



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

Refugee Athlete Scholarship-Holder



PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Abere Kassw Belay
Country of origin:	Ethiopia
Host country:	Australia
Date of birth:	8 December 1994

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Marathon
Coach:	Frances Lipscombe
Training location:	Melbourne

BACKGROUND

Abere grew up on a farm in Gondor in Ethiopia where he used to help his family before and after school. His talent for running was discovered at school when he was 15 years old. He then competed for his school in regional competitions in 5km, 10km and half marathon events. Having obtained good results, he was selected for the Ethiopian national cross-country and road events team. He trained with the national team for two years in Addis Ababa. While at a competition in Australia, a lot of conflicts started in his region of origin. Fearing for his life, he decided not to return home and instead sought asylum.

Starting a new life in Australia and trying to pursue his sporting career, he had no other choice but to find full-time employment. But, during a workplace accident, he injured his hand and lost a finger. He now has limited use of his left hand. Despite all the obstacles he has had to overcome in his life, including a long recovery period of two years, Abere is now more committed than ever to achieving his dream: competing at the Olympic Games.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Ali Noghandoost
Country of origin:	Iran
Host country:	Croatia
Date of birth:	12 January 1992

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Taekwondo
Discipline:	-58kg
Coach:	Yousef Karami
Training location:	Zagreb

BACKGROUND

Ali is an Iranian refugee who fled from religious persecution to Croatia in 2016, after a short amount of time in Austria. He grew up in a sporting family and has practiced Taekwondo almost non-stop since he began at age 8 in Iran. Whilst he was in a refugee hostel, he used to train outside in freezing conditions as it was too crowded indoors. He now lives and trains in Zagreb, under the guidance of Korean trainer Hong Seung-ki, who has lived in Croatia for 22 years. He has a strong record, having coached two Croatian women to bronze medals at the Beijing Olympics in 2008.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Amir Al Awad
Country of origin:	Syria
Host country:	Egypt
Date of birth:	25 April 1984

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Wrestling
Discipline:	Greco-Roman -97kg
Coach:	Mohamed Selim
Training location:	Alexandria

BACKGROUND

Amir was already a well know wrestler in the Syrian national team before the war began. After his home was destroyed, he left for Egypt with his wife, who was then pregnant with their first child.

For three years, he concentrated on caring for his growing family and worked in a restaurant where he kept meeting fellow Syrian sporting enthusiasts and decided to get back into the sport. He currently trains refugee children in the evenings in an academy he established with the UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and has once again started training himself.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Amir Mohammad Hosseini
Country of origin:	Iran
Host country:	Germany
Date of birth:	11 July 1998

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Taekwondo
Discipline:	-58kg
Coach:	Nader Jahangard
Training location:	Hamburg

BACKGROUND

When Amir was forced to flee his home in Tehran due to the dangers faced by his family, it was taekwondo that helped him restart his life anew in Germany. Arriving in a new country, Amir says, was one of the hardest things he has ever experienced. In the early days, he would train in a parking lot with no equipment or coach. Having lived in Germany for 6 years, he now trains eleven times a week, with fellow Iranian refugee and training partner Kasra Mehdipournejad, and says that sport was central to his integration in his new country. His intensive training schedule sees him travel widely across Germany. He won silver in the 2016 German Open.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Asif Sultani
Country of origin:	Afghanistan
Host country:	Australia
Date of birth:	31 December 1995

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Karate
Discipline:	-67 kg
Coach:	Daniel Spice
Training location:	Maitland

BACKGROUND

At the age of seven, Asif was forced to flee the country he used to call home, in search of safety and freedom. After returning to Afghanistan from Iran as an unaccompanied minor, he fled persecution and travelled to Indonesia, where he then took a precarious boat journey to Australia.

