



For more information or how to sign up, visit our web-site www.valleyunitedstriders.com. Click VYC Parents.

Valley United Striders All Star Team

VYC Parents, Friends and Family,

I hope you're enjoying the 2009 Track and Field season thus far. We are into our Championship phase of competition and things are heating up.

Speaking of heating up, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce to you this year's Valley Youth Conference's postseason All Star team, the Valley United Striders. Born in 2000, Valley United has become a dominant force in youth Track & Field nationally. Unlike most teams in the nation, Valley Conference athletes have a unique opportunity because at the end of our season, we can unite our top athletes as one team.

Now, that might not sound like a big deal because in most sports All-star teams are created all the time, but in the sport of Track & Field All-star teams are not common. Uniting talent from our 15 teams gives our athletes the strength and confidence to succeed on a National level. Imagine uniting the top athletes from any age group in the VYC (BG through YB) (in most cases from different teams) on the same team. In most cases you'll have a nationally competitive team. Previously, we have had National Champions and many top five teams and individuals. We form our team quickly now in May.

The Valley United Striders compete in the USA Track & Field circuit. USATF offers a much higher level of competition than our own Valley Youth Conference, locally, regionally and nationally. Locally, we compete in the Southern California Association of USATF; regionally we compete in Region 15, (So. Cal, San Diego and Las Vegas); Region 15 is one the top three regions in the United States. Nationally, we compete at the USATF Junior Olympics, the highest level of competition in the country.

On May 23 and 24, the team will not be competing at the L.A. Jets Invitational at Gahr High School in Cerritos. No athletes need to compete at this meet, or otherwise, to compete at the following association meet. However, athletes wishing to compete at this event as Valley United or Unattached can. **Please Note: If you compete at this event under a team name, you need to understand your athlete will be LOCKED with that team for 90 days and cannot change teams.** Information on the meet can be found at www.scausatf.org/youth/2009/2009_05_23_LA_Jets_Invite.pdf.

The first meet is on June 12 (4 events only), 13 & 14, where we will compete at the USATF Southern California Association meet at Cerritos College. The top eight finishers in each event from this meet advance to the second meet, the Regional Championship, held on June 26-28 also at Cerritos College. The top three finishers in each event will advance from this meet to the Junior Olympics that will be held this year on July 27 - August 2 in Greensboro, North Carolina at North Carolina A&T State University. Information on these events can be found at the following: www.scausatf.org/events/youthtrack.htm

In addition, the team will also compete at the USATF National Championships at Eastern Michigan University on June 29 - July 5. There is a qualifying standard that is required to be met by the athletes prior to registration. Event and qualifying standards are listed at the following: www.usatf.org/events/2009/USAYouthOutdoorTFChampionships

Valley United continues to offer the best opportunity for all our VYC athletes; the opportunity to compete nationally on a Unified team with the support of the Valley Youth Conference. Please go to our web site or call myself for further information at (323) 974-8093.

Thank you,

Gerald Hood
VYCTF Commissioner

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