

Cross Country Scoring

In Cross Country the low score wins.

Each runner gets as many points as the place they finish. The first place finisher gets one point, the second placer gets two points, etc. Each team's score is the sum of its first five finishers' places.

Example 1

Place of finish:

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 1. Wayzata | 6. Hopkins |
| 2. Hopkins | 7. Wayzata |
| 3. Wayzata | 8. Wayzata |
| 4. Hopkins | 9. Hopkins |
| 5. Wayzata | 10. Hopkins |

Team Scores:

Wayzata	24	(1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 8 = 24)
Hopkins	31	(2 + 4 + 6 + 9 + 10 = 31)

Frequently, however, meets are determined by the winning team's 6th and 7th runners. These athletes can "push up" their opponent's team score by increasing the places of the other school's runners.

Example 2

Place of finish:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 1. Minnetonka | 7. Wayzata |
| 2. Wayzata | 8. Wayzata |
| 3. Minnetonka | 9. Wayzata "pusher" |
| 4. Minnetonka | 10. Wayzata "pusher" |
| 5. Wayzata | 11. Minnetonka |
| 6. Wayzata | 12. Minnetonka |

In this meet without the 6th & 7th runners pushing up Minnetonka's total, Wayzata would have lost 27 to 28. Because of Wayzata's depth however, **the team score is:**

Wayzata	28	(2 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 = 28)
Minnetonka	31	(1 + 3 + 4 + 11 + 12 = 31)

In most meets only seven runners from each team influence the scoring. Runners other than a team's top seven are ignored when determining the meet score.

In large meets, the principle is the same with just more teams and larger numbers.

Example 3

Place of finish:

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Hopkins | 14. Wayzata | 27. Armstrong |
| 2. Armstrong | 15. Wayzata | 28. Edina |
| 3. Edina | 16. Armstrong | 29. Armstrong |
| 4. Wayzata | 17. Hopkins | 30. Armstrong |
| 5. Wayzata | 18. Edina | 31. Minnetonka |
| 6. Wayzata | 19. Hopkins | 32. Minnetonka |
| 7. Minnetonka | 20. Edina | 33. Armstrong |
| 8. Hopkins | 21. Wayzata | |
| 9. Edina | 22. Minnetonka | |
| 10. Minnetonka | 23. Edina | |
| 11. Edina | 24. Hopkins | |
| 12. Wayzata | 25. Armstrong | |
| 13. Minnetonka | 26. Hopkins | |

Team Scores:

Wayzata	41	(4,5,6,12,14 and 15,21)
Edina	61	(3,9,11,18,20 and 23,28)
Hopkins	69	(1,8,17,19,24 and 26)
Minnetonka	83	(7,10,13,22,31 and 32)
Armstrong	99	(2,16,25,27,29 and 30,33)