

4th Annual Jackie Henderson Memorial Meet Preview by Coach Gustavo Ibarra

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Jackie Henderson (1989-2017)



Charlie Pierce (1958-2023)

With heavy hearts, we will host our [4th Annual Jackie Henderson Memorial Cross Country Invitational](#) on Saturday, September 9th, 2023 at North Monterey County High School in Castroville, CA. This past summer the Condor cross country family lost another one of its own. [Charles "Charlie" Pierce](#), who had assisted in coaching the Condors from 2005-2021, unexpectedly passed away. Charlie joined the coaching staff when his kids joined the team and became an avid runner himself. He will be remembered as an always positive individual who inspired many Condors over the years. Along with Jackie, we would like to dedicate the open memorial race for this year's event to Charlie. The team will collect any donations in Charlie's honor for a one-time scholarship to be awarded to an NMCHS runner in Charlie's name. If you are planning to run the open memorial races, please consider giving a donation of any amount. Donations will be collected at the concessions stand throughout the event. Part of the proceeds from the concession stand will also be donated to the scholarship.

The main portion of the event will continue to honor Jackie Henderson who was an assistant cross country and track coach at North Monterey County who was tragically hit by a car while out on a run in the summer of 2017. This event will be held yearly on the high school campus where she taught science and coached. The course is 3 miles and features a start and loops on flat grass, a hilly section on newly developed dirt trails, and intermediate loops with an exciting finish in a beautiful track and field stadium. It has a mix of everything with great viewing and seating in the stadium. The 2023 edition features more than 45 teams! Most of our teams are from the Central Coast Section with some top contenders making a longer trip! The meet kicks off with a free [3 mile open race](#) (8:00 am) to honor Jackie and Charlie allowing everyone to lace them up. Then the [middle schoolers](#) (6th-8th grades) are invited to show up for a free/open 2 mile (8:30 am). Finally, the traditional Frosh/Soph (9:00 Girls, 9:30 Boys), Junior Varsity (10:00 Girls, 10:30 Boys), and Varsity (11:00 Girls, 11:30 Boys) 3 mile [high school](#) races for each gender will highlight the meet on the fast 3 mile layout.

The varsity girls race may be the team race highlight of the day as we have a two-headed monster vying for the win with some solid challengers ready to spoil the party plus our individual course record holder! **St. Francis (Mountain View)**, makes their Jackie Henderson debut and should do it in fine style. They placed 3rd last year at State in D2 and return 5 from that squad. They feature elite front-running along with a solid 1-5 gap that should be enough to hold off their D2 rival **Whitney**, who makes the trip from Rocklin and counters with the best 1-7 depth. Whitney placed 6th at state last year and only lost 1 to graduation. Battling for the last team medals and maybe an upset will be four solid squads! **Willow Glen**, the defending CCS D3 Champs, and **Scotts Valley**, the defending CCS D4 Champs and Henderson Invite Champs, are capable teams with elite front-running while **Leland** and **Carmel** return the heart of some solid up-and-coming squads vying for CCS divisional supremacy. **Hollister** and **Santa Cruz** have the best shot to upset a favorite or two while **Alisal**, **Prospect**, **Cupertino**, and host **North Monterey County** hope to be in the top 10. The [team course record \(95:10\) was set last year by Scotts Valley](#). The winning team today will need to average 19:01 for each of their top 5 girls to get the record. We see St. Francis, Whitney, and Scotts Valley having a shot with elite front-runners. Teams will need to run sub 102:04 team time to make our [top 10 all-time](#). Several teams will do that here today.

Individually, **Ashlyn Boothby (12-Scotts Valley)** returns to defend her title and [17:07 course record](#) from last year! While her fall campaign last year was good, she blasted onto the elite high school running scene with her magnificent 4:39 1600 good for 2nd at the California State Championships along with a fine 10:26 3200 earlier in the spring.! That 1600 time is a CCS record!! Last year she roared to the front of the field here and we look for much of the same today. Watch the clock, bring the atmosphere, and let's see if she can dip under 17:00. **Kylie Hoornaert (11-Prospect)** is the defending CCS D3 champ and our runner-up last year at 17:39. She knows the course well and should keep the pace honest for the chase pack. **Sabrina Zanetto (11-St. Francis)** is our sleeper who blasted a 2:10 800 and 4:51 mile in track and topped off her spring season as the CCS 800 meter champion! If Sabrina can convert that track speed to cross country and hang on until late, she could flirt with the course record as well. It will surely be fun to announce first names of the next trio battling for individual and team glory in **Ava Ghio (11-Carmel)**, **Ava Decleve (10-Scotts Valley)** and **Ava Kopec (12-Whitney)**. **Jane Landon (10-Whitney)** will also be in the mix. **Taylor Chesarek (11-Willow Glen)**, **Isabella Riggs (11-Willow Glen)**, and **Lola Herning (11-Willow Glen)** will work together as a team up-front. **Katelynn Ruiz (11-Watsonville)** may feel lonely without a teammate up-front but will shine individually. Look for **Lauren Draper (10-St. Francis)**, **Lillian Kaelber (12-St. Francis)**, and **Caitlin Cilley (10-St. Francis)** to help decide the team competition. Others to watch include **Grace Scott (12-Whitney)**, **Jane Landon (10-Whitney)**, **Katie Mullane (10-St. Francis)**, **Kendra Melching (12-Hollister)**, **Sophie Hutchinson (10-Whitney)**, **Addison Ewers (10-Whitney)**, **Nimeesha Kolari (10-Cupertino)**, and **Lila Glazier (10-Carmel)**. [Girls will need to run under 18:30 to crack our top 10 all-time.](#) With this line-up, we could see up to 7-8 girls under that mark!!

