted by coach Nipon Das, who suggested the young sprinter started training in Guwahati. Her parents agreed and she quickly started to progress.

Das picked up a handful of medals at the national age-group level and went on to represent India at the Asian Youth Championships, where she finished seventh in the 200m, and then at the IAAF World U18 Championships Nairobi 2017, where she finished fifth in the 200m.

With a full winter of training behind her, Das started 2018 in dazzling form and has set PBs in almost every competition she has contested so far this year.

On her 400m debut at the Federation Cup in Patiala, Das sped to a national U20 record of 51.97 to win by more than a second. Two days later, she won the 200m with a national U20 record of 23.37, again winning by a huge margin.

Das's 400m run in Patiala was enough to book a spot on India's team for the Commonwealth Games, where she clocked further national U20 records of 51.53 in the semi-final and 51.32 to finish sixth in the final.

She now heads to Tampere as the fastest entrant in the women's 400m. She will aim to become the first Indian athlete to win a medal of any colour in a track event. She could also become the first Indian woman to win a global title in athletics.

Das, however, is already setting her sights on long-term goals.

"All athletes have a dream of competing in the Olympics, and that is also one of my aims," she says. "I have just started."



© Athletics Federation of India

DAY DREAMING ABOUT NEXT BIG TARGET

Words: Jon Mulkeen

At the tender age of 18, Australian sprinter Riley Day has already had her fair share of memorable experiences within the sport.

She won the 100m and 200m double at the senior Australian Championships earlier this year to book her place on the host nation's team for the Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, where she went on to narrowly miss the final by 0.01.

In 2017 she represented Australia at the IAAF World Championships London 2017 – where she was the youngest athlete of the entire championships – and ran in the same 200m heat as two-time world champion Dafne Schippers.

And earlier that season, Day raced against Usain Bolt in a mixed 4x100m relay at the Nitro Athletics competition in Melbourne.

The teenager takes all of these things in her stride, but she also tries to make the most of each experience.

"My legs were just shaking," she said after racing at the World Championships. "I just kept looking around thinking, 'am I really out here?' It was an amazing experience to be at the World Championships as a 17-year-old. I got to run against one of the fastest women in the world. That's awesome."

Day's London appearance was merely an unexpected end-of-season bonus. Her main goal for 2017 had been the Commonwealth Youth Games in Nassau, where she won the 200m and earned silver in the 100m.

Day has improved her 100m and 200m PBs this year. She defied the -1.7m/s headwind to record 22.93 when winning the national 200m title, and then clocked 11.50 in the 100m at the Sydney Grand Prix in March.

Not only did her 200m performance book her a spot on Australia's team for the Commonwealth Games, it also puts her third on the Australian U20 all-time list behind the altitude-assisted performances of Raelene Boyle and Jenny Lamy in Mexico City back in 1968.

With the Commonwealth Games having been and gone, it leaves Day with one major target for the rest of the year: the IAAF World U20 Championships Tampere 2018.

"I've had a chance to compete against the world's best," said Day. "What I've experienced so far has definitely set me up to be the best athlete I can be. The journey is certainly not over. I've still got a few goals left to achieve this year."



© Riley Day – image from her instagram account

MURILLO IS FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SOUTH AMERICAN GREATS

Words: Jon Mulkeen



© Getty Images

At the Ximena Restrepo Grand Prix in Medellin earlier this year, all eyes were focused on the country's biggest athletics star: Caterine Ibarguen.

The Olympic triple jump champion is one of the leading sporting icons in Colombia and she was making her seasonal debut in front of her home crowd.

Records were broken in Medellin that day. But not by Ibarguen.

While the triple jump was taking place, the women's high jump was reaching its conclusion. In spite of the rain and the relative lack of attention, Colombian teenager Maria Fernanda Murillo was calm and composed.

She sailed over her first four heights. The bar moved up to 1.83m and Murillo went clear again on her first attempt, while the last of her opponents bowed out of the competition. Not only had Murillo secured victory, she had also achieved the qualifying standard for the IAAF World U20 Championships Tampere 2018.

But she was only just getting started and had the bar moved up to 1.90m. She failed her first two attempts but then got over it on her third, smashing the South American U20 record and topping the 2018 world U20 list.

"I was aiming for the record," said Murillo. "We had prepared for this and we had already done it in training."

The fans packed into the Alfonso Galvis Duque Stadium were suddenly aware that Colombia had more than one talented jumper.

But that's not the only thing Murillo has in common with Ibarguen. She is coached by Regla Sandino, the woman who guided Ibarguen up until 2008.

"María Fernanda is a girl who trains very well, because she has great intelligence," says Sandino, who also coached 1993 world high jump champion Ioannet Quintero. "She has made some sacrifices with her study schedules, but we have had an easy job so far without many difficulties."

Under the guidance of Sandino, Ibarguen had set a South American high jump record with her 1.86m leap from 2003. It was bettered by one centimetre 10 years later by a woman who would also go on to win a global triple jump title: Venezuela's Yulimar Rojas.

Unlike her predecessors of the continental U20 record, however, Murillo appears to be set on the high jump for now and she warmed up for the World U20 Championships by winning the high jump at the senior South American Championships in Cochabamba, where she replicated her record height, 1.90m.

"We have big expectations for the World U20 Championships," says Murillo, who could potentially become the first Colombian woman to win a global age-group title. "With this height I could fight for a place on the podium."

COOL, CALM AND COLLECTED, SOKWAKHANA ZAZINI IS A RISING HURDLING STAR

Words: Wesley Botton

If you are ever given the unenviable task of racing against Sokwakhana Zazini, you need to know three things: he's got as much respect for you as you do for him; he's going to hammer it down from the gun; and he's almost certainly going to beat you.

The latest prospect in a rich history of South African 400m hurdling, Zazini has his potential on the world stage for the first time in his fledgling career when he coasted to a commanding 49.27 victory in the 400m hurdles at the IAAF World U18 Championships Nairobi 2017.

