

Track & Field Iowa



USATF[™]

IOWA

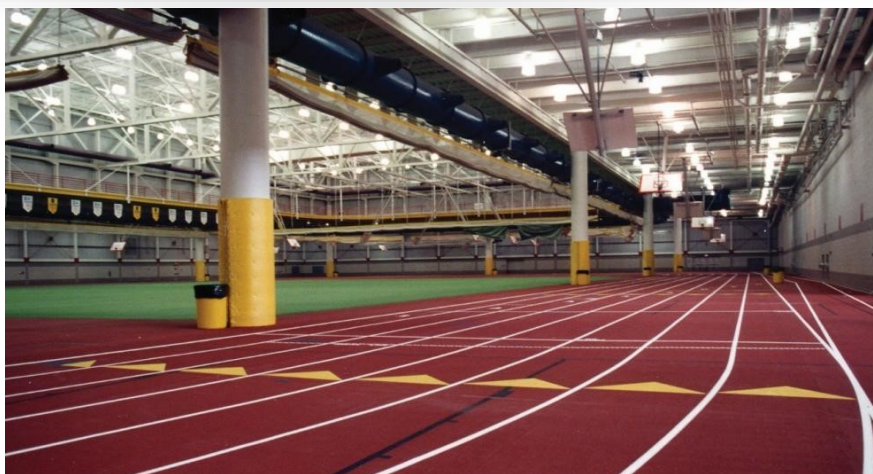
Spring 2020

All meets canceled

Per Governor Kim Reynolds' directives, all USATF Iowa events are cancelled until further notice. We encourage everyone in our community to work together to limit the spread of COVID-19 by following CDC guidelines and staying away from others as much as possible. Your safety and well-being remain our highest priority.

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Like many athletic facilities, Iowa State University's Lied Center now lies empty. While most Iowa colleges and school districts have gone on hiatus, many of the spring sports, to include track and field, are being cancelled.

COVID-19 virus wreaking havoc with Spring sports

This year is definitely starting out much differently than any year Iowa professional, amateur, or even participatory sports has ever encountered.

With sports tournaments, championships, leagues, and now even seasons being canceled stemming from concerns of the coronavirus pandemic, you have to wonder how it will affect our USATF-Iowa season.

Already national meets, such as the Drake Relays, NCAA Division I, II, and III Men's and Women's Indoor and Outdoor Championships have been canceled, as have all USATF-sponsored championships and events.

Within the state, the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union and the Iowa High School Athletic Association have canceled all spring sports, to include track and field.

Locally, the USATF Iowa Youth and Masters Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field Championships have been canceled, as have many club track meets.

Even the Olympic Games have been affected, as the IOC has postponed the event until 2021.

Season cancelled

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Season cancelled

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“Obviously, the effects of the pandemic are very fluid across the United States and the next few weeks will be very telling,” said Jim Walczyk, USA Track and Field Iowa Operations Manager.

“Of course, we’ll be hoping for the very best; not just for our season, but for the sake of the country,” he said.

At this time, he notes, the best option is to go ahead and prepare for local meets and then see how things eventually play out.

“Many of our clubs host their meets at their local high school or college – those entities are going to have the final say on whether or not you will be allowed to host your meet,” he said.

While the Junior Olympic series is cancelled for 2020, Iowa could still host an Iowa Association or Youth Meet, as long as they pass out their own medals and don’t use the JO name for the event.

According to the USATF website, “The USATF takes the health, safety, and well-being of our sanc-

tioned event participants seriously. USATF-sanctioned events take place throughout the U.S. They are run by independent event organizers, and each state has local health officials who are making determinations as to what

is appropriate in those respective areas.

USATF defers to the recommendations of those local health officials in its efforts to protect sanctioned participants and event organizers.”

USATF IOWA OPERATIONS

How will this effect track & field in Iowa?

It goes by several names; 2019 Novel Coronavirus, coronavirus, 2019-nCoV, and my favorite COVID-19! But no matter what name you use, it has turned out to be a very serious pandemic.

