**PARENT NEWSLETTER – JUNE 17**

Next weekend’s meets:

Next Meet: Our next scheduled meet is the AAU National Qualifier which will take place this Thursday through Sunday at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, MO. This is a national qualifier – if you are interested in advancement please refer to the meet info packet to learn about that process. The cost for this meet is $25 per person + the $2 Coach O service fee. Please make sure you submit your entry fee **today** as the deadline is at midnight (earlier than usual).

Overnight stay: A list of hotels has been provided in the Meet Packet (located on our facebook page)

Briefings: Our parent briefing on Wednesday will be more brief than before as the entries will be in, we’ll just check for critical errors (like misspelled names…), distribute fundraiser envelopes & answer any questions…

Fundraising: At this Wed.’s meeting we will also present our fundraiser for the month of June – selling coupon books. There’s no overhead! The books cost $20 & the club gets half of that money donated back to us. This will immediately enable us to cover our stadium rental fees, and in turn be able to turn our home meets fees over to assist parents financially for your child’s participation in the USATF National Junior Olympics in North Carolina. My personal goal is to see J.O. participants pay no more than around $100-$150 if possible.

Future things to consider:

Meet Fees: Our next meet after that is an optional, but highly recommended meet! The USATF Youth Nationals is a highly competitive meet that will be held just outside St. Louis at the Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. This meet is a great opportunity to compete against a whole host of athletes that are in the same age group as your child – no combining of age groups. The meet has entry guidelines, meaning if you have aspirations of making it to the podium, you’ll need to be at or under certain marks…

As you can imagine, there’s a bit of timing and travel that needs to take place as this location is about 6 hours away and will involve a couple nights hotel stay, but the experience is immeasurable. It’s also a great chance for our relays to get a strong push by their contemporaries – and possibly even get on the podium! Again, a great opportunity before Junior Olympics in North Carolina. The early entry deadline for USATF Youth Nationals was Friday; if you’re still interested the regular entry deadline is tomorrow, Tuesday, June 18). The cost is $11 per event.

New Coaches: We are firming up the certification of the rest of our coaches. Other clubs are even thinking about linking up with us starting next year! Please trust the process and trust these coaches, many of whom are some of the best athletes in the country!!! Also, we will have a couple of athletes come out & speak to our group as soon as they can get a handle on their schedule to talk about their experiences competing at the last US Olympic Trials.

Help Us!: If there’s anything I left out or if you see something you don’t like, please don’t hesitate to contact me. If there’s something you would like me to consider changing…please don’t hesitate to approach me directly. You may offer a fresh perspective that has not been thought of yet.

Awesome: Hey guys, we are doing a great job! We just added another 5 athletes (not counting our pole vault club that’s joining us)! This is amazing in only our 2nd year! That brings our totals to around 75 athletes. It’s hard to please over 150 people…our numbers counting parents/grandparents, etc…but we are doing an amazing job as a volunteer organization! Let’s keep it going in our efforts to be one Wichita track & field family! Now, family doesn’t mean we may all agree all the time, but we are making great strides in creating great opportunities for our kids! Let’s keep it going!