

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**From: Missouri Valley Association/USATF**

**To: All Kansas and Missouri Track Coaches**

**All Kansas and Missouri High School  
Track Athletes 16-17 years of age**

***-WIN A FREE TRIP TO ITALY THIS SUMMER-***

USA Track & Field has announced that it has revamped the process for selecting its team for the [IAAF World Youth Athletics Championships](#). For the first time the team will be selected based on performances at a Trials event - [World Youth Track & Field Trials](#).

The 2009 *World Youth Track & Field Trials* will be held on June 30 - July 1 in Ypsilanti, Michigan, in conjunction with the first two days of the USA Youth Outdoor Track & Field Championships. The event will serve as the qualifying competition for the 6<sup>th</sup> IAAF World Youth Championships to be held July 8-12 in Bressanone, Italy. Athletes must be born in 1992 or 1993 (age 16 or 17 by December 31, 2009), to be eligible for this competition. Athletes selected to the team will have all of their expenses paid to the World Championships by USA Track and Field, and will received an assortment of national team uniforms and gear.

“We have some of the best track and field athletes in the country in this area, and competing at the World Youth Track & Field Trials will be a great experience for all who enter,” said Ken Ferguson, a law professor at UMKC, and president of the Missouri Valley Association/USATF.

For more information on the 2009 World Youth Track & Field Trials, including qualifying standards to enter the Trials and team selection criteria, please contact Kenneth Ferguson at [fergusonk@umkc.edu](mailto:fergusonk@umkc.edu), or visit <http://www.usatf.org/events/2009/WorldYouthAthleticsTrials>.

Qualifying standards for the Youth World Track & Field Trials may be found at <http://www.usatf.org/events/2009/WorldYouthAthleticsTrials/entry/qualifyingStandards.asp>

Qualifying standards for the 2009 IAAF World Youth Athletics Championships may be found at <http://www.iaaf.org/statistics/standards/newsid=47831.html>