Having long harbored a passion for Martial Arts, he has risen in the ranks of his sport and now trains with one of Australia's leading karate squads. Asif credits Martial Arts with teaching him important life lessons, such as respect, discipline, determination, bravery and, crucially, and most importantly resilience, which helped him overcome difficult periods. In a bid to pass on these lessons to others, and to teach future generations about Martial Arts, Asif became a Personal Trainer and Martial Arts Instructor. His ultimate goal is to stay active as an athlete, and to inspire and empower people to be the best versions of themselves.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Chajen Dang Yien
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 2001

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Field – Javelin
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Chajen trains at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in Ngong and counts Tegla Loroupe among her primary sporting heroes, who Chajen describes as an “inspiration”. She sees her scholarship from Olympic Solidarity as a second chance in her life and hopes to see females make the team for Tokyo 2020. She hopes to advocate peace through sport and is determined to help other refugees forge sporting careers.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Clementina Ihure Rilando
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1994

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 1500m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Clementina grew up in the Kakuma Refugee Camp. Her mother fled the conflict in South Sudan when Clementina was just two months old and sought safety with her newborn in Kenya. Clementina has always had a talent for sports, winning countless running competitions and playing football for 11 years. However, it was when she came first in a 200m sprinting competition at Kakuma that she realised she had especially bright prospects as a runner. Clementina currently lives in Kenya and trains at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in Ngong.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Dominic Lokolong Atiol
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1999

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 1500m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Dominic is a South Sudanese refugee and runner over the 1500m distance, who currently lives in Kenya. Dominic became a refugee at age 11, when he became an orphan. He moved from South Sudan to Kakuma Refugee Camp, where he discovered his talents as an athlete and now trains at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in Ngong. He dreams of winning a medal at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, which he says is “a matter of training” and making sacrifices – which Dominic proves he is willing to do by training at 5 a.m. in the morning, before going to school at 7 a.m.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Charles Elijah Duol
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1998

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 800m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Charles currently lives in Kenya and trains at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in Ngong. He has long harboured a passion for athletics, and says that sports help him to feel happy, healthy and help him forget the hardships he faced in his past. He counts Usain Bolt amongst his heroes and hopes to follow in his idol's footsteps by making it to the Olympics.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Ehsan Naghibzadeh
Country of origin:	Iran
Host country:	Switzerland
Date of birth:	15 March 1990

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Taekwondo
Discipline:	-58kg
Coach:	Lisa Vogt
Training location:	Winterthur

BACKGROUND

Ehsan Naghibzadeh is an Iranian refugee based in Switzerland. Before fleeing his homeland in 2015, he had been a member of the Iranian national team for eight years, winning multiple prizes in competitions around the world. Including a gold medal at West Asian Games, a 2nd place at Asian Club Championships and at World University Championship. He also competed in the World Championship in Mexico.

Since arriving in Switzerland, Ehsan has continued to win multiple prizes at international events, including 3rd at European University Games. He is also studying for a degree in sports management and is training to be a taekwondo and fitness coach.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Eyad Masoud
Country of origin:	Syria
Host country:	New Zealand
Date of birth:	10 January 1995

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Swimming
Discipline:	Freestyle 50m and 100m
Coach:	David Wright
Training location:	Auckland

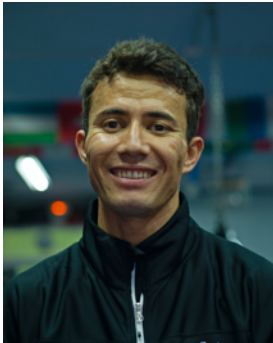
BACKGROUND

Eyad Masoud had to flee Syria because of the war. With his family, he first reached Saudi Arabia and later ended up in New Zealand, where he claimed refugee status. He now trains and teaches at the AUT Millennium Sports Centre, part of the Auckland University of Technology, where he also studies Mechanical Engineering.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Farid Walizadeh
Country of origin:	Afghanistan
Host country:	Portugal
Date of birth:	2 May 1997

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Boxing
Discipline:	-57kg
Coach:	Paulo Seco
Training location:	Lisbon

