Cross Country (Parent/Guardian) Committee

I. Why do we have a committee?

The Cross Country Parent/Guardian Committee exists to support and elevate the student-athlete/team experience through organized and sustainable parent/guardian involvement that aligns fully with DeLaSalle's policies and mission and the culture and mission of the cross country program.

Its purpose is to:

- Support student-athletes holistically
- Strengthen the community and program culture
- Reduce administrative burden on coaching staff
- Create clear parent/guardian liaisons within the school approval system
- Establish a repeatable model that can sustain season to season

II. What does the committee do?

1. Enhance the Student-Athlete Experience

- Coordinate team dinners and team snacks
- Coordinate team pot-luck at conclusion of our 12-Hour Relay
- Support celebration of Senior student-athletes (i.e. Run the football/Conference)
- Assist with End-of-Season Banquet (decorations, food, planning)
- Gather 4 volunteers to help course marshall at our home meet
- Planning and organization of NXR (hotels, lodging, uniforms)
- Other team needs (i.e. carpooling, help with low-income families, etc.)

The focus of the committee is supporting the program and fostering belonging, culture, and program pride.

2. Produce Sustainable Organization and Future Guidance

The committee should be made up of parent/guardians of multiple grade level athletes in order to:

- Preserve institutional knowledge
- Document processes
- Give representation across the program
- Minimize burnout
- Create leadership succession
- Drive long-term stability

IV. Structure & Composition

5–6 Members:

- 1 Senior Parent
- 1 Junior Parent
- 1 Sophomore Parent
- 1 Freshman Parent (if available)
- 1-2 At-Large Members

V. Roles

Committee Chair

- Primary contact with coaching staff (if this makes sense - at a first thought I would think communication on how much is in the budget and status of our snack supply would likely be things to touch base about)
- Organizes committee meetings/agenda
- Recruits to fill committee spots for upcoming season
- Organizes opportunities for additional fundraising and team activities

Community Lead

- Organizes team dinners

- Organizing team snacks for meets
- Organizes appetizer pot-luck for after the 12-Hour Relay fundraiser

Events Lead

- Perhaps a parent/guardian of one of the upperclassman student-athletes
- Primary contact for End of Season banquet planning
- Coordinates ways to celebrate Senior student-athletes (i.e. posters/yard signs for Run the Football/Conference, etc.)
    - Coordinates getting seniors a meal after running the football for the Homecoming game
- Coordinates NXR transportation, lodging, and uniforms (note: the program can cover registration fees but does not have a budget to cover lodging, meals, uniforms, etc.)

Committee Members

- Assist in execution of committee tasks/events
- Contribute ideas and resources as needed
- Could be a 2nd Community or Events lead if that makes the most sense

Roles may overlap depending on the number of volunteers as well as the strengths/preferences of volunteers.

There may be random additional tasks that might be helpful for the committee to help problem solve such as carpool set-ups, etc.

To note: These are just how Bryn split things up based on what the program has offered/done in the past - if roles/duties need to be shifted or additional duties are needed the committee can be adjusted. The intent of this committee is to retain traditions and activities that have become a part of our team's culture and continue to build community and drive a strong culture in our program.

VI. Scope of Authority

The committee IS:

- A support and liaison committee
- A structured voice for parent/guardian support initiatives

The committee IS NOT:

- A governing body
- A coaching advisory group
- An independent financial entity
- A grievance committee

The committee will not influence coaching decisions, roster decisions, oversee tactical or competitive matters, and/or personally manage finances of the program. All competitive and program decisions remain under the authority of the Head Coach and school administration.

VII. Objectives

1. **Organize a Sustainable Foundation**
    - Establish committee structure and defined roles
    - Establish meeting cadence and communication system
    - Create a method of documentation that can be shared for future years
    - Produce end-of-season summary report with recommendations
2. **Carry out following tasks:**
    - Coordinate End of Season banquet
    - Organize team dinners and team snacks
    - Organize pot-luck for 12-Hour Relay
    - Coordinate senior celebrations
    - Assist as needed throughout the season (carpooling, supporting low income families, etc.)

Potential Thoughts for Future Years:

Additional Fundraisers

- Execute 1-2 full approved fundraisers in addition to existing fundraisers
    - We have volunteered as Twin Cities Marathon weekend events in the past, could be something like this or perhaps an opportunity to get service hours
- Establish a clear fundraising target
- Create transparent budget outline
- This could be used to to things that our budget hasn't quite been able to cover in the past, such as:
    - Getting matching warm-ups/gear for team
    - Getting swag for families (fan shirts for parents/guardians)
    - Supporting NXR if we continually have interest as a full team to attend

Fundraising for the cross country program is done through our annual 12-Hour Relay, but additional fundraising opportunities can be added/created by the committee.