And though he was delighted to take the top step on the podium, his admittance that he was slightly disappointed not to break his own world U18 best of 48.84 offers some insight into the lofty expectations the youngster has already placed on himself.

"It didn't go exactly as planned, but it's fine," he said. "I'll take it."

Reserved and unassuming, he has none of the bravado that one might expect from a potential global superstar. Zazini has a careful, analytical approach to the decisions he makes. It's that same approach that keeps him grounded.

While he is the best 400m hurdler in the world in his age group, Zazini is careful not to get too far ahead of himself.

"You never know what might happen, so I'll always stay hungry and I will never look down on my opponents," he says.

Born in the Eastern Cape, the 17-year-old speedster moved to Pretoria in 2016 after receiving a bursary from the TuksSport High School.

Though he went on to enjoy a breakthrough season in 2017, chipping more than two seconds off his personal best over the barriers, his passion for the sport evolved when he was a child.

"I've always been in love with athletics," he says. "Hurdles was always my dream event, so I started doing it from a young age and I was able to work on my technique."

The technical aspect of his training, however, has done nothing to hamper his raw speed.

Aside from holding the world U18 400m hurdles best of 48.84 over the 84cm height barriers and the fastest time in the world this year by an U20 hurdler, 49.32, Zazini also boasts a 400m flat PB of 45.86.



© Getty Images

But despite his impressive flat speed, he has wisely chosen to focus on the one-lap event over the barriers for the foreseeable future and is keen to make an impact at the IAAF World U20 Championships Tampere 2018.

Though the parents of his young opponents might not like them losing, they can at least be grateful that Zazini is able to offer them all a valuable life lesson: there's nothing wrong with second place.

ZHANG TARGETS THIRD GLOBAL TITLE IN TAMPERE

Words: Vincent Wu for the IAAF



© Getty Images

In his first year as an U20 athlete, China's Zhang Yao has already set his eyes on winning all the big titles in the age group.

Earlier this year, the world U18 champion cut 25 seconds off his personal best to win the U20 men's 10km title in 40:07 at the IAAF World Race Walking Team Championships Taicang 2018.

Now he is focused on winning a third global gold medal at the IAAF World U20 Championships Tampere 2018.

"The world U18 title proved my ability as a youth athlete," he says. "The title in Taicang, meanwhile, showed that I have made a successful transition to the next age group. I am still at the top of the world; that is important to me."

Zhang knows he will start as one of the favourites in Tampere, but he doesn't mind the extra pressure.

"Many athletes will see me as their target and will try to beat me," he said. "But I simply see it as an extra responsibility to give it my all and fight for the top honours for my country."

Zhang was born in the city of Wuhai in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, which has a strong tradition in race walking. The area has produced the likes of world 20km race walk champion Yang Jiayu and 2010 World Race Walking Cup 20km silver medallist Chu Yafei.

Zhang's ability was identified by his school's race walking coach when he was in fifth grade. He later began to train as part of the Inner Mongolia regional team at the age of 13, under the guidance of coach Alatan Gadasu, who finished 10th in the 50km race walk at the 2004 Olympic Games.

"At first my parents did not want me to train in race walking because they believed the event was too arduous," said Zhang. "But after my victories in a series of small competitions, they changed their mind."

Zhang is a big basketball fan, but his sporting idol is Olympic 10km race walk champion Wang Zhen.

"He has good technique," says Zhang. "Sometimes I try to learn from his technique in order to improve mine."

Zhang is hesitant to adopt Wang's racing tactics, though. Instead of building up a big lead from the start as Wang often does, Zhang prefers to follow his opponents during the first half of a race before making a break in the closing stages. He used that tactic to great effect in Taicang.

One of Zhang's long-term goals is to break Wang's Chinese 20km race walk record of 1:17:36.

"I started to train for the 20km last winter and my best time is about 1:24," he says. "I want to break Wang's record as a way of paying respect to my idol, but I still have a long way to go."

"My ultimate goal is to win a gold medal at the Olympic Games, like Wang did in 2016," he adds. "It doesn't have to be in Tokyo in 2020; maybe the 2024 Olympics will be the right occasion."

DANTZLER HOPING TO DAZZLE AGAIN

Words: Pawel Jackowski

It was her first international championship, but Selina Dantzler showed no sign of nerves as she entered the shot put circle in the pouring rain at the IAAF World U18 Championships Nairobi 2017.

The 17-year-old German entered the final as the favourite and duly took the lead with her first throw of the competition. She had it all planned out.

"I wanted to do my best in the first round, so that I didn't have to worry before the next throws," Dantzler said.

In the fifth round, she was temporarily relegated to third place after Chinese duo Yu Tianxiao and Sun Yue both surpassed her mark. Dantzler didn't panic, though.

"I was a little nervous, sure, but not too much," she said. "I wanted to be the world champion, so I had to focus."

Dantzler responded with a throw of 17.64m to regain the lead and secure the gold medal.

As confident as she looked during the final in Nairobi, Dantzler says she did not go into the competition with the expectation of taking gold.

"I was hoping for it, but not expecting it," she said. "I did have the best mark, but I wasn't sure if I could do it again here."

A native of Munich, Dantzler started out as a thrower at the age of 10 and she has always enjoyed the explosiveness of the shot put. "When I started, I knew right away that this was my event."

Having now moved up to the U20 age group, Dantzler now competes with the heavier senior weight shot. But she has adapted well and recently set a lifetime best of 18.19m, matching the PB she set last year with the lighter 3kg implement.

Only one woman has won back-to-back world U18 and U20 titles in the shot put in successive years: multiple world and Olympic champion Valerie Adams.

