



10. John Hancock's 2019 Elite Athlete Team



JOHN HANCOCK'S 2019 ELITE MEN'S TEAM

| NAME | Country | Personal Best Time |
|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lawrence Cherono..... | Kenya | 2:04:06 (Amsterdam, 2018) CR |
| Sisay Lemma | Ethiopia | 2:04:08 (Dubai, 2018) |
| Lemi Berhanu | Ethiopia | 2:04:33 (Dubai, 2016) |
| Solomon Deksisa..... | Ethiopia | 2:04:40 (Amsterdam, 2018) |
| Lelisa Desisa..... | Ethiopia | 2:04:45 (Dubai, 2013) |
| Kenneth Kipkemoi..... | Kenya | 2:05:44 (Rotterdam, 2018) |
| Felix Kandie..... | Kenya | 2:06:03 (Seoul, 2017) |
| Wesley Korir | Kenya | 2:06:13 (Chicago, 2012) |
| Festus Talam..... | Kenya | 2:06:13 (Eindhoven, 2017) |
| Geoffrey Kirui..... | Kenya | 2:06:27 (Amsterdam, 2016) |
| Philemon Rono | Kenya | 2:06:52 (Toronto, 2017) CR |
| Hiroto Inoue | Japan | 2:06:54 (Tokyo, 2018) |
| Benson Kipruto | Kenya | 2:07:11 (Seoul, 2018) |
| Ghirmay Ghebreslassie..... | Eritrea..... | 2:07:46 (London, 2016) |
| Dathan Ritzenhein..... | USA..... | 2:07:47 (Chicago, 2012) |
| Yuki Kawauchi | Japan | 2:08:14 (Seoul, 2013) |
| Zersenay Tadese | Eritrea..... | 2:08:46 (Berlin, 2018) |
| Abdi Abdirahman | USA..... | 2:08:56 (Chicago, 2006) |
| Mohamed Reda El Aaraby | Morocco | 2:09:16 (Chicago, 2018) |
| Hayato Sonoda | Japan | 2:09:34 (Oita, 2018) |
| Jeffrey Eggleston..... | USA..... | 2:10:52 (Gold Coast, 2014) |
| Scott Overall..... | Great Britain | 2:10:55 (Berlin, 2011) |
| Jared Ward | USA..... | 2:11:30 (Rio de Janeiro, 2016) |
| Elkanah Kibet | USA..... | 2:11:31 (Chicago, 2015) |
| Timothy Ritchie | USA..... | 2:11:56 (Sacramento, 2017) |
| Shadrack Biwott..... | USA..... | 2:12:01 (New York City, 2016) |
| Scott Fauble..... | USA..... | 2:12:28 (New York City, 2018) |
| Brian Shrader | USA..... | 2:13:31 (Sacramento, 2018) |

CR= Course Record

Team as of March 5, 2019

ABDIHAKEM “ABDI” ABDIRAHMAN

Tucson, Arizona, USA



Bib #19 ABDI

PRONUNCIATION: AB-di AB-dir-ah-man

BIRTHDATE: 01 January 1977

PERSONAL BEST: 2:08:56 (Chicago, 2006)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|------|---------|
| 04Nov18 | TCS New York City Marathon | DNF | |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | 15th | 2:28:18 |
| 05Nov17 | TCS New York City Marathon | 7th | 2:12:48 |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | 6th | 2:12:45 |
| 06Nov16 | TCS New York City Marathon | 3rd | 2:11:23 |
| 21Apr14 | Boston Marathon | 15th | 2:16:06 |
| 12Aug12 | London Olympics Games Marathon | DNF | |
| 01Nov09 | ING New York City Marathon | 9th | 2:14:00 |
| 03Nov08 | ING New York City Marathon | 6th | 2:14:17 |
| 22Oct06 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 4th | 2:08:56 |
| 06Nov05 | ING New York City Marathon | 5th | 2:11:24 |
| 07Nov04 | ING New York City Marathon | 14th | 2:17:09 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHON:

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 14Jan12 | Houston U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials | 3rd | 2:09:47 |
|---------|--------------------------------------|-----|---------|

CAREER NOTES:

A four-time Olympian, Abdi Abdirahman is one of America’s most accomplished runners. Making his marathon debut in 2004, he is still performing at the highest levels as a Masters’ runner. Abdirahman is a four-time U.S. National Champion in the 10,000m (2001, 2005, 2007, 2008) and competed in that event at the 2000, 2004 and 2008 Olympics and at three IAAF World Championships. He was also a member of five consecutive IAAF World Cross Country Championships teams between 2000 and 2004 and has won national titles in the 10K, 10-Mile, 20K and the half marathon. His fastest half marathon is 1:00:29, recorded with a runner-up finish at the 2007 New York City Half Marathon, and his best 10K is 28:11, run at the 2007 Peachtree Road Race in Atlanta.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Abdirahman was born in Mogadishu, Somalia, before immigrating to the United States, where he graduated from Tucson High School and then attended Pima Community College and the University of Arizona. While at the University of Arizona, Abdirahman finished second at the 1998 NCAA Cross Country Championships and was named the 1998 Pacific-10 Conference Cross Country Male Athlete of the Year. In 2000, he became an American citizen.

LEMI BERHANU

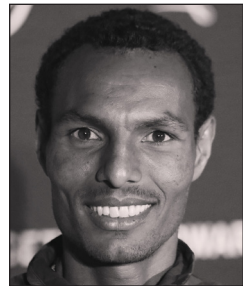
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Bib #4 LEMI

PRONUNCIATION: Leh-ME Ber-HAHN-new

BIRTHDATE: 13 September 1994

PERSONAL BEST: 2:04:33 (Dubai, 2016)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|------|---------|
| 29Sep18 | Hengshui Lake International Marathon | 1st | 2:08:51 |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 05Nov17 | TCS New York City Marathon | 4th | 2:11:52 |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 21Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games Marathon | 13th | 2:13:29 |
| 18Apr16 | Boston Marathon | 1st | 2:12:45 |
| 22Aug15 | Beijing IAAF World Championships Marathon | 15th | 2:17:37 |

MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 25Jan19 | Dubai Standard Chartered Marathon | DNF | |
| 02Jan17 | Xiamen International Marathon | 1st | 2:08:27 |
| 22Jan16 | Dubai Standard Chartered Marathon | 2nd | 2:04:33 |
| 26Apr15 | Warsaw Marathon | 1st | 2:07:57 |
| 23Jan15 | Dubai Standard Chartered Marathon | 1st | 2:05:28 |
| 13Sep14 | Taiyuan Marathon | 1st | 2:13:10 |
| 06Apr14 | Zürich Marathon | 1st | 2:10:40 |

CAREER NOTES:

Lemi Berhanu has won Zurich, Dubai, Warsaw, Hengshui and Boston. In the 2016 Boston Marathon, Lemi Berhanu closely followed the tactics of two-time champion Lelisa Desisa with the intention of running strategically, rather than showcasing his 2:04 marathon speed. The two men broke from a large lead pack at 16 miles and then led the race side by side for the next nine miles until Berhanu put in a surge that Desisa couldn't match. "Winning Boston has been the highlight of my career," said Berhanu. "Crossing the finish line first, after running so far with some of the best runners in the world, was a wonderful feeling." Berhanu returns to Boston for redemption after not finishing the race the past two years.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Berhanu says he knew he had a talent for running when he won the Assela High School Championships in the 1500m in 2005. He says young people from his small birth place of Asasa have taken up running after seeing his success. Berhanu trains in Addis Ababa with Sisay Lemma and Tamirat Tola and is coached by Gemedu Dedefo. When he is not running, he likes to watch movies and soccer, and spend time with his friends. His favorite foods are spaghetti and doro wot.

SHADRACK BIWOTT

Folsom, California, USA

Bib #27 BIWOTT

PRONUNCIATION: SHAD-rack BE-watt

BIRTHDATE: 19 February 1985

PERSONAL BEST: 2:12:01 (New York City, 2016)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|------|---------|
| 04Nov18 | TCS New York City Marathon | 9th | 2:12:52 |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | 3rd | 2:18:35 |
| 05Nov17 | TCS New York City Marathon | 10th | 2:14:57 |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | 4th | 2:12:08 |
| 06Nov16 | TCS New York City Marathon | 5th | 2:12:01 |
| 27Sep15 | BMW BERLIN-MARATHON | DNF | |
| 06Nov11 | ING New York City Marathon | DNF | |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 13Feb16 | Los Angeles U.S. Olympic Trials Marathon | 7th | 2:15:23 |
| 25Oct15 | Nairobi Standard Chartered Marathon | 2nd | 2:13:56 |
| 26Oct14 | BMW Frankfurt Marathon | 14th | 2:12:55 |
| 06Oct13 | Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon | 3rd | 2:13:26 |
| 20Mar11 | Honda Los Angeles Marathon | 10th | 2:20:28 |

CAREER NOTES:

Shadrack Biwott broke through at Boston last year, in freezing wind and driving rain, to earn a podium spot. His third place improved on his fourth-place finish in 2017. A four-time All American in college and teammate of Galen Rupp's at the University of Oregon, Biwott is a member of the Hansons-Brooks Team. At the 2016 U.S. Olympic Trials Marathon he placed seventh. He represented the U.S. at the 2014 IAAF World Half Marathon Championships, where he placed 39th in 62:27. His personal best half marathon of 61:25 was recorded at the 2014 San Diego Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Biwott trains in Folsom, California, and in Orlando, Florida. He is married to wife Katherine, and the couple has two children: Xavier and Eve. Born in Eldoret, Kenya, Biwott came to America as a teenager and graduated from La Cueva High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He became a U.S. citizen in 2012 and graduated from the University of Oregon with a bachelor's degree in sociology and a minor in business administration.

LAWRENCE CHERONO

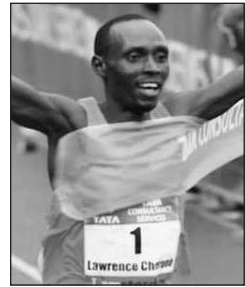
Eldoret, Kenya

Bib #2 CHERONO

PRONUNCIATION: Law-rence Che-row-no

BIRTHDATE: 07 August 1988

PERSONAL BEST: 2:04:06 (Amsterdam, 2018) CR



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 22Apr18 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 7th | 2:09:25 |
|---------|------------------------------|-----|---------|

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|-----|------------|
| 21Oct18 | TCS Amsterdam Marathon | 1st | 2:04:06 CR |
| 10Dec17 | Honolulu Marathon | 1st | 2:08:27 CR |
| 15Oct17 | TCS Amsterdam Marathon | 1st | 2:05:09 |
| 09Apr17 | NN Amsterdam Marathon | 2nd | 2:06:21 |
| 11Dec16 | Honolulu Marathon | 1st | 2:09:39 |
| 24Sep16 | Hengshui Marathon | 2nd | 2:11:13 |
| 08May16 | Volkswagen Prague Marathon | 1st | 2:07:24 |
| 17Jan16 | Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon | 2nd | 2:12:14 |
| 08Nov15 | Shanghai Marathon | 7th | 2:14:22 |
| 13Jun15 | Lanzhou Marathon | 2nd | 2:12:33 |
| 22Feb15 | Seville Marathon | 1st | 2:09:39 |
| 01Nov14 | Alger Marathon | 2nd | 2:10:16 |

CAREER NOTES:

Winner of six marathons and the fastest man in the 2019 Boston Marathon field, Cherono brings both speed and strength to his Boston debut. His personal best was earned with a course record win at the 2018 Amsterdam Marathon (2:04:06). He also won the 2017 Amsterdam Marathon, the 2016 and 2017 Honolulu Marathon, the 2016 Prague Marathon and the 2015 Zurich Marathon. In his first Abbott World Marathon Majors event, he finished seventh at the Virgin Money London Marathon in 2:09:25.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Cherono's coach is 2007 Boston Marathon runner-up James Kwambai. He says winning the Amsterdam Marathon in a course record time has been a career highlight. When he is not training, Cherono enjoys farming.

SOLOMON DEKSISA

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

Bib #5 DEKSISA

PRONUNCIATION: Sol-o-mon Dek-sis-ah

BIRTHDATE: 11 March 1994

PERSONAL BEST: 2:04:40 (Amsterdam, 2018)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------|------|---------|
| 26Feb17 | Tokyo Marathon | 12th | 2:09:31 |
|---------|----------------|------|---------|

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|-----|---------|
| 21Oct18 | TCS Amsterdam Marathon | 3rd | 2:04:40 |
| 29Apr18 | HASPA Hamburg Marathon | 1st | 2:06:34 |
| 21Jan18 | Mumbai Marathon | 1st | 2:09:34 |
| 22Oct17 | Scotiabank Toronto Marathon | 3rd | 2:11:27 |
| 10Apr16 | NN Rotterdam Marathon | 2nd | 2:06:22 |

CAREER NOTES:

Solomon Deksisa has finished on the podium in all his marathons, except the 2017 Tokyo Marathon where he placed 12th. He said he is most proud of his third-place finish at the 2018 Amsterdam Marathon, where he improved his personal best to 2:04:40. His best half marathon of 60:12 was record in San Diego in 2014. As a youth, he finished fourth at the World Youth Championships 3,000m in 2011.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Deksisa trains in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with his coach Getaneh Tessema and teammates Birhanu Legese and Tsegay Kebede. His favorite food is raw meat with hot chili. He hopes to get selected to the 2019 IAAF World Championships with a top performance in Boston.

LELISA DESISA

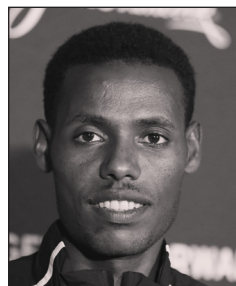
Ambo, Ethiopia

Bib #6 LELISA

PRONUNCIATION: Le-LEE-sa DEH-see-sa

BIRTHDATE: 14 January 1990

PERSONAL BEST: 2:04:45 (Dubai, 2013)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|---------|
| 04Nov18 | TCS New York City Marathon | 1st | 2:05:59 |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 05Nov17 | TCS New York City Marathon | 3rd | 2:11:32 |
| 18Apr16 | Boston Marathon | 2nd | 2:13:32 |
| 06Nov16 | TCS New York City Marathon | DNF | |
| 01Nov15 | TCS New York City Marathon | 3rd | 2:12:10 |
| 22Aug15 | Beijing IAAF World Championships Marathon | 7th | 2:14:54 |
| 20Apr15 | Boston Marathon | 1st | 2:09:17 |
| 02Nov14 | TCS New York City Marathon | 2nd | 2:11:06 |
| 21Apr14 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 17Aug13 | Moscow IAAF World Championships Marathon | 2nd | 2:10:12 |
| 15Apr13 | Boston Marathon | 1st | 2:10:22 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 06May17 | Monza Nike Breaking2 | 3rd | 2:14:10 |
| 23Jan15 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 2nd | 2:05:52 |
| 25Jan13 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 1st | 2:04:45 |

CAREER NOTES:

Lelisa Desisa, the newly crowned 2018 TCS New York City Marathon champion, has recorded eight podium finishes in Abbott World Marathon Majors. This year he returns to claim an unprecedented third Boston title after winning in 2013 and 2015. He is the only Ethiopian man to have won the Boston Marathon twice. Desisa has run six half marathons under the one-hour mark and holds a best of 59:30. Additional accomplishments include finishing second at the 2013 IAAF World Championships Marathon, seventh at the 2015 IAAF World Championships Marathon, and winning the gold medal at the 2011 All-Africa Games. As a junior runner, he won the gold medal in the 10,000m at the 2009 African Junior Athletics Championships.

