

Shocker Track Club Youth Team

Newsletter No. 1

May 13, 2018

**Hello STC Parents and Athletes!**

This is the first in the series of newsletters you will receive during the course of the spring and summer.

**Practices in May**

The remaining practices are: 15, 17, 22, 24, 29 and 31. We will explore practicing on Wednesday, May 30th so that we can prepare for the meets in June.

As we get “deeper” into the month, you will see some changes in our practices as we begin to prepare athletes for upcoming track meets. Training in the use of starting blocks began last week. We hope to open up the long jump pit next week. As such, we will begin surveying athletes to learn more about their interests and desires for upcoming training. Please know that we are not mandating that an athlete make commitments, but asking if they have specific interests.

Additionally we will begin seeing more middle school aged students join now that their competition seasons have ended.  Many of these athletes have trained with us before, and have experience in competing in various events.

**Meets in late May and early June**  
The first truly competitive meet of the season is the Garden Plain Barb Hunt Memorial Meet on Monday, May 28, 2018 in Garden Plain, Kansas. The next meet is Saturday, June 2, 2018 in Grandview, Missouri. Complete information for both meets accompanies this newsletter. The week before the meets we will begin surveying parents to learn of our child’s interest in competing and provide a meet registration form. As noted previously, participation in any weekend meet is optional.

The Shocker Summer (Thursday Night) Series meets typically begin in June. As soon as the schedule is released we will provide it.

**Coaching Changes**

Due to summer work schedule changes I’m sorry to tell you that we will not have Denis Fraizer (Pole Vault), Jenny Pinkston (Horizontal Jumps), or Deja Young (sprints) coaching with us this summer. We will, of course, make appropriate adjustments in those areas and announce them soon. Our Distance Coaching team will be strong again this season with Curtis Hernandez leading the team! Two outstanding coaches will assist Curtis with experience in working with high school and collegiate athletes – Kyle Martens (who returns) and Jason Parr (Friends University)! Additionally I am excited to share that two former STC Youth Team members who now compete for Kansas State University will assist in coaching this summer! Isaac Smallwood (Triple Jump) and Hannah Buller (Pole Vault) will join us before the end of May. Both Isaac and Hannah were State High School Champions in their events.

**Footwear**

Athletes that will primarily compete on the track may start bringing their spikes to practices. Locally we recommend our friends at First Gear Running Company at 111 North Mosley in Old Town as a great source for spikes! Athletes should show their STC Youth wristband for a discount. Any sporting goods “big box retail” store in Wichita may have some spikes available, although smaller sizes are sometimes difficult to find. We can also recommend Eastbay.com at <https://www.eastbay.com/_-_/keyword-kids+track+and+field+shoes>

**Please contact us at any time if you have questions!**

Respectfully,

Darren Muci, President, Shocker Track Club Stephanie Knab, Director, Youth Team

Gilda Muci, Youth Team Operations Director Anita Curtis, Youth Team Mom