

AAU, The Early Years

The Amateur Athletic Union is boys and girls, young adults and personal growth. It's laughter, challenges, and opportunities. It's one place where those who have achieved athletic excellence introduce America's youth to discipline, teamwork and persistence. It's an organization where problem solving and cooperation is taught through the medium of sports and competition.

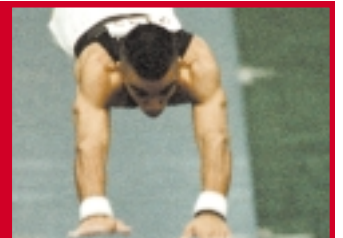
The AAU is children, it's families, and it is the oldest and largest not-for-profit, volunteer based, sports organization in the world! In the last four years alone over 2 million athletes have taken part in our programs.

Geographically the AAU is divided into 57 distinct administrative associations instead of state by state as you see with other organizations. These associations annually administer up to 38 different sport programs while sanctioning somewhere in the neighborhood of 15,000 local, association, and regional competitions, all of which lead to 250 national championships.

Although the Amateur Athletic Union has had some impressive alumni from Magic Johnson to Shaquille O'Neil, Carl Lewis to Lisa Lesley, John Weismueller to Shannon Miller, the AAU is far more than just household names. We are developmental programs where striving to be your best is far more important to us than simply being the best. We are America's #1 athletic union, an organization that brings together athletes from across the country for the purpose of Sports For All, Forever.

The AAU is many things, it's the AAU Junior Olympic Games with over 12,000 athletes competing in any one of 21 sports for two weeks each summer. It's the AAU James E. Sullivan Award that annually honors America's top amateur athlete. It's AAU Youth Excel, a program designed to recognize high school seniors throughout the country who have excelled in athletics and academics despite adversity. It's the AAU Complete Athlete Program, a sports curriculum designed to help prepare our young citizens for the opportunities that lie ahead in life. We are also the administrator of the President's Challenge and Presidential Sports Award, both of which are part of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

As you can see, the AAU is a lot more than you may have understood. But more than that, we are people helping people through the medium of sports.



The AAU Family of Sports

Aerobics, Baseball, Baton Twirling, Beach Volleyball, Boys' Basketball, Chinese Martial Arts, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Dance-Dance/Drill, Field Hockey, Flag Football, Girls' Basketball, Golf, Gymnastics, Ice Hockey (youth), In-Line Hockey, Judo, Jujitsu, Jump Rope, Karate, Men's Basketball, Multi-Events, Physically Challenged, Powerlifting, Soccer, Softball, Surfing, Swimming, Table Tennis, Taekwondo, Tennis, Track and Field, Trampoline and Tumbling, Volleyball, Weightlifting, Women's Basketball and Wrestling. We are looking for individuals to start many of these sports in the I.E..

