**38th Annual John Kurtz “Early Bird” Cross Country Invitational**

**Saturday, September 1, 2018**

**Hosted by Fenton High School**

Welcome to the 38th annual John Kurtz “Early Bird” Invitational. Fenton High School looks forward to your participation; we will try and provide a quality invitational for all athletes, coaches, and spectators.

Please review the following information carefully.

**Races and Meet Schedule:** All Races are 3 miles

 9:00 a.m. Varsity Girls 7 Runner Limit

 9:30 a.m. Varsity Boys 7 Runner Limit

 10:00 a.m. Fr/So Girls Unlimited Entries

 10:35 a.m. Fr/So Boys Unlimited Entries \*Please note the change in race format

 11:10 a.m. Girl’s Open Unlimited Entries

 11:45 p.m. Boy’s Open Unlimited Entries

**Participating Schools and Starting Box Assignments:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Addison Trail | 23 |  | Lake Park | 27 |
| Buffalo Grove | 26 |  | Leyden | 1 |
| Conant | 6 |  | Maine East | 7 |
| DePaul College Prep | 25 |  | Notre Dame (Boys) | 21 |
| Downers Grove North (Girls) | 3 |  | Oak Park – River Forest | 8 |
| Downers Grove South (Girls) | 22 |  | Prospect | 20 |
| Fenton | 13 |  | Proviso West | 24 |
| Fremd (Girls) | 17 |  | Resurrection (Girls) | 14 |
| Glenbard East (Girls) | 2 |  | St. Francis | 9 |
| Glenbard West (Boys) | 2 |  | Taft | 19 |
| Glenbrook South (Girls) | 5 |  | Timothy Christian | 11 |
| Grant | 15 |  | Trinity (Girls) | 21 |
| Hersey | 18 |  | Vernon Hills | 12 |
| Hoffman Estates (Boys) | 10 |  | Wheaton Academy | 16 |
| Hononegah (Girls) | 10 |  | Wheeling | 4 |

**Entries and Rosters:**

Racing Expectations will be scoring the meet this year. Please submit your team rosters, **in an Excel File**, to info@racingexpectations.com. Please label your email with your school name and team gender in the subject.

For example, the subject should read: “Fenton Early Bird Rosters – Fenton Boys”

In the excel file, please include: First Name

 Last Name

 Year in School

 School

 Gender

 **Deadline for Entries: Sunday, August 25 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Meet Packet Pick-up and Hospitality:**

Coaches will be able to pick-up meet packets and materials in the Field House, which is located just south of the start-finish area. Coffee, donuts, and bagels will be available to all coaches in the Field House near the packet pickup.

**Course Description:**

Maps of the course are enclosed; the course is composed of one small “loop” followed by two big “loops.” The repeated “loops” of the course will be marked by a solid blue line. All turns will also be marked by flags. Red flags designate lefts turns, yellow flags designate right turns, and blue flags designate where runners will continue straight. Throughout the course trees and fences are also used as “natural” turn flags. The solid blue line is to be followed in these instances.

From the dual starting lines, runners will head northwest towards Route 83. As they pass between the fence opening of the softball diamonds, the runners will angle to their right and then turn left around the north side of the domed baseball back stop (this turn is marked by a red-blue-blue flag). The runners will then follow the solid blue line to complete one small loop and two big loops of course.

On fourth time going through the fence opening, runners will head directly east into our finish “alley” and across the finish line. The finish line will be clearly marked with a clock visible for athletes and spectators. Please encourage your athletes to run through both timing pads at the finish line to ensure their time and place is recorded properly.

 The 880 yard, 1-mile, 1.5 mile, 2-mile, and 2.5 mile distances will also be clearly marked for runners to see. Clocks displaying time splits will also be present at the 1-mile and 2-mile marks.

**Viewing the Race:**

Spectators are free to roam throughout the course in order to view the progress of the race. If they move back and forth across the start-finish area they will be able to see the athletes pass by approximately six times. We ask all athletes and spectators to use caution whenever they are approaching or crossing the race course. It is our goal as meet officials to allow all athletes the best opportunities to complete their races unimpeded and to avoid any injuries. In the start-finish area, there are white “spectator” lines on either side of the blue course line. Please encourage all supporters to remain behind these lines whenever runners are competing.

Please be aware our home course is bordered on the north side by the Canadian Pacific Railway; a line that is used by both passenger and freight trains daily. There is no fence or barrier separating our school campus from these railroad tracks. **Please tell all athletes and spectators it is illegal to cross (or walk on) any railroad tracks except at designated a pedestrian crossing**.

**Awards and Awards Ceremony:**

 Varsity Girls 4 Team Trophies 25 Individual Plaques

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 Girls Open 20 Individual Ribbons

 Boy Open 20 Individual Ribbons

Our award ceremony will take place in our Field House upon the completion of the Boys Open race. The top 10 individual finishers in the first four races will be announced and receive their awards at the awards ceremony. Individual finishers 11 through 25 (in the first four races) and all Open race ribbons winners can pick up their awards at a table located in the Field House approximately 30 minutes after the completion of their race.

**Results:**

We will attempt to post results throughout the day, upon the completion of each race. Printed results will be available for coaches at the completion of the awards ceremony. All results will also be posted online at racingexpectations.com.

**Parking:**

Parking will be available for spectators in either of the two south lots in front of the school (on Grove Ave.) or on the east side of the building (on Henderson St.). Team busses and vans can drop off at the northeast corner of the campus (at the corner of Henderson St. and Green St.). After drop off, busses and vans will park on the south side (front side) of the school. Only meet officials and Fenton H.S. personnel will be allowed to park in the lot on the north side of the school.

**Restrooms:**

Restroom facilities are located inside the school on the south side of our Field House in the school’s back hallway; they are most easily reached by walking through the fieldhouse. No locker room facilities will be made available to athletes or coaches.

**Medical Aid:**

Our athletic trainers will be on duty throughout the meet. They will be located either in the start-finish area or in the Trainer’s Room; which is located in the Northwest corner of the Field House.

**Concessions and T-Shirt Sales:**

Our Bison Boosters Club will be operating a concession stand for the convenience of athletes and spectators in the field house. John Kurtz Early Bird T-shirts will also be on sale through our athletic department.