PERSONAL NOTES:

After his first Boston win in 2013, Desisa gifted his champion's medal back to the City of Boston to honor the victims and families affected by the April 15 race-day tragedy. His sincere gesture earned him a place in the hearts of all who respect what the sport of marathon running exemplifies. Born in Ethiopia's Oromia Region, Desisa trains in Addis Ababa with his coach, Haji Adilo. He is married with one child. "Boston has become more than a race to me; the City and its people are special and my wins in Boston are the most important moments in my athletic career. I am dreaming of crossing the finish line first for the third time," says Desisa.

JEFFREY EGGLESTON

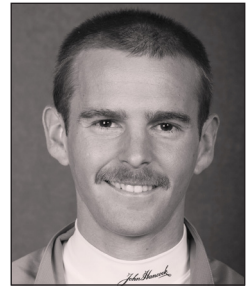
Lafayette, Colorado, USA

Bib #22 EGGLESTON

PRONUNCIATION: Jeff-rey Egg-uhl-stuhn

BIRTHDATE: 1 October 1984

PERSONAL BEST: 2:10:52 (Gold Coast, 2014)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|------|---------|
| 08Oct17 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | DNF | |
| 22Aug15 | Beijing IAAF World Championships Marathon | DNF | |
| 20Apr15 | Boston Marathon | 12th | 2:14:17 |
| 21Apr14 | Boston Marathon | 8th | 2:11:57 |
| 03Nov13 | ING New York City Marathon | 14th | 2:16:35 |
| 17Aug13 | Moscow IAAF World Championships Marathon | 13th | 2:14:23 |
| 07Oct12 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 16th | 2:12:03 |
| 04Sep11 | Daegu IAAF World Championships Marathon | 37th | 2:23:33 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|----------|--|------|---------|
| 16Sep18 | Blackmores Sydney Marathon | 4th | 2:18:30 |
| 01Jul18 | Gold Coast Marathon | 11th | 2:15:44 |
| 05May18 | Dongying Marathon | 11th | 2:30:00 |
| 04Jun17 | San Diego Marathon | 1st | 2:21:17 |
| 21May17 | Lima Marathon | 1st | 2:15:25 |
| 23Apr17 | Warsaw Marathon | 4th | 2:14:00 |
| 05Feb17 | Beppu-Oita Marathon | 27th | 2:18:42 |
| 13Feb16 | Los Angeles U.S. Olympic Trials Marathon | 13th | 2:17:20 |
| 06Jul14 | Gold Coast Marathon | 2nd | 2:10:52 |
| 07Apr13 | Paris Marathon | 17th | 2:14:57 |
| 03Jun12 | San Diego Rock & Roll Marathon | 8th | 2:13:13 |
| 06May12 | Pittsburgh Marathon | 2nd | 2:14:26 |
| 03Mar12 | Woodlands Marathon | 1st | 2:15:42 |
| 30Oct11 | Guadalajara Pan American Games Marathon | DNF | |
| 17June11 | Grandma's Marathon | 5th | 2:13:12 |
| 15May11 | Pittsburgh Marathon | 1st | 2:16:40 |
| 03Oct10 | St. Paul Twin Cities Marathon | 2nd | 2:14:09 |
| 17Jan10 | Tempe Rock 'n' Roll Arizona Marathon | 6th | 2:14:32 |

CAREER NOTES:

Jeffrey Eggleston has represented the United States at three IAAF World Championships Marathons, notably finishing 13th at the 2013 race. He has experience on the Boston course, finishing eighth in 2014 and 12th in 2015. He has won four marathons: 2011 Pittsburgh Marathon, 2012 Woodlands Marathon, 2017 Lima Marathon, and 2017 San Diego Marathon.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Eggleston started running cross country and track in high school. He attended the University of Virginia and in 2007 graduated with a B.A. in English. After college he found success in road racing and now trains in Colorado. This year, Eggleston started a graduate program to earn his master's degree in Library and Information Sciences. He also works part-time at a local public library. Eggleston follows the sport of cycling and, interestingly, the 1964 Olympic gold medal sprint cyclist, Patrick Sercu of Belgium, is a relative on his mother's side. He is married to wife Ali and is self-coached.

MOHAMED REDA EL AARABY

Sidi Redouane, Morocco

Bib #20 EL AARABY

PRONUNCIATION: Mo-HAHM-ed RAY-dah El AIR-a-bee

BIRTHDATE: 12 November 1989

PERSONAL BEST: 2:09:16 (Chicago, 2018)



MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 07Oct18 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 11th | 2:09:16 |
| 25Feb18 | Tokyo Marathon | 11th | 2:09:18 |
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 30th | 2:17:50 |
| 02Apr17 | Daegu Marathon | 3rd | 2:09:50 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|------------------|-----|---------|
| 11Nov18 | Beirut Marathon | 1st | 2:10:41 |
| 17Sep17 | Beijing Marathon | 8th | 2:16:25 |

CAREER NOTES:

Mohamed Reda El Aaraby transitioned from the track to the roads in 2015 and has consistently improved across distances. He has run ten half marathons under 64:40, with a personal best of 60:38. In 2017, he ran three marathons, including representing his country at the London IAAF World Championships Marathon. Last year he also ran three marathons and recorded solid results of both time and place in Tokyo and Chicago and won the Beirut Marathon, which also served as the World Military Championship Marathon.

PERSONAL NOTES:

El Aaraby trains at sea level at the national training camp in Rabat, Morocco, and at altitude in the Atlas Mountains in Ifrane, Morocco. His coach is Karim Ait Ihdaj. El Aaraby speaks French and Arabic and is a nurse for the Moroccan military. He is married with one son and his family's favorite meal is eating food from a Moroccan tajine filled with chicken, lamb or beef with vegetables and potatoes and roasted in a fire for many hours.

SCOTT FAUBLE
Flagstaff, Arizona, USA



Bib #28 FAUBLE

PRONUNCIATION: Scott Faub-le

BIRTHDATE: 05 November 1991

PERSONAL BEST: 2:12:28 (New York City, 2018)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 04Nov18 | TCS New York City Marathon | 7th | 2:12:28 |
| 07Oct18 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | DNF | |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|-----|---------|
| 29Oct17 | Mainova Frankfurt Marathon | 9th | 2:12:35 |
|---------|----------------------------|-----|---------|

CAREER NOTES:

In 2018, Scott Fauble set personal bests in the indoor 5,000m (13:50.81), 5K (13:50), 25K (1:14:56), half marathon (62:18) and marathon (2:12:28). Coached by Ben Rosario with the NAZ Elite Team, Fauble has found post collegiate success on the roads, including finishing runner-up at the 2016 USATF Half Marathon Championships and the 2018 USATF 25K Championships. He made his marathon debut in 2017 in Frankfurt in 2:12:35. After dropping out of the 2018 Bank of America Chicago Marathon, Fauble recovered to finish second American and seventh overall at the 2018 New York City Marathon. Fauble represented the United States at the 2017 IAAF World Cross Country Championships, where he placed 36th.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Fauble was raised in Colorado and ran for the University of Portland. He says his proudest running accomplishment was leading his college team to its first podium (3rd) at cross country nationals. During his senior year Fauble debuted in the half marathon, running a 1:03:59, which qualified him for the 2016 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials. He ran the U.S. Olympic Trials 10,000m, where he finished fourth in 28:45.

GHIRMAY GHEBRESLASSIE

Asmara, Eritrea

Bib #16 GHEBRESLASSIE

PRONUNCIATION: Ghir-may Gheb-reh-see-lass-ee

BIRTHDATE: 14 November 1995

PERSONAL BEST: 2:07:46 (London, 2016)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|---------|
| 22Apr18 | Virgin Money London Marathon | DNF | |
| 05Nov17 | TCS New York City Marathon | DNF | |
| 23Apr17 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 6th | 2:09:57 |
| 06Nov16 | TCS New York City Marathon | 1st | 2:07:51 |
| 21Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympics Games Marathon | 4th | 2:11:04 |
| 24Apr16 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 4th | 2:07:46 |
| 22Aug15 | Beijing IAAF World Championships Marathon | 1st | 2:12:28 |
| 12Oct14 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 6th | 2:09:08 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|------------------------|-----|---------|
| 02Dec18 | Fukuoka Marathon | DNF | |
| 26Apr15 | Haspa Hamburg Marathon | 2nd | 2:07:47 |

CAREER NOTES:

Ghirmay Ghebreslassie is seeking to return to form after not finishing in Fukuoka and London last year. As a 19-year-old he won the 2015 IAAF World Championships Marathon, the first for Eritrea. The following year, he proved his championship style running with a fourth at the 2016 Olympic Games Marathon and ten weeks later won the TCS New York City Marathon. He says a pivotal moment in his career was watching his countryman Zersenay Tadese race. "When I was a youngster I saw Zersenay Tadese break the world half marathon record," says Ghebreslassie. "At that time, I had just started running and from that moment I decided to give it all to achieve a great result like Zersenay. I was dedicated and disciplined and I put all my energy in running and finally in 2015 my dream came true."

PERSONAL NOTES:

Ghebreslassie is a Manchester United fan. As a child he spent days and nights in the Eritrean outback as a shepherd. He trained for his Boston build up in Ethiopia.

HIROTO INOUE

Nagasaki, Japan

Bib #14 INOUE

PRONUNCIATION: Hir-oh-to I-no-u-e

BIRTHDATE: 06 January 1993

PERSONAL BEST: 2:06:54 (Tokyo, 2018)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 25Feb18 | Tokyo Marathon | 5th | 2:06:54 |
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 26th | 2:16:54 |
| 26Feb17 | Tokyo Marathon | 8th | 2:08:22 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|-----|---------|
| 25Aug18 | Asian Games Marathon | 1st | 2:18:22 |
| 01Oct17 | Miyagi Marathon | 2nd | 2:23:47 |
| 06Mar16 | Lake Biwa Marathon | 9th | 2:12:56 |

CAREER NOTES:

The 2018 Asian Games Marathon gold medalist Hiroto Inoue secured the championship in a sprint finish, after he and runner-up Elhassan Elabbassi of Bahrain were both awarded the same time. Inoue's win was the first for Japan in the event in 32 years. Inoue was top Japanese and eighth at the 2017 Tokyo Marathon and then was fifth in 2018 with a personal best of 2:06:54.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Inoue graduated from Yamanashi Gakuin University and is a member of the Mitsubishi Hitachi Power Systems team in Nagasaki. He is coached by Jyun Kuroki and trains with teammates Ryo Kiname and Mastumura Kohei. Inoue enjoys origami and his favorite food is steak.

FELIX KANDIE

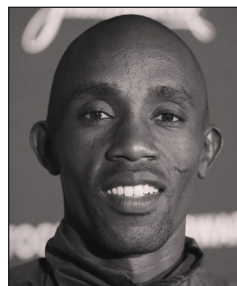
Iten, Kenya

Bib #8 KANDIE

PRONUNCIATION: FEE-lix KAN-DA

BIRTHDATE: 10 April 1987

PERSONAL BEST: 2:06:03 (Seoul, 2017)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|-----------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| 16April18 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 24Sep17 | BMW BERLIN-MARATHON | 4th | 2:06:13 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|------|---------|
| 21Oct18 | Scotia Bank Toronto Marathon | 3rd | 2:08:30 |
| 19Mar17 | Seoul Dong-A International Marathon | 2nd | 2:06:03 |
| 16Oct16 | Amsterdam Marathon | 6th | 2:06:25 |
| 08May16 | Volkswagen Prague Marathon | 2nd | 2:08:14 |
| 15Nov15 | Valencia Marathon | 3rd | 2:07:07 |
| 03May15 | Volkswagen Prague Marathon | 1st | 2:08:32 |
| 09Nov14 | Athens Classic Marathon | 1st | 2:10:37 |
| 29Sep13 | Meru Marathon | 5th | 2:17:59 |
| 16Sep12 | Sydney Blackmores Marathon | 2nd | 2:16:12 |
| 10Oct10 | Carpi Marathon Memorial Enzo Ferrari | 10th | 2:19:06 |
| 25Oct09 | Nairobi Standard Chartered Marathon | 34th | 2:18:31 |

CAREER NOTES:

Felix Kandie says he finally began to understand the dynamics of running the marathon distance in 2014 when he won the Athens Marathon. Since that time, he has continued to improve. He ran his first Abbott World Marathon Majors race in 2017, running close to a personal best with his fourth-place finish in Berlin. Kandie has additional podium finishes in Toronto, Prague and Valencia. His best half marathon is 60:04 from the 2016 Prague Marathon, where he finished sixth.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Kandie trains in Iten with a group including Festus Talam and Zane Robertson. He married Millicent Chepkirui this past December. He says he likes to be in the company of wise people who are always optimistic and see every challenge in a positive way, so that he can learn from them. His favorite place to travel is Boston.

YUKI KAWAUCHI

Kuki, Saitama, Japan



Bib #1 YUKI

PRONUNCIATION: YOO-kee KA-wa-oo-chee

BIRTHDATE: 05 March 1987

PERSONAL BEST: 2:08:14 (Seoul, 2013)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 07Oct18 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 19th | 2:16:26 |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | 1st | 2:15:58 |
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 9th | 2:12:19 |
| 25Sep16 | BMW BERLIN-MARATHON | 13th | 2:11:03 |
| 01Nov15 | TCS New York City Marathon | 6th | 2:13:29 |
| 02Nov14 | TCS New York City Marathon | 11th | 2:16:41 |
| 17Aug13 | Moskva IAAF World Championships Marathon | 18th | 2:15:35 |
| 26Feb12 | Tokyo Marathon | 14th | 2:12:51 |
| 04Sep11 | Daegu IAAF World Championships Marathon | 17th | 2:16:11 |
| 27Feb11 | Tokyo Marathon | 3rd | 2:08:37 |
| 28Feb10 | Tokyo Marathon | 4th | 2:12:36 |
| 22Mar09 | Tokyo Marathon | 19th | 2:18:18 |

MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|------|---------|
| 18Feb18 | Kitakyushu Marathon | 1st | 2:11:46 |
| 02Dec18 | Fukuoka Marathon | 10th | 2:12:03 |
| 16Dec18 | Hofu Marathon | 1st | 2:11:29 |
| 17Dec17 | Hofu Marathon | 1st | 2:10:03 |
| 03Dec17 | Fukuoka Marathon | 9th | 2:10:53 |
| 02Jul17 | Gold Coast Airport Marathon | 3rd | 2:09:18 |
| 12Feb17 | Matsuyama Ehime Marathon | 1st | 2:09:54 |
| 04Dec16 | Fukuoka Marathon | 3rd | 2:09:11 |
| 03Jul16 | Gold Coast Airport Marathon | 2nd | 2:09:01 |
| 21Dec14 | Hofu Marathon | 1st | 2:09:46 |
| 03Oct14 | Incheon Asian Games | 3rd | 2:12:42 |
| 04May14 | Hamburg Marathon | 9th | 2:09:36 |
| 15Dec13 | Hofu Marathon | 2nd | 2:09:15 |
| 01Dec13 | Fukuoka Marathon | 3rd | 2:09:05 |
| 17Mar13 | Seoul Dong-A International Marathon | 4th | 2:08:14 |
| 03Feb13 | Beppu-Oita Mainichi Marathon | 1st | 2:08:15 |

CAREER NOTES:

Racing against many of the world's most accomplished marathoners last year, Yuki Kawauchi prevailed through freezing rain and gusting wind to become the first Japanese champion of the Boston Marathon in 31 years. An international icon for his high-volume, high-quality racing, Kawauchi is a self-coached amateur who is known as the "citizen runner." He has won over 30 career marathons and competed on several Japanese national teams, including three IAAF World Marathon Championships. He holds the Japanese record in the 50K and as of February 15, 2019, holds world records for running the most sub-2:12 marathons (27), sub-2:13 (43), sub-2:14 (51), sub-2:15 (59), sub-2:16 (70), sub-2:17 (75), sub-2:18 (79), sub-2:19 (84), and sub-2:20 (85).

