

Abbott World Marathon Majors

About the Abbott World Marathon Majors	238
How it works	239
Series XII Leaderboard.....	241
Past series champions	224
Abbott World Marathon Majors events.....	243

About the Abbott World Marathon Majors

For runners across the globe, competing in an Abbott World Marathon Majors (AbbottWMM) race is a significant accomplishment. Six of the largest and most renowned road races in the world—the Tokyo, Boston, Virgin Money London, BMW BERLIN, Bank of America Chicago, and TCS New York City marathons—make up the AbbottWMM. The organization delivers several unique benefits to runners:

- Unparalleled experiences: Operational excellence at each race ensures a premium race-day journey for runners
- A professional series: The best professional athletes in the world competing for points with the top three in the elite and wheelchair categories taking a share of the \$820,000 (USD) every year
- Promotion of marathon running: AbbottWMM organizers aggressively champion anti-doping protocols and make many other efforts to move the sport forward

History

Organizers of the Boston, London, Berlin, Chicago, and New York City marathons joined together in 2006 to create Abbott World Marathon Majors (AbbottWMM) with a mission of providing global leadership in elite and mass participation marathons. The Tokyo Marathon entered the collective in 2013. These industry-leading organizations are now united in their effort to advance the sport, raise awareness of marathons' elite athletes, and increase the level of interest in elite racing among running enthusiasts.

In October 2014, Abbott, a global healthcare company, and the World Marathon Majors announced a new partnership. Abbott became the race series' first-ever title sponsor, effective at the 2015 Tokyo Marathon. Tim Hadzima was appointed as the Executive Director of the Abbott World Marathon Majors in December 2014.

A new series format—a one-year cycle of qualifying races—was announced in February 2015, beginning at the 2015 Tokyo Marathon, replacing the previous two-year series format. In April 2015, it was also announced that the series would expand to include wheelchair athletes, starting at the 2016 Boston Marathon.

In 2017, AbbottWMM announced an agreement with Dalian Wanda Group Co., Ltd to develop a ten-year strategic partnership aimed at expanding the Series in new regions such as Asia (outside Japan) and Africa. The organization is now on an ongoing process identifying candidate races that will be required to meet AbbottWMM's stringent criteria before selection for the Series.

Abbott World Marathon Majors Wanda Age Group World Rankings

The Abbott World Marathon Majors (AbbottWMM) Wanda Age Group World Rankings officially launched on September 16, 2018 at 45th BMW BERLIN-MARATHON, marking the start of the one-year qualification period for the inaugural AbbottWMM Wanda Age Group World Championships which will be held as part of the Virgin Money London Marathon in 2020.

Participants in an AbbottWMM Wanda Age Group World Ranking qualifying race will earn points according to their age, time and gender, aligned with the following age groups for men and women: 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80+.

The second year of the Age Group World Rankings began at the Bank of America Chicago Marathon and will wrap at the same event in 2020.

Six Star Finishers

The Six Star system was launched at the 2016 Tokyo Marathon with 6,149 runners having completed the milestone (as of end of 2019 Spring races) and received the much sought-after medal.

How it works

Series format

The champions of the Abbott World Marathon Majors (AbbottWMM) are determined through a one-year cycle of Qualifying Races featuring unprecedented anti-doping protocols. The Abbott World Marathon Majors Series cycles consists of the following Qualifying Races: Tokyo Marathon, Boston Marathon, Virgin Money London Marathon, BMW BERLIN MARATHON, Bank of America Chicago Marathon, TCS New York City Marathon, Olympic/Paralympic Marathon and IAAF/World Para Athletics Championships Marathon.

Point System: The champions of the AbbottWMM Series are the male and female athletes who score the greatest number of points from Qualifying Races during the one-year scoring period. During each scoring period, points from a maximum of two Qualifying Races will be scored. An athlete must start in two Qualifying Races over the Series cycle to be eligible for the championship. If an athlete earns points in more than two events, the athlete's highest two finishes will be scored.

