

- 1910 Ralph Craig (USA) sets world records for 200m and 220 yards straight with 21.2 when winning the US Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Athletes of America Championships in Philadelphia. He would go on to become Olympic Champion at 100m in Stockholm 1912 in a race which featured seven false starts
- 1911 The Swedish athletics enthusiasts Johannes Sigfrid Edström and Leopold Englund send written invitations around the world for an international congress on the sport to be held in Stockholm to decide rules, register records, and define “amateur” for international purposes
- 1912 In Stanford, George Horine (USA) becomes the first high jumper to clear two metres and the first to set a world record with the straddle or “Western Roll” technique
- 1912 The Olympic Games are staged in Stockholm, with athletics events contested by 534 men only from 26 countries across 30 events including the Pentathlon and Decathlon, which are both won by Jim Thorpe (USA) with world record scores. Hannes Kolehmainen, the first of the “Flying Finns” sets a world record in the 5000m and won two further golds. As Finland is then part of the Russian Empire, it is the Russian flag which is raised at Kolehmainen’s medal ceremonies
- 1912 The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) is founded with 17 members at the Sveriges Riksdag (Parliament House) Stockholm at 17:00, on July 17. The founding members are Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Norway, Russia, Sweden, United Kingdom and the United States
- 1913 The 1912 Olympic Pentathlon and Decathlon Champion Jim Thorpe (USA) is stripped of those titles and banned for life from athletics when it is revealed he had played baseball professionally in the years before the Stockholm Games
- 1913 The second IAAF Congress sees the formation of the first IAAF Council and confirmation of the title “International Amateur Athletic Federation”. Johannes Sigfrid Edström (SWE) is elected as first IAAF President
- 1914 The first technical rules and first list of world records (53 track, 30 walking and 12 field events, all for men) are presented at third IAAF Congress in Lyon. It is agreed that athletes committing three false starts are to be disqualified, with distance penalties on the first and second offences
- 1915 The second Far Eastern Championship Games – including for the first time athletics – are staged in Shanghai
- 1917 The first road relay race or Ekiden is staged across three days between Kyoto and Tokyo. Two teams, “east” and “west”, completed 23 sections covering 514 kilometres
- 1918 The South American Athletics Confederation (Confederación Sudamericana de Atletismo or “ConSudAtle”) is formed in Buenos Aires, with founding members Argentina, Chile and Uruguay
- 1919 The First official South American Championships (for men) are staged in Montevideo, with Chile winning the overall team prize
- 1919 At the South German Championships in Frankfurt with 12.8, Maria Kiessling (GER) becomes the first woman to run 100m in less than 13 seconds
- 1920 At the Antwerp Olympic Games, a steeplechase race is staged for the first time and tug-of-war the last. Topping the medal table with nine golds are both the USA and Finland, for whom Paavo Nurmi wins his first three Olympic titles
- 1921 Foundation of Fédération Sportive Féminine Internationale (FSFI) – the International Women’s Sports Federation with six member countries – Czechoslovakia, France, Great Britain, Italy, Spain and the USA – and Frenchwoman Alice Milliat as President
- 1922 The first FSFI Women’s World “Olympic” Games – to compensate for the lack of women’s sports at the Olympics – are staged on a single day in Paris
- 1924 The first “International Universities Games” are held in Warsaw in conjunction with the annual congress of the CIR (Confederation Internationale des Etudiants). Poland has the most successful athletics team
- 1922 With an 800m time of 2:26.6 during the unofficial English Championships at Crystal Palace, the British runner Mary Lines sets the earliest mark to be eventually ratified as an IAAF women’s world record
- 1924 The IAAF amend its constitution to include women’s athletics and the IAAF Women’s Committee is formed
- 1924 At the Paris Olympic Games, Paavo Nurmi (FIN) wins gold medals in five events; the 1500m and 5000m (within 90 minutes), cross country individual and team, and 3000m team race. He would have had a good chance of winning a further gold in the 10,000m but is ordered by his team management to give up his place to Ville Ritola
- 1925 Future IAAF President Adriaan Paulen sets the first world record (at 500m) at the Bislett Stadium in Kristiania (later known as Oslo)
- 1926 Changeover zones introduced for relay races

- 1926 The first Central American and Caribbean Games are staged in Mexico City featuring athletes from three countries, Cuba, Guatemala and Mexico
- 1926 Second FSFI Championships staged in Gothenburg, involving eight countries and re-named "World Women's Games" after the IOC agreed to hold women's events at the next Olympics
- 1926 The first record of a woman completing a marathon race, Violet Piercy (GBR), from Windsor to Battersea in 3:40:22
- 1927 Americans George Bresnahan and William Tuttle invent adjustable starting blocks, patenting the design as "foot support" and allowing the foot to be braced. Their patent application notes that "The outdoor track athletes usually dig holes in the ground in an effort to get a firm foothold but inasmuch as the firmness of the soil or cinders is of great variance this is frequently very impractical."
- 1927 The first official list of women's world records is issued by the FSFI
- 1928 The Olympic Games are staged in Amsterdam, including five women's events in athletics where the first ever female champion is Polish discus thrower Halina Konopacka. The IAAF Committee for women's Sports decide for future games to reject the 800m ("too arduous") and continue to exclude the shot put ("unsuitable"). The Algerian-born Ahmed Boughèra El Ouafi (FRA) becomes the first African Olympic Champion with his victory in the marathon
- 1928 Athletics become the first sport to outlaw doping when the IAAF Congress agree on the first rule prohibiting "the use of any stimulant not normally employed to increase the power of action in athletic competition above the average," and adding "Any person knowingly acting or assisting as explained above shall be excluded from any place where these rules are in force or, if he is a competitor, be suspended for a time or otherwise from further participation in amateur athletics under the jurisdiction of this Federation."
