



FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA  
DI ATLETICA LEGGERA

# ITALIA

# *ITALY*

## TEAM GUIDE

**CAMPIONATI MONDIALI  
WORLD ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Oregon22, Eugene (USA)  
15-24.7.2022

## LA SQUADRA / TEAM

### UOMINI / MEN

100m - 4x100m	Chituru	<b>ALI</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle / Cus Insubria Varese Como</i>
100m - 4x100m	Marcell L.	<b>JACOBS</b>	<i>G.S Fiamme Oro Padova</i>
200m - 4x100m	Eseosa	<b>DESALU</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle</i>
200m - 4x100m	Filippo	<b>TORTU</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle</i>
400m - 4x400m/mista	Davide	<b>RE</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle</i>
400m - 4x400m/mista	Edoardo	<b>SCOTTI</b>	<i>C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl. / Cus Parma</i>
800m	Catalin	<b>TECUCEANU</b>	<i>Silca Ultralite Vittorio V.To</i>
400hs - 4x400m/mista	Mario	<b>LAMBRUGH</b>	<i>Atl. Riccardi Milano 1946</i>
3000st	Ahmed	<b>ABDELWAHED</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle</i>
Alto	Marco	<b>FASSINOTTI</b>	<i>G.S. Aeronautica Militale</i>
Alto	Gianmarco	<b>TAMBERI</b>	<i>G.S Fiamme Oro Padova / Atl-Etica San Vendemiano</i>
Triplo	Tobia	<b>BOCCHI</b>	<i>C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl.</i>
Triplo	Andrea	<b>DALLAVALLE</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle</i>
Triplo	Emmanuel	<b>IHEMEJE</b>	<i>G.S. Aeronautica Militare. / Atl. Estrada</i>
Peso	Leonardo	<b>FABBRI</b>	<i>G.S. Aeronautica Militare</i>
Peso	Nicholas	<b>PONZIO</b>	<i>Athletic Club 96 Alperia</i>
Marcia 20km	Francesco	<b>FORTUNATO</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle</i>
Marcia 20km	Gianluca	<b>PICCHIOTTINO</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle</i>
Marcia 35km	Andrea	<b>AGRUSTI</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle</i>
Marcia 35km	Massimo	<b>STANO</b>	<i>G.S Fiamme Oro Padova</i>
4x100m	Matteo	<b>MELLUZZO</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle / A.S. Dil. Milone</i>
4x100m	Lorenzo	<b>PATTA</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle</i>
4x100m	Diego Aldo	<b>PETTOROSS</b>	<i>Atl. Libertas Unicusano Livorno</i>
4x100m	Hillary W.	<b>POLANCO R.</b>	<i>Atl. Riccardi Milano 1946</i>
4x400m/mista	Vladimir	<b>ACETI</b>	<i>G.A. Fiamme Gialle / Atl. Vis Nova Giussano</i>
4x400m/mista	Lorenzo	<b>BENATI</b>	<i>G.S. Fiamme Azzurre / Atl. Roma Acquacetosa</i>
4x400m/mista	Lapo	<b>BIANCIARDI</b>	<i>G.S. Avis Barletta A.S.D.</i>
4x400m/mista	Brayan	<b>LOPEZ</b>	<i>G.S. Fiamme Azzurre / Athletic Club 96 Alperia</i>
4x400m/mista	Pietro	<b>PIVOTTO</b>	<i>Asd Atletica Biotekna</i>

## **DONNE / WOMEN**

<b>100m - 4x100m</b>	Zaynab
<b>200m - 4x100m</b>	Dalia
<b>400m - 4x400m/mista</b>	Alice
<b>800m</b>	Elena
<b>1500m</b>	Federica
<b>1500m</b>	Gaia
<b>1500m</b>	Sintayehu
<b>100hs</b>	Elisa
<b>400hs - 4x400m/mista</b>	Ayomide
<b>400hs</b>	Linda
<b>400hs</b>	Rebecca
<b>Alto</b>	Elena
<b>Asta</b>	Roberta
<b>Asta</b>	Elisa
<b>Lungo</b>	Larissa
<b>Triplo</b>	Ottavia
<b>Disco</b>	Daisy
<b>Martello</b>	Sara
<b>Marcia 20km</b>	Nicole
<b>Marcia 20km</b>	Valentina
<b>4x100m</b>	Anna
<b>4x100m</b>	Vittoria
<b>4x100m</b>	Johanelis
<b>4x100m</b>	Irene
<b>4x100m</b>	Alessia
<b>4x400m/mista</b>	Alessandra
<b>4x400m/mista</b>	Mariabenedicta
<b>4x400m/mista</b>	Raphaella B.
<b>4x400m/mista</b>	Anna
<b>4x400m/mista</b>	Giancarla D.
<b>4x400m/mista</b>	Virginia

**DOSSO**  
**KADDARI**  
**MANGIONE**  
**BELLO'**  
**DEL BUONO**  
**SABBATINI**  
**VISSA**  
**DI LAZZARO**  
**FOLORUNSO**  
**OLIVIERI**  
**SARTORI**  
**VALLORTIGARA**  
**BRUNI**  
**MOLINAROLO**  
**IAPICHINO**  
**CESTONARO**  
**OSAKUE**  
**FANTINI**  
**COLOMBI**  
**TRAPLETTI**  
**BONGIORNI**  
**FONTANA**  
**HERRERA A.**  
**SIRAGUSA**  
**PAVESE**  
**BONORA**  
**CHIGBOLU**  
**LUKUDO**  
**POLINARI**  
**TREVISAN**  
**TROIANI**

G.S. Fiamme Azzurre / Calcestruzzi Corradini Excelsior  
G.S. Fiamme Oro Padova  
C.S. Esercito / Atl. Bs '50 Metallurg. S.Marco  
G.S. Fiamme Azzurre  
C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl.  
G.S. Fiamme Azzurre  
Atl. Brugnera Pn Friulintagli  
C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl.  
G.S. Fiamme Oro Padova  
G.S. Fiamme Oro Padova  
G.S. Fiamme Oro Padova  
C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl.  
C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl.  
G.S. Fiamme Oro Padova / Atletica Riviera Del Brenta  
G.A. Fiamme Gialle / Atletica Firenze Marathon S.S.  
C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl.  
G.A. Fiamme Gialle  
C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl.  
C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atletica / Atl. Bs '50 Metallurg. S.Marco  
C.S. Esercito  
C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl.  
C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl. / N.Atl. Fanfulla Lodigiana  
C.S. Aeronautica Militare / Atl. Bs '50 Metallurg. S.Marco  
C.S. Esercito  
C.S. Aeronautica Militare / Atl. Bs '50 Metallurg. S.Marco  
Bracco Atletica  
C.S. Esercito  
C.S. Esercito  
C.S. Carabinieri Sez. Atl. / Atl. Bs '50 Metallurg. S.Marco  
Bracco Atletica  
Cus Pro Patria Milano

## **Athletes Biographies**

### **Men**

#### **Ahmed ABDELWAHED**

3000st

**PB:** 8:10.29 **SB:** 8:10.29

Roma, 26.5.1996, 1.86x73kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Roberto Scalla

**Caps:** 3

His family has Egyptian origins but has been living in Italy for several years and it has been established at the Rome coast. Ahmed first played basketball as playmaker and in 2008 started focusing on athletics in the Ostia youth club at the Caserma Italia. His first passion was the pole vault, then he moved to middle distance with Andrea Ceccarelli as coach. He showed up in 2012 winning the U18 national title, and confirming that position the year after in 2000m steeplechase, before winning the Gymnasiade in Brasilia in 2013. After this, he almost stopped for a loss in motivation, when in 2015 the coach Vittorio Di Saverio and his friend Yassin Bouih convinced him to come back training in Castelporziano, while in 2016 he moved to Camerino (Macerata) to study social sciences for international cooperation, trained on track by Roberto Scalla. Some improvements led him to the U23 European silver medal in 2017 in 3000 steeplechase, then in 2018 he improved his PB of more than ten seconds. From February 2021 he came back to Vittorio Di Saverio and ran in 8:12.04, fourth Italian ever and best Italian time since 1999, but in 2022 he chose Roberto Scalla to be his coach.

**Curriculum (3000st): NC:** 1 (2019); **OG:** 2021 (14); **ECh:** 2018 (13); **U23 ECh:** 2017 (2); **WUG:** 2017 (8); **Gym (2000st):** 2013 (1); **ECup:** 2019 (5).

#### **Vladimir ACETI**

4x400m

**PB:** 45.58 **SB:** 45.87

Petrozavodsk (Russia), 16.10.1998, 1.85x73kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Alessandro Simonelli

**Caps:** 9

He lives and trains in Giussano, in Monza and Brianza's district. His origins are from Carelia, in the north-west of Russia next to the Finland border, but when he was five he was adopted by an Italian family, as his brother Alexander, 400m runner himself too. He played soccer as goalkeeper but then he moved his sport passion to swimming and alpine skiing. In 2011 he discovered athletics and coached by Maria Grazia Sala he was second at the U16 300m national championship in 2013. Then an adjustment season for 400m races trained by Alessandro Simonelli led to the U18 Italian indoor record (48.86) in 400m in 2015. In 2017 he won two gold medals at the U20 Euros in Grosseto: 400m (achieving the U20 Italian record with 45.92) and 4x400m relay. In 2019 he took sixth place at the World Championships in Doha with his teammates at the 4x400m relay, and then seventh place at Tokyo Olympics (2:58.81), where they overcame the Italian record reigning from 1986. He has a scientific high school diploma, he studies motor science and he was a children's entertainer at the parish.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): NC:** 2 (indoor 2018-2021); **OG:** 2021 (7/R, ht/mx); **WCh:** 2019 (6/R); **ECh:** 2018 (ht/R); **EIC:** 2019 (6/R), 2021 (sf, 5/R); **WJC:** 2016 (sf, fin/R); **EJC:** 2017 (1, 1/R); **U23 ECh:** 2019 (7, fin/R); **WYC:** 2015 (sf, 7/mx); **ECup:** 2017 (7/R), 2021 (1/R); **WRel:** 2021 (4/R).

#### **Andrea AGRUSTI**

35km marcia/Race Walking

**PB:** 2h37:39 **SB:** -

Sassari, 30.8.1995, 1.80x68kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Patrizio Parcesepe

**Caps:** 9

His passion for athletics arose after watching on tv 2004 Olympic Games, at first as a sprinter playing basketball too. Then he tried race walking for fun but from the U16 category he decided to focus only on this discipline because he was more satisfied by it than the others and he was trained by Marco Sanna and Nello Dessi in Sassari. In 2014 he won his first U20 Italian title and from November he moved to Castelporziano to

be coached by Patrizio Parcesepe. Since the youth competitions he has had the 50km race as a dream and goal and he debuted in this in 2015. In 2021 he improved by more than 5 minutes his time with 3h49:52 at the European Team Championships in Podebrady, in spite of the injury he got at the beginning of the season, achieving the individual third place and the gold medal with the team. He has an accountant qualification, he is passionate about motorcycling and in his spare time he enjoys taking pictures and videos.

**Curriculum (50km RW): OG:** 2021 (23); **ECh:** 2018 (11); **U23 ECh:** 2017 (7/20km); **WCup:** 2018 (22, 7T); **ECup:** 2017 (11, 2T), 2019 (rit), 2021 (3, 1T).

### **Chituru ALI**

100m - 4x100m

**PB:** 10.15 **SB:** 10.15

Como, 6.4.1999, 1.98x98kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Claudio Licciardello

**Caps:** 1

The name is pronounced "Citru", the surname has the accent on the first syllable. His mother is from Nigeria and his father is Ghanaian, he grew up in Albate, a district in the south of Como, where the Mottin family was given custody of him. As a child he played soccer until the growth in height caused him some injuries. He soon tried athletics showing speed skills, trained by Katia Besseghini, he tested himself in U16 hurdles and jumps competitions. After a couple of seasons where a lack of motivation caused low activity, he drew attention to himself in the U20 110m hurdles, under coach Daniele Parrilli's guidance. In 2019 he won his first U23 Italian title and he almost reached the U23 European final. After the lockdown in 2020, he focused on the sprint, obtaining an U23 National Best in 150m with 15.38 and his PB in 100m with 10.41. In 2021 he debuted in 60m indoor: in a couple of weeks he made his first appearance in the 60m, he obtained a second place at the Nationals and he got his first call in the senior national team. From autumn 2021 he is training at Castelporziano with Claudio Licciardello, former 400m specialist, and in 2022 he improved to 10.15 in 100m. He studied management, finance and marketing at the polytechnic school. Colossus of almost 2mt height, he has a 49.5 feet size and he has a tattoo showing root with wings. He listens to all kinds of music and he is passionate about martial arts.

**Curriculum: EIC** (60m): 2021 (sf); **U23 ECh:** 2019 (sf/110hs).

### **Lorenzo BENATI**

4x400m

**PB:** 45.62 **SB:** 45.62

Roma, 5.4.2002, 1.95x79kg

**Club:** Fiamme Azzurre

**Coach:** Mario Benati

**Caps:** 4

His family discipline is 800m: his father-coach Mario, who was a Fiamme Gialle athlete, and his mother Viola Serego. After playing volleyball and tennis, in his first year practicing athletics seriously he achieved the youth National Best in 300m race (38.09 in 2015). In 2017 he showed off also at an international level, achieving the fifteen-year-old's European Best in 300m (34.07) and the Italian U16 one in 200m (21.98, first U16 Italian running this distance in less than 22 seconds). In 2018 he won two gold medals at the U18 European Championships in Győr: in 400m with 46.85, taking the Italian U18 record away from Edoardo Scotti, and in the medley relay, then he was called to take part in the National team for the U20 World Championships (he ran in the heat of the 4x400m relay that won the world title). In 2019 he bettered the National indoor U18 record (47.74) too and in 2020 improved his outdoor performance (46.30), while in 2021 he set the Italian indoor U20 record (47.11) before winning two silver medals at U20 European Championships (400m and 4x400m relay). He was born in Rome, in Balduina district, and he trains at the Acqua Acetosa track. He has a scientific high school diploma, he studies medicine science at Sapienza University. He loves music (he plays piano), he likes cooking and he is passionate about fantasy and history.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): EIC:** 2021 (ht); **WJC:** 2018 (ht/R), 2021 (6, 8/R); **EJC:** 2019 (8, 4/R), 2021 (2, 2/R); **YOG:** 2018 (5); **EYC:** 2018 (1, 1/MR); **EYOF:** 2017 (fin, ht/4x100m); **WRel:** 2021 (4/R).

