

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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USATF CANCELS INDOOR NATIONALS COVID-19 Restrictions in New Season

Hello Again.....Indianapolis — The 2021 USATF Indoor Championships, originally scheduled for Feb. 20-21 in Albuquerque, N.M., have been canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic, USATF announced last Friday. The 2021 USATF Indoor Combined Events, which were to be held as part of the Championships, are also canceled.

USATF's COVID-19 Working Group of medical and scientific experts worked diligently to develop a rigorous set of COVID-19 protocols for conducting the Championships. However, it has become apparent that statewide restrictions in New Mexico and other logistical challenges for the event are too severe to overcome. Defending champ Garret Scantling, who won the 2020 crown in Annapolis last February, and who has posted some eye-opening vault and hurdle performances this far in 2021

World Athletics announced December 20, 2020 that it moved its 2020 World Athletics Indoor Championships scheduled for March 19-21, 2021 to March 2023.

The 2021 indoor CE season took several tentative steps this weekend as indoor restrictions and guidelines change daily. Only three CE meets went into the books on Jan 15-16 and the major action so far has been at the NCAA II level. The NCAA continues to make plans for indoor championships in 2021 and, if early results are any indication, the nationals in Birmingham, AL, will be a barn-burner. After Central Missouri junior Trey Miller 5492 eye-opener in December TAMU-Kingsville senior Jonathan Harper (a 6-3 red-

Javelina red-shirt senior Jon Harper, Lorena, TX, posted the week's highest hept total (5495) in Pittsburg, KS



shirt senior from Lorena, Texas) responded with a 5495 performance of his own over the weekend (in Pittsburg, KS). Miller's score has been adjusted to take into account track size (now 5517). Miller has leg speed to burn and occasionally struggles in the vault, an event Harper relies upon. The last time they faced one another was the 2019 NCAA D-II title meet in Pittsburg, KS where Harper was 5th, Miller 6th. Many of the foreign CE'ers who have dominated D-II in recent years do not appear to be in the US presently.

Nice marks come from Fayetteville, site of the 2021 NCAA D-I title meet, where Liberty/Arkansas transfer Marcus Balangee is now eligible.