



290 PRAIRIE STAR RD.  
SANTA ANA PUEBLO  
NM 87004  
P. 505.867.0775

NB3FOUNDATION.ORG



## NB3 Foundation XC Runners Compete at Nationals

Last week, 11 youth runners with the NB3F XC Club traveled – some by plane and some by car – to compete in the USA Track & Field (USATF) National Junior Olympic Cross Country Championships in Tallahassee, Florida. After competing with nearly a thousand runners from across the country, all NB3F XC runners returned home safely with lifetime memories.

From Clint Begay, Director of NB3FIT, “I am very proud of the kids and the coaches. They dedicated themselves from start to finish!”

To help with travel costs, families set-up GoFundMe pages, held food sales and other fundraising activities. Tribes helped too. NB3 Foundation reached out to donors and friends to donate – and it all paid off! The team was successful, the kids had fun and your support helped to make it all happen!



So, a little bit about the trip and race. A few runners and coaches hopped on a 6 am flight from Albuquerque to Atlanta. From Atlanta, they drove four hours on small highways and through small towns until they reached Tallahassee. Coach Simona said they saw a lot of cotton fields.

Some youth runners have never traveled outside of New Mexico or even been on a plane. Most families, with financial assistance from their respective tribes and fundraising, were able to fly to Florida. Two families, in particular, left Albuquerque several days before the race because it was more cost effective to make the 22-hour drive to Florida; and to a kid, a car is less scary than a plane.



While in Florida, it rained for two days but the weather cleared by race day. The mud, however, made the course challenging, but that didn't stop the kids from giving it their all and running. Families and coaches were able to watch the races from the spectator loop

inside the course. Moms and dads were cheering on their young ones as they ran their fastest and hardest. Many of them posting photos and videos on social media.

“It was really cold, and the course was wet and muddy,” Simona said. “I could tell the kids were nervous, mostly because of all the runners and people there. I told them, ‘This is just another race. Worry about yourself, and run for you!’”

Each runner ran their personal best or near it. Here’s a breakdown of their times, where they placed and number of runners in their category.

Girls Age 8 & Under Race (1.2 miles) — 198 runners

- Taylynn (Pueblo of Jemez) – Time: 8:56; Placed: 77<sup>th</sup>
- Savannah (Pueblo of San Felipe) – Time: 9:16; Placed: 84<sup>th</sup>

Boys Age 8 & Under Race (1.2 miles) — 237 runners

**\*NB3F XC Boys Placed 12<sup>th</sup> out of 15 teams**

- Christopher (Pueblo of San Felipe) – Time: 8:59; Placed: 130<sup>th</sup>
- Quinton (Pueblo of Jemez) – Time: 9:09; Placed: 150<sup>th</sup>
- Lionel (Pueblo of Santa Ana) – Time: 9:11; Placed: 152<sup>nd</sup>
- Ethan (Pueblo of Sandia) – Time: 9:31; Placed: 185<sup>th</sup>
- Andrew (Pueblo of Sandia) – Time: 10:02; Placed: 219<sup>th</sup>
- Ben (Pueblo of Sandia) – Time: 10:23; Placed: 223<sup>rd</sup>
- Tiyon (Pueblo of San Felipe) – Time: 11:07; Placed: 233<sup>rd</sup>

Boys Age 11-12 Race (1.86 miles) — 396 runners

- Marius (Pueblo of Jemez) – Time: 11:09; Placed: 156<sup>th</sup>

Girls Age 15-16 Race (3.1 miles) — 151 runners

- Janae (Pueblo of Santa Ana) – Time: 27:44; Placed: 146<sup>th</sup>

The NB3F XC Club is an exciting and popular element of the [NB3FIT](#) program that also includes soccer and golf. The XC Club is part of the USATF Region 10 New Mexico Chapter, and every youth runner is registered with an official cross country number. The NB3F cross country program continues to evolve and the team is excited to get better for next year.

Thank you to friends, family and community leaders for helping to make this trip a success!

