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**USA TO COMPETE FOR GOLD AT LYON, FRANCE WORLD MASTERS
TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS AUG. 4-16, USA TEAM HAS 426 ATHLETES;
*Meet has 8,078 competitors from record 98 nations, athletes ages 35-99***

(LYON, FRANCE) -- The USA is sending 426 athletes including many of the world's best to the World Masters Athletics (WMA) outdoor track & field championships August 4-16 in Lyon, France. The team is expected to be among the top contenders both for individual and relay titles, as well as for Gold and overall medal counts by country. The meet has 8,078 competitors from a record 98 nations with athletes 35-99 years old. The American team has 1093 event entries for the 426 athletes.

At the 2014 WMA Indoor Championships in Budapest, Hungary, Americans won 23 golds including relays. A third of entered Americans won medals. No other nation came close to the US Gold or overall total of 59 medals, including 21 Silver and 15 Bronze.

At the 2013 WMA Outdoor Championships in Porto Allegre, Brazil, the USA won the Gold Count, with 83. Among the 58 countries, Americans were second in overall medals, with 183 against 195 from host country Brazil. Australia was third with 148.

In Lyon, track and field including throwing competition is spread among four stadiums: Balmont, Rhone, Pierre Duboeuf, and Laurent Gerin, in addition to non-stadia events. The Marathon bases at the Place Dellecour in the "center city". Athletes will be referring to the meet website and program to see where their events are scheduled.

As in USATF masters championships, athletes are subject to drug testing, in this case under WMA procedures. The prohibited list is published by WADA (the World Anti-Doping Agency), which identifies "prohibited substances and methods" but notes that "related" substances are also prohibited.

There will be an all-WMA Athletes Party on August 12, and a day of non-competition August 13 for the WMA General Assembly. The US Delegation and team in Lyon will be led by MTF Chair Gary Snyder.

The **daily event schedule** is at: [HYPERLINK "https://www.lyon2015.com/en/programme/schedule/"](https://www.lyon2015.com/en/programme/schedule/) <https://www.lyon2015.com/en/programme/schedule/>

Full list of **USA Team athlete entries** from team manager Phil Greenwald

compiled by name, city, affiliation, best marks for events: HYPERLINK "<http://www.weinerpublic.com/20150723.xlsx>" <http://www.weinerpublic.com/20150723.xlsx>.
As at previous championships, the team will have a daily meeting.

US and International media coverage is welcome for US athletes – contact USATF National Masters Media Chair Bob Weiner before and during the meet at HYPERLINK "<mailto:weinerpublic@comcast.net>" weinerpublic@comcast.net and cell 202-329-1700. MEDIA CHECK-IN at Media Center, BELMONT STADIUM (the main stadium) 4 Rue Victor Schoelcher, Lyon.

Top US Athletes entered (charts from Mary Trotto, MTF Awards Chair, provided at close of entries) include:

			Top WOMEN competi ng at WMA Lyon France 2015 Aug 4-16th		
Name	LAST	CLUB/ STATE	EVENTS	AGE	Records: World & American Defending Champion & Awards in 2014

Irene	Obera	West Valley Track Club	100, 200m, 400m, 80m hurdles, long jump, 200m Long Hurdles	80-84	Jesse Owens Master athlete of the Year 2014, 6 WORLD RECORDS & 7 American Records in 2014 2014 Defending Champion 100,200, 400,Short and Long Hurdles, LJ
Florence	Meiler	Mass Velocity Track Club	200m, 60m hurdles, pole vault, triple jump, super weight throw, pentathlon	80-84	MTF AGE GROUP ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 2014 2 WORLD RECORDS & 7 American Records 2014 2014 Defending Champion PV, HJ,TJ Shot, DT, HT, WT
Christel	Donley	Colorado Masters Track & Field Club	60m Hurdles, high, triple jump, shot, weight throw	80-84	MTF AGE GROUP ATHELTE OF THE YEAR 2014 2014 Defending Champion HJ, LJ, TJ, SHOT,HT