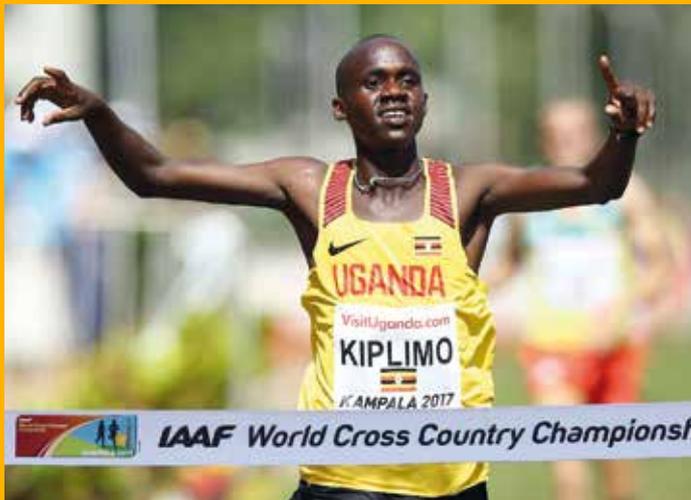
Dantzler, who is also a talented discus thrower, will now look to emulate Adams as she heads to Tampere with the top shot put performance in the world by an U20 athlete. And she showed last year in Nairobi that she excels with that kind of pressure.



© Getty Images

KIPLIMO AIMS TO TURN BRONZE INTO GOLD

Words: Bob Ramsak



© Roger Sedres

Among those expected to make the biggest waves on the Tampere Stadium track is rising Ugandan star Jacob Kiplimo, whose career has advanced by the proverbial leaps and bounds since he raced to 10,000m bronze at the last edition of these championships two years ago.

In fact, Kiplimo, still just 17, will quite likely arrive in Tampere as the athlete with the most appearances on athletics' biggest stages. The biggest of those came in 2016, just four weeks after his bronze medal-winning run in Bydgoszcz, when he was the youngest athlete to compete on the Olympic athletics programme in Rio, some three months shy of his 16th birthday. He has since competed at the IAAF World Championships London 2017, the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, and on home turf at the IAAF World Cross Country Championships Kampala 2017 where he achieved his greatest victory of his young career thus far.

Entering the competition, he was a strong medal favourite in the U20 race and one of the host nation's best prospects for gold. He didn't disappoint, breaking from the pack at the start of the final lap to take a decisive three-second victory over the 8km course and landing the first ever world cross country title for Uganda.

That favourite's status in Kampala came about largely due to his impressive run in Bydgoszcz the year before, where he remained in the chase for the 10,000m title throughout the race, even taking his turn with the lead, pushing the pace to what would eventually be a championships record. Kiplimo clocked 27:26.68, less than a second and a half behind winner Rodgers Kwemoi, a performance that is still his lifetime best.

He's become a stronger racer since, mixing it up against runners several years his senior, especially on the international cross country circuit. In the 2017-18 season, he won races in Soria and San Vittore Olona and finished second in Atapuerca, Venta de Banos, Elgoibar and Sevilla, carving out a name for himself as one of the circuit's most consistent performers.

On the track, 2017 included an appearance in the always competitive Prefontaine Classic Diamond League fixture's 5000m, where he clocked 13:13.64, still his personal best. Later in the season he competed over the same distance at the World Championships in London, finishing ninth in his heat.

He's emerged much more polished on the track in 2018, finishing fourth in the Commonwealth Games 10,000m in 27:30.25, and more recently, sixth over 5000m in the Stockholm leg of the IAAF Diamond League in early June. He'll be a strong favourite for gold in Tampere.

DIAZ SET TO CONTINUE CUBA'S FINE TRIPLE JUMPING TRADITION

Words: Wesley Botton

Cuba has developed such a strong culture of triple jumping, the event has almost become synonymous with the blue and white stripes of the Caribbean nation's flag.

For all their success in the discipline, however, the long list of world-class jumpers they have produced has been unable to eclipse British athlete Jonathan Edwards's world record.

It seems inevitable that they will eventually claim the mark, when they find a priceless jewel hidden among their many gems. Enter Jordan Diaz.

The young phenomenon, born in Havana, achieved such a magnificent feat at the IAAF World U18 Championships Nairobi 2017 that he stunned the entire global athletics fraternity, including himself.

He set a big PB of 17.00m in the third round and then, with his next attempt, he catapulted himself across the pit to a world U18 best of 17.30m.

While his coach, Ricardo Ponce, had believed in his potential to crack the 17-metre mark, Diaz admits he wasn't sure if he could achieve the feat.

"Ricardo kept telling me you can reach 17 metres, and I kept saying 'no way, 17 metres is too far'," Diaz says. "Then once in Havana I got close [with his previous PB of 16.66m] and I thought 'well, I think I'm capable of doing it now'."

After being scouted by the International School of Physical Education and Sport in Havana when he was just 12 years old, Diaz initially dabbled in various disciplines, winning the national high jump and long jump titles in his age group in his first year at the institution. It wasn't until 2016 that he channelled his focus into the triple jump.

Training with two-time world silver medallist Pedro Pablo Pichardo – one of only five men to have jumped beyond 18 metres – Diaz progressed in leaps and bounds in both literal and figurative terms. It also gave him the confidence that he can go a lot farther than he has already done.

"I never really thought I could break the world U18 best," he said. "It proves nothing is impossible."

A week before his 17th birthday earlier this year, Diaz improved on his world U18 best with a leap of 17.32m in Havana. A few months later, just weeks before heading to Tampere for the IAAF World U20 Championships, Diaz went even farther with 17.41m – the best jump by an U20 athlete since Volker Mai set the world U20 record of 17.50m in 1985.

Athletics fans around the world are eager to see just how far Diaz can stretch his long legs, but the teenager is keeping himself grounded.

"Nobody can tell the future, so we'll see, but my main objective right now is the World U20 Championships," he says. "Who knows what I can jump there?"



© Getty Images

THE RISE AND RISE OF ARMAND DUPLANTIS

Words: Bob Ramsak

When the IAAF World U20 Championships Tampere 2018 get underway, no athlete will be attracting quite the level of attention that's expected to fall upon pole vaulting prodigy Armand 'Mondo' Duplantis.

The reasons are many, not the least of which is that he'll be the only entrant with an IAAF Diamond League victory to his name. That came before a home crowd in Stockholm in early June where he beat, among others, world champion Sam Kendricks for the first time. It likely won't be his last.

He topped 5.86m in the Swedish capital, a height he has bettered on four other occasions. But one no other U20 vaulter has.