Points are allocated following each race as follows:

1st place	2nd place	3rd place	4th place	5th place
25 points	16 points	9 points	4 points	1 point

Doping Violations: Under AbbottWMM rules, no athlete who has been found guilty of any anti-doping rules enforced by the IAAF, World Anti-Doping Association (WADA), National Federations, or any of the individual AbbottWMM races is eligible to win the AbbottWMM championship title. Athletes must comply with the AbbottWMM Code of Conduct.

Prize Purse: The AbbottWMM prize structure was expanded in 2017 to reward the top three men's and women's finishers in both the open and wheelchair series.

	Men	Women	Wheelchair Men	Wheelchair Women	Total
1st	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$600,000
2nd	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$150,000
3rd	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$70,000
Total	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$820,000

Series: Each series starts and ends at the same Qualifying race over a one-year period.

Series XIII	2019 Bank of America Chicago Marathon to 2020 Bank of America Chicago Marathon
Series XIV	2020 TCS New York City Marathon to 2021 TCS New York City Marathon

Abbott World Marathon Majors races – Series XIII

Race	Date
IAAF World Championships (men's race)*	Saturday, October 5, 2019
Bank of America Chicago Marathon	Sunday, October 13, 2019
TCS New York City Marathon	Sunday, November 3, 2019
Tokyo Marathon	Sunday, March 1, 2020
Boston Marathon	Monday, April 20, 2020
Virgin Money London Marathon	Sunday, April 26, 2019
Olympic Games (women's race)	Sunday, August 2, 2020
Olympic Games (men's race)	Sunday, August 9, 2020
Paralympic Games (women's race)	Sunday, September 6, 2020
Paralympic Games (men's race)	Sunday, September 6, 2020
BMW BERLIN-MARATHON	Sunday, September 27, 2020

* The men's marathon at the IAAF World Championships will take place following the 2019 BMW BERLIN-MARATHON and will count towards the Abbott World Marathon Majors Series XIII.

Abbott World Marathon Majors Series XIII leaderboards*

*As of September 1, 2019

Men's runners

1. Eliud Kipchoge (KEN).....	50
2. Lelisa Desisa (ETH)	41
3. Mosinet Geremew (ETH).....	32
4. Mo Farah (GBR).....	26
5. Birhanu Legese (ETH).....	25
5. Lawrence Cherono (KEN).....	25
7. Tola Shura Kitata (ETH).....	20
8. Amos Kipruto (KEN)	16
8. Bedan Karoki (KEN)	16
10. Kenneth Kipkemai (KEN).....	13

Women's runners

1. Brigid Kosgei (KEN).....	50
2. Ruti Aga (ETH).....	41
3. Vivian Cheruiyot (KEN).....	32
4. Gladys Cherono (KEN).....	29
5. Mary Keitany (KEN)	26
6. Roza Dereje (ETH).....	25
6. Worknesh Degefa (ETH).....	25
8. Edna Kiplagat (KEN).....	20
9. Shure Demise (ETH)	18
10. Helen Tola (ETH)	16

Men's wheelchair racers

1. Daniel Romanchuk (USA).....	124
2. Marcel Hug (SUI).....	81
3. Brent Lakatos (CAN).....	33
4. David Weir (GBR).....	19
5. Masazumi Soejima (JPN).....	16

Women's wheelchair racers

1. Manuela Schar (SUI).....	124
2. Tatyana McFadden (USA)	72
3. Madison de Rozario (AUS)	42
4. Susannah Scaroni (USA).....	35
5. Sandra Graf (SUI).....	13

Past series champions

Series I (2006–07)

Men: Robert K. Cheruiyot, Kenya Women: Gete Wami, Ethiopia

Series II (2007–08)

Men: Martin Lel, Kenya Women: Irina Mikitenko, Germany

Series III (2008–09)

Men: Samuel Wanjiru, Kenya Women: Irina Mikitenko, Germany

Series IV (2009–10)

Men: Samuel Wanjiru, Kenya Women: Irina Mikitenko, Germany*

Series V (2010–11)

