

**40<sup>th</sup> Annual John Kurtz “Early Bird” Cross Country Invitational**  
**Saturday, September 4, 2021**  
**Hosted by Fenton High School**

Welcome to the 40<sup>th</sup> 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

8:15 a.m.	Coaches Meeting	Field House
9:00 a.m.	Varsity Girls	10 Runner Limit
9:30 a.m.	Varsity Boys	10 Runner Limit
10:00 a.m.	Fr/So Girls	Unlimited Entries
10:35 a.m.	Fr/So Boys	Unlimited Entries
11:10 a.m.	Girl’s Open	Unlimited Entries
11:45 a.m.	Boy’s Open	Unlimited Entries

**Participating Schools and Starting Box Assignments:**

Addison Trail	5	IC Catholic Prep	11
Buffalo Grove	16	Lake Park	4
Conant	23	Leyden	18
DePaul College Prep	12	Maine East	15
Downers Grove North (Girls)	10	Northridge Prep (Boys)	10
Downers Grove South (Girls)	2	Notre Dame (Boys)	20
Elgin	8	Oak Park – River Forest	26
Fenton	25	Proviso West	6
Fenwick (Girls)	28	St. Francis	22
Fremd (Girls)	3	Senn	1
Glenbard East	19	Taft	14
Glenbard West (Boys)	3	Timothy Christian	13
Grant	7	Trinity (Girls)	20
Grayslake Central	27	Vernon Hills	17
Hersey	24	Wheeling	9
Hoffman Estates	21		

**Entries and Rosters:**

Racing Expectations will once again be timing and scoring the meet this year. Registration will be completed online through athletic.net. Please note the registration asks for boys and girls entries, there is no need to declare which race your athlete(s) will be participating in. You will be able to decide on race day which athletes will run each race.

**Deadline for Entries:      Sunday, August 29 at 8:00 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:**

Due to construction that occurred on our campus over the summer, we were forced to make adjustments to our course for the 2021 season. The course this year is composed of three identical loops each measuring approximately 1.0 mi. The start and finish for the course will remain the same.

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 the three 1-mile loops of the 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.

A course map has been included with the meet information. The 0.5 mile, 1.0 mile, 1.5 mile, 2.0 mile, and 2.5 mile distances will also be clearly marked for runners to see. A clock displaying time splits will also be present at the 1.0 mile mark.

## **Team Camps:**

Team camps can be set up outside, on our school campus any place not on the racing course. No team camps will be allowed inside the school building; barring inclement weather.

## **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
Varsity Boys	4 Team Trophies	25 Individual Plaques
Fr./So. Girls	4 Team Trophies	25 Individual Plaques
Fr./So. Boys	4 Team Trophies	25 Individual Plaques
Girls Open		20 Individual Ribbons
Boy Open		20 Individual Ribbons

We will not be holding an award ceremony this year as a precaution against the gathering of large crowds inside or on our bleachers. Athletes will be able to pick up their individual awards at a table located in the Field House approximately 30 minutes after the completion of their race. Team awards will be distributed to head coaches at the conclusion of the meet.

**Results:**

We will attempt to post results throughout the day, upon the completion of each race. To assist race officials with providing prompt and accurate results, please remind athletes to have their bibs visible and unobstructed as they cross the finish line. Printed results will be available for coaches at the completion of the awards ceremony. All results will also be posted online at [racingexpectations.com](http://racingexpectations.com) and will be uploaded to [athletic.net](http://athletic.net).

**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 Field House. No locker room facilities will be made available to athletes or coaches. **A reminder that all individuals who enter the school building must wear a mask at all times.** There will also be portable toilets outside on the school campus.

**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.