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POWERFUL ARMS MAKE JOHNNY REITMAN, 14, TOP BUTTERFLY PROSPECT

Off Season' Track on Rise

## By JIM HIGGINBOTTOM

While their elders haggle over the virtues and evils of such a move, Detroit Public League athletes, on their own time, already have returned to outstate competition.

In fact, they never have left it, although forced into "off - season" activities by league rules forbidding them and their teams from taking part in regular state interscholastic play.

But for years, Public League swimmers, golfers, baseball and tennis players have entered club and recreational department events where they could test their wares against all comers. For the past two years track-

men have followed suit in increasing numbers.

Making most of the competition available is the Suburban Track Club, an organization of "Simon Pures" which Tuesday night will stage its final meet for 1959 at 6:30 on the Birmingham High field.

## NEW CLUBS ENTER

Over 150 runners are expected for the twilight meet which will be run in two

classes — novice (16 and under) and open.

ing, among others, the Detroit Track Club, the Detroit Police Department, and newly - organized clubs in "Yet their athletes always Lincoln Park, Birmingham and St. Clair Shores. A delegation also is expected from Flint. Unattached runners are welcomed.

"Interested people in Detroit have been trying to get

the Public School League back into state meets for Athletes will be represent- years." said Fred McGlone. Livonia Bentley coach and one of five founders of the suburban club.

> have competed against youngsters from out of the league in many sports in the off season. We are providing them with the same opportunity in track."

The club. of course, isn't for the sole benefit of "imprisoned" Public School League trackmen. Its purpose is much more far-reaching than that.

"The whole idea of our club and others like it is to provide all boys with more chances to compete in track," Mc-Glone, a transplanted Easterner, explained. "The boys

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appreciate it. too.	; ;
The recent amazing track	•
and field performances	
turned in by teen-age stars	t 1. <b>j</b> m
throughout the nation makes	
the idea seem pretty solid.	
"Look at that 19-year-old	E VI
kid from Oregon, that (Dyrol)	
Burleson, who beat the Rus-	i ii
sians in the 1,500 meters at	
Philadelphia," McGlone said.	4
"That shows you what young-	С
sters can do if they have	
enough chances to run-	tr
BLAMES COLLEGES	a
"For that matter, look at	<b>O</b>
Warren Cawley (Farming-	ti
ton High hurdles star now in	•
Europe with a U.S. track	b
squad). He shows what type	
of boys this area could pro-	с
duce if people would get be-	• •
hind amateur track around	
here." McClone has very definite	: P
McGlone has very definite	F
views on what's wrong with track in Michigan. They are	h
not unsupported.	it
"Michigan track has been	tl
going downhill for years," he	tl
offered. "because the big col-	$\mathbf{C}^{\dagger}$
lege coaches here have been	
thinking of themselves so	S1
much that they forgot talent	U U

THEY LIKE DISTANCE — Suburban Track Club meets this summer have attracted a number of top distance runners from this area. These two-milers relax after a tough race. From left are Bernd Klopfer, of Wayne; Dave. Pew, of Birmingham; Jerry Bocci, formerly of Denby and now of Western Michigan University, and Frank Carissimi, of Denby.-News Photo.

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has to be developed. "Now they go West and East, where boys run more, and even to foreign countries. for runners. It's their own fault for not supporting programs that help boys here." A

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