Men: Emmanuel Mutai, Kenya Women: Edna Kiplagat, Kenya*

Series VI (2011–12)

Men: Geoffrey Mutai, Kenya Women: Mary Keitany, Kenya

Series VII (2012–13)

Men: Tsegaye Kebede, Ethiopia Women: Priscah Jeptoo, Kenya

Series VIII (2013–14)

Men: Wilson Kipsang, Kenya Women: Edna Kiplagat, Kenya**

Series IX (2015-16)

Men: Eliud Kipchoge, Kenya Women: Mary Keitany, Kenya

Series X (2016-17)

Men: Eliud Kipchoge, Kenya..... Women: Edna Kiplagat, Kenya***

Wheelchair Series X (2016-17)

Men: Marcel Hug, Switzerland..... Women: Tatyana McFadden, USA

Series XI (2017-18)

Men: Eliud Kipchoge, Kenya..... Women: Mary Keitany, Kenya

Wheelchair Series XI (2017-18)

Men: Marcel Hug, Switzerland..... Women: Manuela Schär, Switzerland

* Liliya Shobukhova (RUS) was the original winner of Series IV and V but she was banned from competition for a doping violation in April 2014 and all her results from Oct. 9, 2009 have been annulled.

** Rita Jeptoo (KEN) won four races in the 2013/14 series but gave positive A and B samples in an out-of-competition test in September 2014. Her standings and the final results of the 2013/14 Series have been determined at the completion of the due legal process and the outcome of an appeal. As a result, the Series VIII title has been awarded to Edna Kiplagat.

*** Edna Kiplagat was crowned women's Series X champion following the doping investigation and legal process against Jemima Sumgong (KEN), who won two races but gave a positive sample in an out-of-competition test in February 2017.

About the Tokyo Marathon

Organized by the Tokyo Marathon Foundation, the inaugural Tokyo Marathon was held on February 18, 2007. Through its theme, "The Day We Unite," the Tokyo Marathon has gathered together runners, volunteers and spectators for 13 years. In 2011, the Tokyo Marathon implemented its own charity program, "Run with Heart", through which donors can contribute to various charitable activities, and the capacity increased to 5,000 from 3,000 in 2019.

Since the 10th anniversary event, the Tokyo Marathon 2016, the official race logo has been renewed to represent the portrayed images of the runners, volunteers and cheering crowds along the course, which signifies the race theme "The Day We Unite." In addition, Tokyo Marathon 2017 began a new course that finishes in front of the Tokyo station area, and in 2018 saw a new Japanese record set for the first time in 16 years. Tokyo Marathon 2020, scheduled to be held on March 1, 2020, will also serve as the Japanese Olympic Trials for Olympic Games 2020, and it is gaining more attention from home and abroad.

Inaugural running

2007

Largest field (total finishers)

35,460 – 2019

Recent participation

Year	Finishers	Male	Female
2007	25,102	19,505	5,597
2008	26,665	20,738	5,927
2009	29,128	22,807	6,321
2010	30,182	23,823	6,359
2011	32,415	24,678	7,737
2012	34,678	27,355	7,323
2013	34,819	27,819	7,000
2014	34,126	27,203	6,923
2015	34,049	26,827	7,222
2016	34,697	27,121	7,576
2017	33,974	26,278	7,696
2018	34,542	26,637	7,905
2019	35,460	27,253	8,207

Estimated number of spectators

1.3 million

Prize purse

¥49,780,000 (approx. \$470,000) in total. Additional record bonuses also available.

*¥11,000,000 (approx. \$104,000) apiece for the male and female champions, and ¥2,000,000 (approx. \$19,000) for male and female wheelchair champions.

Official charities

Tokyo Marathon 2019 Charity "Run with Heart" (Sports Legacy Program (2 programs) by Tokyo Marathon Foundation, and 27 other recipient programs).