"I finally beat Sam, which is a great big relief off my shoulders," Duplantis said, with an air of calm confidence belying his 18 years. "I know higher heights will come. It was a great victory but I can't stop there."

He put his talent on display very early on. Born into an athletic family – his US father Greg was a standout pole vaulter with a 5.80m personal best and his Swedish mother Helena an accomplished heptathlete – he took to the sport at age five in a jumping pit in the backyard of his family home in Lafayette, Louisiana. His flurry of world age group bests began two years later.

His first international appearance came at age 15 at the World U18 Championships in Cali, Colombia in 2015, where he topped 5.30m to win gold. Pole vault legend Sergey Bubka presented him with his gold medal, an amusing moment he has cherished since.

"I think I still had my game-face on when I received my medal," he said. "He told me to relax and smile, which I thought was kind of funny."



© Getty Images

On several levels, that advice has sunk in. When he competes it's with a maturity that matches that of most of his rivals in the senior ranks.

In 2016, he improved to 5.51m and finished third at the IAAF World U20 Championships in Bydgoszcz where he topped 5.45m. But that did little to prepare the world for his seismic improvement the following year.

Indoors, he improved his personal best in four of his six competitions, topping 5.61m, 5.72m, 5.75m and 5.82m. In his first outdoor competition, the Texas Relays on 1 April, Duplantis cleared 5.90m to break the world U20 record. His first IAAF Diamond League invitations soon followed. He finished fourth at the Prefontaine Classic in Eugene, and seventh at the Athletissima in Lausanne before ending his season as a finalist at the World Championships in London where he finished ninth.

His rise has continued this year, one which has landed him firmly among the world's elite vaulters. He set a world U20 indoor record after topping 5.88m in Clermont-Ferrand, France in February, finished seventh at the World Indoor Championships in early March, debuted outdoors with a 5.92m leap at the Texas Relays on the last day of March, and improved to 5.93m on 5 May, a pending world U20 record.

Besides Duplantis, only 30 other men have topped 5.93m. He has managed it before his 19th birthday, leaving fans with the distinct impression that what we've witnessed thus far is really just the beginning. Duplantis indicated as much after his Stockholm IAAF Diamond League victory.

"I can't just stop there, that I'm just 'one and done'," he says. "Now I have to go win more."



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WHO WILL SUCCEED AT HOME FIELD?

Four Finnish athletes know what it is like to win a World Championship medal on home ground.

Tiina Lillak won the women's javelin during Helsinki's staging of the first IAAF World Championships in 1983, and compatriots Arto Bryggare and Martti Vainio won silver and bronze in the 110m hurdles and 5000m respectively.

And when the IAAF Championships returned to the Finnish capital in 2005, long jumper Tommi Evilä flew the home flag by taking bronze.

Now some of Finland's finest young athletes have the chance to earn more global medals on home territory as they prepare for the IAAF World U20 Championships that start in Tampere on July 19. So who is in with a shout?

Home audiences will be looking to sprinter Samuel Purola, 400m hurdler Viivi Lehtikainen and javelin thrower Elina Kinnunen, who all brought back medals from last summer's European Athletics U20 Championships. Pole vaulter Saga Andersson, discus thrower Helena Leveelahti and shot putter Arttu Korkeasalo also look ready to earn tangible reward from the competition.



© Hannu Jukola



© Hannu Jukola

PUROLA RUNS AND PLAYS

Purola, 18, who runs for Oulun Pyrintö, has developed quickly under the supervision of his father and coach Mika Purola. A tall (1.88m) sprinter, he finished third over 100 metres and fifth in the 200 metres at the European Athletics U18 Championships in 2016. At last summer's European Athletics U20 Championships he took silver at 100 metres and bronze at 200.

"I was surprised that I was able to place so well," Purola confessed after his most recent medal performances in Grosseto.

At the time of writing, Purola's personal bests at 100 and 200 metres were 10.31sec and 20.84.

He will seek to be at his best in Tampere.

"For the last few weeks I have run better than ever," he said. "I'm waiting for the World U20 Championships with confidence".

Purola, who likes to spend his free time playing drums, has a background in wrestling and football. His brother Eeli is also a sprinter.



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LEHIKONEN KNOWS ABOUT GOOD TIMING

Lehtikoinen knows how to do her best in the most important races. In 2016 she won the European U20 400 metres hurdles title in a personal best of 58.28 sec.

A year ago she took bronze in the European Athletics U20 Championships in 56.49 - a Finnish record in her age group.

"When I saw my result at the board I was shocked," she said after her race in Grosseto. "I had trouble realising what I had just done."

Lehtikoinen, 18, is coached by Jussi Ihamäki, who has previously coached 100m hurdler Nooralotta Neziri to victory in the 2011 European Athletics U20 Championships and third place in the 2013 European U23 Championships.

"The progress was as expected during the training season and my technique has become better and better," says Lehtikoinen, who graduated from Mäkelänrinne Sports High School this spring. "Now during the summer the results have improved step by step. U20s are the main goal of the season."



© Christian Valtanen

KINNUNEN SWITCHED FROM SKIS TO JAVELIN

A former cross country skier, she has developed fast as a javelin thrower under the guidance of her coach Tuomas Laaksonen. Kinnunen has the talent to rise to the top of her new event.

The 19-year-old who comes from Uusikaupunki, in southwest Finland, placed third in the European U18 Championships in 2016 as well as in the last year's European U20 Championships.

"Now my goal is to take a brighter medal in Tampere," Kinnunen says.

Her best result so far, 54.30m, indicates good things to come at the impending World U20 Championships.

Like Lehtikoinen, Kinnunen also graduated from high school this spring.



© Hannu Jukola

FOURTH ISN'T ENOUGH FOR ANDERSSON ANYMORE

Pole vaulter Andersson wants to put a stop to her row of fourth places this summer in Tampere. She finished one place off the podium at the 2015 European Youth Olympic Festival in Tbilisi, Georgia 2015, as well as in the European U18 Championships held at the same venue a year later. The third fourth place was achieved at last year's European U20 Championships in Grosseto, Italy.

