

1945 MSHSL NORDIC SKI RACING STATE MEET

Est. 2.5-3.0 mile (4-5km) Classic Results*

Location:	Theodore Wirth, Minneapolis, Mn	Date:	2/3/1945
Snow conditions:	Minneapolis received just eight inches of snow in January but only a few days above freezing helped keep the base. New snow fell during the competition.	High Temperature:	Race day temperatures reached 24 degrees and nearly three inches of new snow fall.

Rank	Name	Grade	Team	Time
1	Bob Jacobson	12	Duluth Central	19:38
2	Dick Grandquist	12	Duluth Central	20:00
3	Hilding Hanson	11	Cloquet	21:00
4	Gayle Larson		Minneapolis Edison	21:15
5	Robert Boss	12	Cloquet	21:46
6	George Nagorski	11	Cloquet	22:12
7	Roy Porter	12	Cloquet	22:20
8	Guy Olson	12	Duluth Central	22:40
9	Howard Rosted	10	Cloquet	22:43
10	Jack Robertson		Duluth Denfeld	22:50

Note: The MSHSL finishers list is incorrect. Hilding Hanson is from Cloquet, not Minneapolis Edison. Gayle Larson of Edison, is listed for Cloquet in error.

* Results from the Duluth News Tribune, dated February 4th, 1945

The race distance is not listed but appears to be about 2.5 to 3 miles.

Stories of 1945 winner found in Amazon book "Norm Oakvik: The Inconspicuous Coach"

www.amazon.com/dp/B0DX7JZ9SK

Cross-country Team Scores

Place	School	Time	Top two
1	Duluth Central	39:38	19:38+20:00
2	Cloquet	41:15	21:00+21:15
3	Minneapolis North	NT	
7	Minneapolis Roosevelt	NT	
8	St. Paul Murray	NT	

1945 State Nordic Champions - Bob Jacobson, and Duluth Central team



Bob Jacobson, Duluth Central Cross Country



2 Duluth News-Tribune, Sunday, February 4, 1945.



SPORTS QUARTER!
By Reidar Lund
SPORTS EDITOR, DULUTH HERALD AND NEWS-TRIBUNE

Since we mentioned several days ago that two first place winners in the District 26 ski tournament last week were barred from the state tournament because they are students of parochial schools, we have had many inquiries on what objection the state high school league has to Catholic schools.

To tell the truth, we don't know exactly, but we believe it has something to do with eligibility rules—that parochial schools probably have not been so rigid in their scholastic qualifications for athletes as members of the state league.

That may be, but we wonder if in recent years this has not been remedied, and if the time has not arrived when the state league should let down its gates and take the Catholic schools into its family.

It seems a little ridiculous that in Duluth, for instance, Cathedral is acceptable as an opponent in basketball and football for our public schools, yet when it comes to state tournaments, the parochial boys are pushed aside and told they are not wanted.

It doesn't make sense, does it.

Speaking as an individual, and not as an official in District 26, Victor Dunder, city recreation director, feels the same way about it.

He was high in his praise of Cathedral's athletic endeavors and, without taking the trouble to check into the matter, guessed that the eligibility requirements at that school are on par with those in the public schools, and that Cathedral in every sense could qualify for the state league.

However, Dunder is in a position where he can't do more than express an opinion, and suggest that the remedy is something for the parochial school officials themselves to find.

"I believe," he said, "that if a concentrated effort is made by parochial school leaders throughout the state to gain admittance to the state league, the barriers can be overcome. It may take a year, or two years, or even three, but they must set their goal and keep pounding away to reach it."

"Our relations with Duluth Cathedral always have been harmonious and personally I feel it is unfortunate that its many fine athletes are prevented from exercising their talents in our state tournaments, skiing, basketball and whatever other sports they would care to participate in."

Maybe Dunder has an idea there—in suggesting that parochial school leaders start now to batter down the resistance against their admission, and some day, maybe not too distant, they will find themselves in the league.

**Kneeling: Elwood Ramfjord, Jack Knutson
Second Row (Left-Right): Bob Jacobson,
Dick Granquist, Jim Herrick, John
Jackson, Guy Olson, Coach Rudy Sebo,
Frank Contardo, Bob Ziegler, John
Altmanns**

By 1945, Victor Dunder had left Duluth Central to become the Duluth City Recreation Director and Rudy Sabo had taken over and would assist Central to another dozen championships over the next fifteen years.

A late decision by the MSHSL (Duluth News Tribune, Feb. 4th, 1945) caused an outrage at Duluth Cathedral when two District 26 winners were denied entry into the state meet because a lack of scholastic qualifications for parochial athletes. Parochial schools had participated in several state meets prior to 1945. A parochial school state tournament was held in 1947 but was not continued beyond the first year. Parochial schools were re-admitted in the 1980s.