Event records

Open men: Wilson Kipsang, KEN, 2:03:58 (2017)
Open women: Sarah Chepchirchir, KEN, 2:19:47 (2017)
Wheelchair men: Kurt Fearnley, AUS, 1:26:00 (2016)
Wheelchair women: Wakako Tsuchida, JPN, 1:41:04 (2016)

About the Virgin Money London Marathon

In 1979, after running the New York City Marathon with John Disley, the late Chris Brasher questioned whether London could stage such a festival: "We have the course . . . but do we have the heart and hospitality to welcome the world?" Later that year, Brasher traveled to America, where the running boom of the late 1970's had started. He witnessed the Boston Marathon and revisited the New York City race. He studied both races' organizations and finances. On his return, Brasher and Disley secured a three-year contract with Gillette for £75,000, established the organization's charitable status, and set down six main aims for the event. The first London Marathon was held on March 29, 1981. More than 20,000 people wanted to run; 7,747 were accepted. There were 6,255 finishers, led home by American Dick Beardsley and Norwegian Inge Simonsen, who famously crossed the finish line hand in hand. Joyce Smith broke the British record to win the women's race. The 1982 race received more than 90,000 applicants from around the world. The entry was limited to 18,059.

Since then, the London Marathon has grown to more than 42,500 starters and finishers, and elite runners compete for \$313,000 in prize money. Both the men's and women's pro runner world records have been set in the race, including the current women's mark of 2:15:25, set by Paula Radcliffe of Great Britain in 2003. The race is viewed in more than 196 countries worldwide and watched by between four and five million viewers in the UK via the BBC.

Inaugural running

1981

Largest field (total finishers)

42,549 - 2019

Recent participation

Year	Finishers	Male	Female
2005	35,105	24,641	10,464
2006	33,222	24,825	10,875
2007	34,497	23,576	10,921
2008	34,497	23,576	10,921
2009	35,268	24,231	11,037
2010	36,550	24,423	12,127
2011	34,838	22,525	12,313
2012	36,748	23,684	13,064
2013	34,280	22,031	12,249
2014	35,800	22,608	13,272
2015	37,671	23,281	14,390
2016	39,140	24,020	15,120
2017	39,487	23,978	15,509
2018	40,272	23,771	16,501
2019	42,549	24,804	17,788

Estimated number of spectators

795,000

Total prize purse

\$313,000 (\$55,000 apiece for the male and female champions, plus time and record bonuses)

Official charity

Mencap (2020)

Event records

Open men: Eliud Kipchoge, KEN, 2:02:37 (2019)

Open women: Mary Keitany, KEN, 2:17:01(2017) (women only) Paula Radcliffe, GBR, 2:15:25 (2003) (mixed)

Wheelchair men: Kurt Fearnley, AUS, 1:28:57 (2009)

Wheelchair women: Manuela Schär, SUI, 1:39:57 (2017)

About the Boston Marathon

Inspired by their experience at the 1896 Olympic Games, several members of the Boston Athletic Association founded their own marathon in 1897. The race has been run every year since (though the 1918 edition featured a military relay rather than an individual race) and is now the world's oldest annual marathon. Both the start and finish lines have been moved over the years, but much of the original course remains exactly as it was originally designed.

Since 1924, the race has begun in the town of Hopkinton, and from there the point-to-point course descends through Ashland, Framingham, Natick and Wellesley. Upon entering Newton, the course gradually rises to the famous Heartbreak Hill. As runners reach the top, they can see downtown Boston for the first time, four miles in the distance. After running through Brookline, the course enters Boston where it finishes on historic Boylston Street. Runners must qualify for entry by meeting time standards corresponding to gender and age, which is another aspect—besides its course and longevity—unique to the Boston Marathon.

Inaugural running

1897

Largest field (total finishers)

35,868 – 1996

Recent participation

Year	Finishers	Male	Female
2006	19,682	12,061	7,621
2007	20,339	12,365	7,974
2008	21,948	13,019	8,929
2009	22,842	13,545	9,297
2010	22,720	13,161	9,559
2011	23,913	13,839	10,074
2012	21,616	12,621	8,995
2013	17,600*	10,649	6,951
2014	31,923	17,581	14,342
2015	26,597	14,580	12,017
2016	26,629	14,463	12,166
2017	26,581	14,570	12,011
2018	25,907	14,268	11,639
2019	26,762	14,760	12,002

*Smaller total was due to diversion of runners from the finish area following terrorist attacks.

