## Introduction

Greetings from the New Mexico Activities Association and welcome to another year of New Mexico High School Cross Country! It has always a pleasure working with each of you and we look forward to the opportunity of continuing to do so.

Please make sure that you adhere to the following points of emphasis:

- There are a few new teams joining the sport of cross country this year. Please welcome Elida High School, Jal High School, Oak Grove Classical Academy, and Reserve High School as this is their first year competing in our sport.
- This year we will continue to host a packet pick up time for teams to pick up their team packets in place of the mandatory meeting. If a team is unable to pick up their packets at this time, they will be allowed to pick up their packets the morning of the state meet. There will be no meeting that follows packet pick up since all meet information is communicated directly to you via email and our website prior to the state championship meet.
- All coaches working within your program, paid or volunteer, must possess a valid coaching license issued through the New Mexico Public Education Department.
- All student athletes participating in NMAA sanctioned sports must have the results of a current physical examination and proof of medical insurance filed with your school's director of athletics.
- All student athletes participating in NMAA sanctioned sports must meet current eligibility criteria as required by New Mexico State Legislation and the New Mexico Activities Association.
- Be knowledgeable of and enforce the NMAA Heat Index Protocol which can be found in section 7.6.21 of the NMAA bylaws.
- Familiarize yourself with all NMAA Cross Country Bylaws (7.14)
- District alignments for all classifications can be found in Section IV of the NMAA Handbook which can be accessed on the NMAA website at nmact.org.

The NMAA mode of communication with you will be through the NMAA Website, by phone or through e-mail. If you are a first year head coach of a program, a current head coach and you have not been receiving my emails, or your contact information has changed please e-mail me at <u>jackie@nmact.org</u> so that we can ensure that all cross country communication is sent to you.

Best wishes for a great season!

Jacquelyne Martinez NMAA Assistant Director Cross Country