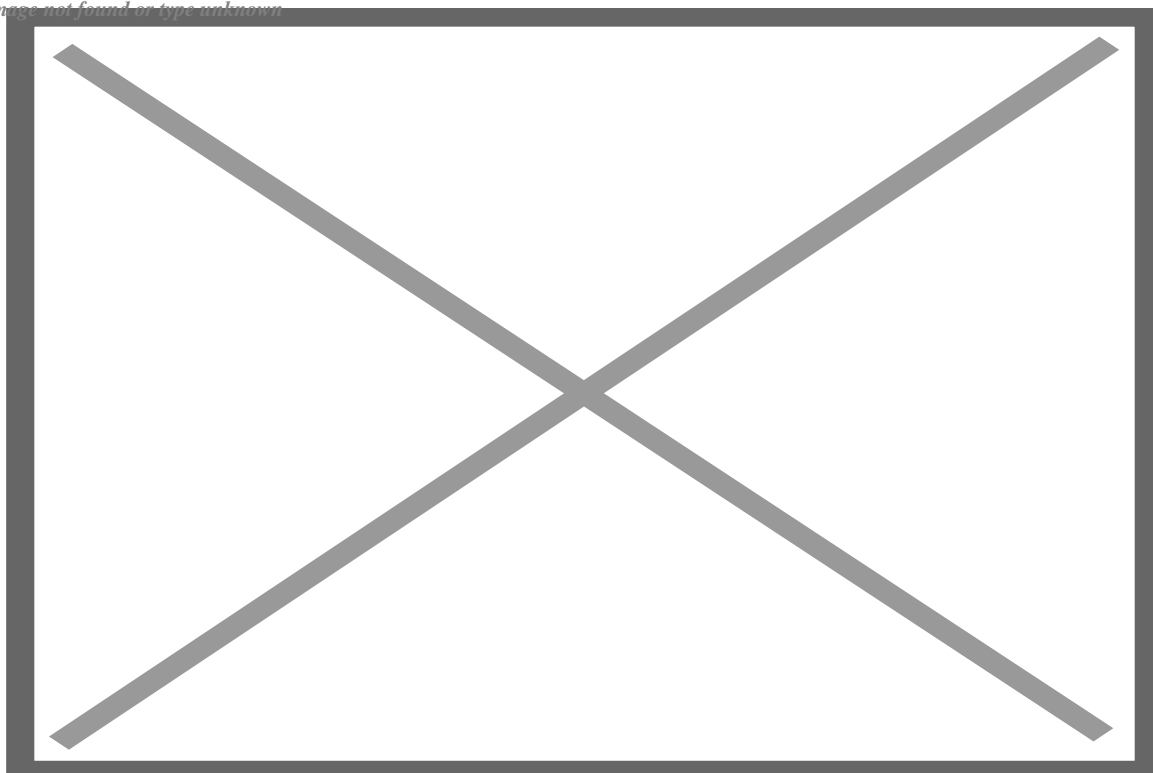


Cubans to compete in Xalapa Parathletics Grand Prix

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Havana, April 1 (ACN) - Led by world record holder and Paralympic long jump champion Robiel Yankiel Sol, several Cubans will compete in the Parathletics Grand Prix in Xalapa, Mexico, from April 5 to 7.

Sol, Paralympic and world champion in the T47 category, and already qualified for Paris 2024, will have his first competition of the year on Mexican soil, after taking advantage of a training base in the Colombian city of Cali during the last four weeks.

For Cuba, throwing specialists Gerdan Fonseca (F57), Leonardo Díaz (F56), Guillermo Varona (F46) and Noraivis de Las Heras (F44), are among the aspirants to qualify for the Paralympic Games in the French capital.

Jorge Reinaldo Palma, technical chief of the Cuban Paralympic Committee, told the sports publication JIT that jumper Felipa Hechevarría (T47) and sprinter Raciél González (T47), among others, will compete for the same purpose.

Raciel should run well, but according to the training loads for the stage. We are only in the second week of the special preparation. We prefer not to vary them for this competition, which we will do before running in Morocco, where he should have a better time, explained trainer Miriam Ferrer.

She added that the star sprinter Omara Durand (T12), multi world and Paralympic champion, will not be in Xalapa, as she started her preparation less time ago and it is not advisable to hurry her strategy for the Parisian competition.

Javelinist Uliser Aguilera (F13) will not compete in the Xalapeno stadium either, as he will take a few days off to recover from a slight discomfort.

Omara, Robiel and Uliser are so far the three Cuban qualifiers for next summer's big event in France.

The number should grow in the coming months, when the exponents of the Island participate in the Grand Prix stages and in the World Parathletics Championship to be held in Kobe, Japan.

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