- 1928 The present definition of race walking as "progression by steps so taken that unbroken contact with the ground is maintained" is accepted by the IAAF Congress
- 1930 The First British Empire Games are staged in Hamilton, with England topping the medal table including two golds in the men's hurdles events by future IAAF President David (later Lord) Burghley
- 1931 The first ever International Cross Country Championships for women (albeit unofficial) are staged in Douai, with Gladys Lunn leading England to victory over France
- 1931 With the first ever sub-nine minute two mile run in Helsinki, Paavo Nurmi (FIN) sets his 29th and final world record, before being banned by the IAAF (in 1932) for alleged violations of his expense accounts
- 1932 At the US Olympic Trials, 110m hurdler Jack Keller wins and sets the first world record to have an official wind reading. He clocked 14.4 with a headwind of -0.2 metres per second
- 1932 Electrical timing apparatus is used at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, where Eddie Tolan (USA) becomes the first black athlete to win an Olympic sprint gold. Babe Didrikson Zaharias (USA) uniquely wins both the women's 80m hurdles and javelin throw
- 1933 The IAAF form a European Commission, later the IAAF European Committee, and give the go-ahead for a European Championships
- 1934 The IAAF adopt "Finnish" scoring tables for combined events, proposed by the Finnish athletics federation. The tables range from zero to 1150 points with the objective that equally good performances should score similar points across the range of events. A score of 1000 points corresponded to World record level
- 1934 The first European Athletics Championships (for men) in Turin and with 76.66, Matti Järvinen (FIN) sets the ninth of his 10 world records in the javelin throw
- 1935 Jesse Owens (USA) sets six world records in 45 minutes at the Western Conference "Big 10" US Collegiate Championship in Ferry Field, Ann Arbor. His sequence: 15:15 – 100 Yards (9.4); 15:25 – Long Jump (8.13, a mark which stood as a world record until 1960); 15.45 – 200m and 220 Yards Straight (20.3); 16:00 – 200m and 220 Yards Hurdles Straight (22.6)
- 1936 The 13th IAAF Congress approve that the maximum following wind allowable for record purposes should be two metres per second
- 1937 Lorenzo del Riccio, an Italian immigrant working for Paramount Studios in California, invents the modern principle of the photo-finish with what is called a "strip camera." It produced a continuous photographic recording of events in the vertical plane through a finish line and is first used to determine the results of horse races
- 1936 Jesse Owens (USA) stars at the first televised Olympic Games in Berlin, winning the 100m, Long Jump, 200m and 4x100m in sequence. His time of 10.2 in the second round of the 100m is assisted by a wind of 2.3 metres per second, and so is disallowed as a world record under new IAAF rules

- 1936 Forrest Towns (USA) sets six official world records at 110 metres or 120 yards hurdles, culminating with 13.7, the first-ever time below 14 seconds and a record which would stand until 1950
- 1938 The IAAF authorise the use of starting blocks, not so much as an aid to runners but to protect track surfaces from being continually dug up
- 1938 The third Empire Games are staged in Sydney (AUS), the first major international competition to be held in Oceania. Decima Norman (AUS) wins five gold medals in the women's events
- 1938 The second European Athletics Championships are held in Paris, with a separate staging for women in Vienna where Claudia Testoni (ITA) sets a world best for 80m hurdles
- 1939 At the South American Championships in Lima, women's events are included for the first time
- 1940 The first televised athletics meeting outside the Olympics takes place at Madison Square Garden, New York
- 1941 In an exhibition event at Eugene during half time in a basketball game between the University of Oregon and Oregon State College, Lester Steers (USA) becomes the first to high jump more than seven feet (2.146)
- 1941 At the US Championships in Philadelphia, Grover Klemmer sets a world record in the 400m final which takes place only 45 minutes after he ran in the heats
- 1942 At the California Relays in Modesto, Cornelius Warmerdam (USA) sets the final bamboo pole vault world record, 4.77. The mark stood as a world record until 1957
- 1942 Distance runner Gunder Hägg (SWE) sets 10 world records in 81 days across the 1500m, Mile, 2000m, 3000m, Two Miles, Three Miles & 5000m
- 1946 Without a formal vote, the IOC decide that London should be the host city of the 1948 Olympic Games
- 1946 David George Brownlow Cecil, Lord Burghley (GBR) – later Marquess of Exeter – is elected IAAF President and the IAAF Headquarters move from Stockholm to London
- 1947 At the US Championships in Milwaukee, Herb McKenley (JAM) clocks the first sub-46 time for 400m (45.9)
- 1947 The USSR become members of the IAAF
- 1948 In London, starting blocks are seen for the first time at an Olympic Games. One of the athletes using them is Fanny Blankers-Koen (NED), who wins golds at 100m, 80m hurdles, 200m and 4x100m relay in that order. In all she competes 11 times across eight days, winning every time. She is also entered for the long jump – in which she is world record holder – but withdrew on the advice of her husband who wants her to concentrate her energies on the 80m hurdles final that day
- 1949 In the Swedish city of Gävle with 7:58.8, former boxer Gaston Reiff (BEL) becomes the first man to run 3000m in less than eight minutes
- 1950 The Association of Track & Field Statisticians (ATFS) is formed in Brussels during the European Athletics Championships, with the aim of “documenting the present and recovering the past, in order to commit to future memory the efforts of thousands of athletes, men and women, who have given lustre to the sport all over the World”
- 1951 The first stagings of both the Pan-American Games (Buenos Aires) and Asian Games (New Delhi)
- 1951 Parry O'Brien (USA) revolutionises shot-putting with a style in which he faces the back of the circle then rotates his right foot through 180° before releasing the shot. His push and spin technique becomes known as the “O'Brien Glide.”