Andersson, 18, is coached by her father Björn Andersson. Her personal bests are 4.42m indoors and 4.40 outdoors.

"Training has gone well. I have become stronger and faster. I have especially improved the beginning of the jump," Andersson says.

Andersson has competed in a good company for a long time as Wilma Murto, who set a world junior (U20) record of 4.71 in 2016, is just one year older than her. Andersson studies at the Swedish-speaking high school Helsinge gymnasium.

MANY TALENTED THROWERS

The Finnish team has several talented throwers other than Kinnunen, such as discus thrower Helena Leveelahti. The 18-year-old, who comes from Virrat, in central Finland, placed fifth in the European U20 Championships last year, and her personal best is 54.67m. Shot putter Korkeasalo, 18, competes for the first time in the U20 Championships and has thrown 19.43m with the 6-kilo shot.

"I have what it takes to throw more than 20 metres," he promises.

Hammer thrower Kiira Väänänen and javelin throwers Teemu Narvi and Roosa Ylönen also have chances to place in the top eight in their events. Narvi is considered to be a classically promising Finnish javelin thrower.

U20 WORLD RECORDS

MEN

DISCIPLINE	PERFORMANCE	WIND	COMPETITOR	DOB	COUNTRY	VENUE	DATE
100 Metres	9,97	1,8	Trayvon BROMELL	10.7.95	USA	Eugene (Hayward Field), OR	13.6.14
200 Metres	19,93	1,4	Usain BOLT	21.8.86	JAM	Devonshire	11.4.04
400 Metres	43,87		Steve LEWIS	16.5.69	USA	Seoul (Olympic Stadium)	28.9.88
800 Metres	1:41,73		Nijel AMOS	15.3.94	BOT	London (Olympic Stadium)	9.8.12
1000 Metres	2:15,00		Benjamin KIPKURUI	28.12.80	KEN	Nice	17.7.99
1500 Metres	3:28,81		Ronald KWEMOI	19.9.95	KEN	Monaco (Stade Louis II)	18.7.14
One Mile	3:49,29		William BIWOTT	5.3.90	KEN	Oslo (Bislett)	3.7.09
3000 Metres	7:28,19		Yomif KEJELCHA	1.8.97	ETH	Paris Saint-Denis (Stade de France)	27.8.16
5000 Metres	12:47,53		Hagos GEBRHIWET	11.5.94	ETH	Paris Saint-Denis (Stade de France)	6.7.12
10,000 Metres	26:41,75		Samuel Kamau WANJIRU	10.11.86	KEN	Bruxelles (Boudewijnstadion)	26.8.05
3000 Metres Steeplechase	7:58,66		Stephen CHERONO	15.10.82	KEN	Bruxelles	24.8.01
110m Hurdles (99.0cm)	12,99	0,5	Wilhem BELOCIAN	22.6.95	FRA	Eugene (Hayward Field), OR	24.7.14
400 Metres Hurdles	48,02		Danny HARRIS	7.9.65	USA	Los Angeles, CA	17.6.84
High Jump	2,37		Dragutin TOPIC	12.3.71	YUG	Plovdiv (Deveti Septemvri Stadium)	12.8.90
High Jump	2,37		Steve SMITH	29.3.73	GBR	Seoul (Olympic Stadium)	20.9.92
Pole Vault	5,90		Armand DUPLANTIS	10.11.99	SWE	Austin (Myers Stadium), TX	1.4.17
Pole Vault	5.92*		Armand DUPLANTIS	10.11.99	SWE	Austin, TX (USA)	31.3.18
Long Jump	8,35	1,1	Sergey MORGUNOV	9.2.93	RUS	Cheboksary	20.6.12
Triple Jump	17,50	0,3	Volker MAI	3.5.66	GDR	Erfurt	23.6.85
Shot Put (6kg)	23,00		Jacko GILL	20.12.94	NZL	Auckland (North Shore)	18.8.13
Discus Throw (1.750kg)	70,13		Mykyta NESTERENKO	15.4.91	UKR	Halle	24.5.08
Hammer Throw (6kg)	85,57		Ashraf Amgad ELSEIFY	20.2.95	QAT	Barcelona (Estadio Olímpico)	14.7.12
Javelin Throw	86,48		Neeraj CHOPRA	24.12.97	IND	Bydgoszcz (Stadion Zawisza)	23.7.16
Decathlon	8397		Torsten VOSS	24.3.63	GDR	Erfurt	7.7.82
Decathlon (U20)	8435*		Niklas KAUL	11.2.98	GER	Grosseto (Stadio Zecchini)	23.7.17
10,000 Metres Race Walk	38:46,4		Viktor BURAYEV	23.8.82	RUS	Moskva	20.5.00
10 Kilometres Race Walk	37:44		Zhen WANG	24.8.91	CHN	Beijing	18.9.10
4x100 Metres Relay	38,66		UNITED STATES U20		USA	Grosseto (Stadio Zecchini)	18.7.04
4x400 Metres Relay	3:00,33		UNITED STATES U20		USA	Trujillo, PER	23.7.17
Shot Put (6kg)	23,00		Jacko GILL	20.12.94	NZL	Auckland (North Shore)	18.8.13
Discus Throw (1.750kg)	70,13		Mykyta NESTERENKO	15.4.91	UKR	Halle	24.5.08
Hammer Throw (6kg)	85,57		Ashraf Amgad ELSEIFY	20.2.95	QAT	Barcelona (Estadio Olímpico)	14.7.12
Javelin Throw	86,48		Neeraj CHOPRA	24.12.97	IND	Bydgoszcz (Stadion Zawisza)	23.7.16
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10,000 Metres Race Walk	38:46,4		Viktor BURAYEV	23.8.82	RUS	Moskva	20.5.00
10 Kilometres Race Walk	37:44		Zhen WANG	24.8.91	CHN	Beijing	18.9.10
4x100 Metres Relay	38,66		UNITED STATES U20		USA	Grosseto (Stadio Zecchini)	18.7.04
4x400 Metres Relay	3:00,33		UNITED STATES U20		USA	Trujillo, PER	23.7.17

