

## NCAA<sup>®</sup> Selects Chambers Creek Regional Park for 2022 Division II Cross Country Championships

More than 500 student-athletes will travel to Pierce County to compete for national cross country championships in November 2022

**Tacoma, Wash. (Oct. 22, 2020)** Travel Tacoma – Mt. Rainier Tourism and Sports announced today that after a successful bidding process, Chambers Creek Regional Park in Pierce County was selected to host the NCAA<sup>®</sup> Division II national cross country championships in November 2022. More than 500 student-athletes will travel to Pierce County to vie for national championships at the purpose-built course at Chambers Creek Regional Park.

The announcement was part of a slew of host site selections for the 2022-23 and 2025-26 academic

years, in which the NCAA<sup>®</sup> announced several Puget Sound-area sites had been selected to host <u>sporting events</u> including cross country, basketball, volleyball, swimming, diving, soccer and field hockey, among others. The successful region-wide effort to secure these high-impact events was the result of a partnership that included Seattle Sports Commission, City of Seattle, City of Tukwila, City of Federal Way, Oak View Group, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle University, University of Washington

and Washington State University. Of the events won as part of this bid, the 2022 NCAA<sup>®</sup> Division II Fall National Championships Festival – a multi-sport, multi-venue festival held every four years, which includes the cross country championships at Chambers Creek – will be among the first to take place.

In the process, the athletes, their families, fans and spectators will give a welcome boost to the hospitality industry in the traditionally slower fall "shoulder season."

"We have worked hard over the last few years to lead on developing a sustainable and recurring cross country host plan for Chambers Creek Regional Park. We could not be more excited to see this effort start to take shape and we welcome these athletes and schools for a great experience," said Dean Burke, President and CEO of Travel Tacoma – Mt. Rainier Tourism and Sports.

The selection of Chambers Creek Regional Park to host the cross country championships was several years in the making. It involved an extended process of course design, development, logistics and review

in partnership with the NCAA<sup>®</sup> and Seattle Pacific University, as well as partnerships between public and private organizations. Pierce County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee, Pierce County Parks and KemperSports, which operates Chambers Bay Golf Course adjacent to Chambers Creek Regional Park, all played instrumental roles in the bid that secured this valuable event. Travel Tacoma – Mt. Rainier Tourism and Sports is the official destination marketing organization for Tacoma and Pierce County, Washington. Accredited by Destinations International. For more information, visit <u>www.traveltacoma.com</u>.

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