Estimated number of spectators

500,000

Prize purse

\$887,500 (\$150,000 apiece for the male and female champions, and \$25,000 for male and female wheelchair champions). Additional record bonuses and Para Athlete prize money is also available.

Official charities

43

Event records

Open men: Geoffrey Mutai, KEN, (2:03:02) 2011
Open women: Buzunesh Deba, ETH, 2:19:59 (2014)
Wheelchair men: Marcel Hug, SUI, 1:18:04 (2017)
Wheelchair women: Manuela Schär, SUI, 1:28:17 (2017)

About the BMW BERLIN MARATHON

A group of runners from one of Germany's most prestigious athletics clubs, SC Charlottenburg, organised the first BERLIN-MARATHON in 1974. It was not until 1981 that the race moved from the Grunewald (a big forest) into the city center of West Berlin. Supported by the three western allied forces (Britain, France and USA) it quickly developed into Germany's biggest and best quality marathon. A new era started after the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989. On 30 September 1990, three days before reunification, the course of the BERLIN-MARATHON led through Brandenburg Gate and both parts of Berlin for the first time. In 2001 Naoko Takahashi became the first woman to break the 2:20 barrier in Berlin. The flat and fast loop course was then changed significantly for the 2003 race. Paul Tergat, who ran a world record of 2:04:55 (first sub 2:05 time ever), became the first man to cross the new finish line, passing through Brandenburg Gate shortly before – the symbol for reunification.

The BMW BERLIN-MARATHON developed into one of the world's best quality road races. In 2008 Haile Gebrselassie (Ethiopia) improved the world record for a second time, clocking 2:03:59. Patrick Makau (Kenya) broke Gebrselassie's world record in Berlin in 2011, improving the time to 2:03:38. Three more world records by Kenyans followed: Wilson Kipsang clocked 2:03:23 in 2013, Dennis Kimetto became the first runner to achieve a sub 2:03 time in 2014 (2:02:57) and then Eliud Kipchoge smashed this mark in 2018. Running 2:01:39 he crowned the 45th edition of the BMW BERLIN-MARATHON. He improved the former mark by 1:18 minutes, the biggest advance in the men's marathon world record for over 50 years. A staggering total of eleven world records were broken in the BMW BERLIN-MARATHON, which is unique.

Inaugural running

1974

Largest field (total finishers)

40,650 – 2018

Recent participation

Year	Finishers	Male	Female
2005	30,382	24,511	5,871
2006	30,190	24,103	6,087
2007	32,530	26,032	6,498
2008	35,746	28,340	7,406
2009	35,034	27,962	7,072
2010	34,056	26,626	7,430
2011	32,991	25,577	7,414
2012	34,350	26,452	7,898
2013	36,549	27,557	8,992
2014	28,946	22,178	6,768
2015	36,768	27,858	8,910
2016	35,999	26,772	9,227
2017	39,235	28,163	11,072
2018	40,650	28,378	12,273

Estimated number of spectators

1.5 million

Prize purse

around \$275,000 (237,000 Euros), of which the winners receive around \$45,000 (40,000 Euro) each

Wheelchair prize purse

around \$55,000 (48,000 Euro), of which the winners receive around \$11,500 (10,000 Euro)

Event records

Open men: Eliud Kipchoge, KEN, 2:01:39 WR (2018)

Open women: Gladys Cherono KEN, 2:18:11 (2018)

Wheelchair men: Heinz Frei, SUI, 1:21:39 (1997)

Wheelchair women: Manuela Schär, SUI, 1:36:53, (2018)

