

Section Team Size: 7 (Same as now) 5 skiers will be assigned to the pursuit event, and 2 skiers will be assigned to the sprint relay event.

Pursuit Event: There will be two 5k distance races in the pursuit, as there are now. The order of those events would not need to model the order of the State Meet, just like it is done currently.

Pursuit Scoring: 3 of your 5 skiers will score team points. (Currently 4 pursuit skiers score)

Advancing to State: The top two pursuit teams will advance to the State Meet.

Team Sprint Relay Event: Each of the two members of the sprint relay team will alternate in skiing 2 laps of the 1-1.25k course, for a total of 4 laps. There will NOT be a physical body to body contact exchange, rather once an incoming skier crosses the front exchange zone line, the outgoing skier can leave the exchange zone.

There will be two Semi-final Heats for the relay. All teams will participate in the Semi-finals. To advance to the finals, the fastest two teams from each heat will automatically advance into the finals, along with the next fastest 4-6 teams (TBD). In the event that the semi-finals are NOT timed, either due to weather or time constraints, the top 5 from each semi-final would advance to the finals.

Sprint Relay Scoring: Both of your sprint relay members would be scoring.

Advancing to State: The top two sprint relay teams will advance to the State Meet.

Individuals Advancing: The next 6 fastest pursuit skiers will still qualify for the state meet as individuals. They will not score team points, which is the same as our current policy. There is a concern expressed on behalf of the meet managers that having that many skiers in pursuit as a part of more packed program, may not be manageable. There is talk of releasing skiers 2 every 15 seconds rather than 1, or even reducing the number of individual qualifiers to 3. I believe the next item will allow us to keep 6 individual qualifiers, so hold on to your seats!

State Meet Schedule: Now for an even bigger change when you look at the big picture of the history of our sport. How does starting the State Meet immediately after the Charlie Banks Relay Sound to you? What that would look like is we would bump the Charlie Banks Relay up to an 11:30 start time, and it would be a mixed gender relay, with each school allowed to bring two teams if desired, a Team A and a Team B. Then after the Relay is over, we would hold the first leg of the pursuit. Having the interval start portion on this afternoon, should give us enough time to maintain the 6 individual qualifiers without crunching the schedule. The next day, we would start the meet with the Semi-finals of the Team Sprint Relay, followed by the second leg of the pursuit. The final event of the day would be the finals of the

Team Sprint Relay. Those of us with a Track and Field background will eagerly await this event as we all did for the 4 x 400 to wrap up those big invitational track meets!

Awards: Top 10 pursuit skiers would receive medals, as well as the members of the top 3 relay teams. This would be an increase of 6 medals per gender, or 12 medals total for the meet.

State Meet Champion: The Champion would be awarded to the team with the most points combined between the pursuit points (60%) and the sprint relay points (40%).