

25 August 2025

The Local Organising Committee of the World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25

Junior high school students to support World Athletics superstars as Backstage Navigators!

Inspiring the next generation is a key priority for the World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25 (WCH Tokyo 25). To give young people the chance to broaden their horizons and experience the excitement of world-class sport, a new initiative called Backstage Navigators will be introduced at next month's championships.

In this initiative, Junior high school students will take on a special role, escorting medalists behind the scenes and onto the stage for medal ceremonies—placing them at the very heart of the action and giving them a unique opportunity to see world-class athletes up close.

Backstage Navigators

Activity Details

As Backstage Navigators, junior high school students from about 15 schools in the districts surrounding the Japan National Stadium will play a pivotal role at WCH Tokyo 25. They will proudly escort medalists to the Medal Plaza—the official stage for all medal ceremonies held outside the stadium—sharing in a once-in-a-lifetime sporting moment alongside some of the world's greatest athletes.

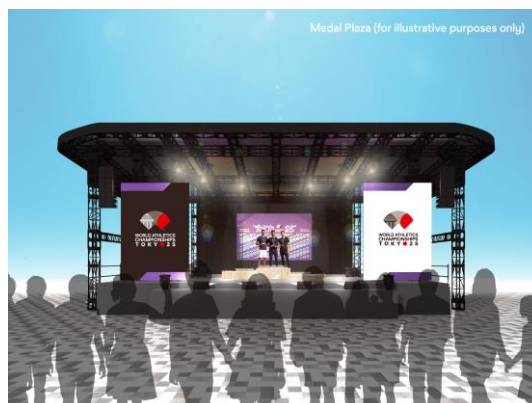
By taking part directly in the medal ceremonies, these students will not only experience the excitement of the championships up close, but also interact with top athletes and create memories that will stay with them forever. The initiative reflects the hope that this unique opportunity will inspire local children to deepen their connection to sport and athletics, leaving a lasting legacy for the future of athletics in Japan.

Backstage Navigator Schedule

- Medal ceremonies will be held before evening sessions from Sunday, 14 September (DAY 2) through to Sunday, 21 September (DAY 9).
- Please note that Backstage Navigators will not participate in the medal ceremony on Friday, 19 September (DAY 7) and the second ceremony on Sunday, 21 September (DAY 9).

Location

Medal Plaza, located near Gate F of the Japan National Stadium (10-1 Kasumigaoka-machi, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo)



Created by the WCH Tokyo 25 based on the "[Basic Map of the National Land \(Orthoimagery Data\)](#)" provided by the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan.

WCH Tokyo 25 Medal Plaza

The medal ceremonies at WCH Tokyo 25 will be held at the Medal Plaza, an open-air plaza situated just outside the southern area of Japan National Stadium.

Designed with a warm, wood-themed aesthetic that complements the architecture of the stadium, the Medal Plaza will offer a welcoming and distinctive atmosphere for athletes and fans alike. Spectators will enjoy a rare opportunity to experience the emotion of the moment up close, celebrating alongside the newly crowned medalists in an intimate and inspiring setting. This unique space is set to become a focal point of the championships, fostering unforgettable memories for all in attendance.

The Backstage Navigators initiative is part of a WCH Tokyo 25 promise to deliver dreams and hope to all children, in collaboration with World Athletics' Kids' Athletics Programme.

Kids' Athletics

Kids' Athletics is a worldwide initiative created by World Athletics to encourage children and young people to get active. Using athletics as a foundation, it helps them build skills, gain confidence, and discover a lasting connection with sport.



Now running in over 150 countries, the programme has already engaged more than 13 million children and young people.

Designed with input from coaches, educators, and young people themselves, Kids' Athletics provides a dynamic and enjoyable introduction to the sport for ages four to 14.

[Click here](#) for more information on the World Athletics Kids Athletics programme and to find out how to get involved!

For information on children's participation in the World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25, please visit our [official page here](#).



WCH Tokyo 25
Kids initiative

WORLD ATHLETICS PARTNERS



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Ticket Information Page

World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25

Organiser	World Athletics
Period	Nine days from Saturday 13 to Sunday 21 September 2025
Venue	Japan National Stadium and other venues (marathon and race walking will be held in Tokyo)
No. of athletes	approx. 2,000
No. of countries/regions	approx. 200
No. of events	49

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