"Beyond Sport Track Qub" 2021-2022 season report

Timeline:

- **September 2021:** Started building a network of more than 250 middle and high-school PE teachers throughout the city of Ouagadougou for talent ID for the club;
- **Mid-October 2021:** Started home visits with the identified athletes to introduce the club and seek parental consent for the athletes to sign up;
- End of December 2021: Fund-raised more than \$3000 online. Later added about \$1500 of personal funds for the purchase of equipment, etc., for the club;
- **Beginning of January 2022:** Started practices on sites close to the athletes' homes throughout the city of Ouagadougou;
- Early March 2022: Began competitions;
- Early July 2022: Ended competitions for the 2021-2022 season;
- Early September 2022: Completed athlete season debriefs and club and coach evaluations;
- Early September 2022: Made the official launch of the club.

Competition highlights:

- Union of School and University Sports of Burkina Faso (USUS-BF) Track and Field Regional Championships, March 8th; a 1st place, a 2nd place and two 3rd places:
 - Oualid Abou of Baasnere High School, 1st place in the U20 boys' Triple Jump with a
 personal best of 13.44m (A 64cm improvement after only two months of training);
 - Clarita Somda of St Joseph High School, 2nd place in the U17 girls' Triple Jump (Finished the season with a personal best of 10.40m, an improvement of almost 40cm in three and a half months of training) and 3rd place in the U17 girls 100m;
 - Stephanie Ouandaogo of Azimuth High School, 3rd place in the U17 girls' Long Jump.



Club athletes Clarita Somda & Oualid Abou at the at the USUS-BF Championships award ceremony



Club coach Alex Samma (Left) with athletes Clarita Somda & Oualid Abou at the USUS-BF Championships award ceremony

- U15 and U18 Regional Championships, April 10th and 18th; a 1st and a 2nd place:
 - Clarita Somda, 1st place in the girls' U18 100m;
 - Axelle Ouédraogo, 2nd place in the girls' U15 Triple Jump;
- U15 and U18 National Championships, April 30th and May 1st in the city of Bobo Dioulasso; two 2nd places and one 3rd place:
 - Clarita Somda, 3rd place in the U18 girls' High Jump and 2nd place in the U18 girls' 4x100m relay with her region's team;
 - Axelle Ouédraogo, 2nd place in the U15 girls' Triple Jump;
- First day of the U20 and Senior Regional Championships, June 12th; three 2nd places:
 - Fares Dene, 10.44m, 2nd place in the Senior Men's Shot Put;
 - Oualid Abou, 9.31m, 2nd place in the U20 Men's Shot Put;
 - **Gilles Ouédraogo**, 6.61m, **2**nd **place in the Senior Men's Long Jump** (An improvement of almost 61cm in less than three months of training).
- Second day of the U20 and Senior Regional Championships, June 23rd; a 2nd place and a 3rd place in the Triple Jump:
 - Oualid Abou, 13.62m, 2nd place in the U20 Men's Triple Jump;
 - Gilles Ouédraogo, 14.53m, 3rd place in the Senior Men's Triple Jump (An 83cm improvement after only three months of training);
- U20 and Senior National Championships, July 2nd and 3rd in the city of Bobo Dioulasso; a 2nd place and two 3rd places:
 - Gilles Ouédraogo, 2nd place in the Senior Men's High Jump;
 - Oualid Abou, 13.78m, 3rd place in the U20 Men's Triple Jump (A 98cm improvement after only six months of training) and 3rd place in the U20 Men's Long Jump.



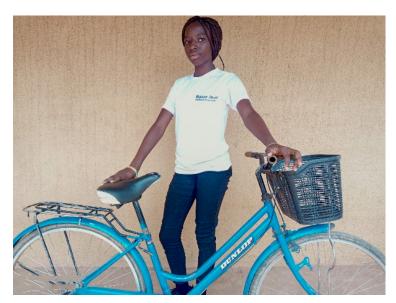
Club coach Alex Samma (bottom) & athletes Fares Dene, Oualid Abou, Moise Yameogo & Francis Sia (Left to right) at U20 and Senior National Championships.

Academic highlights:

- Club athlete Eulalie Zangré graduated High School in July;
- Club athlete Fares Dene completed his Electrical Engineering Associate's s Degree in September.

Other highlights:

The club **helped athlete Inès Zaksongo purchase a bike** she can ride to school and practice.



Club athlete Ines Zaksongo with her new bike

Some quotes from the athletes about their experiences:

• "The coach is very, very nice; he knows how to communicate with us; he's a good coach; if the training is hard for us, he gives us the courage to complete it; he's courageous; it's as if he was our 2nd father." 13 y.o., club athlete, Axelle Ouédraogo;

- "Training with the club was a dream come true for me! On the first day, I was so happy to feel like a track athlete. My first practice, I was awestruck!" club athlete Inès Zaksongo;
- "My first months in the club were awesome; I felt comfortable with the coach and my teammates. I was happy to see that, for the most part, I could do the different exercises we were shown." club athlete Daouda Samandoulougou.

A quote from another track club's coach about the Beyond Sport Track Club:

"What the Beyond Sport Track Club has accomplished, in such a short time, with medalists at all championships, in different event and age-groups, is phenomenal." A coach from another track club

2022-2023 season start and overview:

- July/August 2022: Created the "Beyond Sport" sportswear company to sponsor the club/athletes and ensure long-term financial sustainability; Prepared sponsorship request letters to be sent to other local companies; Prepared online fundraising and shoe drive campaigns to be launched later in the year;
- End of August 2022: Worked on retaining all current club athletes, especially medalists from last year, and added some newly identified athletes, including club-less scholastic and youth national and international championships' medalists;
- Beginning of September 2022: Realized athletes' season goal setting and started preseason practices;
- End of November 2022: Expected start of competitions potentially including international competitions such as U20 African Athletics Championships, World University Games and African Games for some club athletes;
- Mid-August 2023: Expected end of competitions for the 2022-2023 season.