



Instructions for USATF Membership and Online Registration USATF Montana Junior Olympic Championships

USATF requires online registration for all Junior Olympic track & field and cross country championship events. Make sure to review all of the information below and verify the deadline dates for online registration for the USATF championship you are competing in (i.e., track & field or cross-country). NOTE: Some youth clubs handle this registration/renewal process for their members, so be sure to check with your local club first.

Prior to proceeding with online registration to compete in a USATF Montana Association Junior Olympic Championship, the following steps must be completed:

1. **New USATF Members:** Participants who do not already have a USATF membership must apply for a USATF membership (\$20) by visiting www.usatf.org. Click "Products/Services", then "Individual Memberships" to complete an application. If you belong to a club, make sure to list the club name and number, or check to see whether your club processes registrations/renewals on behalf of its members. Make sure to keep a copy of your USATF membership and your 10-digit membership number for on-line registration.

You will need to use a credit card to complete the on-line registration. This process should be completed at least one week before the on-line registration deadline for the Montana Association Championship.

NOTICE: If you join after November 1 (12:00 am Pacific Time) of the current year, your membership will be valid for 2020 as well. Note, you must still complete your USATF membership, age verification for new members and online registration before the deadline of Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 11:59 PM.

Should you choose to use this option, contact USATF Montana Youth Chair Jesse Zentz immediately at 406-422-3039 or youth@montana.usatf.org, and proceed with following steps:

- Send a proof of age (i.e., driver's license, passport, baptismal certificate, etc.) immediately to youth@montana.usatf.org.
- As soon as you have received a USATF membership send the 10-digit USATF number immediately to youth@montana.usatf.org before 12:00 PM Noon on November 7, 2019.
- Age verification will be completed and new member will be notified, and then may proceed with online registration at www.athletic.net for the competition.

2. **Existing USATF Members:** If you are a previous member in any other year starting in 2001, renewing your membership is easy. Just renew your USATF membership at www.usatf.org -- do not apply for a new one! When renewing membership, it is not necessary to re-type information like your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, etc. It is also not necessary to have your date of birth verified again.
3. **Proof of Age Verification:** For first-time members, the second step requires you to have your age verified by USA Track & Field. This should be completed as soon as possible and at least one week before the deadline for online registration. Submit a scanned copy or photo of your 10-digit USATF membership along with a copy of proof of age to Montana Youth Chair Jesse Zentz at youth@montana.usatf.org and Association President Greg Mohl at mohl@vcn.com.
 - Once your age verification has been completed, you will be able to complete online registration. Remember, you do not need to complete the age verification step if you are renewing your USATF membership. This is only for first-time, new members.
 - Note that for both previous and new members, make sure that your proof of age has been verified. Entries for the USATF Montana Association championships cannot be completed without having their proof-of-age verified first.

Notes to remember:

- It is recommended that you bring a copy of your USATF membership with the 10-digit membership number and a copy of proof-of-age to both the association and regional championships.
- Relay teams must be members of a USATF sanctioned club. Athletes may not compete in a relay competition as unattached members. Club sanctions with relay teams must be completed and approved by the Association sanction chair prior to May 1st. If unable to sanction a club before May 1st contact sanctioned clubs in your Association or state.
- There is an 8-and-under division in the state, regional and national championships. To qualify for the national championship, the athletes in the 8-and-under age division must be at least 7 years old before December 31st to compete at the National J.O. Championship.
- In track and field, a competitor in the 8-and-under, 9-10 or 11-12-year-old divisions may enter a maximum of three events. Competitors in the 13-14, 15-16 or 17- 18-year-old divisions may enter a maximum of four events. These limitations include relays, but not combined events or road races. Entry in a relay, either as a primary or an alternate member, will be considered an entry for the purpose of this rule.
- Athletes who are still eighteen (18) years of age through the final day of the National Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships shall be eligible to compete in the 17-18-year-old division through that meet. This extended eligibility does not apply to cross country events.
- Competitors must compete in their own divisions only. No athlete may compete in younger or older divisions in individual, relay, or team events.
- For the 8-and-under, 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14-year-old divisions, no penalty shall be imposed for the first false start, but the Starter shall disqualify the offender or offenders for the second false start. There is no false start allowed for the 15-16 and 17-18 age divisions. False starts are called on individuals, not on the field.