

Rutherford County Track Club (“RCTC”) closed out another fantastic outdoor season by attending the AAU Junior Olympics in Houston, TX. August 1st – August 6th, 2016. This outdoor season the team consisted of 96 athletes and had 31 athletes compete in 54 individual events and 4 relays at the JO meet setting 15 personal records (“PR”). The individuals or relay team that finishes in the top 8 for their event receive a medal and are recognized as an All American in that event. RCTC was able to earn 4 top eight finishers this year. Roland McGhee, Steven Sherman, Vaughn Marion, and Kalea Barnett

The team got the week started on Monday, August 1st
We started off with the field events. Nicholas Lockyear triple jumped 40-11.75(31st) and Sania McGhee threw 19-09(PR)(13th) in the shot put. The running events began with the 800m McKenzie Louis 2:30.00(32nd), Robbie Polidan 2:25.45(PR)(49th) and Annia Johnson 2:40.33(51th) and we finished off with the 100m with Meraiah Sublett 15.83(35th), Steven Sherman 15.19(38th), Hannah Bass 16.36(74th), Josiah Rone 15.58(85th), Javarian Otey 13.57 (qualified to the SEMI-FINALS), Kynnedy Gilbert 13.12 (qualified to the SEMI-FINALS), John Sherman 13.52(58th), and Cyera Gordon 12.88(66th).

Tuesday August 2nd
We started off the day early beginning with the 1500m McKenzie Louis 5:15.47(PR)(24th) and Robbie Polidan 5:04.80(PR)(42nd). Next the 200m Meraiah Sublett 33.34(59th), Haran Bass 30.12(54th), Javarion Otey 29.86(68th), Kynnedy Gilbert 26.41(PR) (qualified to the SEMI-FINALS), Roland McGhee 25.51 (qualified to the SEMI-FINALS), and Cyera Gordon 26.03(73rd). We finished up the running events with the 400m Briana Apenteng 1:17.62(43rd), Haran Bass 1:08.36(PR)(35th), Malachi Gordon 1:11.46(PR)(61st),Taylin Segree 1:13.72(63rd), Kynnedy Gilbert 1:03.06(PR)(31st), and Jorden Barnes 59.68(22nd). In the field events London Smith threw the shot put 20-9.75(PR)(45th), Kalea Barnett threw the discus 99-08(37th) and Cyera Gordon long jumped 17-3.25(16th).

Wednesday August 3rd
Kalea Barnett made RCTC history, she is our 1st female athlete to claim ALL-AMERICAN status, she threw the shot put 40-10.25(4th)(PR) she will be off to Cumberland University to continue her studies and track career, she will truly me missed! Roland McGhee claimed his 2nd ALL-AMERICAN status in the long jump with a leap of 17-6(3rd), John Sherman long jumped 16-5.25(9th) and Kennedy Spicer long jumped 15-11.5(PR)(27th). In the running events we started off with the 800m Briana Apenteng 2:52.56(11th) shattered her PR by more the 10 seconds, Zayleigh Anderson 3:13.01(80th), Taylin Segree 2:52.06(49th) and Kyleigh King 2:58.62(89th). Next up the 80mH with Roland McGhee 13.22(14th) and then the 100m semi-finals were Javarion Otey 13.69(13th) and Kynnedy Gilbert 13.15(15th). We ended up the day with the most exciting relay race, the 4x400. The quartet consisted of Haran Bass, Vaughn Marion, Brycen Louis, and Malachi Gordon who ran an impressive 5:00.59(PR)(29th).

Thursday August 4th
We started off the day with the 1500m, Briana Apenteng 6:01.37(PR)(9th) just barely missing the podium, Zayleigh Anderson 6:22.42(53rd), and Kyleigh King 5:58.41(56th) both valiant effort. We moved onto the sprints next with the 200m semi-finals with Kynnedy Gilbert 26.64(10th) and Roland McGhee 25.77(12th) just missing the finals. We finished off the running events with our young ladies 4x400 relay, the quartet consisted of Madalyn Hooker, Jada Waller, Alexis Spivey, and Kennedy Spicer 4:47.57(29th). Sania McGhee was our only field event competitor, she threw the mini-javelin 26-10(38th)

Friday August 5th
Today was a short day for us. Our young ladies took the track to compete in the 4x100 relay. The quartet consisted of Alexis Spivey, Jada Waller, Madalyn Hooker, and Kennedy Spicer. They ran an impressive race 53.98(43rd).

Saturday August 6th
Last day of competition. We saved the best for last. Colin King, Steven Sherman, and Vaughn Marion, the smallest kids on the team but with the BIGGEST heart. We started with the mini javelin. Colin threw 53-8 (27th) and Vaughn threw 86-06(7th) his 2nd ALL-AMERICAN, then we followed up with the long jump Steven jumped 12-11.50(6th)(PR) ALL-AMERICAN. What a way to end the week!

What an amazing week of competition and family atmosphere we had that week. Rutherford County Track Club is a local, 501 (C) 3, track club that has been in existence for 10 years that trains athletes from the age of 7 – 18 in track and field. The club currently practices at Smyrna High School for its indoor and outdoor seasons. For further information about the track club including contact information please visit our website [www.rctrackclub.org](http://www.rctrackclub.org) . Also like us on Facebook.