



2026 Sugar Bowl LHSAA State
Cross Country Championship
Bulletin

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENT	PAGES
IMPORTANT DATES	PAGE 3
REGIONAL MEET INFORMATION	PAGE 3
INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGIONAL QUALIFIERS TO ENTER STATE	PAGE 4
STATE MEET INFORMATION	PAGES 5-6
RACE START TIMES/PACKET PICKUP & COACHES' CREDENTIALS	PAGE 7
RULES	PAGE 8
UNIFORMS	PAGE 9
COURSE MAP	PAGE 10
BUS PARKING/ TEAM CAMP AREA	PAGE 11
SPECTATOR PARKING/ RV PARKS & CAMGROUNDS	PAGE 12
EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN MAP	PAGE 13
MEDIA INFORMATION	PAGE 14
GOLD STAR ORDER FORM	PAGE 15
LHSAA CORPORATE PARTNERS	PAGE 16

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	EVENT
MONDAY ,OCTOBER 5, 2026	Deadline for submitting GPAs online seniors for All - Academic
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2026	Regional Entry Deadline
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026	Regional Meet Deadline
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026	Boys' and Girls' End of Regular Season
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2026	Boys' and Girls' State Entry Form/Fee Deadline *Qualifying teams and individuals must create an invoice through the LHSAA member site, pay online, or bring a school check to packet pickup at the 2026 State Cross Country Meet. (DO NOT SEND CHECKS IN THE MAIL)
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026 - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026	Boys' and Girls' State Meet (All Divisions)
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2026 - END OF SCHOOL	Weight training/ conditioning permitted. No practice/ contests allowed
SUNDAY, MAY 30, 2027	Summer Rules Begin

REGIONAL MEET INFORMATION

Schools are highly encouraged to register up to 12 athletes (7 participants and 5 alternates) for their Regional Meet online through <https://LA.MILESPLIT.COM/>. Only the alternates registered at the regional meet may be substituted at the state meet for qualifying teams.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STATE QUALIFIERS - ENTRY INVOICE & FEES

All qualifying individuals and teams will be automatically advanced to the State Meet through the MileSplit platform. All alternates registered at the regional meets will be advanced as well and cannot be changed. The top seven (7) athletes shall be declared at packet pickup.

If you have a team or individual qualify, you will need to create an invoice on the LHSAA Member Site and have the principal pay online or bring a school check to packet pickup at the 2026 State Meet. Please login to the LHSAA Member Site using the credentials provided to you by your principal or athletic director. From the Member Site, click "Forms," then click "State Entry Forms," then select "Boys Cross Country" or Girls Cross Country." Select all your participating athletes AND alternates from the drop downs. If an athlete is not listed, then they are not registered with the LHSAA. Please contact Adam MacDowell immediately at 225-300-4212 if this is the case.

STATE MEET ENTRY FEES: \$10 PER CONTESTANT, UP TO SEVEN (7) RUNNERS FOR A MAXIMUM OF \$70 PER TEAM/GENDER.

STATE MEET ENTRY INVOICE: Detailed instructions for creating the invoice can be found in the link below.

[State Cross Country Meet Invoice Instructions](#)

****All invoices shall be created online and paid online through the Member Site no later than TUESDAY, November 10, 2026. If invoice is not paid online you must bring a school check to packet pickup at the 2026 State Cross Country Meet Cross Country Meet.****

DO NOT SEND CHECKS IN MAIL

A school with a delinquent entry invoice, a payment not made online by the deadline date or a check not brought to packet pickup shall be charged a late fee of \$50 for one contestant or a \$100 fine for two or more contestants along with the entry fee.

