

Team and Individual XC Rankings

Several coaches have expressed an interest in the Who's Who staff compiling XC state rankings in the tradition of what we create during TF season and as informed by the approach Dyestat takes to their national XC rankings. The overarching question is simple: who would be the best teams and individuals were all to run their best at the same time, on the same XC course, in the same conditions.

We have considered season PR's and results when athletes went head-to-head, and we only consider athletes who competed during the official February-to-April season, disregarding marks which predate the start of the season, including marks posted during the usual August-to-November time block. Normally we would view with suspicion 5k's conducted on the track during cross country season, but during Covid we recognize that for some schools this was the only option...in such cases we had to determine an equivalency between it and known xc courses others competed on.

It is with the aforementioned considerations that we have constructed the rankings which follow. We do not assert that our approach is flawless, but we promise you that we bring our objectivity and best judgement to the task.

We have only constructed state rankings for the 6A and 5A; 4A and smaller have State Championship races in which to inform what their rankings would be.

6 A Girls Rankings

6A Girls Individual Rankings

1. (tie) Chloe Foerster, Jesuit
(tie) Charlotte Richman, Ida B Wells
3. Autumn Ost, Franklin
4. Kaiya Robertson, Franklin
5. Josie Fale, Ida B Wells
6. Kendall York, Lincoln
7. Sylvia Ingram, Ida B Wells
8. Olivia Moye, West Salem
9. Teaghan Knox, Summit
10. Kate Bouse, South Eugene
11. Riley Cash, Lincoln
12. Sara Abbott, Sprague
13. Magdalene Williams, Summit
14. MaKenzie McRae, Summit
15. Kara Helland, Tualatin
16. Jasper Fievet, Summit
17. Barrett Justema, Summit
18. Payton McCarthy, Summit
19. Fiona Length, Summit
20. Natalie Jack, Jesuit

6A Girls Top-10 Team Rankings

1. Ida B Wells
2. Jesuit
3. Summit
4. Lincoln
5. Franklin
6. South Eugene
7. Central Catholic
8. Sherwood
9. North Medford
10. Sheldon

C o m m e n t

We're going to rate the top runner here as 'too close to call' for this division. Chloe Foerster has put up a better time on the track, while Charlotte Richman is more consistent with steady times on xc courses, including her victory at the Rose City Championships. It is unfortunate they did not get into the same race this season. If there is a silver lining it is this: both are juniors, so perhaps their senior campaign will offer the dual fans of the sport are excited to see, along with the addition of Kate Peters of Lake Oswego who did not run this year.

The best finish Ida B Wells HS – as Wilson HS – ever achieved at State was 3rd place. A victory this year would have been a nice way to begin a XC legacy as the new school identity takes hold. Only one of their top 7 girls were seniors so expect them to be in future State discussions.

6 A Boys Rankings

6A Boys Individual Rankings

1. Guiliano Scasso, Ida B Wells
2. (tie) Charlie Robertson, Franklin
(tie) Mateo Althouse, Lincoln
(tie) Michael Maiorano, South Medford
(tie) Wesley Shipley, Central Catholic
6. Charlie North, Franklin
7. Aiden Smith, Lincoln
8. (tie) Vincent Mestler, Sheldon
(tie) Jeffery Rogers, Sherwood
10. James Crabtree, Sherwood
11. John Schuler, Jesuit
12. Daniel Fajardo, Franklin
13. Jacob Nenow, Jesuit
14. Quinn Wilcox, Ida B Wells
15. Tucker Bowerfind, Lincoln
16. Caden Hildenbrand, Jesuit
17. Ismael Alvares, Sherwood
18. Joshua Augustine, Jesuit
19. Collin Beyer, Sunset
20. Max Girardet, Central Catholic

6A Boys Top-10 Team Rankings

1. Franklin
2. Jesuit
3. Lincoln
4. Sherwood
5. Central Catholic
6. Ida B Wells
7. South Salem
8. Sheldon
9. Newberg
10. South Medford

C o m m e n t

Guiliano Scasso was the top 6A finisher at the Rose City Championships Invitational. When accounting for track times in the field and contrasting them against those athletes who did not have a track 5k, the order saw a slight adjustment relative to when the race surface was viewed equally. Places 2-3-4-5 we'd expect to be separated by maybe eight seconds at most, but their PR's and courses made selection of an order of finish tough.

As for the team contest, Jesuit continued their tradition of having tremendous packing, but it was not enough to overcome Franklin's 1-2 punch in Robertson and North (who are ahead of Jesuit's 1st runner) and Franklin also had three ahead of Jesuit's 2nd.

Sherwood has never earned a State trophy before, and we projected them to be 4th this season. Of their top six, only their third runner is a senior.