BACKGROUND

Farid arrived in Portugal in 2012 after being separated from his family when he was a child in Afghanistan and spending years alone in Pakistan, Iran and Turkey. He began taekwondo and kung-fu at age 10 in Turkey and has described how it not only helped him deal with the trauma of his past, but at times has protected him from people who wished him harm. When he arrived in Portugal, he starts practising boxing and gets really good results quite fast. After claiming the title of 2013 Portuguese National Champion for the -57kg category, the Portuguese Parliament awarded him the Human Rights Medal Prize. He now follows very intense training under the supervision of his coach, Paulo Seco, who runs one of the smallest boxing clubs in Lisbon.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Gaston Nsazumukiza
Country of origin: Democratic Republic of the Congo
Host country: Kenya
Date of birth: 1 January 1992

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport: Taekwondo
Discipline: NA
Coach: Tegla Loroupe
Training location: Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Gaston is a Boxer, Taekwondo athlete and runner (1500m), who has been a refugee three times. Gaston fled the Democratic Republic of the Congo alone in 2003, after he became an orphan. Gaston encountered great hardship in his search for safety and a new home, fleeing to Burundi, then Uganda, before settling in Kenya. Despite the difficulties he has faced, he has found new hope in sport, which he describes as a force of good that encourages peace. Gaston currently lives in Kenya and trains at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in Ngong, whilst working as a Yoga Instructor at the Africa Yoga Project.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Habtom Amanuel
Country of origin:	Eritrea
Host country:	Switzerland
Date of birth:	05 May 1990

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 10'000m
Coach:	Cyrille Gindre / Volodalen
Training location:	Aigle

BACKGROUND

Habtom is a refugee living in Switzerland, originally from Eritrea where he used to live in a small village with his 12 siblings. For political reasons, He had to take the difficult decision to flee in order to protect himself. He then started a long journey until reaching Lausanne in Switzerland.

He began running following his arrival in the country in 2015 after meeting Catherine Colomb, a former athlete and coach in Gland. He now trains at Volodalen Center in Aigle. As well as training every day, he is also working to become a painter and decorator.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	John Lokibe Taban
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1996

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 5000m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Initially, John was a footballer, but since discovering his talents as a runner in 2016 at the Kakuma Refugee Camp, he has been training at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in the 3000m and 5000m. John is both a proud supporter of the Refugee Olympic Team and says he would feel incredibly proud of himself if he made it onto the team for Tokyo 2020.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Joseph Elia Ernesto
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1996

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 800m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Joseph is currently living in Kenya and training at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in Ngong, after winning his trial race during the selection of athletes from the Kakuma Refugee Camp. He sees sport as a means to peace, bringing people from different places and communities together, whilst inspiring the world by showing that refugees can be champions too.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Josephina Tain Augustinho
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1999

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 1500m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Josephine first began being active in sports by playing football, and later turned to running when she found herself winning competitions held at Kakuma. She believes that sport can promote peace and, as a refugee and citizen of the world, supports all teams. Josephine currently lives in Kenya and trains at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in Ngong.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Kasra Mehdipournejad
Country of origin:	Iran
Host country:	Germany
Date of birth:	26 December 1992

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Taekwondo
Discipline:	-80kg
Coach:	Sven Forscher
Training location:	Berlin

BACKGROUND

Kasra is a Taekwondo athlete who was forced to flee his home in Iran. He now lives in Germany, where he trains in the hopes of making it to Tokyo 2020. Not only an athlete, but a true family man, Kasra revealed that his father is his hero, and when asked what motivates him to keep training, he said it was the women in his life, replying “first, my mother. And second, my wife.” His wife is also a Taekwondo champion, having won multiple championships in Asia. He has had a string of successes in recent years, clinching gold medals at the Dutch and Belgian opens in 2018 and has won gold and silver at the Polish and Austrian opens respectively in 2019. He is currently ranked 30th in the world.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Khaoula Sellami
Country of origin:	Syria
Host country:	Switzerland
Date of birth:	11 Avril 1989

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Shooting
Discipline:	Aire Rifle 10m
Coach:	Niccolo Campriani
Training location:	Lausanne

BACKGROUND

Khaloua is a Palestinian refugee who fled middle East and arrived in Switzerland in 2014. She is 31 and proud mom of a boy. While living in Lausanne, she met Niccolo Campriani, an Italian triple Olympic champion sport shooter who offered her the chance to take up his discipline, air rifle. Following a day of trials, she was offered the chance to train for the Olympics.

