

We have had a busy start of the school year amongst our athletic teams. Below are blurbs about how they have fared during the opening month of school and a brief synopsis of each game or match if you want to get caught up on what you missed during September.

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) has announced PIAA Officials' Appreciation Weeks during the weeks of October 3-9, 2021, January 9-15, 2022, and April 3-9, 2022. We believe, along with the PIAA, that registered officials deserve a long overdue "Pat on The Back" for their dedication to PIAA member schools and their student athletes. The Fall appreciation week takes place this coming week. With that said, there are many ways we can thank our officials who daily spend time making sure our student athletes are able to compete in interscholastic competitions.

Our coaches regularly get compliments from officials and opposing coaches about how well our student athletes exhibit sportsmanship on the field and play to the final whistle. Hopefully, we will get similar comments about our fans, especially when things do not appear to be going in our favor. We are hoping all of our athletes and fans can reflect on how they treat the officials that ensure we are able to play. With the pandemic and lack of sportsmanship from fans we are faced with an official shortage across Western Pennsylvania as well as across the Nation. Let's keep in mind that referees are made in the image and likeness of God and are deserving of the utmost respect even when we disagree with their calls during a contest. Please look for ways to do something for our officials, even if it is just to say thank you for coming to the game. And, please refrain from saying anything negative to the officials, especially when you feel they have made a bad call. Thank you for your cooperation in making the remainder of the season enjoyable for our players and especially our officials.

Congratulations to our senior fall athletes:

High school cross-country: Trishy Blume, Theo Austin, John Griffith, Patrick Veazey, and Gio Vella.

High school golf: Liz Russell and Zachary Sibenech (they were recognized at their last home match)

High school field hockey: Emi Kartsonis, Breah Woo, Maria Figucia, Emma Queen, Jillian Mercer, and Lizzy Hardy

High school girls' soccer: Maylee Clerici, Anna Keverline, Sabrina Knox, Anna Myron, and Laura Richthammer

High school boys' soccer: Than Archer, Jake and Luke Likoudis, and Aiden Vangura

Please note: we will be recognizing our seniors during their final or nearly final home game.

Our senior night celebration schedule will be as follows:

Tuesday October 5th: High school cross country at Pine Community Park - Boys 4:15 pm, Girls to follow.

Thursday October 7th: High school boys' soccer against California at Aquinas 4:00 pm

Friday October 15th: High school field hockey against Ellis at the bubble at 4:00 pm

Wednesday October 20th: High school girls' soccer against Riverview at Aquinas 4:00 pm

Please join us as we recognize the seniors and their contributions.

High School Girls' Tennis

Victoria Taylor represented Aquinas Academy in the girls' tennis qualifier after beating fellow Aquinas student Mara Brak in a playoff to earn the trip to the tournament. She bested her first opponent 10-6. Then she played the third seed in a great match. She was losing 5-4 before conceding victory 10-5 giving the third seed quite a scare. Congratulations Victoria!

High School Cross Country:

The high school cross-country team is off to a great start having performed well in all of its contests. They are looking to make a run in the WPIAL championships.

9/3: The high school cross-country team ran in their first invitational of the year with an outstanding performance. The girls' team finished third out of nine and the boys' team finished fifth out of 11. Alexis Abbett and John Griffith both finished fifth overall in their respective races as the entire team ran well.

9/14: The boys' and girls' cross-country teams competed in a WPIAL section tri meet yesterday at Moraine State Park. Both finished 2nd behind North Catholic, but ahead of Northgate. The runners ran hard on a challenging course!

9/21: The high school cross-country team ran in their first ever home meet on this date. John Griffith and Alexis Abbett both finished first overall in their home debut, while the rest of the team all ran well. Both teams lost in close contests to Avonworth and both beat Sewickley Academy.

9/25: The high school cross-country teams competed well at the PIAA Foundation meet at Hershey Park, both finishing 12th out of 30+ teams. The boys were led by John Griffith (6th overall), and the girls by Alexis Abbett (14th), both of whom medaled.

9/29: The high school cross-county team ran well in their section meet with Quaker Valley and Eden Christian. The boys competed well against a good AA school (Quaker Valley) and one of the top two A schools in our section (Eden Christian). The girls also were able to mix it up well against Quaker Valley and beat a very good Eden Christian team. Times were impressive given the difficulty of the course – Alexis Abbett finished 5th overall, Gianna Vangura 7th, and Carina Simmons 8th in the girls' race and John Griffith finished 4th overall and Patrick Veazey 9th in the boys' race. The entire team finished well.

High School Golf:

In their inaugural season the high school golf team had 17 members of the team and were very impressive in their debut. The team finished with a 4-6 overall section record, finishing fourth out of six teams. Losing only two seniors, the team will continue to be competitive next year.

9/2: The High School Golf team beat Rochester yesterday for the second time this season. David Zaharko led the team with a low score of 45.

9/7: The high school golf team lost their second match of the season to a strong Seton LaSalle team. David Zaharko was the low scorer again.

9/8: The team lost to a strong Quaker Valley team.

