## Yusuhara a Home from Home: 20. The Marathon Returns!

## **Stephen Woodard**

This year marked the return of the Ryoma Dappan Marathon to Yusuhara for the first time in 3 years. This year was a much smaller affair than previously which did not seem to dampen spirits, motivation or excitement for the event.

Unlike last time when I was a volunteer giving out drinks and joining the cheering party alongside the junior high school students at the end of the race near the finish line, this time I was a spectator. I got to see the start of each event, meet with former students and talk with people visiting from outside Yusuhara. It has been nice to see so many people come to this town over the last few months through the various events that have been held. It has brought with it a familiar sense of life and energy, something that I have missed!



The start of the 2022 Ryoma Dappan Marathon. Best of luck to all runners!