

Press release

The world's best women in the 400 hurdles

There is no doubt that the 400m hurdles will be one of the main highlights of the evening on 6 July, with a line-up second to none in the season so far. Led by Olympic champion Dalilah Muhammad (USA) who has just achieved a fantastic 52.64 at the US trials, just three tenths of a second outside the world record in a final where for the first time in history, three women clocked times under 53 seconds. Among them, Shamier Little (52.75) who will also be at the start of this race. Swiss Lea Sprunger is looking forward to this race: "They all have run faster than me this year except for Hejnova (double world champion), so it will be a very fast race, from the start until the finish. That does not scare me. On the contrary, I think I'll benefit from this race. I need to get used to such races if I want to qualify for the final this summer at the London World championships. I will have to be ready both mentally and physically."

Other Americans, already announced in the line-up previously also appear to be in great shape. Pole vaulter and Olympic bronze medalist, Sam Kendricks for instance produced a world-leading mark last week-end in Sacramento, when he became the 21st vaulter to clear 6.00m and the first US athlete to do so since 2008. "If I can replicate this kind of jump, everything is possible" said the American. "Going for gold in London is my goal." And to win a second time in a row in Lausanne another one. He won last year with a new stadium record (5.92 m).

In the men's shot put, Ryan Crouser also showed remarkable form by taking the world lead with 22.65 m, the longest throw in the world since 2003, while Will Claye jumped a solid 17.91 m in the triple jump.

In the 100m hurdles, Olympic silver medalist and double world indoor champion in the 60m hurdles, Nia Ali, will face Jasmin Stowers. Between the two of them, they have clocked the two fastest times of the year.

Meanwhile, the British Laura Muir, indoor European champion this winter in the 1500 m and 3000 m, will compete in the 800m. And she will be another great competitor for Selina Büchel, the double indoor European champion in this event.

No doubt that a show of great quality will be guaranteed.

Athletissima/Press service/27.06.2017