PERSONAL NOTES:

Kawauchi trains in Komazawa Park in Tokyo and in the mountains in Saitama and Tochigi. His brothers, Yoshiki and Koki, are also marathon runners. Kawauchi graduated from Gakushuin University's department of political science and up until this spring worked full-time as a prefectural government employee in the administration office of a high school. His hobbies include running, reading and karaoke. One of his mentors is four-time Boston Marathon champion Bill Rodgers, who encouraged him to run Boston.

John Hancock's 2019 Elite Athlete Team

ELKANAH KIBET
Fountain, Colorado, USA

Bib #25 KIBET

PRONUNCIATION: EL-kah-nah Ki-bet

BIRTHDATE: 02 June 1983

PERSONAL BEST: 2:11:31 (Chicago, 2015)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 07Oct18 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 13th | 2:12:35 |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | 8th | 2:23:37 |
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 16th | 2:15:14 |
| 09Oct16 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 10th | 2:16:37 |
| 11Oct15 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 7th | 2:11:31 |

MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 23Apr17 | Haspa Hamburg Marathon | 7th | 2:13:36 |
| 19Mar17 | Los Angeles Marathon | 7th | 2:17:24 |
| 15Jan17 | Houston Marathon | 6th | 2:17:25 |
| 13Feb16 | Los Angeles U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials | 19th | 2:20:10 |

CAREER NOTES:

Kibet made his marathon debut at the 2015 Bank of America Chicago Marathon and finished seventh place in an impressive 2:11:31. In 2016 he struggled in the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials but rebounded with a tenth-place finish in Chicago. In 2017 he ran four marathons, including finishing 16th and top American at the IAAF World Championships Marathon. This past year Kibet was 8th in Boston and 13th in Chicago.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Kibet graduated in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in economics from Auburn University and became a U.S. citizen in 2013. He served as a financial management technician in the U.S. Army in Kuwait and Iraq. He trains in Colorado Springs with the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program.

KENNETH KIPKEMOI

Eldoret, Kenya

Bib #7 KIPKEMOI

PRONUNCIATION: Ken-neth Kip-kee-moi

BIRTHDATE: 02 August 1984

PERSONAL BEST: 2:05:44 (Rotterdam, 2018)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 07Oct18 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 4th | 2:05:57 |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----|---------|

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|-----|---------|
| 08Apr18 | NN Rotterdam Marathon | 1st | 2:05:44 |
| 05May13 | Steinmetz Gaborone Marathon | 3rd | 2:17:41 |

CAREER NOTES:

A half marathon specialist, Kenneth Kipkemoi has run ten half marathons under 60:24, with a personal best of 59:01 from a runner-up finish at the 2014 Valencia Half Marathon. In 2011 he won the silver medal in the half marathon at the All Africa Games and in 2012 won the gold medal in the 10,000m at the African Championships in Athletics. In 2013 he represented Kenya at the IAAF World Championships 10,000m, where he finished seventh in 27:28.50. In 2014 he finished tenth at the IAAF World Half Marathon Championships, finishing tenth in 60:29. Last year he decided to focus on the marathon and in the spring won the Rotterdam Marathon in 2:05:44 and then placed fourth in a competitive Chicago race with a time of 2:05:57.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Kipkemoi trains in Eldoret and the surrounding areas. He is married with three sons.

BENSON KIPRUTO

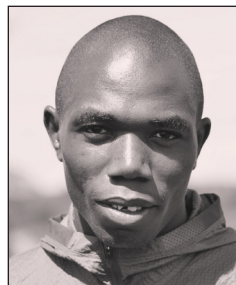
Kapsabet, Kenya

Bib #15 KIPRUTO

PRONUNCIATION: Ben-son Kip-ru-toe

BIRTHDATE: 17 March 1991

PERSONAL BEST: 2:07:11 (Seoul, 2018)



MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|-----|---------|
| 21Oct18 | Scotiabank Toronto Marathon | 1st | 2:07:24 |
| 18Mar18 | Seoul Marathon | 3rd | 2:07:11 |
| 15Oct17 | Gongju Marathon | 2nd | 2:07:21 |
| 07May17 | Volkswagen Prague Marathon | 4th | 2:09:51 |
| 13Nov16 | Athens Marathon | 2nd | 2:13:24 |

CAREER NOTES:

The 2018 Toronto Marathon winner, Benson Kipruto has finished on the podium in four out of five marathons. Kipruto says he is looking forward to competing in his first Abbott World Marathon Majors event.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Kipruto trains in Kapsabet and along the tea plantations of the Nandi Hills in Kenya. His girlfriend Hellen Chepkorir and he are expecting a baby in April. Abel Mutai, the 2012 Olympic bronze medalist in the steeplechase, is one of his coaches. Before he started racing professionally, he had a small shop in his village selling basic commodities.

GEOFFREY KIRUI

Keringet, Kenya

Bib #11 KIRUI

PRONUNCIATION: JOFF-ree KEY-roo-ee

BIRTHDATE: 16 February 1993

PERSONAL BEST: 2:06:27 (Amsterdam, 2016)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|-----|---------|
| 07Oct18 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 6th | 2:06:45 |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | 2nd | 2:18:23 |
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 1st | 2:08:27 |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | 1st | 2:09:37 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHON:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|-----|---------|
| 16Oct16 | TCS Amsterdam Marathon | 7th | 2:06:27 |
| 10Apr16 | ABN-AMRO Rotterdam Marathon | 3rd | 2:07:23 |

CAREER NOTES:

Last year Geoffrey Kirui was intent on defending his Boston crown, but after pulling away from the front pack and leading many of the closing miles, he was caught by Yuki Kawauchi and had to settle for second. In the fall, he ran in Chicago and finished sixth. At Boston in 2017, Kirui ran a strategic race, slowly diminishing the lead group down to himself and American Galen Rupp, who was also making his Boston debut after earning the bronze medal at the 2016 Olympic Games. Kirui, in only his third marathon, ultimately prevailed to become the first Kenyan winner since 2012. "Crossing the finish line and realizing I had won my first marathon was amazing," says Kirui. At the IAAF World Championships Marathon, Kirui solidified his prowess in strategic, non-paced racing by decisively winning the gold medal. Kirui was a standout as a youth, winning the gold medal in the 10,000m at the 2010 African Junior Championships and winning the bronze medal in the 10,000m at the 2012 IAAF World Junior Championships. His personal best half marathon is 59:38 and his personal best 10,000m is 26:55.73.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Kirui trains in Keringet, at around 2,700m altitude, in the Rift Valley of Kenya. His brother, Gilbert Kirui, won the silver medal in the steeplechase at the 2012 IAAF World Junior Championships. He is married to Caroline and the couple has three sons: Godwin, Godfrey and Kevin.



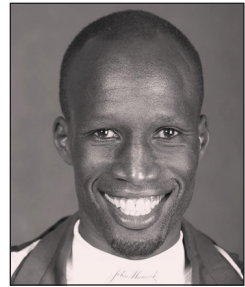
WESLEY KORIR
Kitale, Kenya

Bib #9 KORIR

PRONUNCIATION: WES-lee KOR-ear

BIRTHDATE: 15 November 1982

PERSONAL BEST: 2:06:13 (Chicago, 2012)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|------|---------|
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | 15th | 2:18:14 |
| 21Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games Marathon | DNF | |
| 18Apr16 | Boston Marathon | 4th | 2:14:05 |
| 11Oct15 | Chicago Marathon | 6th | 2:10:39 |
| 20Apr15 | Boston Marathon | 5th | 2:10:49 |
| 12Oct14 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 8th | 2:11:09 |
| 03Nov13 | ING New York City Marathon | 9th | 2:11:34 |
| 15Apr13 | Boston Marathon | 5th | 2:12:30 |
| 07Oct12 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 5th | 2:06:13 |
| 16Apr12 | Boston Marathon | 1st | 2:12:40 |
| 09Oct11 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 2nd | 2:06:15 |
| 10Oct10 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 4th | 2:08:44 |
| 11Oct09 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 5th | 2:10:38 |
| 12Oct08 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 4th | 2:13:53 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|-----|---------|
| 11Nov18 | Beirut Marathon | 7th | 2:14:18 |
| 25May14 | Scotiabank Ottawa Marathon | 4th | 2:09:17 |
| 20Mar11 | Honda Los Angeles Marathon | 4th | 2:13:33 |
| 21Mar10 | Honda Los Angeles Marathon | 1st | 2:09:19 |
| 25May09 | Honda Los Angeles Marathon | 1st | 2:08:24 |

CAREER NOTES:

Wesley Korir, the 2012 Boston Marathon champion, ran a strategic race to win the 116th Boston Marathon despite temperatures soaring to 85 degrees. He let the front-runners surge along the way as he patiently ran within his abilities, staying hydrated and positive. Korir began singing to maintain focus and soon began moving up from sixth place at mile 20, to second at mile 24, to undisputed champion at the finish. "Winning the Boston Marathon was the biggest accomplishment of my life and the win placed me in a distinguished group of champions who are legendary," says Korir. "The entire world recognizes and respects the Boston Marathon, and I am proudly a Boston Marathon champion forever." In 2008 Korir made his marathon debut in the open division at the Bank of America Chicago Marathon and recorded the fourth-fastest time overall. He then began three years of competing in the Los Angeles–Chicago double with impressive results. Korir won Los Angeles twice and in 2011 finished runner-up to Moses Mosop in Chicago. In Abbott World Marathon Majors events, Korir has recorded 12 top-ten finishes. Because of his consistency in championship races, Korir was selected to the highly competitive Kenyan Olympic Marathon team, but in Rio, Korir had to drop from the race.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Korir was a Member of Parliament for the Cherangany Constituency in Kenya. He is married to elite Canadian runner Tarah McKay and the couple has a daughter and a son. Korir and McKay founded the Kenyan Kids' Foundation, which supports children, farmers, and healthcare providers near Korir's home village of Kitale. The couple built a hospital in honor of Korir's brother Nicholas, who died from a black-mamba snakebite. After attending St. Joseph's secondary school in Kenya, Korir was awarded a scholarship to attend Murray State University in Kentucky. He then transferred to the University of Louisville, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology and was All-American in the 5,000m. When not training or working with his Foundation projects, Korir enjoys hiking and watching soccer.

SISAY LEMMA

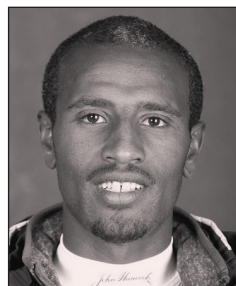
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Bib #3 LEMMA

PRONUNCIATION: Sis-AY LEM-ma

BIRTHDATE: 12 December 1990

PERSONAL BEST: 2:04:08 (Dubai, 2018)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 08Oct17 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 4th | 2:11:01 |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 25Sep16 | BMW BERLIN-MARATHON | 4th | 2:06:56 |
| 24Apr16 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 7th | 2:10:45 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|------|---------|
| 26Jan18 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 5th | 2:04:08 |
| 06May18 | Volkswagen Prague Marathon | 2nd | 2:07:02 |
| 28Oct18 | Volkswagen Ljubljana Marathon | 1st | 2:04:58 |
| 20Jan17 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 3rd | 2:08:04 |
| 22Jan16 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 4th | 2:05:16 |
| 25Oct15 | BMW Frankfurt Marathon | 1st | 2:06:26 |
| 12Apr15 | Vienna City Marathon | 1st | 2:07:31 |
| 23Jan15 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 5th | 2:07:06 |
| 13Oct13 | De Lage Landen Eindhoven Marathon | 4th | 2:09:44 |
| 21Apr13 | ORLEN Warsaw Marathon | 1st | 2:09:02 |
| 10Jan13 | Tiberias International Marathon | 5th | 2:09:08 |
| 14Oct12 | Memorial Enzo Ferrari Carpi Marathon | 1st | 2:11:58 |
| 28Oct12 | BMW Frankfurt Marathon | 49th | 2:28:14 |

CAREER NOTES:

Sisay Lemma has won five marathons and is seeking his first Abbott World Marathon Majors win in Boston this year, after not finishing the race in 2017. He ran three marathons in 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, and finished top five in all those appearances except one. Lemma says that when he noticed he had talent in running, he knew that working harder would make a difference, and as a result his times began to improve. In 2018, he broke the 2:05 barrier twice.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Lemma trains around Addis Ababa in Suluta, Sendafa, Tatek, Sebeta and Akaki. A full-time runner, Lemma says when he is not training he enjoys spending time with his family, watching soccer and going to church.

SCOTT OVERALL

London, England

Bib #23 OVERALL

PRONUNCIATION: Scott O-ver-all

BIRTHDATE: 09 February 1983

PERSONAL BEST: 2:10:55 (Berlin, 2011)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|------|---------|
| 23Apr17 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 19th | 2:16:54 |
| 09Oct16 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 13th | 2:18:21 |
| 24Apr16 | Virgin Money London Marathon | DNF | |
| 27Sep15 | BMW Berlin Marathon | 10th | 2:11:24 |
| 26Apr15 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 13th | 2:13:13 |
| 28Sep14 | BMW Berlin Marathon | 14th | 2:13:00 |
| 13Apr14 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 19th | 2:19:55 |
| 12Aug12 | London Olympic Games Marathon | 61st | 2:22:37 |
| 22Apr12 | Virgin London Marathon | DNF | |
| 25Sep11 | BMW Berlin Marathon | 5th | 2:10:55 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|------------------|------|---------|
| 02Dec12 | Fukuoka Marathon | 12th | 2:14:15 |
|---------|------------------|------|---------|

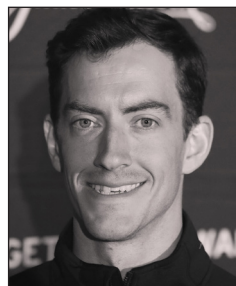
CAREER NOTES:

Olympian Scott Overall says, "My proudest moment was finishing the 2011 Berlin Marathon in 2:10:55 knowing that would be enough to gain selection to the 2012 Olympic Games, in my home town of London." Overall has run under 1:05:00 in the half marathon six times, with a personal best of 61:25 from the 2012 TCS New York City Half Marathon.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Overall works for the Virgin Money London Marathon. He and his current training partners, Chris Thompson and Luke Caldwell, are coached by Alan Storey. Overall graduated from Butler University in Indiana. He is engaged to elite runner Vicky Griffiths and the couple has a one-year-old daughter, Arabella.