### **Lapo BIANCIARDI**

4x400m

**PB:** 46.33 **SB:** 46.33

Pietrasanta (Lucca), 6.7.1998, 1.80x71kg

**Club:** Gs Avis Barletta

**Coach:** Riccardo Pisani

**Caps:** 1

He grew up in Ponte a Ema (Florence). He played soccer at the Belmonte team as striker, but he left this

sport in 2015 to be fully dedicated to athletics after winning a cross-country school race. His physical education teacher advised him to go to the Assi track to try athletics, and after few months of training with Luciano Venturi, he showed off at the U20 Nationals in 2015, improving his performance by more than two seconds in fourth place. In 2017 he reached the final at the U20 European Championships in Grosseto. From October 2020, in agreement with his first coach, he moved to Tivoli (Rome) to be trained by Riccardo Pisani and in 2022 he ran in less than 47 seconds. He has an accountant qualification and he studies to become a massage therapist. During his free time he loves cooking and he is passionate about Italian music.

**Curriculum (400m, 4x100m/R): EJC:** 2017 (8); **U23 ECh:** 2019 (fin/R); **MedG:** 2022 (7, 2/R).

### **Tobia BOCCHI**

Triplo/TJ

**PB:** 17.14 **SB:** 16.93

Parma, 7.4.1997, 1.87x83kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna

**Coach:** Renato Conte

**Caps:** 5

He comes from a rugby oriented family: his grandfather Silvio was a pioneer of Rugby Parma, his father Carlo played it for a long period, and Tobia did it from when he was 7 to 14 years old, keeping many friendships in that sport. It was Renato Conte, his physical education teacher at primary school and then his coach, to introduce him to athletics. When he was a boy he tried almost all the disciplines, showing up also in the throws (63.43 in vortex), but in 2012 he took the U16 national title in triple jump. In 2013 he won the Gymnasiade in Brasilia (gold medal and PB with 15.57, second U18 Italian ever to do so, after Andrew Howe), then in 2014 he obtained the silver medal at the Youth Olympics and in 2015 he confirmed the second place at U20 European Championships, until he set the U20 Italian record with 2016, taking it away from Paolo Camossi and Daniele Greco. He grew up in Monticelli Terme (Parma), but in August 2016 he moved to California (USA) to study at the UCLA and he finally came back to Italy in January 2019. He placed fourth at the U23 European Championships in 2019 and at the Euro Indoors two years later too. In 2021 he overcame the seventeen meters' barrier by jumping 17.14 at Nationals in Rovereto. He has a bachelor degree in computer engineering and he is now attending a master's course. He loves to apply his computer knowledge to everyday life.

**Curriculum (TJ): NC:** 2 (2021, indoor 2021); **OG:** 2021 (13Q); **EIC:** 2019 (13Q), 2021 (4); **WJC:** 2016 (14Q); **EJC:** 2015 (2); **U23 ECh:** 2019 (4); **YOG:** 2014 (2); **WYC:** 2013 (27Q); **EYOT:** 2014 (3); **Gym:** 2013 (1); **MedG:** 2022 (2); **ECup:** 2021 (4).

### **Andrea DALLAVALLE**

Triplo/TJ

**PB:** 17.35 **SB:** 17.28

Piacenza, 31.10.1999, 1.87x73kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Ennio Buttò

**Caps:** 3

He lives in Gossolengo and he trains in Piacenza. His talent in athletics arrives from his family: his mother Maria Cristina Bobbi was a good long jumper in youth categories and his father Fabrizio was a sprinter, while his older brother Lorenzo reached the triple jump final at the U20 Europeans in Rieti in 2013 and at the U20 Worlds in Eugene the year after. Andrea was practically born on the track and rapidly focused on triple jump. He immediately leaped over 14m as U16 and over 15m for his first U18 national title. His great performances in 2015 had been interrupted by an injury and a meniscus surgery. He came back on time to compete at the EYOF, where he won the bronze medal. A silver arrived at the U18 European Championships in 2016 and also at the U20 Euros in Grosseto in 2017, where he also set the U20 Italian record with 16.87. He was then stopped by a muscular injury, but in 2019 he improved with 16.95, winning the U23 European bronze medal. In 2020 he changed his jumping foot, from right to left one, and in 2021 he jumped 17.35, fourth Italian ever doing it, finally winning the U23 European gold medal. After his scientific high school diploma, he is attending the business economics university course. He is passionate about motorcycling and soccer, supporting AC Milan and also his town's team.

**Curriculum (TJ, R/4x100m): NC:** 2 (2020-2022); **OG:** 2021 (9); **WCh:** 2019 (32Q); **EJC:** 2017 (2); **U23 ECh:** 2019 (3), 2021 (1); **EYC:** 2016 (2); **EYOF:** 2015 (3, ht/R); **MedG:** 2022 (5).

### **Eseosa Fausto DESALU**

200m - 4x100m

**PB:** 20.13 **SB:** 20.52

Casalmaggiore (Cremona), 19.2.1994, 1.80x72kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Sebastian Bacchieri

**Caps:** 15

Olympic champion at 4x100 in Tokyo, third leg of the relay with Patta, Jacobs and Tortu: 37.50 national record in the final. The surname is pronounced "Desalù". His family has Nigerian origin, but "Fausto" (this is the literal translation of his African name and it is the name commonly used to refer to him) was born and grew up in Italy. He got the citizenship when he turned 18, in winter 2012. He played soccer for a short period of time, then in 2007 he was involved as athlete by Giangiacomo Contini, in the Interflumina of Castelmaggiore enlivened by Carlo Stassano. In 2011, even if still Nigerian, he would have achieved the U18 record in the indoor 60m hurdles with 7.86, winning the National championship in Ancona. His path was in the sprint without hurdles, though, and he has revealed himself as a great prospectus in the 200m. In 2016 he became the third best Italian ever in the 200m race, following Pietro Mennea and Andrew Howe, at the Nationals in Rieti with 20.31, while in 2018 he ran in 20.13 at the European Championships in Berlin, second Italian ever. From autumn 2018 he is training in Parma with Sebastian Bacchieri as a coach. Passionate about metal music, he played drums in a band, in addition to his love for cinecomics and anime. He lived in Breda Cisoni, a district of Sabbioneta, and he moved to Casalmaggiore when he was 17.

**Curriculum (200m, R/4x100m): NC:** 3 (2016-2017-2021); **OG:** 2016 (ht), 2021 (sf, 1/R); **WCh:** 2019 (sf); **ECh:** 2014 (sf, fin/R), 2016 (sf), 2018 (6, ht/R); **WJC:** 2012 (ht, ht/R); **EJC:** 2013 (5, 3/R); **MedG:** 2018 (2, 1/R); **ECup:** 2014 (3/R), 2017 (6/R, 7/4x400m), 2019 (2, 6/R), 2021 (1, 5/R); **WRel:** 2015 (13/R), 2017 (ht/R), 2019 (fin/R), 2021 (2/R).

### **Leonardo FABBRI**

Peso/SP

**PB:** 21.99 **SB:** 20.47/20.57i

Bagno a Ripoli (Firenze), 15.4.1997, 2.00x136kg

**Club:** Aeronautica Militare

**Coach:** Paolo Dal Soglio

**Caps:** 10

His father Fabio was a good sprinter (10.9 in 100m) and he brought "Leo" to the athletics track when he was 6 years old. After trying almost all the disciplines, his impressive physical structure guided him towards the throwing events starting from 2011 season, trained by Stefania Sassi. In 2012 he won the U16 national title in shot put, and his first important podium arrived on his debut in the U18 category, achieving the bronze medal at the EYOF, before qualifying for the Youth Olympics final. From the beginning he showed excellent quality also in discus throw, consolidated after changing his coach in favor to Franco Grossi, who was a specialist. He studied at the hospitality institute and he lives in Bagno a Ripoli, but from the end of 2016 he started to be trained during some periodical stages also by Paolo Dal Soglio, who became his official coach in October 2018 and they train together in Bologna. In January 2018 he bettered the Italian indoor U23 record for shot put (19.95) and in July the outdoor one (20.07). In the 2019 indoor season he managed to obtain 20.69m, then during the outdoor season he won the U23 European silver medal and almost achieved 21m with a 20.99m effort, the longest by an Italian since 1997. In 2020 he improved once more, throwing 21.59 in the indoor season (which became the Italian indoor record) and 21.99 at the Nationals in Padua: best Italian result since 1987, second Italian ever outdoors and second in the world that year. He is a season ticket subscriber to support Fiorentina football club and he loves to listen to Italian music during his spare time.

**Curriculum (SP): NC:** 6 (2019-2020, indoor 2018-2019-2020-2021); **OG:** 2021 (14Q); **WCh:** 2019 (13Q); **ECh:** 2018 (29Q); **IC:** 2019 (14Q), 2021 (11Q); **WJC:** 2016 (27Q, 26Q/DT); **EJC:** 2015 (11/DT); **U23 ECh:** 2017 (7), 2019 (2); **YOG:** 2014 (7); **WYC:** 2013 (27Q); **EYOF:** 2013 (3); **EYOT:** 2014 (9); **Gym:** 2013 (5); **MedG:** 2018 (12); **Euroch:** 2018 (3/U23), 2019 (5), 2021 (8); **ECup:** 2019 (6), 2021 (2).

### **Marco FASSINOTTI**

Alto/HJ

**PB:** 2.33/2.35i **SB:** 2.26

Torino, 29.4.1989, 1.92x73kg

**Club:** Aeronautica Militare

**Coach:** Alex Stewart

**Caps:** 13

He found out about athletics when he was 11 thanks to a Cus Torino's flier. He firstly focused on the long jump but in 2006 he discovered high jump and in two seasons, thanks to the guidance of Valeria Musso, he improved his PB from 1.90 to 2.17. In 2013 he moved to Birmingham, Great Britain to be coached by Fuzz Caan, who was also training Robert Grabarz, Olympic bronze medallist and European champion in 2012. In 2014 he improved the National record in Ancona with 2.34, a height that none Italian had jumped before neither indoor nor outdoor. In 2015 he confirmed his indoor record in Hustopece and then in Oslo he reached 2.33, matching Marcello Benvenuti's Italian outdoor record (1989). In the 2016 indoor season he set the indoor national record in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia jumping 2.35, as well as Gianmarco Tamberi. From 2017

he had trained at Farnesina's stadium in Rome with Stefano Serranò, then in October 2018 he moved to Sydney, Australia, to be trained by Alex Stewart.

**Curriculum (HJ): NC:** 5 (2013-2015-2021, indoor 2014-2020); **ECh:** 2010 (9), 2014 (7), 2018 (13Q); **WIC:** 2014 (6), 2016 (9); **EIC:** 2011 (6), 2013 (13); **WJC:** 2008 (7); **U23 ECh:** 2009 (6), 2011 (5); **WUG:** 2009 (4), 2011 (12), 2017 (2); **MedG:** 2018 (3), 2022 (7); **ECup:** 2014 (4), 2015 (2), 2017 (2).

### **Francesco FORTUNATO**

20km marcia/Race Walking

**PB:** 1h19:43 **SB:** 1h21:28

Andria, 13.12.1994, 1.78x52kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Riccardo Pisani

**Caps:** 13

He played soccer, swimming, tennis and volleyball but in 2008 he found out about athletics practicing cross-country and middle distance races. From August 2009 he started focusing on race walking coached by Antonio Lopetuso and achieving in a few weeks the fifth place at the U16 Italian championships. On his international debut he was fifth at the U20 World Cup in 2012. He grew up in Andria, then moved to Castelporziano in November 2013 to be trained by Patrizio Parcesepe. From September 2020 he is training in Tivoli with Riccardo Pisani, former race walker and his father's cousin. In 2021 he improved by more than two minutes (1h19:43) achieving fifth place at the European Team Championships. He loves running, particularly during winter time, and he is passionate about Caribbean dance. He has an accountant qualification and he has a bachelor's degree in sports science.

**Curriculum (20km RW): NC:** 11 (2017-2019, 10km: 2016-2020-2021-2022, 5000m indoor 2016-2017-2018-2019-2020); **OG:** 2021 (15); **WCh:** 2017 (25); **ECh:** 2018 (16); **WJC** (10.000m RW): 2012 (21); **EJC** (10.000m RW): 2013 (6); **U23 ECh:** 2015 (11); **WUG:** 2019 (5); **WCup:** 2012 (5jr/10km, 5T/U20), 2014 (69, 9T), 2016 (48, 14T), 2018 (9, 2T), 2022 (22, 6T); **ECup:** 2013 (9jr/10km, 2T/U20), 2015 (28, 7T), 2017 (28, 7T), 2019 (rit), 2021 (5, 2T).

