

World Athletics renews its athlete commission



Budapest, August 26 (JIT) - World Athletics took advantage of the presence in this city of more than 2,000 participants in the XIX World Athletics Championships 2023 to renew its athletes' commission, which will work in a new period until 2027.

The results of the elections were announced this Friday with the re-election of French pole vaulter Renaud Lavillenie, New Zealand's Valerie Adams and Jamaican middle-distance runner Aycha Praught-Leer.

So far, Lavillenie has served as president and Adams as vice-president.

Spanish walker Diego Garcia Carrera, American sprinter and jumper Jasmini Todd and British sprinter Adam Gemili received enough support to join as new members.

They kept their seats as members Ilyeta Lalova-Collio (BUL), Anna Ryzhykova (GBR), Lea Sprunger (EUI), Lisanne de Witte (NED), Matthew Hughes (CAN) and Toshikazu Yamanishi (JPN), promoted in the process held during the universal event in Oregon 2022.

Kevin Borlée (BEL), Milcah Chemos Cheywa (KEN), Majd Eddin Ghazal (SYR), Bernard Lagat (USA), Halimah Nakaayi (UGA), Olga Rypakova (KAZ), Akani Simbine (RSA), Su Bingtian (CHN) and Marie-José Ta Lou (CIV) are no longer part of the body.

All participants in Budapest 2023 were entitled to vote in these elections, held for the first time electronically, using handheld devices to replace the usual paper ballots.

Similar happened during the body's congress held in this city prior to the event, in line with WA's commitment to environmental sustainability. At the same time, it facilitates counting.

To be eligible, candidates had to have competed in at least one of the last two editions of the world athletics championships, or in the most recent Olympic Games. Those competing in Budapest 2023 would also have the opportunity.

It was reported here that the WA World Council will appoint six additional members to the athlete commission within the next month, to bring its membership up to the 18 places established in the regulations.

Once the commission is completed, another vote will be held for the purpose of defining which of the current members will hold the positions of president and vice-president.

As established from 2019, the president and one other member of the athlete commission - one female and one male - will become voting members of the WA World Council.

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