

TO: Cross Country Coaches and Athletic Directors at Birchwood, Bruce, Cadott, Clear Lake, Flambeau, Frederic/Luck, Grantsburg HS, Ladysmith MS, Lake Holcombe/Cornell, LCO, New Auburn, Prairie Farm, Shell Lake, Solon Springs, Unity, Webster,
FROM: Doug Schmitz, Bruce Athletic Director and HS Cross Country Coach,
DATE: August 30, 2020
SUBJECT: **Monday, August 31 Bruce High School Cross Country Invitational**
Thursday, September 3 Bruce Middle School Cross Country Invitational

The Twentieth Annual Bruce Cross Country Invitational is scheduled for Monday, August 31. We are hoping that this meet is a great experience for your runners. This meet will be a high school
On Monday, September 3 we will host the MS portion of this race. Looks like there will be 15 schools at each race.

I am asking that each school has a representative at the finish line to help their own schools runners. The finish line itself will be normal size, but will than fan out left and right to have more room in the chute area. Make sure athletes that are capable move away from the finish line area quickly. It will be difficult but congratulating other runners like some athletes like to do, might

ENTRY FEE \$125 per school. Please make the check out to Bruce Public Schools and Send it to the school Doug Schmitz before the race or bring it on Race Day.

If fans want to come to the race they are welcome and we ask that they wear a mask as social distancing may be difficult. We ask parents to spread out throughout the course and do not get in big groups at the start or finish lines. Please stay away from the runners. Stay in the longer grass. Please remind your parents not to bring any type of pet. (Dogs, cats, snakes, rabbits etc... This is a note from the WIAA. Thanks.

Rosters:

PTTiming will be doing the Timing for the meet. PTTiming.com or check the info sheet attached on how to enter runners.

- Online entries must be completed two (2) days prior to the event at noon (to avoid confusion, the deadline is set at 11:59 am CST) High School Race Saturday at 11:59 am and Middle school 11:59 am on Tuesday. Limited amount of runners will be able to be added on the day of the race.
- Meet entries open at noon, one (1) week prior to the deadline
- If PT Timing reopens an event due to a missed deadline, the host school and/or violating school may incur a \$50 Late Entry Fee

RACE SCHEDULE

I am moving the start time back to 4:30 for the races.

High School Races

4:10 Coaches meeting at the finish line chute area if needed.
4:30 BOYS RACE (EVEN LANES will run at one time) (5000 meters)
4:45 BOYS RACE (ODD LANES will run at one time) (5000 meters)
5:35 GIRLS RACE (EVEN LANES will run at one time) (5000 meters)
5:50 GIRLS RACE (ODD LANES will run at one time) (5000 meters)
6:30ish Awards will be modified. I probably will just send them to the schools. I am evaluating that.

Middle School around (3000 meters)

Racing will start at 4:30--Race times similar to high school. Might only be 10 minutes between races. I am evaluating and asking others. More info later

Race times will be adjusted if needed for the timing company. Runners should not report to the start line until after the previous race has started.

RACE SITE

We will be running on the Dodson's Memorial Recreational Area (just east of Bruce). If you are coming from Ladysmith, take Hwy 8 about 6 miles out of Ladysmith to Thornapple Road. Take a right onto Thornapple Road. (Thornapple Road is right before the railroad tracks and right after a big curve in the road). Dodson road is 1 mile from Hwy 8. Take a left onto Dodson Road. The golf course is on this road. (We will have signs up along the road.) If you are coming from the west, drive through Bruce and head towards Ladysmith about 3 miles. Thornapple Road is on the left, (just past the railroad tracks) take a left. There will be signs along Hwy 8 and along Thornapple Road. Follow the directions above for Thornapple Road. There is construction on Hwy 40 south of Bruce. Expect some delays. I don't think they will be done by the day of the meet. An address for a house on Dodson Road is: **W10979 Dodson Rd Ladysmith, WI 54848**

COURSE

The Course has not changed since last year. There are trails running through prairie grass along with some trail running. The girls and boys will run the same course. The running surface still has some hard to see tire ruts, making the running surface a little more uneven. They did put up a sign, on the top of the start area, so it narrows pretty quickly after the start

The course is a combination of grass and trails and a little dirt road running, the course is full of gradual hills, with no very steep hills. It is a great course to watch runners over the first part of the race. The middle school course can be seen in its entirety on one side of the road. I will try to get out maps next week.

AWARDS

10 T-shirts will be given out to the winning team members and coach in the Boys and Girls Varsity Races. Medals will be given to the top 10 places in the boys and girls varsity races and to the top 10 boys and girls in the middle school race.

Parking

Please have your parents and fans follow the parking signs to park in the field at the bottom of the hill. Buses will park at the top of the hill (same as in the past), on the right side of the road--- team vans should park before the turn along the road up on the top.

Tents and Team Areas

Set up your camps on your bus or social distance as much as possible from other teams. Runners will need to wear masks until the start of the race.

Maps and Lane Assignments

I will try to get maps to the schools before the meet, otherwise they will be in the envelope you get at the course. You will get your lane assignments the day of the meet.

No concession stand and no water at the end of the race. Please have students bring their own water.

AS OF TODAY, THE BUGS ARE BAD IN THE WOODED AREAS, IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO BRING ALONG BUG REPELLENT AND SOME KIND OF SHADE AND RAIN PROTECTION. The gnats are somewhat of a nuisance, just like everywhere else.

Bees may become a problem too, remind your kids. Make sure they inform you if they are allergic to them and what they need to do if they get stung. I have not seen any bees yet, but that could change

We will have 6 Port- a-Potties at the site. Make sure athletes bring their own hand sanitizer. No indoor bathrooms or running water. Ambulance will be onsite along with our Athletic Trainer. If athletes have problems they should see the ambulance personnel or trainer.

I hope this is all the info you will need, if not please contact me via email: schmitz@bruce.k12.wi.us

There might be more info in the upcoming days. I will be contacting schools that have hosted meets to see what changes I will need to make.

Right Now I have 15 schools at the meet