

Guarulhos and ABC welcome the Olympic Torch Relay this Saturday (23)

The retinue proceeds to the cities of Guarulhos, in the Metropolitan Region, and São Caetano do Sul, Santo André and São Bernardo do Campo, in ABC Paulista

This Saturday (23), the Rio 2016 Olympic Torch Relay arrives at the cities of Guarulhos, São Caetano do Sul and Santo André, ending the day of celebrations and attractions in São Bernardo do Campo. As well as accompanying the Olympic flame, the public will also be able to participate of cultural and sports activities promoted throughout the course. In total, 192 torchbearers will carry the torch, and the retinue will travel 86 kilometres.

The Olympic torch will be lit up at Paço Municipal, in Guarulhos. Right at the start of the course, circus artists will make interventions at Senador Vergueiro Avenue and at Kennedy Avenue's square. At Bosque Maia, the public will also be able to watch acrobatic gymnastics, karate, taekwondo, jiu-jitsu, rugby and athletics performances, as well as becoming acquainted with an exposition in tribute to the 75 years of São Paulo's air base.

- São Caetano do Sul will have a course of approximately 10 kilometres, which includes the city's main streets and avenues. At Espaço Verde Chico Mendes, one of the most important leisure areas of the region, with 140 thousand square metres, the population will find sportive, cultural and gastronomic attractions, such as dancing, taikô (Japanese drums) and gymnastics performances, as well as four Food Trucks.
- The retinue will travel around 7 kilometres in Santo André. The course starts at Dom Pedro II Avenue and follows through the city's streets and avenues. Upon the arrival at Parque Central (park), a human chain will be formed by students and teacher from the municipal education net will welcome the torch, which will then head towards Concha Acústica. The programme will also have a series of attractions such as a theatre performance, choreography by the advanced age group, dancing, artistic gymnastics and Orchestra.

- São Bernardo do Campo will be the day's last city, where the relay will start at Senador Vergueiro Avenue and will end with many attractions at Ginásio Poliesportivo (gymnasium). The programme will have activities such as basketball, volleyball, table tennis, athletics, digital games space, slackline, skateboarding and roller skating, as well as shows by the Blue Light Blues Band and São Bernardo's Orquestra de Viola Caipira (orchestra).

Check out some of the day's torchbearers:

Arthur Zanetti is an Olympic and world champion of gymnastics rings. Upon achieving gold at the 2012 London Olympic Games, he became the only Brazilian and the first Latin-American to achieve gold at any artistic gymnastics device. He will be torchbearer in São Caetano do Sul.

Diego Hipólito is solo world bi-champion and active member of the Brazilian national artistic gymnastics team. Only Brazilian representative at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, he owns five gold medals and three silver medals earned in three editions of Pan-American Games- Santo Domingo 2003, Rio 2007 and Guadalajara 2011. He is the brother of also gymnastics athlete Daniele Hipólito. He will be torchbearer in São Bernardo do Campo.

Hugo Hoyama is recordist of gold medals at Pan-American Games table tennis (10 gold medals), and holds the second overall position, staying behind only of swimmer Thiago Pereira. He participated at six Olympic Games events and seven Pan-Americans. He is the current coach of the female national table tennis team. He carries the torch in São Bernardo do Campo.

Marta Sobral was pivot for the national basketball team, earning the silver medal at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games and bronze at Sydney 2000, and was also present at Barcelona 1992. She was a gold medalist at the 1991 Havana Pan-American Games. She carries the torch in São Caetano do Sul.

William da Silva got to be known as Captain William, when he was setter and captain for the national volleyball team, being part of the so called Silver Generation. In 1982, he achieved a silver medal at the world championship in Argentina. The height, however, was at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games, where he achieved the then unprecedented silver medal, losing the final match to the North-American team by 3 x 0. He participated at the 1976 Montreal Games, Moscow 1980, Los Angeles 1984 and Seoul 1988. He carries the torch in São Bernardo do Campo.

