

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## NIRCA Cross Country National Championships Set to Thrill in Hershey, PA at the Legendary Hershey Parkview Cross Country Course

Top collegiate club teams from across the nation to compete for glory in an exciting showcase of endurance in The Sweetest Place on Earth.

For Immediate Release

(Hershey, PA) -- The National Intercollegiate Running Club Association (NIRCA), alongside partner Hershey Harrisburg Sports & Events Authority, is thrilled to announce the highly anticipated NIRCA Collegiate Club Cross Country National Championships, set to take place on November 9, 2024, at the iconic Hershey Parkview Cross Country Course. Founded in 2006 by university running club leaders, NIRCA is the national governing body for collegiate running clubs whose mission is to foster competition and networking between collegiate running clubs.

"We are thrilled to welcome back NIRCA to the Hershey Harrisburg region." says Gregg Cook, Executive Director of HHSE. "Their event was successful in the past, and we're confident that this year it will be even bigger and better."

This year, NIRCA's 2024 Cross Country National Championships is expected to bring together over 50 of the nation's most talented collegiate club teams to compete in an electrifying atmosphere, fostering a sense of camaraderie and pushing the boundaries of athletic achievement in club running. Community members are invited to participate in the festivities by participating in the Open 6k community run. As a fully volunteer-led, grassroots organization, NIRCA also offers opportunities for community members and interested high school athletes to get involved in race-day event activities as course marshals and event volunteers.

"We are thrilled to announce that the 2024 NIRCA Cross Country National Championship will be hosted in Hershey" says Stephanie Bartley, Director of Events at the National Intercollegiate Running Club Association (NIRCA). "Our team, alongside the Hershey Harrisburg Sports & Events Authority, is looking forward to creating an unforgettable experience for all the college club athletes competing and everyone supporting them."

The collegiate championship event, which is free to attend for spectators, is not just an opportunity to witness running achievement, but also serves as a significant presence to the local community. 1,600 college club runners and their families, coaches, and spectators from across the country are expected to converge in Hershey, enjoying local hotels, restaurants, and businesses. The NIRCA Cross Country National Championships will undoubtedly leave a lasting positive impact, not only on the athletes but also on the local businesses and community members who eagerly welcome this prestigious event.

For further information, registration details, and sponsorship opportunities, visit clubrunning.org. Join us in Hershey, Pennsylvania, on November 9, 2024, to watch collegiate club cross country history in the making, and experience the vibrant atmosphere that NIRCA's Collegiate Club Cross Country National Championships will bring.

\*About Hershey Harrisburg Sports & Events Authority

HHSE is committed to promoting sports tourism and events initiatives in the Hershey Harrisburg Region, forging mutually beneficial partnerships with new and existing clients, supporting locally produced events to expand audiences, and driving economic development as it relates to sports and events tourism. HHSE is a division of Visit Hershey Harrisburg, which serves as the official non-profit partnership-based Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) for Dauphin County located in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.