USATF Georgia Association Youth Division Report

August 27, 2011

To: Executive Board Members, Youth Committee and Youth Membership, Georgia Association USA Track & Field

From: Jacqui Collins, Youth Chair, USATF Georgia Association

Goal: To grow our Youth programs and enhance our Youth Division in Georgia

The Youth Committee officers are Jacqui Collins, Chair; Tony Carpenter, Vice Chair of Operations; Eric Merriweather, Vice Chair of Administration; and Monica Ross, Secretary.

Greetings To All USATF Georgia Members,

I come to you in my second year as your elected Youth Chair. I thank all of you for this opportunity to "Be at the Helm" of such a dedicated team of Coaches, Athletes, parents, officials and volunteers.

We began this mission 'blindly' in late 2009. We have prospered and labored down a long road in the past two (2) years, and this mission has only just begun. We began with little and have graduated to a new and exciting set of opportunities and challenges. We have grown our youth membership, educated our great coaching staff, introduced new communication vehicles, changed the paradigm for running our programs, reached out to all of our youth constituency in Georgia. We have also had to step over some minor road blocks, reached out to many of you for assistance and with dedicated hearts and the same desire to have our youth succeed many of you "stepped" up in a great fashion. Your dedication, diligence, devotion to our Youth is what has made the difference in these two (2) years.

To our athletes and parents, the USATF Georgia Association along with the Youth Division "applaud" you for your fantastic performances and your focus. Your parents and loved ones sacrificed their time, support, and finances to ensure success for the Georgia USATF Youth athletes. You make the difference between being good and being great!

Our leadership in the USATF Georgia Association has been an integral part of our success and implementation of 'change' and we thank each and every one of them who "stepped" forward with their support and dedication, especially President Ian Dube. This is no easy task!

Again "***We've*** Only Just Begun…Our momentum is here… NOW!
We still must acknowledge those youth who are not USATF members, those new youth clubs who are trying to find a Track and Field home, those parents who are trying to figure out how to get involved in USATF Youth programs, the new coaches who need to learn, the athletes who are aspiring to colleges and how do they move forward on this journey academically and athletically.

Overall USATF Junior Olympics Championships and Qualifiers for 2011 by attendance:

Meet Name	Athletes Entered	Athletes NOT Scratched	Athletes Competed
USATF Nat'l JO's	6843	6326	**4343**
Youth Outdoor Championships	1691	1587	1587
Region 3 Championships	2649	2644	**1587**
GA Association Championships	1795	1794	1562
Area C Qualifier	464	463	409
Area B Qualifier	588	588	541
Area A Qualifier	855	854	755
GA Association XC Championships	501	501	463
GA Assoc XC Dev Meet	306	306	289

Cross Country

Our 2010 Cross Country season was rewarding and action packed. The Cross Country GA Youth clubs did a great job with our athletes and their creative nature and "eye" for detail made for some exciting meets. **KUDO's** to Don Livingston (Peachtree City Running Club) … My Savior for the Cross Country Committee. We started the season with a schedule of several Cross Country Developmental meets hosted by the individual Youth clubs. This preparation allowed us to have record numbers at our Developmental XC Meet and our GA Association XC Junior Olympic Championships held in Peachtree City at Oak Grove Elementary . With the guidance of Tracy Stevenson(Etowah TC) the athletes dressed up for Halloween at the Assoc XC Developmental Meet. Prizes were awarded to the best team spirit. Halloween Candy was handed out to the athletes "After the Competition." We had 306 athletes registered for the Developmental Meet and fun for all. Our attendance for this preview meet tripled year over year.

The GA Association XC Junior Olympic Championship had over 500 athletes. We had more than any other USATF JO Association Championship. We had 17 clubs and 39 Unattached athletes compete(Up from 12 teams in 2009). We awarded our athletes with medals and all first (1st.) place athletes and teams also received a hat. Our officials stepped up once again and we had a great meet and a fantastic audience of spectators and vendors. We thank the PTC Flash team and their parents for managing the setup and concessions for this event.

The Region III XC Championship was held in Hagerstown, MD on November 19, 2010. There were 630 athletes of which 582 competed. Georgia had 19 athletes who travelled on the GA Association Bus (First Time) to Hagerstown Md to compete. The bus was very well received by the 48 people who travelled on the bus. The Youth Chair along with the support of her committee did not charge the USATF Qualifying athletes for their seats on the bus and the parents and family members were charged a nominal fee for this Championship trip. USATF Georgia had 201 athletes compete (almost one-third of the attendees) at the Region 3 XC Championships. Georgia once again placed well in the events. See attached spreadsheet.

