



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Blind Youth from Los Angeles Experience Inspiration of U.S. Olympic Training Center
USABA and Junior Blind Partner to Empower Blind Teens through Sports Education Camp

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO. February 12-15, 2010 – The United States Association of Blind Athletes is pleased to host a Paralympic Sports Education Camp for blind or visually impaired teenagers from the Los Angeles-based nonprofit, Junior Blind of America. Committed to helping children and adults who are blind or visually impaired achieve independence, Junior Blind will send ten students to participate in various Paralympic sports, including Judo, Track and Field, Powerlifting, and Goalball (a team sports specifically designed for athletes who are blind and visually impaired).

“Junior Blind is very excited to give our teens the chance to meet and train with Paralympic athletes at the U.S. Olympic Training Center through our partnership with USABA. It is an amazing and inspiring opportunity for teens who are blind or visually impaired to learn from the success of Paralympic athletes who have overcome significant obstacles to achieve their hopes and dreams,” says Miki Jordan, President of Junior Blind.

All clinics will be lead by Paralympic athletes and coaches, including Scott Moore (*Denver, CO*), the first athlete to win a gold medal in judo for the United States, three-time Paralympic distance runner Tim Willis (*Colorado Springs, CO*) winner of five medals and Robin Theyoung, (*Colorado Springs, CO*) member of Women’s National Goalball Team who won Gold in the Beijing Paralympic Games. Highlights of the weekend include:

Saturday, Feb. 13

9:00-10:45 a.m. Strength and Conditioning Session by USABA Powerlifting Coach: Mark Sampson at USOTC
1:15-3:15 p.m. Goalball clinic by US Paralympics Women’s Coach Ken Armbruster and Paralympic Athlete Robin Theyoung at the Colorado School for the Blind

Sunday, February 14

9:00 a.m. Paralympic Track Athlete presentation by Tim Willis in Aquatics 006 at USOTC
9:30.-11:30 a.m. Track and Field Clinic at Colorado College
USABA Field Coach Mark Sampson and Tim Willis
1:15- 3:30 p.m. Judo by Paralympic Athlete Scott Moore at USOTC dojo

For more information contact: Mark Lucas at 719 352-9134 (cell)

About the U.S. Association of Blind Athletes: A member organization of the U.S. Olympic Committee, is a non-profit organization that provides training for blind and visually impaired athletes for competition in nine sports. USABA members range from blind children developing sports skills to elite athletes who train for competitions such as the Paralympic Games, the world’s second largest athletic competition that draws more than 4,000 disabled athletes. For more information visit www.usaba.org.

About the Junior Blind: Since 1953, Junior Blind has been an innovative leader in helping people of all ages who are blind, visually impaired or multi-disabled achieve independence. Each year, Junior Blind provides services to thousands of individuals and their families through programs that offer individualized methods of early-intervention therapy, education, rehabilitation and recreation. These life-changing programs are designed to empower infants, children, teens and adults to reach their highest level of independence and self-esteem. To learn more, please visit www.juniorblind.org.