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27.01.2023

Messe Karlsruhe

meeting-karlsruhe.de

Women's 3,000 meters at the INIT INDOOR MEETING Karlsruhe 2023: Will African athletes retain their dominance?

Starting field of top African athletes with Axumawit Embaye, Hailu Lemlem, Werkuha Getachew and Dawit Seyaum / Local hero Christoph Kessler with a chance in the 1,500 meters / Convenient shuttle bus / No tickets available at the box office

In recent years, the 3,000 meters at the INIT INDOOR MEETING Karlsruhe has been firmly in the hands of Ethiopia's women's team. Now, the question is whether this will be the case on 27 January, 2023 as well. In any case, Ethiopia will be represented by a strong team of female runners this coming Friday, meaning the race is likely to be fast. **Axumawit Embaye**, who won in the women's 1,500 meters last year, will be in the running. Besides the 1,500 meters, the 28 year-old also took the silver medal in the 2022 World Athletics Indoor Championships in Belgrade. She ran her personal best time of 8:49.52 minutes for the 3,000 meters indoors in 2017, at the INIT INDOOR MEETING. **Hailu Lemlem**, who is only 21 years old, is coming to Karlsruhe with the fastest 3,000 meter time of 8:29.28 minutes. She was also successful at the World Athletics Indoor Championships in Belgrade last year, taking gold with a time of 8:41.82 minutes. Next in the pack is the 27 year-old **Werkuha Getachew**. She comes to the competition having taken silver in the 3,000 meter steeplechase at last year's World Athletics Championships to start the World Indoor Tour Gold. Her personal best time for the 3,000 meters of 8:41.95 minutes is also remarkable, and she has a great chance of making the winner's podium. **Dawit Seyaum's** personal best time indoors, which she ran at last year's Indoor Tour Meeting in the French city of Liévin, is even better. She also won her last medal last year. She took gold for the 5,000 meters at the World Athletics Championships. Her silver medal in the 1,500 meters at the World Athletics Indoor Championships in 2016 proves that she is also a contender at the shorter distances. It will also be exciting to see how **Luiza Gega**, the Albanian European Champion in the 3,000 meter steeplechase, will do against the competition from Africa.

If a local hero is considered to have a chance of being in the front of the pack for the 1,500 meters, that is saying something. **Christoph Kessler** is not necessarily the favourite for this distance, but the 27 year-old from the LG Region Karlsruhe, who is one of Germany's best middle distance runners in both the 800 meter and 1,500 meter distances, has always performed at his best at the INIT INDOOR MEETING Karlsruhe, which he has referred to as his "living room". His best indoor time is 3:38.46 minutes. The favourites are **Teddese Lemi** from Ethiopia and **Ignacio Fontes** (European Athletics U23 Champion for 2019 in the 1,500 meters), as well as **Jesus Gomez** (bronze medals in the 1,500 meters at both the 2019 and 2021 European Athletics Indoor Championships) from Spain. The personal best times of all three are slightly lower than Christoph Kessler's, but Kessler certainly has nothing to be ashamed of.

Veranstalter:



Ausrichter:



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Convenient shuttle bus

Attendees can travel to the Messe Karlsruhe quickly and comfortably on the day of the meet via a shuttle bus provided by our mobility partner KVV – Karlsruher Transport Authority. The shuttle bus will run between the Karlsruhe main train station and Messe Karlsruhe from 3 PM to midnight. The shuttle bus is free of charge for attendees. Exact travel times are available at www.meeting-karlsruhe.de. The Smart Mobility Map powered by raumobil – also available on the meet website – can also be used to easily plan individual itineraries with all available means of transportation.

No tickets at the box office

The INIT INDOOR MEETING has sold out earlier than ever before. All tickets had already been sold out before Christmas. And the remaining contingent of tickets from TV blackouts and returning tickets from partners and sponsors, which went on sale, was also sold out within minutes. There will be no box office sales.

Those who were not able to get hold of one of the approximately 3,000 tickets for the INIT INDOOR MEETING Karlsruhe can follow the sporting events on 27 January from 6:30 PM onwards in the live stream on SWR Sport as well as on the Youtube channel of SWR Sport. Footage from the opening meeting of the World Indoor Tour Gold will be broadcast to more than 60 countries worldwide, including South and Central America and Australia.

For more information about the INIT INDOOR MEETING Karlsruhe, please visit www.meeting-karlsruhe.de and the meeting's social networks.

www.facebook.com/IndoorMeetingKarlsruhe

www.twitter.com/INDOOR_MEETING

www.instagram.com/indoormeetingkarlsruhe

Stops on the World Athletics Indoor Tour Gold 2023:

27.01.2023:	INIT INDOOR MEETING Karlsruhe (Karlsruhe, GER)
04.02.2023:	New Balance Indoor Grand Prix (Boston, USA)
08.02.2023:	Copernicus Cup (Torun, POL)
11.02.2023:	Millrose Games (New York, USA)
15.02.2023:	Meeting Hauts-de-France Pas-de-Calais (Liévin, FRA)
22.02.2023:	Villa de Madrid (Madrid, ESP)
25.02.2023:	Müller Indoor Grand Prix (Birmingham, GBR)