Dear Cross Country Coaches and Athletic Directors-

We have just a few items to address prior to the start of practice on Monday, August 9.

1) The online cross country rules meeting is now available through Varsity Bound. Athletic directors, you will need to create and assign your head cross country coaches to your school in order for your coaches to access this meeting. Here is a link to help with that process: [https://intercom.help.varietybound/en/articles/5149490-inviting-administrators-athletic-staff-and-coaches](https://intercom.help/varitybound/en/articles/5149490-inviting-administrators-athletic-staff-and-coaches) If you are having issues creating an account, please use the green chat box in the lower right hand side of [https://ia.varietybound.com/](https://ia.varietybound.com/) to communicate directly with the Varsity Bound staff. If the meeting doesn’t appear automatically after logging into the site, please click on the IHSAA or IGHSAU logo respectively to access the meeting. Coaches have until Thursday, August 26 to view the rules meeting. Head coaches who do not view the meeting will not be able to coach in the state qualifying meet or state meet.

2) At the current time, we are not planning on implementing statewide COVID-19 protocols. If the situation were to change later in the season, we will communicate with coaches and ADs.

3) All 7-12 cross country coaches (head, assistant, paid, volunteer) are reminded to view the NFHS course, “Concussion in Sports,” prior to first day of practice. Viewing this course is a requirement from the BOEE. Coaches who do not view this course are at risk to potentially losing their coaching authorization. If you have any questions regarding this requirement or course, please contact Todd Tharp or Chelsea Clark at the IHSAA office.

4) Preliminary classifications are listed both the IHSAA and
IGHSAU web sites. [https://www.iahsaa.org/classifications/cross-country/](https://www.iahsaa.org/classifications/cross-country/) The preliminary classifications do not consider schools sharing for one gender and not the other when it comes to finding the break point for each classification. Please take a look at the classification list to see if your school is listed correctly for either having or not having a sharing agreement. Just a reminder that schools wishing to enter or dissolve a cooperative agreement must do so by 5:00 PM, Friday, August 13.

5) All athletic directors and boys and girls coaches were sent this email. Please check the online directory via Varsity Bound to make sure the correct name(s) and corresponding email addresses are entered for your head coaches, as we will send multiple memos during the season and want to make sure that all interested parties receive the information.

Have a great start to the season on the 9th. If any questions come up during the season, please do not hesitate to contact either office.

Jared Chizek
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Gary Ross
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