September 19, 2024

## Creek Cross Country Girls Win Home Meet, Boys Third

Johnson Creek, WI - The Johnson Creek High School Varsity Girls' Cross Country team won the Johnson Creek Invitational Thursday afternoon with a score of 25 points, claiming four of the top five spots individually. Sophomore Lauren Nadboralski spent most of the race in second place, where she ultimately finished. Senior Molly Burke scored running in her firstever meet.

The boys earned third place with 57 points, led by junior Evan Chowanec, whose solid training over the summer and extra weekend work has paid dividends this year. Junior Francisco Gutierrez stood out, shaving nearly one minute 49 seconds off his time on this course last year, scoring in the number two spot.

Coach Beth Hanna said of the evening, "A home meet has an extra energy that undoubtedly added to our athletes' success last night. We're proud that this meet is growing and bringing new teams and talent to our home course. With Parents Night, we also wanted to thank our parents for all that they do to support our student athletes. The snacks, team dinners, and rides they provide help keep our team cared for and competitive. And where would we be without the leadership of our seniors? Rylee and Molly are everything you can ask for in an athlete and more: hard-working, reliable, and thoughtful. They both mean so much to their teammates and to this team."

Coach Benjamin Hail added, "Another podium spot for the girls' team, this time on top! I am excited for the back half of the season."

The Johnson Creek course is two-loops, each mostly the same except for taking a different path over the large hill on the south end of the campus.

The Bluejays race again Thursday September 26 at River Bend Park in Horicon.

Scoring varsity girls: Sophomore Lauren Nadboralski (Second, 23:02.14), Freshman Lia Constable (Third, 23:23.49), senior Rylee Hucke (Fourth, 23:37.52), freshman Kiara Dach (Fifth, 23:42.54), and senior Molly Burke (18<sup>th</sup>, 26:42.62). Scoring varsity boys: Junior Evan Chowanec (Sixth, 19:49.11), junior Francisco Gutierrez (Tenth, 20:53.86), sophomore Collin Hucke (13th, 21:16.77), freshman Max Chowanec (15th, 21:47.58), and sophomore Duncan Thomas (24th, 23:05.10).

## <u>Middle School</u>

Seventh-grader Bradley Hail won the middle school boys' race in a time of 10:06.84, pushed by a hungry eighth-grade Sawyer Herrmann right on his tail from Horicon, who finished in 10:07.62. Creek eighth-grader Reed Wilbanks was third. Sixth-grader Charli Wendt was the top finisher of Creek girls, placing ninth for all middle school girls, and was also the fastest sixth-grade girl In the meet.