



## WSCCCA 2015 Summer Newsletter

There is a lot to cover in this edition of the summer newsletter. Hopefully, this summer has been a good one, and you and your athletes are ready for a great season.

Last spring we had our elections. The executive board was re-elected, but there were also some changes. Longtime coach Bob Isitt has retired from coaching and has stepped down as our district 8 representative. Kelly Richards has been elected as one of our district 2 representatives to fill the place vacated by Denis Villeneuve. Denis has been added as an at-large member to the Executive Board. Denis is currently working on seeking additional sources of funding for our WSCCCA scholarships. Currently we have several invitational meets, camps and some local road races that are contributing but we could use more, especially from the Southwest and East side of the state. You can see our current donor at [WATFXC.com](http://WATFXC.com) under the “**supporters**” link. If you have an event or business that would be a potential supporter, please contact Denis.

At the annual coaches’ convention last year, there was a lot of talk about the state meet. We took your concerns to the WIAA and John Crawford, and we are very excited what’s in store to address those very concerns. We had several productive meetings and conversations with Brian Smith and John Crawford, and as a result, we have several changes. Here is a summary of the changes (you should have also received a more detailed email from John).

- There will be an alley start with an empty lane in the middle so the starter has a clear view of all athletes as they go up the hill.
- All athletes will receive a race number.
- One coach will be allowed to remain in the area behind the start to be able to be there for their team in case there is a restart.
- There will be a coach’s only access area on the course. John has sent out a diagram on where it will be. One coach will be allowed access from each team/individual competing in a specific race.
- Rob Whitacre of GC racing will be bringing his system to assist with the finish. Rob has done the Metro league, Narrows League, SPSL, Westside Classic, Fort Steilacoom, & Curtis Invite in the past as well.

One thing we will need in order to make it happen is some additional volunteer support and also additional materials. John is specifically looking for some experienced volunteers willing to help out with the meet, as well as some additional flagging and posts that could be used to create the new viewing area. Please contact John or myself if you can help with either of these areas.

Our East West All Star Race and scholarship presentation was once again a big success, thanks in no small part to the tremendous support of the Run of the Mill race in Mill Creek. You can see the results and scholarship winners at [WATFXC.com](http://WATFXC.com). Please make a note to visit the site regularly as we will post next year's Senior All Stars, as well as information about the race, the scholarship applications and more. We are also looking at setting up some "home stays" in order to be able to make it easier for members of the East team to attend.

We are working hard to make the WATFXC website a relevant resource for our coaches. If you haven't visited it recently, please take some time to check it out. You will find contact information for the WSCCCA, East West All Star information and results, our Hall of Fame gallery and nomination forms, scholarship information, newsletters, our constitution, beginning coach resources and much more. Please feel free to contact us with suggestions for the site as well. We are in particular need for photos of some of our Hall of Fame members. If you have any for those who are missing, please contact me.

As we are now in the month of August, I encourage all of you to make sure you join the Washington State Coaches Association. There are several reasons for this. First, the WSCCCA is your voice, and we represent cross country coaches with the WSCA and the WIAA. There are a number of benefits, include liability insurance coverage, entry into district and state level events, and more. Also, the WSCCCA will not consider candidates for coach of the year or the Hall of Fame if they are not members. We also get a portion of your dues that we use to fund our Coach of the Year and Hall of Fame. You can join the WSCA at [washcoach.net](http://washcoach.net) Along the same lines, I would strongly encourage you to consider joining [athletic.net](http://athletic.net) as a site supporter instead of just using the free account. There are a number of additional features that make it much easier for both meet and team management.

Good luck during the coming season. I am sure I will see many of you at a meet sometime or other. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of our board or advisory members if you have any questions or concerns.