This has been, and continues to be, a very fluid issue with updates from leading resources coming almost hourly. The sports world has cancelled or postponed many of its events, as well as seasons.

What does this mean for us in the USATF-Iowa world? It means we sit tight and play a wait and see game. We will follow the lead of the CDC, Iowa DPH, State of Iowa, USATF National Office, and any other necessary entities as we make decisions to move ahead.

Although our season does not usually start until May, things look more and more ominous with every day’s news reports. However, we can hope for the best and plan for the worst. The health and well-being of our track community is our top priority.

We can plan and sanction for developmental meets and the association championship meet and hope for the best at this time. We’ll continue to monitor all developments in the coming months and continue to determine if any further measures are necessary.

Please follow on www.usatf-iowa.org for information and updates as this track and field season plays out.



Published for
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Drake Relays name new sponsor

Blake Boldon, the Franklin P. Johnson Director of the Drake Relays, announced a new presenting sponsor for the Drake Relays and elevation of the Drake Relays' status on the global track & field scene, during a March 11 press conference in the Courtside Club.

Drake University announced that Xstream powered by Mediacom will serve as the presenting sponsor of the Drake Relays.

Xstream's partnership allows the Drake Relays to maintain its status as one of the world's premier track and field events, while serving as a springboard for the future growth of the event to be known as the Drake Relays presented by Xstream powered by Mediacom.

Xstream's initial three-year investment has already aided the Relays by securing its designation as a 'Silver Level' competition by World Athletics, one of only two such meets in the U.S. to earn that status.

The Drake Relays will also be a stop on the World Athletics Continental Tour according to World Athletics, the international governing body of track and field.

"For more than a century, the world's greatest athletes have come to Des Moines to test themselves in Drake Stadium," said Boldon.

"Today's announcement further demonstrates the Drake Relays' national and international prominence in the sport of track and field. Mediacom's commitment and support puts us in a strong position to grow our event and elevate our sport."

To be named a Silver Level event, competitions must meet established benchmarks for the quality of competition and prize money available to athletes.

Xstream's sponsorship allows the Drake Relays to meet achieve Silver status, which takes on new significance for the Olympic games.



The baton is passed from Drake President Marty Martin, to Ed Pardini, Mediacom's SVP of Field Operations, as Xstream powered by Mediacom is announced as the new Drake Relays sponsor. The Franklin P. Johnson Director of the Drake Relays Blake Boldon (left) and Brian Hardin, Drake University Director of Athletics (right) look on.

Starting this year, athletes who do not meet the automatic standards for Olympic qualifying will need to accrue points at World Athletics Gold, Silver and Bronze Level events, such as the Drake Relays to earn a spot in the Olympics.

Those athletes, along with some of the top collegiate talent in the nation and Iowa high school competitors will converge on Drake Stadium, April 22-25 for the 111th Drake Relays presented by Xstream powered by Mediacom.

Drake postpones 2020 Relays

Drake University has postponed the 2020 Drake Relays presented by Xstream powered by Mediacom along with the Drake Road Races and Grand Blue Mile, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 111th edition was scheduled for April 22-25 at Drake Stadium, while the Drake Road Races were scheduled April 19 and the Grand Blue Mile April 21.

The health, safety, and well-being of athletes and fans, factored with guidance from local and national health officials, have been at the forefront of the decision-making process.

We will continue to monitor the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation and are communicating with local, national, and international entities to identify the dates to reschedule and maintain our status as an elite track and field meet.

Postponement of the Drake Relays also postpones all events associated with the Relays, including the Beautiful Bulldog Contest, Downtown Pole Vault exhibition, Relays Hall of Fame Banquet, plus Drake student and alumni programming.

Updates will be shared via email, on Drake websites, and through social media as they are finalized.

Iowa High School spring sports canceled

Following Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds' April 17 recommendations to keep Iowa schools closed for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year due to the spread of COVID-19, all spring activities of the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union and the Iowa High School Athletic Association are canceled.

Cancellation of all boys' and girls' sports – golf, soccer, tennis, and track and field – was made by the IGHSAU and IHSAA in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Education and state officials. The decision was also approved by the IGHSAU and IHSAA boards.

