



**7/5/16**

**Update on Southern California Association Athletes at the 2016 Olympic Trials.**

As we enter upon the halfway point in the 2016 USATF Olympic Trials, the Southern California Association has seen 4 of its athletes earn their spot on the USA Olympic Team. These athletes include Gil Roberts (men's 400m), Boris Berian (men's 800m), Allyson Felix (women's 400m), and Whitney Ashley (women's discus).

On the men's side, Gil Roberts finished the 400m final with a time of 44.73, taking the 2<sup>nd</sup> place spot. Boris Berian ran a strong 800m final to finish in 2<sup>nd</sup> place as well, with a time of 1:44.92. On the women's side, Allyson Felix impressed everyone, running a world-leading time of 49.68 to grab 1<sup>st</sup> place and secure her spot to Rio. Whitney Ashley had a dominant performance in the women's discus, with a first place throw of 204-2, over 6 feet further than any of her competitors.

Other notable performances from SCA male athletes included Brandon Johnson finishing 8<sup>th</sup> in the 800m, Michael Woepse with a 9<sup>th</sup> place finish in the pole vault, and Adoree Jackson finishing 10<sup>th</sup> in the long jump.

On the women's side, Ariana Washington finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the 100m, and will likely earn a spot on the relay team for Rio, with Shalonda Solomon finishing 11<sup>th</sup> in that same event. In the 400m, Jaide Stepter just missed the final with a 9<sup>th</sup> place finish in the semi's, but will compete again on Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup> in the women's 400m hurdles. The women's 800m final saw a dramatic finish after some jostling among the runners in the last 200 meters left Brenda Martinez with a 7<sup>th</sup> place finish. Martinez will compete again in the 1500m, which also takes place on Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>. In the field events, UCLA grad Kylie Price took 9<sup>th</sup> place in the long jump and Zibby Boyer took 12<sup>th</sup> in the high jump.

The second half of the trials should prove to be just as exciting for SCA athletes, with highlights on the track including the men's and women's 200m dashes as well as both hurdling events. Twelve SCA athletes will be featured in the 200m rounds, and thirteen SCA hurdlers will compete. Field events will kick off the second round of action in Eugene on July 6<sup>th</sup> with the men's and women's hammer throw.