TIMOTHY RITCHIE
Northampton, Massachusetts, USA



Bib #26 RITCHIE

PRONUNCIATION: Tim-oh-thee Rit-chee

BIRTHDATE: 07 August 1987

PERSONAL BEST: 2:11:56 (Sacramento, 2017)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|------|---------|
| 04Nov18 | TCS New York City Marathon | 13th | 2:15:22 |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 06Nov16 | TCS New York City Marathon | 19th | 2:21:09 |
| 15Apr13 | Boston Marathon | 25th | 2:21:31 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|------|---------|
| 03Dec17 | California International Marathon | 1st | 2:11:56 |
| 13Feb16 | Los Angeles U.S. Olympic Marathon Team Trials | 25th | 2:22:16 |
| 06Oct13 | Twin Cities Marathon | 6th | 2:14:50 |

CAREER NOTES:

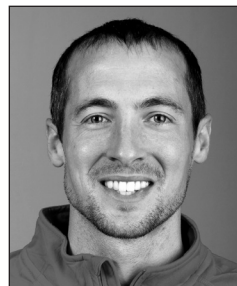
The 2017 U.S. Marathon Champion, Tim Ritchie cruised to a decisive win at the California International Marathon to claim the national title. He was a member of the 2016 IAAF World Half Marathon Championships team and finished 23rd in 63:49. His best half marathon is 61:23, achieved with a win at the 2015 Philadelphia Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon. Ritchie made his marathon debut in Boston and says, "Boston 2013 was a turning point in my running career. I was on the brink of leaving the sport for new opportunities, but that buildup and race impacted me so much that here I am, still pursuing my goals as a runner. What it meant to be a runner became clear on that day: it was not just about the PRs and medals, it was about the PEOPLE. Running was a way to help others overcome obstacles, strive to be their best, and together work to make the impossible a reality. I am very lucky to be able to compete at the highest level of this sport, but I hope to never lose sight of how lucky I am simply to run!"

PERSONAL NOTES:

Ritchie runs for the Saucony Freedom Track Club and is coached by 2004 Olympian Tim Broe. His teammate is Brian Shrader, who will debut at Boston this year as part of the John Hancock Elite Team. Ritchie grew up in Worcester, Massachusetts, and ran for Boston College, where he graduated with a B.A. in Theology, a B.S. in Biology and an M.A. in Theology. He is the men's cross country coach at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Ritchie is married to his wife Kirstin and the couple has a cat named Hollis. In 2006, he and two friends rode their bikes across the country from Boston to Los Angeles. He can also quote nine full seasons of Seinfeld.

DATHAN RITZENHEIN

Rockford, Michigan, USA



Bib #17 RITZ

PRONUNCIATION: DAY-Thun RITZ-in-hein

BIRTHDATE: 30 December 1982

PERSONAL BEST: 2:07:47 (Chicago, 2012)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|------|---------|
| 06Nov16 | TCS New York City Marathon | DNF | |
| 20Apr15 | Boston Marathon | 7th | 2:11:20 |
| 13Oct13 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 5th | 2:09:45 |
| 07Oct12 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 9th | 2:07:47 |
| 07Nov10 | ING New York City Marathon | 7th | 2:12:33 |
| 26Apr09 | Flora London Marathon | 10th | 2:10:00 |
| 24Aug08 | Beijing Olympic Games Marathon | 9th | 2:11:59 |
| 05Nov06 | ING New York City Marathon | 11th | 2:14:01 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|---------|
| 13Feb16 | Los Angeles U.S. Olympic Marathon Team Trials | DNF | |
| 14Jan12 | Houston U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials | 4th | 2:09:55 |
| 03Nov07 | New York U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials | 2nd | 2:11:07 |

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|------|----------|
| 10Aug13 | Moscow IAAF World Championships 10,000m | 10th | 27:37.90 |
| 04Aug12 | London Olympic Games 10,000m | 13th | 27:45.89 |
| 11Oct09 | Birmingham IAAF World Half Marathon Championships | 3rd | 1:00:00 |
| 17Aug09 | Berlin IAAF World Championships 10,000m | 6th | 27:22.28 |
| 27Aug07 | Osaka IAAF World Championships 10,000m | 9th | 28:28.59 |

CAREER NOTES:

Three-time Olympian Dathan Ritzenhein is the fourth fastest U.S. marathoner of all time, behind Khalid Khannouchi, Ryan Hall and Galen Rupp. His career highlights include finishing second at the 2007 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials, finishing ninth at the 2008 Olympic Marathon, winning the bronze medal at the 2009 IAAF World Half Marathon Championships and finishing 13th at the 2012 Olympic Games 10,000m. His 2:07:47 personal best marathon was recorded with a ninth place, top American finish, at the 2012 Bank of America Chicago Marathon. In 2015, Ritzenhein made his Boston debut and led the race for many of the early miles, before finishing seventh and top American. Ritzenhein is a member of the Hansons-Brooks team.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Ritzenhein started running when he was 11, because his dad had just joined a local running club. He was soon competing in triathlons and road races and then ran for the University of Colorado, where he earned a bachelor's degree in history. He is married to his high school and college teammate, Kalin Toedebusch, and the couple has a daughter, Addison, and a son, Jude. He now works as an assistant track coach for Grand Valley State University. Ritzenhein comes from the same hometown as 1983 Boston Marathon champion Greg Meyer. "As a young runner I dreamed of the Boston Marathon. I finally had the chance to run in 2015 and it was incredible. You always hear that Boston is special, but until you experience it, there is nothing like it. The crowd grows each mile as does the excitement, pain and self-doubt. The gratification felt at conquering it is so special. As marathoner and a professional athlete, you share the course not only with your competitors but tens of thousands of athletes that have sacrificed for the right to run the most iconic marathon in the world!"

PHILEMON RONO

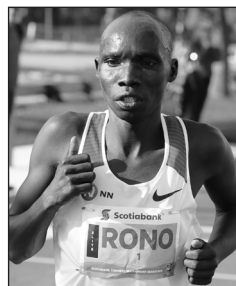
Kaptagat, Kenya

Bib #12 RONO

PRONUNCIATION: Phil-eh-mon Ro-no

BIRTHDATE: 08 February 1991

PERSONAL BEST: 2:06:52 (Toronto, 2017) CR



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

16Apr18 Boston Marathon DNF

MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|-----|---------|
| 21Oct18 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 9th | 2:13:37 |
| 22Oct17 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 1st | 2:06:52 |
| 09Apr17 | Rotterdam Marathon | 8th | 2:09:22 |
| 16Oct16 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 1st | 2:08:26 |
| 17Apr16 | Haspa Hamburg Marathon | 2nd | 2:07:20 |
| 15Nov15 | Valencia Marathon | 5th | 2:08:47 |
| 26Apr15 | Haspa Hamburg Marathon | 4th | 2:08:18 |
| 19Oct14 | Amsterdam Marathon | 7th | 2:10:23 |
| 04May14 | Haspa Hamburg Marathon | 3rd | 2:07:07 |

CAREER NOTES:

Philemon Rono is a two-time winner of the Toronto Marathon. He has run four half marathons under 61:00 and has a personal best of 60:39. A high school standout, winning championships in the 5,000m and 10,000m, Rono continued to succeed after graduating. In 2013, he won the Kenyan Cross Country Championships, finishing two places ahead of his teammate and 2017 World and Boston Marathon champion Geoffrey Kirui. He also competed at the 2013 IAAF World Cross Country Championships and finished 36th. Rono says his training partner, Eliud Kipchoge, has encouraged him to continue to seek to achieve his long-term ambition of running a 2:04 marathon.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Rono grew up on a farm in Marakwet and now trains in Kaptagat with the Kenya Police Team and his coach, Patrick Sang. His nickname – “Baby Police” – stems from his youth and round face. Rono is a fan of Chelsea soccer and when not training enjoys watching marathons on his computer.

BRIAN SHRADER
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Bib #29 SHRADER

PRONUNCIATION: Bry-an Shray-der

BIRTHDATE: 22 July 1991

PERSONAL BEST: 2:13:31 (Sacramento, 2018)



MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

03Dec18 California International Marathon 6th 2:13:31

CAREER NOTES:

Brian Shrader won the 2014 US 12K national championships in an American Record of 34:11 and has continued to improve on the track and roads. In 2018 he set a personal best in the 800m (1:52.73), the 1,500m (3:43.81), the mile (3:59.41), 5K (14:08), half marathon (65:26) and marathon (2:13:31). Shrader runs with the Freedom Track Club and is coached by 2004 U.S. Olympian Tim Broe. His teammates include Tim Ritchie, Tommy Curtin, James Randon, Jon Green, MJ Erb, Helen Schlachtenhaufen, Molly Seidel, and Charlotte Taylor.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Shrader was born and raised in Flagstaff, Arizona, and attended Northern Arizona University. After joining the Freedom Track Club, he moved to Boston. "After living and training in Boston for the past few years, my sense of pride in the city of Boston and the community has continuously grown," says Shrader. "I've been lucky to have been able to participate in the last two BAA 5Ks on Marathon weekend and have always looked on at the marathon with great admiration. The energy that the city gives to all the runners is nothing short of inspiring and to finally get to join them on the roads is a dream come true."

HAYATO SONODA

Fukuoka, Japan

Bib #21 SONODA

PRONUNCIATION: Hay-AH-to So-no-da

BIRTHDATE: 05 April 1989

PERSONAL BEST: 2:09:34 (Beppu-Oita, 2018)



MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|------|---------|
| 02Dec18 | Fukuoka Marathon | 5th | 2:10:31 |
| 25Aug18 | Asian Games Marathon | 4th | 2:19:04 |
| 04Feb18 | Beppu-Oita Marathon | 2nd | 2:09:34 |
| 03Dec17 | Fukuoka Marathon | 11th | 2:12:04 |
| 05Mar17 | Lake Biwa Marathon | 7th | 2:11:32 |
| 04Dec16 | Fukuoka Marathon | 4th | 2:10:40 |
| 06Mar16 | Lake Biwa Marathon | 37th | 2:19:25 |
| 14Feb16 | Austin Marathon | 1st | 2:23:30 |
| 06Dec15 | Fukuoka Marathon | 13th | 2:17:40 |
| 15Feb15 | Kumamoto Marathon | 1st | 2:18:00 |
| 07Dec14 | Fukuoka Marathon | 24th | 2:19:35 |
| 02Mar14 | Lake Biwa Marathon | 46th | 2:20:30 |

CAREER NOTES:

Hayato Sonoda ran three marathons last year and placed top five at each race. In February, he was runner-up at Beppu-Oita and in August finished second Japanese and fourth overall at the Asian Games Marathon in Jakarta, Indonesia. In December, he was fifth in Fukuoka, a race he has run five times. Sonoda has two career wins, the 2016 Austin Marathon and the 2015 Kumamoto Marathon.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Sonoda was raised in Nishihara, Kumamoto, which is part of Kyusyu Island. He enjoys listening to music and playing video games. He trains for the marathon by himself and is coached by Shibuya Akinori.

ZERSENEY TADESE

Adi Bana, Eritrea

#18 TADESE

PRONUNCIATION: ZARE-sen-aye Tad-ES-ah

BIRTHDATE: 1 January 1982

PERSONAL BEST: 2:08:46 (Berlin, 2018)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|------|---------|
| 16Sep18 | BMW Berlin Marathon | 5th | 2:08:46 |
| 08Oct17 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 8th | 2:12:19 |
| 20Apr15 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 10Oct13 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | DNF | |
| 22Apr12 | Virgin London Marathon | 12th | 2:10:41 |
| 25Apr10 | Virgin London Marathon | 7th | 2:12:03 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 06May17 | Monza Nike Breaking2 Marathon | 2nd | 2:06:51 |
|---------|-------------------------------|-----|---------|

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|----------|
| 29Mar14 | Copenhagen IAAF World Half Marathon Championships | 4th | 59:37 |
| 06Oct12 | Kavarna IAAF World Half Marathon Championships | 1st | 1:00:19 |
| 04Aug12 | London Olympic Games 10,000m | 6th | 27:33.51 |
| 28Aug11 | Daegu IAAF World Championships 10,000m | 4th | 27:22.57 |
| 16Oct10 | Nanning IAAF World Half Marathon Championships | 2nd | 1:00:11 |
| 11Oct09 | Birmingham IAAF World Half Marathon Championships | 1st | 59:35 |
| 17Aug09 | Berlin IAAF World Championships 10,000m | 2nd | 26:50.12 |
| 28Mar09 | Amman IAAF World Cross Country Championships | 3rd | 35:04 |
| 12Oct08 | Rio de Janeiro IAAF World Half Marathon Championships | 1st | 59:56 |
| 17Aug08 | Beijing Olympic Games 10,000m | 5th | 27:05.11 |
| 30Mar08 | Edinburgh IAAF World Cross Country Championships | 3rd | 34:43 |
| 14Oct07 | Udine IAAF World Half Marathon Championships | 1st | 58:59 |
| 27Aug07 | Osaka IAAF World Championships 10,000m | 4th | 27:21.37 |
| 19Jul07 | Algiers All-African Games 10,000m | 1st | 27:00.30 |
| 24Mar07 | Mombasa IAAF World Cross Country Championships | 1st | 35:50 |
| 08Oct06 | Debrecen IAAF World Road Running Championships 20K | 1st | 56:01 |
| 20Mar05 | St-Etienne IAAF World Cross Country Championships | 2nd | 35:20 |
| 28Aug04 | Athens Olympic Games 5,000m | 7th | 13:24.31 |
| 20Aug04 | Athens Olympic Games 10,000m | 3rd | 27:22.57 |

CAREER NOTES:

Three-time Olympian Zerseney Tadesse is the most accomplished Eritrean athlete of all time. He is an Olympic Games bronze medalist in the 10,000m, a four-time IAAF World Half Marathon gold medalist, a World Championships 10,000m silver medalist, an All-African gold medalist and the world half marathon world record holder from 2010-2018. Tadesse has also earned gold, silver and two bronze medals at IAAF World Cross Country Championships. He has run under 27:30 in the 10,000m ten times and has run under 1:00:00 in the half marathon ten times.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Tadesse began running when he was 19 years old and continues to train in Asmara, Eritrea, where he lives at altitude. He is Eritrea's first Olympic and World Championships medalist and is a very popular sports personality in his country. Tadesse is married to Merhawit Solomon and the couple has three children. He likes to travel in Eritrea and Spain and is a fan of Real Madrid. Tadesse's brother Kidane Tadesse is also an elite runner.

FESTUS TALAM

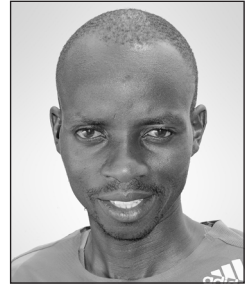
Iten, Kenya

Bib #10 TALAM

PRONUNCIATION: Fes-tus Tal-um

BIRTHDATE: 20 October 1994

PERSONAL BEST: 2:06:13 (Eindhoven, 2017)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|-----|---------|
| 04Nov18 | TCS New York City Marathon | 8th | 2:12:40 |
|---------|----------------------------|-----|---------|

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|-----|---------|
| 10Dec17 | Honolulu Marathon | 5th | 2:17:26 |
| 08Oct17 | Eindhoven Marathon | 1st | 2:06:13 |
| 09Apr17 | NN Rotterdam Marathon | 4th | 2:07:10 |
| 09Oct16 | Eindhoven Marathon | 1st | 2:06:26 |

CAREER NOTES:

Festus Talam transitioned from the roads to the marathon by acting as pacemaker in Eindhoven, Rotterdam and Honolulu. In his debut Talam won the 2016 Eindhoven Marathon in 2:06:26. He repeated as champion in Eindhoven in 2017 and improved his personal best to 2:06:13. This past fall he finished eight at the competitive TCS New York City Marathon.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Talam is married to Slyvia Jeruto and the couple has two children, Blessing Jelagat and Blesser Jelimo. He enjoys working on his farm when he is not training and supporting the studies of several primary school, high school and university students. He is big supporter of Chelsea football Club. The word talam means "grasshopper."