- 1952 An unprecedented triple Olympic long distance gold by Emil Zatopek (TCH) at the Helsinki Olympic Games, winning the 5000m, 10,000m and marathon. Finland win no gold medals but their Olympic legends Paavo Nurmi and Hannes Kolehmainen both carry the torch in the final stages of the opening ceremony
- 1953 At Pasadena, the first official world javelin record set with the aerodynamic, hollow metal “Held” implement is achieved by Franklin (Bud) Held (USA). The model had been designed by his brother Dick Held
- 1954 Headlines are made worldwide when one mile is run in less than four minutes for the first time by Roger Bannister (GBR), who clocks 3:59.4 at Iffley Road, Oxford. He is paced by compatriots Chris Brasher and then Chris Chataway, Bannister's halves are 1:58.2 and 2:01.2 and he passes 1500m in an unrated world best of 3:43.0
- 1954 The women's one mile is run in less than five minutes for the first time by 21 year-old Diane Leather (GBR), who clocks 4:59.6 at the English Midland Women's Championships in Birmingham
- 1954 Lazaro Chepkwony and Nyandika Maiyoro become the first Kenyan distance runners to achieve international success with their front-running efforts at the AAA Championships at White City Stadium in London, followed by top eight placings for each at the Empire & Commonwealth Games in Vancouver

- 1954 Wearing only one shoe, Emmanuel Arinze Ifeajuna (NGR) becomes the first black African to win a major championship title with his high jump gold at the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Vancouver. His winning height of 2.03 is a Commonwealth record. Following his win, he is affectionally named 'Emma Vancouver' in Nigeria
- 1954 An epic clash at 5000m between Chris Chataway (GBR) and Vladimir Kuts (URS) in London. Kuts passes three miles in a world record, but then Chataway won the race and broke Kuts's existing world mark with 13:51.6. Fifteen million watch the race live on television via a Eurovision link-up
- 1956 Shot Putter Parry O'Brien (USA) extends his win streak to a men's record of 116 contests across five years, the longest such sequence by a male athlete
- 1956 The IAAF ban, on safety grounds, the "Barra Vasca" style of javelin throwing pioneered in Spain where the implement is propelled discus-style with the thrower lubricating his hands to enable a smooth release. A distance of 98.70 is achieved by Pentti Saarikoski (FIN), but it is clear that the direction in which the javelin flew is to a considerable extent a matter of chance
- 1956 Treble sprint golds by Bobby Joe Morrow (USA) and Betty Cuthbert (AUS) at the Melbourne Olympics when the USA easily top the medal table with 31 medals including sweeps in four events
- 1958 In an unsanctioned race at Friedrichshafen, Armin Hary (FRG) becomes the first man to run 100m in exactly 10 seconds
- 1958 Built-up high jump shoe soles are limited by the IAAF to a maximum depth of 13 millimetres
- 1958 Iolanda Balaş (ROU) sets five world records, culminating in the first ever women's high jump of more than six feet (1.83m)
- 1958 The first anabolic steroids – synthesised male sex hormones – are developed by John Bosley Ziegler (USA) and approved for sale by the US. Food and Drug Administration
- 1960 The IAAF standardise the length of an outdoor running track to be 400m or 440 yards
- 1960 The number of competitors in athletics at the Olympic Games exceeds 1000 for the first time in Rome, where electronic results boards are introduced. Previously unknown Abebe Bikila runs barefoot to win Ethiopia's first ever athletics gold, in the marathon, with a world best performance
- 1961 The first IAAF World Race Walking Team Championships final – then called the Lugano Trophy – is staged in Lugano with just 12 finalists in each of the two men's races
- 1962 The synthetic running track is invented when Theodore Buchholtz, George M. Rambosek and Richard G. Drew file a patent for "Paving Material and Paving Surfacing." The patent states that "it is a principal object of this invention to provide a new synthetic material which can be poured in situ and which is self-hardening under ambient conditions to a tough rubbery paving which provides a durable paving that is unaffected by weather ..." In the context of athletics, the resultant product is called a "Tartan Track"
- 1963 Sixteen year-old Dick Fosbury (USA) decides he can improve as a high jumper by lowering his centre of gravity and experiments with a technique in which he propels himself across the bar head-first on his back.
- 1964 At the Tokyo Olympic Games, automatic timing is used officially for the first time. Bob Hayes (USA) equals the world 100m with 10.0 (10.06 electrical) when winning by two metres from lane one which, on a cinder track, is particularly soft. Abebe Bikila (ETH) again wins the marathon, this time by a margin of four minutes
- 1965 First African Games staged in Brazzaville with 18 men's and six women's events
- 1965 The first European Cup tournaments are staged in Stuttgart (men) and Kassel (women) and are titled "Bruno Zauli" in honour of the late President of the IAAF's European Committee who had the idea for the contest. Both trophies are won by the USSR. The women's meeting features world records by the Press sisters from the Soviet Union, Irina at 80m hurdles and Tamara in the shot put
- 1965 IAAF rule that all female competitors in the Olympic Games, Area Games and Area Championships appear before a medical panel, who will be required to certify that they are qualified to compete in such events
- 1966 The first European Indoor Games are staged in Dortmund and feature world indoor best performances in both long jumps by the USSR's Igor Ter-Ovanesyan and Tatyana Shchelkanova
- 1967 The first Central American and Caribbean Championships in Athletics are staged in Veracruz, with Cuba far and away the most successful nation
- 1967 The moment an official tries in vain to stop Kathrine Switzer (USA) from competing during the Boston Marathon is captured by a photographer, and the resultant publicity leads to greater acceptance that women should compete in long-distance running events

- 1967 Romanian high jumper Iolanda Balaş retires, having completed a record win streak of a 150 contests in 1957-1966 before losing in her final competition at the Romanian International Championships in Bucharest
- 1967 At the European Cup Final in Kiev, European 100m Champion Ewa Kłobukowska (POL) becomes the first female athlete to “fail” an official sex test. Her individual world 100m record (11.1) is deleted by the IAAF, as is the Polish world 4x100m relay record to which she contributed. She is not required to give up the many championship medals she had won
- 1968 Jim Hines (USA) secures his place in the history of sprinting when he clocks the first legal sub-10 second 100m in the semi-finals of the US Championships in Sacramento
- 1968 The IAAF amends its constitution to allow Continental Area Associations to be formed
- 1968 Twenty-five world records are set in the high altitude of the Mexico City Olympics, including an astonishing new long jump mark of 8.90 by Bob Beamon (USA). Discus thrower Al Oerter (USA) becomes the first athlete to win golds at four successive Olympic Games. An all-weather synthetic track is used for the first time at a Games and 10,000m runner Naftali Temu becomes Kenya's first Olympic Champion in athletics
- 1969 It is determined that the neck is no longer considered to be part of the torso when determining results from a photo-finish picture
- 1969 The IAAF's European Committee is replaced by a separate association of European Members or the European Athletic Association, later renamed European Athletics
- 1969 The IOC Executive Board agree to stage 1500m, 100m Hurdles and 4x400m relay for women at the 1972 Olympic Games
- 1969 The first in-competition doping control tests are carried out, with the Dutch decathlete Eduard de Noorlander disqualified after testing positive for amphetamines at the 1969 European Championships in Athens
- 1970 The first official European Indoor Championships and European Junior Championships are staged at Vienna and Paris respectively
- 1970 The first New York City Marathon is staged, comprising laps around Central Park
- 1971 A demonstration race walk event for women is staged in Helsinki at the time of the European Championships
- 1971 The International Cross Country Union vote to transfer the organisation of their annual championships (from 1973) to the IAAF