STATE MEET INFORMATION

CATEGORY	INFORMATION
Dates of Meet	Monday, November 16, 2026 - Tuesday, November 17, 2026
Site	Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA Course - Walter Ledet Track Complex (Course map on page 10). <u>Gates open at: 8:00am</u> <u>Start</u> - Outside NSU Track Complex, 5 minutes warning before each race will signal line up time <u>Finish</u> - NSU Walter Ledet Track
Admission	New: Tickets will now be available for purchase in advance! Please see the QR code or the ticket link below to purchase your tickets. At the State Meet, simply present your electronic ticket at the entrance gate. Your ticket will be scanned, and you will receive an entry wristband. <u>Tickets: (per person):</u> \$15 - card only 
Meet Director	Adam MacDowell, LHSAA Assistant Executive Director Phone: (225) 300-4212 Email: amacdowell@lhsaa.org
Trainers	LCMC Health - Trainers/ Medical Staff
All Academic Awards	There will be no All - Academic Award presentation at the State Meet. Principals and Administrators may print the All- Academic Awards from the LHSAA member site to be presented at each school's Awards Banquet and/or Athletic/Academic Convocation.
Awards	- State Championship and Runner- up will receive a team trophy and 12 team medals. - Top 10 individual medals for each race are provided. - The top 25 times for the day for girls and boys, regardless of division, will be awarded All - State Honors. (All- State Honors certificates will be sent to the school(s).) - Recognition will also be given to the top 3 teams based on average time, regardless of division. <u>Additional team medals may be ordered from Gold Star (see page 14).</u>

Packet Pickup	LHSAA tent will be on the practice football fields across the street from the entrance to the track. <u>Packet pickup begins at 6:30am.</u> Coaches can pick up their packets on their designated race day and declare top 7 runners by returning the bib numbers of the athlete(s) that will not be participating. Each team packet will include bib numbers and a maximum of 7 wristbands for the athlete(s). A maximum of 5 additional wristbands for the registered alternates will be provided upon request.
Coaches Cards	Coaches' credentials will be distributed at the Packet Pickup tent.
Course Inspection	<u>Sunday, November 15</u> - 3:00pm until 7:00pm <u>Monday & Tuesday, November 16 & 17</u> - 7:00 am - 8:00am (Must be credentialed if inside the venue during this time) At the conclusion of the last race on Monday Division V & VI will be able to run the course
Team Area / Tent Set- Up	<u>Sunday, November 15</u> - 3:00pm until 7:00pm <u>Monday & Tuesday, November 16 & 17</u> - 7:00am - 8:00am (Must be credentialed if setting up inside the venue during this time)
Officials Furnished	Northwestern State University
Course Marshalls	LHSAA (4) NSU (4)
Timing and Scoring	Big River Race Management https://brrm.com/ Live Results Page: - https://milesplit.live/meets/627329
Chip Timing	Chips will be embedded in the bib. The runners may keep their bib numbers as a souvenir.
Team Photos	GeauxPreps will cover competition, award ceremonies, and trophy presentations throughout the meet. Photos will be available on the <u>LHSAA website</u> within 3 days of the State Meet. Team and individual photos, along with specialized photo packages, will continue to be available for purchase through <u>GeauxPreps.com</u> .
Parking	Coliseum Parking Lot If visiting families want to bring their RV and park in our coliseum parking lot, they can do so for \$100 per day. We have 12 available spots with 30 amp hookups. The spots also have water and cable. Contact person is Jordan Dupuy at 328-357-5251 or dupuyj@nsula.edu.
Dressing Rooms	Men's and Women's Dressing Rooms available in the adjacent Coliseum

RACE START TIMES/ PACKET PICKUP & COACHES' CREDENTIALS

Race Start Times MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2026		
Races	RACE START TIMES	PACKET PICKUP/COACHES' CREDENTIALS/ TENT SETUP
DIVISION I GIRLS	9:00 AM	6:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Packet Pickup will be available in the Tent across the street from the Track facility. Reference map on page 10. Coaches' Card Credentials will be at the Packet Pickup tent. Team tent setup will take place before gates open between 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. (Coaches and athletes must be credentialed to be on course)
DIVISION II GIRLS	9:45 AM	
DIVISION I BOYS	10:30 AM	
DIVISION II BOYS	11:15 AM	
DIVISION III GIRLS	12:00 PM	
DIVISION IV GIRLS	12:45 PM	
DIVISION III BOYS	1:30 PM	
DIVISION IV BOYS	2:15 PM	

Race Start Times TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026		
Races	RACE START TIMES	PACKET PICKUP/COACHES' CREDENTIALS/ TENT SETUP
DIVISION V GIRLS	9:00 AM	6:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Packet Pickup will be available in the Tent across the street from the Track facility. Reference map on page 10. Coaches' Card Credentials will be at the Packet Pickup tent. Team tent setup will take place before gates open between 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. (Coaches and athletes must be credentialed to be on course)
DIVISION VI GIRLS	9:45 AM	
DIVISION V BOYS	10:30 AM	
DIVISION VI BOYS	11:15 AM	

RULES

IMPORTANT RULE

11.3.7 Basketball : Schools scheduled to play boys' and girls' basketball games on Monday of the 20th calendar week (November 16 -17, 2026) in conflict with the Boys' and Girls' State Cross Country Meet may mutually agree to play on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

If the rainout date of Tuesday is utilized, schools may mutually agree to play on Wednesday or Thursday.