The National Junior Olympic Cross Country Championship was held December 11, 2010 in Hoover, AL Georgia had a great showing at the Nat'l XC JO Championships . We had two athletes who stood out… Lindy Long of PTC Flash who came in 7th in the 5K event with a time of 19:23 and Raymond (Ty) McCormick of Lanier Running Club for the 5K Young Men's event with a time of 15:28 (missed first by 6 seconds). Job well done! Our Georgia youth were well represented. Team Spirit for GA athletes could be felt throughout the venue.

The USA Track & Field 2010 Annual Meeting was held in Virginia Beach, VA. Your youth Chair represented Georgia as the delegate for the Youth Committee. Both Ron Williams and Eric Merriweather, youth coaches attended the Annual Meeting. They represented Georgia as a delegate to other committees. An annual committee report was previously submitted.. Highlights- the new age division-Sub Bantam for the 2011 and the change to the Young Men to 3K instead of 5K for their event.

The Youth Committee met for the Annual Winter Meeting and Planning Session on February 26, 2011. This meeting was held at the Dekalb Park and Recreation Ctr in with78 attendees.. At copy of the minutes will be given for approval at the Annual Meeting.

Track and Field Season 2011

Area Preliminary Meets and Association Championships: The Northwest Area A Meet was held at Westlake HS, Atlanta, Ga., The Northeast Area B Meet was held at Strong Rock Christian, Locust Grove, GA, and the South Area C Meet was held at Starrs Mill HS, Peachtree City, GA . This was our second year using the new USATF central online data entry system., CoachO. Our Georgia clubs and athletes did very well submitting their entries using the new system. All of the summer meets were successful. No Protest were submitted. We had a total of 1795 (1476 in 2010) athletes register and 72 teams(68 in 2010) in 4193 entries(3876 in 2010) and 178 (164 in 2010) relays.

The Region III Championship was held at Mill Creek HS, Hoschton, GA. This meet had 2,765 athletes. Georgia was well represented with 60 teams (48 in 2010) . We had 790 athletes compete and 109 relay teams.(77 in 2010). We had outstanding performances from Georgia with new Region 3 Records. Vendor participation was up from previous years. Meet was run smoothly.

The Georgia Association in 2011 would like to thank Starrs Mill High School and Mill Creek High School for their support. We also extend our sincere Thanks to the coaching staff s, administrators and team support at Starrs Mill High School and Mill Creek HS for getting us through our GA Association Championship and the Region 3 Championship with dedication and fantastic support.

The Georgia Association will be reimbursing for the entry fees for all Georgia Athletes who competed at the **National Track and Field Junior Olympic Championship at Wichita State, in Wichita, KS** Georgia Association had 153 athletes compete and more than 25 relay teams at Nationals. Our Athletes showed outstanding performances. Congratulations to All Georgia Athletes!!!! A listing of the national finalist is on the website and will be submitted at the Annual Convention for your perusal.
Congratulations to all the World Team, Youth Outdoor, Association, Region, and National Champions! Visit our website www.usatfga.org or www.usatf.org for official meet results.

We thank all clubs, coaches, parents, athletes and volunteers who for their service and dedication to the USATF Georgia Youth Program for 2011. We made some milestones, we had some pitfalls however we prevailed and have other youth Track Organizations around the country travelling home from each meet once again with "Georgia On their Minds"
Applaud yourselves for a job well done.

On behalf of your Youth Chair and Youth Committee….stayed tuned for the next chapter of your success, as it continues in 2012!

The USATF Georgia Association will host the Region 3 XC Championships in 2012.

Cross Country Schedule 2011(TBD)
Actual USATF Youth Cross Country Schedule will be available at the 2011 USATF GA Annual Meeting.

2012 Youth Championships the Bid Awardees were:
Albuquerque, New Mexico for the National Junior Olympic XC Championships December 2012
Baltimore, MD (Morgan State Univ) for the USATF National Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships
Arlington, TX for the USA Youth Outdoor Track and Field Championships

Respectfully and Humbly,

Jacqui Collins	**Tony Carpenter**	**Eric Merriweather**	**Monica Ross**
Youth Chair	**Youth VP-Operations**	**Youth VP-Administration**	**Secretary**