



# SWEEPER VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES

National Interscholastic Cycling Association  
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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

"Sweepers" add additional communication and emergency support out on the course. We want to ensure that every rider gets to the finish line in the safest way possible. While Sweepers enjoy riding their mountain bike around the course, they must also be willing to ride behind the tail end of a race category and tend to any issues that may arise on the course. Please include a few category choices for your sweeping position. Please also check in at the volunteer tent at the time your shift begins, usually about an hour before your category starts, to receive your number plate and attend the sweeper orientation meeting.

## GOALS

- To ensure rider safety
- Ensure fair and organized staging
- Stay with last rider of each group
- Let Course Marshals, Scoring and Finish Line Officials know where the last rider of a group is on the course

## PROCEDURE OVERVIEW

- Help with staging. All riders can start staging 20 minutes before their start times. (9:40 – 9:55 AM for girls, 11:20 – 11:35 AM for boys and if there is a later wave 12:45 – 12:55 PM) Please arrive at Start line 15 minutes before staging and wait for instruction from Director or Operations Manager
- Verify that all the riders have their numbers marked on their handlebars
- Start race behind assigned group and stay with the last rider of that group during the entirety of the race
  - Groups are by number series
    - 000s Varsity Boys, 100s Varsity Girls, 200s JV Boys, 300s JV Boys, 400s JV Girls, 500s Soph Boys, 600s Soph Boys, 700 Fresh/Soph Girls, 800s Fresh Boys (Div I teams and Independents, 900s Fresh Boys (Div II Teams)
- **Do not follow the riders to closely, a ten to fifteen second interval is best**
- Make sure that scoring officials see you and know your number series at the end of each lap
- If the last riders of your group do not cross the finish line within the time cut on the second to last lap, continue on course until you find the last rider in your group that crossed
- If you come across an injury, report it to the nearest course marshal as they will have radios (**DO NOT PROVIDE TREATMENT BEYOND YOUR TRAINING**)
  - As soon as other support is on the scene return to staying with the last rider in your number group
- There are often roving Course Marshals who will be responding to injuries and other trail incidents. You can also check in with them if there is an issue.
- Be sure to inform rider of 5 minute penalty and report # to staff and scoring tent only if assistance is given
- You may pass the sweep from the group in front of you
- Report rider numbers if someone cuts the course even if they say they are finished
- Look out for and warn careless spectators (especially young children and dogs)
- Be aware of approaching riders and yield way immediately when necessary- **DO NOT INTERFERE**
- Please return your race plate after race

## **EQUIPMENT LIST**

- Race place (“Sweeper [category]”)

## **DO’s and DON’TS:**

- Don’t coach the riders
- Do give moral support to riders that clearly need it
- Don’t try to get a “training” ride in - you are there for safety and support, not personal training
- Again, do not follow student-athletes too closely. Give them their space. “Out of the photograph.”

## **VOLUNTEER LOCATIONS AND HOURS**

Check in with your volunteer coordinator for specific races and times.

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!***