

**WELCOME RUNNERS AND PARENTS**

**2024 CARDEGLE CROSS COUNTRY SEASON**

Welcome to the 2024 Cardegle Cross Country Team. For those new to the program the team is a combination of St. Charles Cardinals and St Jude Eagles, hence Cardegles. We also have some additional runners from nearby Catholic schools with no CC program (PB, SJNH, etc.). Our goal as coaches is to improve each runner during the season, teach the sport and have fun all while continuing the Cardegle Tradition.

**Practices will be from 5:15 – 6:15 Monday thru Friday. Monday and Friday at Shoaff, Tuesday and Thursday at the Plex meeting behind the Plex building and Wednesday at Kreager meeting by the tennis courts.** We practice rain or shine (unless lightening). Practice should generally last no longer than 1 hour so please plan to pick up your runner no later than 6:15. **There may be some changes during the season due to conflicts at the practice venues.**

Please be aware that cross country is a sport in which the participants are expected to train during the season to run the Indiana middle school 3k /1.86 mile competition against competing schools. Competitors range in ability and at a minimum, are expected to complete the 3K/1.86 mile course without walking within 20 minutes. We heartily welcome all student-runners and expect a wide range of running ability on the team and we hope all participating embrace the sport of running. For the overall monitoring and safety of the entire team during progressive training sessions up to at least 4 miles in length, the coaching staff expects all Cardegle participants by the 3rd week of the official season and prior to the first competition to have developed the ability to fulfill their requirements of each training session and the 3K/1.86 mile competition without walking unless there is injury, sickness or otherwise directed by the coaching staff. We cannot coach the team as required if we must monitor a few runners who cannot keep up within a reasonable distance. It may become necessary to evaluate their continued participation. We eagerly look forward to a successful 2023 season.

Our first meet is August 31th. A season schedule is posted on the website, [www.cardegles.com](http://www.cardegles.com) . All runners if eligible (keep those grades up) can run in every meet either as a varsity or junior varsity runner (Note: some meets do not allow 5th graders to run unless an exception is made but 5th graders still should have enough meets to compete in their first year). Every runner should plan to be at every meet so we can be at our competitive best. This is a team sport needing each runner’s contribution. As coaches we prefer this to be your primary sport and for you to make a commitment to the team at meets as well as practice. Practice is the only way to improve so plan to make all the practices as you would in any other sport*. (Of course, we recognize certain unavoidable conflicts may cause an absence.)* If you do not have spikes for meets, we do have used spikes available to borrow. Feel free to ask a coach about shoes/spikes or any running questions you may have. When uniforms are assigned, please take good care of them, they are very new!

**There are several important items to note:**

**For St Charles parents:**

**All Athletic Fee Payments Are Invoiced to Parents’ FACTS Accounts:** Parents - Once your student-athlete has been officially added to a team’s roster, athletic fees will be invoiced to, and paid through, your FACTS Tuition and Fees Management Account. Please note that you will receive an email invoice notice at least 10 days before any funds are withdrawn from your account.

**The student-athlete fee is $55 per sport played .**

The necessary forms should be completed via the school website.

**Non-St Charles parents:**

The same $55 fee applies and checks can be made payable to St. Charles Athletics and given to the coach. Same forms need to be completed. [www.stcharlesschoolfw.org/forms](http://www.stcharlesschoolfw.org/forms) or see our website.

**T-shirts:**  This will be handled as a separate transaction and forms will be provided for ordering.

**Physicals:** All physicals MUST be turned into your respective school office, but for those athletes not attending St. Charles a copy would be appreciated to verify completion for participation.  All physicals for this year, must have been completed after to April 1, 2024 to count toward the 2024-2025 school year.

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Finally and importantly, we will need several parent volunteers to help with assigning uniforms, to coordinate snacks and drinks after the meets and also we will need volunteers to help out with the Cardegle invitational later in the season. Just ask the coaches anytime for more information on volunteering. We will provide a list of runners with their phone numbers and parents when we’ve collected all that information. The season always ends with an awards banquet which also requires coordinators.

We have our own website, [www.cardegles.com](http://www.cardeglescc.com) so you can check that anytime for updates, schedule, news, meet results, pictures and past history or to contact coaches by email.

**Coaches**

**Dan Kaufman** 485-5241 cell 414-6543 **Scott Reiling** cell 241-3395

**Dan Delaney**  cell 443-6120 **Chris Kaufman** 485-2275 cell 414-6730

**Steve Leffers cell** 385-9365 **Tim O’Connell cel**l 417-2953

*Team Prayer*

*Lord, protect and strengthen me as I run today.*

*And grant me the courage and wisdom to always do what is right. Amen.*