

Monday 21 May 2018 (for immediate use)

Kamulu, Kipkirui, Teferi and Tirop among the women's elite field to challenge Netsanet Gudeta at the TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2018

A strong women's field, with elite runners from across the globe, has been assembled to challenge Ethiopia's IAAF World Half Marathon Valencia 2018 winner **Netsanet Gudeta** at the TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2018 on Sunday 27 May.

Gudeta's rivals this weekend will include the Kenyan pair of Agnes Tirop and Pauline Kamulu.

Tirop, still only 22, won the 2015 world cross country title and has proven herself to be a formidable competitor on the track as well.

She won the IAAF World Championships 10,000m bronze medal in London last summer and showed she is in excellent form earlier this month when finishing second over 3000m at the IAAF Diamond League meeting in Doha in a personal best of 8:29.09.

Kamulu, 23, has spent several years based in Japan but this will be her first trip to India. She surprised many when she took the bronze medal at the IAAF World Half Marathon Valencia 2018.

A third Kenya, **Caroline Kipkirui**, doesn't have the international championships credentials of her two compatriots but has shown stunning form recently when winning the Doha 3000m in a personal best of 8:29.05 and also running a 10km best of 30:28 when finishing second in Prague last month, which makes her the fastest woman in Bengaluru and the equal-seventh fastest ever.

Gudeta will also have her compatriots Senbere Teferi and Zeineba Yimer to contend with.

Teferi celebrated her 23rd birthday earlier this month and has silver medals from the 2015 IAAF World Cross Country Championships and 2015 IAAF World Championships 5000m to her name.

Yimer doesn't turn 20 until next month but won the high-quality Ethiopian half marathon championships in January and followed up that victory with fifth place in Valencia but this will be her debut over the 10km distance on the roads.

However, while the favourites for the 2018 women's title appear to be from Ethiopia and Kenya, TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2018 race promoters Procam International have recruited elite athletes from across the world with top runners from Europe, Oceania and South America.

The TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2018, an IAAF Gold Label Road Race, has a total prize fund of US\$213,000. It risen in prominence every year since it was inaugurated in 2008 and is now one of Asia's leading races over the distance.

Women's elite field (with 10km personal best times)

Netsanet Gudeta (ETH)	31:35
Caroline Kipkirui (KEN)	30:28
Senbere Teferi (ETH)	30:38
Agnes Tirop (KEN)	31:00
Daria Maslova (KGZ)	31:36
Stella Chesang (UGA)	31:54
Ines Melchor (PER)	33:24
Camille Buscomb (NZL)	33:39
Salome Nyirarukundo (RWA)	debut
Pauline Kamulu (KEN)	debut
Zeineba Yimer (ETH)	debut
Ancuta Bobocel (ROM)	debut

Approximately 27,000 runners will take to the roads for five different races in what has become one of Bengaluru's most high-profile sporting events.

In addition to the TCS World 10K for elite runners, there is an Open 10K, the Majja Run (6km) the Senior Citizens' Race and Champions with Disability Race (both 4km).

* Other links

Twitter - https://twitter.com/TCSWorld10K

Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/tcsw10k/ Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/tcsw10k/

YouTube - https://www.youtube.com/user/procamrunning

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About Procam International

Since its inception in 1988, Procam International has been the driving force behind the growth and development of sports management in India. As envisioned by founders Anil and Vivek Singh, Procam are pioneers in holistic sports management, sports consultancy and live television programming.

The company has a track record of conceptualising and promoting over 90 international events, across the disciplines of powerboat racing, cricket, football, tennis, distance running, squash, professional wrestling and horse racing.

Procam International events have seen the participation of sportsmen and women of the highest calibre as well as elicited huge public interest and attendance.

The Tata Mumbai Marathon, Airtel Delhi Half Marathon, TCS World 10K and the Tata Steel Kolkata 25K are among the global leaders at their respective distances and have been a boon for Indian athletes.

^{*} For more information about the TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2018, the event website is: https://tcsworld10k.procamrunning.in/