Khaloua currently trains four days a week in Lausanne under Niccolo's guidance and aims to reach the Olympic minimum qualification score to become a member of the team for Tokyo 2020.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

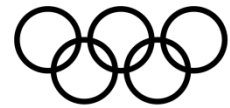
Name:	Lydia Philip Mamun
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 2001

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 800m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

When Lydia was only a young girl, militia men came to her village in South Sudan, forcing her to flee to Kenya with her siblings. She first arrived at the Dadaab Refugee Camp, and later moved to Kakuma, where she put down her name for trials in the camp and quickly discovered she had a talent for running. At first, Lydia was told she was too young to join the training camp, but she persisted and soon after joined the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre. Now, Lydia passionately declares that sport is her life, and aspires to follow in the footsteps of her hero, Caster Semenya, by becoming a world champion.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Otmane Nait Hammou
Country of origin:	Morocco
Host country:	Sweden
Date of birth:	1 April 1995

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 3000m Steeplechase
Coach:	NA
Training location:	Stockholm

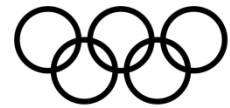
BACKGROUND

Otmane is a native Berber Moroccan now living in Västervik in the south of Sweden. He had to make the difficult decision to leave his homeland and was exiled to Sweden in 2016. Beforehand, he used to be a student in French Literature during two years at the University Ibn Zohr in Agadir. He also obtained the Level 1 "U16 coach" certificate by World Athletics.

He began running in 2012 at age 17. He ran on different events such as 10'000m and 3000m, but is now putting all his effort into the 3000m steeplechase.

He participated at the Cross-Country World championship in Aarhus 2019 and took part in the 3,000m steeplechase at the World Championship Athletics 2019 in Doha.

He would like to give hope to all refugees and people in hard situations. His motto: "If you believe in yourself, you can do it. Don't give up".



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Rami Anis
Country of origin:	Syria
Host country:	Turkey
Date of birth:	18 March 1991

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Swimming
Discipline:	Butterfly 100m
Coach:	Ömür Sönmez
Training location:	Istanbul

BACKGROUND

Rami was an international swimmer in Syria. When the war in Syria started, Rami was 20 years old and consequently would have been eligible (and most probably called upon) to join the army. To avoid that, Rami and his family decided to join his brother in Istanbul in 2011. They decided to move to Belgium in October 2015 where they also had family members. While in Belgium, he and his family started looking for a swimming club. In February 2016, he started training at the Royal Ghent Swimming Club and was selected for the Olympic Games Rio 2016 as part of the IOC Refugee Olympic Team. Since the Olympic Games, he has now moved back to Turkey, where he continues to train. He recently got engaged.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Rose Ihisa Karlo Uwaro
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1999

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 200m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Rose is currently living in Kenya and training at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in Ngong. She gets up to train before school most mornings with the other athletes at the centre. She hopes to encourage other refugees through her participation in sport.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Simon Ayong Mauris
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1998

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 5000m
Coach:	Tegla Louroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Simon credits sports with opening new opportunities for him as well as helping him stay physically fit and strong. Despite the hardships he faced when he was forced to flee to Kenya in 2016 due to conflict in South Sudan, he is optimistic about his future and passionately encourages young refugees to train hard, so that they too can change their life through sport.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Simon Lodai Lohuju
Country of origin:	South Soudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1995