About the Bank of America Chicago Marathon

In 1976, a small band of running enthusiasts met at the Metropolitan YMCA on LaSalle Street to discuss and plan a marathon in Chicago. This founding group realized their vision on September 25, 1977, when they hosted 4,200 local participants in the first Chicago Marathon. The Bank of America Chicago Marathon has since expanded to 45,000 registered runners and an estimated 1.7 million on-course spectators. The flat and fast course begins and ends in historic Grant Park, sweeping through 29 diverse and colorful neighborhoods including Lakeview, Greektown, Little Italy, Pilsen, Chinatown, and Bronzeville. The loop course and abundance of public transportation options enables friends and family to cheer their runners on at many locations along the course. The Bank of America Chicago Marathon has a long history of hosting the world's fastest runners and has been the site of two men's world records (Steve Jones, 2:08:05, 1984; and Khalid Khannouchi, 2:05:42, 1999) and two women's world records (Catherine Ndereba, 2:18:47, 2001; and Paula Radcliffe, 2:17:18, 2002).

Inaugural Running

1977

Largest field (total finishers)

44,610 – 2018

Recent participation

Year	Finishers	Male	Female
2005	32,868	18,602	14,266
2006	33,633	18,910	14,723
2007	25,534	15,348	10,186
2008	31,343	17,678	13,665
2009	33,703	19,077	14,626
2010	36,088	19,946	16,142
2011	35,775	20,284	15,471
2012	37,475	20,681	16,794
2013	39,122	21,595	17,527
2014	40,659	22,242	18,417
2015	37,459	20,207	17,252
2016	39,313	21,638	17,675
2017	44,341	22,842	21,499
2018	44,610	23,923	20,687

Estimated number of spectators

1.7 million

Prize purse

\$841,500 (\$100,000 apiece for the male and female champions, plus time and record bonuses)

Official charities

170

Event records

Open men: Dennis Kimetto, KEN, 2:03:45 (2013)

Open Women: Paula Radcliffe, GBR, 2:17:18 (2002)
 Wheelchair men: Heinz Frei, SUI, 1:26:56 (2010)
 Wheelchair women: Tatyana McFadden, USA, 1:39:15 (2017)

About the TCS New York City Marathon

NYRR's premier event, the TCS New York City Marathon is the largest marathon in the world, attracting elite athletes and recreational runners alike for the challenge and thrill of a lifetime. The race has grown tremendously since it began in 1970 with just 127 runners racing four laps of Central Park. Now, more than 50,000 participants from all over the globe flock to New York City every November for an adrenaline-filled road tour of all five boroughs, starting on Staten Island at the foot of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge and ending in Central Park. Some run for prize money or bragging rights, others for charity or their personal best. All are cheered on by more than one million live spectators, and the race has a broadcast reach of more than 650 million in recent years.

Inaugural running

1970

Largest field (total finishers)

52,813 – 2018

Recent participation

Year	Finishers	Male	Female
2005	36,856	24,794	12,062
2006	37,869	25,548	12,321
2007	38,607	26,072	12,535
2008	38,096	25,216	12,880
2009	43,660	28,485	15,369
2010	45,103	28,948	16,155
2011	47,340	30,068	17,272
2013	50,266	36,699	19,567
2014	50,530	30,108	20,422
2015	49,595	28,899	20,696
2016	51,388	29,931	21,457
2017	50,773	29,682	21,091
2018	52,813	30,659	22,154

Estimated number of spectators

1 million+

Prize purse

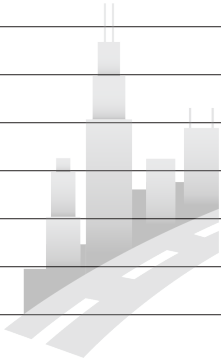
\$855,000

Official charities

400+

Event records

Open men: 2:05:06 – Geoffrey Mutai, KEN, 2011
 Open women: 2:22:31 – Margaret Okayo, KEN, 2003
 Wheelchair men: 1:29:22 – Kurt Fearnley, AUS, 2006
 Wheelchair women: 1:43:04 – Tatyana McFadden, USA, 2015



BANK OF AMERICA



Chicago Marathon®