

Suburban Parochial League Cross Country 2020 Season Notes

I. **Call To Order/Attendance/Contact List Up-Date:**

Under the SPLCC's *Rules & Procedures*, the membership should have met on Tuesday, October 27. However due to mandated COVID-19 safety issues for "in person" meetings and the difficulty of conducting an online "Zoom" meeting with 30-member schools, in lieu of meeting I've opted to provide these "notes" on the 2020 season.

II. **Attendance/Contact List Up-Date**

As this report is being sent to all contacts it is assumed that all member schools have attended and meet the attendance requirement. In addition, a copy of the most recent Contact List is attached for any up-dates or corrections.

III. **Opening Remarks:**

With the COVID-19 cancellation of Fall sports by the Chicago Archdiocese seven (7) of the SPLCC's member schools were automatically eliminated from competing during the 2020 cross country season. The remaining 23 Joliet Diocese member schools initially had their season suspended, but reversed course when (a) the IESA lifted its suspension and (b) the proactive efforts of Ed Sullivan and the League's Rules & Events Committee via drafting its "*Return to Play Protocols*."

The SPLCC's *Protocols* were provided to the League's athletic directors and principals and schools given the option to compete or suspend their cross country programs. Eight (8) schools opted to participate, but under conditions that were significantly different from a normal season to include COVID-19 testing at both practices and meets, wearing masks and social distancing, limiting the number of athletes, coaches and meet officials, running dual or triangular meets at one of three venues and no spectators.

IV. **Approve Meeting Minutes:**

- (a) 10/22/2019 postseason meeting
- (b) 07/27/2020 preseason meeting

Note: (a) Minutes of the 10/22/2019 meeting are not available as attempts to contact the League's former secretary have been unsuccessful. (b) No 2020 preseason was held.

V. **Reports:**

a. Equipment:

1. Scott Reid (IRENE) reports that all League equipment has been accounted for or returned and stored in good condition. Future acquisitions of equipment (course flag and chute poles) will be discussed at the 2021 preseason meeting. St. Leonard had previously reported in the preseason that the finish lie clocks and batteries were stored.
2. Julie Potts (SIJ) reports that the three (3) T&F equipment bags have been returned or accounted for and all borrowed equipment has been returned. Note: SPLCC will reimburse T&F for shells (blanks) used by CC in starting races.

- b. Scoring: (Julie Fulton)
No Report – Due to the format under which racing was to occur there was no timing or scoring of meets during the 2020 season.
- c. Safety Officers: (Josh Grove & Diane Crumrine)
No report – Team tents were prohibited during the 2020 season due to COVID-19 social distancing requirements and the “wave” format in which races were run.
- d. Treasurer:
Justin Busche (SSPP) reported the SPLCC’s financial condition as of 10/25/20 as:

<u>REVENUES</u>	
Opening [bank] Balance	\$4,886
2020 Dues (8 schools)	<u>2,325</u> – Note 1
TOTAL REVENUES	\$7,211
<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Insurance Premiums	\$ 515 – Note 2
Website	172 – Note 3
Course rentals	690 – Note 4
Trainer	480
Supplies; Meets	983 – Note 5
TOTAL EXPENSES	(\$2,840)
Closing [bank] Balance	\$4,371

Financial Statement Notes:

1. St Dennis Dues discounted \$75; asked to not compete in Meet #1 as they would exceed triangular meet limit
2. Executive Board members liability insurance; split 50/50 with T&F
3. 3 Year Fee, split with T&F 50/50
4. Paid to Lombard Park District; No rental expense from Elmhurst Park District & Naperville Park District
5. Paint required for 3 meet venues; striping course, starting line, social distancing areas & marks.

VI. Old Business

- a. Confirm SPLCC Officers:

President	-	John Mulholland (1)
Vice President	-	Edward Sullivan (2)
Treasurer	-	Justin Busche (SSPP)
Secretary	-	Vacant (3)

Notes: (1) Assumed the vacant position after Ascension declined to provide someone after chosen from the Universal List; (2) Retained position after resigning during the 2019 postseason meeting and filled by St. Leonard, who was prohibited from participating in 2020 season; (3) Position vacated during the 2020 season; unable to make contact with the previous Secretary.

