

## **Press Release**

### **2018 New England Cross Country Championships**

The 84<sup>th</sup> Annual New England Interscholastic Cross Country Championship is scheduled for Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at Derryfield Park, Manchester, New Hampshire. The event is sponsored by the Council of New England Secondary School Principals' Association (CNESSPA). The boys' race will begin at 11:30 am, followed by the girls' race at 12:30 pm. The field features the top 25 individual placers and the top 6 teams from the participating New England states (Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont).

Derryfield Park offers a challenging 5000-meter course through trails and fields. In the boys' race, the top three finishers from a year ago have graduated so a new champion will be crowned. Runners to watch include state champions Eli Nahom (New Milford, CT), Lisandro Berry-Gaviria (Mt. Ararat, ME), Forest MacKenzie (Concord, NH), Joseph dosReis (La Salle, RI), and Henry Farrington (Essex, VT). Defending team champions, Xavier (CT) looks to win again after winning their state title last week. They will be challenged by Rhode Island rivals Bishop Hendricken and La Salle, along with Essex (VT), and Concord (NH).

In the Girls competition, 2017 New England champion, Julia Robitaille, from Manchester West (NH) returns to defend her title. Robitaille finished second in her state meet to freshman Sophia Reynolds of Merrimack Valley. Twin sister, Corinne, was one-tenth of a second behind Julia. Other challengers are state champions Kate Wiser (Pomperaug, CT), Elizabeth Sullivan (Portsmouth, RI), and Sofia Matson (Falmouth, ME). In the team competition, schools that should vie for the title include Champlain Valley (VT), Exeter (NH), Coe-Brown (NH), Danbury (CT), Immaculate (CT), and Portsmouth (RI).