



FUTURE OLYMPIANS WANTED



USA TRACK & FIELD (USATF), the governing body for the sports of Track & Field, Cross Country, Road Racing, Ultra Marathoning, and Race Walking is looking for adventurous youngsters, like you, who are interested in learning how to race walk.

And why not! First contested in the 1908, there are three (3) Race Walk events in the Olympic Games, the 20 kilometer Walk for both men and women, and the longest event in the Olympic Games, the 50 kilometer Walk - some 5 miles farther than the marathon. Opportunities to compete in the walk exist at all levels including both the indoor and outdoor national championships in track and field at the HS and College levels (NAIA). A little know fact is that there are college T&F Scholarships for race walkers. Additionally the Walk is contested in all major USA and international competitions. At the most recent Olympic Trials in the 50k Walk over \$55,000 in prize money was awarded.

Ohio high school and collegiate athletes have enjoyed a great deal of success in race walking. Several Ohio colleges are actively recruiting race walk athletes, including Rio Grande in southeastern Ohio where 2008 Olympic Trials runner-up Matt Boyles is the coach. Cedarville University, Malone, Notre Dame, Walsh University, and Shawnee State are some of the other schools that need race walkers for their collegiate T&F teams.

Current HS athletes from around the area who have competed in the National championships are:

Allison Chin (Tipp City HS): Allison started race walking in junior high and this year, as a 17 year old in high school she became the USA Junior Champion for all women 19 and under. She has competed as a member of the USA national team in several international competitions including the Americas Race Walk Championships in EL Salvador, and the Pan An Junior Games in Trinidad..

Erika Shaver (Miami Valley School): 2009 USA Track & Field Junior Olympic champion in the race walk. Joining Shaver as a national champ was Jake Gunderkline from Yellow Springs HS. He is now on a Track & Field Scholarship for Racewalking at a college in Indiana. Reini & Mitchell Brickson (Yellow Springs) & John Randall (Beavercreek) are all 2009 RW Junior Olympic All Americans.

DAYTON – SPRINGFIELD AREA LEADS THE WAY

Every week this winter, from January thru March, Cedarville University assistant T&F coach Vince Peters will be leading the area's Talent ID Program in race walking. The training sessions for the highly successful program will take place on Tuesday and Thursday evening at Cedarville University's Indoor Track from 5pm to 6:45pm.

All participants must be between the ages of 14 and 19 (do not turn 20 in 2010). The program has room for only 10 young men and young women. For more information on this winter cross training opportunity in the race walk please **contact Vince Peters - Ohio's coordinator of race walking at:**

(937) 767-7424 or via email at: mv_tc@sbcglobal.net

***Are You an Adventurous Male, or Female ?
Do You Want To Be An Olympian Someday?
!! Learn How To Race Walk !!***

<http://www.usatf.org/groups/RaceWalking/> or <http://www.racewalk.com>