

ALERT TOP STORY

Greensboro, Triad to host 58th AAU Junior Olympic Games

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For the third time in five years, the largest multi-sport event for youth in the U.S. brings some of the nation's best athletes to the Triad as the AAU Junior Olympics begins on Wednesday and lasts through Aug. 3.

The 58th annual games will be held primarily in Greensboro; the event had been held in the Gate City in 2019 and 2022. The Greensboro Coliseum will host nine of the 12 sports, while the Greensboro Aquatic Center hosts swimming and North Carolina A&T's Marcus T. Johnson Track at Truist Stadium hosts track and field. The lone sport held outside of Greensboro will be field hockey, with matches played at Kentner Stadium on the Wake Forest campus in Winston-Salem.

It's expected the Junior Olympics will generate \$67 million for the local economy.

"The AAU Junior Olympic Games returning to Greensboro for the third time is a testament to Tournament Town and our city's commitment as the top youth and amateur sports destination," said Greensboro Convention and Visitors Bureau CEO Henri Fourrier. "Events like this stimulate local businesses, creating a positive impact throughout the community, reinforcing Greensboro's reputation as a premier sports destination."

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According to the bureau, 40,000 visitors are expected to visit the Triad, a benefit to hotels, restaurants, stores and other attractions, in addition to essential services such as education, emergency response and public safety.

About 19,000 athletes are slated to participate, with 12,000 participating in track and field and nearly 1,000 in swimming. More than 1,000 athletes are from North Carolina, although a specific figure for local or area participants wasn't available.

The Celebration of Athletes opening ceremony is scheduled for 7 p.m. on July 29 at Truist Stadium. This includes a parade, presentation and the 200-meter dash.

Tickets for the Games can be purchased at

<https://www.visitgreensboronc.com/aa-junior-olympic-games/default.aspx> for \$20 as an all-event one-day pass or at \$50 for every event every day.

Parking cost \$5 per day or \$20 for the entire competition at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex, with the permission to come and go with passes. Parking cost \$20 per day at North Carolina A&T, with no cash payment option. A free shuttle will be offered to and from both places from 6:30 a.m. to an hour after each day's final competition is completed.

The AAU's way of giving back this year will be in accepting donations to the Teacher Supply Warehouse at

<https://guilfordeducationalliance.salsalabs.org/JuniorOlympics2024Virtual>

General Schedule: Trampoline and Tumbling (at Greensboro Coliseum):

Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Swimming (at Greensboro Aquatic Center): Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Thursday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., July 28, 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Baton Twirling (at Greensboro Coliseum): Thursday starts at 8 a.m., Friday starts at 8 a.m., Saturday. starts at 8 a.m.

Sport Stacking (at Greensboro Coliseum): Friday, 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., July 28 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Karate (at Greensboro Coliseum): Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., July 28 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Track and Field (at North Carolina A&T): Saturday starts at 8 a.m. (multiple events), July 28 starts at 8 a.m. (multiple events), July 29 starts at 8 a.m., July 30 starts at 8 a.m., July 31 starts at 8 a.m., Aug. 1 starts at 8 a.m., Aug. 2 starts at 8 a.m., Aug. 3 starts at 8 a.m. (all finals)

Gymnastics (at Greensboro Coliseum): Saturday starts at 9:30 a.m., July 28 starts at 8 a.m.

Jump Rope (at Greensboro Coliseum): July 28 starts at 9:30 p.m., July 29 starts at 9 a.m.

Fencing (at Greensboro Coliseum): July 29 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., July 30 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., July 31 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Taekwondo (at Greensboro Coliseum): July 29 starts at 9 a.m., July 30 starts at 9 a.m., July 31 TBD, Aug. 1 TBD, Aug. 2 TBD

Field Hockey (at Wake Forest University): July 29 starts at 2:30 p.m., July 30 starts at 8 a.m., July 31 starts at 2:45 p.m., Aug. 1 starts at 7:30 a.m.

Dance (at Greensboro Coliseum): July 30 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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