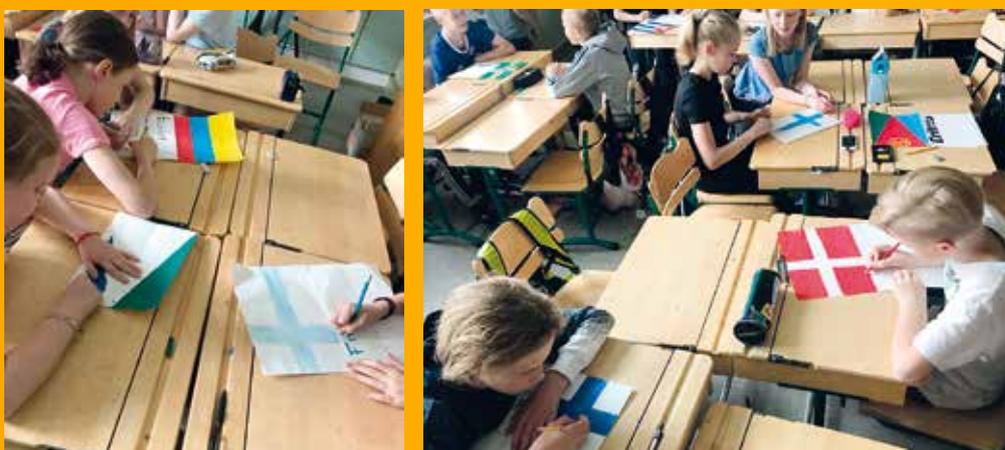
WOMEN

DISCIPLINE	PERFORMANCE	WIND	COMPETITOR	DOB	COUNTRY	VENUE	DATE
100 Metres	10,88	2,0	Marlies GÖHR	21.3.58	GDR	Dresden	1.7.77
200 Metres	22,18	0,8	Allyson FELIX	18.11.85	USA	Athína (Olympic Stadium)	25.8.04
400 Metres	49,42		Grit BREUER	16.2.72	GER	Tokyo (Olympic Stadium)	27.8.91
800 Metres	1:54,01		Pamela JELIMO	5.12.89	KEN	Zürich (Letzigrund)	29.8.08
1000 Metres	2:35,4		Irina NIKITINA	16.1.61	URS	Podolsk	5.8.79
1000 Metres	2:35,4		Katrin WÜHN	19.11.65	GDR	Potsdam	12.7.84
1500 Metres	3:51,34		Yinglai LANG	22.8.79	CHN	Shanghai	18.10.97
One Mile	4:17,57		Zola PIETERSE	26.5.66	GBR	Zürich (Letzigrund)	21.8.85
3000 Metres	8:28,83		Zola PIETERSE	26.5.66	GBR	Roma (Stadio Olimpico)	7.9.85
5000 Metres	14:30,88		Tirunesh DIBABA	1.6.85	ETH	Bergen	11.6.04
10,000 Metres	30:26,50		Linet Chepkwemai MASAI	5.12.89	KEN	Beijing (National Stadium)	15.8.08
3000 Metres Steeplechase	8:58,78		Celliphine Chepteek CHESPOL	23.3.99	KEN	Eugene (Hayward Field), OR	26.5.17
100 Metres Hurdles	12,84	1,5	Aliuska LÓPEZ	29.8.69	CUB	Zagreb	16.7.87
100 Metres Hurdles	12.75*	1,7	Chanel BRISSETT	10.8.99	USA	Palo Alto (USA)	13.5.18
100 Metres Hurdles	12.84*	1,2	Tia JONES	8.9.00	USA	Clovis (Veteran's Memorial), CA	25.6.16
400 Metres Hurdles	53,60		Sydney MCLAUGHLIN	7.8.99	USA	Fayetteville (USA)	27.4.18
400 Metres Hurdles	52.75*		Sydney MCLAUGHLIN	7.8.99	USA	Knoxville (USA)	13.5.18
High Jump	2,01		Olga TURCHAK	5.3.67	URS	Moskva	7.7.86
High Jump	2,01		Heike BALCK	19.8.70	GDR	Karl-Marx-Stadt	18.6.89
Pole Vault	4.71 (i)		Wilma MURTO	11.6.98	FIN	Zweibrücken	31.1.16
Long Jump	7,14	1,1	Heike DRECHSLER	16.12.64	GDR	Bratislava	4.6.83
Triple Jump	14,62	1,0	Tereza MARINOVA	5.9.77	BUL	Sydney (SIAC Homebush)	25.8.96
Shot Put	20,54		Astrid KUMBERNUSS	5.2.70	GDR	Orimattila	1.7.89
Discus Throw	74,40		Ilke WYLUDDA	28.3.69	GDR	Berlin	13.9.88
Hammer Throw	73,24		Wenxiu ZHANG	22.3.86	CHN	Changsha	24.6.05
Javelin Throw	63,86		Yulenmis AGUILAR	3.8.96	CUB	Edmonton (Foote Field)	2.8.15
Heptathlon	6542		Carolina KLÜFT	2.2.83	SWE	München	10.8.02
10,000 Metres Race Walk	42:47,25		Anežka DRAHOTOVÁ	22.7.95	CZE	Eugene (Hayward Field), OR	23.7.14
10 Kilometres Race Walk	41:57		Hongmiao GAO	17.3.74	CHN	Beijing	8.9.93
4x100 Metres Relay	43,29		UNITED STATES "BLUE" U20		USA	Eugene (Hayward Field), OR	8.8.06
4x100 Metres Relay	43.27*		GERMANY U20		GER	Grosseto (Stadio Zecchini)	23.7.17
4x400 Metres Relay	3:27,60		UNITED STATES U20		USA	Grosseto (Stadio Zecchini)	18.7.04

*: pending ratification. (i): set indoor.