- b. Confirm Rule & Events Committee Members:

D. Crumrine (HT)	J. Mulholland (SMG)
J. Darrow (ND)	E. Sullivan (PIUS)
J. Fulton (SMG)	N. Lavoie (ND)

T. Sullivan resigned from the Committee and did not participate in preseason discussions.

New R&E Committee Members:
New members who meet the requirements for inclusion are invited to join the Committee.

VII. New Business

1. Proposed additions & amendments to “*Rules & Procedures*”
 - a. Amend Section 2 B, adding the following as Paragraph 3 of the Section:

“The SPLCC is wholly reliant on volunteers to fill its positions of responsibility and cannot function without leaders. When a vacant officer or meet host position is not filled by a volunteer, the League must fill the vacant position from its Universal List and said appointment may not be declined. Should a member school chosen from the Universal List fail to fulfill its responsibility, the member school will be suspended from the SPLCC for a period of one full calendar year: i.e. two seasons. Upon completion of its suspension, the school may petition in writing to rejoin the SPLCC and pay a fee pursuant to procedure published elsewhere in these Rules & Procedures.”

- b. Add the following:

SECTION 14 – Extraordinary Circumstances

From time-to-time conditions may require the temporary suspension or change to the League’s Rules and Procedures that affect the operations of the League. When these conditions exist, the League’s officers and members of the Rules and Events Committee will meet and draft an addendum to Rules and Procedures that will be (a) temporary in nature and (b) designed to address a specific extraordinary circumstance.

As time is of the essence in addressing an extraordinary circumstance, approval of the temporary changes to the Rules and Procedures will be approved by a simple majority of the League’s Rules and Events Committee, and will not require a vote by the full membership. Said changes to the Rules and Procedures will be temporary and will not be in effect for any longer than one season. Should implementation of the changes be deemed necessary for more than one season, approval of the change as a formal amendment to the Rules and Procedures shall be subject to a vote by the full League membership.

2. Tentative 2021 Meet Dates:
 - Meet #1: 09/02
 - Meet #2: 09/11
 - Meet #3: 09/18 – GVM Co-Ed Meet
 - Meet #4: 09/25
 - Meet #5: 10/02 – SPL Championship Meet

Meet Venues to be determined at or prior to 2021’s preseason meeting. Please let us know if you are willing to host a meet.

3. Preseason (Summer) Meeting: On or before July 26 at a time and location to be determined.

VIII. Season Summary

The 2020 COVID SPLCC season was certainly different from anything that came before it. Out of our 30-member schools, only eight were able to compete, with seven teams racing in

dual or triangular meet formats at one of three meet venues: Elmhurst's East End Park, Lombard's Lombard Commons Park and Naperville's May Watts Park with its challenging sled hill.

However, owing to the due diligence of our coaches and parent volunteers in following the "Return to Play Protocols," the SPLCC ran 14 meets over a five-week period with **NO** incidences related to its activities that resulted in COVID-19 infections or needed quarantines.

In the post SPL season racing congratulations go out to the following:

IESA 1A Sectional C @ Elgin Harvest Christian

St. Pius X Girls: 1st

St. Pius X Boys: 1st

St. Mary Immaculate Girls: Runner-Up

IESA 2A Sectional E @ Channahon

Visitation Girls: 1st

Visitation Boys: Runner-Up

ShazamRacing's Middle School [State] XC Championship – By Invitation Only

St. Pius X Boys: 11th

Visitation Boys: 19th

Visitation Girls: 10th

IX. Special Thanks

We owe a special thanks to Justin Busche, Brendan Moriarty and Ed Sullivan for sourcing meet venues and acting as hosts of record. Also, our coaches and parent volunteers for simply being there and our student-athletes who worked hard, raced under trying conditions and made the whole effort worthwhile.

I invite anyone who has any questions or concerns regarding the 2020 season or coming 2021 season to please reach out.

X. Adjournment

There being no additional business, congratulations to those who were able to race. To those who were unable to compete this season, we missed you and look forward to your returning in 2021.

Stay safe! Stay healthy!

Respectfully submitted,

John Mulholland
SPLCC President