

Athletic season 2023

You have to go back to 10 June 2021 to find the last time Faith Kipyegon was beaten in a 1500m race – on that occasion by Sifan Hassan in the Florence Diamond League meeting. The prospects of it happening at the World Athletics Championships Budapest 23 would appear to be on the remote side of unlikely. Barring illness, injury or a mid-race fall, it is difficult to imagine anyone preventing the Kenyan sensation of the 2023 track and field season from becoming the first woman to complete a hat-trick of world 1500m titles – and, for that matter, from proceeding to become the first woman to accomplish the 1500m-5000m double. The clock has been the 2017 and 2022 champion's only rival throughout the northern hemisphere summer and, even then, the old marks in the world record book have been no match for the 29-year-old. As if becoming the first woman to break the 3:50 barrier for 1500m, with 3:49.11 in Florence on 2 June, wasn't enough, Kipyegon slashed more than four seconds off Hassan's mile record with a stunning 4:07.64 in Monaco on 21 July – matching New Zealander Jack Lovelock's men's world record time at Princeton in 1933. Then, of course, there was also the 14:05.20 world record at 5000m in Paris in between.

In the 1500m in Florence, Kipyegon won by 7.09 from Laura Muir, the Briton who took Olympic silver in Tokyo and world bronze behind the Kenyan and Ethiopia's world indoor record-holder Gudaf Tsegay in Oregon last year. In the mile in Monaco, she finished 6.94 clear of Ireland's European and Commonwealth silver medalist Ciara Mageean, who broke Sonia O'Sullivan's 29-year-old national record with a time of 4:14.58. It would seem that the rest will be running for silver and bronze at best in Budapest. Tsegay, next fastest in the 2023 world list with 3:54.03, is concentrating on the 5000m and 10,000m, but the Ethiopian challenge is still mightily strong. World indoor bronze medalist Hirut Meshesha (3:54.87) and world U20 champion Birke Haylom (3:54.93) were first and second in big PBs in the Silesia Diamond League meeting and are next quickest this year. The 17-year-old Haylom broke Kipyegon's world U20 record in Poland. Diribe Welteji, fourth in the 800m in Oregon last year, finished third in Silesia in 3:55.08. The entry list also includes Frewenyi Hailu, who was second in Rabat in 3:57.65, but she is likely to be the Ethiopian reserve. As well as Mageean and Muir, the Australians Linden Hall and Jess Hull and US duo Cory Ann McGee and Nikki Hiltz could also feature. And then there is Hassan. The 30-year-old is not quite the flying Dutchwoman who achieved the stunning 1500m-10,000m double in Doha four years ago, or who plundered 5000m and 10,000m gold and 1500m bronze at the Tokyo Olympics. The toll of that Olympic treble challenge and preparing for her marathon debut, which she won in thrilling fashion in London in April, has clearly taken the edge off her speed. Still, even when being outkicked by Tsegay and Beatrice Chebet in the London Diamond League 5000m on 23 July, she took third place in 14:13.42, a European record. Though the 5000m and 10,000m are her better medal bests in Budapest, she is also entered for the 1500m.