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track –1500m and 5000m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Simon is currently living in Kenya and training at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in Ngong. He trains regularly with the other athletes, often first thing in the morning, and hopes one day to represent refugees around the world.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Tesfay Felfele
Country of origin:	Eritrea
Host country:	Switzerland
Date of birth:	01 December 1986

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Marathon
Coach:	NA
Training location:	Geneva

BACKGROUND

Born in Weki, Eritrea, Tesfay is the eldest of a family of five. Like most children, running has always been an intrinsic part of his life and he always enjoyed as a game, a joy and a true a passion. Becoming a professional athlete has always been his childhood dream. which became reality when he ran his first marathon at the age of 14 and joined the Eritrean cross-country team two years later. He competed in his first international competition at the age of 19 and was the silver medallist at the 2006 World Mountain Running Trophy event. He is now living and training in Geneva, keeping his eyes focused on qualifying for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 marathon.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Ubaa Dinta Achoto
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1995

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track 800m and 1500m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

Ubaa currently lives in Kenya and trains at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre in Ngong. Having started running in 2015, he recognises that refugee athletes often struggle to find ways to compete at a world class level and thinks a refugee team is important so that others can learn from the example they set.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Ukuk Utho'o Bul
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya
Date of birth:	1 January 1993

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 5000m
Coach:	Tegla Loroupe
Training location:	Nairobi

BACKGROUND

When civil war broke out in South Sudan, Ukuk fled to Kenya alone, leaving his family and siblings. Although he started out as a footballer, Ukuk was soon drawn to running, where he alone is responsible for his performance. Ukuk is determined to one day win a medal and become a world champion – not only to achieve his own vision – but to serve as a source of inspiration for others. He currently trains at the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation Training Centre, pushing himself every day in the hopes of reaching Tokyo 2020.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

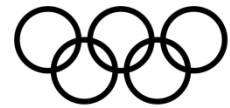
Name:	Wael Fawaz Al-Farraj
Country of origin:	Syria
Host country:	Jordan
Date of birth:	10 August 2002

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Taekwondo
Discipline:	-58kg
Coach:	Asef Sabah
Training location:	Azraq

BACKGROUND

Wael is a Taekwondo athlete who fled Syria and is now living in the Azraq Refugee Camp in Jordan, where he trains as part of the Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation's (THF) Azraq Academy. He received a black belt in March 2018 at the age of 16, THF's youngest ever black belt martial arts and is now working towards his goal of representing Refugee Athletes at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Yiech Pur Biel
Country of origin:	South Sudan
Host country:	Kenya/USA
Date of birth:	1 January 1995

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Track – 800m
Coach:	Dee Brown
Training location:	Iowa

BACKGROUND

Pur fled from Nasir, South Sudan with his relatives in order to escape the war. He arrived in Kakuma in 2005, but his parents remained in Nasir, and he never returned to South Sudan. In 2015, he heard that the Tegla Loroupe Foundation was organizing athletics trials in Kakuma. Pur took part in the trials, showed promising results and was selected to join the Foundation.

He has been training in the foundation ever since and was selected for the Olympic Games Rio 2016 as part of the IOC Refugee Olympic Team. He is now living in the USA and is a student at the Iowa Central Community College where he trains. He is also a board member of the Olympic Refugee Foundation.



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PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	Yonas Kinde
Country of origin:	Ethiopia
Host country:	Luxembourg
Date of birth:	7 May 1980

SPORTING DETAILS

Sport:	Athletics
Discipline:	Road – Marathon
Coach:	NA
Training location:	Luxembourg city

BACKGROUND

Yonas has been under international protection in Luxembourg since October 2013. He has competed in many marathons and reached the qualifying standards for Rio 2016 during the Frankfurt Marathon in October 2015. He was selected to participate in the Olympic Games in Rio 2016 as part of the Refugee Olympic Team, where he competed in the Men's marathon. He currently trains at the national school of physical education and sports in Luxembourg.