

STORIES OF MARATHON CENTENARY

WHAT HAPPENED AT THE MARATHON IN KOŠICE 90 YEARS AGO



*Record holder Galambos (with number 9) is running for his fourth victory.
/ Photo: © 1933 Košice Marathon Club – archive.*

They couldn't catch Galambos again.

At the tenth edition of the marathon in 1933, evidently by coincidence, 33 runners took part. Runners from Germany who participated every year were absent, as the social climate after Hitler's rise to power had changed and the country was going through a rather tumultuous time. The starting judge counted 33 runners before firing his shot, but the finish line judge counted two fewer.

At that time, Ľudovít Majoroš, just 22-year-old, finished in the next to last place. He later often returned to the race, with breaks, most recently 57 years after his first start. And amazingly, over that long time, he didn't actually lose much of his performance level. At the end of his marathon journey, he ran a time that was only 30 minutes slower than those of his youth.

*But back to the favourites. Perhaps the best chances were given to Josef Šulc, due mainly to his second place in the Vienna marathon, which had been run just over a month before the one in Košice. Once they started, the runners gave away nothing on the track, and ultimately lined up at the finish line exactly as they were listed in the world ranking from 1932. The favoured Šulc took third place, when after an evenly paced race, the veteran **József Galambos** held onto a sufficient lead at the finish. He thus secured a fourth victory in the race, which even to the present no one else has managed to achieve in Košice.*

RESULTS

Slovak International Marathon, October 28, 1933

Men

1.	József Galambos	HUN	2:37:53,2
2.	Artürs Motmillers	LAT	2:41:38,2
3.	Josef Šulc	TCH/CZE	2:42:43