



IAU 100km World Championships

21st November 2014

Doha, Qatar

The International Association of Ultrarunners (IAU) is pleased to bring the IAU 100km World Championships to Doha, Qatar.

This is the second time Qatar is hosting a major IAU competition after the 50km World Trophy Final last month. Over two hundred athletes from thirty nine countries will be toeing the line on 21st November to go for the podium.

History of the IAU

The International Association of Ultrarunners came into existence in 1984. Today there are more than a thousand ultra races around the world with more than a hundred thousand ultra runners. It is no more an unrealistic event.

The IAAF granted its patronage to the IAU in 1988 and the 100km race became a standard distance recognized by the Federation. Today IAU organizes 4 major events: 100 km World Championship, 24 Hour World Championship, The Trail World Championship and the 50 km World Trophy Final. IAU is also a strong supporter of the Commonwealth Championships. This is in addition to the IAU labels that are attached to several races around the world.

With more than 75 federations in its current membership and thousand of elite athletes having participated in its events over the years, IAU has respectfully upheld its mandate of developing the sport of ultrarunning.

While it continues to serve the ultrarunning community, the IAU is looking forward to the next 30 years as it envisions reaching its 50th Anniversary.

27th IAU 100km World Championships (Doha, Qatar)

27th IAU 100km World Championships takes place in Doha, Qatar. The twenty seventh version of these championships will be run on Aspire grounds in the sports city part of Doha. .

This is the first time, since the inception of IAU, that the ultrarunning association is bringing its major competition to the Middle East. The ultra world championships will see their inaugural race in the region.

The previous 100km world championships took place in Seregno, Italy (2012) followed by the European 100km Championships last year in Belves, France.

The field this year has both defending champions at the start line. The top 3 men and women are within minutes of each other's best times established over the last four years. It will be an exciting field with thirty nine countries (39) and over two hundred (200) athletes with the former being a new record for the 100km world championships.

In the men's field, Giorgio Calcaterra (ITA) is having an outstanding season and is back to defend his title having run a best of 6:23:20 since 2010. Vasily Larkin (RUS) is the top runner in the field and a rising Russian star leading the field with 6:18:26. Steven Way (GBR) is another runner making waves in the ultrarunning world with a best of 6:19:20. Jonas Buud (SWE), multiple podium finishes at the world championships and Hideo Nojo (JPN) complete top 5 the Men's field.

In the women's field, Amy Sproston (US) world champion from Seregno is back to finish top of the podium again with a best of 7:34:08. Monica Carlin (ITA) is a multiple podium finisher at the 100km world championships and is a steady runner with 7:35:05 in the last four years. Irina Antrapova (RUS) fresh from her run at the 50km Trophy Final on the same course will also try to replicate her success in Seregno and has run 7:36:01. Joasia Zakrzewski (GBR) current silver medalist from the 50km World Trophy Final and Meghan Arbogast (USA) make up the top 5.

The race starts at 6:30pm (Doha Time) on Friday and will take the athletes through a 5km fairly flat loop. The course has been measured by an A-measurer. In addition to winning the world championships, athletes and the top team will be vying for a total \$11,200 in prize money which has been posted by the Aspire Zone Foundation.

Top Men:

- 1) Vasily Larkin RUS 6:18:26
- 2) Steven Way GBR 6:19:20
- 3) Giorgio Calcaterra ITA 6:23:20
- 4) Jonas Buud SWE 6:29:00

5) Hideo Nojo JPN 6:40:15

Top Women:

1) Amy Sproston USA 7:34:08

2) Monica Carlin ITA 7:35:05

3) Irina Antrapova RUS 7:36:01

4) Joasia Zakrzewski GBR 7:41:06

5) Meghan Arbogast USA 7:41:52

Future of the Championship

The 100km World Championships has been the flagship event of the IAU. The championships have been the longest running major competition on the IAU calendar in its twenty seventh edition currently.

Membership in the IAU has been increasing significantly and that has led to increasing number of athletes and federations in the major competitions. 100km has always been a popular event and has seen top performances and extraordinary team camaraderie at the events.

The sport of ultrarunning, and the discipline of 100km, will continue to grow by leaps and bounds in the future. Looking forward to the next few years as the association continues on into its fourth decade.

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