ADDITIONAL RULES

1. **DECLARATION OF TOP SEVEN** - Schools qualifying or running an entire team at the state meet will declare their top 7 at packet pickup, no later than one hour prior to the start of each race. All student athlete bib numbers not declared as the top 7 runners must be returned at the time of packet pick -up.
2. To settle ties by teams, apply Rule 8, Section 2, Articles 4 and 5 of the National Federation Track & Field rulebook.
 - a. **ART. 4.** *"Ties in team scoring shall be resolved by comparing the sixth place finishers from the tying teams. The team with the best sixth place finisher shall prevail. If one team does not have a sixth place finisher, the team with the sixth place finisher shall prevail."*
 - b. **ART. 5.** *"If only five competitors of tying teams finish, the tie shall be resolved by totaling the scores of the first four finishers."*
1. **SIXTH AND SEVENTH PLACE FINISHERS** - Determine the place in which they finish, in the event they have to be used to break a team tie.

UNIFORMS

TRACK SHOE-SPIKE SPECIFICATIONS

1/4" SPIKES MAXIMUM ALLOWED. Spike length will be checked at starting line.

Illegal spikes will not be allowed.

Spike Length = 1/4 Pyramid Spike or Spike Length = 1/4 Christmas Tree, **NO PIN SPIKES!!**

COMPETITOR'S UNIFORM RULE

LHSAA Handbook:

13.4 Uniforms

1. Contestants shall adhere to all articles under RULE 4- SECTION 3 COMPETITOR'S UNIFORM IN TRACK AND FIELD AND CROSS COUNTRY in the NFHS Track and Field and Cross Country Rules Book.

Rule 4-3 (Penalty – Articles 1&2)

For the wearing of an illegal uniform, when a violation is observed and noted by a meet official, the competitor shall be required to make the uniform legal before becoming eligible for further competition, and shall be issued a warning that a subsequent violation shall result in a disqualification from the event. The referee shall be notified of the violation by the observing meet official, and the referee shall then notify or cause to be notified the head coach of the offending school of the competitor's violation and warning.