It is worth noting that – more than any other classification – the 6A boys has more people compete during the traditional fall season but not in the rescheduled-to-spring season, which is what makes rankings Athletic.Net rather misleading.

5 A Girls Rankings

5A Girls Individual Rankings

1. Sunitha Black, Crescent Valley
2. Eimy Martinez, North Salem
3. Avery Nason, Corvallis
4. Grace Yaconelli, Ashland
5. Taryn Dance, Crater
6. Aurora Barkley, Wilsonville
7. Kayla Ingraham, Putnam
8. Isabel Swain, North Salem
9. Madeline Nason, Corvallis
10. Nicki Yorges, Churchill
11. Chloe Bullock, Hood River Valley
12. Hannah Middleton, Corvallis
13. Sage Reddish, Ashland
14. Syndee Francisco, Churchill
15. Milan Hague, Ashland
16. Annie Johnson, Dallas
17. (tie) Abigail Espinavarrro, Silverton
(tie) Kendra Heath, Putnam
19. (tie) Violet Hering, Ashland
(tie) Annika Wells, Ashland
(tie) Elizabeth Hernandez Ortega, North Salem
(tie) Sara Slade, North Bend

5A Girls Top-10 Team Rankings

1. Ashland
2. Corvallis
3. Crescent Valley
4. (tie) North Salem
(tie) Crater
6. Hood River Valley
7. Wilsonville
8. Thurston
9. Springfield
10. Silverton

C o m m e n t

Sunitha Black of Crescent Valley ran 17:59 – a school record! – over all-surface terrain at the Rose City Championship Invitation. She was the top 5A finisher and held significant leads over both Eimy Martinez (37 seconds) and Grace Yaconelli (1:30), the only race in which all three competed head-to-head. Sunitha, a senior, is committed to Boise State University.

In the team score, Ashland has a slight edge over Corvallis. Ashland's top five total 71 points. Corvallis's top three equal 24, so were their 4th and 5th runner to place right off the above list at 23rd and 24th then we would see a team tie at 71 points for both schools. While Corvallis does have a tiebreaker advantage, we do not project Corvallis's 4th and 5th to place as necessary to create a tie with Ashland. The race for fourth place was also close enough to warrant a tie status, but the edge was given to North Salem over Crater on the strength of their 6th runner.

Ashland's only other girls team championship title came in 2006

5 A Boys Rankings

5A Boys Individual Rankings

1. Cameron Stein, Ashland
2. Reed Pryor, Ashland
3. Keller Norland, Crescent Valley
4. Tyrone Gorze, Crater
5. Cade Byer, Crescent Valley
6. Alec Carne, Crook County
7. Nathan Stein, Ashland
8. Juan Diego Contreras, The Dalles
9. Logan Law, Milwaukie
10. Jeffrey Hellmann, Crater
11. Toby Ruston, Dalles
12. Mason Weisgerber, Wilsonville
13. Jordan Henke, Crescent Valley
14. Connor Sutton, Crater
15. Finn Anspach, Ridgeview
16. (tie) Kanoa Blake, Crescent Valley
(tie) Reid Kerr, Crescent Valley
18. Logan Parker, South Albany
19. Ben Sheirbon, Wilsonville
20. (tie) RJ Kennedy, Lebanon
(tie) Luke Suchoski, Scappoose

5A Boys Top-10 Team Rankings

1. Crescent Valley
2. Ashland
3. Crater
4. Wilsonville
5. South Albany
6. Scappoose
7. Corvallis
8. The Dalles
9. North Eugene
10. La Salle

C o m m e n t

Cameron Stein of Ashland is unquestionably the top runner in the 5A. After giving notice with a blazing 5k on the track (14:45), this University of Oregon commit returned by winning against all school sizes on two traditional xc courses at the Southern Oregon Regional Championships (14:40) and the Rose City Championships Invitational (14:32). Pryor's 14:51 at Regionals was better than Norland's 15:05 on the quicker Rose City course, while Gorza's only sub-15:23 was on the track.

In head-to-head competition, Crescent Valley defeated Ashland at Rose City, and the margin was significant enough that anyone underperforming their PR would not have made up the difference were they on it. Looking at our projected individual top-20, Ashland has the top 2 and three in the top 7, while Crescent Valley has five in the 5 in the top 17, two of whom in the top 5. Crescent Valley's team total would be 54, so even if Ashland 4th and 5th runners' places 22nd and 23rd (right off this list, and higher than they are projected) then Ashland would still be down one, with 55 points.

At State, Crescent Valley has placed 3rd four times and 4th three times. Never have they placed top-two, although they rank favorably against defending State champion Ashland. Three of Crescent Valley's top-five runners are seniors, as are four of Ashland's top-five. Meanwhile, Crater looks poised to aim for the top spots next year as only one (of their entire boys' team!) is a senior.