

ESPNHS Track & XC

5/03/12 11:06 AM ET Upcoming post season track meets in Illinois for 2012

By Mike Newman | ESPN.com

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With the state meet approaching, I know there are some athletes out there that are looking for some post season activities to test their fitness one more time before getting ready for cross country in the fall. Here are 6 meets that will be happening in June and July. If there are any others, please feel free to contact me at newman.dyestatil@gmail.com.

MIDWEST DISTANCE FESTIVAL – June 8, 2012

About 2 weeks ago, it was discovered that the Midwest Distance Gala would not be contested in 2012. The Gala was one of the top track events in the country bringing together some of the top distance runners across the nation.

Last Sunday, the ITCCCA (Illinois Coaches Track & Cross Country Association) decided that a distance meet needed to be continued. Athletes had asked if the old meet would take place. We could not leave a void in the schedule for the athletes who anticipated competing.

In conjunction with the Senior All-Star Meet sponsored by the ITCCCA on June 9, a new meet will be contested: THE MIDWEST DISTANCE FESTIVAL.

The meet will have a new venue. It will be contested at Memorial Stadium in Joliet, Illinois on Friday June 8.

There will not be any major changes to this meet. The first event will be a 5k open to all ages beginning at 6PM. The first High School event will begin at 6:45 PM. The only addition to the meet will be a Distance Medley Relay that will be contested for both boys and girls teams.

More details will be released about this meet within the next week including registration and meet entry standards

Any questions can be addressed to Meet Invitations Director Michael Newman at midwestdistance@gmail.com.

13th ANNUAL SENIOR ALL-STAR MEET – June 9, 2012

This meet returns to Illinois. It will be contested on Saturday, June 9 at Memorial Stadium on the campus of the University of St. Francis in Joliet.

Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin are the states that are involved. If you are a senior in Illinois and are interested in competing at this meet, more information can be found at <http://www.phs.d211.org/Athletics/Track/BTR/allstar.htm>.

ILLINOIS PREP TOP TIMES MULTI EVENTS CHAMPIONSHIPS – May 31-June 1, 2012

This meet returns to the spotlight after not being contested last year. The venue is new: Memorial Stadium in Joliet on the campus of the University of St. Francis. The format is the same: Decathlon, Heptathlon, and Throws Pentathlon.

The meet will begin each day at 4:30 PM. More information can be found at <http://illinoispreptoptimes.com/multievents.html>

ILLINOIS SPRINT SPECTACULAR – June 2, 2012

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The Illinois Sprint spectacular will be held at Bloom Township High School in Chicago Heights on Saturday June 2 at 12 noon. This meet is run by the Winged Foot Foundation, which is a non-profit charitable organization. The goal of the Winged Foot Foundation is to assist student athletes in the Chicago area by offering athletic equipment and academic programs to help strengthen the educational & sports activities in their communities.

Events that are contested will be the 100, 200, 400, 800, 110HH, 300IH, and the Pole Vault both for high school and junior high school athletes.

For more information on the meet, visit <http://wingedfootfoundation.org/2012%20Illinois%20Sprint%20Spectacular.pdf>

For more information on the Winged Foot Foundation, visit: <http://www.wingedfootfoundation.org>

OPEN MEETS IN THE NAPERVILLE AREA

This is from an e-mail sent by Paul Vandersteen, Head Cross Country Coach at Neuqua Valley High School. The 3 meets give young athletes and opportunity to compete at great meets...and have fun at the same time.

Any questions on these great meets, e-mail Paul Vandersteen: paul_vandersteen@ippsd.org

This summer, we've partnered with other area clubs, The Naperville Running Company, USATF, and Nike to host three open meets. Even if your athlete is not enrolled in one of our camps, he/she can compete. The events are open to all age groups for both boys and girls, and there will be distance events for athletes too! Our goal is to create a fun, competitive atmosphere where competitors feel a sense of accomplishment. Stay tuned for more details on these events as they draw closer.

In the meantime, mark your calendars for the following dates:

Saturday, June 23 @ 9AM (Location: Neuqua Valley HS)

Thursday, July 12 @ 5PM (Location: Plainfield South HS)

Thursday, July 19 @ 5PM (Location: Neuqua Valley HS)

RON GUMMERSON ALL AGES SUMMER TRACK MEET – July 26, 2012

Coach Gummerson taught and coached at Conant High School in Hoffman Estates for 29 years. He was constantly inspiring students, athletes, and those who were lucky enough to have known him, to not settle for anything less than his best.

To remember Ron and his love for track & field, his family and friends are organizing a summer meet in his honor. This will be an all ages track meet and will raise money for a scholarship to be awarded to a high school senior track athlete.

The meet will be held at Conant on Thursday July 26 with registration beginning at 5 PM.

For more information on this meet, visit <http://www.gummersontrack.com/>

DETWEILLER AT DARK CROSS COUNTRY MEET – July 27, 2012

Last year was the first year that this meet was contested. It is back and better than ever.

Detweiller Park is one of the fastest and historic cross country courses in the nation. There is a chance again for athletes to run this race under the lights that will be covering this historic park.

The meet will be contested on Friday, July 27 with the first race beginning at 8:15 PM. Profits from this race will benefit JDRF. The top 3 Boys and Girls High school teams will win new uniforms and warm-ups courtesy of Brooks.

For more information on this meet, visit: <http://www.detweilleratdark.com/>

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The Midwest Distance Festival is in no way a continuation of the Midwest Distance Gala. The staff is different, the events are different and the Gala built its own history that distinguishes it differently from the MD Festival. As director of the Gala, please do not misrepresent what has taken place and the name and history of the Gala. The Festival is its own event.

Thank you,

Scott Bush

May 5 2012, 11:00 AM

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