LOCAL STUDENTS IN TAMPERE ARE JOINING THE EXCITEMENT

Students of local schools in Tampere are thrilled that the IAAF World U20 Championships are being hosted in their home city. In fact, third and sixth graders of the Wivi Lönn elementary school have taken on a special project to get acquainted with the cultures represented at the sports event and share their art and knowledge with the whole city of Tampere, including visitors and participants in the event.



More than 200 students are creating introductory posters for countries taking part in the Championships. Students are releasing their inner artists by drawing flags and working on their global knowledge by writing short introductions for each nation.

“I believe it was a great idea to involve students in the marketing for the Championships. This way they get to experience some variety to normal school, while getting to know different nations all around the world”, says one of the organisers of the school project, Mikko Uotila.

The 9 to 13-year-old students were thrilled about the project since it was a different kind of task to the ones they usually get in school. Students were given the artistic freedom to make the posters look original, while following the same guidelines.

“The art looks great and will definitely gain interest and admiration around the city”, says Uotila.

The artwork is displayed all around the city centre of Tampere, bringing joy and interesting facts to people passing by during and around the IAAF World U20 Championships in July.

TAMPERE STADIUM IS THE HEART OF THE IAAF WORLD U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS MEDAL

The IAAF World U20 Championships Tampere medal has been designed by local artist Jenni Laine. Tampere Stadium, the championships venue, is located right in the middle of the medal as its heart.

“ The stadium is the beating heart of the medal, the core of the city. I also wanted other important elements of the city to the medal, which are lakes Näsi and Pyhä and the Pynikki ridge area around the stadium,” Laine explains.

Laine has experience in designing the medals for athletics championships, having also created versions for the Tampere U23 European Championships five years ago.

She works as a PE teacher at Varala Sports Institute and enjoys leisure time with painting, especially with oil paintings. She has a degree in art education as well as a degree in physical education.



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TEENAGE TALENT TO THE FORE – A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE IAAF WORLD U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS

There have been national junior championships for athletes dating back to the 1920s, with the former Czechoslovakia having organised what is usually accepted to be the first in 1921 but having a global event that puts young talent on display is a comparatively recent innovation.

The early and mid-1980s witnessed a period of many changes in the sport, driven by the energy and vision of the then IAAF President Primo Nebiolo, and among the new ideas to emerge was the introduction of what was then called the IAAF World Junior Championships.

The concept of having a major international junior championship was far from new – the first South American Junior Championships having been held as far back as 1959 and a similar event in Europe saw the light of day in 1964 while transatlantic junior matches between the USA and USSR started in 1972 – but Nebiolo realised it was time to organise a festival for teenage talent on a truly worldwide basis.

At the 34th IAAF Congress, which was held in conjunction with the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles and just three years after he came to power, Nebiolo's brainchild was given the green light.

The first edition was then awarded to Athens later in 1984 and the Greek federation swiftly moved into action to organise the first championships less than two years later in 1986.

It was a huge success, much more than most people expected, and attracted 1188 athletes from 143 countries.

Medals in Athens were spread among 27 nations, two world U20 records were set, while African and Asian athletes were notably on the podium despite both their Area Associations not having a continental junior championship at the time.

It was clear that those first championships demonstrated there was a real desire by the majority of the IAAF Member Federations to test their leading young athletes against their contemporaries from the rest of the world.

The Athens competition consequently set the scene for

what was soon confirmed as a biennial event and has been so ever since.

“Those who follow our sport closely, know that these championships were an important moment in our development,” reflected Nebiolo in 1998.

“It gave us an opportunity to showcase tomorrow's stars as they take their first steps to greatness. The championships give youngsters a chance to gain the valuable experience of top class competition,” he added, reiterating two of his initial reasons for establishing what has now become the IAAF World U20 Championships.

Nebiolo was right in both respects.

Many athletes who were later to become household names got their first gold medal on a world stage at the IAAF World U20 Championships – the name change from 'junior' to U20 being approved by the IAAF in November 2015 to take account of the fact that junior age-groups historically and geographically have not always uniformly been the same – while others became directly acquainted with what it would take for them to also reach the top.

British hurdler Colin Jackson is just one name among many that stand out from the list of winners from that first championships in Athens.

“When I consider my career, the world junior championships gold is one of my most memorable races. I'll always remember it because it had all those ingredients that I would need later to be a champion: to come back successfully from adversity and live up to the responsibility of being a champion,” remembered Jackson fondly, writing in his 2004 autobiography and reflecting on events almost 20 years previously.

Every single championship since 1986 has seen more illustrious names make their mark on the sporting consciousness for the first time.

During the 1990s, names such as Trinidad and Tobago's Ato Bolden, Kenya's Moses Kiptanui and Daniel Komen, Ethiopia's Haile Gebrselassie and Derartu Tulu, USA's Adam Nelson, Ecuador's Jefferson Perez, Romania's Gabriela Szabo and Cuba's Osleidys

Menéndez were all notable winners at the IAAF World U20 Championships.

All were to go on and strike gold again at the IAAF World Championships later in their careers.

From the advent of the 21st century a similar roll call can be made, with the IAAF World Junior Championships Santiago de Chile 2000 at the start of the millennium being a ground-breaking event as it was the first time that a stadium-based IAAF World Athletics Series competition was staged in South America.

Jamaica's Usain Bolt gave notice of his phenomenal talent that was to captivate billions in the following years when he won the 200m title in 2002 on home soil at the prodigious age of 15, thrilling and stunning observers in Kingston.

Four years later, Kenya's David Rudisha was one of the brightest stars of the 2006 championships in Beijing when winning over 800m.

Like Bolt, Rudisha was to become a world record breaker and to be honoured as an IAAF Athlete of the Year before the end of the decade.

Other champions that leap out from the list of men's winners between 2000-10 include the USA's LaShawn Merritt and Kerron Clement, South Africa's Luvo Manyonga, France's Teddy Tamgho, Grenada's Kirani James, Germany's David Storl and high jumpers Bogdan Bondarenko and Mutaz Essa Barshim, from Ukraine and Qatar respectively.

