

Virtual Race League XC (Viral XC)

Viral XC is a new upper Midwest race series, designed to foster competitive collegiate skiing for clubs and organizations. Groups can form their own team roster and compete against other teams across the upper Midwest, without having to travel great distances or compete in specific events. The series allows teams to select different weekend races and then scores each team based on how they performed against their entire race field. Scoring results will be featured each week, and a running tabulation of points will be used to determine a season championship.

Rules

1. Races

- a. Racing season will be every weekend in January and February.
- b. Race series teams do not have to participate in the same race (in fact, it is expected most teams will be competing in different races across the region).
- c. Only one race per weekend per team will be scored. The team must declare the exact race division they will be competing in.
- d. Race must be selected by Friday night midnight before the weekend race
 - i. The race may be changed if weather forces a cancellation/postponement. A substitute race must be submitted via email prior to the start of the new event.

2. Rosters

- a. A roster must have a team captain, who will be in charge of making additions to the roster and submitting corrections for scoring. Captain will provide an email address for communications.
- b. A roster must have a team name
- c. Rosters must be composed solely of individuals that are actively enrolled in college/postsecondary, either as an undergraduate or post-graduate. (College staff are not allowed on collegiate rosters.)
 - i. Roster members need not attend the same school, but must participate in the same race division as the rest of the team.
- d. Roster size is unlimited
- e. A roster can be declared at anytime leading up to, or even during, the race season. Teams are strongly encouraged to declare their roster before the start of the series.
 - i. Scoring will begin for events after the roster has been declared (i.e. no retroactive scoring).
- f. Additions can be made during the first month of the season (January)
 - i. Additions must be submitted by Friday midnight prior to the weekend racing.
 - ii. Skiers added to the roster after the start of the racing season will only be

scored for the events participated in after being added (i.e. no retroactive scoring)

- g. Skiers must be listed on a roster, in advance, to score.
- h. Skiers can not switch rosters during the season.

3. Scoring

- a. Up to 5 men and 5 women will be scored per team. (Teams can field rosters with less than 5 men and/or women.) Scoring will be by gender (men and women will score independently).
- b. Scoring is assigned based on percentile finish in the gender field (for example, in a field of 50 male skiers, first place would be 100 points, tenth place would be 82 points). Percentages are rounding up to whole numbers (91.6 would be 92 points). Scoring formula: $(\text{field_size} + 1 - \text{place}) / \text{field_size} * 100$
- c. Scores will be combined to determine the total team score for the weekend (i.e. men's and women's scores added together.)
- d. In the event there is a tie in the weekend scoring, the following tie-breaker rules will be used to determine the weekend champion:
 - i. Team competing against the largest race field (men and women combined).
 - ii. Team with the highest placed finisher (male or female). Compare next highest until tie is broken.
 - iii. Declare tie.
- e. Only team members racing in the declared race division will be scored (for example, if the Vasaloppet 42K classic is the selected race, team members racing in other divisions like the 35K freestyle or 58K freestyle would not score)
- f. Race division must have at least 10 for the men and 5 for the women to qualify for scoring. This requirement is gender specific and enforced independently (i.e. womens division might be disqualified from scoring while the mens division would still score).
 - i. A 25% scoring deduction will be applied in a race division has less than 25 men or 10 women.
 - ii. If team members compose more than one third of the race division, the that division will not be scored (i.e. no stacking a field)
- g. At least half of the series teams must be racing on a given weekend in order for that weekend to be scored (i.e. if low snowfall or scheduling limits the number of races available for teams, then the weekend won't be scored).
- h. Team scores will be totaled for the entire season to determine the final season series standings. There is no minimum number of events required.
- i. In the event of a tie in the final season scoring, the following tie-breaking rules will be used:
 - i. Team with the highest weekend team score, starting from the last weekend of competition and working back until the tie is broken.
 - ii. Team competing in the most events.
 - iii. Declare tie.

- j. Scoring will be tallied based on published race results as of 6 pm Tuesday.
 - k. Scoring will be published by noon Wednesday. Scoring will reflect the weekend scores, as well as the series total standings. All corrections be submitted by noon Thursday.
4. Deadlines
- a. By Friday midnight before the weekend race
 - i. Each team must declare the race their team will be competing in.
 - ii. Any roster additions.
 - b. By Thursday noon
 - i. Any corrections to the prior race weekend scoring.
 - c. By the end of the first month of the race season
 - i. All roster additions.
5. Awards
- a. Awards will be presented to the top three collegiate teams at the end of the season, based on their final season series standings.

FAQ

- Does a team have to field a full roster with at least 5 men and 5 women?
No. While only the top 5 men and 5 women from each roster will be scored, teams can have less than 5 men/women.
- Are teams required to race every weekend in January and February?
No. Every weekend will be scored (with exceptions according to rules), but there is no requirement on the number of events each team competes in.
- Is the team required to name their top 5 skiers?
No. Skiers from the team roster that compete in their declared race division will automatically be scored. Then up to the top 5 men and women finishers from the roster will be used to determine the team score.
- Does everyone on the team have to compete in the same race?
No, there is no requirement for the entire roster to compete in a single event. However, only the team members competing in the declared weekend race division will be scored (teams have until midnight Friday to declare their race division).