JARED WARD
Mapleton, Utah, USA



Bib #24 WARD

PRONUNCIATION: JAIR-uhd WARD

BIRTHDATE: 09 September 1988

PERSONAL BEST: 2:11:30 (Rio de Janeiro, 2016)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|------|---------|
| 4Nov18 | TCS New York City Marathon | 6th | 2:12:24 |
| 5Nov17 | TCS New York City Marathon | 12th | 2:18:39 |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | 10th | 2:15:28 |
| 21Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games | 6th | 2:11:30 |
| 13Oct13 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 19th | 2:16:17 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|-----|---------|
| 13Feb16 | Los Angeles U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials | 3rd | 2:13:00 |
| 15Mar15 | Los Angeles Marathon | 3rd | 2:12:56 |
| 05Oct14 | St. Paul Twin Cities Marathon | 2nd | 2:14:00 |

CAREER NOTES:

Olympian Jared Ward finished top American at the 2018 TCS New York City Marathon, running a 2:12:24. In 2017 he was tenth in Boston and 12th in New York City. At the 2016 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials, he finished third to secure a berth to Rio de Janeiro. "My proudest moment would be racing at the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials," says Ward. "Not because I realized the dream of making an Olympic Team, but because I learned so many things about myself running the hardest race of my life." At the Olympics, Ward ran conservatively in the heat and humidity and moved up through the pack as other more experienced racers faded. Ward finished in sixth place, less than a minute and a half out of the medals. "The coming together of so many athletes from so many different countries at the Olympics is something special," says Ward. "And to represent my country was beyond special. There are so many people that have sacrificed so much for our country and putting on the USA singlet and running for my country was very empowering." Also, in 2016, he represented the United States at the IAAF World Half Marathon Championships, where he finished 26th. In 2015, he won the USATF Running Circuit title by winning the U.S. National Championships in the Marathon, 25K and 20K and finishing second in the half marathon. Olympian Ed Eyestone is his coach.

PERSONAL NOTES:

"Athletics has shaped me," says Ward. "Running has taught me to work hard and aim high, in addition to focusing on being my best regardless of someone else's talent level. I have learned to glean good from even disappointing outcomes and use the good and the less good races to fuel growth." Ward ran for Brigham Young University, where he was an All-American. He graduated with a master's degree in statistics, works as a liaison for the college and teaches statistics part time. He is also a volunteer assistant for the BYU cross country team, coach of Team Endure Strong, and is active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Ward plays the trumpet and piano and likes to mountain bike in the off season. He is married to wife Erica, and the couple has four children: Paul, Ellie, Julia and Magnolia.



JOHN HANCOCK'S 2019 ELITE WOMEN'S TEAM

| NAME | Country | Personal Best Time |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Worknesh Degefa | Ethiopia | 2:17:41 (Dubai, 2019) NR |
| Aselefech Mergia | Ethiopia | 2:19:31 (Dubai, 2012) |
| Edna Kiplagat..... | Kenya | 2:19:50 (London, 2012) |
| Mare Dibaba..... | Ethiopia | 2:19:52 (Xiamen, 2015) |
| Meskerem Assefa..... | Ethiopia | 2:20:36 (Frankfurt, 2018) |
| Jordan Hasay..... | USA..... | 2:20:57 (Chicago, 2017) |
| Belaynesh Oljira | Ethiopia | 2:21:53 (Frankfurt, 2018) |
| Sharon Cherop..... | Kenya | 2:22:28 (Berlin, 2013) |
| Desiree Linden..... | USA..... | 2:22:38 (Boston, 2011) |
| Betsy Saina..... | Kenya | 2:22:56 (Paris, 2018) |
| Caroline Rotich..... | Kenya | 2:23:22 (Chicago, 2012) |
| Biruktayit Eshetu | Ethiopia | 2:23:28 (Houston, 2019) |
| Sara Hall..... | USA..... | 2:26:20 (Ottawa, 2018) |
| Eva Vrabcová | Czech Republic..... | 2:26:31 (Berlin, 2018) NR |
| Sally Kipyego..... | USA..... | 2:28:01 (New York City, 2016) |
| Krista Duchene | Canada | 2:28:32 (Toronto, 2013) |
| Alyson Dixon | Great Britain | 2:29:06 (London, 2017) |
| Lindsay Flanagan | USA..... | 2:29:25 (Frankfurt, 2018) |
| Becky Wade..... | USA..... | 2:30:41 (Sacramento, 2013) |
| Fionnuala McCormack..... | Ireland..... | 2:31:22 (Rio de Janeiro, 2016) |
| Sarah Crouch..... | USA..... | 2:32:27 (Chicago, 2018) |
| Sarah Sellers | USA..... | 2:36:37 (New York City, 2018) |
| Mary Ngugi..... | Kenya | 66:29 (Houston, 2016) |

NR= National Record

MESKEREM ASSEFA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Bib #F6 ASSEFA

PRONUNCIATION: Mes-ka-rem Ah-sef-ah

BIRTHDATE: 20 September 1985

PERSONAL BEST: 2:20:36 (Frankfurt, 2018)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 11Oct15 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 6th | 2:25:11 |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----|---------|

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 28Oct18 | Mainova Frankfurt Marathon | 1st | 2:20:36 |
| 11Mar18 | Nagoya International Marathon | 1st | 2:21:45 |
| 21Jan18 | Hong Kong Marathon | 2nd | 2:29:42 |
| 29Oct17 | Mainova Frankfurt Marathon | 3rd | 2:24:38 |
| 09Apr17 | NN Rotterdam Marathon | 1st | 2:24:18 |
| 15Jan17 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 1st | 2:30:18 |
| 30Oct16 | Shanghai Marathon | 6th | 2:30:13 |
| 12Apr15 | Schneider Paris Marathon | 4th | 2:25:58 |
| 25Jan15 | Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon | 2nd | 2:33:57 |
| 01Jun14 | Lanzhou Marathon | 3rd | 2:37:57 |
| 19Jan14 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 2nd | 2:25:59 |
| 20Oct13 | Scotiabank Toronto Marathon | 7th | 2:30:03 |
| 14Apr13 | Vienna Marathon | 2nd | 2:31:18 |
| 13Jan13 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 3rd | 2:25:17 |

CAREER NOTES:

Meskerem Assefa has made the podium 11 times in her 15 career marathons. She has won Rotterdam, Houston and Nagoya, and finished first twice at Frankfurt, including last year when she improved her best to 2:20:36. In shorter distances, her 5K best is 15:55, 10K is 32:31 and four of the five half marathons she has run have been under 69:40, with a best of 67:42 at the 2017 Copenhagen Half Marathon. She represented Ethiopia at the 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games in the 1,500m, although she did not advance to the finals. She earned a silver medal in the 1,500m at the 2008 African Athletics Championships and her best time is 4:02.12.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Assefa says making the switch from the track to the roads was not any easy transition and her favorite marathon speed work remains 400m repeats on the track. She says she is looking forward to her Boston debut because although the course is difficult, and her opponents are talented, she likes challenges. Assefa is married to elite athlete and two-time Olympian Dawit Wolde. Her favorite food is goat meat in spicy sauce.

SHARON CHEROP

Marakwet, Kenya

Bib #F9 CHEROP

PRONUNCIATION: Sha-RON Che-ROP

BIRTHDATE: 16 March 1984

PERSONAL BEST: 2:22:28 (Berlin, 2013)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|---------|
| 20Apr15 | Boston Marathon | 5th | 2:26:05 |
| 21Apr14 | Boston Marathon | 6th | 2:23:00 |
| 29Sep13 | BMW BERLIN-MARATHON | 2nd | 2:22:28 |
| 15Apr13 | Boston Marathon | 3rd | 2:27:01 |
| 16Apr12 | Boston Marathon | 1st | 2:31:50 |
| 27Aug11 | Daegu IAAF World Championships Marathon | 3rd | 2:29:14 |
| 18Apr11 | Boston Marathon | 3rd | 2:22:42 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|----------|--|-----|---------|
| 28Oct18 | Volkswagen Ljubljana Marathon | 4th | 2:25:02 |
| 08Apr18 | Rome Marathon | 4th | 2:29:36 |
| 12 Nov17 | Istanbul Marathon | 5th | 2:39:34 |
| 18Oct15 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 2nd | 2:24:16 |
| 06Dec15 | Standard Chartered Singapore Marathon | 3rd | 2:44:53 |
| 26Oct14 | Frankfurt Marathon | 2nd | 2:23:44 |
| 01Dec13 | Singapore Marathon | 1st | 2:41:12 |
| 18Nov12 | Turin Marathon | 1st | 2:23:57 |
| 27Jan12 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 7th | 2:22:39 |
| 26Sep10 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 1st | 2:22:43 |
| 25Apr10 | Hamburg Marathon | 1st | 2:28:38 |
| 25Oct09 | Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon | 3rd | 2:33:53 |
| 26Apr08 | Nashville Country Music Marathon | 4th | 2:39:52 |
| 07Oct07 | Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon | 3rd | 2:38:45 |

CAREER NOTES:

Sharon Cherop, the 2012 Boston Marathon champion, returns to Boston for the sixth time. She is one of the most experienced marathon runners in the field and has run ten marathons under 2:26:05. Cherop won the Singapore, Turin, Toronto, and Hamburg Marathons and was the bronze medalist at the 2011 IAAF World Championships Marathon. In 21 career marathons, she has missed finishing top five only twice. In 2018 she ran two of her top ten half marathons: 68:22 for fourth in Paris and 71:09 for second in Porto. Her top ten half marathon average is 1:09:01, with a personal best of 67:08 run in New Delhi in 2011.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Cherop trains in Marakwet where she was born, and in Iten at the Kamariny Stadium. She started running in primary school and in 1999 began serious training. In 2000, she won the bronze medal in the 5,000m at the IAAF World Junior Championships. Cherop is married to Mathew Bowen, who is a 2:10 marathoner. Cherop says when she is not training she enjoys reading novels and swimming. She says the three things that keep her going are perseverance, hard work and patience.

SARAH CROUCH
Flagstaff, Arizona, USA

Bib #F22 CROUCH

PRONUNCIATION: SA-rah CROUCH

BIRTHDATE: 22 August 1989

PERSONAL BEST: 2:32:27 (Chicago, 2018)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|------|---------|
| 07Oct18 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 6th | 2:32:37 |
| 08Oct 17 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 13th | 2:38:27 |
| 09Oct16 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 9th | 2:33:48 |
| 18Apr16 | Boston Marathon | 11th | 2:37:36 |
| 11 Oct 15 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 12th | 2:32:51 |
| 12 Oct 14 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 6th | 2:32:44 |
| 06 Nov 11 | ING New York City Marathon | 22nd | 2:44:25 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|-----|---------|
| 14Jan18 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 7th | 2:35:22 |
| 15Jan17 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 5th | 2:38:37 |
| 08 Feb 15 | Tallahassee Marathon | 1st | 2:46:59 |

CAREER NOTES:

Sarah Crouch made her marathon debut as a 22-year-old at the 2011 New York City Marathon, where she finished 22nd overall and sixth American. After finding success in several U.S. Road Running Championships, including finishing third American in 54:15 at the Cherry Blossom U.S. 10 Mile Championships, Crouch returned to the marathon distance and has proven consistent. She has finished top 13 in the past five Bank of America Chicago Marathons, including placing top American and sixth overall last year. "Being the top American at a Major Marathon was something I once believed was not in the cards for me and the moment I pulled away will stick with me forever," says Crouch. "The race hurt just as bad as any, but man was that finish line sweet!" In her only Boston appearance, Crouch finish 11th in 2016.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Crouch grew up in Hockinson, Washington, and went to Western Washington University. In college, she was a 13-time Division II All American and 2011 Division II National Champion in the 10,000m. She works as a running coach and is married to Michael Crouch. Steve Magness coaches Sarah and her two sisters. "My older sister ran 2:40 in the marathon in December and my younger ran 15:49 in the 5k last spring so our training often lines up well," says Crouch. "There is a unique dynamic between the three of us that consists of pride, encouragement and of course, sibling rivalry." Crouch plays the trombone, rides the unicycle, and enjoys painting.

WORKNESH DEGEFA

Assela, Ethiopia

Bib #F2 DEGEFA

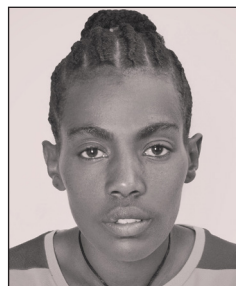
PRONUNCIATION: Work-nesh De-ge-fa

BIRTHDATE: 28 October 1990

PERSONAL BEST: 2:17:41 (Dubai, 2019) NR

MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-----|------------|
| 25Jan19 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 2nd | 2:17:41 NR |
| 26Jan18 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 4th | 2:19:53 |
| 20Jan17 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 1st | 2:22:36 |



CAREER NOTES:

This January in Dubai, Worknesh Degefa set an Ethiopian national marathon record with her 2:17:41 second place finish. With that result she became the fourth fastest women's marathoner in history. Historically a half marathon specialist, Degefa's top ten half marathon times (2013-2016) were run with an average time of 67:30. Her personal best was recorded at the 2016 Prague Half Marathon where she finished second in 66:14. She earned the silver medal at the 2015 All African Games Half Marathon. Degefa made her debut in the marathon in 2017 with a win at the Dubai Marathon, which she says is her proudest accomplishment.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Degefa trains in the Oromia region of Ethiopia in Arsi and Assela because of its altitude and good weather for training. Her coach is Gemedu Dedefo. Her favorite foods are rice and pasta and she enjoys traveling in Europe.

