

# Meet Sheet: De La Salle/Nike Cross Country Invitational

September 18, 2021

*Clear your mind of can't.—Samuel Johnson*

## TRANSPORTATION

- ❖ Most of us are planning to travel together on a bus. Please be in the bus circle by 5:30am on Saturday morning. The bus will leave at 5:45am EXACTLY. Arriving at 5:30am is on time, 5:45 is late. If you are late, plan on having your parents drive you—we can't wait for stragglers, we don't know if you are 30 seconds or 30 minutes away. Wheels up at 5:45!
- ❖ If you are going to ride with us on the bus, please bring a check to Coach Flatow for \$25 made out to Monta Vista ASB in advance (write your name on the check!)
- ❖ If you did not reserve a spot on the bus, then your parents are driving you. The race is held at Newhall Park in Concord, California. The directions from the meet organizer are to take 680 North to Ygnacio Valley Road and head East; turn left at Ayers Road and the park will be on your left. Parking will be very limited so they suggest parking at Cal State East Bay on the opposite site of Ygnacio Valley Road and walking 15 minutes to the park.

## Three Things to Think About at De La Salle

1. **Preparation:** Think a little bit about what went well at Lagoon Valley, and what you want to improve (fueling/your meals, sleep, warm up, race strategy, mental approach?) and commit to keep improving. **Continually trying to improve at running, and everything that is important to you, makes such a difference in your life.** Once we are at the race, give yourself time to scout the course so you know where you want to push—and where you want to kick. Give yourself plenty of time to warm up. Show up at the start, give your teammates a high five and tell each other 'this is a great day to race—let's do this!' Say good luck to the team next to you—why not?
2. **Positive Mind Set:** You can do this! Think of all the good workouts you have had the last few weeks. Think of the teammates that you care for and respect—and have been running side by side with for six weeks now. If your teammates can do this, if all the competition can do this, why not you too? Get on the starting line, say 'this is a great day to race', and show yourself and everyone else what you have! We all believe in you.
3. **Gratitude and Respect:** We would not be able to have races without volunteers and it takes just a little attention to remember to say 'thank you for being here' to people. Everyone should thank **at least one** volunteer (and why not two?). Say 'well done, good finish, could not have done this without you' to the athletes in front of you and behind you in the finish chute; your competitors are a gift to you, helping you find the best inside yourself. In 2018, pre-pandemic, the boys would turn around after then finish chute and high-five and cheer for everyone who finished behind them and say well-done—that is a good look for Monta Vista and makes the entire team proud! You cannot control everything about your race, but you can commit to showing gratitude and respect...that is a guaranteed success on race day!

“Even when you have gone as far as you can, and everything hurts, and you are staring at the specter of self-doubt, you can find a bit more strength deep inside you, if you look closely enough.”

— Hal Higdon

## SOME OVERALL THOUGHTS--PLANNING

- ❖ **Remember what you did before Lagoon Valley...repeat what worked, and think of things you would like to improve.**
- ❖ Plan your weekly school commitments so you can get plenty of sleep on **Thursday** night. If you get a full night's sleep on Thursday, you will have a head start on sleep prep for Saturday. Get ahead on your homework in the front half of the week if you can so Thursday and Friday are good sleep nights.
- ❖ **Do you want to eat the same things on race day morning and after the race, or would you like to try something different?** If it worked, maybe don't change it, but if you think you can feel better then change it up. Let your parents know in advance what you would like to have to eat on Saturday morning for breakfast and what you want to pack for lunch. It's not fair to your parents to get home on Friday night and say 'I want a whole wheat bagel and a banana in the morning' if you didn't give them time to shop. Let them know how they can help you and give them plenty of time to execute.
- ❖ Pack your race bag on Thursday night so you don't lose sleep running around on Friday night (see below about what you should have in your bag). This also lets you know if your lucky post-race shirt is in the dirty clothes hamper—you have time to run that baby through the wash!

