



**The Virgin Islands Track & Field Federation...SINCE 1963**

P.O.BOX 22094, CHRISTIANSTED, ST. CROIX, VI | [isv@iaaf.org](mailto:isv@iaaf.org) 340-643-2557

<http://virginislandspace.org/vitff.html>

**VITFF Bulletin: October 4, 2017**

**VITFF Update**

---

The Virgin Islands (ISV), track and field family including those in: St. Croix, St. Thomas, St. John and Water Island, a territory of the USA, was severely impacted by two category five hurricanes Irma and Maria in September. In addition some were impacted by hurricane Harvey in Texas, Florida and Louisiana areas. While the entire Virgin Islands were victims of the destructive wind and water forces of both storms, in addition tropical storms followed each hurricane adding to the destruction and further hardship. St. Thomas, St. John and Water Island were most impacted by hurricane Irma and St. Croix was most impacted by hurricane Maria. St. Thomas and Water Island are in recovery phase and St. John is gradually moving to recovery phase. St. Croix is still in response/rescue phase will move into recover phase hopefully this week. All islands are under curfew and are without electrical power and communication systems are slowly coming on line including cellular and internet. All assistance is being provided by the government of the Virgin Islands VITEMA (Virgin Islands Emergency Management Agency), The Government of the USA FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency-USA), The Depts. Of Defense, Health, Housing and Human Services, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Red Cross, churches, community organizations and private foundations among others.

#### Condolences

To date five persons have lost their lives in the Virgin Islands, victims of the hurricanes. The VITFF extends its sincere condolences to their families and loved ones. Xavier "Dag" Samuel, national track and field coach in the British Virgin Islands was a dear friend and colleague, all of us are shocked with knowing that we lost him during hurricane Irma. To his family and loved ones our deepest sympathy. VITFF extends its condolences to all in the NACAC family who have lost persons in these natural disasters.

#### Status of VITFF family

The Virgin Islands Track and Field Federation set its priority on determining the status of the Virgin Islands Track and Field Family above all else by establishing a web page on its interim website <http://virginislandspace.org/vitff.html> and is NOT solely relying on social media. Responses are continuing to come in. VITFF intends to waive annual individual federation registration fees to help bolster this effort. VITFF is prepared to advise and assist in the recovery effort.



wallace williams, gen. sec.

## Status of competition calendar for the remainder of 2017-2018

### Road Running/Cross-Country

The road running season is organized by STAR (The St. Thomas Association of Road Runners) in St. Thomas and The V.I. Pace Runners in St. Croix, starts in St. Croix in September. Two events were held before the hurricanes in St. Croix. Events both in St. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix districts, particularly current ones are likely either be postponed or canceled (check V.I. Pace Runners Calendar and VITFF Calendar for updates). This includes the very successful cross-country seasons organized by The Virgin Islands Pace Runners in St. Croix STAR (St. Thomas Association of Road Runners) in St. Thomas on the campuses of the Univ. of the Virgin Islands (St. Croix and St. Thomas). Decisions will be made on a case by case basis. As well cruise runs being scheduled for incoming cruise ships will be treated accordingly.

### Track and Field

Track and field training and competition was at a standstill due to the status of the three synthetic tracks which were either under construction or in disrepair. As the opportunity is presented, a thorough inspection of these facilities will be conducted and reported accordingly. Until such time all formal activity sanctioned by the VITFF at those facilities is suspended. As requested, a preliminary facilities report has been submitted to office of the NACAC President to be followed by a full report as the opportunity permits.

### Athletes outside the Territory

Athletes currently residing, training and competing outside the Virgin Islands USA including student/athletes in high school, college/Univ. and professionals are to update their registration for 2018 and establish current whereabouts with accurate contact info. Student/athletes in college/Univ. should also update their 2018 registration so that in addition of knowing your whereabouts, your performances will be monitored by the VITFF, particularly V.I. National Track and Field Coaches Nathan Taylor, Track and Field Coach at SPIRE Institute and Adrian Durant, Head Track and Field Coach at Cornell Univ.

The VITFF has designated SPIRE Institute in Ohio as the official Virgin Islands (ISV) National Track and Field Training Center under Nathan Taylor V.I. National Track and Field Coach and Track and Field Academy Coach at SPIRE.

Those listed in the top grouping of the IAAF World List are required to comply with the IAAF Athletes Whereabouts policy as a WADA compliance.

Those on Virgin Islands Olympic Committee and IOC Solidarity grants will continue to be contacted through VIOC and/or VITFF as necessary. There should be no major lapse on receipt of individual grant funds.



Laverne Jones-Ferrette is finalizing a proposal to establish a training/competition camp in the Houston area to accommodate V.I. National Track and Field Team Members seeking qualifying marks for the outdoor season, particularly those college and high school student/athletes.

V.I. Track and Field athletes are advised to review the VITFF Calendar to determine upcoming competition, particular championships.

The qualifying standards for various championships will be posted on VITFF webpage and through VITFF Bulletins. These are the two official information sources (not social media).

For V.I.Pace Runners and St. Thomas Association of Road Runners (STAR) Road Race and Cross-Country Calendar logon to: <http://virginislandspace.org>

To register with VITFF; to access official VITFF Calendar; other information logon to: <http://virginislandspace.org/vitff.html>

