

2018 USA Track & Field National 50 Km Race Walk Championships and IAAF World Race Walking Team Championship Trials

* **When:** Saturday, January 20, 2018 – Start Time: 7:30am; Anticipated Finish Time of the Winner: 11:30am. 7:30 cut-off (must have begun the last lap by 7:30).

* **Where:** Santee, CA – New 1.25 Km Course is on Riverview Parkway and Town Center Parkway adjacent to the Mall at Trolley Square at Santee Town Center, with the start / finish on Town Center Parkway behind the Mall. Attendance is free for spectators, and with the Santee Active Lifestyle Expo being held concurrently, about 1,000-1,500 are expected.

* **Additional Events:** USATF National Masters 50 Km Championships and 20 Km, 10 Km, and 5 Km Race Walks for men and women, open, masters, and youth, including the USATF - San Diego-Imperial Association 5 Km Championships, the first-ever California Junior College 5Km, and a Youth (12& under) 2,500m race. There will be a team competition in both the Open and Masters M&W 50 Km Champs with a max of 5 per team with 3 scoring. There will also be a number of international guest competitors, including a large and talented group of women who will be attempting to qualify for the IAAF World Race Walking Team Championships in Taicang, China on May 5-6, 2018, where the women will be walking 50km for the first time ever.

* **Expected Highlights:** As many as 5 U.S. men and women will qualify for the 2018 IAAF World Race Walking Team Championships in Taicang, China. Two of the favorites (Nick Christie and Katie Burnett) are local athletes. Due to the fact that the women's 50K race has just become an official IAAF event, there will be an accompanying women's international 50km invitational with a separate travel and prize money budget, and we expect a number of the best female walkers from around the world to come to Santee to walk their first 50K and get qualifying marks for China.

* **Interesting Facts:** 50 Km is 31.07 miles, and the winner will finish in just over 4 hours, walking about 7:55 per mile, which means they will pass the marathon in about 3 hours and 27 minutes, and go another 5 miles ... walking!

* **Race Directors:** Tracy Sundlun, 619-726-1952 (cell), TracySundlun@gmail.com; Eric Marenburg, High Performance Movement, 301-520-1316 (cell), eric@hpmovement.com; Jennifer Nanista, 619-990-4892 (cell), nanista.jennifer@gmail.com. Race Organizer: San Diego Track Club, William Aaron, President

* **Media Contact:** Dan Cruz, 619-925-7671 (cell), dc@dancruz.biz

* **Sponsoring / Host Organizations:** City of Santee, CA, San Diego Sports Alliance, USA Track & Field - San Diego-Imperial Association, UNation

* **Event Features:** On-site Santee Active Lifestyle Health Fair; Spectator Guides; Santana and West Hills High School cheerleaders will be on the course; there will be music on the course provided by a DJ; and on-site VIP Hospitality. There will be an introductory youth race walking component.

* **Prize Money:** The prize structure for the 50 Km National M&W Champs is: 1) \$8,000, 2) \$6,000, 3) \$4,000, 4) \$3,000, 5) \$2,000, 6) \$1,000, 7) \$1,000. The funds are provided by USA Track & Field. For the UNation International Women's Challenge, the prize structure is: 1) \$4,000, 2) \$3,000, 3) \$2,000, 4) \$1,500, and 5) \$1,000 with anyone woman finishing outside of the top 5, but walking faster than 4:30, receiving \$500. There is no "double-dipping". Only Americans eligible for the US Championships are eligible for the US Championships' prize money, and only international, non-US Championships-eligible athletes are eligible for the International Women's Challenge prize money.