

# Local Mountain Bike Team Takes State Championship Amidst Global Pandemic

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## The Team

The West Michigan Coyotes have been an official team participating in the MiSCA mountain bike race series for multiple years now. This year, they recently took their *second* state championship title in a row for Composite High School teams. One of the main coaches on the team told our reporters, "The team has worked very hard to get to this point but the main goal of the team is for the kids to have fun." The team practices every Tuesday and Thursday at local trails. They are proud to represent West Michigan in races across the state.

## The Racers

According to the coaches of the team, this year, the team had a total of **112 riders** compared to last year's **80**. When asked why they thought this was the case, the coaches answered, "Many sports were cancelled this year due to COVID-19. Mountain biking provides kids a sport that is outside and COVID safe." Also new to the team this year, is their Elementary School team. According to racers on the team, they did not have an official Elementary race team until this year. However, now, the team consists of Elementary, Middle, and High school riders and racers. When asked about how many kids on the team race, one of the athletes said, "At one of the races we had 65 kids racing from our team, which was the most racers we had at one race all season."

## What is local?

This mountain bike team has been deemed local for our readers of Grand Rapids. The team has many participants and spreads over much of West Michigan. This includes multiple athletes from Grand Rapids! To support your local Grand Rapids mountain bike team, look them up on the Web, Facebook, or Instagram.