MARE DIBABA

Shoa, Ethiopia

Bib #F5 DIBABA

PRONUNCIATION: MAR-ee Dee-BAA-baa

BIRTHDATE: 20 October 1989

PERSONAL BEST: 2:19:52 (Xiamen, 2015)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|------|---------|
| 22Apr18 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 7th | 2:27:45 |
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 8th | 2:28:49 |
| 14Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games Marathon | 3rd | 2:24:30 |
| 24Apr16 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 6th | 2:24:09 |
| 30Aug15 | Beijing IAAF World Championships Marathon | 1st | 2:27:35 |
| 20Apr15 | Boston Marathon | 2nd | 2:24:59 |
| 12Oct14 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 1st | 2:25:37 |
| 21Apr14 | Boston Marathon | 2nd | 2:20:35 |
| 05Aug12 | London Olympic Games Marathon | 22nd | 2:28:48 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 28Oct18 | Mainova Frankfurt Marathon | 11th | 2:25:24 |
| 03Jan15 | Xiamen International Marathon | 1st | 2:19:52 |
| 02Jan14 | Xiamen International Marathon | 1st | 2:21:36 |
| 27Jan12 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 3rd | 2:19:52 |
| 16Oct11 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 2nd | 2:23:25 |
| 20Mar11 | Honda Los Angeles Marathon | 3rd | 2:30:25 |
| 31Oct10 | BMW Frankfurt Marathon | 5th | 2:25:27 |
| 21Mar10 | Rome Marathon | 3rd | 2:25:38 |

CAREER NOTES:

Two-time Olympian Mare Dibaba is one of Ethiopia's most accomplished marathon runners, earning an Olympic medal, a World Championships medal and 11 podium finishes. At the 2016 Olympic Games Marathon in Rio de Janeiro, she earned the bronze medal in hot and humid conditions. In 2015 she became Ethiopia's first-ever IAAF World Championship Marathon gold medalist when she outsprinted three women inside the Bird's Nest stadium in Beijing to claim the win in 2:27:35. In a thrilling finish, the top four women were separated by just seven seconds, making it one of the closest marathons in World Championships history. She won the 2014 Bank of America Chicago Marathon, the Xiamen International Marathon twice and at Boston finished runner-up in 2014 and 2015.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Dibaba trains in Addis Ababa and her coach is Haji Adilo. She is affiliated with Elite Sports Management International. She says she likes to drink Ethiopian coffee and tea with her family, visit with friends, and go to the cinema.

ALYSON DIXON
Sunderland Tyne and Wear, UK



Bib #F18 DIXON

PRONUNCIATION: Al-lee-son Dix-on

BIRTHDATE: 24 September 1978

PERSONAL BEST: 2:29:06 (London, 2017)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 07Oct18 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | DNF | |
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 18th | 2:31:36 |
| 23Apr17 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 14th | 2:29:06 |
| 14Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games Marathon | 28th | 2:34:11 |
| 24Apr16 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 13th | 2:31:52 |
| 27Sep15 | BMW BERLIN-MARATHON | 11th | 2:29:30 |
| 22Apr12 | Virgin London Marathon | 23rd | 2:35:46 |
| 27Aug11 | Daegu IAAF World Championships Marathon | 40th | 2:50:51 |
| 07Nov10 | ING New York City Marathon | 28th | 2:42:50 |
| 25Apr10 | Virgin London Marathon | 24th | 2:43:48 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHON HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|-----|---------|
| 15Apr18 | Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Marathon | 6th | 2:38:19 |
| 27Jul14 | Glasgow Commonwealth Games Marathon | DNF | |
| 14Apr13 | Brighton Marathon | 2nd | 2:31:10 |
| 10Apr11 | Brighton Marathon | 1st | 2:34:51 |

CAREER NOTES:

Alyson Dixon made her marathon debut at the 2010 Virgin London Marathon and has continued to improve her time over the distance. She broke 2:30 for the first time at the 2015 BMW BERLIN-MARATHON, which set her up for making the Great Britain team for the 2016 Olympic Games. In Rio de Janeiro she finished 28th at the age of 37. She then represented her country at the 2017 London IAAF World Championships Marathon, where she placed 18th. She then represented Great Britain at the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Marathon and finished sixth.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Dixon says running the 2016 Olympic Games Marathon was a highlight of her career. "Running at the Olympics had been a dream since watching the Barcelona Games in 1992," says Dixon. "I've been fortunate enough to go as a spectator to Athens in 2004 and London in 2012, so to finally get to compete in 2016 at the age of 37 was literally a dream come true. The race was tough due to the weather conditions – hot and very humid – but I loved every second of being out there. It was made even more special because my parents were roadside supporting me. On my last lap my mum shouted that she was proud of me which nearly made me cry! For over 20 years they've supported me unconditionally and made many sacrifices to help my running, so to see the pride in their faces after was a very special moment." Dixon has a MSC in computing and holds coaching qualifications in athletics, dodgeball, ultimate frisbee and mini fencing. One of her favorite places to travel is to Font Romeu in the French Pyrenees. She likes to train at altitude there and enjoys running on the trails and in the forest. Her current bucket list of physical challenges includes running the Boston Marathon, cycling Mount Ventoux and climbing Mount Kilimanjaro.

KRISTA DUCHENE
Brantford, Ontario, Canada

Bib #F17 DUCHENE

PRONUNCIATION: Kris-ta Do-shane

BIRTHDATE: 09 January 1977

PERSONAL BEST: 2:28:32 (Toronto, 2013)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | 3rd | 2:44:20 |
| 23Apr17 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 25th | 2:43:31 |
| 14Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games Marathon | 35th | 2:35:29 |
| 10Aug13 | Moscow IAAF World Championships Marathon | DNF | |

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 21Oct18 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 10th | 2:36:46 |
| 16Oct16 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 5th | 2:34:02 |
| 12Apr15 | Rotterdam Marathon | 3rd | 2:29:38 |
| 20Oct13 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 4th | 2:28:32 |
| 14Oct12 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 4th | 2:32:16 |
| 15Apr12 | Rotterdam Marathon | 7th | 2:32:06 |
| 30May10 | Ottawa Marathon | 6th | 2:39:08 |
| 27Sep09 | Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon | 9th | 2:50:37 |

CAREER NOTES:

At Boston last year, in freezing temperatures and driving rain, Krista DuChene focused on her own race and steadily passed many of the front runners along the way to earn a podium position. DuChene made her elite marathon debut at the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon in 2009 where she placed ninth in 2:50:37. Since that time, she has become one of Canada's all-time best marathon runners (the third fastest in history) and a multiple national champion in the marathon and half marathon. At the 2015 Rotterdam Marathon, DuChene became the first Canadian woman in 20 years to qualify for the Olympics. This was even more remarkable because she was 38 years old and had broken her femur only 12 months earlier, shortly before crossing the finish line of the Scotiabank Half Marathon in Montreal.

PERSONAL NOTES:

DuChene did not take the traditional route to elite marathon success. In 2002 after retiring from a successful ice hockey career, she decided to run the Niagara Falls Marathon and finished in 3:28. She enjoyed the distance and was curious to see how fast she could become with serious training. She then ran a few additional marathons, including the 2005 Boston Marathon where she recorded a time just over three hours. "I kept going, chipping away and setting the bar higher, all while having three children in between," says DuChene. "My marathon personal best time is now 2:28:32, which is the third fastest in Canada and one hour faster than my first marathon." DuChene holds a Bachelor of Applied Human Nutrition from the University of Guelph and is a registered dietitian. She is married and has three children, Micah, Seth and Leah. DuChene spends time volunteering in the community, at her church and at her children's school. She also enjoys public speaking and sharing the story of her journey from recreational athlete to Olympian. DuChene belongs to the Speed River Track and Field Club in Guelph, Ontario, and her coach is Dave Scott-Thomas.

BIRUKTAYIT ESHETU
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Bib #F12 ESHETU

PRONUNCIATION: Bir-uk-tay-it Esh-a-tu

BIRTHDATE: 29 September 1990

PERSONAL BEST: 2:23:28 (Houston, 2019)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|------|---------|
| 30Sep12 | real-Berlin Marathon | 10th | 2:33:27 |
|---------|----------------------|------|---------|

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 20Jan19 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 1st | 2:23:28 |
| 26Aug18 | Mexico City Marathon | 4th | 2:40:46 |
| 08Apr18 | NN Rotterdam Marathon | 2nd | 2:26:56 |
| 14Jan18 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 1st | 2:24:51 |
| 19Mar17 | Los Angeles Marathon | 5th | 2:43:23 |
| 15Jan17 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 2nd | 2:30:44 |
| 30Oct16 | Shanghai International Marathon | 7th | 2:30:32 |
| 08May16 | Volkswagen Prague Marathon | DNF | |
| 17Jan16 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 1st | 2:26:07 |
| 18Oct15 | Des Moines Marathon | 1st | 2:33:00 |
| 20Sep15 | Sydney Blackmores Marathon | 3rd | 2:39:28 |
| 12Apr15 | Paris Marathon | 6th | 2:26:48 |
| 18Jan15 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 3rd | 2:23:51 |
| 09Nov14 | Xichang Marathon | 1st | 2:30:26 |
| 21Sep14 | Sydney Blackmores Marathon | 1st | 2:29:42 |
| 27Jul14 | Eugene Marathon | 1st | 2:33:15 |
| 09Mar14 | Los Angeles Marathon | 4th | 2:31:17 |
| 19Jan14 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 4th | 2:26:22 |
| 27Oct13 | Volkswagen Ljubljana Marathon | 5th | 2:34:19 |
| 22Sep13 | Sydney Blackmores Marathon | 1st | 2:32:46 |
| 07Mar13 | Roma Marathon | 8th | 2:32:52 |
| 18Nov12 | Hangzhou Marathon | 3rd | 2:30:28 |
| 27May12 | Ottawa Marathon | 2nd | 2:33:12 |
| 25Mar12 | Barcelona Marathon | 2nd | 2:29:52 |
| 30Oct11 | Frankfurt Marathon | 8th | 2:27:34 |
| 29May11 | Ottawa Marathon | 2nd | 2:33:15 |
| 17Oct10 | Reims Marathon | 3rd | 2:34:07 |
| 25Apr10 | Hamburg Marathon | 2nd | 2:29:48 |
| 08Nov09 | Athens Classic Marathon | 2nd | 2:40:32 |

CAREER NOTES:

Three-time Houston Marathon winner Biruktayit Eshetu is one of the most prolific marathoners in the field with eight career wins and 19 podium finishes. She has run one Abbott World Marathon Majors race, Berlin in 2012, where she finished 10th. Her personal best was achieved this year with her 2:23:28 Houston Marathon win.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Eshetu trains in Ethiopia in Entoto, Sululeta and Sendafa with her coach, Gemedu Dedefo. She enjoys travelling to the United States and to Australia. Her favorite food is kitfo, a traditional Ethiopian raw meat dish.

LINDSAY FLANAGAN

Roselle, Illinois, USA

Bib #F19 FLANAGAN

PRONUNCIATION: LIND-say FLAN-a-gan

BIRTHDATE: 24 January 1991

PERSONAL BEST: 2:29:25 (Frankfurt, 2018)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 37th | 2:39:47 |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | 11th | 2:34:44 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 28Oct18 | Mainova Frankfurt Marathon | 13th | 2:29:25 |
| 30Oct16 | Frankfurt Marathon | 4th | 2:29:28 |
| 13Feb16 | Los Angeles U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials | 14th | 2:39:42 |
| 18Jul15 | Toronto Pan American Games Marathon | 2nd | 2:36:30 |
| 18Jan15 | Houston Marathon | 9th | 2:33:12 |

CAREER NOTES:

In 2018 Lindsay Flanagan was one of nine American women to break 2:30 in the marathon with her 2:29:25 personal best in Frankfurt. In 2017 she finished 11th in Boston and then represented the United States at the IAAF World Championships Marathon, where she placed 37th. At the 2016 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials, Flanagan placed 14th. In 2015 she won the silver medal at the Pan American Games Marathon. "The Boston Marathon is the most prestigious marathon in the world," says Flanagan. "It is amazing to be part of such an historic event that so many great athletes before me have also competed in. It's important for me to run the Boston Marathon because of what it stands for — being resilient and strong in all aspects of life, not just running."

PERSONAL NOTES:

"Running continues to teach me valuable life lessons about resilience and overcoming adversity in all forms," says Flanagan. "It constantly pushes me to never stop striving to be the best person and athlete possible." Flanagan was an All-American while competing at the University of Washington in Seattle. She graduated with dual degrees in public health and anthropology and minors in global health and nutrition. In high school, Flanagan was the 2008 Gatorade Cross Country Athlete of the Year for Illinois after placing ninth at the 2008 Foot Locker Cross Country Championships and fifth at the 2008 Nike Cross Country Nationals. Flanagan is training in Colorado for Boston and is coached by Steve Magness.



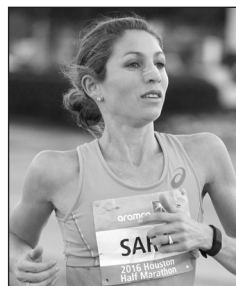
SARA HALL
Flagstaff, Arizona, USA

Bib #F14 HALL

PRONUNCIATION: Sa-rah HALL

BIRTHDATE: 15 April 1983

PERSONAL BEST: 2:26:20 (Ottawa, 2018)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|------|---------|
| 26Feb17 | Tokyo Marathon | 6th | 2:28:26 |
| 06Nov16 | TCS New York City Marathon | 9th | 2:36:12 |
| 24Apr16 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 12th | 2:30:06 |
| 11Oct15 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 10th | 2:31:14 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 27May18 | Ottawa Marathon | 3rd | 2:26:20 |
| 28Oct18 | Mainova Frankfurt Marathon | DNF | |
| 03Dec17 | California International Marathon | 1st | 2:28:10 |
| 29Oct17 | Mainova Frankfurt Marathon | 5th | 2:27:21 |

CAREER NOTES:

Sara Hall made her marathon debut in 2015, after competing globally for the U.S. in cross country, track and on the roads. Her most notable finishes include winning the gold medal in the 3,000m steeplechase at the 2011 Pan American Games, placing eighth in the 3,000m at the 2012 World Indoor Championships and finishing 15th at the World Half Marathon Championships. In the marathon distance, she had her first career win at the 2017 U.S. National Championships at the California International Marathon. Last year she improved her personal bests in three distances: the marathon, half marathon and the 10-mile. In the marathon she finished 2:26:20 in Ottawa. In the half marathon, she won the Gold Coast Half Marathon in 69:27. In the 10-mile, she won the USATF National Championships in 52:47. "I started training for my first marathon the fall of 2014," says Hall. "I didn't expect to enjoy marathon training but saw it more as a "bucket list" thing. But I immediately fell in love with the training, and even when my debut marathon didn't go well, I was hooked. I wanted to be a marathoner. I didn't envision myself continuing this career while having four kids, but thankfully I'm enjoying it the most I ever have and though it's difficult to do everything with excellence, I'm finding a way."

PERSONAL NOTES:

Hall was an All-American at Stanford University. There she met elite runner Ryan Hall and the couple married in 2005. Ryan is currently coaching Sara. "Ryan always came alive at the Boston Marathon; it's no secret it was his favorite," says Hall. "Watching him made me fall in love with the race and I've been wanting to do it for years now. I helped crew for him on the course for three weeks leading up to his race in 2010, so I got to see a lot of the course and the enthusiasm the community has for the event." The Halls live in Flagstaff, Arizona, and have four adopted daughters, sisters from Ethiopia: Hana, Mia, Jasmine and Lily. Hall's dogs Kai, Mita and Dash often run training miles with her. The Halls founded the Hall Steps Foundation which provides orphan care and orphan prevention work in Ethiopia.

