

## PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Saskatchewan Athletics continues the annual clinic delivery program for middle-year and high school aged athletes. Requests are usually booked for the months of April and May, as this matches the Saskatchewan High School track & field season. The invitation to start booking clinics was sent out to school contacts in January. Over 40 clinics have been booked in communities across the province, and many have already taken place this spring. Our clinics provide an opportunity for mentorship of local coaches, teachers, and community leaders along with quality technical instruction in urban, rural, and northern regions of the province.

A total of 48 athletes were identified and join the Sask Excellence Program for 2026. The top athletes were identified for each event in each age class from the 2025 outdoor rankings. Of these 48 athletes, 21 are U16 and 27 are U18. Athletes that joined the program received a drawstring bag, t-shirt, certificate, a discount to attend the annual Spring Camp, and an invitation to join the provincial U16/U18 team that will compete at the U16/U18 Western Canada Team Challenge meet in Regina, SK, July 17-19. Several webinars are also being offered to Sask Excellence athletes on topics like sports nutrition, sleep and performance, and mental performance. The purpose of this program is to identify younger athletes to give them opportunities that help support their development in the sport.

The 2026 U16 and U18 teams will be confirmed shortly after the U16/U18 Trials Meet in Saskatoon, June 12-14. Saskatchewan Athletics intends to field full teams of U16 and U18 athletes at the Western Canada Team Challenge meet in Regina. Sask Excellence athletes are offered a spot on the team, with the remainder of the athletes being selected from the U16/U18 Trials Meet.

The annual Spring Camp took place April 11-12, 2026 in Saskatoon at the Field House. Registered athletes enjoyed four training sessions, accommodations at the Holiday Inn & Suites East Hotel, meals at Marquis Hall and a Sport Medicine & Science session. Spring Camp is intended for athletes in the grades 9-12 that reside in rural communities. 72 athletes took part in this year's camp, a significant increase from 2025 when 53 athletes took part, 2024 when 40 athletes took part, and 2023 when 26 athletes took part.

Saskatchewan Athletics is committed to supporting the development of road running and trail running within the province. We are working closely with existing road running and trail running events to host Provincial Championships for these disciplines. The 2026 Provincial 5km Championships are being hosted by the Regina Royal Road Race on May 9 in Regina. The 10km, Half Marathon and Full Marathon Provincial Championships are being hosted by the Saskatchewan Marathon on May 31 in Saskatoon, and the 2026 Provincial Road Mile Championships are being hosted by the Whiteswan Mile on July 12 in Saskatoon. The Provincial 50 Mile Trail Championships are being hosted at the Reesor 50 on May 15-17, and the 2026 Provincial Mountain/Trail Running Championships are being hosted by the Beaver Flat 50 on September 19.

Coach development continues to be a priority at Saskatchewan Athletics. Several coaching courses at various levels are organized throughout the year, usually during the fall and spring. We also offered three introductory Track and Field for Teachers webinars this spring to engage with and support high school coaches and teachers. The three webinars received approximately 200 registrations combined, with teachers and coaches from across Canada registering.