The varsity boys race will feature a four team toss-up along with our course record holder! **Whitney**, ranked 11th in state in D2, features a strong front end and could pull off the win if their 5th man has closed their 1-5 gap. They are the defending Sac-Joaquin Section champions and placed a fine 4th place at state. **St Francis (Mountain View)** will debut here and counter with a nice pack with a small 1-5 gap. They were 2nd in CCS D2 last year. **Scotts Valley**, the top ranked and defending CCS champions in DIV, graduated some top leaders but they return plenty to mix it up and defend their course record ([79:51](#)) and their win last year! **Santa Cruz** placed a strong 3rd here last year with the [5th fastest team time ever \(80:58\)](#) on the course. They feature the individual course record holder up front and return 5 guys from that team. To win it, they will need to shore up their 4th and 5th runner. This team race is too close to call! **Alisal** took home the most overall hardware last year and will look to upset some favorites. **Willow Glen, Leland, Salinas, Carmel, King City, Aptos**, and host **North Monterey County** round out our list of top contenders. To break the course record ([79:51](#)) by [Scotts Valley in 2019](#), teams will need to average just under 16:00 per man for their top 5 on this fast layout. Santa Cruz may have the best shot with such a fast #1 runner stopping the clock for them. Teams will need to run 83:40 or faster team time to make our [top 10 all time list](#). We see 3-4 teams capable of that today.

Individually, **Eli Fitchen-Young (11-Santa Cruz)** set the course on fire last year running a mind-blowing [14:47 course record](#) as a sophomore and is back for more! He was the CCS D4 Champ and placed a very nice 6th at state with a 15:28 5k. In track he sizzled with a 4:14 mile and 9:05 2 mile. We anticipate his junior year to be quite special on the state and national level. Watch for him to blast to the front and we will watch the clock! **Noah Lopez (12-Whitney)** ran a fine 15:47 5k at state last year and will lead the chase pack along with **Joshua Guzman (11-Gilroy)**. **Mack Aldi (11-Carmel)** also ran 15:47 here last year and followed that up with a nice 4:19 1600 in track. **Mason Lantz (12-Scotts Valley)** and **Ben George (12-Scotts Valley)** lead our defending champions. Mason blitzed a 1:55 800 in track. **Spencer Koontz (12-Pacific Collegiate)** is another half miler to watch with his 1:58 800 speed. **Colin Jubert (11-Leland)** will be in the mix as well. **David Hurren (12-Whitney)** pairs with Noah up-front to set the tone for one of our team title contenders. **Alan Lee (11-Santa Cruz)** and **Kees Van Der Meer (12-Santa Cruz)** are also looking for team glory. Others to watch include **Spencer George (12-Scotts Valley)**, **Riley Clarke (11-St. Francis)**, **Gustavo Perez (11-Alisal)**, **(Dylan Frake (11-Cupertino)**, **Noah Reed (12-Whitney)**, **Matthew Mullane (12-St. Francis)**, **Fernando Herrera (10-Alisal)**, **Evan Niles (12-Aptos)**, **Giovanni Ochoa (11-Gonzales)**, **Thomas Doherty (12-Willow Glen)**, **Alvaro Ruelas (12-North Monterey County)**, and **Nathan Lo (12-St. Francis)**. [Boys will need to go sub 15:36 to get into the all-time top 10.](#) We could see 3-4 guys doing that today.

