

September 14, 2023

### **Creek Varsity Boys Win Home Meet; Girls Place Second; Skogman Sets New Course Record**

Johnson Creek, WI – Johnson Creek Varsity boys won Thursday’s meet overall for the first time in program history with a score of 37 points, 12 ahead of second place. The victory was even sweeter in front of the home crowd. Senior Tyler Skogman was strong from the gun, running a season best time, and smashing his own course record by one minute and 48 seconds, crossing the line in first place.

Coach Ben Hail beamed, “The boys’ team has been working hard and pushing each other in practice. With an emphasis on pack running this season and working together as a team, it was exciting to see the boys squad rewarded with their first-ever team win.”

Creek Varsity girls’ team placed second with 53 points. Freshman Lauren Nadboralski ran under prior course-record time but came up short of the win in second place. Junior Rylee Hucke also medaled with her fourth-place finish.

Coach Brett Perucco offered in reflection, “I’m very proud of how our team finished at our home meet. It was a tough course and warmer than expected, but our boys pulled off their first-ever first-place finish, which is really exciting. Our girls ended up placing second overall. This just shows how all of their hard work is paying off. I’m especially proud of Xanthe for having her best race ever, even after dealing with some leg pain earlier in the week. It’s going to be exciting to see what these kids can do for the rest of the season!”

Scoring varsity boys: Senior Tyler Skogman (first, 19:14), sophomore Evan Chowanec (sixth, 20:24), senior Connor Gerstner (eighth, 20:57), freshman Collin Hucke (tenth, 21:09) and senior Ben Trudell (12th, 21:48). The scoring boys who ran this meet last year improved a collective 13 minutes 39 seconds (3:25 average improvement per person).

Scoring varsity girls: Freshman Lauren Nadboralski (second, 22 minutes, 22 seconds), junior Rylee Hucke (fourth, 24:00) and seniors Ava Sixel (14th, 27:03), Hailey Kvalheim (16th, 27:07, and Maggie Markus (18th, 28:00). The scoring girls who ran this meet last year improved a collective 11 minutes 49 seconds (2:57 average improvement per person).

The middle school girls’ team finished second overall, and eighth graders Kiara Dach (second place) and Lia Constable (third place) earned individual spots on the podium. The boys team finished sixth, with sixth grader Bradley Hail earning a medal in seventh place individually.

Scoring middle school boys: Bradley Hail, Max Chowanec, Joey Steenbergen, Diego Arevalo, and Connor Bennett.

Scoring middle school girls: Kiara Dach, Lia Constable, Allison Malueg, Madison Blakey, Ashlynn Goulet.

The Bluejays travel to Horicon next, Thursday September 21, to race at Riverbend Park in Horicon. The course is flat and fast, known to support very fast times, and spectator-friendly with many switchbacks.