

## Eagles excited to compete in state indoor meet



*Indoor crew from 2020 - last time we competed at indoor state.*

### By Kevin Gordon

Eastwood High School is returning to the state indoor track and field meet this weekend.

The Division II-III state meet is Saturday at the Spire Institute in Geneva.

The field events start at noon, followed by the running events at 2 p.m.

The state indoor meet comes after two weeks after the start of practice for the outdoor season. Eastwood's weekly indoor schedule started Dec. 19, consisting of three meets and five practices. One practice was

canceled because of snow.

Eastwood had no indoor season in 2021 because of COVID.

The state meet is conducted by the Ohio Association of Track, and Cross-Country Coaches.

"I am excited for our athletes to have the opportunity to compete in this caliber of a meet with the tough competition," Eagle girls head coach Nikki Sabo said. "Having this experience will give them confidence going into the outdoor season."

"I am excited to have an indoor state meet again," Eastwood boys head coach Brian Sabo said. "Our OATCCC does a fantastic job making it seem like a state meet. The competition is usually pretty outstanding. It is also fun to go to some different events like the triple jump and the weight throw. For the field events especially, it allows you practice and trials early in the season because March can be very hard to get quality work done outside."

The Eagles still have three weeks of outdoor practice remaining before their first meet March 29 at Oak Harbor.

"We had no indoor season last year, so this was very new to so many people," Brian Sabo said. "Having an indoor season and now rolling into the first two weeks of outdoor practice, we are so much further ahead of 2021. We were very young last year with outstanding senior leadership. What we are already seeing, besides improvement, is less teaching new or basic things. Now, we are progressing onto more techniques you do with experienced people. I am really pumped for the season and seeing how this family grows."

"Spire's facility is one of the best in America and for the kids to compete at such a facility is a thrill for them," Nikki Sabo said. "Spire hosted the Big Ten Indoor Championships just this past weekend and for our kids to race on a 300-meter track indoors with the finest facilities will cap off our already successful indoor season."

## **GIRLS QUALIFIERS**

- **High jump, noon** senior Maisy Stevenson.
- **Pole vault, noon:** junior Julia Sabo.
- **Long jump, noon:** junior Emma Downs.
- **Weight throw, noon:** senior Ava Kiefer and junior Oliva Newsome.
- **Shot put, after the boys shot put:** Kiefer and Newsome.
- **4x800 relay, 2:30 p.m.:** freshman Leah Emch, sophomore Avery Bowman, senior Addie Young and sophomore Z Ramsey.
- **4x200 relay, 3:55 p.m.:** Sabo, Downs, Stevenson and senior Mikayla Hoelter.
- **3,200, 6 p.m.:** Emch.
- **4x400 relay, 6:35 p.m.:** Stevenson, Bowman, junior Kayden Firsdon and Hoelter.

## **BOYS QUALIFIERS**

- **Weight throw, after the girls weight throw at noon:** senior Nate Heskett.
- **Pole vault, noon:** junior Dalton Hesselbart.
- **Triple jump, after the long jump at noon:** juniors Bryce Koprowski-Kistner and Robby Rothenbuhler.
- **4x400 relay, 6:55 p.m.:** freshmen Kevin Lewis, Andre Lewis, Jesse Poiry and Hayden Hoelter. Junior Noah Smith was a member of the 4x400 relay which qualified, but he is a member of Eastwood's basketball team which is playing in the district tournament this week and is unable to compete in the state meet.

"Our expectations really never change," Brian Sabo said. "We look to PR in every meet. We worry about ourselves and what we are doing, and everything else takes care of itself. When someone goes into the meet and PRs and finishes 20<sup>th</sup>, so be it. It means we are getting better."

## **MEET COVERAGE**

**More information on the meet is available at:** <https://www.oatccc.com/News-Events/State-Meet/#Meet-Info-8>

**The meet will be live streamed at:** <https://oh.milesplit.com/meets/462109-oatccc-d1-indoor-state-meet-2022#.Yh2aXt9Onrc>

**Live results and final results will be available at:** <https://lightningtiming.com/>

**Updates and coverage also will be available on our social media pages:** <https://twitter.com/EastwoodTF> and <https://www.facebook.com/EastwodTF/>

**Kevin Gordon will have stories posted at:** <https://www.eastwoodtrack.com/> and on our social media pages.