

Athletic season 2023

At the age of 36, with six World Championships behind her and 10 gold medals in her collection, Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce is preparing to venture into unknown territory at the World Athletics Championships Budapest 23.

"It's a new situation for me to come back from injury and start my season so late," the Jamaican sprint phenomenon confessed after contesting her first 100m race of the year, in Lucerne on 20 July.

Having won in Switzerland in 10.82 and in Madrid in 10.83 two days later, Fraser-Pryce heads to the Hungarian capital with an unbeaten record at 100m in 2023. Her only other races since overcoming a knee problem have been a 200m heat and final at the Jamaican Championships, where she finished second to Shericka Jackson, the world champion at the distance, in 22.26 – plus, of course, that celebrated victory in the mother's race at her son's school sports day.

Three women have gone faster: Jackson, with her scorching 10.65 at the Jamaican Championships, Sha'Carri Richardson with 10.71 in the heats at the US Championships and the bang in-form Ivorian Marie-Josée Ta Lou with 10.75 at the Bislett Games.

The Jamaican Supermom – who will be concentrating on the 100m, having withdrawn from the 200m – will need to close the gap on her rivals if she is to win the title for a sixth time and equal Sergey Bubka's record haul of individual golds in one event.

In 14 years, Fraser-Pryce has only once failed to cross the line first in a World Championships 100m final, finishing fourth in Daegu in 2011.

In Oregon 12 months ago, she won in a championship record 10.67 – one of her record seven sub-10.70 performances in 2022 – with Jackson second in 10.73. This time Jackson has the super-fast time going into the championships, plus two 10.78 performances, but her only 100m wins have been on home ground in Jamaica. On the Diamond League circuit, the two-time world 400m bronze medalist has finished runner-up to Richardson in Doha and Silesia and third in Oslo and London.

In terms of head-to-heads, Fraser-Pryce boasts an 8-1 record against her compatriot and training partner and a 21-4 advantage over Ta Lou, but is tied at 3-3 with Richardson, her three successes against the US sprinter having come in their last three meetings.

At 34, Ta Lou is in the form of her life. A close second to the late Tori Bowie in London in 2017, losing the gold by 0.01, and third behind Fraser-Pryce and Dina Asher-Smith in Doha in 2019, the 5ft 3in African Pocket Rocket has blasted to 10 victories in 10 100m races in 2023, including Diamond League successes in Florence, Oslo, Lausanne and London, and looks a serious contender for a first global gold.

"I'm really going for the gold and I believe that I can do it," Ta Lou said. "I know my finish is strong, but my start could be better. I need to improve it to make sure I can achieve my goal of winning gold."

The 22-year-old Richardson, who will be making her major championship debut as a senior, has won eight of nine races at 100m this year, including Diamond League victories in Doha and Silesia. She has reached an impressive level of consistency, registering four of the fastest seven times in 2023, all 10.76 or quicker.

Her one defeat came in the Istvan Gyulai Memorial in Szekesfehervar on 18 July, when she clocked 10.97 as runner-up to the new kid on the blocks, Julien Alfred from St Lucia. The 22-year-old Commonwealth silver medalist prevailed in 10.89, stretching her unbeaten record to 10 wins.

Fifth fastest in the world at 100m with 10.83, Alfred has also clocked the third fastest 200m (21.91), suggesting she has the speed endurance to feature at the end of a close contest.

Brittany Brown and Tamari Davis, second and third behind Richardson at the US Championships, both have the potential to make the final and mount a challenge, while 2012 world U20 champion Antonique Strachan of The Bahamas clocked 10.92 as runner up to Ta Lou in Oslo in June.

The European challenge will be led by Asher-Smith, who clocked an encouraging 10.85 as runner-up to Ta Lou in the London Diamond League, and Poland's 2019 European indoor 60m champion Ewa Swoboda, who broke 11 seconds for the first time with 10.94 for third place in Silesia.