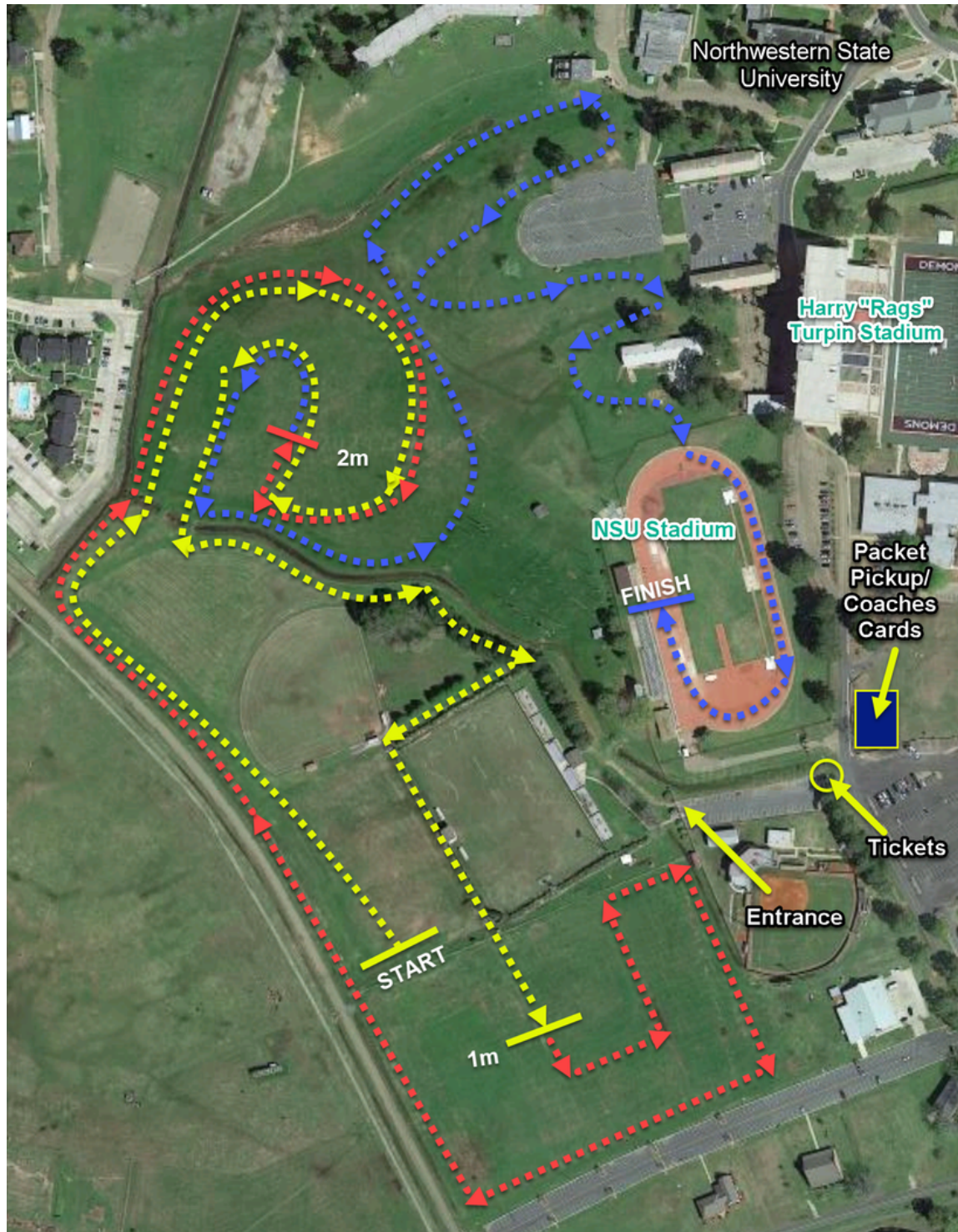
Rule 4-3-3

Removing any part of the team uniform, excluding shoes, while in the area of competition as defined by the games committee, is illegal.

Penalty: This shall lead to a warning and if repeated, to disqualification from the event. If the incident recurs, the competitor will be disqualified from further competition in the meet.

COURSE MAP

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY NATCHITOCHES, LA WALTER LEDET TRACK COMPLEX



COURSE KEY:

