

# Mideast Region Youth & Junior Race Series www.usatmideast.com/juniors/

The Mideast Region Talent ID Series is designed to foster development of young athletes age 13 - 19. The series consists of seven independently produced triathlons. Each event meets a set of criteria ensuring the race is optimized for those new to the sport as well as those who wish to compete against the best in the region. The top 10 finishers at each event will earn points toward a season end tally. The top 3 athletes in each division at the end of the series (totaling 12 athletes) will be rewarded with triathlon merchandise from series sponsors and an invitation to regional skills camp in 2017 (details to follow). The main purpose of this series is to encourage participation for young athletes, foster excitement in the Mideast Region, and ultimately develop competitors into the Olympic pipeline.

# **Series Events**

	Date	Location	Event	Website
Event 1	April 24, 2016	Carmel, IN	Carmel Sprint Triathlon	Website Link
Event 2	May 29, 2016	Geneva, IL	MMTT Youth & Elite Triathlon	Website Link
Event 3*†	June 11, 2016	Indianapolis, IN	Indianapolis Sprint Triathlon #1	Website Link
Event 4*	June 12, 2016	Grand Rapids, MI	Grand Rapids Triathlon	Website Link
Event 5	July 9 - 10, 2016	Waynesville, OH	Caesar Creek State Park Triathlon	Website Link
Event 6*†	July 16, 2016	Indianapolis, IN	Indianapolis Sprint Triathlon #2	Website Link
Event 7	July 24, 2016	Wauconda, IL	Wauconda Triathlon	Website Link

<sup>\*</sup>Sprint Distance only. Youth will still be scored separately, but will race the sprint distance.

# Series Eligibility

The Mideast Region Talent ID Series is open to all athletes between the race age of 13 and 19. The "Youth" division consists of those with a race age of 13 - 15. The "Junior" division consists of those with a race age of 16 - 19. "Race age" is the athlete's age on December 31st, 2016. Series events are independently operated and entry is not guaranteed. Event directors have the right to limit the number of participants in their event. It is in the athlete's best interest to register in advance for ALL races in which they plan to participate.

<sup>†</sup> Please note that the race is advertized as having a minimum age requirement of 14.

# **Series Scoring**

Points will be awarded at each event as listed below. The top 3 scores of each athlete will be tallied to determine standings for the overall series. Awards will be given for the top three males and females in each age category of 13 - 15 and 16 - 19. In the event of a total points tie between two or more athletes, their cumulative placing in their races in the series will be used to determine their placing. For example, if Athlete X has done 3 races where she placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in all three for a total of 150 points and Athlete Y has done 3 races where she placed 1<sup>st</sup> in two but 7<sup>th</sup> in her third race for a total of 150 points, Athlete X would be ranked higher than Y since her cumulative placing is 6 (3 x 2<sup>nd</sup>) vs 9 (2 x 1 + 7). Ties will only be broken for the top three overall places in the series. Athletes must compete in a minimum of two events in the series to be eligible for overall series awards. Series Results will be updated and posted on the USAT Mideast Region website no more than one week after each event is complete and the official results are posted on that race website. Overall series winners will be announced following the final race of the series.

### **Point Breakdown**

Place	Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	60
2 <sup>nd</sup>	50
3 <sup>rd</sup>	42
4 <sup>th</sup>	35
5 <sup>th</sup>	30
6 <sup>th</sup>	30 25
7 <sup>th</sup>	20
8 <sup>th</sup>	15
9 <sup>th</sup>	10
10 <sup>th</sup>	5

Due to the cancellation of the Detroit Triathlon in 2016, we will not be having a draft legal championship race in 2016. We are also not having any series races beyond Youth & Junior Nationals held on July 30 – 31, 2016.

#### Race Cancellations and Alterations

If an event is altered to a duathlon or aquathlon format: points will still be awarded. If a race is changed to a run only format, rescheduled for another weekend, or cancelled: no points will be awarded for that event.

#### **Series Questions**

Any questions regarding the Mideast Region Talent ID Race Series should be directed to Mike Groaning (<u>usatmideast@gmail.com</u>).