

## HEALTHY KIDS RUNNING SERIES

### TIE-BREAKER CRITERIA

We have tie-breaker criteria for two separate instances, both of which are addressed below:

- A. **SINGLE RACE TIES.** Instances where two or more runners cross the finish line at the exact same time in a single race, and
- B. **SERIES TIES.** Instances where two or more runners finish the five-week series with an equal number of total points.

#### A. SINGLE RACE TIES.

For instances regarding single race ties, where two or more runners cross the finish line at the exact same time in a single race, please use the following criteria:

- Definition:
  - a. Crossing the Finish Line: A runner is deemed to have crossed the finish line when their chest crosses the line, not their hands, feet, or other extremity.
  - b. Runners are deemed tied in a single race when two or more runners' chests cross the finish line at what appears to be the same time, according to the Community Coordinator's naked eye.
- Assumptions:
  - a. HKRS, barring special circumstances, does not use a chip or photo-finish technology.
  - b. Therefore, the Community Coordinator, or one of their delegated race representatives or on-site volunteer, is responsible for watching and judging with their naked eye, the finish order of participants.
  - c. HKRS Community Coordinators, volunteers or any race-day staff is making an honest effort to determine runner placing.
- Ruling:
  - a. Runners, deemed to be tied by the Community Coordinator, their delegated race representative or volunteer, will be scored with an equal number of points for the week.
  - b. Points are awarded consistent with the point scale published by HKRS as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> Place = 10 Points; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place = 9 Points; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place = 8 Points; 4<sup>th</sup> Place = 7 Points; 5<sup>th</sup> Place = 6 Points; 6<sup>th</sup> Place = 5 Points; 7<sup>th</sup> Place = 4 Points; 8<sup>th</sup> Place = 3 Points; 9<sup>th</sup> Place = 2 Points; 10<sup>th</sup> Place and below = 1 Point.
- Examples:
  - a. Runner A and Runner B are leading a three-runner race. Runner A and Runner B's chests cross the finish line at the same time. The Coordinator deems Runner A and Runner B to be tied. The Coordinator is to score the race as follows:
    - Runner A – 10 Points
    - Runner B – 10 Points
    - Runner C – 8 Points
    - Note: Runner A & B both receive 10 Points, but Runner C, still the third runner to finish receives eight (8) third place points (not 9 points as they aren't the second-place finisher).

- b. Runner A and Runner B are leading a three-runner race. Runner A reaches their hand out across the finish line ahead of Runner B, but the Coordinator sees Runner B's chest cross the line before Runner A's chest crosses the line. The Coordinator is to score the race as follows:
  - Runner B – 10 Points
  - Runner A – 9 Points
  - Runner C – 8 Points
- c. During a twelve-runner race, Runners C, D and E are sprinting for third place and the Community Coordinator sees their chests cross the line at the same time: The Coordinator is to score the race as follows:
  - Runner A      10 Points
  - Runner B      9 Points
  - Runner C      8 Points
  - Runner D      8 Points
  - Runner E      8 Points
  - Runner F      5 Points
  - Runner G      4 Points
  - Runner H      3 Points
  - Runner I      2 Points
  - Runner J      1 Point
  - Runner K      1 Point
  - Runner L      1 Point
  - Note: Runners C, D & E score the same eight points, but runner F scores five as they were in 6<sup>th</sup> place. Runners J, K & L each receive one point for participating.

## **B. SERIES TIES.**

For instances regarding series ties, where two or more runners finish the five-week series with an equal number of total points, and are vying for an award of either first, second or third place, the following tie-breaker criteria will be used to break the tie, consecutively as needed.

1. Greatest number of races ran during the current season.
  - a. **Explanation:** Keeping line with our vision and mission with the focus on developing an active lifestyle, HKRS will reward consistent participation as the first tie-breaker criteria.
  - b. **Example:**
    - i. If Runner A and Runner B both finish the series with 47 points, but Runner A ran all five weeks, and Runner B only ran four weeks, then Runner A is awarded the win.
  - c. **If still tied:** In the event both runners ran an equal number of weeks (i.e. all five weeks), advance to criteria number 2.
2. Greatest number of highest place finishes:
  - a. **Explanation:** This is determined by calculating the highest placing position of each of the tied runners, then tallying the runner(s) with the greatest number of finishing in that place.

Note, it does not have to be first place, it can be any place in the race that is the highest placing by the tied runners.

b. **Example:**

- i. If Runner A and Runner B both finish the series with 47 points, to break the tie, the Coordinator is to determine the highest placing between Runner A and Runner B. Runner A and Runner B's results from the series are as follows:
  - a. Runner A finished 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> for 47 points
  - b. Runner B finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> for 47 points
- ii. In the above Example A, 1<sup>st</sup> place is the highest place position between the two runners over the duration of the Series. Next, the Coordinator tally's the number of highest place finishes. Runner A has three 1<sup>st</sup> place finishes to Runner B's two 1<sup>st</sup> place finishes. Therefore, Runner A wins because three first place finishes are better than two first place finishes.
- iii. If Runner C, Runner D and Runner E all finish tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> place with 35 points, to break the tie, we follow the same steps as example A. Their results are as follows:
  - a. Runner C finished: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> for 35 points
  - b. Runner D finished: 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> for 35 points
  - c. Runner E finished: 5<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> for 35 points

In the above example, third place is the highest place position between the three runners over the duration of the Series. Next, tally the number of highest place finishes (3<sup>rd</sup>) for each runner which is Runner C (2), Runner D (1) and Runner E (2). Because Runner C and Runner E both remain tied at two. In the event tied runners share the same total number of highest placed finished, as in this example, **advance to criteria number 3.**

3. Best head-to-head results of the final race, per the following:
  - a. In the event one of the tied runners did not participate in the final race while the other tied runner did participate, no matter the placement of the participating runner from week 5, so long as they finished, the participating runner will win the tiebreaker ahead of the non-participating runner.
  - b. From the example in criteria 1.A.II.b above, both runners participated in week 5 and they both finished third place twice. In this final criterion, the placing of their fifth and final race result becomes the determining factor. In this instance Runner C finished 5<sup>th</sup> place and Runner E finished 3<sup>rd</sup> place, therefore Runner E breaks the tie and is to be awarded third place for the Series.
  - c. In the event neither of the tied runners participated in the final week, **advance to criteria 4.**
4. Place winner is determined on each runner's head-to-head placement from the preceding, or multiple preceding weeks, as needed, to determine a result.
  - a. Example: if neither runner raced on week five, return to the week of either runners last result to determine head-to-head places.

**Policy version and revision information**

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