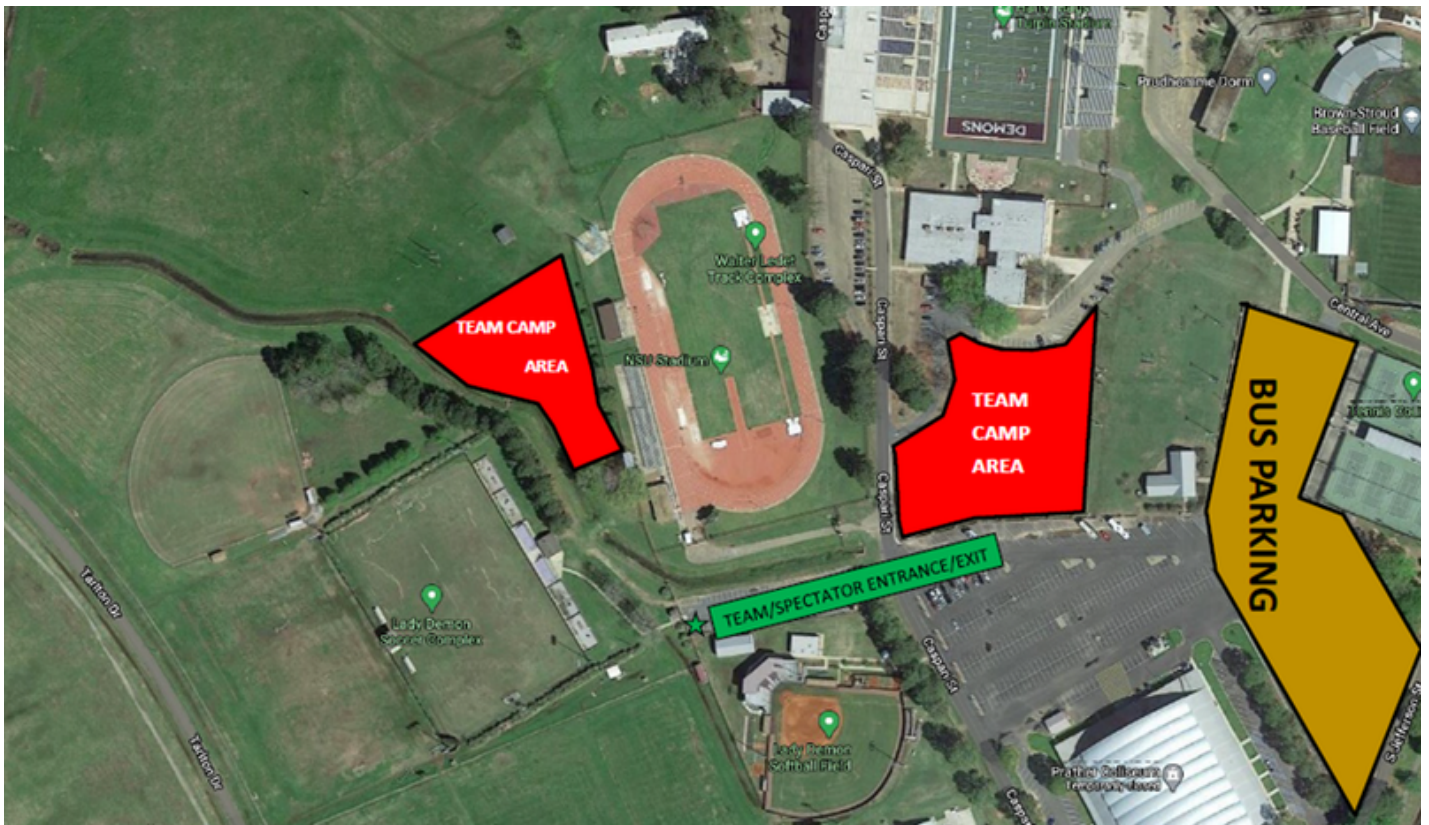
Mile One - Yellow

Mile Two - Red

Mile Three - Blue

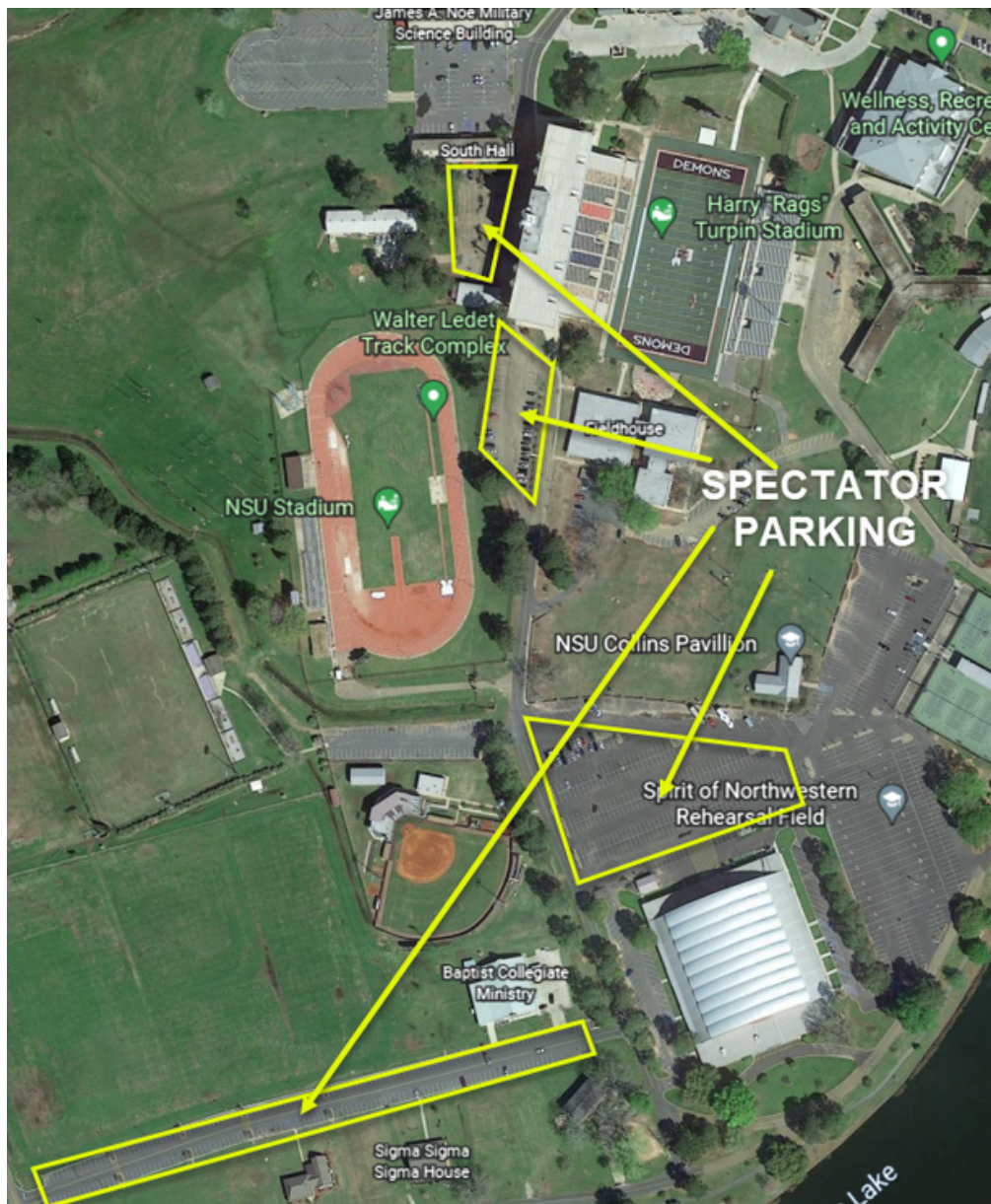
BUS PARKING/ TEAM CAMP AREA

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY NATCHITOCHES, LA WALTER LEDET TRACK COMPLEX

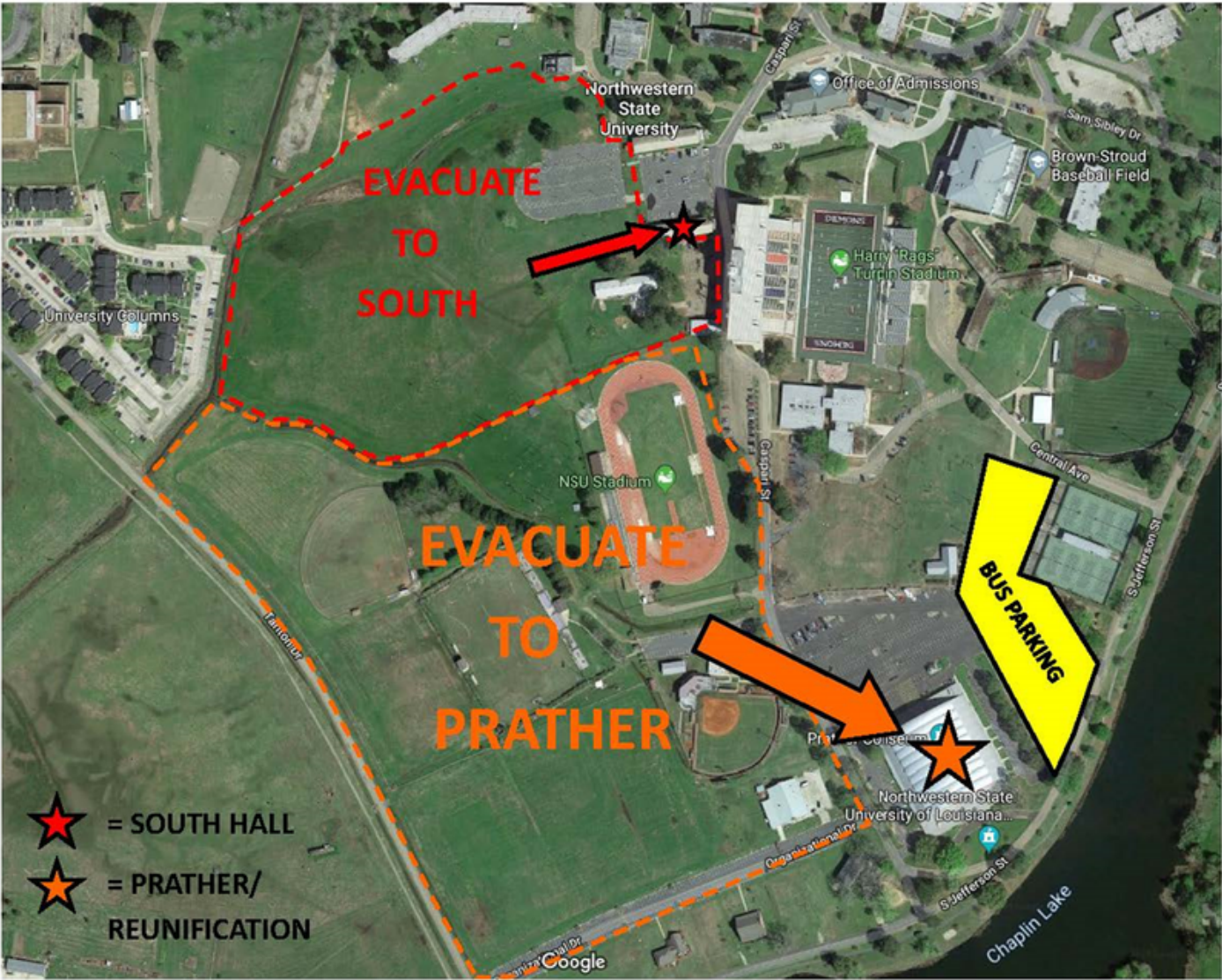


SPECTATOR PARKING/ RV PARKS AND CAMPGROUNDS

<u>Grand Ecore RV Park</u> 1071 Par Rd 429, Natchitoches, LA 71457 (318) 238-7446	<u>Nakatosh RV Park</u> 5428 LA-6, Natchitoches, LA 71457 (318) 352-0911	<u>The Cabins of Horseshoe Hills Ranch</u> 240 Bayou Pierre Cutoff Rd, Natchitoches, LA 71457 (318) 352-2920
<u>NSU Tailgating Area</u> Parking Lot next to Prather Coliseum (adjacent from <u>Walter Ledet Track Complex</u> Complex) (318) 357-4268		



LHSAA STATE XC EMERGENCY PLAN MAP



MEDIA

NEW MEDIA GUIDELINES

Member School Yearbook/Photography/Videography Personnel

Member schools competing in a state championship event will receive one media credential allocation for school yearbook, photography or videography personnel.

The school administration shall determine who receives the credential, and the principal or athletic director must complete the credential application and designate the individual representing the school.

