

2024 KELSEY'S RACE – THE SEASON OPENER WITH MEANING

2024 marks the seventh year's running of the Kelsey Hewitt Memorial Race. Kelsey was a fun-loving girl who was not too stuck on formality, so in her honor, we're holding a fun race! **Kelsey's Race** is a unique format, multi-league, state wide, season-opening, fun event where every competitor will feel like a winner. Kelsey's Race has been established as an annual event where racers will "get their racing legs under them" for years to come.

Join us for this race and ignite your passion for skiing and ski racing!

EMPHASIS ON FUN!

While it is natural to be competitive when running a race, that is not the intended goal of the Kelsey's Race. The primary goal of Kelsey's Race is to have fun! What could be more fun than racing in a costume and being served cookies all day long? Each team is asked to dress up in fun costumes – let your creativity fly – and bring a dozen or two homemade cookies that will be made available all day long for some serious cookie eating!

OVERVIEW

- Race Sponsor: The OISRA Alpine Division Sportsmanship Program
- Race Date: TBD
- Race Location: Mt. Hood Meadows, Stadium Chair
- Participants: All OISRA high school racers
- Race Format:
 - Dual GS (NASTAR-like, 20 meter turns) courses. One for girls, one for boys
 - Two timed runs (**Time and weather permitting**)
 - Combined time results
- Places awarded for top 10 girls and top 10 boys
- Team awards to top 3 girls and top 3 boys teams

RACE REGISTRATION

Entry Fee:

- OISRA racers - FREE!

PROTOCOL FOR OISRA COACHES REGISTERING RACERS

- Use [Excel spreadsheet for Team Start Order Assignment](#)
- Seed racers by their approximate ability (No varsity or JV designation)
- Provisional racers should be added at the bottom of the spreadsheet
- Girls in one list, boys in another
- OISRA coaches email start order for all racers to: archerhit@frontier.com

Start Order Deadline: Monday evening, 6 PM, January 2nd, 2023

RACE DAY

- Early Load at 8:00 am (or 8:30, Meadows discretion) for course setters and start/finish workers

- Costume contest 8:30 am to 9:00 am
- Course Inspection: 9:30 am to 10:15 am
- Forerunners at 10:20 am
- First racers begin: 10:30 am
- A 30 minute course redress/maintenance between 1st and 2nd runs
- Second runs begin: 12:30 pm
- Awards Presentation: Immediately following the conclusion of all races, approximately 3:00 pm

[Click Here](#) for a pdf copy of the race day schedule

COURSE OFFICIATING

Race officials and crews from Mt. Hood League, Three Rivers League, and Metro League will share the course duties and officiating.

(Four parallel courses running at the same time, girls blue on far racers left, girls red next to girls blue, boys blue next to girls red then boys red on far racers right.)

- Girls blue course - Hosted by Three Rivers League
- Girls red course - Hosted by Mt. Hood League
- Boys blue course - Hosted by Metro League
- Boys Red course - Hosted by special invitation Kelsey Committee, combined crew

No Protests:

Re-runs will be allowed at the sole discretion of the finish referee (in consultation with the start referee) in instances of interference or failure to capture a valid time.

Bib Rules:

- Bibs worn in racer fashion when inside the race arena
- Bibs must be turned in at the end of the second run (They will be used for many years).
- Missing bibs will accrue a \$25 fee to be paid by the team to which it was issued.

COSTUME CONTEST & AWARDS

Costume contest participation is encouraged with gifts given to the top three teams exhibiting the most enthusiastic, team-spirited, costumes. Similarly, three boys and three girls will be chosen as individual winners of the costume contest. The costume contest will be officiated by the Sportsmanship League Leaders from the three host leagues.

Awards for race performance and the costume contest will be held in or near the finish arena approximately 45 minutes after the finish of the race. Lots of fun swag will be tossed into the waiting awards crowd!

JOIN US FOR KELSEY'S RACE – THE MOST FUN RACE OF THE YEAR!

Additional information from Randy Hewitt:

The big news: El Nino

I know that all of us are on pins and needles regarding the whole season, beginning with Kelsey's Race. With each passing day, the likelihood that Stadium will be buried in snow becomes more scarce. Sheesh!

I've spoken with Commissioner Todd who will be working directly with Chris Olson to determine our options. The most tenable one will be having a one-run race on whatever Meadows run has snow on it. A few years ago we pulled it off on Gemini. If we have to compromise, that's my second hope.

We're all in the same situation, so keep planning on January 7th and of course, we'll do the best we can.

Reminders for you:

- The Mt. Hood League, Metro, and 3RL leagues each set, officiate, and maintain 1 course (see link, above).
- *If it turns into a 1 run race, our course staffing/officiating/prepping needs will be cut in half. When the commitment time is imminent, I'll send a primer outlining the aspects so we can all be on the same page.*
- Coaches or other officials from all the other leagues (Blue, Central, Emerald, Southern) who want to participate in the race day organization should contact me directly.
- Each Portland area league covers their own costs of hosting the event and shares in the cost of hosting the 4th course.
- Each league hosts their own race registration table.
- Meadows will provide tickets and chits like they do for your normal league races.
- I will host a coaches and officials meeting at 7:30 AM on race morning to discuss pertinent last minute details.

Other details:

- New to us this year may be some Blue Mountain racers as well as those fast skiers from the Central League. Welcome!
- All activities (except registration) will happen outdoors near the finish arena.
- The costume contest is on. Please encourage your teams to participate: 8:30 AM.
- The awards for the costume contest and race winners will be held 45 minutes after the conclusion of the race. Please encourage your racers to attend.
- We have added to the speaker system so everyone can hear better.
- The *cookie extravaganza* is also on. Please encourage your teams to bring homemade cookies. Dozens and dozens were brought last year and not hardly a crumb was left in the end. This is very popular.

Feel free to send the attached flyer and/or this video link [Kelsey's Race 2023 Video](#) to your coaches to generate excitement among the teams. Also, there's a flyer to send to teams/coaches attached below.

Lastly, it's a little premature, but I've had a new website created specifically to celebrate Kelsey's Race. There are still some editorial changes to make, but it's getting close. Take a look: [Kelsey's Race Website](#)

Sound OK? Basically, y'all know the drill. It works and is fun. It's the biggest high school race in the country and you're part of it. Awesome.

Randy