- 1972 Aleksandr Baryshnikov breaks the USSR shot put record using the “circular swing”, a spinning style devised by his coach Viktor Alexeyev
- 1972 IAAF Medical Committee officially formed
- 1972 For the first time in Olympic Games athletics, more than 100 countries compete in Munich, but the Games are overshadowed and interrupted by the terrorist massacre of 11 members of the Israeli delegation including a coach for their athletics team
- 1972 The International Track Association (ITA) is formed in the United States with the aim of establishing a series of meetings involving the world's top athletes performing as professionals
- 1972 Introduction of optical distance measuring equipment, using an electronic tachometer and prismatic reflectors. The measuring instrument is stationed at the edge of the stadium or in the stands and the exact distance between it and the fixed launch point is stored in advance of the contest. After the throw the judge places a reflector prism into the ground at the point of impact, and the beam from that prism when combined with the pre-determined data enables quick and accurate computation of the distance thrown
- 1972 Foundation of the Oceania Amateur Athletic Association with seven founding members: Australia, Cook Islands, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Tonga and the New Hebrides (later Vanuatu) and Western Samoa (later Samoa)
- 1973 The first IAAF World Cross Country Championships are staged at Waregem, with 21 countries and 285 athletes, of which 85% are European including all three inaugural champions: Pekka Päivärinta (FIN), Jim Brown (SCO) and Paola Cacchi (ITA)
- 1973 The Confederation of African Athletics and North American, Central American and Caribbean Athletic Association are both founded
- 1973 With a third-time clearance of 2.30 in Munich, the teenager Dwight Stones (USA) becomes the first high jumper to set a world record using the “Fosbury Flop” style
- 1973 The First Asian Championships are staged at Marikina (PHI), where Japan win more than twice as many medals as the next best country

- 1973 An Informal international championship marathon race for women staged in Waldniel is won in 2:59:25 by Christa Vahlen-sieck (FRG)
- 1974 The constitution of the Asian Amateur Athletic Association is presented and accepted at the IAAF Congress in Rome, where IAAF membership rises to 150 with Bermuda, Botswana, Burundi, Montserrat, Rwanda and St Vincent
- 1974 IAAF Council accept 3000m and 400m Hurdles as standard events for women
- 1974 At the Janusz Kusociński Memorial meeting in Warsaw, Irena Szewińska (POL) becomes the first woman to run 400m in less than 50 seconds
- 1975 Anabolic steroids are included on the IOC's list of banned substances, as a test that is considered to be reliable is developed. The IAAF Introduce suspensions for doping offenders
- 1975 During the Gothenburg Games at the Slottsskogsvallen Stadium, John Walker (NZL) becomes the first man to run one mile in less than 3:50, clocking 3:49.4 with halves of 1:55.1 and 1:54.3
- 1976 IAAF Development Aid Programme begins with an annual budget of \$25,000, to support and develop and "spread the gospel of athletics," particularly in developing countries
- 1976 Adriaan Paulen (NED) elected IAAF President
- 1976 The IAAF delete imperial events (other than the mile) from the world record list and agree to accept only automatic timing for sprint world records
- 1976 The Montreal Olympic Games are highlighted by double track wins including world 800m records by both Alberto Juantorena (CUB) and Tatyana Kazankina (URS). Twenty-eight countries, including most of Africa, boycott due to the refusal of the IOC to ban New Zealand, whose rugby union team had toured apartheid South Africa earlier in 1976. Women from the GDR win medals in all but one event, including nine out of 14 golds
- 1976 The first IAAF World Championship event outside the Olympic Games is staged in Malmö, the 50Km walk for men. The event had been dropped from the athletics programme of the Olympic Games
- 1977 In West Berlin, straddler Rosemarie Ackermann (GDR) becomes the first woman to high jump two metres
- 1977 The first IAAF World Cup is staged in Düsseldorf, watched over three successive days by crowds of 30,000, 40,000 and 50,000. The GDR win the men's tournament and Europe the women's
- 1978 The final world high jump record with a straddle technique is set by Ukrainian Vladimir Yashchenko with 2.34 in Tbilisi
- 1978 The IAAF Congress approve a proposal to stage an autonomous World Championships in 1983 and decide to impose a minimum suspension of 18 months for doping cases, with permanent ineligibility for a second offence
- 1978 The first official Heptathlon competition is staged in Birmingham, and the IAAF Congress agree to replace the Pentathlon with that event from 1981
- 1978 The IAAF series of "Golden Events" begins with the "Golden Mile" in Tokyo, won by Steve Ovett (GBR)
- 1978 The Chinese Athletic Association become members of the IAAF
- 1979 The first African Championships are staged in Dakar. The men's 100m champion being Ernest Obeng (GHA), later to be the IAAF's Director of Broadcasting
- 1979 The British athlete Sebastian Coe sets three world records in 41 days, starting with a giant leap forward in the 800m mark, from 1:43.44 to 1:42.33
- 1980 The Moscow Olympic Games are boycotted by 65 countries – led by the United States – protesting the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, yet feature six world records and a record number of spectators
- 1980 The IAAF Council form an "Amateurism Working Group" in reaction to proposals from members to change constitutional rules regarding amateurism
- 1980 The IAAF Congress approve the inclusion of the women's marathon for the forthcoming IAAF World Championships, but reject the 5000m or 10,000m for women
- 1980 The IAAF stage autonomous World Championship events for the women at 3000m and 400m Hurdles. The IAAF Council choose Helsinki over Stuttgart to be hosts of the first full World Championships in 1983
- 1981 Ethiopia and Kenya enter the IAAF World Cross Country Championships for the first time, with Ethiopia taking the men's team title easily

- 1981 The IAAF President Paulen withdraws his candidacy for future presidency of the IAAF, explaining "that it is essential, in order to preserve unity in the IAAF, that only one candidate should be proposed as IAAF President to the Rome Congress." Unopposed, Primo Nebiolo (ITA) is elected IAAF President in Rome, where the concept of Trust Funds for athletes is approved in principle
- 1982 A new, more realistic definition of amateurism is agreed for IAAF rule 51. The previous wording was that "An amateur is a person who competes for the love of sport and as a means of recreation, without any motive of securing any material gain from such competition." This is replaced with "An amateur is one who abides by the eligibility rules of the IAAF"
- 1982 "Chariots of Fire", a British historical film about the 1924 Olympic Champions Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell, wins the Hollywood Academy Award for the best film and three further "Oscars"
- 1982 Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AIMS) is formed in London with its primary objective being to foster and promote distance running throughout the world
- 1982 The first IOC/IAAF Doping Laboratory is accredited
- 1982 There are three huge developments at the IAAF Congress in Athens: The introduction of the IAAF Permit Meeting, provision for Athlete's Funds (under the supervision of national federations), and the introduction of an Arbitration Panel to adjudicate in case of disputes within the IAAF
- 1982 The IAAF celebrate 70 "Golden" years of existence
- 1982 The IOC Executive Committee approved the reinstatement of the original 1912 Olympic Champion at Pentathlon and Decathlon, Jim Thorpe
- 1983 At Gateshead, Kipkemboi Kimeli becomes the first Kenyan to win at the World Cross Country Championships with his victory in the junior race
- 1983 Carl Lewis (USA) clocks 9.97 for 100m at Modesto, the first automatically-timed, low-altitude and legal sub-10 second run
- 1983 The first independent IAAF World Championships are staged in Helsinki with 1355 athletes from 153 countries, their travel expenses paid by the IAAF as well as 12 day's accommodation. Carl Lewis (USA) wins three golds and Tiina Lillak (FIN) dramatically wins the javelin throw in front of her home crowd. The meeting is described by President Nebiolo as "the biggest step forward ever made by the IAAF."
