

# Columbus Grove Boys Repeat at Track Meet as PCL Champions

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At this point in the track season, coaches pencil in their lineup and hope injuries and sickness don't force them to make major changes.

Columbus Grove boys coach, Chris Grothaus, faced that challenge Monday at the Putnam County League meet. He faced decisions come meet time, but dug down to help overcome these problems to repeat as PCL Track and Field Champions at Clymer Stadium in Columbus Grove.

Columbus Grove continued their strangle hold on the PCL as they came out of the field events with a big lead and continued to build on it on the track.

"This says a lot about these guys sticking with it through that COVID season as they continued to work and kept their heads up," Grove coach Chris Grothaus said. "Other teams are coming around, but last year they were committed through that COVID season running all the time. This is one about our seniors as they had the year off and have worked hard to where they have lost just once (before the State Meet). That's says a lot about those guys."

Columbus Grove won all five field events as they had double placements in all five events.

Braylon Baxter won the pole vault clearing 13-0 with Noah Goecke at 12-0, while Antonia Gray won the high jump clearing 6-0 and Tayden Pingle was third. A. J. Schafer won the shot put at 50-10 and Tadd Koch was third at 41-11, before Koch won the discus at 173-5 and Lawson Maag was second at 164-10. Jacksen Schroeder won the long jump at 20-4 and Landon Myers was third at 19-2.

Carson Closson, Caleb Stechschulte, Trent Koch and Caleb Morman combined to win the 4x800 relay in 8:18.68, while Baxter, Zach Reynolds, Schroeder and Josh Smith took the 4x100 relay in

44.70. Closson Stechschulte, Myers and Anden Blankemeyer won the 4x400 relay in 3:34.60.

Morman won the 800-meter run in 2:08.50, Trent Koch won the 3200-meter run in 10:08.09 with Luke Ellerbrock taking second in 10:10.35. Anden Blankemeyer won the 400-meter dash in 53.27 with Trenton Barraza second in 54.0 and Reynolds won the 110 high hurdles in 16.24.

Sophomore Collin Heitmeyer won the 1600-meter for Kalida in 4:47.51 as he placed in all four distance events to help the Wildcats point totals. Noah Verhoff won the 200-meter dash in 23.40.

Hayden Hiegel won the 100-meter dash for the Vikings in 11.69 and joined Brayden Casteel, Ethan Lammers and Michael Jimenez to win the 4x200 relay in 1:38.67.

Kellen Schlagbaum won the 300 hurdles in 40.44 for Ottoville.

## SUMMARY

(1) Columbus Grove 207 (2) Kalida 101 (3) Ottoville 75.5 (4) Leipsic 75 (5) Pandora-Gilboa 38 (6) Fort Jennings 23 (7) Continental 2.5 (8) Miller City 2

SHOT PUT – A. J. Schafer (CG) 50'10"

DISCUS – Tadd Koch (CG) 173'5"

HIGH JUMP – Antonio Gray (CG) 6'0"

LONG JUMP – Jacksen Schroeder (CG) 20'4"

POLE VAULT – Braylon Baxter (CG) 13'0"

110 METER HURDLES – Zach Reynolds (CG) 16.24

300 METER HURDLES – Kellen Schlagbaum (O) 40.44

100 METER DASH – Hayden Hiegel (L) 11.69

200 METER DASH – Noah Verhoff (K) 23.40

400 METER DASH – Anden Blankemeyer (CG) 53.27

800 METER RUN – Caleb Morman (CG) 2:08.50

1600 METER RUN – Collin Heitmeyer (K) 4:47.51

3200 METER RUN – Trent Koch (CG) 10:08.08

4x100 METER RELAY – Braylon Baxter, Zach Reynolds,

Josh Smith and Jacksen Schroeder (CG) 44.70

4x200 METER RELAY – Brayden Casteel, Ethan Lammers,

Michael Jimenez and Hayden Hiegel (L) 1:38.67

4x400 METER RELAY – Carson Closson, Caleb Stechschulte,

Landon Myers and Anden Blankemeyer (CG) 3:34.60

4x800 METER RELAY – Caleb Stechschulte, Caleb Morman,

Trent Koch and Carson Closson (CG) 8:18.68