

2023 SPL Cross Country Preseason Meeting MINUTES

July 31, 2023 at 7:00 pm

St. Scholastica

I. **Call to Order:** 7:00 pm

II. **Roll Call**

All present expect St. Isadore

III. **Approve Minutes of 2022 Post-Season Meeting**

Unanimously approved.

IV. **Reports**

A. Treasurer: Justin Busche

1. Funds are in good standing.
2. Recommended that dues stay the same as last year at \$350. Unanimously approved.
3. League does reimburse schools for dues for running a meet. Reach out to Justin Busche (Treasurer) if you have questions.

B. Equipment

1. Finish line clocks: St. Leonard
 - Multiple issues with finish line clocks last season. St. Leonard to test clocks and see if batteries need to be replaced.
2. Chute components: SMI
 - SMI has all chute equipment.
 - A finish line banner was discussed for the Co-Ed meet due to runners (boys/girls) confusion on which chute to run into due to it not being clearly labeled. Also discussed inflatable banner and finish line flag. Julie Fulton and Justin Busche to investigate options.
3. Signs/Mats: St. Joseph/St. Dennis
 - St. Joseph/St. Dennis have them. New team mats were discussed. Possible flipping over old mats and simply painting new team names on the back instead of purchasing brand new ones.
4. Scoring Hardware: Julie Fulton
 - Laptop battery needs to be replaced, but other than that everything is in good order.

V. **Old Business**

A. Confirmed SPLXC Officers

- President: Kendall Fulton
- Vice President: Mary Kate Lyons (IC)
- Treasurer: Justin Busche (SSPP)
- Secretary: JR Paige (JAMES)
- Safety Officers: Diana Crumrine (HT). OLC to designate a representative to serve as the second Safety Officer

B. Updated & Confirmed Universal List

C. Rules and Events Committee Members:

- Diana Crumrine (HT), John Darrow (ND), Julie Fulton, John Mulholland (SFX) and John Morrissey (LUKE) agreed to continue serving on Committee.
- Jim Wolf (St. Michaels) volunteered to replace Ed Sullivan on the Committee.

D. Webmaster:

- John Darrow(ND) to replace Brendan Moriarity

E. Confirmed 2023 Meet Dates/Hosts:

- Meet 1: 9/02 – May Watts – SSPP/Raphael
- Meet 2: 09/09 – DGSRC – SMG
- Meet 3: 09/16 – Co-Ed Meet – SJA, VIS/IC
- Meet 4: 09/23 – Round Barn – Joe Manhattan / Holy Family / Everest
- Meet 5: 9/30 – Championship, Lewis University – PETS/ MIKES

If host schools need additional volunteers to serve as course marshals. Kendall agreed to help coordinate volunteers.

VI. New Business

A. Dedication of 2023 SPLXC Season to Sean Patrick Richards (John Mulholland)

- Over the summer, Sean Patrick Richards, a former runner from St. Isaac Jogues, was tragically killed. John read a statement in honor of Sean, and asked the League to dedicate the season to him. The league voted unanimously in favor. A certificate of recognition will be presented to the Richards family.

B. Merged Teams

- Confirmed continued merger of VIS/IC.
- All Saints and SSPP request to merge was approved.
- A discussion began regarding how to merge schools, since many schools have less than 15 runners. If IESA member, merged teams need to file co-op agreement with IESA, and combined enrollment will be used to determine class placement.

C. New school seeking membership in SPLXC

- St. Odilo School (Berwyn) sought membership. Dr. Jerry Lordan spoke on behalf of St. Odilo in support of the application. Membership unanimously approved.

D. Proposed additions/amendments to Rules & Procedures/

1. Co-Ed Format Race Instructions addenda to SPL-CC Rule and Procedures (John Mulholland):

- Text of proposed rule was circulated in advance of the meeting.
- This rule was only for clarification purposes for the Co-Ed race (Meet #3). "Flight 1" is only for runners who have received a ribbon in either of the first two meets. It does not matter if the runners are running up a grade level for the Co-Ed meet, if they have received a ribbon, they must run in "Flight 1". "Flight 2" is only for runners who have NOT received a ribbon in the first two meets. All schools approved the rule clarification.
- Unanimously approved.

2. Section 9 – Uniforms, Equipment, Accessories (John Mulholland):

- Text of proposed rule was circulated in advance of the meeting.
- Update definition of spikes for clarification.
- Unanimously approved.

3. League Member Updates (John Mulholland):

- Amend current member schools due to merger: St. Dennis and St. Joseph-Lockport have merged into one school: St. Dennis Joseph Catholic Academy (SDJCA)
- Delete schools who are no longer SPLCC members: St. Matthew; Sacred Heart; St. Raymond
- Add St. Odilo
- Unanimously approved.

E. Update Volunteer Worker Assignments for 2023

1. Vacant Volunteer Positions:
 - Championship Awards – To be assumed by St. Isidore
 - Girls Timer – To be assumed by St. Pius
2. Confirmed Remaining Volunteer Positions

F. New SPL XC Communication and Social Media

1. Social Media (John Darrow)
 - The goal is to increase athlete and family affinity for the SPL.
 - Facebook and Instagram accounts have been established for SPL.
2. Group Me (Kendall Fulton)
 - Kendall has created 2 “Announcement Groups” on Group Me, one for the coaches and one that parents can join. *Kendall is the only one that can send messages in these groups.*
 - i. Coach Group: Use to send out last minute reminders to coaches before meets, coaches meeting time/location, race start time reminders, reported injuries, etc.
 - ii. General SPL Group: Use to send out race start time reminders and weather updates if needed.
3. SignUpGenius (Kendall Fulton)
 - Kendall to continue to review for possible use.

G. Video at Finish Line

1. The tags have been dropped many times in the past, and most recently at the Championship, resulting in finishing times/places being nullified.
2. Video equipment was previously approved for purchase at the post season meeting last year. Julie Fulton volunteered to purchase the equipment.
3. Since this is expensive equipment, we will need a new volunteer position to keep track of the equipment during and between meets.
4. This equipment will only be needed in case of dropped tags or other possible issues during the meet where we cannot get recorded times.

VII. Other Business

A. Rosters needed by Wednesday, August 23rd

- Julie Fulton will send a roster form out to all coaches.

B. Hall of Fame Nomination of Ed Sullivan (John Mulholland)

- John nominated Ed Sullivan for the Hall of Fame, discussing in detail the significant roles Ed has undertaken for the League and the great efforts he has made to grow and develop the League. Ed is no longer involved with the SPL after taking a new job as A.D. at Willowbrook High School
- Vote was unanimous for voting Ed Sullivan into the Hall of Fame due to his contribution as an athlete, coach, and executive officer.

C. Naperville Running Company

- As a league, we partner with Naperville Running Company. Please have your teams support them with purchases of running shoes.

VIII. 2023 Post- Season Meeting: Tuesday, October 24th , Location TBD

IX. Meeting Adjournment: 8:13 pm