Previous guidance from Gov. Reynolds, the Iowa Department of Education, and the Iowa Department of Public Health had suspended spring activities through April 12, and then through April 30.

"While we are disappointed student-athletes will not have the opportunity to compete this spring, we remain committed to our primary goal of keeping students, coaches, officials and communities safe," IHSAA executive director Tom Keating said.

"This cancellation comes out of an abundance of caution for the well-being of all. Conducting our spring season would involve moving groups of people in and out of various communities for competition. At this time we believe that is a risk we should not take."

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***Tom Keating,
IHSAA executive director***

The spread of COVID-19 has caused an unfortunate end to the school year as students across Iowa and the U.S. have faced cancellations and suspensions of school and athletic competition.

"We understand the important role that athletics and activities play in the lives of our students, schools and communities," IGHSAU executive director Jean Berger said.

"But during this time of uncertainty, we must support the health and safety recommendations of our state and national leaders.

"This decision is especially heartbreaking for our senior competitors, and we thank them for all they have done to represent their schools throughout their careers," said Berger.

During the 2018-19 school year, the four spring sports accounted for more than 45,000 participants among Iowa high school boys and girls.

Track and field was the second most popular sport by participation for both the IHSAA (12,012 boys) and the IGHSAU (9,908 girls).

RENEW MEMBERSHIP NOW AND SAVE!

Dear Associations,

Since 1979, we've been honored to serve as the nation's governing body for the sport we all love. From runners, jumpers, throwers, coaches, officials and volunteers – both young and young-at-heart – USA Track & Field's commitment to creating a safe, fun and professional environment for all has remained constant.

Over the past 10 years, USATF has increased its membership benefits and elite athlete resources to help maintain our status as the World's #1 Track & Field Team. Tokyo 2020 will bring even more opportunities with added eyes on the sport at the Olympic Games.

In order to continue growing and supporting the sport we love at the highest level, we have two important announcements to make:

1. USATF Individual Membership fees will increase on April 28 to:
 - Youth - \$25 per calendar year + transaction fee
 - Adult - \$40 per calendar year + transaction fee.

2. In late April, we will launch the new member portal – USATF Connect. This new online member system has been designed to provide an easy-to-navigate, 360-degree view of members and their relationships with USATF.

USATF Connect will be able to serve our organization in all areas, from fans who want to be more in touch with the organization to athletes, coaches, and officials to association leadership and national office staff.

USATF highlights

Bolden named to coach half marathon champs

Blake Bolden has been named as the Men's Head Coach for the 2020 World Athletics Half Marathon Championships in Gdynia, Poland.

Bolden currently serves as director of the Drake Relays and acting director of the Drake University track and field and cross country programs. He is also an inductee of the Missouri State Athletics Hall of Fame,

(Editor's Note: The World Athletics Half Marathon Championships Gdynia 2020 have been postponed until October, due to the Coronavirus pandemic).

Hershey National Youth championships canceled

The 2020 USATF Hershey National Youth Outdoor Championships to be held in Miramar, Fla., June 23 - 28, 2020, have been canceled, USATF has announced.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Miramar and local health authorities informed USATF it would not host the championships. USATF is seeking alternate opportunities for youth participation for later in the summer if local health authorities allow.

For up-to-date information on COVID-19 gathered by USATF's Working Group, visit [USATF.org/covid19](https://usatf.org/covid19).

Olympic Games postponed

The 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games will be celebrated July 23 to Aug. 8, 2021, following an agreement from The International Olympic Committee, The International Paralympic

Committee, The Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee, The Tokyo Metropolitan Government and The Government Of Japan.

They also agreed on new dates for The Paralympic Games, which will be celebrated from Aug. 24 until Sept. 5, 2021.

College track & field signings

The following Iowa high school track and field seniors have signed college national letters of intent.

Amber Aesoph (Distance/XC), Bishop Heelan Catholic High School, University of Iowa.

Grace Beck (Distance/XC), Denver High School, University of Sioux Falls.

