



TOSHIKAZU YAMANISHI JAPAN

Three words that describe you best:

**PERSISTENT
INQUISITIVE
VISIONARY**

Your objective as a Candidate in one sentence:

To add a unique perspective and create a circulation of ideas and opinions from athletes around the world to make our sport truly global.



Why I am running for the election:

Dear Friends,

My name is Toshikazu Yamanishi, Doha 2019 World Champion, Tokyo 2020 Olympic Bronze Medallist, Muscat 2022 World Racewalk Team Championship Individual Gold Medallist in the Men's 20km Racewalk. I am from Kyoto, Japan with an Engineering Degree from the Kyoto University.

Almost one year after the Tokyo Olympic Games and our road to Paris already underway, I have decided to run for the seat in the World Athletics Athletes' Commission. I hope to serve you, my fellow athletes, in engineering and driving our sport forward globally, add an Asian and Japanese perspective, and create a circulation of diverse opinions and dialogue beyond the Euro-Americas and the rest of the globe.

From Oregon 22, race walk distance in the 50km was shortened to 35km. This is one of many signs or messages that our sport itself must adapt and evolve with the times or changes that come upon us. We face many priorities such as gender equity and diversity, anti-doping, or sustainability. Affecting us directly, the qualification pathways for major championships, or the international competition tours can evolve even further.

The epicentre of athletics may be in the Euro-Americas now, and that could be because of geographical distance or language. But we can go beyond these so-called boundaries, create something more than a twoway dialogue but a convectional dialogue from and between all corners of the globe. My Asian and Japanese background, a perspective of the host nation of the Olympic Games will be an asset for our cause.

My experiences in international competitions can complement our agenda. From Donetsk, Ukraine, and from Taicang, Muscat, Jakarta, Taipei, La Coruña, through Doha and soon Eugene, the experience continues to be eye-opening.

Finally, from the island nation of Japan, I hope to work with my fellow athletes from all across the globe, to make our sport truly global, to be cherished and embraced by everyone in the world.

Thank you and wishing everyone, the best of luck at the World Championships!

**ATHLETES' COMMISSION
CANDIDATE INFORMATION**