

U. S. MASTERS TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS
INTERNATIONAL TEAM
Vol. I, No. 2

THE PAINS, WISHING YOU
A HAPPY HOLIDAY
December 8, 1970

Dear Team Member,

Event Interest Form:

To enable us to plan the meets in Europe and to set-up the requested events, we are enclosing a preliminary entry sheet for you to fill out and return. The form will give us some idea of where your interest is and will assist our European hosts in planning the meets. By filling out the form, AS THIS IS NOT AN ENTRY, you will help us greatly in this regard. Please immediately return the form with any questions you may have.

Entries are still rolling in with about 170 athletes signed up and a total of 373 reservations...with 1½ years to go. This is a true expression of your interest and clearly convinces us that our plan was, and is, well-conceived.

We have not heard from the official U. S. Olympic Committee agent regarding tickets for the Games but are advised that it will be the middle of '71 before tickets will be available. Our reservation for 500 seats is on file, however.

I have heard from our British meet sponsors who advise that the meet must be OK'd (and I am sure it will be) by the British AAU as well as the U. S. AAU. This is, of course, only a formality; and all athletes must have an AAU card (\$1.50 annually) as each individual entrant must be OK'd.

We are working on the rule on professionalism which should be resolved by '72 (i.e. kicked out for veterans in Track & Field). The reputation of the U. S. Masters has worked its way up to the National AAU and we were invited to speak to the Track and Field Executive Board in San Francisco, on November 30th, at the National Convention. By '72 we hope the U. S. Masters will have National AAU sanction as well as being named an official championship event. You may be aware that a permanent committee has been formed in the AAU in this past year for Veterans Track and Field. The Masters will probably be in San Francisco in '72 and at the University of Oregon in '73 if current plans work out.

Travel Plans...Air Fares

If you have read your newspaper lately, you may be aware of the fact that the international airlines recently met and set the airfares through 1972. As you may well imagine, all fares took a considerable jump. But it looks as though our earlier estimate of a 10% increase will prove t

to be correct. If so, the fares quoted earlier will be very close to the final figure. We will not be able to give a definite figure, including housing until next year as hotels are reluctant to quote rates this far in advance. As to the final cost, you will have to bear with us. Naturally, we will attempt to stay within our estimate. To date, we have no information to the contrary.

To tie up the aircraft, at a peak load period, we must make a substantial deposit early in '71. Therefore, please send in your \$100. per seat deposits NOT later than January 31st. A payment schedule for the balance will be announced early next year when we know just when the funds must be posted for housing and air travel.

At the moment we are planning departures for London from Los Angeles and New York with a possible third flight from Chicago. At some point we shall have to sign a contract for approximately \$51,000. for the flight from Los Angeles and approximately \$35,000. from New York. Since we have the greatest confidence in those of you who have signed up to date, we have no qualms about your following through. However, it will be necessary for you to make the remittances as per the schedule as yet unannounced.

Some of our group have asked to go or return at a time different from that scheduled. This can be arranged provided you advise us of your wishes and permit the Allied Travel Agency to book your special arrangements. Naturally, the single fares will be higher. But Allied has agreed to handle the extra detail involved. By doing it this way, Allied will get their commission, promised by us, and you will pay no extra for this service. More importantly, we will be assured that all members of the team will arrive on time and have proper housing.

Several people have expressed a desire to come late and take in only the Veterans Meet in Cologne. Others have indicated they want to stay over after Cologne. If you fall into either class, please let us know so that we can take advantage of the vacant return seats and enable those wishing to stay to fly back at a later date.

Uniform and Team Emblem

We have had one or two suggested emblems submitted but more are requested. Use your latent artistic talents and come up with an appropriate team emblem.

We have assumed the members would not want to spend the \$20.00 or so for a team sweat suit. Are we correct in this assumption? As of now we are planning only running attire and a light weight travel jacket.

Foreign Interest

Did you receive from us a reprint of the recent article on the '72 Meets in Athletics Weekly? If not, let us know and we will send one.

A few days ago we received a letter from England by Howard Payne (40) (no relation) requesting information about the U. S. Masters. Payne is currently Britain's top hammer thrower with a best effort of 227', a British record.

We also have had correspondence with the U. S. S. R. and the U. S. President's Council on Fitness which may generate the appearance of a Russian Vets team in the near future.

Name Dropping

Two recent additions to the International Team are BOB RICHARDS, Los Angeles, whose Olympic and international performances in the 50's are well-remembered, and JIM HERSHBERGER, Wichita, who ran on the University of Kansas sprint relay team that held the mile relay world relay record nearly twenty years ago. Jim will turn 40 in '71. Richards had the bad luck of pulling up lame in this year's U. S. Masters and thereby nullifying the possibility of head to head competition with BUD HELD. HAL HIGDON, Michigan City, sent us some provocative remarks regarding scoring, nationalism, uniforms and the like. Our present feeling is that there should be no scoring but that we should wear a team uniform for identification, if for no other reason. Besides with approximately 200 team members it is about the only way we can keep track of one another. Comments, please!

RAY GORDON, Washington D.C. (Division II, 2:09.5 for 880 and 4:57.5 mile) reports knee miseries but expects to overcome them by /72. The friendly giant BILL BANGERT, Champ, Mo., (AAU Shot champ '46) 48'9" in '68, has joined the ranks. JACK RAZZETTO, Eureka, (6' high jump '70) who unfortunately tore knee ligaments at the U. S. Masters reports from Northern California that the knee is responding to therapy and that he'll be ready by '72. DR. JOHN BOYER, San Diego, (4:01.3 '70 U. S. Masters Marathon, a first race effort) has been appointed to the President's Council on Fitness. NORMAN BRIGHT (60) Seattle, (Division III, 42:38 6 mile '70 U. S. Masters) ran this summer in the San Francisco Dipsea Race, 6.8 miles, a race in which his record stood up for approximately 33 years, and with his age group handicap once again came in FIRST over 1,000 competitors. His time on an extremely hilly course was only 12 minutes over his earlier record effort. JOHN CLARKE, Des Moines (Division III, 2:40.7 880 '70 U. S. Masters) reports he can't wait for '72.

POSSIBLE 400 meter relay combinations (bound to be altered by '72 as the competition will be so keen) are:

Div. I STOLPE, 10.3; BADINELLI, 10.7; JUILLAND, 10.9;
HERSHBERGER; RADEMAKER, 10.9; and PALMER.

Div. II GUIDET, 11.1; KNUPPEL; WALCZUK, 11.1; NIBLOCK 11.8;
JAMES, 11.8; and WINTON, R., 11.8.

Div. III PUGLIZEVICH, 12.9; CARMINE, 13.3; O'NEIL, 14.1;
MITCHELSON, 13.9; GUTH, and FOWLER, 15.8.

We will probably field more than one relay team in each
division; so don't despair if your name was not mentioned.
The above list is based primarily on U. S. Masters data.

Tell your running friends of our projected trip and
have them join us. The more, the merrier! To wait until
'72 to sign up may be too late.....

MAY YOU HAVE THE MERRIEST OF HOLIDAYS EVER.....

Best wishes always,

THE PAINS.....

DAVID & HELEN