Medal winners			Relevant records		
<b>2011 World</b>			WR	10.49	Florence Griffith-Joyner USA Indianapolis 16/7/88
1	Carmelita Jeter	USA 10.90	WJR	10.75	Sha'Carri Richardson USA Austin 8 Jun 2019
2	Veronica Campbell-Brown	JAM 10.97	Eur	10.73	Christine Arron FRA Budapest 19/8/98
3	Kelly-Ann Baptiste	TTO 10.98	Ame	10.49	Florence Griffith-Joyner USA Indianapolis 16/7/88
<b>2012 Europe</b>			CZE	11.09	Jarmila Kratochvílová Bratislava 6/6/1981
1	Ivet Lalova	BUL 11.28	WIR	6.92	Irina Privalova RUS Madrid 11 02 1993
2	Olesya Povh	UKR 11.32			Madrid 09 02 1995
3	Lina Grinčikaitė	LTU 11.32	<b>All-time list</b>		
<b>2012 Olympic</b>			1	10.49	Florence Griffith-Joyner USA Indianapolis IN 16 Jul 1988
1	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce	JAM 10.75	2	10.54	Elaine Thompson-Herah JAM Eugene OR 21 Aug 2021
2	Carmelita Jeter	USA 10.78	3	10.60	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce JAM Lausanne 26 Aug 2021
3	Veronica Campbell-Brown	JAM 10.81	4	10.64	Carmelita Jeter USA Shanghai 20 Sep 2009
<b>2013 World</b>			5	10.65A	Marion Jones USA Johannesburg 12 Sep 1998
1	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce	JAM 10.71	5	10.65	Shericka Jackson JAM Kingston 7 Jul 2023
2	Murielle Houré	CIV 10.93	7	10.71	Sha'Carri Richardson USA Eugene OR 6 Jul 2023
3	Carmelita Jeter	USA 10.94	8	10.72	Marie Joséé Ta Lou CIV Monaco 10 Aug 2022
<b>2014 World indoor</b>			9	10.73	Christine Arron FRA Budapest 19 Aug 1998
1	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce	JAM 6.98	10	10.74	Merlene Ottey JAM Milano 7 Sep 1996
2	Murielle Houré	CIV 7.01	10	10.74	English Gardner USA Eugene OR 3 Jul 2016
3	Tianna Bartoletta	USA 7.06	<b>World season list</b>		
<b>2014 Europe</b>			1	10.65	Shericka Jackson JAM Kingston 7 Jul
1	Dafne Schippers	NED 11.12	2	10.71	Sha'Carri Richardson USA Eugene OR 6 Jul
2	Myriam Soumaré	FRA 11.16	3	10.75	Marie Joséé Ta Lou CIV Oslo 15 Jun
3	Ashleigh Nelson	GBR 11.22	4	10.82	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce JAM Luzern 20 Jul
<b>2015 Europe indoor</b>			5	10.83	Julien Alfred LCA Sacramento CA 27 May
1	Dafne Schippers	NED 7.05	6	10.85	Dina Asher-Smith GBR London 23 Jul
2	Dina Asher-Smith	GBR 7.08	7	10.86	Aleia Hobbs USA Baton Rouge LA 22 Apr
3	Verena Sailer	GER 7.09	8	10.89	Tamari Davis USA Baton Rouge LA 22 Apr
<b>2015 World</b>			8	10.89	Shawnti Jackson USA Nashville TN 3 Jun
1	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce	JAM 10.76	10	10.90	Brittany Brown USA Eugene OR 7 Jul
2	Dafne Schippers	NED 10.81	11	10.92	Alana Reid JAM Kingston 29 Mar
3	Tori Bowie	USA 10.86	<b>Europe</b>		
<b>2016 World indoor</b>			1	10.85	Dina Asher-Smith GBR London 23 Jul
1	Barbara Pierre	USA 7.02	2	10.94	Ewa Swoboda POL Chorzów 16 Jul