- 1983 The first IAAF World 10 Kilometres Road Race Championship for women is staged in San Diego
- 1983 The IAAF Council insist that all future world record applications would only be ratified subject to a negative doping control test
- 1984 The Court of Arbitration for Sport, or CAS, is established as part of the IOC
- 1984 Carl Lewis (USA) wins four gold medals at the Los Angeles Olympic Games, which are boycotted by 14 Eastern Bloc countries and their allies, yet still attract more countries (124) than athletics at any previous games
- 1984 The 10,000m run and 10 kilometres race walk for women is approved for addition to the IAAF's programme of events for the World Championships
- 1984 The IAAF Congress approve the start of the IAAF / Mobil Grand Prix circuit (from 1985), introduce compulsory disqualification for running out of lane, and determine that the middle lanes are allotted to the best qualifiers from preliminary rounds at distances up to 800m
- 1984 Uwe Hohn (GDR) throws the javelin more than 100m, prompting a revision in specification on safety grounds
- 1985 Experimental IAAF World Indoor Games are staged in Paris with just five months notice. President Nebiolo concludes "that the IAAF has correctly understood the need for this new competition"
- 1985 The IAAF World Series and IAAF / Mobil Grand Prix begin, with a total of \$542,000 on offer for the latter at the final in Rome
- 1985 The first IAAF World Marathon Cup is staged in Hiroshima
- 1985 The first IAAF Regional Development Centre is established at the Indian National Institute of Sport, Patiala
- 1986 The first IAAF World Junior Championships are staged in Athens, with 1188 athletes from 143 countries
- 1986 The International Athletic Foundation (IAF) is established to charitably assist the IAAF in the development and promotion of worldwide athletics
- 1986 The first "World Athletics Gala" is staged by the IAF at The Hotel de Paris, Monte Carlo. "Gold Star of Athletics" awards are presented to all those athletes setting world records in 1986

- 1987 The first IAAF World Indoor Championships at Indianapolis, with 402 athletes from 84 countries. Five new world indoor records are set
- 1987 The first list of IAAF World Indoor Records is approved, including marks by Sebastian Coe (GBR), Sergey Bubka (URS) and Carl Lewis (USA)
- 1987 The 75th anniversary of the IAAF is marked by a multi-media exhibition in Rome entitled "100 Golden Moments"
- 1987 Junior women are re-defined to be under-20 throughout the year of competition, rather than under-19. In other words, the ages of junior men and women are equalised
- 1987 The IAAF Congress supports the introduction of a one-member, one-vote system in place of the previous decision-making procedure in which the traditional nations of the sport had additional voting powers
- 1987 The second IAAF World Championships in Rome are highlighted by the almost simultaneous world records at 100m and high jump of Ben Johnson (CAN) & Stefka Kostadinova (BUL). Johnson's mark is later annulled after he admitted to drug-taking. A further result is later rescinded when the IAAF Council agreed that the bronze-medal long jump of Giovanni Evangelisti (ITA) had been measured doubtfully. The medal went to Larry Myricks (USA) with the Italian fourth
- 1987 The IAAF Introduce a two-tier system of suspension terms for doping infractions; three months for accidental use of Ephedrine-like substances and two years for the use of other material such as steroids
- 1987 One thousand voters including IAF and IAAF Council members, Member Federations, athletes and the media select their top 10 athletes per event of the past 75 years. The 400m hurdler Ed Moses (USA) gains the highest score across all events
- 1988 The Seoul Olympic Games are overshadowed by the doping violation of 100m winner Ben Johnson (CAN), and Florence Griffith Joyner (USA) wins three sprint golds. "Flo-Jo" sets a new world record for 200m an is measured at a top speed of 10.99 metres per second, while her sister-in-law, Jackie Joyner-Kersey (USA), shatters the world Heptathlon record and also wins the long jump
- 1988 Carl Lewis and Florence Griffith Joyner (both USA) are voted the inaugural IAF Athletes of the year
- 1989 A junior women's race is added to the programme of the IAAF World Cross Country Championships
- 1989 The women's triple jump is accepted by the IAAF as a world record event
- 1989 Chief Justice Charles Dubin conducts a Canadian government investigation into drug abuse, in which it is revealed that Ben Johnson (CAN) had used steroids since 1981
- 1989 The IAAF rules change to enable out-of-competition random doping control testing (from 1990)
- 1990 The first Oceanian Athletics Championships are staged in Suva (FIJ)
- 1990 Introduction of the IAAF World Cross Challenge, a contest linking 10 major cross country races for total prize money of \$94,000
- 1991 The third IAAF World Championships in Tokyo are highlighted by a monumental long jump contest between Mike Powell and Carl Lewis (both USA), which is won by Powell with a new world record (8.95). Lewis also sets world records in the 100m and 4x100m relay
- 1991 The suspension period for serious doping violation increases from two to four years
- 1991 The IAAF decide to stage World Championships every two years, starting in 1993
- 1992 Membership of IAAF climbs from 188 to 200 following the replacement of the USSR with 12 ex-Soviet states, and the granting of provisional membership of South Africa
- 1992 The first IAAF World Road Relay & World Half Marathon Championships are staged at Funchal and Tyneside respectively
- 1992 At the Barcelona Olympic Games, South Africa return to major championship athletics. Kenyan win all three men's steeple-chase medals for the first time at an Olympics, while Kevin Young becomes the first man to crack 47 seconds for the 400m hurdles
- 1992 The 80th anniversary of the founding of the IAAF is celebrated at a gala in Turin on the day before that year's IAAF / Mobil Grand Prix Final
- 1992 IAAF Advertising Rules & Regulations are introduced
- 1993 Start of the "Golden Four" series, involving Oslo (Bislett Games), Zurich (Weltklasse), Brussels (Memorial Van Damme) and Berlin (Internationales Stadionfest or ISTAF), with a prize of 20Kg of gold divided between those who could win their pre-scribed event at all four meetings. The first blood sample doping control tests are conducted at these meetings

- 1993 The IAAF Congress vote to move IAAF Headquarters from London to Monaco
- 1993 At the first IAAF World Championships in biennial sequence at Stuttgart, winners receive a Mercedes car worth \$30,000. The women's 100m title is decided by one-thousandth of a second as Gail Devers (USA) beats Merlene Ottey (JAM) 10.811 to 10.812
- 1993 The total money awarded at the IAAF / Mobil Grand Prix is tripled to \$2.3M
- 1993 At the Chinese National Games in Beijing, five world records are set in distance running by women including radical new marks at 3000m and 10,000m by 20 year-old Wang Junxia
- 1994 Haile Guebre Selassie (as he was then called) becomes the first Ethiopian to set a world record with a time of 12:56.96 for 5000m in Hengelo