Grace and Alli Brookin-Noshbisch (Distance), Ottumwa High School, University of Iowa.

Emily Carlson (Sprints), Le Mars High School, University of S.D.

Bradley Dennis (Distance/XC), Atlantic High School, Iowa Western Community College.

Laken Gardner (Hurdles/Sprints), Sioux City East High School, University of South Dakota.

Marie Hostetler (Distance), Mid-Prairie High School, Liberty University.

Camilla Jackson (Distance/XC), Ames High School, University of Colorado.

Landon Kooiker (High Jump), Fairfield High School, University of Northern Iowa.

Payton Marrs (Distance/XC), Urbandale High School, University of Northern Iowa.

Brooklyn McKee (Distance/XC), Johnston High School, University of Iowa.

Olivia Miller (Hurdles), Tripoli High School, University of Dubuque.

Ruben Montoya (Distance/XC), BCLUW High School, Southwest Minnesota State University.

Max Murphy (Distance), Pleasant Valley High School, University of Iowa.

Carter Owen (Distance/XC), Valley High School, Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Jack Pendergast (Distance/XC), Prairie High School, University of Iowa

Will Roder (Distance/XC), Gehlen Catholic High School, University of Mary.

Lilly Teager (Distance/XC), Lawton-Bronson High School, University of Sioux Falls.

TRACK & FIELD COLLECTIBLES

Schweizer, Houlihan break U.S. 3,000m indoor record

Karissa Schweizer's thrilling finish over Shelby Houlihan at February's Boston University's Last Chance track meet still has people talking.

Schweizer broke the women's U.S. indoor 3,000m record with an amazing time of 8:25.70 to shatter the previous mark of 8:33.25. The former record, also set at the Boston track, was established in 2007 by Shalane Flanagan, a former North Carolina Tar Heel running for Nike.

As a matter of fact, the other top two finishers, which included Bowerman Track Club teammates Houlihan, and Colleen Quigley, also blasted the old American record, with Houlihan the runner-up in 8:26.66 and Quigley third in 8:28.71.

The Bowerman trio were the only three to complete the race.

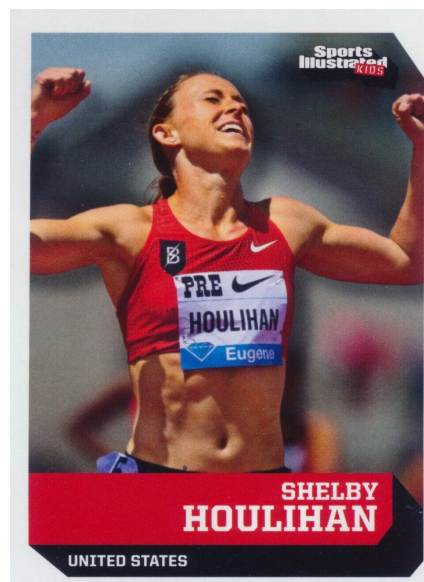
While Schweizer and Houlihan have Iowa track ties - Schweizer was a former Urbandale native who ran for Dowling Catholic High School before competing at the University of Missouri, and Houlihan was a Sioux City native running for Sioux City East High School - you'd be hard pressed to find trading cards for either athlete.

Fortunately, Sports Illustrated for Kids stepped up and is the only company to feature a single card of either Iowa athlete.

Launched in January 1989 as a spin-off of Sports Illustrated, Sports Illustrated for Kids provides sports coverage written exclusively for today's youth.

The magazine also includes sports cards of up and coming athletes, on both the professional and amateur level.

For example, the January/February 2020 issue features cards of the Atlanta Hawks' Trae Young;



Iowa athletes on cardboard - On the left, is Karissa Schweizer's March 2017 Sports Illustrated for Kids card (#596) featuring her as a Missouri Tiger. Houlihan's shows a photo shot at the Prefontaine Classic. These are the only sports cards that have been produced for these Iowans.

Leon Draisatl (Edmonton Oilers); Kumar Rocker (Vanderbilt University baseball); Christian Pulisic

(Chelsea Football Club); Patrick Corbin (Washington Nationals); Sabrina Ionescu (University of Oregon women's basketball); Jin Young Ko (LGPA); Nick Bosa (San Francisco 49'ers); and Joe Burrow (LSU football).