Jonathan Borges manages the sportive and sociocultural project JB12. He is a former football athlete, who dedicated to the sport for 12 years and currently develops activities of social inclusion nature along with children, young people, adults and advanced age groups in Guarulhos, where he will be torchbearer at Coca-Cola-’s invitation.

Edênia Garcia was the first Brazilian woman to achieve the title of three times world Paralympic champion, after winning the 50 metres backstroke in Eindhoven (Netherlands) in 2010. She also has three medals in consecutive Paralympic Games editions: silver for 50 metres backstroke, S4 class, at Athens 2004; bronze for 50 metres freestyle, S4 class, at Beijing 2008; and silver for 50 metres backstroke S4 class, at London 2012. The swimmer was born with motor sensitive polyneuropathy, a progressive disease that brought her moving difficulties on the arms and legs. She will be torchbearer in São Bernardo do Campo at Nissan’s invitation.

Janeth dos Santos Arcain is the third biggest scorer in the history of the national team, having scored 2.247 points in 138 official matches, with an average of 16,3 points per match. She achieved the silver medal at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games and bronze at Sydney 2000. She was vice-champion at the 2007 Rio Pan-American Games, thus ending her career. In 2014, Janeth was indicated for the Female Basketball Hall of Fame. In WNBA, she played for the Houston Comets, a team for which she was four times champion of the American league. She carries the torch in Santo André at Bradesco’s invitation.

Alessandro Rodrigo da Silva is a Paralympic shot put athlete and is classified for representing Brazil at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. He is the current champion of the Americas and holds the 1st position in the 2016 World Ranking. He will be torchbearer in São Bernardo do Campo.

Servílio de Oliveira started his career at boxing in 1960, aged 12. He achieved his sport's first Brazilian Olympic medal, at the 1968 Mexico City edition. He will be torchbearer in Santo André.

Edison Freire Alves, known by his nickname 'Testão', started to practice handball at school. At 15 he was summoned to make part of the national team for the first time. He played for the teams of Guarulhos, Bragança, Corinthians, Pinheiros and Santo André. During a part of his career, he conciliated work with an athlete's routine. He was in the national team that competed at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. He will carry the torch in Guarulhos.

Adauto Domingues competed at the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games, on 3.000 metres with hurdles, getting to the semifinal. He was bi-champion at the 1987 Indianapolis Pan-American Games and Havana 1991, on the same contest. In Indianapolis 1987, he earned gold for 5.000 metres. He will be torchbearer in Santo André.

Antônio Carlos Moreno participated at 366 international matches playing for the national volleyball team, including participation at four Olympic Games events, four world-championships, four Pan-American Games and seven South-American championships. He carries the torch in Santo André.

Diogo Hubner will compete at the Rio 2016 Games playing for the national handball team. Among his achievements are the Pan-American championship in Argentina, 2016, the bi-championship of the Argentina South-American Games, 2013, and Chile 2014, as well as a gold medal at the 2015 Winnipeg Pan-American Games. He carries the torch in São Caetano do Sul.

Anísio Silva participated at the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games and Atlanta 1996, on triple jump modality. He was silver medalist at the 1991 Havana Pan-American Games and also participated at the 1995 Mar del Plata Pan-Americans. A Physical Education teacher, he acts as athletics trainer of official teams of the Guarulhos municipality, where he will be torchbearer.

Marcos Goto is Arthur Zanetti's coach, Olympic and world champion, who refers to him as the responsible for his development and achievements in artistic gymnastics. He carries the torch in Guarulhos.

Edinanci Silva is a former Brazilian judo athlete born in Souza, Paraíba. Training in São Paulo, he managed to classify himself for the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. He also competed at the Sydney 2000 Games, Athens 2004 and Beijing 2008. He competed at the Santo Domingo 2003 and Rio 2007 Pan-American Games, earning a gold medal on both occasions. He carries the torch in São Caetano do Sul.

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