



## Over 1,000 Olympians kickstart *Leave your Mark* in first week

*Leave your Mark* project proves popular as Olympians across the world come together to celebrate Tokyo 2020 online



**Lausanne, Switzerland – 29 July 2021:** More than 1,000 Olympians have joined **World Olympians Association's *Leave your Mark*** initiative in the first week since its launch as part of **OLY House Tokyo 2020**.

*Leave your Mark* is uniting Olympians across the world in an online autograph collection which thanks all involved in making Tokyo 2020 a success while enabling the global Olympian community to share their unique bond and forever be a part of the Games.

Following last week's successful launch of OLY House Tokyo 2020 - the exclusive online destination for Olympians during the Games - interest in the *Leave your Mark* initiative has been high with hundreds of Olympians digitally sharing their locations on the interactive world map each day.

WOA Patron, **His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco OLY**, was the first Olympian to leave his mark. Since then the number has quickly grown to 1,000 and counting. The collected entries will be

used to create an exclusive downloadable souvenir poster as a permanent memory of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games for participating Olympians.

**Mariany Nonaka OLY from Brazil**, said:

“As soon as I saw the campaign online, I added my autograph. It only took a couple of minutes and now I feel part of the Games even if it’s from a distance. Not only that, but it’s also great to navigate the map and explore where everyone is from and see the Olympian community come together at Tokyo 2020.”



**World Olympians Association President, Joël Bouzou OLY**, said:

“*Leave your Mark* celebrates the unique bond Olympians share and I am delighted it has proved so popular just one week since its launch. The Olympic Games is a time when we can come together as a community to celebrate our shared connection and the Olympic Values. This year we are unable to do that in person but thanks to *Leave your Mark* we are still able to unite online and in a meaningful way.

“I encourage all Olympians everywhere to visit our online OLY House and *Leave your Mark* to show your appreciation for all those who have made Tokyo 2020 possible, and forever be a part of the Games.”

OLY House Tokyo 2020 is a dedicated online destination for Olympians of all ages, nations and sports to call their own during Games-time. It provides an accessible online space for Olympians to connect with their community and celebrate the Games together at a time when uniting in Tokyo is not possible. The online OLY House destination for Tokyo 2020 follows award-winning hospitality houses at previous Games ensuring WOA continues to provide a programme of events for Olympians online while COVID-19 restrictions prevent in-person activities.

-ENDS-

## **Notes to Editors**

### **About World Olympians Association**

WOA is an IOC recognised organisation supporting the 100,000 Olympians worldwide. Its remit is to work for the benefit of all Olympians at all stages of their lives, empowering them to serve society and help make the world a better place through sport. With member National Olympians Associations spread across all five continents, WOA provides support to Olympian-run events and projects based on the Olympic ideals laid down by the founder of the modern Olympic Games, Pierre de Coubertin.

### **Connect with World Olympians Association**

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