- 1994 At Sestriere (ITA), Ukrainian pole vaulter Sergey Bubka sets his 35th and final world best performance of 6.14, and wins a \$250,000 Ferrari in the process
- 1995 The women's Pole Vault and Hammer Throw become official IAAF world record events
- 1995 Nawal El Moutawakel (MAR) and Abby Hoffman (CAN) become the first female members of the IAAF Council
- 1995 The IAAF World Championships in Gothenburg feature four world records including two consecutive triple jump marks by Jonathan Edwards (GBR). The Championships are the first to have live results posted on the internet
- 1996 With the addition of the women's pole vault, the European Indoor Championships in Stockholm become the first major championships where the programme of women's events is exactly the same as the men's
- 1996 The 100th anniversary of the opening of the Games of the First Olympiad is marked in Athens with a meeting involving athletes from the original participating nations competing in the same 12 events as in 1896
- 1996 The first "IAAF World Athletics Day" of competitions is staged, aiming to develop enthusiasm and passion for athletics among young athletes. A total of 12 boys and 12 girls selected from the winners are invited on an all-expenses trip to the Atlanta Olympics
- 1996 In conjunction with the IAAF World Athletics Day, the IAAF "World Wide Web Site" is launched at www.iaaf.org, with nine sections across 2100 pages
- 1996 Athletics proves to be the most popular sport at the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, with the largest number of tickets sold (1,134,558) and by far the largest total ticket value (\$72.5M). Carl Lewis (USA) wins a fourth successive gold medal in the long jump and both Michael Johnson (USA) and Marie-José Pérec (FRA) win the 400m/200m double
- 1996 The IAAF Council agree that in 1997-1999, competition awards are to be made available to top placed athletes at the IAAF's World Athletics series events. The total on offer from the three-year package is \$19 million. The prize money is available only to athletes who have been subjected to prior out of competition testing for banned substances
- 1997 Prize money – starting with \$50,000 for a win – is paid out for the first time in a World Championships at the World Indoor Championships in Paris. Wilson Kipketer (DEN) claims a further \$50,000 after he breaks the world indoor 800m record in both heat and final
- 1997 Donovan Bailey (CAN) becomes the first athlete to win a prize of one million dollars with his defeat of Michael Johnson (USA) in their "One To One" Challenge at 150m in Toronto's Sky Dome
- 1997 At Hechtel, Daniel Komen (KEN) becomes the first man to run two miles in less than eight minutes, with his 7:58.61 comprising halves of 3:59.2 and 3:59.5
- 1997 Following conflicts with specific national legislation in countries such as Spain, the IAAF Congress vote to reduce the sanction of a first serious doping offence from four years to "a minimum of two years." It is also agreed to change the secondary three-month sanction to a public warning
- 1997 The IAAF hymn, composed by Vangelis Odysseas Papathanassiou, is performed for the first time at the opening ceremony of the IAAF World Championships in Athens. Wildcard entries are introduced for defending champions and free televised news coverage of the championships is distributed by the IAAF
- 1997 The IAAF introduce a 'Whereabouts' information programme, where for the purpose of out-of-competition drug testing, the location of athletes is provided in advance
- 1997 The first IAAF High Performance Training Centre (HPTC) is opened in Dakar
- 1998 The "Year of Women in Athletics" is declared by the IAAF
- 1998 Short Course races are added to the programme of the IAAF World Cross Country Championships

- 1998 The start of the IAAF Golden League with a jackpot prize of US \$1 million to be shared between any athletes winning their Golden League event in each of the six meetings (Oslo, Rome, Monaco, Zurich, Brussels and Berlin) as well as in the IAAF Golden League/Grand Prix Final
- 1998 The IAAF agree that in long throwing events, distances are to be recored to the nearest single centimetre below the distance. Previously all such measurements were only recorded to the nearest lower even centimetre distance
- 1998 Introduction of the IAAF World Combined Events Challenge
- 1999 The IAAF Congress agree that the centre of gravity of the women's javelin is moved 3cm closer to the tip of the implement, in order to reduce the number of flat throws. Existing records are scrapped and replaced with the best distances by the end of the year, though not in the Heptathlon
- 1999 The first IAAF World Youth Championships are staged in Bydgoszcz with 1055 athletes from 131 countries
- 1999 The IAAF World Championships are staged in a custom-built stadium in Seville, contested by 200 countries and watched by more than 400 million television viewers in Europe alone. At the age of 31, Michael Johnson (USA) finally breaks the world record for 400m with a time of 43.18
- 1999 Primo Nebiolo (ITA) re-elected as IAAF President for the fifth time, but passes away later in the year, leaving Lamine Diack (SEN) to be confirmed as acting President
- 1999 A World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) is established to bring consistency to anti-doping policies and regulations within sport organisations and governments across the world
- 1999 Carl Lewis (USA) and Fanny Blankers-Koen (NED) are named Athletes of the Century. "It's fantastic that an old woman like me hasn't been forgotten," remarked the 81 year-old Dutchwoman
- 2000 The IAAF Council decide to move the IAAF World Indoor Championships and the IAAF World Race Walking Team Championships (then called the IAAF Race Walking World Cup) from odd to even years (from 2004 and 2002 respectively)
- 2000 The women's 3000m Steeplechase becomes an official IAAF world record event
- 2000 The first IAAF Media Training for athletes takes place in Hengelo, with participants including world 10,000m Champion Gete Wami (ETH)
- 2000 The IAAF World Rankings, a system to objectively rank athletes using points assigned to their performances and placings across all events, are presented
- 2000 There are no world records but unprecedented crowds – totalling 1,597,104 – at the Sydney Olympic Games where Marion Jones (USA) is the apparent star performer with five medals including three golds. Iconic Cathy Freeman (AUS) wins an historic gold in the women's 400m on a day which also saw wins by legendary figures such as Michael Johnson (USA), Jonathan Edwards (GBR), Maria Mutola (MOZ), Gabriela Szabo (ROU), Stacy Dragila (USA) and Haile Gebrselassie (ETH)
- 2000 Prize money increased to include not just medallists, but the first eight at IAAF World Championships
- 2001 Owing to the outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease, the World Cross Country Championships are moved from Dublin (IRL) to Ostend (BEL) with just three week's notice. Timing chip devices – later known as transponders – are used for the first time to give instant and detailed placings at every lap