JORDAN HASAY

Arroyo Grande, California, USA

Bib #F7 JORDAN

PRONUNCIATION: JOR-dan HA-say

BIRTHDATE: 21 September 1991

PERSONAL BEST: 2:20:57 (Chicago, 2017)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 08Oct17 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 3rd | 2:20:57 |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | 3rd | 2:23:00 |

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|----------|---|------|----------|
| 04 Sep17 | U.S. 20K National Championships | 1st | 66:35 |
| 01Apr17 | Prague Half Marathon | 6th | 67:55 |
| 11Mar17 | U.S. 15K National Championships | 1st | 49:28 |
| 09Oct16 | U.S. 10M Road Running Championships | 1st | 52:49 |
| 13Oct14 | Boston Tufts 10K | 1st | 31:39 |
| 11Aug13 | Moscow IAAF World Championships 10,000m | 12th | 32:17.93 |
| 25Jul10 | IAAF World Junior Championships 1,500m | 4th | 4:13.95 |
| 19Jul10 | IAAF World Junior Championships 3,000m | 9th | 9:15.78 |
| 13Jul08 | IAAF World Junior Championships 1,500m | 4th | 4:19.02 |
| 13Jul07 | IAAF World Youth Championships 1,500m | 2nd | 4:17.24 |

CAREER NOTES:

Choosing Boston to make her debut in 2017, Jordan Hasay ran 2:23:00 to finish third. She set an American women's debut record by three minutes and recorded the fourth fastest time ever run in the race by an American woman behind Shalane Flanagan, Desiree Linden and Joan Benoit Samuelson. After Boston, Hasay ran the Bank of America Chicago Marathon and once again finished third, but improved her time to 2:20:57, becoming the second fastest American woman marathoner of all time. Besides making the podium in both the Boston and Chicago Marathons, Hasay set a half marathon personal best time of 67:55 with her sixth-place finish at the 2017 Prague Half Marathon. During the race she set a 15K personal best of 48:21 and a 20K personal best of 64:32. She also won the 2017 U.S. national titles in the 20K, 10 Mile and 15K. Hasay was injured during 2018, but after surgery on her foot has made a complete recovery. As a junior competitor, she won the silver medal in the 1,500m at the 2007 IAAF World Youth Championships and finished fourth in the 1,500m at the IAAF World Junior Championships in both 2008 and 2010. As a U23 competitor, she won the gold medal at the 2012 NACAC Championships in the 1,500m. At the 2013 IAAF World Championships she placed 12th in the 10,000m. She says her proudest running accomplishment was helping her teammates win the NCAA Division I Cross Country team title for the University of Oregon, where Hasay was an 18-time All-American.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Hasay has been running since she was 12 years old and grew up in Arroyo Grande, California. She attended Mission College Preparatory Catholic High School, where she was a two-time Foot Locker Cross Country National Champion, set nine national high school records and competed in the 2008 U.S. Olympic Trials 1,500m. The valedictorian of her high school class, Hasay graduated from the University of Oregon with a degree in Business Administration. She runs for the Nike Oregon Project, trains in California and Oregon, and is coached by 1982 Boston Marathon winner Alberto Salazar. "I've always believed that running is the best metaphor for life," says Hasay. "There are so many ups and downs and I've come to learn that the most important part is the journey, not necessarily the final destination. The ups and downs I've gone through during my running career have taught me to enjoy the struggle and to simply live in the moment and give my best because ultimately that's all anyone can do."

EDNA KIPLAGAT

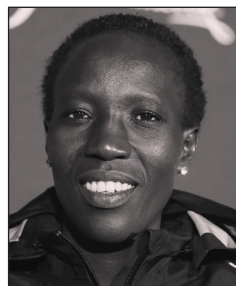
Uasin Gishu, Kenya

Bib #F4 KIPLAGAT

PRONUNCIATION: ED-nah KIP-la-gat

BIRTHDATE: 15 November 1979

PERSONAL BEST: 2:19:50 (London, 2012)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|------|---------|
| 16Sep18 | BMW BERLIN-MARATHON | 4th | 2:21:18 |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | 9th | 2:47:14 |
| 05Nov17 | TCS New York City Marathon | 4th | 2:29:36 |
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 2nd | 2:27:18 |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | 1st | 2:21:52 |
| 09Oct16 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 2nd | 2:23:28 |
| 28Feb16 | Tokyo Marathon | 3rd | 2:22:36 |
| 30Aug15 | Beijing IAAF World Championships Marathon | 5th | 2:28:18 |
| 26Apr15 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 10th | 2:27:16 |
| 02Nov14 | TCS New York City Marathon | 12th | 2:36:24 |
| 13Apr14 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 1st | 2:20:21 |
| 03Nov13 | ING New York City Marathon | 9th | 2:30:04 |
| 10Aug13 | Moscow IAAF World Championships Marathon | 1st | 2:25:44 |
| 21Apr13 | Virgin London Marathon | 2nd | 2:21:32 |
| 05Aug12 | London Olympic Games Marathon | 19th | 2:27:52 |
| 22Apr12 | Virgin London Marathon | 2nd | 2:19:50 |
| 27Aug11 | Daegu IAAF World Championships Marathon | 1st | 2:28:43 |
| 17Apr11 | Virgin London Marathon | 2nd | 2:20:46 |
| 07Nov10 | ING New York City Marathon | 1st | 2:28:20 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|------|---------|
| 21Mar10 | Los Angeles Marathon | 1st | 2:25:38 |
| 04Dec05 | Las Vegas Marathon | 10th | 2:50:20 |

CAREER NOTES:

Edna Kiplagat ran the second fastest marathon in her career last year as she finished fourth at the BMW BERLIN-MARATHON. At the 2018 Boston Marathon, Kiplagat never considered dropping from the race even though many of the elites had stopped due to the freezing rain. She finished ninth and said it was one of the hardest races she has ever run. In 2017 Kiplagat decisively won Boston, running the second fastest winning time in the history of the women's race. One of the most accomplished marathoners in the world, Kiplagat has won the gold medal at the IAAF World Championships Marathon twice and in 2017 earned a silver medal. She is a London and New York City Marathon champion, a three-time winner of the Abbott World Marathon Majors Championships, and the first open division elite woman to run all six Abbott World Marathon Majors.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Edna's husband, Gilbert Koech, is a former elite marathon runner and the couple has five children, two biological and three adopted. Kiplagat is a policewoman and volunteers creating awareness in garbage management to keep a clean environment in Iten, Kenya. "I am one of the role models in my town and country," says Kiplagat. "I have mentored girls in school and I have empowered women to form community associations. I also support less fortunate kids to pay their school fees." Her hobbies include reading and listening to gospel music. She enjoys eating ugali and vegetables and her favorite place to travel is Cape Cod in Massachusetts.

SALLY KIPYEGO
Eugene, Oregon, USA



Bib #F16 KIPYEGO

PRONUNCIATION: Sal-lee Kip-yeh-go

BIRTHDATE: 19 December 1985

PERSONAL BEST: 2:28:01 (New York City, 2016)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|-----|---------|
| 06Nov16 | TCS New York City Marathon | 2nd | 2:28:01 |
|---------|----------------------------|-----|---------|

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|-----|----------|
| 24Aug15 | Beijing IAAF World Championships 10,000m | 5th | 31:44.42 |
| 10Aug12 | London Olympic Games 5,000m | 4th | 15:05.79 |
| 03Aug12 | London Olympic Games 10,000m | 2nd | 30:26.37 |
| 27Aug11 | Daegu IAAF World Championships 10,000m | 2nd | 30:50.04 |

CAREER NOTES:

After an outstanding college career on the track, Sally Kipyego qualified for the 2011 IAAF World Championships team, representing Kenya in the 10,000 meters. In Daegu she earned the silver medal, behind county woman Vivian Cheruiyot. In 2012 she doubled at the London Olympic Games in the 10,000m and the 5,000m. She won the silver medal in the 10,000m (again behind Vivian Cheruiyot) and returned to place fourth in the 5,000m. In 2015 Kipyego once again represented Kenya at the World Championships 10,000m and this time she finished fifth. In 2016 Kipyego made her marathon debut in New York, finishing runner-up behind Mary Keitany. Her best half marathon was recorded at the 2014 New York City Half Marathon, where she won the race in 68:31.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Kipyego attended South Plains College and Texas Tech, where she was a nine-time NCAA All-American and eight-time NCAA champion, tied for the most in NCAA history. Kipyego was the first Kenyan female to win a NCAA cross country individual championship and the first female in Division I history to win three consecutive NCCA cross country titles. In 2008 she married elite runner Kevin Chelimo and in 2009 she earned her nursing degree. The couple has one daughter named Emma. In January 2017 Kipyego became a U.S. citizen. She trains with the Oregon Track Club and is coached by Mark Rowland. Her brother, Michael Kipyego, is also an elite runner.

DESIREE LINDEN

Washington, Michigan, USA



Bib #F1 DES

PRONUNCIATION: DES-uh-ray LIN-den

BIRTHDATE: 26 July 1983

PERSONAL BEST: 2:22:38 (Boston, 2011)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|------|---------|
| 04Nov18 | TCS New York City Marathon | 6th | 2:27:51 |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | 1st | 2:39:54 |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | 4th | 2:25:06 |
| 14Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games Marathon | 7th | 2:26:08 |
| 20Apr15 | Boston Marathon | 4th | 2:25:39 |
| 02Nov14 | TCS New York City Marathon | 5th | 2:28:11 |
| 21Apr14 | Boston Marathon | 8th | 2:23:54 |
| 29Sep13 | BMW BERLIN-MARATHON | 5th | 2:29:15 |
| 05Aug12 | London Olympic Games Marathon | DNF | |
| 18Apr11 | Boston Marathon | 2nd | 2:22:38 |
| 10Oct10 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 2nd | 2:26:20 |
| 23Aug09 | IAAF World Championships, Berlin | 10th | 2:27:53 |
| 12Oct08 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 5th | 2:31:33 |
| 16Apr07 | Boston Marathon | 18th | 2:44:56 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|------|---------|
| 13Jan16 | Los Angeles U.S. Olympic Trials Marathon | 2nd | 2:28:54 |
| 14Jan12 | Houston U.S. Olympic Team Trials Marathon | 2nd | 2:25:55 |
| 20Apr08 | Boston U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials | 13th | 2:37:50 |

CAREER NOTES:

Desiree Linden, a two-time Olympian and one of the fastest American marathoners of all time, won the 2018 Boston Marathon in driving rain, wind and near freezing temperatures. Her win marked the first time in 33 years that an American woman earned the coveted olive wreath. Linden had previously run the Boston Marathon on five different occasions, narrowly missing the title in 2011 by two seconds, running 2:22:38. "In 2007 I ran my first Boston Marathon; I absolutely fell in love with the event, the course, the city, all of it," says Linden. "I thought I had every experience imaginable racing in Boston, but in 2019 I'm thrilled and proud to have another first as I'll start the race as the defending Boston Marathon Champion. My 12 years of history in Boston have nothing on the 123 years of the event, but each year has made me love and appreciate the event even more, and I can't imagine racing anywhere else in April." A top five finisher in eight Abbott World Marathon Majors, Linden was also runner-up at the 2010 Chicago Marathon. Additional accomplishments include placing seventh at the 2016 Olympic Games Marathon, tenth at the 2009 IAAF World Championships Marathon, second at the 2012 and 2016 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials and second in the 10,000m at the 2015 Pan American Games.

PERSONAL NOTES:

"Being a champion is amazing," say Linden. "Being a Boston Marathon Champion has been life changing." Linden grew up in Chula Vista, California, and was an All-American on the track for Arizona State University, where she graduated with a B.A. in religious studies and a B.S. in psychology. Linden enjoys traveling and writing and says she is "an espresso addict, a music junkie and a book nerd." Married to professional runner and triathlete Ryan Linden, the couple lives in Michigan and share two dogs, one named Atlas and the other named Boston. They also are co-owners of Linden & True Coffee.

FIONNUALA MCCORMACK

Wicklow, Ireland

Bib #F21 MCCORMACK

PRONUNCIATION: Finn-uu-La Mc-Cor-mack

BIRTHDATE: 24 September 1984

PERSONAL BEST: 2:31:22 (Rio de Janeiro, 2016)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|------|---------|
| 14Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games Marathon | 20th | 2:31:22 |
| 11Oct15 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 13th | 2:33:15 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------|------|---------|
| 16Aug14 | Zurich Marathon | 10th | 2:31:46 |
|---------|-----------------|------|---------|

CAREER NOTES:

Three-time Olympian Fionnuala McCormack is one of her country's most accomplished and versatile runners. McCormack was the gold medalist at the 2011 and 2012 European Cross Country Championships. She represented Ireland in the steeplechase at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, the 2007 IAAF World Championships and the 2011 IAAF World Championships. In the 10,000m she competed in three European Championships placing fourth in 2012, eighth in 2014 and fourth in 2016. At the 2012 London Olympic Games she doubled in the 5,000m and the 10,000m. McCormack earned a bronze medal in the 2013 European Indoor Championships in the 3,000m. In 2014 she made her marathon debut in Zurich, finishing 10th in 2:31:46. In 2015, she was 13th at the Bank of America Chicago Marathon in 2:33:15, and at the Rio Olympic Games Marathon McCormack finished 20th for Ireland in a personal best 2:31:22.

PERSONAL NOTES:

McCormack is looking forward to her Boston debut. "As an Irish athlete it is important for me to run Boston as there is a connection between Ireland and the city of Boston as well as with the race itself," says McCormack. "I also like that the race is not necessarily about fast times but about great competition." McCormack is married to husband, coach and sometimes training partner, Alan, and the couple has a daughter, Isla. Her favorite workouts are "long runs that end at coffee shops." McCormack's sister, Úna, is an elite runner.

ASELEFECH MERGIA

Woliso, Ethiopia

Bib #F3 MERGIA

PRONUNCIATION: A-sell-eh-fech Muir-ghee-ah

BIRTHDATE: 23 January 1985

PERSONAL BEST: 2:19:31



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 12th | 2:29:43 |
| 23Apr17 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 3rd | 2:23:08 |
| 06Nov16 | TCS New York City Marathon | 6th | 2:33:28 |
| 24Apr16 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 5th | 2:23:57 |
| 01Nov15 | TCS New York City Marathon | 2nd | 2:25:32 |
| 26Apr15 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 4th | 2:23:53 |
| 05Aug12 | London Olympic Games Marathon | 41st | 2:32:03 |
| 27Aug11 | Daegu IAAF World Championships Marathon | DNF | |
| 17Apr11 | Virgin London Marathon | DNF | |
| 25Apr10 | Virgin London Marathon | 1st | 2:22:38 |
| 23Aug09 | Berlin IAAF World Championships Marathon | 3rd | 2:25:32 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 23Jan15 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 1st | 2:20:02 |
| 27Jan12 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 1st | 2:19:31 |
| 21Jan11 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 1st | 2:22:45 |
| 05Apr09 | Paris Marathon | 2nd | 2:25:02 |

CAREER NOTES:

Mergia is one of Ethiopia's most talented marathon runners. A former national record holder in the marathon, she has won the Dubai Marathon three times and won the 2010 London Marathon. She has finished top five at ten marathons with an average time of 2:23:12. Making her marathon debut in 2009, Mergia finished runner-up in Paris and then won the bronze medal at the IAAF World Championships Marathon. In 2008 she won the silver medal at the IAAF World Championships Half Marathon. She has run under 70:00 eight times in the half marathon distance and holds a personal best of 67:21. In 2017 she made the podium at the Virgin Money London Marathon and followed with an eighth-place finish at the IAAF World Championships Marathon. At Boston last year she was unable to finish the race.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Mergia grew up in Woliso, Ethiopia, and said she was one of the first from the area to become a professional runner. In 2012 and 2013, she took time off from running to take maternity leave and give birth to her daughter, Sena. Mergia currently trains with her coach, Gemechu Dedefo, in Addis Ababa, Sendafa and Entoto. Her favorite food is Doro Wot and she enjoys traveling to Germany and Dubai.

