



USA TRACK & FIELD SM **ALABAMA**

Summer 2019 Newsletter

Greetings from the USATF Alabama President

We've put another track season in the record books. This year saw our JO Championships move to the West Coast (Sacramento, CA) which meant far less Alabama association athletes were competing. However, what we lacked in quantity we made up for in quality, as we had several athletes achieve All American status and even 2 National Champions at Sac State. Not bad for little old Alabama!

I hope each of you had a successful year and a good experience whether you were with a club or an independent. Track and field offers so much to all who want to participate, whether on the medal stand, or not. While winning is exciting and setting PR's are great, I believe you can have wonderful experience just from participation. Most coaches I talked with say they enjoy working with and watching the athlete that's new to our sport as much as they like coaching the champion. And as a longtime official, I know that seeing the joy in a youngster who competed is just as exciting as seeing the joy of the athlete winning a medal.

Our association had a successful summer, with around 30 clubs and

over athletes joining as members. We also had a great many new officials sign up and a record number working at our Association JO Championships in Oxford.

It's back to school time for our young athletes. While I'm sure many of you will be playing football, volleyball, and other sports in your schools and communities, I would encourage you to keep up your running/training when you can. It will be cross country and road racing season in a couple of weeks, and there are plenty of USATF clubs around the state devoted to help you with your distance running. The trails and the pavement will be our track, as cross country and road racing takes centerstage for a few months.

(Our Association Cross Country Championships will be held in November, so be on the lookout for an announcement of the location and date.) And before you know it, indoor season will be upon us and we will be at the CrossPlex for our Indoor Championships

We still need all our members to help us with sanctions, as we will once again fall short of the USATF national standard of 1 sanction per 100,000 of state population. Last year we were 5 sanctions short and we are on track to

fall 3-4 short for 2019. What can you do to help???? Encourage your schools or business, who are sponsoring fun runs/5 KS, to sanction with us. If you are running in a race or know of a race upcoming in your area, call me or Mary Birdwell to let us know. Our contact info is on our website.

Again, thanks to all of you who helped make this year a success for the Alabama Association. I know it's hard work to coach/officiate/participate in our sport, but our people are the reason we have a great organization. I hope to see a record number of members at our Annual Meeting in September and hope to see many of you run for office, as it's an election year. My hope is that we will have a full slate of candidates for each office and more new people to become involved in the governance of our Association. My 1st term as President ends at the close of September and I would be proud to lose my re-election bid to someone who has new, fresh ideas on how to make our organization better.

Randy Yarbrough

President USATF Alabama

ANNUAL MEETING 2019

The annual meeting of USATF Alabama was held on Sunday September 8th at the Hyatt Place in Hoover, Alabama.

EVENTS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Events and championships that we hosted or participated in this year as reported in the last newsletter.

**USATF Alabama Youth Meet and Race Walk \Championships
June 1 , 2019**

**Birmingham Southern College
400 Athletes**

ALABAMA ASSOCIATION

Junior Olympics 2018

June 15-15. 2018

Choccolocco Park

Oxford, Alabama

475 Athletes

Region 6 Junior Olympics –2019

Middle Tennessee State University

Meridian, Mississippi

Meridian High School

July 11-14, 2019

800 Athletes

**National Junior Olympics Track
Meet 2019**

Sacramento State University

Sacramento, California

July 22-28, 2019

6000 Athletes

Athletes, Clubs, and Coaches,

Great big THANKS for representing Region 6. Alabama and USATF In Sacramento this year Clubs attending were Eastern Shore Track Club, Gadsden Burners, Mobile Parks and Recreation, Over the Mountain Track Club, Tribe Elite Track Club, MTR Jaguars, Peak Athletics, Port City Rain, Gulf Coast Elite, North Alabama Track Club and Mt. Brook Track Club. Several unattached athletes also attended.

Making top 8 and All American were Congratulations!!!!

Nathan Cooper 1st. 17-18 Men's Shot Put Unattached

Christian August 1st Place 9-10 Boys High Jump Over The Mtn Track

Maddox Hamm 2nd 13-14 Boys Pole Vault Peak Athletics

Garrian Betts 3rd 17-18 Men Triple Jump Mobile Parks

Aaliyah Brown Muhammad 3rd 15-16 Girls 100 Meter Hurdles Mobile Parks

Jordan Green 4th 13-14 Girls 800 meters. Mobile Parks

Champ Hill 5th Place 9-10 Boys Turbo Javelin Eastern Shore Track

Sanjay Wright 6th Place 13-14 Boys Triple Jump Gadsden Burners

Joshua Graham 6th Place 15-16 Boys Triple Jump Mobile Parks

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Everyone is to be commended for their hard work in 2019 in bringing the membership in the Alabama Association this year. We have 1011 individual members.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Individual memberships (new or renewal) can be processed online. That information is available to me and it will be unnecessary to resubmit a copy of a birth certificate for age verification. For questions related to club or individual memberships and sanctions, call Mary Birdwell at 205-919-2825 or by email trakbird2@bellsouth.net.

FROM YOUR SANCTIONS CHAIR

All clubs and organizations are encouraged to sanction all running events conducted by your group. LDR clubs should take advantage of a onetime annual fee of \$50 to each Alabama USATF and to USATF is all that is required to sanction all RRCA scheduled events. All sanctions applications are done online. Go to al.usatf.org and look at sanctions or call 205-919-2825 for more information about the process. Sanctions provide insurance coverage for your event and allowed records run in your event to count. This is the only area in accreditation where we need to try to improve with more sanctions.

CLUB MEMBERSHIPS

As of this date we have 38 clubs. 7 of the clubs were clubs who have only open and master's athletes or are clubs who manage events and races. This means a lot of youth clubs are not participating in our youth meets. We had 22 clubs enter our USATF Alabama JO meet and 21 clubs participated in the Region 6 Meet in Mississippi. All clubs need to plan on competing more athletes this coming year.

Events left to Compete in 2019
USATF Alabama JO Cross Country
Fairview Park Near Cullman,
Alabama
November 16th, 2019

USATF Alabama LDR
Championships
Pink Pumpkin Run
Guntersville, Alabama

USATF Alabama Officials

If you would like to become a USATF certified official contact Connie Tolbert-McClinton Officials Certification Chair at konniero@gmail.com or usatfalcertificationchair3@gmail.com. Call-334-559-0173. Mail info to her at PO Box 1694 Auburn, Alabama 36831

We will post any new information at al.usatf.org. We currently have 80 registered officials in Alabama.

LINKS:

Alabama Association website
www.al.usatf.org
USATF - www.usatf.org
Youth Runner-
www.youthrunner.com

