

Media Alert

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**Just Back from Taking Second Place At World Championships,
Carl H. Lindner YMCA Double Dutch Jump Ropers
Have One Final Practice – June 25 – Before Heading To Disney World
For National Championships**

They bring crowds to their feet everywhere they go. With fancy jumps and spins, ropes turning at awe inspiring speed, the Carl H. Lindner YMCA double dutch jump roping team has already caught world wide attention. Now the group that has been featured in the hit Disney movie 'Jump In' and just returned from the World Championship with a close second place finish is preparing to head to the National Championships at Orlando's Disney World this weekend. Their last practice will be Wednesday, June 25 from 10:30 a.m. until about Noon at the Carl H. Lindner YMCA (1425B Linn Street; 45214).

For more than 12 years, the Carl H. Lindner YMCA has been sending teams of children and youth to the world championships (presented by the American Double Dutch League), many years coming home with medals. The high school division team (that will be competing in the open division this weekend) has been named world champions in 2006 and twice placed second. One jump in the single speed competition (382 jumps for Carl H. Lindner vs 383 jumps for Stan's Pepper Steppers in two minutes time) was all that stood between first and second place at the 2008 World Championships in South Carolina.

This year marks only the second time, the local YMCA branch will be competing in the National Championships (presented by the United States Jump Rope Federation League) – the last time was in 2006 when they placed second - and they are working to come home with a win. More than 2000 people, from 3rd grade through adults, are expected to be competing in teams at this weekend's event.

Double dutch jump roping has developed into an important program offered through several branches of the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati as an opportunity to instill positive character values, strong work ethics, a sense of teamwork, and healthy bodies in young people. The Powel Crosley Jr. YMCA and Skyline Community Center (managed by the Clippard Family YMCA) also had teams that competed and won awards at the recent World Championship. (Five other teams from the Carl H. Lindner YMCA were also there.)

With more than 83,000 members across the Tri-State, the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati has grown to operate 111 program child care, CincyAfterSchool, and 21st Century Community Learning sites in addition to its 17 branches and summer camp locations. The Association is the largest non-governmental, non-profit community services organization in this area that is committed to helping everyone reach their God-given potential in spirit, mind, and body – regardless of their ability to pay. Each year tens of thousands of people from children to seniors are able to participate in YMCA programs and services because of financial assistance, including health and wellness, active older adult programs, youth and teen camp, swimming and water safety lessons, teen achievers, college readiness, and job preparedness. In 2007, nearly 10,000 kids participated with YMCA scholarships. The annual Strong Kids Campaign helps make that possible.

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