

2026 OVC XC Preview



Race Information:

Date: Friday, September 18th, 2026

Location: Osage Center Fields
625 North Kingshighway
Cape Girardeau, MO, 63701

Map: Will be on our website at <https://semoredhawks.com/sports/cross-country>

Distance: It will be the full Championship distance for both the men and women. We have expanded our course to be ready for both high school and collegiate championship distances, with a 2300m and 1609m loop, along with the Start-to-Finish distance. There are two smaller hills in the woods on the 2300m loop, the 1609m loop is flat and fast.

Schedule: 6:00 pm – Women’s 6,000 meter race
6:35 pm - Men’s 8,000 meter race

Entries: Entries will be completed through www.directathletics.com. Please search for ‘2026 OVC Preview’ to find the meet, entries will be open on August 3rd. Entries are unlimited per school and \$150 per gender, \$300 in total for both genders. Unattached athletes affiliated with one of the competing teams will need to be entered manually, at no extra cost. Unattached athletes with no school affiliation will need to make a profile and enter on Direct Athletics, at a cost of \$25. Please send me the names of athletes who are team affiliated directly to rlane@semo.edu so we can get them entered. We are glad to offer this meet to any and all teams interested without limitation, but the intention is for OVC schools to be able to preview the full course they will compete at for the Conference meet, if they choose.

Timing: Big River Running: Live Results page to be provided later.

Restrooms: Portable bathrooms will be available.

Athletic Training: Please plan to bring your own athletic trainer if you have significant needs. We will have an AT available for any teams who do not have the ability to travel with one, but with limited equipment capabilities.

Water: We will have water available at the start and finish line. If you want water at the team camps, please be sure to bring your own, but we will have plenty available.

Inclement Weather: We will be able to utilize your team vehicles or the Osage Center conference room in the event of severe weather. Our Athletic Trainer will monitor the weather and alert all other AT's in the event of possible severe weather.

Contacts:

Race Director – Ryan Lane: 573-275-6909

Race Supervisor – Eric Crumpecker: 573-986-8742

Athletic Trainer – Kristin Jones: 660-233-6029

Sports Information – Jeff Honza: 618-528-1145, Peter Leithauser: 614-390-7871

Facilities Supervisor – Kent Phillips: 573-225-1182

Athletic Administration – Betsy Wilcox: 317-797-8405