10th Annual
RustBuster Invitational

2026

The Tenth Annual RustBuster Invitational
Saturday, March 7, 2026

MEET HISTORY

RustBuster was founded in 2017 to be a small, high quality early season meet. This is not intended to be a fundraiser for the Monta Vista track and field program; RustBuster was and is intended to be a small, fun meet for coaches, kids and families that love track and want to have a great early season experience. Coach Kirk Flatow started a tradition we hope will last another 10-years.

COACHES PLEASE NOTE

As a true Invitational, RustBuster will be limited to the first 15 schools that express their interest and confirming their registration by submitting payment. We will begin accepting checks November 10, 2025. **Previous participation WILL NOT guarantee entry for 2026.** Registration will be open until all 15 spots are filled.

The cost per school will be $350 per team, plus volunteer/coach support in the meet-day administration of RustBuster. Preliminary meet information and assignments will follow once registration is complete.

RustBuster is active on Athletic.net. Invited schools can accept their invitation beginning December 1, 2025. Athlete registration will begin January 1, 2026. Athlete registration will close on March 2, 2026 at 11:00 pm. I understand it may be difficult to gather roster information. If you need an extra day or 2, please let us know.

Please email your interest in participating beginning 11/10/25 to coachsciplin@gmail.com
We will acknowledge entries by the date payment is received

RustBuster Track and Field Invitational 2026
Payment Details

Meet Fee: $350

Includes all team entries and admission for all spectators.

Please make checks payable to:
MONTA VISTA ASB - Rustbuster 2026

Note your school name on the memo line for checks, please.

And mail to

MONTA VISTA HIGH SCHOOL ASB
Attention: Track and Field/RustBuster
21840 McClellan Road
Cupertino, CA 95014

Act fast. Remember school entries are based on the order payment is received.

If you need a payment receipt or other documentation for reimbursement, please email David Sciplin at coachsciplin@gmail.com

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REGISTRATION AND MEET INFORMATION (PRELIMINARY as of 3-01-26)

The Monta Vista High School track & field team looks forward to having your team join us for the Tenth Annual RustBuster Invitational Track and Field Meet.

The RustBuster is intended to be a competitive early-season invitational track meet; big enough to have sufficient competition to generate solid early season times, but not so big that the meet is large and difficult to manage. We will limit the number of schools attending to 15 (including Monta Vista) in 2026. Our goal is to have the RustBuster track events start at 8:30 am and finish by 3pm. All of the California State meet track and field events will be contested, with the exception of pole vault (Monta Vista does not have pole vault facilities) and the 200m (which will be replaced this year by the 4 x200m relay). Four divisions compete—boys' and girls' varsity, and boys' frosh-soph and girls JV. The RustBuster will be a track community event, with every team helping to manage and run the meet.

The RustBuster is a true invitational.

Unlike most invitationals, we limit the number of teams that will participate in the RustBuster. Only teams that are invited or ask to be included and are accepted will join the RustBuster. By limiting the number of participants, we can predict the number of athletes and can manage the time schedule for the meet. The RustBuster does not have a large, unexpected number of late entries that can cause scheduling problems, and we don't have to trim athletes because of excess entries. This allows meet management to work towards a competitive, six hour long meet.

If any high school would like to be considered for the 2025 RustBuster, please contract meet director David Sciplin at coachsciplin@gmail.com.

RustBuster Meet Details

Coach's Meeting: There will be a coach's meeting at 8:00 am near the timing area. If you have scratches or substitutions for any laned event, e.g., sprints and hurdles — please let us know during the coaches meeting. If you're not sure, we can accommodate the request during each event's check-in. We do not need scratches for field or distance events.

Meet Administration: Each team will be helping run the RustBuster, including field events and exchange judging. There will be a separate email to the coaches regarding assignments. For 2026, as has been in the past, we are working with the Pacific Association of USA Track and Field to provide officials for the RustBuster. Each of the teams will be asked to provide support volunteers or coaches to the various field events for part of the day. If you have preferences for assignments, please let me know your first few choices. Every team is expected to help administer some portion of the RustBuster.

If your team does not have experience in managing an event, please let us know so adjustments can be made. If your team would prefer an event to run, please make that known.

Events are being evaluated and subject to change.

Entries Limits: Below are the number of entries per school, per event.

Divisions: boys' and girls' varsity, and boys' frosh-soph and girls' JV.

