

# T I G E R



# C L A S S I C

## **Introduction:**

This cross country season has certainly been unlike any other we have seen before. With that being said, it is extremely important that coaches and athletic directors ensure their student athletes, staff members, and spectators uphold the following guidelines while competing and spectating at this year's Tiger Night Classic. Remember, although the expectations may not be what we are all used to, or agree with, our athletes are getting the chance to compete because of them. It is imperative that we follow the guidelines and do the best we can to ensure everyone does their part to ensure our athletes make it through the entire fall sports season.

## **Arrival:**

Your teams are welcome to arrive at any point after 6:15 PM (1 hour and 45 minutes before the first race). The teams attending are limited (14) this year, therefore there will be ample amount of space to set-up team camps at a GREAT distance between teams. Coaches, please ensure you adhere to this recommendation and space your camp away from other teams as much as possible. Team camps will be located behind the starting line area, along the fence of the township road. Team tents are permitted, based on the fact that we have ample amount of space on the grounds for the 14 schools. One final note in regards to team camps is spectators are NOT permitted in the team camp area.

## **General Meet Guidelines:**

Spectators have been approved for the meet. We ask that athletes limit their spectators to immediate family members only, as this will help us meet the requirement set forth for numbers from the health department.

Upon arrival, spectators are REQUIRED to wear a facial covering, and must maintain a social distance from others who are not within their family group. Signage will be posted to help remind spectators to maintain a social distance. Restrooms will be available near the concession stand area at the north end of the stadium. Hand sanitizing stations will also be placed appropriately throughout the stadium area. Concessions and special edition glow in the dark t-shirts will be available for purchase. Please maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet while in line to purchase these things.

Behaviors during the meet should be that of social distancing at all times. Spectators are not permitted in team camp areas, and in the start/finish areas. Spectators are encouraged to cheer on all athletes, and do so while maintaining a distance from the course. Please do NOT stand directly on the edge of the course to cheer on runners, rather stand back at least 6', and maintain a distance.

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**Starting Line Procedures:**

Teams are to arrive at the starting line approximately 5 -7 minutes prior to race time (**officials will start races at the exact times scheduled**). There is no need to arrive earlier, as there is not a pre-race meeting, there are no run-outs or walk-outs, and there are no team huddles/cheers permitted. Seneca East will be using a “laned” start for each race. Each team will be given a box number that will be included in your packet. Each starting box is 6’ in length, and there is another 6’ box that will not be used to the right and left of each team box. Inside each team box there will be white dots. There are two white dots at the front, two white dots 6’ behind, and etc. Athletes are to stand on a white dot so they are socially distanced while waiting for the starter’s commands. When race time reaches less than one minute away (most likely around 30 seconds), the starter will blow a whistle and runners in the back can then leave their white dots and move up closer to the starting line. Once runners have moved up and are motionless, the starter will signal the start of the race by firing the gun. After leaving the starting line, runners must stay in their team’s respective lanes (which will be painted on the ground out to where the course begins to funnel. After reaching the funnel point, there will be a cone signaling the “break,” at which point runners can proceed to run the race like normal as there will be no further lanes.

**Finish Line Expectations:**

Athletes will finish the race as they normally would while using chip timing. Upon finishing, runners should stay on their feet (unless they require medical attention), and move toward the back of the finish area exit the track. Athletes should NOT congregate and wait on teammates to finish, or high five and chat with others. It is understood that this is natural to do in our sport, but in order to follow the guidelines set forth by our leaders, this is prohibited. At the back of the finish area, athletes will grab a bottle of water off of the table as they exit. Please be sure to discuss with the athletes these procedures, and inform them that once they exit the finish area to please move away, and not stand outside of the exit. Spectators are most certainly prohibited from coming into the finish area, and are asked to remain away from the area to avoid crowding.

**Results/Awards:**

Results will not be posted on the board, and no paper copies will be made available, rather results will be posted on Baumspage immediately after they are finalized. Awards can be picked up by coaches or athletes throughout the day at the awards table. Please maintain a distance of 6 feet if in line to claim an award.

**Departure:**

Coaches, please ensure student athlete safety while heading to the buses as even though the parking lots have lights, it is still difficult for drivers to see at night. Also, please remember to turn in all chips at the awards area prior to departing.