



USA Track & Field

2006 Programs for Youth and Junior Athletes

Track & Field

The USA Junior Outdoor Track & Field Championships are the premier track & field meet for the elite junior aged athlete. Eligible competitors are aged from 14 to those not turning 20 in the year of competition. The United States Junior team is selected for the IAAF World Junior Championships (conducted in the even years) or the Pan American Junior Championships (conducted in odd years) at this meet. Athletes selected for those trips have the honor of representing their country and receiving the official USA Track & Field uniform given to the team members-along with an expense-paid trip to the international competition for that year.

Athletes must meet qualifying standards in order to attend this meet. Standards are established at the Annual Meeting in December. Entry information is available on our website after March 1st.

As the National Governing Body for the sport, USATF is the only organization that offers that "next step" in an athlete's career – international competition at the highest level!

These are the types of programs that maintain the USA's status as the "World's #1 Track & Field Team" and ensure that the future of our sport remains sound.

Cross Country

The USA Winter Cross Country Championships serves as the selection meet for the IAAF World Cross Country Championships. The Junior division is open to athletes aged from 14 to those who do not turn 20 during the year of competition. The Junior race distances are 8,000 meters for the men and 6,000 meters for the women. Those athletes who make the World Cross Country team will be provided with the United States team uniform along with transportation to the World Championships.

Youth & JO's

USATF also conducts annual national championships in five different age divisions: Bantam (10-under); Midget (11-12); Youth (13-14); Intermediate (15-16) and Young Men/Women (17-18).

The USA Youth Outdoor Track & Field Championships (Youth Athletics) attracts some 3,000 athletes. The culmination of the progression Association and Regional Junior Olympic Championships, the National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships, draw more than 6,000 athletes to the competition.

These competitions are the primary selection meets for the World Youth Championships, for athletes aged 14-17, which occurs every two years!

2006 Youth and Junior Championships Schedule:

February 18-19	USA Cross Country Championships	New York, NY
April 1-2	IAAF World Cross Country Championships	Fukuoka, Japan
June 22-25	USA Junior Outdoor Track & Field Championships	Indianapolis, IN
June 27 – July 2	USA Youth Outdoor Track & Field Championships (Youth Athletics)	Greensboro, NC
July 25-30	National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships	Morgan State Univ. - Baltimore, MD
August 15-21	IAAF World Junior Championships	Beijing, China

USA Track & Field: See it. Feel it. Experience it.

For more information, please check out our website at www.usatf.org for the latest news of the sport, USATF merchandise, and special members-only offers.