800m, 1,600m and 3,200m – 5 athletes per division,

All other running events – 4 athletes per division (100, 400, hurdles (65,100, 110, 300)

Field Events – 3 athletes per division

4x200m 1 team for each school per division. Plus a 1 mixed gender team.

4x100m, 4x400m & 4x800 – 1 team for each school per division.

Each athlete may compete in a maximum of four events including relays.

All entries must be made online at Athletic.net. The close of entries will be Monday, March 2nd at 11:00 pm.

There is an opportunity for additional entries, space permitting on the day of the RustBuster, in addition to each school's allocated entries above. The procedure for additional athletes to be entered on the day of the meet is described below in the sections on Reporting to Events. There is no additional cost to the schools for these additional entries. In the past, we have been able to accommodate most additional entries on the day of the meet. We will add as many athletes as we can without increasing the number of heats.

Bibs and Bib Numbers: All athletes will be issued a RustBuster bib. The bib number is how we track times/marks and score athletes; please make sure that all athletes have and wear their bibs! (Also they will be nice souvenirs; how many high school track meets have bibs?)

Tents: Please set up your canopies/tents in the big stands on the back stretch, or around the perimeter on the first turn, or in the lower (baseball) fields. Seating space on the home stretch is limited—these are the smaller, visitor stands for football—so we reserve that area for fans, or teams that did not bring tents.

Timing Area: Please, all coaches and athletes, stay away from the timing area! We will post your results shortly after your event is completed. We know after a race, everyone wants to know how they did. The less distraction the timer has, the faster they can do their job to get you the information you're looking for.

Reporting to Events

/Field Athletes: Field event athletes will report and check in at their pit or ring.

/Distance Athletes: For the 800m and longer events, all athletes will report when their event is called. We will quickly divide the athletes into heats on the fly. Marks are recorded cross-country style; as they finish we will record their bib numbers and match the bibs to finish times. If any school would like to add an athlete in addition to the four entries, have the extra athlete report to the start area and if we can add the athlete without increasing the number of heats, we will do so.

/Sprints and Hurdles: After all entries are submitted, we will calculate the number of heats needed for each event-division. Please make sure your fastest athletes are available to run in the first or second heat. We will try to enter at least one athlete from each school in these first 2 heats. It will be your athlete's responsibility to be available in the proper heat. After the first 2 heats are seeded, all remaining entries will be assigned to heats from fastest to slowest.

Please have all sprinters and hurdlers report to the starting area when their event is called. All athletes will be asked to report to the starting area at first call before every event. The starting clerk will start from the fastest athlete entered and call names to identify any athletes who are not present or who have scratched out. The clerk will then reassign athletes on the fly to try to fill all lanes in every heat and if possible, reduce the number of heats. If the athlete is competing in a field event during the heat assignments, they may have a coach or teammate represent them; they should know his bib number (Teammate: 'Quenton Cassidy bib 101 is not present but he will be racing.') Also, if a school is substituting one athlete for a previously entered athlete, they can make the substitution at this time ('Tori Bowie, bib 201 from Milpitas will not be running in heat 2, lane 4. Allyson Felix, bib 202, will be replacing her.')

If any school would like to add an athlete in addition to the four entries, have the extra athlete report to the start area. If we can add the athlete without increasing the number of heats, we will do so. In the first years of the RustBuster, we have been able to accommodate almost every athlete that has been at the start area looking for a last second entry.

Scratches/Substitutions/Additions: We only need scratches for the sprints and hurdles (laned events). Substitutions are allowed, have the replacement come to the start when the event is called (see above). Field events will be substituted at each field event.

There will be a limited number of meet day additions, beyond the number of athletes allowed for each team or entries. We will attempt to fill up the last heat of every running event; for example, if the FSG is allocated 7 heats, the first six heats are filled, and there are four athletes in heat 7, the starting clerk will announce, 'we have four positions remaining in heat 7, is there anyone here interested in running in this heat?' and attempt to fill in this heat. So if any team has athletes interested in running an event beyond the four positions allocated to each team, have the additional athletes come to the start area when the announcement is made, and they may get a spot in the final heat. First come, first served!

