

Air Academy Mountain Bike Team Flies up Snowmass in Superhero Style

Air Academy traveled to Snowmass Village Ski Resort for the third of four Colorado High School Crystal Regional series races. The spirit theme was “Superheroes” and the AAHS team lived up to that theme by flying up the mountain like genuine superheroes! The Snowmass course is a true climber’s course with a steep climb right off the starting line that continues for 2.5 miles climbing 750 ft to the high point of 9,334 ft on Sam’s Knob. From there, a fast 2.3 mile single-track descent with little to no opportunities for passing, back to the start/finish area.



AAHS Mountain Bike Team Snowmass 2022

The first race of the day featured the Junior Varsity Girls. AAHS has two JV girls: Avery Harris and Raegan Agrmison. In a field of 30 racers Avery and Raegan led from beginning finishing in 1st and 2nd by a wide margin. Avery and Raegan set the motion for a fantastic AAHS day of racing and put the spotlight on Air Academy.



Sophomore Avery Harris Leading the JV Girls Race



Raegan Agrimson Ripping the Single Track



Avery & Raegan 1st & 2nd JV Girls

The freshmen girls were next with our only freshman girl, Kylie Moerk. The freshmen girls' field of 30 came down to an exciting race up front with Kylie battling with racers from Highlands Ranch and Colorado Rocky Mountain high schools. In the end Kylie finished 3rd in one of the more exiting races of the day.



Freshman Kylie Moerk Digging Deep

The Freshmen boys followed, continuing the momentum the girls created. Our six freshmen boys, in a field of 64, finished with four in the top ten and all six in the top thirteen, with Ben (Zim) Reichart leading the way in 1st Place. Jacob Weber filled out the podium in 5th, with Jack Falender following close behind in 6th. Cooper Markley rounded out the top 10 while Keenan Swanson and Mack Galliard finished 11th and 13th. It was at this point the race announcer wondered what Air Academy High School feeds their kids!



Freshmen Boys attacking the 2.5-mile Climb with Zim on 2nd Wheel



Jack Falender Screaming down the Mountain



Zim Reichart in the Battle for 1st Place

The day was far from over and the Air Academy Mountain Bike Team was not done taking spots on the podium. In a field of 89 sophomores, Trevor Kornmessor, in a tight race, battled with racers from Discovery Canyon, Crested Butte, Valor Christian, Rock Canyon, and Evergreen high schools to finish on the podium in 3rd place. Only a minute separated first through sixth place. Keegan Hale finished in the top 20 at 18th, Boaz Galliard followed at 27th, Lawrence (Eli) Raw having a great race in 32nd, Simeon Scheid 49th and Aslan Rivenburg continues to improve finishing in 87th.



Trevor Kornmessor Heading out on 2nd Lap



Simeon Scheid in a Sprint for the Finish



Bo Gallert Digging Deep

Finally, the last race for Air Academy was the JV boys with the biggest field of the day at 96. Our five JV boys rocked it as all five of them finished in the top 34 with freshman Austin Leigh leading the way in 1st place! This was an exciting race between Austin and the current series points leader from Crested Butte High School. They were wheel to wheel through most of the race, with Austin just edging him out at the top of the climb and hitting the single-track first. He was able to hold on to the lead on the descent and take the win. JT Graybeal and Reed McAfee both had bad starts: JT had pedal issues and Reed was involved in a crash but still managed to come from the back and finish 15th and 23rd respectively. Carson Pevoteaux and Eli Considine rounded things out finishing in the top third at 33rd and 34th.



Carson Pevoteaux Shredding the Descent



JT Graybeal Ripping the Corners



Austin Leigh Take First Place JV Boys

Summary

On possibly the toughest course of the series the AAHS MTB Team showed their determination and tenacity by digging deep and climbing the Mountain like superheroes. AAHS has racers in five of the eight High School categories: JV Girls, JV Boys, Sophomore Boys, Freshmen Girls, and Freshmen Boys. Air Academy achieved a podium spot in all five categories including three first places. Overall, as a team, AAHS finished a solid second, getting ever closer to the first-place team; Colorado Rocky Mountain High School, who has five varsity riders. Our next stop is Eagle Colorado for the series final, then it's on to the Colorado High School League State Championships in Glenwood Springs!



Another Great Weekend - Dig Deep - AAHS