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# State Media Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## ***CIF TO USE CHIP TIMING AT STATE CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS***

SACRAMENTO --- In a strong effort to enhance the quality of postseason high school sporting events, the CIF State Office announced today it will use Chip Timing at the 2009 CIF State Cross Country Championships Saturday, Nov. 28, at Woodward Park in Fresno. Chip Timing is a system that requires athletes to wear a lightweight small chip on the shoelace or on an ankle bracelet. The CIF will mandate runners wear a chip on both shoelaces. The chip helps identify runners as they cross strategically placed electronic mats throughout the course. The system can accurately chart runners split and finish times. Chip Timing also provides immediate race updates, and compensates for slow starts caused by crowded starting areas.

A generous sponsorship by Nike makes Chip Timing possible for the first time in the history of the state championships, which started in 1987.

“The CIF is pleased and excited about using Chip Timing in our CIF State Cross Country Championships,” CIF State Executive Director Marie M. Ishida said. “Not only will this system provide quicker results of races, but it will provide a safer finish as runners will not have to be funneled down narrow chutes to ensure the proper order of finish. We want to thank Nike for providing their support of this state of the art timing system.”

