

IHSA GIRLS & BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RULES BULLETIN

(Last Revised August 5, 2020)



INTRODUCTORY NOTE: This bulletin has been prepared to give you a quick study guide for the upcoming Cross Country Season. Complete information will be included in the Terms & Conditions and the Manual for Schools on the IHSA Cross Country Website OR through the IHSA Schools Center. **The Following Information** deserves your special attention. If you have questions about official interpretations or recommendations for rule changes for next year, please email IHSA Assistant Executive Director Kraig Garber (kgarber@ihsa.org).

INFORMATIONAL TOOLS FOR COACHES AND OFFICIALS

1. Keep your **personal information** current in the IHSA Schools and Officials Center. This is how IHSA communicates with you during the season. You must check the IHSA Schools & Officials Center frequently during the season to complete IHSA coaching and official's requirements.
2. Head Coaches and Officials must view the **Online Rules Interpretation Presentation** (Schools & Officials Center)
3. **Manual for Schools:** Our Girls and Boys Cross Country Sport Activity pages on the IHSA Website have an abundance of information regarding the IHSA Cross Country Season and State Series.
4. **Do Not Ignore emails RECEIVED from the IHSA Office.** If you are receiving email notifications from our office, do not ignore them. You may be risking your eligibility. As a coach and official we require/expect for you to meet all deadlines to remain eligible.
5. **Important Dates/Deadlines for Cross Country:** Please refer to the online Manual for Schools and/or login to IHSA Schools and Officials Center

2020 IHSA CHANGES approved prior to Covid-19: **REGIONALS, SECTIONALS & STATE FINAL TBD**

1. **IHSA** will be using athletic.net for submitting list of participants for schools entering team rosters or individual entries. Complete instructions/procedures will be outlined in the manual for schools and managers.
2. **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**
Section VI. Tournament Assignments
B. Class 2A Series
A total of twelve (12) regional meets will be created with three (3) regional meets assigned to a correlated sectional. There will be four (4) 2A sectionals.
C. Class 3A Series
A total of twelve (12) regional meets will be created with three (3) regional meets assigned to a correlated sectional. There will be four (4) 3A sectionals.
Section VII. Advancement of Winners
B. Sectional to State Final:
In Class 1A the first six (6) placing teams and the first ten (10) runners who are not members of the first six (6) placing teams in each Sectional will advance to the State Final meet.
In Class 2A and 3A the first seven (7) placing teams and the first ten (10) runners who are not members of the first seven (7) placing teams in each Sectional will advance to the State Final meet.

NFHS CROSS COUNTRY RULE CHANGES

<https://www.nfhs.org/sports-resource-content/track-and-field-cross-country-rules-changes-2020/>

IHSA CROSS COUNTRY TERMS & CONDITIONS CHANGES

To view changes, please review the Cross Country Advisory Committee Minutes through the following link:
<https://www.ihsa.org/documents/adv%20minutes/19-20/20-cc-minutes.pdf>

IHSA IMPORTANT REMINDERS

1. As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the IHSA Board of Directors modified all sports seasons. Due to these modifications and the fluid nature of this situation, the IHSA Board also established that all IHSA State Series Events are to be determined. We will do everything we can to conduct some form of a State Series. Details will be forthcoming.
2. Please visit the IHSA Cross Country Webpage for guidelines on conducting a meet during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

3. **Video Replay and Television Monitoring Equipment:** Use of video replay or television monitoring equipment from sources other than equipment approved by the IHSA (or meet manager) WILL NOT be used to make decisions related to the state series meets. Only IHSA state meet officials, including the games committee (when called upon by the meet referee to do so), will have the authority to review ONLY the IHSA official video results. It is also required for the host to have available a finish line camera for the purpose of "required IHSA official video review" at all regional and sectional meets. Video review will be used as the primary method of determining the outcome of all races at the regional, sectional and state final meets. The Meet Referee and IHSA officials will review the finish line video of each regional, sectional and state final race to facilitate accurate scoring of each race.

At post season events, elaborate, multi-camera systems are not necessary. A single, well positioned camera IS satisfactory. Host schools must consult the IHSA MEET REFEREE to determine the appropriate position and angle of the finish line camera.

Regional/Sectional Video Review: The host school conducting all regional and sectional events must provide some form of video review of the finish line. This video review can be as simple as one video camera and one monitor (television or computer, etc.) or as sophisticated as the host school chooses. Placement of this camera is critical. Please consider its placement (height, angle, etc.) carefully. Meet managers must consult the Meet Referee as the decision regarding camera placement is considered. Only the FINISH LINE VIDEO PROVIDED BY meet management WILL be used to review the finish of any race. The ASSIGNED IHSA Meet Referee will review the video of the finish of race to facilitate accurate scoring of each race. Only the IHSA MEET REFEREE and MEET MANAGEMENT may view the finish line video (the games committee may also view the video, but only if invited to do so by the MEET REFEREE).

IHSA CROSS COUNTRY IMPORTANT DATES: Dates following the Officials and Coaches Rules Meeting Presentation deadlines in 2020-2021 are fluid and subject to change due to Covid-19. Please refer to the IHSA Calendar on www.ihsa.org Homepage for your latest updated calendar.

- August 10:** Practice may begin
- August 11:** *First date of Officials Online Part 1 exam/Rules Presentation begin through the IHSA School & Officials Center.
- August 11:** **Coaches can begin adding their Roster to Athletic.net**
- August 24:** 1st Contest Date.
*Cross Country Manual posted (School's Center and Cross Country Activity web pages).
- September 11:** School Participation Team/Individual Entry Deadline
- September 15:** Online Rules Presentation/Officials Exams deadline. Official's availability calendar deadline/Probation and Suspension calculated.
- State Series Dates and Deadlines are TBD**
- December 2:** Advisory Committee Meeting

IHSA Cross Country Contact Information

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