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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AAU JUNIOR OLYMPIC GAMES HEADS INTO WEEK TWO

Join thousands of athletes for the Celebration of Athletes on Monday

GREENSBORO, NC - The excitement continues as the second week of the AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) Junior Olympic Games kicks off, focusing on track events. From now until August 3, approximately 12,000 athletes will compete in various track disciplines.

The big kickoff is Monday, July 29, with the Celebration of Athletes (opening ceremonies) at 7:00 pm at the Marcus T. Johnson Track at Truist Stadium on the NC A&T State University campus. Athletes from across the nation, representing all sports, will march through the stadium, state by state, showcasing the scale and camaraderie of the Games. This event is free and open to the public.

In addition to track, this week's lineup includes field hockey at Wake Forest University and dance, fencing, taekwondo, and jump rope at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex.

Due to the expected hot summer weather, spectators are reminded to take precautions and stay hydrated, especially at the track and field hockey events. Water, soft-sided coolers, and tents (in specific locations) are permitted at the track. Spectators can bring water into Kentner Stadium at Wake Forest University, but coolers are prohibited.

FREE shuttle service from the Greensboro Coliseum to the track begins Monday, June 29. Parking at the Coliseum is \$5 per day or \$20 for the entire competition. Shuttle service runs from 6:30 am through one hour after the day's final event ends. Parking on the NC A&T University Campus near the track is \$20 per day.

This is the largest event the Greensboro Area Convention and Visitors Bureau has brought to Greensboro. The AAU Junior Olympic Games are expected to generate an estimated \$49 million in economic impact for the area, which will help support essential services including education, public safety, and emergency response.

Additionally, the AAU is committed to supporting the local community through its AAU Cares program. This year, they are hosting a virtual school supply drive for the Teacher Supply Warehouse, just in time to equip classrooms for the upcoming school year. To contribute to the Teacher Supply Warehouse through AAU Cares, please visit https://bit.ly/AAUSupplyDrive.





Greensboro is hosting the AAU Junior Olympic Games for the third time, following successful events in 2019 and 2022. The Games will be back in Greensboro in 2029 and 2033.

Learn more about the AAU Junior Olympic Games, buy tickets, and find parking information at <u>visitgreensboronc.com/aau-junior-olympic-games</u> or <u>www.aaujrogames.org</u>.

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About the Greensboro Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

The Greensboro Area Convention and Visitors Bureau is an independent, non-profit governmental authority whose mission is to aggressively market Greensboro's assets, maximizing economic impact while providing excellent visitor service.

About the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU)

The Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) is one of the largest, non-profit, volunteer sports organizations in the country. As a multi-sport organization, the AAU is dedicated exclusively to the promotion and development of amateur sports programs. Founded in 1888 to establish standards and uniformity in sports, the AAU philosophy of "Sports For All, Forever" is now shared by nearly 800,000 members and 150,000 volunteers across 45 sports programs and 55 U.S. districts. For more information, visit www.aausports.org.