Carol	Finsrud	Texas	Shot Put, Weight, Hammer, Discus, Throws Pent.	55-59	MTF AGE GROUP ATHELTE OF THE YEAR 2014 2014 Defending Champion Shot, DT, WT
Rita	Hanscom	California	80m hurdles, 300m Long Hurdles, high, long jumps, pole vault, heptathlon,	60-64	MTF AGE GROUP ATHELTE OF THE YEAR 2014 2014 Defending Champion Short and Long hurdles, Pentathlon
LaTricia	Dendy	NY.	400m,	45-49	2014 Defending Champion 400m
Brenda	Matthews	SC Striders	100, 200, LJ, 80m Short Hurdles	65-69	2014 Defending Champion 100, 200m, Short Hurdles, LJ
Jean	Daprano	Georgia	100, 200, 400, 800, 1500m	75-79	2014 Defending Champion 100,200,400, 800, 1500m
Joy	Upshaw	California	Short Hurdles, LJ, 100m	50-54	MTF AGE GROUP ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 2014 Defending WMA indoor champion Short Hurdles, 200

Linda	Cohn	SC striders	Javelin, Triple Jump	60-65	MTF AGE GROUP ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 2014 2014 Defending Champion Javelin, Triple Jump
			Top MEN competi ng at WMA Lyon France 2015 Aug 4-16th		
Name	LAST	CLUB/ STATE	EVENTS	AGE	Records: World & American Defending Champion & Awards in 2014
Robert	Lida	Houston Elite	100m, 200, 400m	75-79	MTF AGE GROUP ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 2014 1 WORLD RECORD & 1 American Record 2014 2014 Defending Champion 100, 200m
Brian	Coushay		100m, LJ, Decathlon	50-54	MTF AGE GROUP ATHLETE OF THE YEAR 2014

Damon	Blakemore	Houston Elite	60m Hurdles, long jump	50-54	MTF AGE GROUP ATHELTE OF THE YEAR 1 AMERICAN RECORD
William	Jankovich		60m, 200,400,60m hurdles, high, long jumps, pole vault, shot, pent.	80-84	MTF AGE GROUP ATHELTE OF THE YEAR 1 AMERICAN RECORD
Bruce	McBarnette	Potomac Valley Track Club	Triple Jump, high jump	55-59	MTF AGE GROUP ATHELTE OF THE YEAR 1 AMERICAN RECORD 2014 Defending Champion HJ (note: Bruce has won <i>eleven</i> HJ world championshi ps outdoor and indoor)
Thad	Wilson		Short and Long Hurdles,	60-64	2014 Defending Champion Short and Long Hurdles & WMA Indoor 60mHurdle Champion
Antwon	Dussett		400m	35-39	2014 Defending Champion 200,400m

John	Goldhammer		Hammer, Weight Throw, Shot, Throws Pent.	60-64	2014 Defending Champion Hammer & Weight Throw
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**Athletes who
earned Gold at the
2013 Outdoor WMA
Championships
BRAZIL**

FOR THE MEN USA Athletes (by events)	Event	AGE Group
Name		
Babatunde Ridley Hyattsville, MD	100, 200	35
Steven Robbins Cleveland Heights, OH	100, 200	70
Bob Lida Withita, KS	100, 200, 400	75
Antwon Dussett Peoria, IL	400	40
Marcus Shute Lithonia, GA	400	50
Damon Blakemore Houston, TX	Short and Long Hurdles	50
Thad Wilson Oxnard, CA	Short and Long Hurdles	60
William Jankovich Racine, WI	200 hurdles	80

Kenneth Thomasc Houston TX	Long Jump	55
Wendell Beck Mesa, AZ	Pole Vault	55
Howard Booth Gregory, MI	Pole Vault	70
Quenton Torbert Redlands, CA	Shot Put	60
Cameron Bolles Santa Rose, CA	Discus Throw	45
Ralph Fruguglietti Bakersfield, CA	Discus Throw	55
Stefan Patersson Frisco, TX	Javelin Throw	45
FOR THE WOMEN USA ATHLETES (by events)		
Brandi Bernert Denver, CO	100, 200m	35
Joy Upshaw Lafayette, CA	100, 200, Short Hurdles	50
LaTricia Dendy Bronx,NY	400	40

Jeanne Daprano Fayetteville, GA	800, 1500m	75
Coreen Steinbach Pompey, NY	1500m	60
Menka Scott Lees Summit, MO	Short Hurdles	45
Christel Donley Colorado Springs, CO	High Jump	75
Carol Finsrud Lockhart, TX	Discus, Weight, Throws Pent.	50

Source: Robert Weiner Associates and USATF National Masters Media Committee