

Bolt, Bekele shortlisted for Top Male Athlete Award

Jamaica's World and Olympic sprint champion Usain Bolt and Ethiopia's distance guru Kenenisa Bekele are among five contenders shortlisted for the male Athlete of the Year award on Monday.

Also on the shortlist are American sprint superstar Tyson Gay, Australian pole vaulter Steve Hooker and Norway's javelin thrower Andreas Thorkildsen.

After smashing world records to win the Olympic sprints in Beijing last summer, Bolt, who was named the International Association of Athletics Federations' (IAAF) male Athlete of the Year last year, repeated those accomplishments at this year's world championships in Berlin.

Also repeating his Olympic performances in Berlin was Bekele, who won both the 5,000 and 10,000m races.

The women's shortlist will be released on Tuesday with both winners being announced during the World Athletics Gala in Monaco on November 22.