### **Emmanuel IHEMEJE**

Triplo/TJ

**PB:** 17.14/17.26i **SB:** 17.03

Carrara, 9.10.1998, 1.86x82kg

**Club:** Aeronautica Militare

**Coach:** Robert Johnson

**Caps:** 1

He was born in Italy and his parents are Nigerian, he moved to Bergamo district when he was 4 and grew up in Zingonia, in Verdellino's district. He played football but in Treviglio he started attending Atletica Estrada youth centers trying many disciplines, among which the middle distance, trained by Giulio Ferri, then he moved to sprint and hurdles group with Paolo Brambilla as coach. First National podium arrived in U16 300m hurdles where he got the bronze medal, and he dedicated himself to hurdles for some seasons. At the end of 2016 he tried triple jump and on his debut (14.99 indoor) he reached the standard for the U20 European Championships in Grosseto, where he competed in the final: in this occasion he knew, asking for a selfie, Teddy Tamgho, twice world champion who became his coach for a couple of years when he lived in Reims (France), reaching 16.28. At the beginning of 2020 he moved to Los Angeles, to rejoin his family, to study biology at the California State University of Northridge, but he struggled with training sessions due to the pandemic. Then he arrived in Eugene, at Oregon University, and with it also excellent results in 2021: NCAA title with 17.26 indoor (improved by almost one meter) and 17.14 outdoor, Olympic final at his debut with the National team. In 2022 he won the NCAA indoor title. His registered first name is Chiebuka, but everyone knows him as Emmanuel. He is energetic and friendly and within his passions there are traveling and going shopping.

**Curriculum (TJ): OG:** 2021 (11); **EJC:** 2017 (6).

### **Marcell JACOBS**

100m - 4x100m

**PB:** 9.80 AR **SB:** 10.04

El Paso (Usa), 26.9.1994, 1.86x84kg

**Club:** Fiamme Oro Padova

**Coach:** Paolo Camossi

**Caps:** 12

100m Olympic Champion in Tokyo with a European record improved twice: 9.80 in the final after the 9.84 in the semi-final. Gold medal also at the 4x100 relay together with Patta, Desalu and Tortu (37.50 Italian record). 2022 World Indoor Champion in 60m improving in Belgrade the European record with 6.41. In 2021, before



the Olympic Games, he already was the Italian record holder (9.95 in May in Savona) and European Indoor Champion in 60m in Torun with the national record of 6.47. He was born in the United States of America, in El Paso: his mother, married to a Texan guy, came back to Italy when Marcell was still a child. As a child he played basketball at first, following in his father's footsteps, and soccer. When he was 10 he left himself to be tempted by sprint and started attending the track in Desenzano del Garda (Brescia) with Gianni Lombardi, the organizer of the Multistars meeting, as a coach. To make the most of his sprint talent, starting from 2011 he tried the long jump and in 2013, before a foot injury, he improved (7.75) an Italian U20 indoor record that was reigning from 1976. He overtook 8m with 8.03 in the qualification at Nationals indoor in 2015 in Padua. In the same year, in September, he changed his guidance to Paolo Camossi, former World indoor champion in triple jump, moving to Gorizia to train. In 2016 he achieved the longest jump ever for an Italian athlete with a windy 8.48 (+2.8) at the National U23 championships, whereas in 2017 he reached the third place in the all time national indoor list with a 8.07. After a knee problem, in 2018 he came back as a sprinter with 10.08. From autumn 2018 he moved to Rome. In 2019 he came back to long jump competitions after two years (8.05 indoor) and ran 100m in 10.03, third Italian ever, before the National record at Doha Worlds in the 4x100 relay (38.11). In 2021 he improved several times in 60m indoor achieving the European gold medal first and then the 100m record, second Italian ever running below 10s, before the Olympics triumph. He has three children: Anthony and Meghan, with his partner Nicole, and Jeremy, from a previous relationship.

**Curriculum (100m, R/4x100m): NC:** 9 (2018-2019-2020-2021-2022, 60m indoor 2021-2022, LJ: 2016, indoor 2017); **OG:** 2021 (1, 1/R); **WCh:** 2019 (sf, ht/R); **ECh:** 2016 (11/LJ), 2018 (sf); **WIC** (60m): 2022 (1); **EIC** (60m): 2017 (11Q/LJ), 2019 (NM/Q/LJ), 2021 (1); **EJC:** 2013 (9/lungo); **ECup:** 2019 (2); **WRel:** 2019 (fin/R), 2021 (2/R).

### **Mario LAMBRUGHI**

400hs

**PB:** 48.99 **SB:** 49.03

Monza, 5.2.1992, 1.84x77kg

**Club:** Atletica Riccardi Milano 1946

**Coach:** Simone Vimercati

**Caps:** 4

He played basketball until he was 17 but he frequently stayed on the sidelines, being the less tall in his team, meanwhile he stood out during school cross-country and jump races. Therefore he decided to try athletics in Vedano al Lambro, training on a straight track, not having a proper one. He started with Simone Vimercati in the 110 hurdles, however an osteitis pubis forced him to stop for all 2013. After this, he came back training on the 400m hurdles in Giussano and Sesto San Giovanni tracks, and the results arrived: in 2014 he ran in 50.84 and the year after he did 50.20. In 2016 he led the National lists with 49.35, while in 2018 he became the fourth fastest Italian ever with 48.99. From September 2018 he has trained in Milan with Alessandro Nocera and from the end of 2021 he came back with his first coach. This sport passion has been instilled by his family: his mother is a gymnastic teacher, his father is a middle distance amateur racer. After living in Lissone, he moved to Biassono (Monza e Brianza).

**Curriculum (400hs, R/4x400m): NC:** 2 (2020-2022); **ECh:** 2016 (sf, ht/R); **EIC:** 2017 (ht/400m); **MedG:** 2022 (5).

### **Brayan LOPEZ**

4x400m

**PB:** 45.81 **SB:** 45.81

San Juan de la Maguana (Dominican Republic), 20.6.1997, 1.74x71kg

**Club:** Fiamme Azzurre

**Coach:** Alessandro Nocera

**Caps:** 8

He lived in the south of Dominican Republic until 2006. As soon as he turned nine he went to Italy to reunite with his mother who remarried to move to Cigliano (Vercelli) and then his custody was given to a family who lived in San Secondo di Pinerolo (Turin). When he was a child he played baseball, in Italy he tried judo and tennis, then he started doing athletics by participating in some cross-country school races, until when he focused on sprinting, trained by Antonio Dotti in 2012, but he found out his ability also in 400m. In 2015 he won the silver medal in the U20 European Championships with the Italian relay. From spring 2016 he trained in Turin with Francesco Ricci. After a difficult year in 2018 due to some injuries, in 2019 he improved several times his PB until the surprising U23 European bronze medal. From September 2020 his coach is Alessandro Nocera, still in Turin. He is a mechanical expert. He lives in San Pietro Val Lemina (Turin), he is passionate about pencil drawing and he enjoys reading fantasy books.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): NC:** 1 (indoor 2022); **WCh:** 2019 (ht/mx); **EIC:** 2019 (6/R), 2021 (5/R); **WJC:** 2016 (ht, fin/R); **EJC:** 2015 (ht, 2/R); **U23 ECh:** 2017 (sf, ht/R), 2019 (3, fin/R); **EYOT:** 2014 (ht); **ECup:** 2017 (7/R), 2019 (1/R); **WRel:** 2021 (4/R).

**Matteo MELLUZZO**

4x100m

**PB:** 10.25 **SB:** 10.28

Siracusa, 29.7.2002, 1.87x78kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle**Coach:** Gianni Melluzzo**Caps:** 2

The first sport he practiced was judo, but in 2010 he started doing athletics with some friends, coached by Luisa Celesia in Siracusa. He tried combined events and long jump, then he focused on short distances trained by his father Gianni, who was a sprinter. He showed off his great quality since he was young: in 2019 he almost achieved the U18 60m indoor national record (6.81) and he became the 100m second fastest U18 Italian ever with 10.48, winning the silver medal at the European Youth Olympic Festival in Baku. In 2021 he ran the 100m in 10.25, at the second place in the all time U20 list following Filippo Tortu, then he took two bronze medals at the U20 European Championships (100m and 4x100m). His family is a sporty one: his sister plays volleyball, his mother did fencing and his grandfather was an amateur soccer coach. He has a scientific high school diploma and he supports the Inter football club.

**Curriculum (100m, R/4x100m):** **WJC:** 2021 (6, 4/R); **EJC:** 2021 (3, 3/R); **EYOF:** 2019 (2); **MedG:** 2022 (4, 1/R).

**Lorenzo PATTA**

4x100m

**PB:** 10.13 **SB:** 10.19

Oristano, 23.5.2000, 1.73x60kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle**Coach:** Francesco Garau**Caps:** 2

He is the 4x100 relay 2021 Tokyo Olympics champion, together with Jacobs, Desalu and Tortu (37.50 Italian record). He discovered athletics just in 2016 due to some school competitions. Before that, he was a football player for the La Palma Monte Urpinu team, playing as a striker. He showed off at the Indoor Nationals in 2017, achieving second place in 60m and third in 200m, trained by Valentina Piras and, at the same time, continuing to play football. Then he won the 200m outdoor title. From 2018 he is practicing only athletics, coached by Francesco Garau, achieving the U20 outdoor national title and running the 100m in a really good 10.37 (+2.3), one of the best results ever at the debut in U20 category. He was the last runner of the 4x100 relay that in 2019 won the silver medal at the U20 European Championships. After some muscular problems, in 2020 he ran the 100 in 10.31. In 2021 improved his performance with 10.13 on his season debut, a prelude to the 4x100 relay Olympic gold medal. He has a scientific high school diploma. He lives and trains in Oristano.

**Curriculum (100m, R/4x100m):** **OG:** 2021 (1/R); **WJC:** 2018 (sf, fin/R); **EJC:** 2019 (2/R); **ECup:** 2021 (2, 5/R).

**Diego PETTOROSSO**

4x100m

**PB:** 10.36 - 20.54 **SB:** 10.36 - 20.54

Bologna, 13.1.1997, 1.87x79kg

**Club:** Atletica Libertas Unicusano Livorno**Coach:** Leonardo Righi**Caps:** 1

He has a sport oriented family: his father Mario, who has Italian citizenship but Ivorian origins, played basketball with Olimpia Milano first and then with Porto San Giorgio team. Diego grew up playing rugby in Cus Bologna youth teams, but he fell in love with athletics participating in some school races in 2011 and he won the 80m U16 Italian title in 2012, trained by Christian Cavina. From 2016 he moved to Turin to train with Alessandro Nocera and to study sports science, after getting the scientific high school diploma. In 2019 he moved to Texas to attend a Master course in business administration at Angelo State University and to be coached by Thomas Dibbern. His Italian coach from the end of 2020 is Leonardo Righi and they train in Modena. In 2021 he moved back to Texas to attend a Master course in data analysis at Texas University in San Antonio, having Kareem Streete-Thompson as head coach, improving his performances in 2022 to 10.36 for 100m and 20.61 (then 20.54 at the Nationals, that he won) in 200m. He is passionate about Star Wars saga and Nba basketball.

**Curriculum (200m, R/4x100m):** **NC:** 1 (2022); **U23 ECh:** 2019 (sf, 4/R); **EYOF:** 2013 (5/100m, 2/R); **EYOT:** 2014 (6/100m); **Gym:** 2013 (4/100m, 1/MR); **MedG:** 2022 (2, 1/R).

### **Gianluca PICCHIOTTINO**

20km marcia/Race Walking

**PB:** 1h21:36 **SB:** 1h21:37

Pisa, 22.8.1996, 1.76x61kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Massimo Passoni

**Caps:** 3

He lives and trains in Livorno. He started going to the track encouraged by his mother, an athletics and volleyball coach after playing it at second league level. He firstly practiced duathlon (running and cycling) but since the U18 category he focused on race walking, trained by Massimo Passoni at Libertas team. In 2019 he improved his 20km performance to 1h21:36 in La Coruna, then he won his first national title in 10km. He didn't show his quality completely for several seasons due to some injuries: the worst in 2020 that kept him out from the competition until spring 2021. He came back almost achieving the PB in 2022 with 1h21:37 and other two performances just a little over 1h22. He has a scientific high school diploma and in his spare time he enjoys reading and being in contact with nature.

**Curriculum (20km RW): NC:** 1 (10km RW: 2019); **EJC** (10.000m RW): 2015 (13); **U23 ECh:** 2017 (13); **ECup:** 2015 (16jr/10km, 5T/U20); **WCup:** 2022 (36, 6T).

### **Pietro PIVOTTO**

4x400m

**PB:** 46.24 **SB:** 46.24

Brescia, 29.4.1995, 1.78x71kg

**Club:** Atletica Biotekna

**Coach:** Antonio Ferro

**Caps:** 1

He lives in Rodengo Saiano (Brescia). His brother Francesco, three years older than him, was a good 400m specialist at youth categories, therefore Pietro followed in his footsteps. He started practicing athletics in 2007, but until 2012 he also played seven-a-side soccer as goalkeeper at Padergnone team. Firstly he grew up with Maurizio ("Fabrizio") Affò as coach, being called in the National team for the U20 European Championships in 2013, then he changed his coach to Walter Comper and from 2016 he is trained by Tonino Ferro. A surgery to the right foot stopped him in 2018, while in 2022 he moved to 400m race with 46.24, improving his performance by a second and a half. He mainly trains at the Sanpolino track in Brescia. Music is his passion: he plays bass as self-taught and in a band. He is a business consultant and he is studying motor science at the University.

**Curriculum (200m, R/4x100m): EJC:** 2013 (sf); **WUG:** 2019 (sf, ht/R); **MedG:** 2022 (2/R).

### **Wanderson POLANCO**

4x100m

**PB:** 10.21 **SB:** 10.31

Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic), 25.11.1997, 1.93x84kg

**Club:** Atletica Riccardi Milano 1946

**Coach:** Andrea Atzeni

**Caps:** 2

He lives in Sestu, next to Cagliari. He was born in the Dominican Republic but he moved to Sardinia with his parents when he was 7 years old. The first sport he practiced was soccer, as a wingback, but a friend brought athletics to his attention in 2013: Valentina Uccheddu, second Italian all time long jumper. He grew up in the Amsicora team with Andrea Atzeni as coach, he moved to Turin to be trained by Alessandro Nocera in the end of 2016, then moving to Riccardi Milano team: his nickname is "gentle giant" due to his outstanding height. In 2017 he showed off winning both indoor and outdoor U23 sprint Italian titles (60m indoor and 100m outdoor with 10.35). In 2020 his first son Leonardo was born, therefore he came back to Sardinia and to his first coach, living some periods in Turin. In 2021 he improved to 10.21. He has a bachelor's sports science degree, during his spare time he enjoys reading japanese comics and is passionate about technology.

