



Hershey's Track and Field Games



For 30 years, HERSHEY'S Track and Field Games have been putting fun into fitness for kids, and it's now the largest youth sports program of its kind in North America. The goal of HERSHEY'S Track and Field Games is to introduce children to physical fitness through the basic track and field events of running, jumping and throwing. The program also strives to encourage children to reach their potential and develop a sense of accomplishment.

Who can Participate?

Boys and Girls between ages 9 and 14 throughout the United States and Canada. Age group classifications are determined by the participant's age on December 31 of the current program year.

School Program—An alternative to local track meets

If your community does not hold a local meet, your school's field day could become the local meet for the community. Finalists then advance to the summer district and/or state/provincial meets. In communities where a local Parks and Recreation meet is held, the school could conduct a joint meet with the local Parks and Recreation department.

Local, State/Provincial and Regional Track Meets

Local, district and state/provincial meet dates vary and are determined by the state/provincial chairperson.

Local meets—held in the spring and early summer

District meets—held a few weeks after the local meets (May or June)

State/Provincial Meets—some take place in May but are usually held in late June and early July

North American Final—held in Hershey, PA in August

How does the program work?

The Hershey's Track and Field Games are conducted on both a recreational and educational level. The program teaches basic running, jumping and throwing skills on the playgrounds and in the schools. No special equipment or uniforms are required.

Winners of the local and district meets progress to the next level. Not every state/provincial winner advances to the North American Final. Winners are placed in a regional pool of state/provincial finalists and become eligible to be chosen for the North American Final. Approximately 540 boys and girls representing Canada, all 50 states and the District of Columbia participate in the North American Final. Each participant receives an all-expense-paid trip to Hershey, PA for four days of fun-filled events including the North American Final.

