

**Table S1** Non-participation analysis (comparing non-participants ( $n = 1086$ ) with the final study group ( $n = 698$ )).

**Table S1-A**  $\chi^2$  test between non-participants and the final study group

Variable	P value
Continent	<0.001
Event group	0.210
Gender	0.074
Birth year	0.415

Comment: The non-participation analysis did not display any significant differences between participants and non-participants with regard to gender, age category, event group; differences did exist for continents.

**Table S1-B** Distribution of home continent between the non-participating athletes ( $n = 1086$ ) and the athletes in the final study group ( $n = 698$ ).

Continent	Non-participants		Final study group	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Africa	141	13.0	68	9.7
Asia	147	13.5	77	11.0
Australia	36	3.3	29	4.2
Europe	467	43.0	360	51.6
North America	245	22.6	113	16.2
South America	50	4.6	51	7.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1086</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table S1-C** Distribution of event groups between the non-participating athletes ( $n = 1086$ ) and the athletes in the final study group ( $n = 698$ ).

Event groups	Non-participants		Final study group	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Combined events	43	4.0	23	3.3
Hurdles	72	6.6	65	9.3
Jumps	130	12.0	94	13.5
Long distances	99	9.1	67	9.6
Marathon	82	7.6	57	8.2
Middle distances	100	9.2	52	7.4
Race walking	109	10.0	75	10.7
Sprints	299	27.5	190	27.2
Throws	152	14.0	75	10.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1086</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table S1-D** Distribution of gender between the non-participating athletes ( $n = 1086$ ) and the athletes in the final study group ( $n = 698$ ).

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Non-participants</b>		<b>Final study group</b>	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Female	459	42.3	325	46.6
Male	627	57.7	373	53.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1086</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table S1-E** Distribution of birth year between the non-participating athletes ( $n = 1086$ ) and the athletes in the final study group ( $n = 698$ ).

<b>Birth year</b>	<b>Non-participants</b>		<b>Final study group</b>	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Before 1976	12	1.1	7	1.0
1976–1979	42	3.9	36	5.2
1980–1983	141	13.1	109	15.6
1984–1987	332	30.7	203	29.1
1988–1991	403	37.3	254	36.4
After 1991	156	14.4	89	12.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>1080</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>100</b>

Comment: Birth year data were missing for six athletes.