**Curriculum (R/4x100m): U23 ECh:** 2017 (sf, fin/R); **ECup:** 2017 (6/R).

### **Nick PONZIO**

Peso/SP

**PB:** 21.83 **SB:** 21.83

La Jolla (Usa), 4.1.1995, 1.83x145kg

**Club:** Athletic Club 96 Alperia Bolzano

**Coach:** -

**Caps:** 3

He has Italian origins, in fact his great-grandfather was born in Paceco, Sicily, in Trapani's district. He grew up in Temecula, California, and started throwing when he was 17, after trying other sports, especially football, and he was trained by Dan Lange at the University of Southern California. In 2019 he overcame the 20m barrier and he moved to Scottsdale, Arizona, to be trained by Ryan Whiting, twice World indoor champion (2012 and 2014), at the Mesa Community College. In 2020 he improved to 21.72, winning at Golden Gala in Rome. He obtained Italian citizenship on June 15th 2021 and a couple of weeks later he won the National title, before his Italian team debut at Tokyo Olympics. From October 2021 he is living in Nashville, Tennessee, coaching himself. In 2022 he set the Italian indoor record (21.61 at Belgrade meeting) and his outdoor PB (21.83 at the European Cup in Leiria) within a week. He has a bachelor degree in psychology. During his free time he enjoys weightlifting, testing new food and practicing all kinds of outdoor activities.

**Curriculum (SP): NC:** 3 (2021-2022, indoor 2022); **OG:** 2021 (20Q); **WIC:** 2022 (7); **Euroch:** 2022 (2).

### **Davide RE**

400m - 4x400m

**PB:** 44.77 **NR SB:** 45.80

Milano, 16.3.1993, 1.83x75kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Flavio Zberg

**Caps:** 16

From Imperia, Liguria, he is the 400m National record holder, first Italian running under the 45 seconds. Until he turned 16, he skied and he considered athletics just a summer sport, training with coach Ugo Saglietti at the Us Maurina Olio Carli. In 2008 he won the 300m U16 Italian title with the U16 National Best of 35.12. He trained with Luigi Vallet at the Cus Torino, then a period from 2014 to 2016 in Florida, USA, with Loren Seagrave and then with Enrico Maffei, but in October 2016 he moved to Rieti to be trained by Maria Chiara Milardi. In 2017 he ran for the first time in less than 46 seconds, reaching 45.40, and in 2018 he won the Mediterranean Games with 45.26. In 2019 he set the 400m National record with 45.01 in Geneva, improving to 44.77 at La Chaux-de-Fonds, still in Switzerland, while he became the first Italian ever to win 400m at the European Team Championship in Bydgoszcz. Few weeks later, he almost reached the 400m final at the World Championships in Doha, and helped to reach the sixth place in the 4x400 relay. In 2021 he led the 4x400 mixed relay at the World Relays and he qualified for the 4x400 men relay final in Tokyo Olympics obtaining the Italian record (2:58.81). From October 2021 he is training in Zurich, Switzerland, with coach Flavio Zberg. He has got a social sciences diploma, studying at the ski-college in Limone Piemonte, and in 2013 he worked as a ski instructor. He is now studying medical science at Torino's university.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): NC:** 3 (2017-2018, 200m: 2018); **OG:** 2021 (sf, 7/R); **WCh:** 2017 (sf), 2019 (sf, 6/R); **ECh:** 2014 (ht), 2018 (sf, 6/R); **WJC:** 2012 (fin/R); **U23 ECh:** 2015 (4); **WYC:** 2009 (sf, ht/MR); **EYOF:** 2009 (3); **WUG:** 2017 (6); **Gym:** 2009 (3); **MedG:** 2018 (1, 1/R); **ECup:** 2014 (DQ/R), 2015 (6/R), 2017 (3), 2019 (1, 1/R), 2021 (3, 1/R); **WRel:** 2019 (9/R, ht/mx), 2021 (1/mx).

### **Edoardo SCOTTI**

400m - 4x400m

**PB:** 45.21 **SB:** 45.69

Lodi, 9.5.2000, 1.84x72kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna

**Coach:** Giacomo Zilocchi

**Caps:** 8

He started practicing athletics in 2015 participating in the school cross-country race. Before that he played soccer, tennis, he swam and he practiced alpine skiing, but he decided to accept Lella Grenoville's suggestion, she is Fanfulla's coach in Lodi. From this point has started the climb to the highest youth international grades: in 2016 "Edo" won the gold medal for running in the medley relay's heats at the U18 European Championships and he showed his competitiveness in the 200m and 800m. In autumn 2016 he moved from Lodi to Castell'Arquato (Piacenza) together with his family - his mother Monica was an A2 volleyball player. In 2017 he improved two important U18 Italian records: 47.77 indoor and 46.86 outdoor in 400m race, then becoming 4x400 U20 European Champion in Grosseto with the national team. At the U20 Worlds in Tampere in 2018 he set U20 Italian records in semi-finals (45.84), more than one second less his PB, and ran the last leg in the relay winning the gold medal. In 2019 he gained the 400m U20 European title in Borås and the 4x400 world final in Doha. In 2020 he won the Golden Gala in Rome with 45.21, the U23 best Italian performance, and in 2021 he was first at the mixed 4x400 in World Relays, before achieving two U23 European Championships medals (bronze in 400m race and silver in the relay) and the 4x400 relay Italian record at the Olympic final (2:58.81). He has a scientific high school diploma and he studied economics, he is passionate about golf and he loves to practice it in his spare time. He trains in Fidenza (Parma).

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): NC:** 3 (2020-2021-2022); **OG:** 2021 (ht, 7/R, ht/mx); **WCh:** 2019 (6/R,

ht/mx); **ECh**: 2018 (6/R); **EIC**: 2021 (5/R); **WJC**: 2018 (4, 1/R); **EJC**: 2017 (1/R), 2019 (1, 4/R); **U23 ECh**: 2021 (3, 2/R); **EYC**: 2016 (ht, 1/MR); **ECup**: 2019 (1/R), 2021 (1/R); **WRel**: 2019 (9/R), 2021 (1/mx).

### **Massimo STANO**

35km marcia/Race Walking

**PB**: 2h29:09 **SB**: 2h29:09

Grumo Appula (Bari), 27.2.1992, 1.79x66kg

**Club**: Fiamme Oro Padova

**Coach**: Patrizio Parcesepe

**Caps**: 10

He is the 20km Tokyo Olympic champion. He grew up in Palo del Colle (Bari), and he started practicing athletics in 2003 by running middle distance races but in 2006 he chose race walking, showing very quickly great quality, trained by Giovanni Zaccheo also at Molfetta's track. In 2013 he finished fourth at the U23 European Championships in Tampere, but he got the bronze medal due to Russia's Bogatyrev disqualification. From October of that year he moved to Sesto San Giovanni (Milan) to be trained by Alessandro Gandellini. A sequence of injuries convinced him to go to Castelporziano under Patrizio Parcesepe guidance. In March 2018 he won the 20 km Italian title, improving his performance by more than one minute, then he achieved the third place and the team silver medal at the World Team Championships, and finally the fourth place at the European Championships in Berlin, just one second apart from the podium. He set the National record in 2019 with 1h17:45 at La Corona. In 2021, after a stop caused by a muscular injury, he came back placing eight at the European Team Championships, before winning at the Olympics on Sapporo roads. He got married in September 2016 with Fatima Lotfi, a middle distance runner who chose race walking too, and they had a daughter in 2021 whose name is Sophie. He has a computer science diploma and he is passionate about Japanese culture.

**Curriculum (20km RW)**: **NC**: 4 (2015-2018-2022, 10 km: 2018); **OG**: 2021 (1); **WCh**: 2015 (19), 2019 (14); **ECh**: 2014 (24), 2018 (4); **WJC** (10.000m RW): 2010 (13); **EJC** (10.000m RW): 2011 (5); **U23 ECh**: 2013 (3); **WYC** (10.000m RW): 2009 (14); **WCup**: 2010 (11jr/10km), 2014 (45), 2018 (3, 2T); **ECup**: 2011 (14jr/10km), 2019 (7, 4T), 2021 (8, 2T).

### **Gianmarco TAMBERI**

Alto/HJ

**PB**: 2.39 NR **SB**: 2.30/2.31i

Civitanova Marche (Macerata), 1.6.1992, 1.92x77kg

**Club**: Fiamme Oro Padova

**Coach**: Marco Tamberi

**Caps**: 16

High jump Olympic champion in Tokyo. He lives in Ancona, not that far from the training stadium, after growing up in the medieval village Offagna. The model of his dad Marco, one of the best Italian specialist (finalist at the Olympic Games in Moscow in 1980) has influenced him, but Gimbo's, as he is called, biggest passion has always been basketball, that he practiced for a long time as guard in Stamura Ancona team. From spring 2009 he seriously focused on athletics and gained the call to the U18 World Championships, then in 2011 he won the U20 European bronze medal. In 2012 he qualified for the Helsinki Euros where he was fifth, and then he won the National title with 2.31, new U23 Italian Best and standard for the Olympic Games, that took him to London. In summer 2015 a new breakthrough for him by matching the Italian record with 2.34 in Cologne and improving in Eberstadt, Germany twice to 2.35 and 2.37. In 2016 indoor season he obtained two more Italian records: 2.35 in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia and 2.38 in Hustopece, Czech Republic. At the 2016 Portland World Indoor Championships he won the gold medal with 2.36 at the first attempt, 13 years after the last Italian athlete to conquer a world title (Giuseppe Gibilisco in the pole vault in Paris 2003) and he became the first Italian ever winning it in high jump. Then he won the Amsterdam European Championships and achieved the National record with 2.39 at Monaco's meeting where, although, he injured his ankle trying to jump 2.41, which forced him to give up on the Olympic Games in Rio. In summer 2018 he came back with 2.33 and in March 2019, two years and seven month after his injury, he won the European Indoor Championships in Glasgow. In the 2021 indoor season he jumped 2.34 and 2.35, European indoor silver medal, and after winning the Olympics (sharing the gold medal with Barshim), he also won the Diamond League final in Zurich, first Italian ever to do so. For a long time he used to half shave, just the right part of his face before important competitions, therefore it has been nicknamed "Halfshave". Passionate about music, Gianmarco played drums in "The Dark Melody" band performing a seventies rock discography.

**Curriculum (HJ)**: **NC**: 9 (2012-2014-2016-2018-2020-2022, indoor 2016-2019-2021); **OG**: 2012 (21Q), 2021 (1); **WCh**: 2015 (8), 2017 (13Q), 2019 (8); **ECh**: 2012 (5), 2014 (7), 2016 (1), 2018 (4); **WIC**: 2016 (1), 2022 (3); **EIC**: 2013 (5), 2015 (7), 2019 (1), 2021 (2); **WJC**: 2010 (21Q); **EJC**: 2011 (3); **U23 ECh**: 2013 (13Q); **WYC**: 2009 (18Q); **MedG**: 2013 (6).

### **Catalin TECUCEANU**

800m

**PB:** 1:44.93 **SB:** 1:44.97

Tecuci (Romania), 9.9.1999, 1.79x70kg

**Club:** Silca Ultralite Vittorio Veneto

**Coach:** Lionello Bettin

**Caps:** 1

He has lived in Italy since 2008 when he moved to Trebaseleghe (Padua) from Romania with his family to catch up with his father, who moved there in 2002. He started practicing athletics at twelve, following his brothers' path, at Noale's (Venice) track with coach Simone Zanon until 2015 when he decided to be guided by Lionello Bettin. In 2017 he ran for his native National team at the U20 European Championships in Grosseto. Growing up, he has been obtaining great results at an international level, in 2021 he ran the 800m in less than 1:46 several times, arriving at 1:44.93, more than one second and a half better than a year before. In November 2021 he got Italian citizenship and from March 2022 he can compete with the Italian national team. During his training he shares the aerobic running with steeplechaser Giovanni Gatto and his coach Fulvio Maleville. He studied at the professional institute, during his spare time he loves to listen to all kinds of music.

**Curriculum (800m): NC:** 2 (2022, indoor 2022); **EJC:** 2017 (bat); **MedG:** 2022 (3).

### **Filippo TORTU**

200m - 4x100m

**PB:** 20.11 **SB:** 20.15

Milano, 15.6.1998, 1.87x77kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Salvino Tortu

**Caps:** 9

Olympic gold medallist in the 4x100 relay in Tokyo, first Italian athlete to run below 10 seconds in 100m race, with 9.99 in 2018. His family is dedicated to athletics: his grandfather Giacomo ran the 100m in 10.9 after the Second World War, his father Salvino - Sardinian sprinter coming from Tempio Pausania and settled in Lombardy - achieved his best results in his junior career and then came as a master at international level, while his brother, Giacomo, has participated several times to the National team in different age groups. At the Youth Olympic Trials in 2014, even though he reached the podium, Filippo didn't qualify for the 100m before conquering it in one of his first attempts on the double distance, while in Nanjing he fell on the finish line during the heat and he broke both his arms. In 2015 he obtained the Italian U18 record in the 100m race beating Giovanni Grazioli's 10.49 back from 1976 and in the 200m with 20.92, better than Andrew Howe's 20.99 in 2001. He then had to stop to prevent some growth problems, but in 2016 he set the 100m Italian U20 record with 10.24 in Savona, beating the 10.25 that Pierfrancesco Pavoni got in 1982, winning the silver medal at the Euros. In 2016 at Amsterdam European Championships he almost reached the final with 10.19. In the same year he won 100m silver at the U20 Worlds in Bydgoszcz. In 2017 he bettered the Italian records in 60m indoor (6.64) and in 100m (10.15), the 200m PB (20.34), the 100m European U20 title in Grosseto and the second place in the 4x100 relay. In 2018 in Savona he became the second fastest Italian ever running 100m in 10.03, just apart from Pietro Mennea's 10.01 national record, beaten on June 22nd in Madrid with 9.99. At Doha World Championships in 2019 he qualified for the final in 100m, first Italian reaching it after thirty-two years, completing it at the seventh place, and he contributed to achieve the National record in 4x100 relay (38.11), overtaken in Tokyo Olympic Games (37.50), while in September 2021 he improved his performance in Nairobi's 200m with 20.11, second Italian ever doing it. He grew up in Costa Lambro, a Carate Brianza's district, training at the Besana Brianza's track. From October 2020 he is living and training in Milan. He has a scientific high school diploma, he is studying business and management at Luiss University in Rome.

