

New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association

1161 Route 130 North P.O. Box 487 Robbinsville, NJ 08691-0487

2011 Cross-Country Committee

Meeting Minutes: Page **1** of **3**

Members Present: Carl Rickershauser (State Rules Interpreter), Jim Casey (Central Section Director), Ed Colona (South Section Director), Wayne Letwink (North II Section Director), Lou Fraulo (North I Section Director), Steve Shaklee (Boys cross-country coach – Cherokee HS), Tim Grant (Girls cross-country coach – Pingry School), John Martin (Boys cross-country coach – Westfield), Don Danser (NJSIAA staff) and Len Pietrewicz (Observer). Absent: Justine Cassavell (Girls cross-country coach – Voorhees), Pete Bruno (Executive Committee Representative)

Meeting called to order at 9:30 am at the NJSIAA Headquarters in Robbinsville. A moment of silence was held for Jim Camburn, long-time member of this committee and director of the South Section.

Ed Colona was appointed to take Jim's place as South Section Director.

It was generally agreed that the tournament went very well, in spite of the unusual snow storm that "took out" the parks of North I, forcing the North I meet to be held in Thompson Park (Monroe Township). We cannot thank Thompson Park enough for accommodating this meet on such short notice. Also enough cannot be said about the hard work of Lou Fraulo and Jim Casey to make sure the "double-header" went off without any problems. The coaches, athletes, administrators and spectators, especially of North I, are to be commended for their positive attitudes in helping to make a poor situation turn out to be a good experience for all involved.

There was no correspondence to report on, other than a few concerns from North I coaches when it became apparent that Garrett Mountain was not going to be able to host the meet. Our primary concern was to find a site as close to North I geographically as possible and one that most runners would be familiar with, once it was clear that virtually all the parks in the North I area suffered the same fate as Garrett and could not guarantee that they would be "fixed" in time. Our number one priority was to keep the meet on Saturday, since we were aware of the many disruptions in the cross-country schedule this snow storm caused those in the north of the State. Our first choice was Holmdel Park who said that the park could not be available on such short notice for several reasons. Thompson Park gave us the o.k on Wednesday before the meet, provided we could hire outside police because their rangers were committed to helping with traffic, etc. surrounding the Rutgers home football game. Monroe Township police agreed to work the meet and the rest is history.

The only other discussion concerned the Awards Ceremony at the Group Meet. It was noted that schools who had both boys and girls had a difficult time being at the awards and watching the other finish his/her race. The solution to this problem may lie in the location of the stage where the awards are presented. It was suggested that the stage be moved to the finish line area, rather than the starting line. This would make it easier, logistically, for those with both boys and girls teams running. The stage is where it is because it needs electricity to open the stage and to power the public address system. That power is only available at its present site by the pond behind the starting line. However, we do use

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generators at the finish line to power the timing system, so we could do the same for the mobile stage. If the park will allow us, we will move the stage to the finish line area. If this is not allowed, we will adjust the time schedule to give more time between the awards ceremonies.

Changes in the tournament Regulations:

Page 1: Transfers on or after October 13, 2011, will not be eligible for post-season play.

Start of the official practice season will again be August 15, 2012,

as per Executive Committee vote.

The opening date for competition will be September 6, 2012.

Page 2: Section date: November 3, 2012

Starting times at all sites:

10:00 am	Group III Boys	11:40 am	Group IV Boys
10:25 am	Group II Boys	12:05 pm	Group I Boys
10:50 am	Group III Girls	12:30 pm	Group IV Girls
11:15 am	Group II Girls	12:55 pm	Group I Girls

Page 3: North I Site (barring snow or other disaster) will be Garrett Mountain on November 3, 2012.

Entries will close Wednesday, October 17, 2012. School list will be revised according to 2012-2013 Cross-Country Group Classifications

North II Site – Same changes as North I

Page 4: Central Site: Date: November 3, 2012. Entries close, October 17, 2012.

South – Same changes as Central. New Meet Director: Ed Colona. Cell: 609-381-8615
e-mail: ecolona@comcast.net

Page 5: State Group Meet Date: November 10, 2012

Entries Close Public Schools: October 17, 2012. Non-Public Schools: October 24, 2012

Page 6: 2012 National Federation Track and Field Rules

Page 7: For the 2012/2013 seasons, Team IP is the designated vendor

Page 9: State Group Meet: November 10, 2012

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Starting Times:

10:00 am	N-P B	Boys	11:40 am	Group I	Boys	1:20 pm	Group II	Boys
10:25 am	N-P A	Boys	12:05 pm	Group IV	Boys	1:45 pm	Group III	Boys
10:50 am	N-P B	Girls	12:30 pm	Group I	Girls	2:10 pm	Group II	Girls
11:15 am	N-P A	Girls	12:55 pm	Group IV	Girls	2:35 pm	Group III	Girls

Page 10: If the stage is located behind the finish line, 15 minutes will be added to the schedule below; otherwise, the schedule will be as follows:

10:50 am	N-P B	Boys	12:30 pm	Group I	Boys	2:10 pm	Group II	Boys
11:15 am	N-P A	Boys	12:55 pm	Group IV	Boys	2:35 pm	Group III	Boys
11:40 am	N-P B	Girls	1:20 pm	Group I	Girls	3:00 pm	Group II	Girls
12:05 pm	N-P A	Girls	1:45 pm	Group IV	Girls	3:25 pm	Group III	Girls

State Championship (Meet of Champions): Date: November 17, 2012

Schedule: 11:00 am Boys Championship Race

11:45 am Girls Championship Race

12:30 pm – Awards Ceremony (Starting with boys)

Foul weather plan for Meet of Champions (3rd Saturday of November)

Because of the nature of the meet (2 races lasting about an hour and a half), and the number of spectators, roughly 3,000, any “alternate” parking plan involving shuttle bussing is not feasible. The nearest “walking” off-site parking is Holmdel High School, which is already being used to park the team busses (approximately 75 in number).

Therefore, the following is proposed.

If current and/or predicted weather conditions indicate that a postponement will be necessary, the Park must notify the NJSIAA by 12:00 noon on the Friday before. The Park will decide which of the following postponement dates will be used, depending on actual and/or predicated weather for the weekend:

1. Postponed to Sunday afternoon: 2:00 pm and 2:45 pm race times
2. Postponed to Monday afternoon: 3:00 pm and 3:30 pm race times
3. Postponed to Tuesday afternoon 3:00 pm and 3:30 pm race times

Since the Thanksgiving Holiday is this week, going beyond Tuesday does not seem to be practical. However, if conditions warrant, it would be considered.

This language will be placed in all future contracts with officials, the ambulance company, Holmdel Police, and trainers. Everyone involved with the event should check the NJSIAA website in case of inclement weather happening or predicted for Thursday through the weekend to be sure the meet is going to take place as scheduled.

Pages 12-15: Changes may occur to the Holmdel Park Regulations. These are usually made, if any, after January 1, 2012.

Page 16: Public School Deadline: October 17, 2012
Non-Public School Deadline: October 24, 2012