2	Dafne Schippers	NED 7.04	3	10.96	Daryll Neita GBR London 23 Jul
3	Elaine Thompson	JAM 7.06	4	11.00	Gina Lückenkemper GER Atlanta GA 6 May
<b>2016 Europe</b>			5	11.01	Imani Lansiquot GBR Loughborough 29 Jul
1	Dafne Schippers	NED 10.90	6	11.02	Patrizia van der Weken LUX Dessau-Roßlau 17 Jun
2	Ivet Lalova-Collio	BUL 11.20	7	11.05	Mujinga Kambundji SUI Bellinzona 29 Jul
3	Mujinga Kambundji	SUI 11.25	8	11.10	Jael Bestue ESP Madrid 22 Jul
<b>2016 Olympic</b>			8	11.10	Kristina Makarenko RUS Chelyabinsk 3 Aug
1	Elaine Thompson	JAM 10.71	10	11.13	Rebekka Haase GER Wetzlar 24 May
2	Tori Bowie	USA 10.83	11	11.14	Boglárka Takács HUN Espoo 13 Jul
3	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce	JAM 10.86	<b>Czech</b>		
<b>2017 European indoor</b>			1	11.26	Karolína Maňasová CZE Graz 16 Jun
1	Asha Philip	GBR 7.06	11.39	Karolína Maňasová Graz 16 Jun	
2	Ewa Swoboda	POL 7.10	11.40	Karolína Maňasová Ostrava 1 Jul	
3	Mujinga Kambundji	SUI 7.16	11.42	Karolína Maňasová St. Pölten 8 Jun	
<b>2017 World</b>			11.44	Karolína Maňasová Chorzów 23 Jun	
1	Tori Bowie	USA 10.85	11.46	Karolína Maňasová St. Pölten 8 Jun	
2	Marie Joséé Ta Lou	CIV 10.86	2	11.48	Natálie Kožuškanicová CZE Turnov 23 May
3	Dafne Schippers	NED 10.96	2	11.48	Nikola Bendová CZE Tábor 29 Jul
<b>2018 World indoor</b>			11.51	Karolína Maňasová Ostrava 1 Jul	
1	Murielle Houré	CIV 6.97	11.51	Natálie Kožuškanicová Ostrava 1 Jul	
2	Marie Joséé Ta Lou	CIV 7.05	11.52	Natálie Kožuškanicová Praha 20 May	
3	Mujinga Kambundji	SUI 7.05			
<b>2018 Europe</b>					
1	Dina Asher-Smith	GBR 10.85			
2	Gina Lückenkemper	GER 10.98			
3	Dafne Schippers	NED 10.99			
<b>2019 Europe indoor</b>					
1	Ewa Swoboda	POL 7.09			
2	Dafne Schippers	NED 7.14			
3	Asha Philip	GBR 7.15			
<b>2019 World</b>					
1	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce	JAM 10.71			
2	Dina Asher-Smith	GBR 10.83			
3	Marie Joséé Ta Lou	CIV 10.90			
<b>2021 Europe indoor</b>					
1	Ajla Del Ponte	SUI 7.03			
2	Lotta Kemppinen	FIN 7.22			
3	Jamile Samuel	NED 7.22			
<b>2021 Olympic</b>					
1	Elaine Thompson-Herah	JAM 10.61			
2	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce	JAM 10.74			
3	Shericka Jackson	JAM 10.76			
<b>2022 World indoor</b>					
1	Mujinga Kambundji	SUI 6.96			
2	Mikiah Brisco	USA 6.99			
3	Marybeth Sant-Price	USA 7.04			
<b>2022 World</b>					
1	Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce	JAM 10.67			
2	Shericka Jackson	JAM 10.73			
3	Elaine Thompson-Herah	JAM 10.81			
<b>2022 Europe</b>					
1	Gina Lückenkemper	GER 10.99			
2	Mujinga Kambundji	SUI 10.99			
3	Daryll Neita	GBR 11.00			
<b>2023 Europe indoor</b>					
1	Mujinga Kambundji	SUI 7.00			
2	Ewa Swoboda	POL 7.09			
3	Daryll Neita	GBR 7.12			