**Curriculum (100m, R/4x100m): NC:** 2 (2016, 60m indoor 2020); **OG:** 2021 (sf, 1/R); **WCh:** 2017 (sf), 2019 (7, ht/R); **ECh:** 2016 (sf, 5/R), 2018 (5, ht/R); **WJC:** 2016 (2, 7/R); **EJC:** 2017 (1, 2/R); **YOG:** 2014 (fin/200m); **EYOT:** 2014 (3, 1/200m); **MedG:** 2018 (1/R); **WRel:** 2017 (ht/R), 2019 (fin/R), 2021 (2/R).

## **Donne/Women**

### **Elena BELLÒ**

800m

**PB:** 1:58.97 **SB:** 1:58.97

Schio (Vicenza), 18.1.1997, 1.64x50kg

**Club:** Fiamme Azzurre

**Coach:** Alessandro Simonelli

**Caps:** 7

She is from Villaverla, next to Thiene, and grew up on Dueville track. Her athletics passion comes from her father Paolo, amateur runner, and from her mother Ornella who was a sprinter. However, she started by practicing rhythmic gymnastics. She moved to athletics when she was 13 years old. After taking part in some cross-country races, her improvement has been set off in the U18 category competing for the Atletica Vicentina team, coached by Gianni Faccin. In 2013 indoor season she succeeded in the 400m race. She almost achieved the 800m U18 World Championships final and in 2014 she nearly got the podium at the Youth Olympic Games. Later on, she became part of the Fiamme Azzurre team. From November 2014 her coach is Massimo Pegoretti and in September 2016 she moved to Trento, before choosing to be trained by Alessandro Simonelli in Giussano (Monza e Brianza) in autumn 2020, still collaborating with her previous coach. In 2021 she improved her performance by almost a second to 2:00.44 in 800m. A further upgrade in 2022 with 2:01.45 indoor, becoming the fourth Italian ever, and above all she ran 1:58.97 outdoors, being the third Italian all time and the first running in less than two minutes after twelve years. She studied Chinese at the foreign language high school, in addition to English and French. She is attending the law degree and she is passionate about adventure novels, traveling and skiing.

**Curriculum (800m): NC:** 6 (2020-2021, indoor 2018-2019-2020-2021); **OG:** 2021 (sf); **ECh:** 2018 (ht); **WIC:** 2022 (ht); **EIC:** 2021 (sf); **WJC:** 2016 (ht); **EJC:** 2015 (ht); **U23 ECh:** 2017 (6), 2019 (6); **YOG:** 2014 (4); **WYC:** 2013 (sf, 7/MR); **EYOT:** 2014 (4); **Gym:** 2013 (2); **ECup:** 2021 (2); **EXC:** 2017 (6/mx).

### **Anna BONGIORNI**

4x100m

**PB:** 11.27 **SB:** 11.53

Pisa, 15.9.1993, 1.63x55kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna

**Coach:** Giovanni Bongiorno

**Caps:** 15

She practiced gymnastics for five years, firstly. Only in 2005 she did follow in his father Giovanni's footsteps, who for many years was an international sprinter and then a coach, also trying the U16 300 hurdles. In 2009, at the first real race on 100 meters, she immediately made the standard for the U18 World Championships and therefore she dedicated herself only to sprinting. At the Trials for the Youth Olympics, in 2010, she qualified in the 100m and then won the 200m race, becoming the second Italian U18 ever to go under 24 seconds. Finalist at the Singapore Games, she won a bronze medal in the relay with the European team by running the 200m leg. In 2011, at the U20 European Championships, she took silver medal and National U20 record (44.52) with 4x100 meters. Since 2014, after a couple of seasons hampered by physical problems, she has trained in Rieti with Roberto Bonomi. In 2017 she won 200m bronze medal at the Taipei Universiade and in 2018 at the World Indoor Championships she dipped to 7.24 on 60m, third Italian all time. From the end of 2018 she came back to training mainly in Pisa under the guidance of her father, always agreeing with the coach Bonomi. In June 2019 she graduated in medicine, with the aim of becoming a pediatrician, and a few months later she established the national record with the 4x100m at the Doha World Championships. She improved in 2020 with 11.30 in the 100m. In 2021 she won the 4x100 at the World Relays and then at the Nationals she achieved the personal bests on both distances: 11.27 and 23.18. At the Tokyo Olympics, she set another Italian record in the 4x100m with 42.84.

**Curriculum (100m, R/4x100m): NC:** 3 (2021, 60m indoor 2017-2018); **OG:** 2021 (sf, ht/R); **WCh:** 2015 (ht/R), 2019 (7/R); **ECh:** 2018 (sf); **WIC** (60m): 2018 (sf); **EIC** (60m): 2017 (sf); **WJC:** 2012 (ht/R); **EJC:** 2011 (ht/200m, 2/R); **U23 ECh:** 2015 (ht, ht/200m, 2/R); **YOG:** 2010 (7/200m, 3/MR); **WYC:** 2009 (sf, ht/MR); **EYOF:** 2009 (5/200m, 7/R); **EYOT:** 2010 (3, 1/200m); **WUG:** 2017 (6, 3/200m, fin/R); **Gym:** 2009 (2, 1/MR); **MedG:** 2018 (3, 3/R); **ECup:** 2015 (5/R), 2017 (4/R), 2019 (6/R), 2021 (5/R); **WRel:** 2017 (ht/R), 2019 (5/R), 2021 (1/R).

### **Alessandra BONORA**

4x400m

**PB:** 52.83 **SB:** 52.83

Brescia, 7.9.2000, 1.71x59kg

**Club:** Bracco Atletica

**Coach:** Maurizio Affò

**Caps:** -

She lives in Brescia, having previously lived with her family in Castel Mella, in the hinterland of the city. Her training field has always been in Rodengo Saiano (Brescia) where she started in the footsteps of her sister

Isabella, three years older than her, who started to follow a friend's example. In the U16 category she tested herself on 80m, then moved on to 300m with her first coach Federico Danesi, while from the end of 2016 she was trained by Maurizio ("Fabrizio") Affò over the 400m distance. A gradual growth over the years led her to win the Italian U23 titles (indoor and outdoor) in 2022 and to run several times under 53 seconds in the 400m. Lover of nature, from plants to animals, in her spare time she loves traveling and going to the mountains. She graduated from high school human sciences, she is enrolled in the degree course in sustainable agricultural systems.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): EJC:** 2019 (ht, ht/R); **U23 ECh:** 2021 (sf, 6/R).

### **Roberta BRUNI**

Asta/PV

**PB:** 4.71 NR **SB:** 4.71 NR

Roma, 8.3.1994, 1.70x63kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna

**Coach:** Riccardo Balloni

**Caps:** 6

She is the Italian pole vault record holder. She grew up in Nazzano, in the province of Rome, where she lived until she was 18 but then moved to Rieti. She practiced judo, but in 2008 she was directed to athletics by Laura Spagnoli, middle-distance runner from Rieti and physical education teacher at the Poggio Mirteto middle school. She immediately combined the technical progress to competitive consistency, winning Italian titles one after the other. Trained by Riccardo Balloni, as a U18 she also achieved the U20 Italian record indoor and outdoor (both with 4.20), denoting a continuity of performances that in 2012 led her to raise the National U20 record to 4.35 outdoors and to win the bronze at the U20 World Championships in Barcelona. In 2013 she rewrote the Italian indoor record with 4.51 and 4.60 twice, as a 18 years old athlete, within fifteen days, just three centimeters from the U20 world indoor record. Then some difficult seasons and in 2016 she moved to Prague for six months, under the guidance of Zdenek Lubensky, before returning to Italy. In 2019 she came back with a gold medal at the Universiade in Naples (4.46) and 4.52 in Chiari's square. A newfound trust also thanks to the philosophical consultant Francesca Esposito. In May 2021 a series of Italian records in succession: 4.60 in Florence, 4.62 and 4.70 in Rieti a week later. In 2022 a new record with 4.71 in Barletta. She graduated in forestry sciences, after high school with a biological orientation, and is lover of animals.

**Curriculum (PV): NC:** 7 (2014-2018-2020, indoor 2013-2015-2018-2021); **OG:** 2021 (24Q); **WCh:** 2019 (29Q); **ECh:** 2014 (22Q); **WIC:** 2022 (11); **EIC:** 2013 (12Q); **WJC:** 2012 (3); **EJC:** 2013 (5); **WYC:** 2011 (6); **EYOF:** 2011 (1); **WUG:** 2019 (1); **ECup:** 2021 (1).

### **Ottavia CESTONARO**

Triplo/TJ

**PB:** 14.22 **SB:** 14.22

Vicenza, 12.1.1995, 1.75x67kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna

**Coach:** Sergio Cestonaro

**Caps:** 5

She was a young talent, followed since she was a child by her father Sergio, a passionate coach and great animator of the Atletica Vicentina team. Her older sister, Mariavittoria, was a thrower. Octavia stood out very early in various disciplines, such as hurdles, long jump and combined events. Since 2009 she has dedicated herself to the triple jump, establishing the U16 and U18 National Best indoor. At the 2011 U18 World Championships, where she was more expected in triple jump, she reached the final in long jump. Then she set triple jump Italian record as U18 both indoors (several times until 13.04) and outdoors (13.32). At the debut among the U20 she repeated herself: 13.47 indoor and 13.69 outdoor, before the U20 European title in Rieti. At the end of June 2013 she was recruited by the Forestry. She trained with the support of Paolo Camossi and from autumn 2017 also of Barbara Lah. In 2018 she exceeded 14 meters for the first time: 14.06 windy (+3.2) and a few days later 14.05 (regular) with the silver medal at the Mediterranean Games, while in 2019 she went to 14.18 placing third at the European Team Championships. In spring 2020 she had an operation on her right knee and then changed the jumping foot, moving to the left, before improving once again in 2022 with 14.22. She has two bachelor's degrees: one in forestry and environmental technologies in Padua and the other in sports science at the University of Verona.

**Curriculum (TJ): NC:** 6 (2015-2018-2019, indoor 2018, pentathlon indoor 2016-2017); **WCh:** 2019 (17Q); **ECh:** 2018 (NM/Q); **EIC:** 2021 (9Q); **WJC:** 2012 (8), 2014 (11); **EJC:** 2013 (8/LJ, 1); **U23 ECh:** 2015 (17Q/LJ, 7), 2017 (10/LJ, 6); **WYC:** 2011 (7/LJ, 15Q); **EYOF:** 2011 (4, 7/4x100m); **WUG:** 2017 (4), 2019 (9); **MedG:** 2018 (2); **ECup:** 2019 (3).

### **Maria Benedicta CHIGBOLU**

4x400m



**PB:** 51.67 **SB:** 52.19

Roma, 27.7.1989, 1.72x53kg

**Club:** Esercito

**Coach:** Marta Oliva

**Caps:** 20

Benedicta is the second of six children (three brothers and three sisters) of a religion teacher, Paola, and of a Nigerian international consultant, Augustine. Her grandfather Julius participated in the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games reaching the final in the high jump and he was also president of the National Athletics Federation in Nigeria. Roman from the Torrevicchia district, she tried different sports: karate, swimming, tennis and contemporary dance. The first approach to the track took place at the age of sixteen when a professor of the socio-educational institute noticed her physical qualities and sent her to the Farnesina field where she began to practice athletics with the coach Fulvio Villa, then with Arber Prifti. Recruited into the Army, she passed under the guidance of Francesco Speranza and trained since 2012 in Rieti with Maria Chiara Milardi. She won the European bronze medal in the 4x400m in 2016, then set the Italian record with the national relay at the Rio Olympic Games. From October 2021 she is trained by Marta Oliva. She graduated in education, in the past she also dabbled as a model. In her spare time she enjoys reading psychology books and dancing.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): NC:** 1 (2017); **OG:** 2016 (ht, 6/R), 2021 (ht/R); **WCh:** 2013 (ht/R), 2015 (ht, ht/R), 2017 (ht, ht/R); 2019 (ht, ht/R); **ECh:** 2014 (ht/R), 2016 (sf, 3/R), 2018 (sf, 5/R); **EIC:** 2015 (ht), 2017 (4/R); **MedG:** 2013 (2, 1/R), 2018 (3, 1/R); **ECup:** 2013 (8/R), 2017 (5), 2019 (3, 3/R); **WRel:** 2015 (ht/R), 2019 (3/R).

### **Nicole COLOMBI**

20km marcia/Race Walking

**PB:** 1h30:24 **SB:** 1h30:58

Seriate (Bergamo), 29.12.1995, 1.74x57kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna

**Coach:** Renato Cortinovis

**Caps:** 10

She lives and trains in Scanzorosciate (Bergamo) under the technical guidance of Renato Cortinovis, in collaboration with his son Massimiliano. She practiced modern dance and volleyball but also cycling, the family passion, but only for a year. Then she tried athletics, pushed by a friend: firstly the middle distance, then she chose race walking in 2008 in the school of the Us Scanzorosciate. The first real satisfactions came in the U18 category even if her progress was hampered by a peritonitis surgery while as a U20 she participated in both World Cup and World Championships. In 2016 she clearly improved her PB in the 20km with 1h33:39, then in 2017 she was affected by an injury to her left foot. In 2019 she debuted in the 50km, before making new progress on the shorter distance up to 1h30:24 in 2021. She attended a professional hairdressing training course.

