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NATIONAL POWERLIFTING CHAMPIONSHIPS LIFT OFF THIS WEEK

June 14, 2010 (Palm Springs, Calif.) – In just four days, the USA Powerlifting Men’s Open-Teen-Junior National Powerlifting Championships will be held at the Palm Springs Convention Center in Palm Springs, CA. The 113-lifter field consists of athletes at least 14 years of age who have qualified through one of many local and national events sanctioned by USA Powerlifting in 2009 and 2010.

Champions crowned at the Men’s National Powerlifting Championship will be eligible for selection to USA Powerlifting World Teams that will compete at the 2010 IPF Open World Powerlifting Championships in Johannesburg, South Africa and the 2010 IPF Sub-Junior/Junior World Powerlifting Championships in Pilsen, Czech Republic.

Beginning June 18 to June 20, the championships will draw athletes, coaches and officials from twenty-three states to Palm Springs. The Hilton Palm Springs is serving as the championship’s official host hotel. Lifting begins at 9:00 a.m. each day with the morning session and an afternoon session beginning at 1:30 p.m. The medal ceremonies will take place immediately after the lifting of each session. Individual tickets will be available to purchase at the convention center and priced at \$5 for both sessions of lifting each day.

Among the athletes competing are multi-national and world champion Wade Hooper of Baton Rouge, LA and IPF Hall of Famer and world record holder Brad Gillingham of Minneota, MN.

Four defending Open division national champions also will be competing in the event including Michael Kuhns of Whitehall, PA, Justin Walker of Flora, MS and Chris Tran and Jeff Douglas of Hattiesburg, MS..

Douglas, the oldest competitor in the competition at 47 years old, will be competing as part of what may become the sport’s most accomplished father–son duo. Twenty year old Knute Douglas, 2009 Teen national champion is a top Junior and Open division competitor.

Top competitors from California include Bench Press American record holder William Garcia of Modesto, top national competitor Erik Kasabuske of Huntington Beach and David Jurgens of Los Angeles.

USA Powerlifting has announced that it will be offering a live webcast and online scoreboard of the championships. The webcast will be shown beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Friday. “We are thrilled that we are able to present a very exciting competition to lifting fans anywhere in the world”, said championship director Lance Slaughter.

Links to the webcast and online scoreboard, list of competitors as well as a schedule of competition is available at the championship web site: www.mensnationals.com.

Also held in conjunction with the Men’s National Championships will be USA Powerlifting’s annual National Governing Body Meeting at the Hilton Palm Springs. Attended by delegates from throughout the U.S, members will hear bid presentations for future national championships, nominations for executive leadership positions and vote on various honorary awards.

About USA Powerlifting

USA Powerlifting is the premier powerlifting organization in the United States. USA Powerlifting is a member of the International Powerlifting Federation (IPF), the governing body of powerlifting internationally. The IPF is comprised of member federations from over 100 countries on six continents. USA Powerlifting is responsible for sanctioning local and regional events where lifters can compete in hopes of qualifying for the national level events. USA Powerlifting sanctions several National Championships in all age groups, giving athletes a chance to see how they fare against competitors across the country. Top competitors are selected by USA Powerlifting to compete in five IPF world championships- the World Men's and Women's Open Powerlifting Championships, World Junior and Sub-Junior Powerlifting Championships, World Master's Powerlifting Championships, the World Bench Press Championships, and World Master's Bench Press Championships. USA Powerlifting operates as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. To get information about USA Powerlifting, please visit www.usapowerlifting.com.

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