Female athletes who made the transition from being U20 champions in this period to being superstars include the Ethiopian distance runners Meseret Defar and Genzebe Dibaba, jumps queens Blanka Vlasic and Yelena Isinbayeva, from Croatia and Russia, Australian discus thrower Dani Samuels and Swedish multi-events exponent Carolina Klüft.

More recent U20 world champions have also made their presence felt on the sport

Gold medallists from Barcelona 2012 include Dominican Republic's 400m runner Luguélin Santos,

Kenyan distance runners Conseslus Kipruto and Faith Kipyegon, and Trinidad and Tobago javelin thrower Keshorn Walcott.

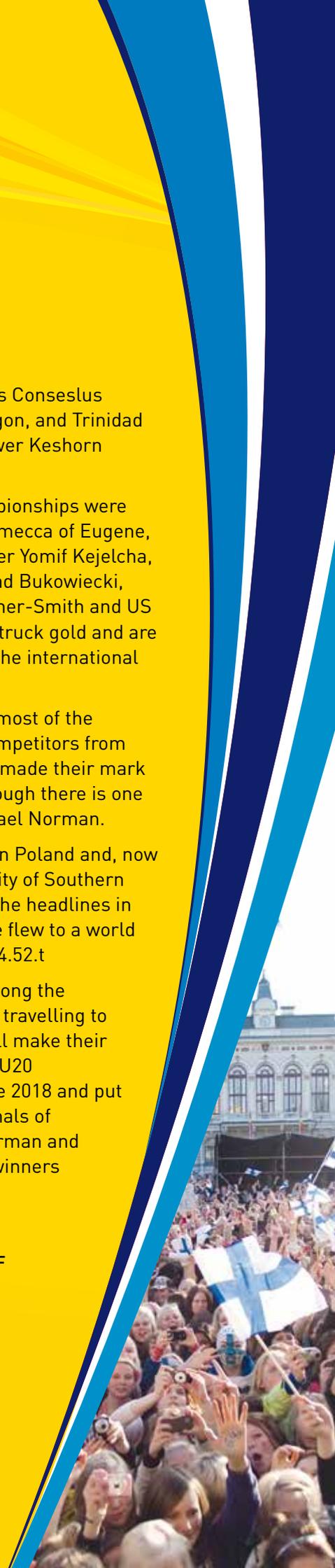
In 2014, when the championships were held in the US athletics mecca of Eugene, Ethiopian distance runner Yomif Kejelcha, Polish shot putter Konrad Bukowiecki, British sprinter Dina Asher-Smith and US hurdler Shamier Little struck gold and are now familiar names on the international athletics circuit.

It is a little too soon for most of the medallists and other competitors from Bydgoszcz 2016 to have made their mark in the senior ranks although there is one obvious exception: Michael Norman.

Norman won the 200m in Poland and, now a student at the University of Southern California, he captured the headlines in March this year when he flew to a world indoor 400m record of 44.52.t

The question is, who among the estimated 1500 athletes travelling to Finland this summer will make their mark at the IAAF World U20 Championships Tampere 2018 and put their names into the annals of athletics history like Norman and many of the world U20 winners before him?

Phil Minshull for the IAAF



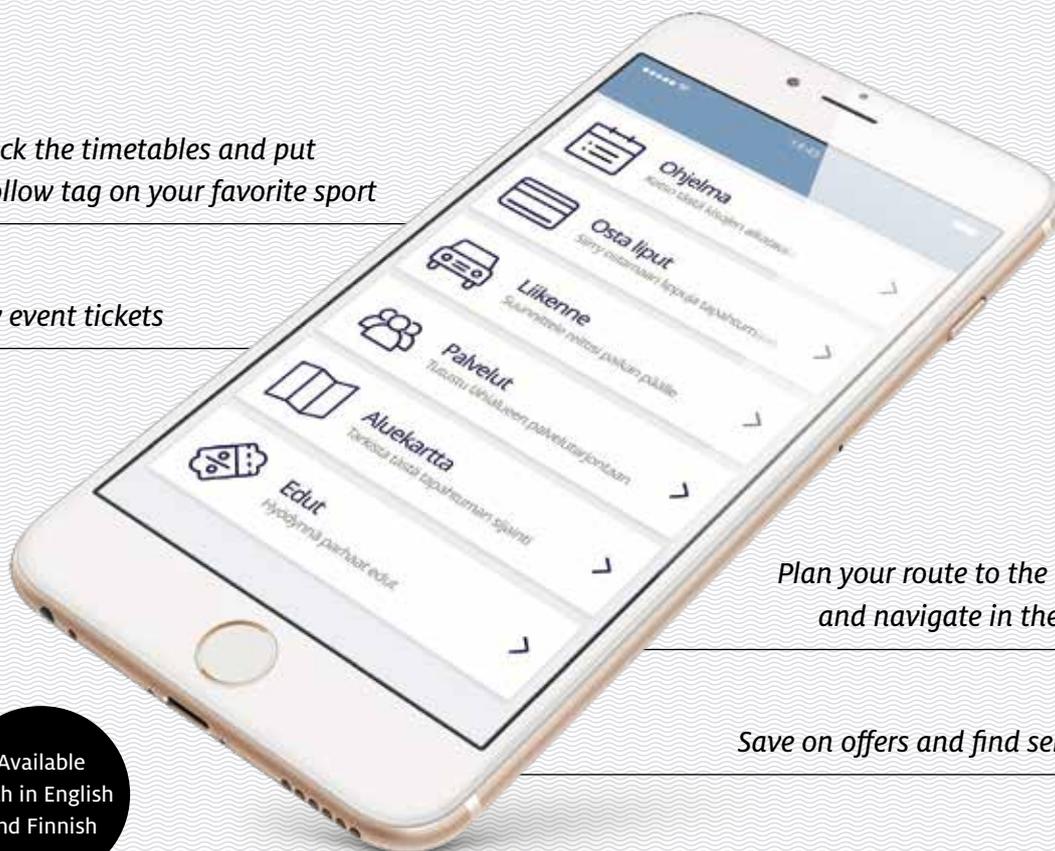
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