

## Summary of Day's Events

Connecting us all from Michinoku. Support the reconstruction through the power of sport!

# "Discover Tomorrow" 1,000-km Relay to Tokyo “Symbolic Sash of Recovery” joining 700 runners together finally arrives at the Grand Goal!

57 runners joined by Tokyo Governor Inose and a host of celebrity guest runners to cover the final legs of the relay!

Running route: From Jogport Ariake to Symbol Promenade Park (Tokyo)  
Guest runners: Soichi Noguchi (astronaut)

The “Discover Tomorrow” 1,000-km Relay to Tokyo concluded on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> August around 5 p.m. as the relay sashes were brought to the grand goal at the “Deai-Bashi (Encounter Bridge)” at Odaiba in Tokyo. Seeking to support the ongoing disaster recovery efforts through the power of sports, the 14-day race crossed some of the regions hardest hit by the Great East Japan Earthquake, symbolically linking them to Tokyo through the runners’ sashes.

Approximately 700 runners participated in this event that began on 25<sup>th</sup> July at Hachinohe City in Aomori Prefecture, traversing a 1,040-km course that took them mainly through the disaster-struck areas. 57 runners delivered the sashes that embodied the hopes of everyone over the final 1.7-km legs of the run on Odaiba from Jogport Ariake to Symbol Promenade Park, accompanied by Tokyo Governor Naoki Inose and a group of celebrity guest runners.

"If Tokyo's bid for the 2020 Summer Olympics is successful, the Olympic torch runners will carry a torch through the disaster area. Today is 7<sup>th</sup> August, so we will find out a month from now. I hope everyone will voice their support loud enough for it to be heard in Buenos Aires" Governor Inose commented after the race.

"I was happy to be able to participate with so many people in this relay to support Tohoku's recovery. I hope it will unite the dreams everyone has for 2020," said Noguchi.

### Press Inquiries

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Event name

Connecting us all from Michinoku

## "Discover Tomorrow" 1,000km Relay to Tokyo

Run & Ride to TOKYO 2013

Event outline

In order to support the on-going post-disaster reconstruction through the power of sport, sash-bearing runners and cyclists take part in a relay that starts from Aomori prefecture, traverses the affected areas of the Great East Japan Earthquake, and finishes in Tokyo.

Event highlights

- The event will stay within traffic rules in order not to impede reconstruction efforts in the affected areas (no traffic control)
- Sash-bearing runners and cyclists (on road bikes) take part in a relay
- Participating runners jog on sidewalks for a distance of between 1km to 10km as one group, with no competition involved.
- Elementary school students and the disabled (in wheelchairs, etc.) can also participate.

Schedule

Thu. 25<sup>th</sup> July through Wed. 7<sup>th</sup> August, 2013, for a total of 14 days

Running Route

Aomori prefecture - Iwate prefecture - Miyagi prefecture - Fukushima prefecture - Ibaraki prefecture - Chiba prefecture - Tokyo  
Total distance: 1,040km (running: 116 legs 525km / cycling: 29 legs 515km)

Organizer

Executive Committee of "Discover Tomorrow" 1,000-km Relay to Tokyo  
(comprised of Track & Field Associations of the 7 prefectures, Executive Committee of Sports no Chikara Project, etc.)  
Chair: Hidenori Nakano (Tokyo Sports Association Chairman), Vice Chair: Toshio Tanaka (Tokyo Athletics Association Chairman)  
Committee members: Chairs of the Track & Field Associations of 6 prefectures, etc.

Co-organizer

Tokyo Metropolitan Prefecture

Sponsors

Nippon Life Insurance Company, ASICS Corporation, Lotte Co., Ltd., Kinki Nippon Tourist Co., Ltd.

Support

Aomori prefecture, Aomori Prefectural Board of Education, Aomori Sports Association, Iwate prefecture, Iwate Prefectural Board of Education, Iwate Amateur Sports Association, Miyagi prefecture, Miyagi Prefectural Board of Education, Miyagi Amateur Sports Association, Fukushima prefecture, Fukushima Prefectural Board of Education, Fukushima Amateur Sports Association, Ibaraki prefecture, Ibaraki Prefectural Board of Education, Ibaraki Amateur Sports Association, Chiba prefecture, Chiba Prefectural Board of Education, Chiba Amateur Sports Association, Tokyo Sports Association, TSAD, Reconstruction Agency, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Japan Tourism Agency, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japanese Olympic Committee, Tokyo 2020 Bid Committee, Japan Sports Association, Japan Association of Athletics Federations, Japan Sports Association for the Disabled, Japan Paralympic Committee, Sports Festival in Tokyo 2013 Executive Committee, Tokyo Marathon Foundation

Special Assistance

Friends of the United Nations Asia-Pacific

Assistance

72 municipalities along the route, Japan Cycling Association, Fukushimaen Cycling Association, Ibarakiken Cycling Association