## NOTES

- ❖ Things you need: Pack your uniform, a dry **MVXC** shirt for after your race, breakfast, snacks and lunch, some money for a meet t-shirt, race shoes if you run in flats, dry socks, a roll of toilet paper, water bottle...whatever else you need
- ❖ Get to bed early and have a good night of sleep! We are leaving early-early-early!
- ❖ Have a good breakfast! Check to see when you are going to be racing and plan your breakfast accordingly. You are probably going to be eating on the bus so figure out what will work for you. You don't want to have a stuffed-full stomach, but you don't want to be hungry. Before a morning race, I like to have an almond butter and honey sandwich, a banana, and maybe some orange juice two to three hours before race time, but that's me—you might copy what I do, or else figure out what works well for you!
- ❖ Assume that we will have a warm morning but check the weather. As I write this, Accuweather is projecting an overnight of 55 and a high of 81, that should feel great for the early races and might be warm for the later races (I do remember there being decent shade at the course). In any case, don't let up on hydration, just like at Lagoon Valley. Have a glass of water when you wake up and sip water during the morning (but **please** use the toilet before you are on the bus, we will be driving without stopping for almost two hours!).
- ❖ You may want to buy a t-shirt since we are going to a new race—most athletes do get a t-shirt...the shirts are \$20 each...buy early before sizes (especially smalls) run out!.
- ❖ **Before the race:** Warm up as teams. Check out the finish and **find your sprint point!** There are course maps at the end of this meet sheet; don't worry if the map is confusing, usually the course makes sense once you are there and can look around and see the trails.
- ❖ **After the race:**
  - Cheer for your teammates! Don't just sit around the camp, go out and yell for your friends and running partners! Be at the start for big cheers.
  - Fair warning: Your coaches will be annoyed if you just hang around camp after.
- ❖ You can bring some homework for the ride back or down time at the race too. **HOWEVER we do not want to see anyone hanging around the camp while your teammates are racing.** If you have finished racing, go cheer for your teammates!
- ❖ **Remember: Say good luck to your teammates and competitors, thank you to your drivers, and say thank you to at least one of the race officials!**

## RACE SCHEDULE AND WHO-RUNS-WHAT

Race assignments will be finalized this week; there are a few athletes I wanted to talk to before publishing. Please remember that race assignments are subject to change. Remember to warm up with plenty of time! Pay attention to the schedule. Cheer for your teammates!

Race	Distance	Start	MV Runners
JV Girls	3 mile	8:30	Ryland, Valerie, Anika, Sophia, Avani, Meena, Karena, Megan, Nerea, Jasmine
JV Boys	3 mile	9:05	Sean, Sahil, Neal, Parmarth, Seshanth, Nitin, Ethan, Vedant, Amogh, William
Varsity Girls	3 mile	9:35	Margaux, Ellie, Vivian, Nikhita, Jannah, Sydney, Agnes
Varsity Boys	3 mile	10:05	Andrew, Soti, Alex, Ari, Max, Matt, Justin
FS Girls	2 mile	10:35	Vera, Sudipti, Sandhya, Siran, Hemani, Samhita, Raje, Manisi
FS Boys	2 mile	11:00	Denny, Aaron, Jayden, Jayden, Tanay, Ruhaan, Brandon
F/S/JV Girls	2 mile	11:25	Aditi, Srika, Insiah, Joey
Other FS B	2 mile	11:50	None
Other JV B	2 mile	12:15	None

## Course Tour and Map

OK this is pretty cool...they have posted a video running the entire course. The video is taken from a GoPro camera mounted on bicycle rider following three runners. So you can see three runners cover the entire course! Cool for parents to see what their children will run, too.

<https://www.flotrack.org/video/5466846-newhall-park-3-mile-course-tour-with-gps-measurement>



**Two and Three Mile Course Previews:**

<https://www.dlsinvitational.com/course-previews>