



Cross Country

Sport Information

Sport Director

Homar Ramirez, NCISAA Executive Director, hramirez@ncisaa.org

Regular Season Information

In-Season Activities

- In-season practice with a school coach present - in any sport - is prohibited outside the sport seasons designated in the following table. (Summers are exempt.)

Fall Season	Monday, Aug 3, 2026	Friday, October 30, 2026

Game Limits

Cross Country	15 Contests

Out-of-Season Activities

- Out-of-season activities are allowed, but are subject to the following:
 - Dead Periods:
 - Only apply to sports not in season.
 - Out-of-Season activities are not allowed during the following periods:

Season	Period
Fall	Starts the first week of fall season through August 31st.
Winter	Starts 1 week prior to the first day of the winter sport season and extends 3 weeks after Nov. 1.
Spring	Starts 1 week prior to the second Monday of February and extends 3 weeks after the second Monday of February.
May	Starts on the spring seeding meeting date and extends through the final spring state championship.

Sport Rules

- National Federation of High Schools Rules (NFHS)
 - The NCISAA is an affiliate member of the NFHS.
 - National Federation High School rules apply when NCISAA rules do not cover a particular application.
 - Visit www.nfhs.org to find sport specific rules and annual updates.
- It is important for athletic directors and coaches to annually review rules changes each season. Rule Books are also available for online purchase on the NFHS website.

Postseason Information

Meet Director- Brett Honeycutt, Metrolina Christian Academy

Dates & Sites-

Intent to Run	Friday, September 25, 2026	by 12:00 Noon
Entry Deadline	Sunday, October 25, 2026	by 12:00 Noon
Championships	Friday, October 30, 2026	@ McAlpine Park, Charlotte, NC

Letters of Intent and Rosters:

1. Intent to Run must be indicated by Friday, September 25, 12:00 Noon, by accepting the invitation to join the meet on athletic.net and adding the meet to your athletic.net Season Calendar.
2. All participating athletes must be full-time students in grades 7-12.
3. Rosters with up to ten eligible runners must be entered on athletic.net by Sunday, October 25, 12:00 Noon.
4. Coaches may make initial entries and changes to entries from August 1 until October 25 at 12:00 Noon.
- 5a. 2A, 3A, and 4A teams may race any seven of the ten listed entries on race day.
- 5b. 1A teams may race any five of the ten listed entries on race day.
6. Please contact Brett Honeycutt (Metrolina Christian Academy) with questions concerning www.athletic.net.

Team Scores:

1. The Cross Country meet for all classifications (boys and girls) will be held on the same date and at the same site.
2. Team points will be decided by the position each runner attains against other teams not including individual runners.
3. Individuals receive credit for their finish, but places are not counted against team scores.
- 4a. 2A, 3A and 4A: To qualify as a full team you must have at least five runners and no more than seven runners. The first five will score for their team and 6 and 7 will displace. Teams racing more than seven runners will be disqualified.
- 4b. 1A: To qualify as a full team you must have at least three runners and no more than five runners. The first three will score for their team and 4 and 5 will displace. Teams racing more than five runners will be disqualified.

Uniforms:

The competitor's uniform shall be school-issued or school-approved, and worn as intended by the manufacturer. All cross country team members must wear uniforms clearly indicating through predominant color, school logo and color combination of all outer garments worn as a uniform, that members are from the same team. Any visible garment(s) worn underneath the uniform top and/or bottom is considered a foundation garment; foundation garments are not subject to logo/trademark/reference or color restrictions. (2020 NFHS Rulebook)

Course:

The course will be no less than 3.0 miles and no more than 3.2 miles in length. An official must walk the course prior to the start to ensure that all markers and signs are in place.

Medical Coverage

A North Carolina State Licensed Athletic Trainer or First Responder is required for all NCISAA playoff contests.

Admission

Postseason	All Rounds
Adults	\$10.00
Children (8 and under)	Free

***Students in grades 9-12 of participating schools only are admitted free.**

Meet Schedule:

1. Based upon Intent to Run by classification.
2. There must be at least 8 teams in each classification to qualify for a championship race.

9:00am	3A Girls
9:35am	3A Boys
10:25am	3A Awards
10:10am	4A Girls
10:45am	4A Boys
11:35am	4A Awards
11:20am	1A Girls
11:55am	1A Boys
12:45pm	1A Awards
12:30pm	2A Girls
1:05pm	2A Boys
1:55pm	2A Awards

Team and Individual Participation:

1. A team member or individual entry must have competed in a minimum of four separate varsity 5K meets on four separate dates throughout the course of the current season.
2. Individuals may enter for individual honors only.
3. Placement points will be given in exact team member order.

Awards

Team	1A	2A	3A	4A
Championship Trophy	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls
Runner-Up Trophy	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls
Individual Gold Medals to Championship Team	10 Boys 10 Girls	10 Boys 10 Girls	10 Boys 10 Girls	10 Boys 10 Girls
Individual Silver Medals to Runner-Up Team	10 Boys 10 Girls	10 Boys 10 Girls	10 Boys 10 Girls	10 Boys 10 Girls

Team All-State Team (Top 11 finishers in each classification)	1A	2A	3A	4A
Plaque to Champion of State Championships	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls
Silver Medal to 2nd Place Finisher of State Championships	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls	1 Boys 1 Girls
Bronze Medals to Finishers 3-11 of State Championships	9 Boys 9 Girls	9 Boys 9 Girls	9 Boys 9 Girls	9 Boys 9 Girls