Thank you to the schools who have joined us as we honor Jackie and we hope you enjoy the meet! Visit the meet website at; <https://sites.google.com/view/hendersonmemorialcc/home?authuser=0>

North Monterey County HS Course Records*

(*3 Miles on new course made in 2018)

Girls' Top 10 Team Times



1) 95:10 Scotts Valley 2022

2) 95:57 Clovis West 2019

3) 96:16 Lynbrook 2019

4) 97:38 Carmel 2022

5) 99:10 Whitney 2019

6) 99:58 Skyline 2019

7) 100:40 Los Gatos 2019

8) 100:47 Henry Gunn 2019

9) 100:55 Hollister 2022

10) 102:04 San Lorenzo Valley 2019

Girls' Top 25 Individuals



1) 17:07 Ashlyn Boothby 11 Scotts Valley 2022

2) 17:28 Eleanor Wikstrom 12 Skyline 2019

3) 17:39 Kylie Hoornaert 10 Prospect 2022

4) 18:08 Anna Weirich 11 Harker 2019

5) 18:09 Amber Boothby 12 Scotts Valley 2022

6) 18:13 Ava Ghio 10 Carmel 2022

7) 18:15 Claire Bringetto 10 Clovis West 2019

8) 18:19 Azalea Groleau 11 San Lorenzo Valley 2019

9) 18:22 Kalei Aoki-Chance 10 Clovis West 2019

10) 18:29 Kayla Penny 12 San Lorenzo Valley 2019

11) 18:32 Oriana Jalal 12 Cupertino 2019

12) 18:34 Viveca Pannell 11 Los Gatos 2019

13) 18:40 Grace Lathrop 10 Whitney 2019

14) 18:43 Sonia Wasserman 11 Orcutt Academy Charter 2019

15) 18:49 Emily Fife 12 Hughson 2018

16) 18:50 Vibha Chandrasekar 12 Leland 2019

17) 18:56 Srushti Patil 10 Lynbrook 2019

17) 18:56 Brook Willoughby 12 Aptos 2022

19) 18:59 Sunny Li 11 Lynbrook 2019

20) 19:00 Lila Glazier 9 Carmel 2022

21) 19:01 Alisha Naidu 12 Lynbrook 2019

22) 19:03 Colleen Murata 12 San Lorenzo Valley 2022

23) 19:04 Elizette Ysais 11 Hughson 2018

24) 19:06 Gabrielle Tran 11 Lynbrook 2019

25) 19:10 Brooke Giorgi 12 Whitney 2019

25) 19:10 Roselyn Olivio 12 Everett Alvarez 2022

Boys' Top 10 Team Times



- 1) 79:51 Scotts Valley 2019
- 2) 80:04 Scotts Valley 2022
- 3) 80:08 Whitney 2019
- 4) 80:21 Clovis West 2019
- 5) 80:58 Santa Cruz 2022
- 6) 81:16 Carmel 2022
- 7) 81:22 King City 2018
- 8) 83:10 Lynbrook 2019
- 9) 83:11 Santa Teresa 2019
- 10) 83:40 North Monterey County 2022

Boys' Top 25 Individuals



- 1) 14:47 Eli Fitchen-Young 10 Santa Cruz 2022

- 2) 15:06 Carson Smith 12 Santa Teresa 2019
- 2) 15:06 Trent Nosky 12 Aptos 2022
- 4) 15:25 Jeremy Kain 10 Scotts Valley 2019
- 5) 15:25 Mitchell Ross 12 Scotts Valley 2019
- 6) 15:28 Ethan Dodge 12 Whitney 2019
- 6) 15:28 Aiden Boothby 12 Scotts Valley 2022
- 8) 15:30 Pierson Lamborn 12 Clovis West 2019
- 9) 15:35 Cory Nounnan 11 San Lorenzo Valley 2019
- 10) 15:36 Mario Avila 11 King City 2019
- 11) 15:38 Aiden Tarantino 12 Carmel 2022
- 12) 15:39 Cash Ebright 10 San Lorenzo Valley 2019
- 13) 15:40 Jack Brownfield 12 Scotts Valley 2022
- 14) 15:47 Mack Aldi 10 Carmel 2022
- 15) 15:48 Esteban Deniz 11 King City 2018
- 16) 15:51 Jose Velazquez 11 Alisal 2019
- 16) 15:51 Dylan Craig 12 Carmel 2022
- 18) 15:52 Mason Lantz 11 Scotts Valley 2022
- 19) 15:53 Vincent Peng 12 Lynbrook 2019
- 20) 15:53 Jason Finta 11 Whitney 2019
- 21) 15:56 Brandon Johnson 12 Santa Teresa 2019
- 22) 15:58 Ricardo Diaz 12 King City 2019
- 23) 15:59 Matthew Morgan 12 Clovis West 2019
- 24) 16:00 Josh Tajiri 12 Whitney 2019
- 24) 16:00 Harry Ordiano 12 Alisal 2022