**Curriculum (20km RW): NC:** 2 (50 km: 2019, 10km: 2021); **WCh:** 2019 (DNF/50km); **WJC** (10.000m RW): 2014 (14); **U23 ECh:** 2015 (10), 2017 (DQ); **WCup:** 2014 (16jr/10km, 5T/U20), 2016 (59, 6T), 2018 (42, 2T), 2022 (12/35km, 4T); **ECup:** 2017 (26, 2T), 2019 (13, 2T), 2021 (12, 3T).

### **Federica DEL BUONO**

1500m

**PB:** 4:03.45 **SB:** 4:03.45

Vicenza, 12.12.1994, 1.64x52kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna

**Coach:** Andrea Ceccarelli

**Caps:** 6

Her mother (and her coach for several seasons) Rossella Gramola was a middle distance runner and her father, Gianni Del Buono, was the Italian record holder in many middle distance races. When she was a child, Federica swam and played basketball, but moreover she attended hip hop dance classes for several years. She started practicing athletics seriously in 2011 in Vicenza. In 2014 she was fifth at the European Championships in Zurich, then at the 2015 Euro Indoors in Prague she won the bronze medal. Her following seasons had been characterized by some injuries that slowed down her improvement. A first comeback in autumn 2019, but she had to stop again in summer 2020 for a right ankle surgery. She was competitive again at an international level in 2021, coached by Umberto Pegoraro, and called in the National team for the European Indoor Championships before taking part in the Olympics with 4:07.70, her fastest time since 2014. From autumn 2021 she has been training in Castelporziano with Andrea Ceccarelli as coach and in 2022 she improved her PB to 4:03.45 eight years after the last one. She has a bachelor's degree in sports science.

**Curriculum (1500m): NC:** 1 (2014); **OG:** 2021 (ht); **ECh:** 2014 (5); **EIC:** 2015 (3), 2021 (ht); **WJC:** 2012 (ht); **MedG:** 2022 (2); **ECup:** 2014 (4); **EXC:** 2012 (39jr, 12T/U20), 2013 (25jr, 4T/U20), 2015 (7/U23, 3T/U23).

**Elisa Maria DI LAZZARO**

100hs

**PB:** 12.90 **SB:** 13.00

Trieste, 5.6.1998, 1.73x59kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna**Coach:** Alessandro Vigo**Caps:** 5

She comes from Trieste and her first coach was Stefano Lubiana at Cral Trasporti. After practicing tennis, swimming and dance, in 2012 she moved to Fidenza (Parma) for family reasons. In the new city she found out a new coach able to highlight her quality, Maurizio Pratzzoli, training with the U18 European Champion Desola Oki and with Ayomide Folorunso, but a foot injury stopped her in 2016. Her breakout arrived in 2017 with Cus Parma team: she set three U20 Italian indoor records with 8.22 in the 60m hurdles, then in 100m hurdles with 13.24. She almost reached the podium at the U20 European Championships in Grosseto. In autumn 2018 she started training in Formia with Santiago Antunez. In May 2019 she had a foot surgery and in 2020 ran the 100m hurdles U23 National Best with 13.05, but also a windy 12.89. In 2021 she improved her indoor PB in 60m hurdles with 8.12 and in 100m hurdles with 12.90, fourth Italian ever. From November 2021 she moved to Spain in Almuñécar, in Granada district, with the Italian coach Alessandro Vigo, clocking 8.11 indoors. After attending secondary school focusing on humanities, she graduated in psychology science and techniques. Her dream is to be a criminologist, she is passionate about thriller movies.

**Curriculum (100hs): NC:** 4 (2022, 60hs indoor 2017-2021-2022); **OG:** 2021 (ht); **ECh:** 2018 (ht); **WIC** (60hs): 2018 (ht), 2022 (sf); **EIC** (60hs): 2021 (sf); **EJC:** 2017 (4); **WYC:** 2015 (sf).

**Zaynab DOSSO**

100m - 4x100m

**PB:** 11.19 **SB:** 11.19

Man (Ivory Coast), 12.9.1999, 1.70x62kg

**Club:** Fiamme Azzurre**Coach:** Giorgio Frinolli**Caps:** 5

Her friends call her "Za", but her name's Arabic meaning is wisdom. Her family is from Ivory Coast, she arrived in Italy in 2009 from Abidjan - reuniting with her family that moved in 2002 - and she obtained Italian citizenship in 2016. She is passionate about basketball, she discovered athletics when she was 13 encouraged by her physical education teacher. She immediately showed her outstanding quality from her first competitions. In 2016 she missed the podium at the U18 European Championships, being just a second apart from it, but she won the bronze medal in the medley relay. In the 2018 indoor season she almost achieved the 60m U20 Italian record with 7.36. She grew up in Rubiera (Reggio Emilia), always coached by Loredana Riccardi, then she was trained by Giorgio Frinolli in Rome, where she moved in 2021. In 2022 indoor season she improved in 60m race, matching twice the Italian record (7.19 by Marisa Masullo in 1983) and she lowered it firstly to 7.16 in Ancona, and then to 7.14 at Belgrade World Championships, but she also became the second Italian ever at 100m in 11.19. She is passionate about photography and she loves dancing.

**Curriculum (100m, R/4x100m): NC:** 4 (2019-2020-2022, 60m indoor 2022); **WIC** (60m): 2022 (sf); **WJC:** 2016 (ht/R); **EJC:** 2017 (sf, ht/R); **U23 ECh:** 2019 (ht, 7/R), 2021 (sf, fin/R); **EYC:** 2016 (4, 3/MR); **ECup:** 2019 (5, 6/R).

**Sara FANTINI**

Martello/HT

**PB:** 75.77 NR **SB:** 75.77 NR

Fidenza (Parma), 16.9.1997, 1.68x78kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna**Coach:** Marinella Vaccari**Caps:** 9

She is the hammer throw Italian record holder. Despite being the daughter of two throwers - her father is Corrado "Cocco" Fantini, Olympic shot put finalist in 1996, and her mother Paola Lemmi, specialist in combined events and later in the javelin - Sara was away from the athletics fields until 2013. After a couple of months of preparation, starting with the discus throw, she finished eleventh in the U18 hammer throw competition at her first national appearance. Previously she had already shown her sporting skills: seven years playing tennis and even horse riding, with the "American riding", that of classic western films. Initially coached by her mother in the field of Fidenza, since 2015 with the technical support of Nicola Vizzoni and since 2016 with that of Marinella Vaccari (coach of the former Italian record holder Ester Balassini) who has been training her permanently in Bologna since 2018. In 2017 she won her first Italian title, achieving in the same year the U23 National Best (68.24). For the first time in 2019 she exceeded 70 meters with 70.30 and

then she won the bronze medal at the U23 European Championships, continuing her progress in the following seasons: in 2020 she reached 70.73 and in 2021 she achieved 72.31 as well as the final at Olympic Games. In 2022 she improved the Italian record after seventeen years, four times in three competitions up to 75.77. Graduated from high school, she studies literature. She grew up in Salsomaggiore Terme and lives in Fidenza.

**Curriculum (HT): NC:** 11 (2017-2018-2019-2020-2021-2022, winter 2017-2018-2019-2021-2022); **OG:** 2021 (12); **WCh:** 2019 (26Q); **WJC:** 2016 (7); **EJC:** 2015 (20Q); **U23 ECh:** 2017 (11), 2019 (3); **WUG:** 2017 (12); **Euroch:** 2017 (6/U23), 2018 (18), 2019 (10), 2021 (5), 2022 (3); **ECup:** 2017 (9), 2019 (4), 2021 (3).

### **Ayomide FOLORUNSO**

400hs - 4x400m

**PB:** 54.60 **SB:** 54.60

Abeokuta (Nigeria), 17.10.1996, 1.70x55kg

**Club:** Fiamme Oro Padova

**Coach:** Maurizio Praticelli

**Caps:** 14

Her family comes from South-West of Nigeria, but "Ayo" (that means joy) moved to Fidenza in 2004 with her parents - her mother Mariam and her father Emmanuel, who is a mineral geologist - where she was noticed by Giancarlo Chittolini during some school races and entrusted to Maurizio Praticelli. She couldn't participate in the U18 World Championships in 2013 despite her great performances due to the fact that she got Italian citizenship just a few days after the event. In June 2015 she entered in Fiamme Oro team coming from Cus Parma. In 2016 she established the 400m hurdles U23 National Best with 55.50, improving her performance by more than a second, then was fourth in the European Championships final. She was a semifinalist at the Olympic Games in Rio where she set the 4x400m relay Italian record. She won two gold medals in 2017, at the U23 European Championships and at World University Games, then in 2018 she set the 4x400m National record at the World Indoor Championships and she bettered at 400m hurdles in 55.16. In 2019 ran 400m indoors in 52.57, best Italian time in twenty years, and she won the 4x400m bronze medal at the Euro Indoors, while in the outdoor season she broke the 55 seconds barrier in 400m hurdles, winning with 54.75 at Naples Universiade, second Italian ever, before improving once more in 2021 to 54.65. She studies medicine science to become a pediatrician, she also shows a mature personality: she is passionate about fantasy novels and she enjoys studying the Holy Scriptures of the Pentecostal Church, which she is faithful to.

**Curriculum (400hs, R/4x400m): NC:** 7 (2016-2019-2020-2022, 400m indoor 2016-2017-2020); **OG:** 2016 (sf, 6/R); **WCh:** 2015 (ht/R), 2017 (sf, ht/R), 2019 (sf, ht/R); **ECh:** 2016 (4), 2018 (sf, 5/R); **WIC:** 2018 (ht/400m, 5/R); **EIC:** 2017 (4/R), 2019 (sf/400m, 3/R); **WJC:** 2014 (7); **EJC:** 2015 (3, 2/R); **U23 ECh:** 2017 (1, 5/R); **WUG:** 2017 (1, fin/4x100m), 2019 (1); **Gym:** 2013 (4, 2/MR); **MedG:** 2018 (2, 1/R); **ECup:** 2019 (4, 3/R); **WRel:** 2019 (3/R), 2021 (5/R).

### **Vittoria FONTANA**

4x100m

**PB:** 11.33 - 22.97 **SB:** 11.34 - 22.97

Gallarate (Varese), 23.7.2000, 1.76x63kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna

**Coach:** Giuseppe Cappelletti

**Caps:** 4

She started in 2014 in Gallarate under the guidance of Beppe Cappelletti and Sandro Torno, who was his teacher in middle school. Previously she practiced many sports: horse riding, fencing, gymnastics and volleyball. Until 2017 she had a PB of 12.29 on 100m and 25.25 on 200m. In 2018 with the Fanfulla Lodigiana jersey she improved significantly reaching the call-up in the National Team for the Mediterranean U23 Championships in Jesolo where she set the Italian U20 record with the 4x100m. The breakthrough in 2019 at the U20 Nationals in Rieti with 11.44, second Italian ever in this age group, then equalled the record (11.42) in semifinal at the U20 European Championships in Borås and won the gold medal in 11.40. After that event, she had to stop due to a fracture in her left scaphoid, so she started racing again at the Cairate facility. In 2021 she dipped to 7.28 in 60m indoors, 11.33 in 100m and won at the World Relays with the 4x100m before the Italian record in the relay at the Olympics (42.84). In 2022 she improved at 200m to 22.97. His older brother Riccardo, who was born in 1997, is also a sprinter (PB 10.76 in 100m): both followed the example of their father Dario, a sprinter in his youth. She lives in Gallarate, where she studied human sciences at the high school, and is enrolled in the degree course in legal services. In her spare time, she loves reading mystery books.

**Curriculum (100m, R/4x100m): NC:** 1 (60m indoor 2021); **OG:** 2021 (ht, ht/R); **EIC** (60m): 2021 (sf); **WJC:** 2018 (8/R); **EJC:** 2019 (1, 4/R); **U23 ECh:** 2021 (5); **ECup:** 2021 (5/R); **WRel:** 2021 (1/R).

### **Johanelis HERRERA**

4x100m

**PB:** 11.51 **SB:** 11.60

Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic), 11.8.1995, 1.63x56kg

**Club:** Aeronautica Militare

**Coach:** Giorgio Frinolli

**Caps:** 9

She arrived in Italy in 2006 to join her mother in Verona, who had already moved from the Dominican Republic, and a couple of years later "Jo" started practicing athletics under the guidance of Ernesto Paiola. In 2010, after having also tried volleyball and basketball, she turned out to be second at U16 Nationals over 300m. In 2014 the first two calls to the National team, as a reserve for the 4x100m relay. From February 2017 she moved to Vicenza to be trained by Umberto Pegoraro. In the 2018 indoor season she improved on 60m up to 7.32 and also on 100m. In 2019 she set the Italian record with the 4x100m relay at the Doha World Championships, while in February 2020 she underwent surgery for a tendon injury. Since the autumn of 2021 she has been training in Rome with Giorgio Frinolli. Cheerful girl, she loves pop music and Rihanna, as well as horror cinema. She graduated in international relations and marketing, she worked as a commercial employee.

**Curriculum (100m, R/4x100m):** **NC:** 2 (2018, 60m indoor 2019); **WCh:** 2019 (7/R); **ECh:** 2018 (7/R); **WJC:** 2014 (ht, sf/200m); **EJC:** 2013 (ht/200m, 6/R); **U23 ECh:** 2015 (ht/200m, 2/R), 2017 (ht, sf/200m, 5/R); **MedG:** 2018: (8, 3/R), 2022 (1/R); **ECup:** 2019 (6/R); **WRel:** 2019 (5/R), 2021 (ht/R).