Additional credentials for student media personnel may be considered upon request and are subject to available space and LHSAA approval.

School administrators may apply through the LHSAA website each sports season for each state championship.

LHSAA.org → Media → Media Credential Application



225-928-4230

FAX (225) 928-0602

6229 ILONA BLVD
Baton Rouge, La. 70806
orders@goldstartrophies.com

WWW.GOLDSTARTROPHIES.COM



ORDER FORM

MINI-REPLICA TROPHIES and MEDALS

for the LHSAA State Championship Events

PLEASE CALL FOR ORDERING INFORMATION

TAX AND SHIPPING CHARGES WILL BE ADDED TO ALL ORDERS

****PLEASE DO NOT SEND PAYMENT BEFORE RECEIVING A COPY OF THE INVOICE****

(ask about school quantity discounts!)

9" INDIVIDUAL REPLICA TROPHY \$32.95 each + Tax & Shipping

Optional plate with school and individual name available for \$5.00 + Tax

ADDITIONAL MEDALS \$4.95 each + Tax & Shipping

As per LHSAA regulations, eligibility for replica awards must be verified

Please provide all the required information below for verification and production

SCHOOL and/or PARENT NAME: _____

SHIPPING ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

SCHOOL PHONE: _____

SCHOOL FAX: _____

PRINCIPALS NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

FAX: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

CONTACT PH: _____

FAX: _____

CELL: _____

Information for **EVENT :** _____

YEAR: _____

Replica Trophy **DIVISION/CLASS:** _____

STATE CHAMPION () or STATE RUNNER UP ()

EVENT LOCATION: _____

QUANTITY: _____

Information for **MEDAL COLOR: GOLD () SILVER () BRONZE ()**

Medal **QUANTITY: ()** _____

Plate Engraving: _____



Congratulations
ON YOUR SUPERIOR
ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE!



LHSAA CORPORATE PARTNERS

THE LHSAA WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING
2026-2027 PARTNERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED DEDICATION AND
SUPPORT OF HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS IN LOUISIANA



SERVING LOUISIANA'S YOUTH FOR **OVER 100 YEARS**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTNERING WITH THE LHSAA OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT WILL BRYANT - WILL.BRYANT@PLAYFLY.COM