So it stands to reason that Sports Illustrated for Kids would be the company to feature both the Schweizer and Houlihan cards, given their strong performances in women's track and field.

Schweizer's card (#596) presents her in a Mizzou singlet as she's running down the front straightaway. It was released in the March 2017 issue.

Houlihan's card was shot just as she crossed the finish line during competition at the Prefontaine Classic at the University of Oregon's Hayward Field. It was released in the September 2018 issue.



**Sports Illustrated for Kids
January/February 2020 issue**



Looking forward to a quick and healthy start
for our USATF Iowa track and field athletes

USATF—Iowa Publication Deadlines



Winter Issue

Deadline: Nov. 26, 2020

Published: Dec. 10, 2020

Spring Issue

Deadline: Feb. 25, 2021

Published: March 11, 2021

Summer Issue

Deadline: May 28, 2020

Published: June 11, 2020

Fall Issue

Deadline: Aug. 27, 2020

Published: Sept. 10, 2020

Send all stories and photos for publication to Duff E. McFadden, USATF Iowa Communications Chair, at communications@iowa.usatf.org.



USATF Membership Application

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal from previous year – USATF Number _____

Please print or type information

Last Name		First Name	Initial
Address			
City	State	Zip Code	
Sex M/F <input type="checkbox"/>	Age Today <input type="checkbox"/>	Date of Birth <input type="text"/>	(MM-DD-YYYY – i.e.: 02-19-1958)
USA Citizen <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	If no, country of Citizenship <input type="text"/>	
Phone Number <input type="text"/>			
Club No. _____	Club Name <input type="text"/>		
Email <input type="text"/>			

(Your membership # will be emailed to you. Your email address will not be shared with anyone.)

Please check all appropriate sports codes here:

☐ Track ☐ Field ☐ Road Running/LDR ☐ Cross Country ☐ Ultra-Marathon ☐ Mountain/Trail ☐ Race Walking

Membership Category Codes

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Please use the codes below – you may indicate one or more categories.

AT: Athlete
DA: Disabled Athlete

PA: Parent

CH: Coach
CD: Developmental
C1: Coach – Level 1
C2: Coach – Level 2
C3: Coach – Level 3

OF: Official
OA: Official – Association
ON: Official – National
OM: Official – Master

AD: Administrator
FN: Fan

By signature below, I, a prospective member of USA Track & Field, agree to abide by the applicable USATF Bylaws, Operating Regulations, and Competition Rules for my level(s) and category(ies) of membership.

Signature (If an athlete is under age 18, parent or guardian must sign)

Date of Application _____
(MM-DD-YYYY)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Memberships are on a calendar year basis, and expire on December 31. However, if you join between November 1 and December 31 of the current year, the membership will be valid for the following year as well.

Youth members: New or lapsed memberships must submit a copy of birth certificate or other ID.

☐ Check here if you do not wish your address used as part of a direct mail list.

Membership Fees & Registration Options

OPTION 1



JOIN ONLINE AT
www.usatf.org/membership

You will receive your new Membership # – Instantly!!

Have your previous membership # and password ready as they will be needed for the renewal process

MAIL TO YOUR LOCAL ASSOCIATION



Mail the completed application and appropriate membership fees to your local Association. Mailing addresses can be found at www.usatf.org/associations

OPTION 2

Adult Membership (19 yrs & over)	\$ _____
\$ 30.00 (1-year)	\$ 80.00 (3-years)
\$ 55.00 (2-years)	\$ 100.00 (4-years)

Youth Membership (18 yrs & under)
\$ 20.00 x _____ = \$ _____
[# of membership years]

CONTRIBUTIONS (TAX DEDUCTIBLE) \$ _____
Please direct my contribution to ☐ LDR ☐ Youth
☐ Masters T & F ☐ RW ☐ Association Programs
☐ Unrestricted

TOTAL \$ _____

Please make checks payable to USATF.