### **Larissa IAPICHINO**

Lungo/LJ

**PB:** 6.80/6.91i **NR SB:** 6.64

Borgo San Lorenzo (Firenze), 18.7.2002, 1.71x56kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Gianni Iapichino

**Caps:** 2

She is the daughter of the two-time long jump world champion Fiona May and of Gianni Iapichino, former Italian pole vault record holder. The name Larissa comes from the Ukrainian long jumper Berezhnaya, a friend and opponent of her mother. Known to the audience for a TV commercial that showed her as a protagonist as a child, at first she practiced dance, swimming and in particular gymnastics for eight years. In the summer of 2015 she decided to try athletics, after attending the meeting in Monaco as a birthday present with his mother. Her first coach in Calenzano was Enrico Mancini, in sprint and then over the hurdles. In 2016 she won the U16 300m hurdles National title, repeating herself in the following year. Talent on the track but also on the jumping board, coached at the Ridolfi stadium in Florence by Gianni Cecconi in jumps and Ilaria Ceccarelli in hurdles: in 2018 she achieved the U20 National indoor record in long jump with 6.36 and then improved to 6.38 outdoors. In 2019 the breakthrough: at the U18 Nationals in Agropoli a flight at 6.64 made her the Italian outdoor record holder not only U18 but also U20, beating the mark of Maria Chiara Baccini (6.55) who had resisted since 1998. She won a gold medal, already won by his mother in 1987 in Birmingham with the Great Britain national team, at the U20 European Championships in Borås, where she defeated opponents even two years older than her. In 2020 she began to dedicate herself only to the long jump with coach Gianni Cecconi and landed at 6.80 at the meeting in Savona, the second Italian ever. In 2021 she improved again with the sensational 6.91 in Ancona, U20 world indoor record, equaling Fiona May's National indoor record, then an injury prevented the Olympic participation. Since June 2021, her coach has been his father Gianni. In her spare time she enjoys writing. Graduated from the scientific high school in Florence, she studies law.

**Curriculum (LJ):** **NC:** 4 (2020-2021-2022, indoor 2021); **WIC:** 2022 (10); **EIC:** 2021 (5); **EJC:** 2019 (1); **EYC:** 2018 (7).

### **Dalia KADDARI**

200m - 4x100m

**PB:** 22.64 **SB:** 22.83

Cagliari, 23.3.2001, 1.70x53kg

**Club:** Fiamme Oro Padova

**Coach:** Fabrizio Fanni

**Caps:** 4

She draws attention in and out of the track: in 2016 she participated in the Miss Quartu contest, not taking it seriously, and she won. Her father Hassan is from Morocco, but he has been living in Sardinia for almost thirty years such that now everyone there calls him Sandro, and her mother is Sardinian. Dalia played basketball, and a few months after she started practicing athletics she finished second in 2015 at schools 80m race. On her debut at the U18 category she took away from Vincenza Cali the Italian age-group record with 23.68 at the Nationals in Rieti. In 2018 she confirmed the Italian title and she was fourth at the U18 European final, after achieving the semifinals fastest crono (23.52 windy) and then at the Youth Olympics in Buenos Aires she

took silver medal with 23.45 and the best U18 Italian performance (overcoming the 23.62 in May by Chiara Gherardi) and she became second U20 Italian all time. In 2019 she set the 200m indoor U20 National record with 23.93 in Ancona, improving it in 2020 to 23.85 before obtaining also the outdoor one with 23.23. In 2021 she ran under 23 seconds several times until she won the U23 European Championships gold medal in Tallinn with 22.64, third Italian ever. She studied at the foreign language high school, she lives in Quartu Sant'Elena and she trains in Cagliari.

**Curriculum (200m, R/4x100m): NC:** 3 (2020-2021-2022); **OG:** 2021 (sf); **EJC:** 2017 (sf, ht/R), 2019 (6); **U23 ECh:** 2021 (1); **YOG:** 2018 (2); **EYC:** 2018 (4); **ECup:** 2021 (2).

### **Raphaela LUKUDO**

4x400m

**PB:** 52.38 **SB:** 52.77

Aversa (Caserta), 29.7.1994, 1.69x52kg

**Club:** Esercito

**Coach:** Sebastian Bacchieri

**Caps:** 12

Her family is originally from Sudan but they had settled for some time in Italy, first in Caserta and then, when "Raffaella" was just two years old, in Modena. She discovered athletics in 2006 with Mollificio Modenese, coached by Mario Romano. In 2011, after having proved her worth while still a U18 athlete at the World Youth Championships (semifinalist despite an injury on the eve of the race), she moved for a couple of years with her family near London and then came back to Italy. From June 2015 she passed under the guidance of Marta Oliva in Rome, in the Army sports center at Cecchignola. In 2018 she improved several times up to 52.98 indoors, then setting the National record of the 4x400m at the World Indoor Championships, and 52.38 outdoor. At the European Indoor Championships in Glasgow in 2019 she took the fifth place in 400m with her PB of 52.48 and the bronze medal with the 4x400m relay. Since autumn 2021, her coach has been Sebastian Bacchieri in Parma. She attended the art institute, keeping a passion for drawing and photography, then graduated in sports science.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): NC:** 3 (2018, 400m indoor 2018-2019); **WCh:** 2019 (ht/R, ht/mx); **ECh:** 2018 (5/R); **WIC:** 2018 (sf, 5/R); **EIC:** 2019 (5, 3/R); **EJC:** 2013 (5/R); **WYC:** 2011 (sf, ht/MR); **EYOF:** 2011 (6/400hs, 7/4x100m); **MedG:** 2018 (1/R), 2022 (4, 1/R); **ECup:** 2017 (6/R), 2021 (3/R); **WRel:** 2019 (3/R, ht/mx), 2021 (5/R).

### **Alice MANGIONE**

400m - 4x400m

**PB:** 51.47 **SB:** 51.47

Niscemi (Caltanissetta), 19.1.1997, 1.70x56kg

**Club:** Esercito

**Coach:** Marta Oliva

**Caps:** 6

When she was just 15 she moved from Niscemi, where her family lives, to Palermo to practice athletics coached by Gaspare Polizzi and to attend the human science high school, but in 2016 she changed to Francesco Siracusa. Before that, she trained with Filippo Di Mulo three times a week, commuting to Catania: it was her teacher who introduced her to the coach after she took part in some cross-country school races. In 2015 she reached the 400m U20 European Championships final, she won the silver medal in the 4x400 relay and she received the first call from the National team for Paris DécaNation, but she had to give up due to an injury. She moved to Rome from August 2018, to be trained by Marta Oliva, and in 2019 bettered her performance to 53.45. She continued improving also in 2020 reaching 52.70, which gave her the first national title. In 2021 she set the Italian record (3:30.32) at the European Indoor Championships in the 4x400 relay and then ran 51.74 during the outdoor season, after winning the World Relays in mixed 4x400m. After a hip surgery in November 2021, she improved to 51.47 in 2022. When she was a child she used to attend ballet classes and she did horse riding for a year. Her brother is a jockey in the Italian racecourses. She has a bachelor's degree in sports science and she loves reading and walking with her dog during her free time.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): NC:** 3 (2020-2021-2022); **OG:** 2021 (ht/R, ht/mx); **EIC:** 2021 (ht/400m, 4/R); **WJC:** 2014 (ht/R), 2016 (8/R); **EJC:** 2015 (6, 2/R); **U23 Ch:** 2019 (5/R); **WYC:** 2013 (ht); **EYOT:** 2014 (6); **Gym:** 2013 (3, 2/MR); **ECup:** 2021 (6, 3/R); **WRel:** 2021 (1/mx).

### **Elisa MOLINAROLO**

Asta/PV

**PB:** 4.55 **SB:** 4.45/4.46i

Verona, 29.1.1994, 1.73x70kg

**Club:** Fiamme Oro Padova

**Coach:** Marco Chiarello

**Caps: 3**

She is from Soave (Verona), but from the age of 12 she chose to live in Padua to practice herself to gymnastics following the example of her sister, until she won the national U20 vaulting title in 2009. Growing up in stature she was then inspired by a TV commercial by Yelena Isinbaeva and then in summer 2011 she tried pole vault, arriving in a few months at the U20 national team, without however immediately leaving her first love: in 2015 in Ancona on the same Sunday she took part in the Italian championships of both disciplines. In 2017 she won her first national title, while in 2019 she became the fifth Italian ever with 4.41. In 2021 she improved up to 4.55, third Italian all time. But she is an eclectic sportswoman, for having also practiced freestyle basketball and she was an ice skating trainer as well as gymnastics. Her coach is Marco Chiarello, in the group training at the Palaindoor in Padua, collaborating with Marcello Palazzo and Manfred Menz. After working full time in an office, she was enrolled in Fiamme Oro in 2022. She studied at the sports science high school and there must always be music in her everyday life.

**Curriculum (PV): NC:** 4 (2017-2021, indoor 2020-2022); **OG:** 2021 (18Q); **WIC:** 2022 (8).

**Linda OLIVIERI**

400hs

**PB:** 55.54 **SB:** 55.69

Torino, 14.7.1998, 1.73x58kg

**Club:** Fiamme Oro Padova

**Coach:** Giorgio Ripamonti

**Caps:** 4

She lived and grew up in Novara, her mother's home town, even though her father is from Turin, where she was born. She started practicing athletics when she was a child, but then she moved to judo and basketball for four years. The gym wasn't as stimulating as the track for her, therefore she came back to athletics in 2010 coached by Gianluca Camaschella, who was a hurdler. Linda has great feelings for hurdles races too (third in 300m hurdles at the U16 Italian championship in 2013) and she almost reached the 400m hurdles final at the U18 World Championships in 2015, after improving her sprint performances. From September 2016 her coach is Giorgio Ripamonti, initially in Monza, then in Brugherio and Giussano. In 2017 she almost achieved the U20 European Championships podium (second U20 Italian ever with 57.00). In 2019 she ran in less than 56 seconds (55.97) before the U23 European Championships silver medal, where she has been caught on the finish line. From 2021 she is training in Milan at XXV Aprile track, in addition to the Saronno one, and she ran 55.54. She has a psycho-pedagogical degree, she also graduated in architecture at Politecnico in Milan.

**Curriculum (400hs, R/4x400m): OG:** 2021 (sf); **WCh:** 2019 (ht); **ECh:** 2018 (ht); **EJC:** 2017 (4, 6/R); **U23 ECh:** 2019 (2); **WYC:** 2015 (sf, 7/MR); **ECup:** 2021 (3).

**Daisy OSAKUE**

Disco/DT

**PB:** 63.66 NR **SB:** 63.24

Torino, 16.1.1996, 1.80x84kg

**Club:** Fiamme Gialle

**Coach:** Maria Marello

**Caps:** 7

Her parents are Nigerians and both active in sports, a judoka dad and a handball player mum. For six years, however, Daisy played tennis, before showing up at the Sisport athletics facility in 2008. Her competitive career, initially coached by Paolo Battaglino, has been set on hurdles for a long time, winning an Italian U16 title in 2011 and again in 2013 she was second at the U18 Nationals in 60m hurdles indoor. But due to her body structure she has shown predisposition as a thrower: in shot put and discus she has established herself as a national level prospect. An evolution enhanced under the guidance of the former discus thrower Maria Marello. She is from Turin, residing in the city and subsequently in Moncalieri, but she obtained Italian citizenship only in February 2014, when she turned 18. She studied at the foreign language high school, with an international course and a double school diploma, Italian and Spanish. From January 2017 she moved to Angelo State University, in Texas, with remarkable progress up to U23 National Best in discus throw (57.49) exceeded after almost 39 years, a record raised to 57.64 in the European Team Championships, making her debut in National team, and then at 59.72 in 2018, training overseas with coach Nate Janusey, a few months before fifth place at the European Championships in Berlin. In 2019 she became the second Italian ever (61.69 for gold medal at the Naples Universiade) and in 2021 she equalled the Italian record of Agnese Maffei with 63.66, qualifying for the Olympic final in Tokyo. She graduated in criminal justice, she loves shopping.

**Curriculum (DT): NC:** 4 (2020-2021-2022, winter 2022); **OG:** 2021 (12); **WCh:** 2019 (20Q); **ECh:** 2018 (5); **EJC:** 2015 (19Q); **U23 ECh:** 2017 (NM/Q, 13/SP); **WUG:** 2019 (1); **MedG:** 2018 (11); **Euroch:** 2022 (1); **ECup:** 2017 (6), 2019 (6).

**Alessia PAVESE**

4x100m

**PB:** 11.48 **SB:** 11.48

Alzano Lombardo (Bergamo), 15.7.1998, 1.80x60kg

**Club:** Aeronautica Militare**Coach:** Alberto Barbera**Caps:** 2

After attending swimming classes, the first impact with athletics led her to practice race walking since she lives in Villa di Serio, one of the centers for the discipline. Then she switched to high jump with 1.68 PB in U16 age group, training with former jumper Giuliano Carobbio, and won a school national title in 2012. She found her way with sprint choosing Saro Naso as coach in October 2013, demonstrating great skills especially in the 200m: even her mother Barbara Manini had been a good sprinter. In 2015 she reached the final at the U18 Worlds, just a few hundredths from the National record, then a period conditioned by injuries, while from 2017 she is trained by Alberto Barbera. In 2019 she took part in the World Relays in Yokohama and in the subsequent World Championships in Doha as a reserve for the 4x100m relay. She has a diploma in accounting and she trains at the Bergamo track.

