

2020 NATIONAL FEDERATION
CROSS COUNTRY RULES BOOK
(For Reference Purposes)

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WISCONSIN ADAPTATIONS TO NFHS RULES

Rule 8-1 A double line (painted inside and outside) and/or use of natural or artificial boundary markers as an alternative method to mark a cross country course. Flags would still be required.

Rule 8-1-1 The maximum length of a course is 5000 meters for boys and 5000 meters for girls.

Rule 8-7 (1) The use of measuring wheels on visiting courses must be used for coaching purposes only. If used to question or challenge the length of the course the coach shall be charged with "Unsportsmanlike Conduct."

(2) Any runner, coach, or team personnel who is observed tampering with a flag on the course anytime during pre-meet warm-ups, competition, or post-meet activities shall be charged with "Unsportsmanlike Conduct."

(3) Any runner who has not reported to the Clerk of Course prior to the three minute race countdown shall be charged with "Unacceptable Conduct."

STATE ASSOCIATION REGULATIONS

Rule 8-4-4 The following starting mechanics and techniques (season and WIAA tournament series) must be used at all meets:

Starters should not give instructions nor answer questions after the three-minute countdown. The information given over the public address system must be:

15 minutes to the start of the race

10 minutes to the start of the race

5 minutes to the start of the race

3 minutes to the start of the race - **All runners must have reported to the Clerk of Course**

2 minutes to the start of the race - **Runners remove sweats, coaches and non competing athletes must vacate area**

1 minute to the start of the race - **All runners must be positioned, and remain, behind the starting line**

30 seconds to the start of the race.

15 seconds to the start of the race

10 seconds countdown to 5 seconds

The **starter** will fire the gun when all runners are "**Motionless and Set.**"

If a public address system is available, the entire countdown to 5 seconds is done by the announcer. The starter will be responsible only for firing the gun when all runners are motionless and set.

*WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
Stevens Point, Wisconsin*

Other than music used by meet management, noisemakers and audible music will not be allowed at or near the starting line (earbuds are allowed).

Rule 4-3-1 Uniforms/Equipment:

(1) Headwear - the only allowed head coverings are knit caps/headbands (ear warmers) which may be solid or multi-colored. School names, nicknames and mascots are allowed, along with a manufacturer's logo. Items covering the entire head such as scarves, bandannas, do-rags, baseball caps, etc., may not be worn during competition. Waivers for other head coverings may be issued for religious or medical situations by the WIAA Staff.

(2) Athletes must compete using the defined appropriate shoes/spikes. Spikes, if allowed, may NOT be longer than 1/2 inch - Rule 8-6-1a(3)

(3) The identical uniform rule applies to all varsity and nonvarsity teams.

Coaches must report to their school administration within 48 hours following a contest any player or coach ejection. School administrators must then report the ejection to the WIAA via written communication within three (3) school days following the contest. The written communication must also include a plan of action to prevent future ejections. Officials will continue to provide electronic reports to the WIAA.

OFFICIALS

a. One WIAA licensed official (referee-starter) is required, but two are recommended for all interscholastic competition.

b. The required official's uniform/equipment is:

- (1) Shirt - Black and white striped.
- (2) Slacks/shorts - Black.
- (3) Shoes/laces/socks/belt - Black or white.
- (4) A .32 caliber starting gun and shells.
- (5) Ear plugs and whistle on a lanyard.
- (6) A bright colored sleeve to wear on the forearm used to shoot the gun.

2020 NFHS COVID ADAPTATIONS

8-1-3a: Consider widening the course to at least 6 feet at its narrowest point.