- 2001 Lamine Diack (SEN) is officially elected as IAAF President
- 2001 On the eve of the IAAF World Championships in Edmonton, the IAAF is renamed as the International Association of Athletics Federations. A crowd of 54,535 watch the opening ceremony incorporating a thrilling finish to the men's marathon
- 2001 The IAAF Congress agree to automatic disqualification for whoever commits a second false start in sprint races, to be introduced from January 2003
- 2002 The IAAF establish a schools and youth programme incorporating "IAAF Kid's Athletics"
- 2002 The fifteen year-old Usain Bolt (JAM) becomes the youngest ever male world junior champion in the 200m at the World Junior Championships in Kingston
- 2002 The last IAAF Grand Prix Final in Paris is highlighted by a world record at 100m by Tim Montgomery (USA), though that record is later annulled for doping violation
- 2002 The IAAF becomes the first sport federation to test for EPO (Erythropoietin, the hormone which controls blood cell production) out of competition, without warning
- 2002 On the 90th Jubilee celebrations of IAAF, President Diack remarks that the IAAF's annual budget has risen from \$250,000 in the 1970s to more than \$40 million

- 2002 The Russian discus thrower Natalya Sadova becomes the first woman to be stripped of a world title due to a doping violation when the Court of Arbitration for Sport confirm her disqualification from Edmonton 2001
- 2003 Kenya's senior men win the main team title at the World Cross Country Championships for the 18th year in succession
- 2003 A World Anti-Doping Code is accepted by the IAAF Congress as the basis for the fight against doping in athletics and decisions of disputed doping cases are passed from the IAAF Arbitration Panel to the Court of Arbitration for Sport
- 2003 A substantial new world marathon best of 2:15:25 is set in London by Paula Radcliffe (GBR), meaning that the gap between the men's and women's record for that distance dips below 10 minutes
- 2003 The Kenyan distance runners Stephen Cherono Albert Chepkurui gain Qatari passports and are cleared to represent that country as Saif Saaeed Shaheen and Ahmad Hassan Abdullah respectively
- 2003 The IAAF World Championships in Paris are highlighted by world bests in both men's walking events but marred by drug scandals involving Jerome Young and Kelli White (both USA). Another American, Jon Drummond, refuses to accept a false start disqualification and causes to a delay of 50 minutes in the second round of the 100m. He later apologises in person to President Diack
- 2003 As a result of an investigation into the US Bay Area Laboratory Co-operative (BALCO) at Burlingame, California, the "designer" steroid Tetrahydrogestrinone (TGH) is found in the samples of many notable athletes. "We have probably opened a can of worms," remarked IAAF Council member Sebastian Coe "but I would rather have that embarrassment than see the decline of the sport."
- 2003 The first IAAF World Athletics Final is staged in Monaco with qualification decided by the individual event ranking positions of athletes in the IAAF World (points) Rankings. The first IAAF Race Walking Challenge is staged across six fixtures including the Paris World Championships
- 2003 The IAAF Congress approves a "World Athletics Plan", which, in the words of President Diack, will "ensure that Athletics continues to seek out, nurture and develop new talent and, working together with our partners, continues to provide immense enjoyment for millions of people around the world"
- 2003 Mozambican 800m runner Maria Mutola wins her event at Oslo, Paris, Rome, Berlin, Zurich and Brussels and so is unbeaten in IAAF Golden League circuit. She therefore becomes the first solo winner of the entire Golden League jackpot prize of \$1M
- 2003 The IAAF Council cancel 200m from World Indoor Championships starting with 2006 when examination of results make it clear that top performances depended solely on the lane draw with the winner and runner up mostly coming from lanes five and six
- 2004 The IAAF recognise official world records for all the most popular road running and walking distances, as long as a number of technical criteria are respected including the nature of the course
- 2004 At the Athens Olympics, three newly-crowned champions Róbert Fazekas (HUN), Adrián Annus (HUN) and Irina Korzhachenko (RUS) are stripped of their titles for doping offences during the Games. World records are set by Liu Xiang (CHN) and Yelena Isinbaeva (RUS) in the men's 110m Hurdles and women's Pole Vault
- 2005 At the Vancouver Sun Harry Jerome International Track Classic meeting in Burnaby, Alejandro Suarez (MEX) becomes the 1000th man to break four minutes for one mile
- 2005 A total of 103mm of rain falls in Helsinki during the week of the IAAF World Championships which includes for the first time the 3000m steeplechase for women. In the men's 200m (USA) and women's 5000m (ETH), the same country fills the first four places. For the first time a webcast service of television coverage is made available to subscribers
- 2006 The death is announced of the serving IAAF General Secretary and former long-time IAAF Council member István Gyulai (HUN), aged 62
- 2006 At the World Cross Country Championships in Fukuoka, Kenenisa Bekele (ETH) wins his ninth and tenth individual titles to become the most successful cross country runner of all time
- 2006 Foundation of World Marathon Majors, a series consisting five of the world's great races: Boston, London, Berlin and Chicago plus the World Championships and/or Olympic Games when relevant
- 2010 The first IAAF Continental Cup is staged in Split, contested by four teams each from continental groupings: Africa, Americas, Asia-Pacific & Europe. Europe are declared winners initially, but after a series of doping disqualifications, the trophy is passed to the Americas team
- 2007 The Osaka World Championships are held in exceptionally hot and humid conditions. The United States top the medal table with 14 golds, including the three titles each won by sprinters Tyson Gay and Allyson Felix

- 2007 Multi World & Olympic Champion Marion Jones (USA) admits to doping offences dating back to 2000 and is stripped of two world and three Olympic golds and all other results since September 1, 2000. "Marion Jones will be remembered as one of the biggest frauds in sporting history," remarks President Diack
- 2008 The Polynesian island nation of Tuvalu becomes the 213th IAAF member, maintaining athletics as the sport with most member federations (though in 2010 this total is reduced to 212 with the dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles)
- 2008 The Court of Arbitration for Sport declare that double amputee athlete Oscar Pistorius (RSA) is eligible to compete in competitions under IAAF rules. The IAAF had previously argued that the "Cheetah" prostheses worn by Pistorius gave him an advantage, but the IAAF accepted the decision of the CAS with President Diack commenting "He is an inspirational man and we look forward to admiring his achievements in the future."