Medal winners	Relevant records
2011 World 1 Jenny Simpson USA 4:05.40 2 Hannah England GBR 4:05.68 3 Natalia Rodríguez ESP 4:05.87 2012 Europe (5x DQ doping) 1 Nuria Fernández ESP 4:08.80 2 Diana Sujew GER 4:09.28 3 Tereza Čápková CZE 4:10.17 2012 Olympic (4x DQ doping) 1 Maryam Jamal BRN 4:10.74 2 Tatyana Tomashova RUS 4:10.90 3 Abeba Aregawi ETH 4:11.03 2013 World 1 Abeba Aregawi SWE 4:02.67 2 Jenny Simpson USA 4:02.99 3 Hellen Obiri KEN 4:03.86 2014 World indoor 1 Abeba Aregawi SWE 4:00.61 2 Axumawit Embayeye ETH 4:07.12 3 Nicole Sifuentes CAN 4:07.61 2014 Europe 1 Sifan Hassan NED 4:04.18 2 Abeba Aregawi SWE 4:05.08 3 Laura Weightman GBR 4:06.32 2015 Europe indoor 1 Sifan Hassan NED 4:09.04 2 Angelika Cichočka POL 4:10.53 3 Federica Del Buono ITA 4:11.61 2015 World 1 Genzebe Dibaba ETH 4:08.09 2 Faith Kipyegon KEN 4:08.96 3 Sifan Hassan NED 4:09.34 2016 World indoor 1 Sifan Hassan NED 4:04.96 2 Dawit Seyaum ETH 4:05.30 3 Gudaf Tsegay ETH 4:05.71 2016 Europe 1 Angelika Cichočka POL 4:33.00 2 Sifan Hassan NED 4:33.76 3 Ciara Mageean IRL 4:33.78 2016 Olympic 1 Faith Kipyegon KEN 4:08.92 2 Genzebe Dibaba ETH 4:10.27 3 Jenny Simpson USA 4:10.53 2017 European indoor 1 Laura Muir GBR 4:02.39 2 Konstanze Klosterhalfen GER 4:04.45 3 Sofia Ennaoui POL 4:06.59 2017 World 1 Faith Kipyegon KEN 4:02.59 2 Jenny Simpson USA 4:02.76 3 Caster Semenya RSA 4:02.90 2018 World indoor 1 Genzebe Dibaba ETH 4:05.27 2 Laura Muir GBR 4:06.23 3 Sifan Hassan NED 4:07.26 2018 Europe 1 Laura Muir GBR 4:02.32 2 Sofia Ennaoui POL 4:03.08 3 Laura Weightman GBR 4:03.75 2019 Europe indoor 1 Laura Muir GBR 4:05.92 2 Sofia Ennaoui POL 4:09.30 3 Ciara Mageean IRL 4:09.43 2019 World 1 Sifan Hassan NED 3:51.95 2 Faith Kipyegon KEN 3:54.22 3 Gudaf Tsegay ETH 3:54.38 2021 Europe indoor 1 Elise Vanderelst BEL 4:18.44 2 Holly Archer GBR 4:19.91 3 Hanna Klein GER 4:20.07 2021 Olympic 1 Faith Kipyegon KEN 3:53.11 2 Laura Muir GBR 3:54.50 3 Sifan Hassan NED 3:55.86 2022 World indoor 1 Gudaf Tsegay ETH 3:57.19 2 Axumawit Embayeye ETH 4:02.29 3 Hirut Meshesha ETH 4:03.39 2022 World 1 Faith Kipyegon KEN 3:52.96 2 Gudaf Tsegay ETH 3:54.52 3 Laura Muir GBR 3:55.28 2022 Europe 1 Laura Muir GBR 4:01.08 2 Ciara Mageean IRL 4:02.56 3 Sofia Ennaoui POL 4:03.59 2023 Europe indoor 1 Laura Muir GBR 4:03.40 2 Claudia Boboccea ROU 4:03.76 3 Sofia Ennaoui POL 4:04.06	All-time list 1 3:49.11 Faith Kipyegon KEN Firenze 2 Jun 2023 2 3:50.07 Genzebe Dibaba ETH Monaco 17 Jul 2015 3 3:50.46 Qu Yunxia CHN Beijing 11 Sep 1993 4 3:50.98 Jiang Bo CHN Shanghai 18 Oct 1997 5 3:51.34 Lang Yinglai CHN Shanghai 18 Oct 1997 6 3:51.92 Wang Junxia CHN Beijing 11 Sep 1993 7 3:51.95 Sifan Hassan NED Doha 5 Oct 2019 8 3:52.47 Tatyana Kazankina RUS Zürich 13 Aug 1980 9 3:53.91 Yin Lili CHN Shanghai 18 Oct 1997 10 3:53.96 Paula Ivan ROU Seoul 1 Oct 1988 11 3:53.97 Lan Lixin CHN Shanghai 18 Oct 1997 World season list 1 3:49.11 Faith Kipyegon KEN Firenze 2 Jun 2023 2 3:54.03 Gudaf Tsegay ETH Rabat 28 May 2023 3 3:54.87 Hirut Meshesha ETH Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 4 3:54.93 Birke Haylom ETH Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 5 3:55.08 Diribe Welteji ETH Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 6 3:57.00 Worknesh Mesele ETH Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 7 3:57.09 Laura Muir GBR Firenze 2 Jun 2022 8 3:57.27 Linden Hall AUS Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 9 3:57.29 Jessica Hull AUS Firenze 2 Jun 2022 10 3:57.65 Frewenyi Hailu ETH Rabat 28 May 2022 11 3:58.01 Melissa Courtney-Bryant GBR Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 European season list 1 3:57.09 Laura Muir GBR Firenze 2 Jun 2022 2 3:58.01 Melissa Courtney-Bryant GBR Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 3 3:58.12 Sifan Hassan NED Hengelo 4 Jun 2022 4 3:58.28+ Ciara Mageean IRL Monaco 21 Jul 2022 5 3:58.65 Jemma Reekie GBR Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 6 4:00.04 Katie Snowden GBR Westwood CA 27 May 2022 7 4:01.24 Gaia Sabbatini ITA Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 8 4:01.75 Sarah Healy IRL Ostrava 27 Jun 2022 9 4:01.98 Sintayehu Vissa ITA Firenze 2 Jun 2022 10 4:02.32 Katharina Trost GER Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 11 4:02.35 Marta Pérez ESP Székesfehérvár 18 Jul 2022 Czech 1 4:03.27 Kristiina Mäki CZE Chorzów 16 Jul 2022 4:05.08 Kristiina Mäki Turku 13 Jun 2022 4:06.12 Kristiina Mäki Ostrava 27 Jun 2022 4:06.49 Kristiina Mäki Poznań 18 Jun 2022 4:09.22 Kristiina Mäki Chorzów 4 Jun 2022 4:12.71 Kristiina Mäki Tábor 30 Jul 2022 4:12.90 Kristiina Mäki Chorzów 25 Jun 2022 4:14.90 Kristiina Mäki Lahti 28 Jul 2022 2 4:17.18 Anna Šimková CZE Ostrava 27 Jun 2022 4:18.18 Anna Šimková Karlsruhe 20 May 2022 3 4:18.92 Natálie Millerová CZE Jerusalem 9 Aug 2022 One mile 1 4:07.64 Faith Kipyegon KEN Monaco 21 Jul 2022 2 4:14.58 Ciara Mageean IRL Monaco 21 Jul 2022 3 4:14.79 Frewenyi Hailu ETH Monaco 21 Jul 2022 4 4:15.24 Laura Muir GBR Monaco 21 Jul 2022 5 4:15.34 Jessica Hull AUS Monaco 21 Jul 2022 6 4:16.35 Nikki Hiltz USA Monaco 21 Jul 2022 7 4:16.38 Melissa Courtney-Bryant GBR Monaco 21 Jul 2022 8 4:16.47 Elise Cranny USA Monaco 21 Jul 2022 9 4:17.13 Birke Haylom ETH Oslo 15 Jun 2022 10 4:18.11 Cory McGee USA Oslo 15 Jun 2022 11 4:19.09 Worknesh Mesele ETH Oslo 15 Jun 2022

