Dear Coach,

We are pleased to invite you to the 2014 edition of The Mustang Challenge. This event takes place on the third Saturday of September each year, and provides a quality meet across the spectrum of collegiate competition. Our intent is to provide a fun and challenging course that will be well managed and offer you and your team an exceptional experience. Although our intent is to have all divisions race together, NCAA division 1 will be scored separate to allow the meet to be counted as a D1 invitational for those institutions.

Depending on entries, we will add “B” heats to allow for competitive, but manageable field sizes in each race. Please enter early to help insure your team’s spot on the line and help meet management assess the field size to determine if additional races are necessary. Please note: the women’s “B” heat is likely to be added, whereas we do not expect it will be necessary to add a men’s “B” heat. Competitive unattached and club athletes are welcome to participate.

Central park is located in Santa Clarita, California, approximately 7 miles from Magic Mountain theme park. The race has been designed to offer fast times on a semi-challenging course. The course consists of low cut grass and hard packed dirt paths, with a few short mulch and woodchip crossings and a few hilly sections. We believe our course captures the rich tradition of California cross country at its finest at the collegiate level.

Please email or call me if you have any questions or concerns at zschoeder@masters.edu.

Best wishes,

Zach Schroeder

Zach Schroeder
Head Coach
The Master’s College
Cross Country and Track
O.661.362.2774
C.661.505.7502
The Mustang Challenge Cross Country Invitational
Saturday, September 20th, 2014
Central Park, Santa Clarita, CA

*Schedule of Events

*Subject to change based on entries. Final time schedule will be released Tues, Sep 16th.

8:00 AM Women’s 5k “A”
8:45 AM Men’s 8k “A”

Entry Fees

Teams: $125 per gender
Individuals: $25

Bring entry fee to packet pick-up on race day or mail entry fees to: The Master’s College, Attn: Cross Country Box #14, 21726 Placerita Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, California 91321

How To Enter (Schools and individuals)

Entries must be submitted online at directathletics.com by Monday, September 15th @ 11:59AM (Pacific Time)


2) We will NOT accept entries via telephone, fax or e-mail. All entries must be done through directathletics.com by the published deadlines.

3) Registration is only open to invited teams. To receive an invitation to The Mustang Challenge please contact Zach Schroeder @ 661.362.2774 or zs Schroeder@masters.edu and request an invite.

4) Registration will be limited to ensure a quality environment for those invited.
Accepted entries and updated information will be posted at http://www.masters.edu/athletics/menssports/crosscountry/the-mustang-challenge.aspx on September 16th by 6:00PM Pacific Time.

**Packet Pick-Up**

Team Packets will be available beginning at **7:00AM** on race day at the check in table, located near the restrooms (between fields #5 & #7 see map below). The packets will include meet information, final instructions, competition numbers, etc.

**Access to the Course/ Course Preview**

The course will be open Friday, September 19th for a course jog beginning at 2pm until dark.

**Course Description**

Both courses are approximately 85% dirt paths, 15% grass, 60% rolling terrain, 40% flat. The women’s 5k course has one sizable hill portion and the men’s 8k has two sizable hill portions.

**Location of Central Park:**
27150 Bouquet Canyon Rd, Santa Clarita, CA 91350

**Team Staging area:**
Please instruct athletes to set up team tents and canopies on fields #7, #9 or next to the basketball courts.

**Restrooms:**
Park restroom facilities will be open and available to athletes (please see attached map of central park for restroom locations. In addition to permanent restrooms, there will be portable toilets available close to the start line.

**Timing/Results**

**Timing:**
We will be using chip timing. Please explain to your athletes how to properly place the chip on their shoe. Athletes will not be released from the corral after the race until the chip is removed.

**Results:**
Results will be displayed near the restrooms after each race. A hard copy of results will be delivered to each head coach, and results will be available at http://www.masters.edu/athletics/menssports/crosscountry/the-mustang-challenge.aspx shortly after the conclusion of the meet.
Awards

A plaque will be presented to the winning NCAA D1 team for both genders, as well as the 1st place team in the invitational scoring. Also, the top 10 individual finishers in each race will receive a Nike dryfit t-shirt.

Hotel Information

Courtyard Marriot: $109; double queen rooms
Please Contact: Tresa jackson
Group Sales Manager—Direct: 661-678.2923
tresa.jackson@dimdev.com

Hyatt Regency Valencia: $109
Please contact group sales Manager Danielle Johanson
661.678.4081  Danielle.johanson@hyatt.com

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Six Flags/ Valencia
Please contact Director of sales Gillian Cone
661.284.2101

Embassy Suites Valencia: two room two double bed suit $149
Please contact Raeanah Rogers
661.206.0937  raeanah.rogers@hilton.com

Special Offers in Santa Clarita:
Check out a variety of great discounts on local attractions when you and your team make your way to Santa Clarita for the 2014 Mustang Challenge! http://offers.visitsantaclarita.com/

Additional Information

1. Trainers: The Master’s College Athletic Trainers will have a training area that will be open one hour before the start of the first race (7:00AM)
2. Showers: There are no dressing or shower facilities at Central Park.
3. Parking: Please refer to the map below for directions to the course and parking lot.
4. Admission: free
5. Food and Beverage/coaches hospitality: Please enjoy bagels and coffee brought to you by our sponsors! Take note of the coaches hospitality canopy near the Start/Finish line.
6. Next year’s date: 9/19/2015 (third Saturday of September)