MARY NGUGI

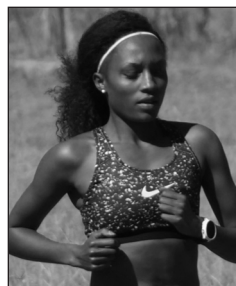
Nyahururu, Kenya

Bib #F24 NGUGI

PRONUNCIATION: Mar-ee Gu-gi

BIRTHDATE: 17 December 1988

PERSONAL BEST: Marathon Debut



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|-------|
| 08Jul18 | Utica Boilermaker 15K | 1st | 50:01 |
| 24Jun18 | B.A.A. 10K | 1st | 31:55 |
| 14Jan18 | Houston Half Marathon | 3rd | 66:50 |
| 09Jul17 | Utica Boilermaker 15K | 1st | 49:18 |
| 26Feb17 | World's Best 10K | 1st | 31:41 |
| 15Jan17 | Houston Half Marathon | 3rd | 68:38 |
| 09Oct16 | B.A.A. Half Marathon | 1st | 70:19 |
| 26Mar16 | Cardiff IAAF World Half Marathon Championships | 3rd | 67:54 |
| 28Feb16 | World's Best 10K | 1st | 31:49 |
| 17Jan16 | Houston Half Marathon | 1st | 66:29 |
| 11Oct15 | B.A.A. Half Marathon | 1st | 70:21 |
| 21Jun15 | B.A.A. 10K | 1st | 32:07 |
| 13Jul14 | Utica Boilermaker 15K | 1st | 50:14 |
| 29Mar14 | Copenhagen IAAF World Half Marathon Championships | 2nd | 67:44 |
| 23Feb14 | World's Best 10K | 1st | 32:06 |

CAREER NOTES:

Mary (nee Wacera) Ngugi won the silver medal at the 2014 IAAF World Half Marathon Championships, finishing in 67:44. Two years later, she earned the bronze medal at the 2016 IAAF World Half Marathon Championships. Her top ten times in the half marathon average 68:40.7, with a personal best of 66:29 recorded with a win at the 2016 Houston Half Marathon. Ngugi has won the B.A.A. Half Marathon twice (2015, 2016), the 2018 B.A.A. 10K twice (2015, 2018) and the B.A.A. 5K once (2015). She's a three-time winner of the Utica Boilermaker 15K, with a best of 49:18 and a three-time winner of the World's Best 10K, with a best of 31:41.

PERSONAL NOTES:

As a junior, Ngugi earned the bronze medal in the 5,000m at the 2006 World Junior Championships and won the 5,000m at the 2007 African Junior Athletics Championships. Ngugi is the widow of 2008 Olympic Marathon champion Samuel Wanjiru and she has a daughter from that marriage named Ann. When not training Ngugi enjoys watching Chelsea, her favorite football team.

BELAYNESH OIJIRA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Bib #F8 OIJIRA

PRONUNCIATION: Bell-ay-nesh Ol-jir-ah

BIRTHDATE: 26 June 1990

PERSONAL BEST: 2:21:53 (Frankfurt, 2018)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------|-----|---------|
| 21Apr14 | Boston Marathon | 9th | 2:24:21 |
|---------|-----------------|-----|---------|

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 28Oct18 | Mainova Frankfurt Marathon | 4th | 2:21:53 |
| 06May18 | Volkswagen Prague Marathon | 2nd | 2:25:13 |
| 14Jan18 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 2nd | 2:24:57 |
| 25Jan13 | Standard Chartered Dubai Marathon | 5th | 2:25:01 |

CAREER NOTES:

Belaynesh Oljira has represented Ethiopia at the Olympics and World Championships with success. At the 2012 London Olympic Games 10,000m, Oljira finished fifth in 20:45.56. At the 2013 IAAF Moscow World Championships 10,000m, she won the bronze medal and at the 2013 IAAF World Cross Country Championships she won the bronze medal. In 2014 Oljira won the bronze medal at the African Athletics Championships 10,000m. In 2013 and 2014 she ran two marathons, including Boston, with solid results but returned to cross country, track and shorter distances from 2014-2017. She won the 2014 and 2015 Bogota 10K, the 2014 Portsmouth Half Marathon, and the 2015 World's Best 10K. Oljira also competed in the Beijing World Championships 10,000m, finishing ninth. Last year she returned to the marathon, placing second in Houston, second in Prague and fourth in Frankfurt with a personal best 2:21:53.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Oljira made her Boston debut in 2014 and finished ninth in 2:24:21. She was born in western Ethiopia and now trains in Addis Ababa. Her coach is Gemedu Dedefo. Oljira says her favorite places to travel are Paris and Hamburg and her favorite meal is rice and chicken.

CAROLINE ROTICH

Nyahururu, Kenya

Bib #F11 ROTICH

PRONUNCIATION: CAR-oh-line ROW-tish

BIRTHDATE: 13 May 1984

PERSONAL BEST: 2:23:22 (Chicago, 2012)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|------|---------|
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 17Apr17 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 18Apr16 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 01Nov15 | TCS New York City Marathon | 10th | 2:33:19 |
| 20Apr15 | Boston Marathon | 1st | 2:24:55 |
| 23Feb14 | Tokyo Marathon | 4th | 2:24:35 |
| 07Oct12 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 4th | 2:23:22 |
| 16Apr12 | Boston Marathon | DNF | |
| 06Nov11 | ING New York City Marathon | 7th | 2:27:06 |
| 27Aug11 | Daegu IAAF World Championships Marathon | 28th | 2:37:07 |
| 18Apr11 | Boston Marathon | 4th | 2:24:26 |
| 07Nov10 | ING New York City Marathon | 7th | 2:29:46 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|------|---------|
| 15Oct17 | Amsterdam Marathon | 5th | 2:26:26 |
| 16Nov14 | Yokohama Women's Marathon | 4th | 2:27:32 |
| 12May13 | Prague Marathon | 1st | 2:27:00 |
| 06Dec09 | Rock 'n' Roll Las Vegas Marathon | 1st | 2:29:47 |
| 29Oct06 | Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon | 11th | 2:49:47 |

CAREER NOTES:

Caroline Rotich, the 2015 Boston Marathon champion, returns to Boston for another attempt at the podium. At the 2015 race, three women pulled away from the lead pack in the final mile: Caroline Rotich, Mare Dibaba and Buzunesh Deba. As Deba faded rounding the historic right on Hereford and left on Boylston, Rotich and Dibaba raced side-by-side down the stretch. Rotich made a final surge and prevailed over Dibaba by four seconds. Rotich says, "My favorite memory is sprinting for victory on Boylston Street. That final 400 meters is the best 400 meters of any marathon in the world. Winning Boston validated years of hard training and racing. That moment was years in the making and remains the most pivotal moment of my career." Rotich is past winner of the Las Vegas and Prague Marathons. She holds a personal best half marathon of 68:52, earned with a win at the 2011 New York City Half Marathon. Rotich returns to Boston to find redemption after three years of not finishing.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Although she was born in Nyahururu, Kenya, Rotich attended high school in Sendai, Japan. She earned a scholarship to Sendai Ikuei Gakuen, which is the same school that the late World Marathon Majors champion Sammy Wanjiru attended. She is fluent in English, Japanese and Kiswahili. "Running has allowed me to support many family members back home in Kenya," says Rotich. "I have been able to build a house for my family, create a working farm and provide them with security to live a better life." Rotich spends time living in the United States and regularly trains with her coach, Ryan Bolton, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She loves eating chocolate and her favorite food is chapati.

BETSY SAINA

Iten, Kenya

Bib #F10 SAINA

PRONUNCIATION: Bet-see Say-nah

BIRTHDATE: 30 June 1988

PERSONAL BEST: 2:22:56 (Paris, 2018)



ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | |
|---------|----------------------------|-----|
| 05Nov17 | TCS New York City Marathon | DNF |
| 26Feb17 | Tokyo Marathon | DNF |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 08Apr18 | Schneider Elect Paris Marathon | 1st | 2:22:56 |
|---------|--------------------------------|-----|---------|

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|----------|
| 12Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games 10,000m | 5th | 30:07.78 |
| 20Mar16 | Portland IAAF World Indoor Championships 3,000m | 7th | 9:01.86 |
| 24Aug15 | Beijing IAAF World Championships 10,000m | 8th | 31:51.35 |
| 05Jun13 | NCAA Championships 10,000m | 1st | 33:08.85 |
| 30Jun12 | African Athletics Championships 10,000m | 3rd | 32:48.36 |

CAREER NOTES:

Saina had a tough time transitioning from the track to the marathon in 2017, as she did not finish in Tokyo or New York City. After recovering from some lingering injuries, she proved she can go the distance with a win at the Paris Marathon in 2:22:56. Career highlights include placing fifth at the 2016 Olympic Games 10,000m, eighth at the 2015 IAAF World Championships 10,000m, first at the 2013 NCAA Championships 10,000m, and earning the bronze medal at the 2012 African Championships 10,000m. At the 2016 IAAF World Indoor Championships, she finished seventh in the 3,000m. She was also the 2012 NCAA indoor champion in the 5,000m, and the 2012 NCAA Cross Country champion.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Saina earned an agriculture and life sciences degree with a focus on nursing from Iowa State University. At the school she was a highly decorated track and field athlete and was an 11-time All American. Formerly with the Bowerman Track Club, Saina recently returned to Kenya to train for the marathon for its "great weather, great training and altitude." She enjoys engaging in social media, relaxing with friends and visiting with her family. She is coached by Renato Canova.

SARAH SELLERS

Tucson, Arizona, USA



Bib #F23 SELLERS

PRONUNCIATION: Sa-rah Sell-ers

BIRTHDATE: 10 July 1991

PERSONAL BEST: 2:36:37 (New York City, 2018)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|------|---------|
| 04Nov18 | TCS New York City Marathon | 18th | 2:36:37 |
| 16Apr18 | Boston Marathon | 2nd | 2:44:04 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| 16Sep17 | Huntsville Marathon | 1st | 2:44:27 |
|---------|---------------------|-----|---------|

CAREER NOTES:

"The most pivotal moment in my running career was the moment a race official informed me that I had just finished second in the Boston Marathon," says Sellers. "My initial reaction to this information was denial. Placing second wasn't a remote possibility in my world. When I began to come to grips with what had just happened, I felt a mixture of gratitude, shock, and even a little fear. Gratitude to have had my second marathon end so well. Shock that my place was beyond the realm of what I thought was possible. And a bit of fear that this experience was bigger than me and would bring more attention than I had ever asked for." Sellers was the surprise runner-up to Desiree Linden at the 2018 Boston Marathon. When many of the Olympians and World Champions suffered in the freezing rain and driving wind, Sellers prevailed and recorded a then personal best time over the distance. After Boston she ran in New York and finished 18th in an eight-minute improvement to her marathon best. She made her debut with a win at the Huntsville Marathon.

PERSONAL NOTES:

"The 2018 Boston Marathon was a life changing experience for me," says Sellers. "I can't possibly sum up that experience in a couple sentences, but it completely changed the trajectory of my running career. Coming back to run Boston this year as one of John Hancock's elite athletes is an incredible honor and an opportunity I couldn't have dreamed of last year. The Boston Marathon has always been the most iconic marathon in my mind. It's the pinnacle marathon for both amateurs and elites. Unexpectedly placing second last year catapulted my running career to a new level and solidified Boston as the marathon where anything is possible. Also, I hope to see what the course looks like this year since last year was a bit of a blur!" Sellers attended Weber State University in Utah where she won nine Big Sky Championships and earned 15 Big Sky All-Conference honors. Sellers is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist at Banner University Medical Center. Her husband, Blake Sellers, is an orthopedic surgery resident. She enjoys volunteering with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The couple has two border collies, a salt water fish tank, a pair of owl finches, and a boa constrictor. Seller's coach is Paul Pilkington, who also coaches track and cross country at Weber State University.

EVA VRABCOVÁ
Trutnov, Czech Republic



Bib #F15 VRABCOVÁ

PRONUNCIATION: Ee-vah Rab-co-vah

BIRTHDATE: 06 February 1986

PERSONAL BEST: 2:26:31 (Berlin, 2018) NR

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|--|------|---------|
| 05Nov17 | TCS New York City Marathon | 7th | 2:29:41 |
| 06Aug17 | London IAAF World Championships Marathon | 14th | 2:29:56 |
| 14Aug16 | Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games Marathon | 26th | 2:33:51 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|---|-----|------------|
| 12Aug18 | European Athletics Championships Marathon | 3rd | 2:26:31 NR |
| 08May16 | Volkswagen Prague Marathon | 6th | 2:30:10 |

CAREER NOTES:

Eva Vrabcová set a national marathon record with her bronze medal performance at the 2018 European Athletics Championships Marathon held in Berlin. The time was a three-minute improvement from her 2017 TCS New York City seventh place finish. Vrabcová has represented the Czech Republic in European and global events. In 2016 she placed 15th at the European Cross Country Championships, 26th at the 2016 Olympic Games Marathon and eighth at the European Half Marathon Championships. In 2017 Vrabcová placed 14th at the IAAF World Championships Marathon, and in 2018 along with her bronze medal at the European Athletics Championships Marathon, she was 44th at the IAAF World Half Marathon Championships. She also holds the national record of 71:01 in the half marathon, set at the 2018 Prague Half Marathon.

PERSONAL NOTES:

Vrabcová is a three-time winter Olympian, competing in cross country skiing at the 2006 and 2010 Olympic Games and in cross country skiing (5th, 30K) and skiathlon (11th) at the 2014 Olympic Games. She is married to husband, Martin, and the couple has a Samoyed dog named Bella. Vrabcová likes to cook, bake, walk with her dog, read books, ride horses and cross country ski. Her favorite place to travel is the Canary Islands, Spain.

BECKY WADE
Boulder, Colorado, USA



Bib #F20 WADE

PRONUNCIATION: Beck-key Wade

BIRTHDATE: 09 February 1989

PERSONAL BEST: 2:30:41 (Sacramento, 2013)

ABBOTT WORLD MARATHON MAJORS:

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|------|---------|
| 22Apr18 | Virgin Money London Marathon | 11th | 2:35:01 |
| 08Oct17 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon | 10th | 2:35:46 |

ADDITIONAL MARATHONS:

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| 15Jan17 | Chevron Houston Marathon | 3rd | 2:35:57 |
| 15Mar15 | Santa Monica Marathon | 8th | 2:37:30 |
| 08Dec13 | California International Marathon | 1st | 2:30:41 |

CAREER NOTES:

Becky Wade won her marathon debut at the California International Marathon in 2:30:41, a time that remains her personal best. At the 2017 Houston Marathon she finished third, and top American. At the 2017 Bank of America Chicago Marathon, she finished tenth. In 2018 she ran the Virgin Money London Marathon, placing 11th, and represented the United States at the IAAF World Half Marathon Championships. Wade was a four-time All-American at Rice University, focusing on the steeplechase and 10,000m. As a junior runner she won the 2008 U.S. Junior National Championship in the steeplechase.

PERSONAL NOTES:

At Rice University, Wade majored in history, psychology and sociology. She spent her first year out of college traveling the world on a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship program to study running in different cultures. In 2016 she published *Run the World: My 3,500-Mile Journey Through Running Cultures Around the Globe*, a book documenting her trip, which included traveling to more than 20 countries, meeting 72 host families and running more than 3,500 miles — while wearing out 11 pairs of running shoes. Wade's interests include piano, coffee, live music, crafting and cooking.