Field Events: Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot Put and Discus will get ***four attempts***. The judges can run check in/check out procedures as they wish—since this is a community event, meet management will trust the judgment of the judges that our schools put in charge. The event judge will be allowed to set flexible rules for checking out and back in. There will be no formal check out procedures for field events. Based on the judge's rule set for the time allowed for their flight, it will be the athlete's responsibility to decide when to leave for any other event, and to return and get back in line to complete their remaining attempts. We are trying to move quickly; the athlete will have to be responsible and return as soon as possible. Details will be determined by the judge assigned and explained to the athletes at the pre-event check in.

Throwing implements will be certified prior to competition; the RustBuster will be compliant with NFHS rules. There will be a table set up between the Shot and Discus rings for certification. Please get your implement certified as soon as you arrive at the track. To allow for warm up throws, please certify your implements at least 30 minutes before the event.

Wind readings will be recorded for horizontal jumps, making the RustBuster NFHS compliant. Please say thank you to the volunteers calling out the wind readings, and please don't give them a hard time if your reading is over the limit; sitting all day taking wind measurements is a tedious job. Let's appreciate their efforts. please.

High jump starting heights will be as follows:

- Varsity boys, 5’2”; frosh-soph boys, 4’6”;
- varsity girls, 4’2”; JV girls, 3’6”.

It is important to note once the height is set, the bar cannot be moved until the next height is earned. It’s important for all athletes to be mindful of their time away from the high jump area to make sure the event is completed within a reasonable amount of time. ***Athletes must first report to their field event and will be released to participate on the track.***

Team Scoring: Scoring will be NFHS rules for 8 athletes scoring; 10-8-6-5-4-3-2-1. In the event of a tie for team champion, the tie will be broken by the 4x400m results.

Awards: Medals will be awarded for the top Six (6) places for individual events and top Four (6) places for relays (four medals per team). After results have been posted on the A-frames, athletes can come pick up medals from the medals table. Team trophies will be awarded to the top team in each of the four divisions. We will also present an award for the top overall boys’ and girls’ teams combining points for Frosh/Soph and Varsity.

Admission: We are not charging admission. Bring the family to cheer everyone on.

Meet T-Shirts: There will be RustBuster t-shirts for sale. There will be a limited number as we never have a good idea of what the demand will be, so please let your athletes know that if they are interested in a meet t-shirt—please purchase their shirts early in the day, before we run out!

Trainer: We will have our trainer available at the meet to help treat your athletes (but not for things like pre-event taping; please be prepared to support your athletes on-going issues, blisters, etc).

Concessions: Will be open with decent weather.

Contact: David Sciplin, Meet Director, Monta Vista High School.
coachsciplin@gmail.com

The RustBuster 2026

Event Start Times on Rolling Schedule

Listen for Announcements/Check in at your event/Report Early!

The order for all track events will be FSG, FSB, VG, VB except the hurdle events or as otherwise noted. Due to the loss of warmup space, adjustments may to made to race start times to allow for adequate warmup time.

First Race – 8:30am: First 3 events be ready to go by 8:15am!

3,200m (FSB)

High Hurdles (FSG-VG-VB-FSB @ 65m)

4x800m Relay (FSG – FSB – VG - VB)

4x100m Relay (FSG – FSB – VG - VB)

1,600m (FSG – FSB – VG - VB)

800m (FSG – FSB – VG - VB)

100m (FSG – FSB – VG - VB)

400m (FSG – FSB – VG - VB)

3,200m (FSG and VG together)

300m Hurdles (FSG – VG – FSB - VB)

4x200m (FSG – FSB – VG - VB) + Mixed Gender.

3200m (VB)

4x400m Relay (FSG – FSB – VG - VB)

Welcome RustBuster at Monta Vista High School

Where it is always a great day to race!

The RustBuster Field Events

Listen for Announcements/Check in at your event/Report Early!

	8:30am	10:00am	11:30am	1:00pm
Shot Put	VB	FSB	VG	FSG
Discus	VG	FSG	VB	FSB
Long Jump	FSG	VG	VB	FSB
Triple Jump	VB	FSB	FSG	VG
High Jump	FSB	VG	FSG	VB

All throwing implements must be inspected and weighed prior to competition. RustBuster is a certified meet.

Please bring your throwing implements to be inspected from either:

7:45 - 8:15am, 9:30 - 9:45am or 11:00 - 11:15am

Weigh-in is near the throwing rings.

Throws and horizontal jumps will have 4 attempts. There are no additional attempts/flights.