

**OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
SOUTHWEST DISTRICT
2023 BOYS AND GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY RULES & REGULATIONS**

ALL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION MUST BE SENT BY TOURNAMENT MANAGERS TO COMPETING SCHOOLS BY SEPTEMBER 22, 2023.

1. Divisions I at the Voice of America Park will be open races consisting of two races. Division II & III races at the Voice of America Park will consist of one race. All races in Divisions I, II, and III at Cedarville University will be open races consisting of one race which is comprised of two groups. All online voting materials for Divisions I and II at VOA will be emailed to the Athletic Director who will provide this information to his coach. The coach will make his comments pertinent to his team online from Sunday, October 1, to Wednesday, October 4, 2023. Online voting will begin on Thursday, October 5, 2023. Each coach must vote online by Saturday, noon, October 7, 2023. The coaches will meet on Sunday, October 8, 2023, 2:00 p.m. The tournament manager will distribute in written form the seed voting of all coaches at the beginning of the coaches' meeting. Ties will be broken prior to the placement of teams in the tournament. All ties will be broken prior to the placement of teams on the brackets. By board action, starting with the 2021-22 tournaments, ties will be broken as follows:

10.a.1.) The team that receives the most individual votes at the tied position or above shall receive the higher seed.

10.a.2.) If the results are still tied, the tie shall be broken by a coin toss. The school that calls the toss shall be the first one to appear in the alphabet (official school name without the respective city name ahead of it unless the city name is part of the official school name), going from A to Z in even-numbered years and Z to A in odd-numbered years

Teams will place themselves in the race of their choice as long as spots are available. A nearly equal number of teams will compete in each race.

By board action, the coach can not vote for his school in the seeding process, and the highest and lowest votes for each school will be dropped. Also, the coach that does not vote will have his next highest vote dropped as well.

If any team does not show up at the tournament placement meeting, the manager will place that team on behalf of the school. When it is time for the absent team to select, based on the seed, the manager will place the team into the race with the most available spots.

By board action, starting with the 2022-23 tournaments, Passing shall be permitted as follows:

- The number of schools advancing to the district tournament may pass
- All others must place themselves on the bracket when their seed is called

Per action of the State Board of Directors, the following fine structure is in place:

Failure to submit seeding information when prescribed by OHSAA regulations. Fine of \$50.00.

Failure for coach, administrator, or authorized team representative to attend the tournament draw meeting. The tournament manager shall attempt to call the head coach and/or athletic administrator from the school(s) not present in order for a representative from the missing school(s) to participate in the tournament draw/seed meeting electronically/virtually. If no one attends - Fine is \$150.00.

Failure to show up for tournament contest/refusal to finish a contest which has been started and suspended for any reason. Fine of \$150.00 plus cost of officials, site expenses, and team expenses incurred by opposing team, except for presale ticket revenue.

2. With the capabilities of MyOHSAA, the manager will secure the eligibility form electronically
3. To be counted in team standings, a team must start and finish a minimum of five (5) eligible runners.
4. Cross Country Managers shall utilize rated track officials.

5. District Managers will e-mail the Financial Report to District Board Treasurer: Joe Roberts, SWDAB-treas@ohsaa.org
6. Each District Manager is responsible to notify participating schools as to the time District Meets will be run.
7. Tickets for all district races will be sold online through HomeTown Ticketing at www.ohsaa.org/tickets. Gate sales are permitted but will be done electronically via HomeTown Ticketing provided the event is not sold out. No cash sales are permitted per OHSAA rules. Ticket prices will be:
 - a. Admission for all sectional and district tournaments are:
 - Student (6 years old +) - **\$5.00**
 - Adults - **\$8.00**
 - Children under the age of five (5) are provided complimentary admission
 - A **\$10.00** Cash only option may be offered at tournament sites but not required
 - b. School Administrators Passes: Each participating school will receive complimentary admission for three school administrators, digitally, through HomeTown Ticketing. One digital code will be provided to each school. Each code will have three tickets attached to the code. The same code will be utilized, as a school advances in the tournament. **There is no admittance without a QR code from HTT.**
8. A parking charge of \$5.00 is permitted provided that it is at a high school venue and a high school club or organization is collecting the money and proceeds are clearly communicated on where funds are being deposited.
9. **BOYS AND GIRLS DISTRICT MEETS** are to be conducted on Saturday, October 21, 2023, with qualifiers from each District Meet to the Regional Meet as follows. Girls races will be conducted first in each division, followed by boys.

<u>DIVISION I DISTRICTS</u>	<u>BOYS</u>		<u>GIRLS</u>
West Chester	5	teams	5
West Chester	5	teams	5
Cedarville	8	teams	7
 <u>DIVISION II DISTRICTS</u>			
West Chester	6	teams	5
Cedarville	8	teams	8
 <u>DIVISION III DISTRICTS</u>			
West Chester	4	teams	4
Cedarville	8	teams	7

10. **Weather Policy**

Monitor Weather Patterns – Be aware of potential thunderstorms by monitoring local weather forecasts the day before and morning of the competition, and by scanning the sky for signs of potential thunderstorm activity.

National Weather Service – Weather can also be monitored using small, portable weather radios from the NWS. The NWS uses a system of severe storm watches and warnings watch indicates conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop in an area; a warning indicates severe weather has been reported in an area, and everyone should take proper precautions. Any thunderstorm poses a risk of injury or death even if it does not meet the criteria for severe weather. Therefore, anytime thunderstorms are in the forecast (even if it is only a 20 percent chance), event organizers should be at a heightened level of awareness to the potential danger of lightning.

Evacuation - If lightening is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators shall evacuate to available safe structures or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced and displayed on placards at all athletic venues.

Thirty-minute rule - Competition or practice shall be suspended once lightning has been recognized or thunder is heard. It is mandatory to wait at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard prior to resuming practice or competition. Given the average rates of thunderstorm travel, the storm should move 10-12 miles away from the area. This significantly reduces the risk of local lightning flashes.

Any subsequent lightning or thunder after the beginning of the 30-minute count shall reset the clock, and Another count shall begin.

Rev. 9-18-23