**Curriculum (200m):** **EJC:** 2017 (ht); **U23 ECh:** 2019 (sf); **WYC:** 2015 (7).**Anna POLINARI**

4x400m

**PB:** 52.33 **SB:** 52.33

Verona, 7.2.1999, 1.75x61kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna**Coach:** Fabio Lotti**Caps:** 3

She lives in Verona, in the hilly district of Marzana. With an amateur cyclist dad, she swam in the pool until she was eight, then followed her sister who had started athletics for fun and immediately found a group of friends who convinced her to continue. She proved herself at the national level already as an U16 athlete, in the 300m hurdles, and continued on the track lap with barriers until 2018. Then some difficulties in the rhythm led her to move to the flat distance, with steady progress. In 2021 she improved by over a second to 52.66 and in 2022 she dropped to 52.33. Graduated from the socio-economic high school, she studies sports science. Among her favorite readings there are mystery and thriller books.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m):** **WJC:** 2018 (ht/400hs); **EJC:** 2017 (sf/400hs, ht/R); **U23 ECh:** 2019 (5/R), 2021 (sf, 6/R); **EYC:** 2016 (ht/400hs); **MedG:** 2022 (1/R).**Gaia SABBATINI**

1500m

**PB:** 4:01.93 **SB:** 4:01.93

Teramo, 10.6.1999, 1.75x57kg

**Club:** Fiamme Azzurre**Coach:** Andrea Ceccarelli**Caps:** 3

She started by swimming and attending dancing classes but she has always been passionate about running, as soon as her sister Eva began practicing athletics, her school teacher Paola Marcone encouraged her to try it at the Teramo track. She specialized in middle distance coached by Marcello Vicerè and in 2013 and 2014 only Marta Zenoni beat her in the 1000m race at the U16 Italian Championships. She won the first National title in the U20 800m race and then she chose to focus on 1500m. From November 2018 she moved to Rome to be trained by Andrea Ceccarelli at the Castelporziano track. In 2021 she showed off her outstanding quality improving by more than nine seconds to 4:02.25 (National best time since 1984 and second Italian ever), after bettering also her 800m PB (2:00.75) and winning the U23 European Championships gold medal, then in 2022 she set the 1000m indoor National record (2:38.67). Within her sports' idols there are Federica Del Buono, who turn out to be her training teammate and her opponent on the track. She also grew up being in love with mountains, thanks to the skiing and the tours she used to do on the Gran Sasso with her father Pino, who was a mountain guide and who died too soon in 2014 due to an avalanche. She is very famous on social media by taking care of his social networks profiles. She studies psychology.

**Curriculum (1500m):** **NC:** 3 (indoor 2020-2021, 800m indoor 2022); **OG:** 2021 (sf); **EIC:** 2021 (ht); **WJC:** 2018 (ht); **EJC:** 2017 (8); **U23 ECh:** 2021 (1); **ECup:** 2021 (1).**Rebecca SARTORI**

400hs

**PB:** 55.40 **SB:** 55.40

Bassano del Grappa (Vicenza), 22.5.1997, 1.73x57kg

**Club:** Fiamme Oro Padova

**Coach:** Giorgio Ripamonti

**Caps:** 1

Both her parents come from Argentina: her father Fabian Adrian and her mother Sabrina Cecilia, who is a dance teacher, arrived in Italy in Bassano del Grappa because he was a promising football player. She has always practiced sports, starting from tennis, dancing, swimming, skating and from the 4th grade of primary school she started athletics, practiced also by her older sister Sofia, who was a high jumper, and by her younger sister Lucrezia, who is four years younger than Rebecca and triple jumper. As a U16 athlete she was directed to hurdles races by her coach Elena Bonotto, then she has been trained by Roberto Pozzobon, who is an expert coach of hurdles and who trained Giulia Tessaro. From the end of 2018 she moved to Milan to train with Giorgio Ripamonti at Brugherio and Giussano tracks, but from 2021 she mainly trains at the XXV Aprile track in Milan. In 2022 she improved her 400m hurdles PB to 55.40. She has an arts high school degree.

**Curriculum (400hs):** U23 ECh: 2017 (sf), 2019 (4); WYC: 2013 (ht); MedG: 2022 (1).

### Irene SIRAGUSA

4x100m

**PB:** 11.21 - 22.96 **SB:** 11.35 - 23.05

Poggibonsi (Siena), 23.6.1993, 1.61x49kg

**Club:** Esercito

**Coach:** Vanna Radi

**Caps:** 19

Her family lives in Colle Val d'Elsa, in the province of Siena, but her grandparents' origins are from Palermo. She practiced figure roller skating for several years, then revealed herself by winning a long jump competition at school level. Already as an U16 athlete she demonstrated sprint skills by running the 80m in 9.9 and was also convinced by her mother Patrizia, a former 400m specialist. In 2011 she won the European U20 silver medal in 4x100m relay. In 2015 she was enrolled by the Army and in 2017 the "sprinter with glasses" won the 200m gold medal at the Universiade after the silver in 100m. She improved in 2018 to 11.21 on the shortest distance. In 2019 at the Doha World Championships she set the Italian record with the 4x100m and in 2021 she won at the World Relays with the national team. At the Tokyo Olympics, another record in the 4x100m with 42.84. She graduated in linguistic mediation in entrepreneurial tourism and then she got a master's degree in textual skills for tourism promotion at the University for Foreigners of Siena. Even her sister Ilaria, four years younger, took part in some sprint races.

**Curriculum (200m, R/4x100m):** NC: 5 (2014-2018, 100m: 2014-2017, 60m indoor 2020); OG: 2021 (ht/R); WCh: 2015 (ht/R), 2017 (ht/R), 2019 (7/R); ECh: 2014 (sf/100m, sf, 4/R), 2016 (sf/100m, ht, 8/R), 2018 (sf/100m, sf, 7/R); EIC (60m): 2021 (ht); WJC: 2012 (sf, ht/R); EJC: 2011 (ht, 2/R); U23 ECh: 2013 (7/100m, ht, 3/R), 2015 (6/100m, ht, 2/R); WUG: 2017 (2/100m, 1, fin/R); MedG: 2018 (4, 3/R), 2022 (4, 1/R); ECup: 2013 (7/R), 2014 (10, 8/R), 2015 (5/R), 2017 (11, 3/R), 2021 (5/R); WRel: 2015 (ht/R), 2019 (5/R), 2021 (1/R).

### Valentina TRAPLETTI

20km marcia/Race Walking

**PB:** 1h29:47 **SB:** 1h29:47

Magenta (Milano), 12.7.1985, 1.73x53kg

**Club:** Esercito

**Coach:** Alessandro Gandellini

**Caps:** 19

She was born in Magenta, but only because it is her father's birth place, she is actually a true Milanese: she lives in the San Siro area, she trains between XXV Aprile track and Trenno park. She started in 1998 immediately dedicated to race walking in Cus Milano club under the guidance of Enzo Fiorillo, fascinated by the technical gesture, without trying other disciplines. At the U20 level she stood out with an Italian title in 2003 and three in 2004. Recruited by the Army in 2005, she was part of the sports center until 2014 where she came back in 2017, coming from Bracco Atletica. She took part in the 2009 World Championships in Berlin, then after a difficult period she returned to the National team in 2013 and with stubbornness from 2015 she began to rewrite her personal records over all distances. At the 2018 European Championships in Berlin she dipped below an hour and a half in the 20 km (1h29:57) for the first time and in 2021 she came very close to that time twice. From October 2021 she has been trained by coach Alessandro Gandellini and in 2022 she improved to 1h29:47. Graduated in tourism and local community sciences, she loves to travel and is passionate about cinema.

**Curriculum (20km RW):** NC: 9 (2009-2015-2017-2018-2022, 10km: 2016-2022, 3000m indoor 2020-2021); OG: 2021 (18); WCh: 2009 (16), 2017 (15), 2019 (17); ECh: 2018 (9); WJC (10.000m RW): 2004 (11); U23



**ECh:** 2007 (11); **WUG:** 2009 (6); **WCup:** 2008 (27, 7T), 2014 (56, 5T), 2016 (23, 6T), 2018 (16, 2T), 2022 (9); **ECup:** 2015 (20, 2T), 2017 (7, 2T), 2019 (8, 2T), 2021 (10, 3T).

### **Giancarla TREVISAN**

4x400m

**PB:** 52.46 **SB:** 52.78

Laguna Niguel (Usa), 17.2.1993, 1.64x53kg

**Club:** Bracco Atletica

**Coach:** Kevin Tyler

**Caps:** 7

Her grandfather was from San Vito al Tagliamento, in Friuli, while her Tuscan grandmother from Lucca: they moved overseas to Des Moines, Iowa, where the father of "Gia" was born, an Italian architect who then landed in Southern California for work. Growing up in Laguna Beach, her first sport was football as a forward. But she was known as "the fastest player in the conference" and with a knee injury she decided to make the move definitely to athletics. In college she wore the Arizona Wildcats jersey for three seasons and in 2016, after participating in the NCAA finals, she made her debut in Italy at the Nationals. A series of progress in 2018, up to 52.63, and the first Italian title in 2019, improving with 52.61. She settled in Los Angeles with her husband Corey Butler, married in the spring of 2018, and under the technical guidance of Ryan Wilson. From autumn 2020 she moved to Orlando, Florida, to train with Gary Evans. In 2021 she took her personal best to 52.46 before her win with the mixed 4x400m at the World Relays, then in the fall she moved to Atlanta with Kevin Tyler. She studied sports psychology and management. In her free time she loves to paint, to express her artistic side, but also windsurfing.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): NC:** 1 (2019); **WCh:** 2019 (ht/R, ht/mx); **MedG:** 2022 (1/R); **ECup:** 2019 (3/R); **WRel:** 2019 (3/R, ht/mx), 2021 (1/mx).

### **Virginia TROIANI**

4x400m

**PB:** 52.10 **SB:** 52.10

Milano, 22.2.1996, 1.67x51kg

**Club:** Cus Pro Patria Milano

**Coach:** Vittorio Ramaglia

**Caps:** 6

A story that also involves her other two twins, Alexandra and Serena. The three girls from Busto Arsizio (Varese) are almost identical, but each with distinctive features and since elementary school they have attended different classes. In sport, on the other hand, they have always been united: from mini-basketball, following in the footsteps of their mother, to karate. Then athletics in 2009 after first school competitions, always with the coach Vittorio Ramaglia in Busto Arsizio and Legnano tracks, on the initiative of Virginia who was the first to win an Italian title on her own, the U20 400m indoors in 2015. The three sisters stood out for their repeated presence in the national finals of various age groups, especially in the 400m, and for the nine Italian titles won in relay, between indoor and outdoor, from the 4x400m U18 of 2012 up to the senior one in 2022. She improved by over half a second in 2022 with 52.10. She graduated from scientific high school and she had an agri-food biotechnology bachelor's degree at the University of Milan and she attends the master's degree in biology applied to nutrition. In her spare time she loves reading manga, anime and the Harry Potter saga.

**Curriculum (400m, R/4x400m): EJC:** 2015 (ht, 2/R); **U23 ECh:** 2017 (ht, 5/R); **WUG:** 2019 (sf); **MedG:** 2022 (3, 1/R); **WRel:** 2019 (4/mx).

### **Elena VALLORTIGARA**

Alto/HJ

**PB:** 2.02 **SB:** 1.98

Schio (Vicenza), 21.9.1991, 1.84x66kg

**Club:** Carabinieri Bologna

**Coach:** Stefano Giardi

**Caps:** 7

She is one of the Italians who jumped over two meters (2.02). She started swimming and doing gymnastics, but then she preferred an outdoor sport and she chose athletics when she was 8 years old, thanks to the fact that the Schio's Olympic training track was really close to her home. While her father was a second league volleyball player and her sister played basketball, she chose high jump. In 2006 she was U16 world leader with 1.85, that still is the U16 National Best. In 2007, despite a knee injury, she won bronze medal at the U18 World Championships and gold at the EYOF within two weeks. She trained with Erica Sella until spring 2008, then she was coached by Silvia Dalla Piana. In 2010 she won the U20 Italian title at the indoor pentathlon and she matched the National record for her category with 1.90, then she won the U20 World Championships

bronze and improved to 1.91 on her debut at National team, at the DécaNation in Annecy. In 2011 she frequently changed her training tracks due to some injuries: Modena, Rieti and Rimini, before establishing herself in Siena in October 2016 coached by Stefano Giardi. In the 2017 indoor season won the Italian title with 1.87. In the 2018 outdoor season she improved to 1.94 until the London meeting where she jumped 2.02, second Italian ever doing it. In 2021 she jumped 1.96 in the outdoor season. She has a foreign language high school diploma, she is passionate about languages and loves nature, she has a bachelor's degree in psychology science and techniques.

**Curriculum (HJ): NC:** 8 (2018-2020-2021-2022, indoor 2017-2019-2020-2022); **OG:** 2021 (16Q); **WCh:** 2019 (17Q); **ECh:** 2018 (15Q); **WIC:** 2022 (6); **EIC:** 2019 (17Q), 2021 (14Q); **WJC:** 2008 (30Q), 2010 (3); **EJC:** 2009 (4); **WYC:** 2007 (3); **EYOF:** 2007 (1).

### **Sintayehu VISSA**

1500m

**PB:** 4:04.64 **SB:** 4:04.64

Bahir Dar (Etiopia), 29.7.1996, 1.64x52kg

**Club:** Atletica Brugnera Friulintagli

**Coach:** Ryan Vanhoy

**Caps:** -

Her name is pronounced "Sintaiu", but her friends call her "Sinta". She was adopted in 2006 by a couple who lives in Pozzecco di Bertolo (Udine) from an orphanage in Addis Ababa. Firstly she did gymnastics for a year, the same sport practiced by her Italian sisters, then from 2018 she chose athletics and trained at the Codroipo (Udine) track with Cornelio Giavedoni as coach. She mainly focused on 400m hurdles, achieving the fifth place in 2015 at the U20 Nationals, in addition to the 400m and 800m races. She has a social health service diploma, and in 2017 she moved to Ireland to improve her English knowledge but then she had to stop training for a long period due to a cruciate injury. In 2020 she moved to USA to study in St. Leo, Florida. From 2021 she is attending the University of Mississippi in Oxford (also known as Ole Miss) to become a welfare worker and she is training with Ryan Vanhoy, middle distance Rebels' coach, and with Connie Price-Smith as head coach. Her breakthrough has been in 2022 starting from the indoor season, improving her performances and finishing second at the mile's NCAA Finals. During the outdoor season, she ran the 800 in 2:01.06, she won the 1500m NCAA title and a few days after she set her PB with 4:04.64. During her free time she loves to listen to music, from hip-hop to reggae.