

For Immediate Release:



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MacCanDo Youth Headed for the National Junior Olympics

San Francisco CA., June 23, 2010 - On June 18-19, 2010, MacCanDo club members traveled to Tulare, CA to compete in the qualifier competition for the National Junior Olympics. To date, a total of 10 MacCanDo athletes successfully qualified in 11 different events for the AAU National Junior Olympics in Virginia this August.

On Friday, June 18, Lindsey Chen, 13, led the girl's throwing squad and qualified in the Javelin throw, discus throw and shot-put. Three of her teammates followed later that afternoon and will also compete in Virginia: Arian Garth, 9, in shot-put; Eulalia Morrison, 8, in shot-put; and, Lauren Tate, 11, in the discus throw and shot-put.

MacCanDo's rookie Kris Balarezo, 14, won his ticket to the Nationals in shot-put and in the discus throw.

On Saturday June 19th, sprinters competed. MacCanDo's youth boys' 4x100m relay team took its first gold medal and advanced to the Nationals. The team, composed of Turk, Eik, Baun and Morrison (with a reliable alternate Fischer standing by), steadily improved its best marks and won over an older age group.

In the individual events, MacCanDo's rookie Alex Turk, 13, advanced to the Nationals in the 100m dash and long jump. Another first-year member, Nicolas Menchero, 11, also qualified for the Nationals in the 80m hurdles and 800m run. Nicolas set his goal back in May and focused on "qualifying for the Nationals," which he successfully executed on Saturday. Nicolas is determined to add another event, long jump, to his first national appearance.

Joseph Morrison, 13, secured his second appearance to the Nationals, and will compete in the 2 hurdle events, 200m and 100m.

MacCanDo veteran Michael Baun, 12, demonstrated his talent, qualifying in every event he competed in and winning a total of 4 medals. For the past three years Michael has worked hard with the Club's coaching staff, and everyone was proud his of remarkable achievements.

For the 2010 track season, MacCanDo is operating under a significant budget shortfall and the Club's future remains uncertain. Operations were nearly halted midway in the season, but because of our dedicated student athletes and their families, coaches and board members are doing everything that can to "keep their dream alive."

In a united effort to keep going forward, MacCanDo will hold a major fundraiser event on Wednesday, July 14 at the Tenderloin Recreation Center to raise revenues for the Nationals. For more information, please contact Coach Robert McDaniels.

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