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# WHEELCHAIR RACING'S STAR NAMES CHASE INCREASED PRIZE POT IN 2023 TCS LONDON MARATHON

- Richest wheelchair race in the world becomes even more lucrative
- Total prize pot across both races increased to \$253,500
- Defending champions Hug and Debrunner lead entries for 2023
- Schär, De Rozario, Weir and Romanchuk all set to race

The richest prizes in elite wheelchair racing have been made even more lucrative in 2023 as the TCS London Marathon increases its prize money once again.

Course record holders and defending champions Marcel Hug (SUI) and Catherine Debrunner (SUI), plus eight-time winner David Weir (GBR), and Manuela Schär (SUI) lead a stellar cast of names who will be competing for first place and a prize of \$45,000 on Sunday 23 April.

The TCS London Marathon has increased the winners' prize money by \$10,000 from last year (from \$35,000 to \$45,000) and the overall prize pot, across both the male and female races, has grown in 2023 by \$54,000, from \$199,500 to \$253,500. Prize money is available for athletes finishing in the top 10 with further prize money available for the Abbott World Marathon Majors Flying 400, the competition within the TCS London Marathon for the fastest wheelchair racer over a 400m distance.

Hugh Brasher, Event Director of the TCS London Marathon, said: "The elite wheelchair racers who come to the TCS London Marathon every year

are among the most incredible dedicated athletes in any sport, anywhere in the world.

"We are determined to continue to promote the sport and these athletes by improving the prize money incrementally with an ultimate ambition to create parity with the able-bodied athletes."

In the elite men's wheelchair race this year, Hug will be looking to match Weir's TCS London Marathon record of three consecutive wins on the streets of London.

The Swiss athlete is the number-one racer in the world and won every single Abbott World Marathon Major Marathon he raced last year (Tokyo, Berlin, London, Chicago and New York), which led him to win the <a href="Abbott World Marathon Series XIV title">Abbott World Marathon Series XIV title</a> (the award for the most points won across the six major marathons).

Among those trying to stop Hug will be Weir, who has won a record eight times in London and returns for what will be his 24th consecutive London Marathon, and Daniel Romanchuk (USA), who finished second to Hug after a thrilling sprint finish on The Mall in the 2022 race.

In the women's race, Debrunner will face competition from two women who had to withdraw from the 2022 TCS London Marathon on the eve of the event: Schär and Madison de Rozario (AUS).

Schär is the world record holder and a three-time London Marathon champion, while De Rozario is the Paralympic and Commonwealth Games champion who won the 2018 London Marathon.

Susannah Scaroni, who won last year's Bank of America Chicago Marathon and the overall Abbott World Marathon Majors Series XIV title, returns to London after her second-placed finish last year, as does Tatyana McFadden (USA), plus talented young British athlete Eden Rainbow-Cooper, who finished third last year in her first full TCS London Marathon.

# 2023 TCS London Marathon elite men's wheelchair field

- Rafael Botello Jimenez (ESP)
- Evan Correll (USA)
- Sean Frame (GBR)
- Kota Hokinoue (JPN)
- Marcel Hug (SUI)
- Jake Lappin (AUS)
- Simon Lawson (GBR)
- Jordi Madera Jimenez (ESP)
- Michael McCabe (GBR)
- Patrick Monahan (IRL)
- Hiroki Nischida (JPN)
- Aaron Pike (USA)
- Jetze Plat (NED)
- Daniel Romanchuk (USA)
- James Senbeta (USA)
- Brian Siemann (USA)
- John Boy Smith (GBR)
- Tomoki Suzuki (JPN)
- Ernst Van Dyk (RSA)

- Sho Wantanabe (JPN)
- David Weir (GBR)

### 2023 TCS London Marathon elite women's wheelchair field

- Eliza Ault-Connell (AUS)
- ChristieDawes (AUS)
- Madison de Rozario (AUS)
- Vanessa De Souza (BRA)
- Catherine Debrunner (SUI)
- Patricia Eachus (SUI)
- Jenna Fesemyer (USA)
- Yen Hoang (USA)
- Tatyana McFadden (USA)
- Merle Menje (GER)
- Eden Rainbow-Cooper (GBR)
- Aline Rocha (BRA)
- Susannah Scaroni (USA)
- Manuela Schär (SUI)
- Kina Tsubasa (JPN)
- Wakako Tsuchida (JPN)
- Michelle Wheeler (USA)
- Shelly Woods (GBR)

### **ENDS**

## **About the London Marathon**

- The 2023 TCS London Marathon will take place on Sunday 23 April.
- The London Marathon was first held on 29 March 1981 and the millionth finisher in the history of the event crossed the line in 2016.
- The 2023 TCS London Marathon Official Charity of the Year is Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity.
- Since the first London Marathon in 1981, the event has raised more than £1 billion for charity.
- London Marathon Events gifts its surplus each year to The London Marathon Charitable Trust.
- Since 1981, <u>The London Marathon Charitable Trust</u> has awarded grants totalling in excess of £98 million to more than 1,500 projects in London and across the UK.
- For more information, visit tcslondonmarathon.com

# **About TCS**

Tata Consultancy Services is an IT services, consulting and business solutions organisation that has been partnering with many of the world's largest businesses in their transformation journeys for over 50 years. TCS is one of the biggest software and services companies in the UK, and is at the heart of technological innovation within some of the UK's best-known brands. TCS has operated in the UK for more than 45 years and has over 200 customers in the UK today. TCS currently employs over 20,000 in the UK and Ireland.

TCS engages in a number of sports sponsorships in the UK, including being title partner of the TCS London Marathon and the official technology partner of the Jaguar TCS Formula E Racing Team. TCS is also the official title partner of distance running events including the TCS New York City Marathon, the TCS Toronto Waterfront Marathon, the TCS Amsterdam Marathon and the TCS Lidingöloppet.

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