- 2008 For the first time, athletes from 200 countries compete in athletics at the Beijing Olympics, including Usain Bolt (JAM). He wins the 100m in a world record despite slowing down to celebrate, then adds two more golds and world records from the 200m and 4x100m relay
- 2008 The 1:53.28 800m run by Jarmila Kratochvílová (CZE) from 1983 surpasses Jesse Owens's 8.13 long jump from 1935 as the longest-standing of all outdoor IAAF world records
- 2009 The proportion of European runners competing at the IAAF World Cross Country Championships reaches an all-time low of 20.6%. The IAAF Congress vote to stage the championships only in odd years from 2011
- 2009 Usain Bolt (JAM) is timed in 8.70 for the last 100m of his world 150m best in Manchester, the fastest ever timed 100m run. His 4.26 split between 50m and 100m represents a speed of 11.737 metres per second
- 2009 The IAAF Congress vote to introduce instant disqualification of athletes committing a single false start, except in combined events. It is felt that the old rule favoured runners who deliberately committed a first false start in order to put their rivals on edge. The first recorded disqualification under the new rule is 100m runner Katrina Anderson (NZL) at Auckland in October (as New Zealand adopted the rule at the start of their domestic season)
- 2009 In Berlin, a blue track is used for the first time at the IAAF World Championships and on it Usain Bolt (JAM) breaks his own world records at both 100m and 200m. The championship mascot 'Berlino' – an anthropomorphic bear – reaches new levels of popularity after engaging with athletes, spectators and the media
- 2009 Introduction of Athlete Biological Passports (ABPs), enabling the detection of any anomalous blood profiles in the future. Selected individual biological markers are initially measured, then monitored to look for the abnormal variations which could indicate doping practice
- 2010 The IAAF Golden League is replaced with the expanded and more global IAAF Diamond League with a prize money total of \$6.63 million and a \$50,000 bonus awarded for any new world record. In each of 32 disciplines there is a "Diamond Race", the seasonal winners of which will take home Diamond Trophy as well as a cash award. Due to stadium restrictions, a separate IAAF hammer throw "challenge" is also introduced as the event is not included at Diamond League meetings
- 2010 The first Youth Olympic Games and IAAF Continental Cups are staged at Singapore and Split respectively
- 2011 The IAAF adopt regulations governing the eligibility of females with hyperandrogenism (the excessive production of androgenic hormones), requiring them to take a medical assessment which is then referred in confidence by a medical panel
- 2011 The defining moment of the World Championships in Daegu is the disqualification of Usain Bolt (JAM) for a false start in the 100m, though he returns to take gold in the 200m & 4x100m relay. Every competing athlete is blood tested for their Athlete's Biological Passports, creating the largest available information bank with haematological and hormone profiles of elite athletes
- 2012 Up to 80,000 spectators fill the stadium for every session of the Olympic Games in London, where David Rudisha (KEN) front-runs to a world record in the 800m, Oscar Pistorius (RSA) becomes the first Paralympian to compete in athletics at the Olympics and there are a record 19 athletes disqualified for drug abuse (as at October 21, 2014). Two million ticket applications are made for the session which included the men's 100m final, where Usain Bolt (JAM) wins the first of three more gold medals
- 2012 The IAAF Hall of Fame is created with the announcement of 12 members – Abebe Bikila (ETH), Fanny Blankers-Koen (NED), Betty Cuthbert (AUS), Adhemar da Silva (BRA), Jackie Joyner-Kersey (USA), Carl Lewis (USA), Ed Moses (USA), Paavo Nurmi (FIN), Al Oerter (USA), Jesse Owens (USA), Wang Junxia (CHN) and Emil Zátopek (TCH)
- 2012 The 100th Anniversary of IAAF is marked in Barcelona with a Gala Show and a Centenary Historic Exhibition featuring the greatest collection of athletics memorabilia ever assembled. Items from Panhellenic Games held in ancient Greece are on show as are medals from the recently completed London Olympic Games
- 2012 Hélder Ornelas (POR) becomes the first athlete to be found guilty of a doping violation on the basis of his Athlete Biological Passport. His blood profile is flagged as being abnormal and experts unanimously conclude that there is no reasonable explanation for this other than the use of a prohibited substance or a prohibited method

- 2013 Among the decisions made by the IAAF Congress are four-year bans for serious doping offences and the introduction of two categories of world records for women in road races: for mixed gender and single gender races
- 2013 A record 203 countries compete at the IAAF World Championships in Moscow where Russia win the most gold medals and the largest ever number of doping control tests are conducted including 1919 blood samples collected from the athletes located at four different hotels
- 2013 At the New York Marathon there are record numbers of starters and finishers for a marathon race: 50,740 and 50,304
- 2014 IAAF launch WorldRunning.com – a new global website which aims to bring the world of running together – and Athletics for a Better World – a programme using the universality of athletics to make a positive difference in the world, in the fields of Health, Environment, Social Inclusion and Peace
- 2014 The first IAAF World Relays in Nassau are staged in front of capacity crowds with world records in three events. “They have excelled beyond our expectations” remarked IAAF President Diack