

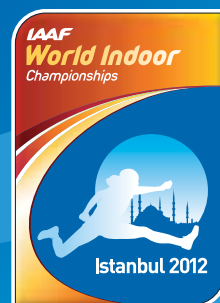


IAAF World Indoor Championships

# Newsletter

Istanbul - Turkey 9 - 11 March 2012

March 2012



## First International Excitement In Ataköy Athletics Arena

**A**taköy Athletics Arena played host for the first time to an international event with the Balkan Indoor Championship. With the participation of the 11 Balkan countries, and additional participation of Azerbaijan and Slovenia, the Balkan Championship was organized for the first time outside of Greece, with 191 athletes from a total of 13 different nations; It also went down in history as the Balkan Championship with the highest participation ever. Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Azerbaijan, Slovenia and Turkey attended the Balkan Championship and Turkey took the

1st place as team in the Women and won the 3rd place in the Men's category.

During the competitions, held in 24 different events, important and famous athletes such as Nevin Yanıt, Kemal Koyuncu, Vania Stambolova, Venelina Veneva-Mateeva, Kostas Filippidis, Louis Tsatoumas and Marian Oprea competed. In 60 m. Hurdles Nevin Yanıt, in 800 m. Merve Aydın and 3000 m. Dudu Karakaya won the gold medals for Turkey in the Women's category, and in Men's category Yavuz Can in 400 m., Halit Kılıç and the 4x400 m. Turkish Relay Team became the champions.

The ranking of the Balkan Championship for Women and Men is as follows:

### MEN NATION POINTS

Greece	93
Romania	89
Turkey	88
Bulgaria	67
Moldova	39

### WOMEN NATION POINTS

Turkey	101
Romania	100
Bulgaria	88
Croatia	53
Greece	53





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## Volunteers

### **VOLUNTEERS ARE WAITING FOR THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

**T**he volunteers; the heroes in the background of the most important and greatest sport organizations in the world, are now ready for the Istanbul World Indoor Championships after a long and strenuous training.

The preparatory studies were started 1 year before the Championships. Reaching out to a total of 2327 persons; 1135 of them through online applications and 1192 persons as a result of the studies made in the major universities of Istanbul. After the eliminations and trainings, the number of volunteers who will serve during Istanbul 2012 World Indoor Championships is determined as 800.

For reaching to the volunteer we made cooperation with Yıldız Technical University, Istanbul University, Istanbul Technical University and Marmara University. The representatives have been determined from the universities to assist Istanbul 2012 Volunteers Unit. Stands have been established, playing fields are formed, and in Eurasia Fair activities have been organized to present the championship and having volunteer participations.

After the eliminations, the trainings of 800 volunteers who have been awarded to serve during the World Championships was realized in Ataköy Olympic House between 23-26 January. Additionally technical trainings have been made till the beginning of March for the volunteer units that they will act. The volunteers get the chance to make practical trainings during Turkey Championship, Balkan Championship and test races.



### **THEY TOOK OFFICE IN MAJOR ORGANIZATIONS**

Through the major events that Turkey and Istanbul hosted in recent years, almost all of the volunteers who will serve during the World Indoor Championships have great experiences. The events in which Istanbul 2012 Volunteers worked during the recent periods are listed below:

2010 World Basketball Championship-Turkey  
2011 WTA Championships-Istanbul  
2011 Winter Universiade-Erzurum  
2011 EYOF (European Youth Olympic Festival)-Trabzon  
2011 World Wrestling Championship-Istanbul  
2011 The Two Nations Cup Basketball  
2011 Teams Championship-Izmir





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## Istanbul Meet With Athletics

Promotional activities for the World Indoor Championships were organised in Marmara Forum Shopping Center between 18 and 19th February.

On the activity area, which was set up in one of the biggest shopping centres of Istanbul, the Marmara Forum AVM, first President of Turkish Athletics Federation Mehmet Terzi and Coach of Turkish National Team Muharrem Or held a press conference with the participation of national athletes. During the press conference, the President of Athletics Federation Mehmet Terzi gave information about World Athletics Championships and said that Turkey will bring almost 700 athletes from 172 different nations together in Istanbul and beat the participation record in Indoor Athletics. Terzi expressed that the Turkish sport fans will find the opportunity to watch the world famous athletes and highlighted the importance of the championship for Istanbul as a candidate for the 2020 Summer Olympic Games.

After the press conference our national athletes took photos with the visitors of the shopping centre and especially with the children and they played games with them.

In the scope of the promotional activities; a mini athletics track was set up in Marmara Forum AVM both to promote the championship and meet the cuddly mascots Tik and Tak, to meet with the visitors of the shopping centre.

Young visitors participated in a 14 meters running race and entertaining athletics games on the mini athletics track. Through the photograph boards with "Championships Dais" and "Finish" themes, the shopping centre visitors have both experienced the championship excitement before the World Indoor Athletics Championship and also have cheerful moments together with their children. The symbolic Istanbul 2012 medals were also given to the young athletes after the competitions.

The visitors of Marmara Forum AVM also visited the photo exhibition called "Frames from World Athletics" of the sport photographer Yasin Yıldırım which brought the unforgettable moments of athletics into the shopping centre.

The promotional activities for the World Indoor Championships, first held on 18-19 February in Marmara, is made one more time in Marmara Forum AVM on 3-4 March when the championships are coming closer.





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## Tik And Tak Were In Istanbul City Tour

The official mascots of the World Indoor Championships, who are waiting to entertain the world-famous athletes and sport fans in Istanbul; made an Istanbul City Tour.

For introducing Istanbul, one of the oldest cities of the world which is hosted three great emperors to the fans of athletics, "Tik" and "Tak" visited the historical places and were welcomed especially by the tourists with a great interest.

In Istanbul that has a history of 8500 years, the city tour started from Ortaköy Square and Bosphorus shore and continued with Dolmabahçe Palace. Tik and Tak went to Taksim Square which is known as the centre of Istanbul, they became "Simit" (savory rolls covered with sesame seed) Seller, get into the tramway, gave seeds to the birds. The two also angled with the fishermen on Galata Bridge and took lots of souvenir photos with the tourists in Sultanahmet Square.





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