9/10: The high school girls played well in an all -irls matchup against North Allegheny.

9/15: David Zaharko was again the low scorer for the golf team and Josh Schlemmer and Palma Serrao both had great matches yesterday but, it was not enough as the team lost to an impressive Sewickley Academy team.

9/16: The High School Golf team lost to Quaker Valley last night. David Zaharko was again the low score with 48. Sajan Sharma & Alexandra Taylor played very well.

9/17: The High School Golf team recorded their lowest overall score of the season beating section foe OLSH for their third section win of the season. John Bence and Sajan Sharma tied for the low score with a 44.

9/22: John Bence, Sajan Sharma, Francis Serrao, and David Zaharko all played well and were very good representatives of the school in the WPIAL golf qualifier. Unfortunately, none ended up qualifying, but they gained a lot of experience preparing for next year.

9/23: Liz Russell played a great round of 18 in the WPIAL girls' qualifying golf match yesterday. Unfortunately, she did not advance to the next round.

9/24: The high school golf team, led by Liz Russell's low score of 45, beat OLSH by a single stroke.

9/27: The high school golf team lost a close match to Seton LaSalle yesterday. Sajan Sharma was the low score with 47. Zachary Sibenac played very well in his final match of his Aquinas golf career!

High School Field Hockey:

The high school field hockey team is off to a good start currently finding themselves in third in section play.

9/3: The high school field hockey team lost an amazingly well played game in their opener against Shady Side Academy 2-1. Mary BouSamra made fantastic saves as the entire team played well. The officials mentioned it looked like both teams were in mid-season form despite being the first game.

9/13: The high school field hockey team lost a heart breaker 1-0 to Ellis.

9/14: The high school field hockey team won their first game beating section foe Winchester Thurston 3-1. Scoring for the Crusaders were Bella Hite, Alexa Queen, and Breah Woo.

9/17: The high school girls tied Hempfield 2-2 in a non-section matchup.

9/18: The high school JV field hockey team tied North Allegheny 0-0.

9/24: The JV field hockey team beat North Allegheny 4-0 at home.

9/27: The High School Field Hockey team beat Sewickley Academy handily in a 7 v 7 friendly game 5-0.

High School Girls' Soccer:

The high school girls' soccer team is off to its best start in its young career and the best of any high school soccer team in the history of the school. They are currently 5-2 in section play and 6-2 overall and in third place in their section at the midway point of the season.

9/11: The high school girls' soccer team won their first game of the season beating section foe Ellis 3-2 off goals by Bella Hite, Sabrina Knox, and Abigail Stalder. Anna Keverline made key saves in goal as the entire team played a great game for the win.

9/16: The high school girls' soccer team lost a challenging section match to Bishop Canevin 6-1.

9/18: The girls dismantled Carrick 7-0 in a lopsided game winning handily. Bella Hite and Sarah White each scored two goals, while Ari Buchanan, Sabrina Knox, and Laura Richthammer each netted one.

9/20: Sabrina Knox, Laura Richthammer, and Ari Buchanan each netted goals, Anna Keverline made key saves, and the entire high school girls' soccer team played well beating Sewickley Academy 3-1.

9/23: Laura Richthammer scored three and added an assist and Bella Hite and Sbarina Knox each netted one as the entire high school girls' soccer team won a great game over Carlynton 5-0.

9/25: The high school girls' soccer team put together a fantastic game beating Eden Christian 4-1 in section play.

9/28: The high school girls' soccer team played an extremely exciting game against Winchester Thurston. Unfortunately, they were on the wrong side of a 2-1 contest. Bella Hite scored the lone goal and Anna Keverline made several good saves in goal.

9/30: The high school girls' soccer team beat Ellis 2-0 off two Laura Richthammer goals and a solid performance from everyone on the team.

High school boys' Soccer:

The high school boys' soccer team is in fourth place in section play midway through the season with a 4-4 section record and a 6-5 overall record. They continue to play well.

9/4: John Bence scored an amazing goal with ten minutes to go in and the entire team played a solid game. Unfortunately, it was not enough as the high school boys' soccer team lost in a dog fight to Riverside 2-1.

9/7: The high school boys' soccer team won a section thriller over Carlynton 3-2. Than Archer, Elijah Vangura, and John Bence each netted goals in the victory as the entire team played an amazing game.

9/8: The high school boys' soccer team beat Riverview 4-1 in section play.

9/13: David Bukowski scored a penalty kick in the final ten minutes of the boys' sectional soccer game against Springdale. Unfortunately, it was not enough as the team lost a close 3-1 game at home despite moving the ball well.

9/16: The high school boys' soccer team lost a challenging section match to Eden Christian 6-1.

9/18: The boys won easily against short-sided Carrick.

9/21: The high school boys' soccer team beat Bishop Canevin 2-1 in a thriller in overtime.

9/23: Despite playing one of their best games of the season, the high school boys' soccer team lost to Winchester Thurston 4-0.

9/25: The high school boys' soccer team beat non-section Portersville Christian 1-0.

9/27: The high school boys' soccer team lost a heart breaker 2-0 to section foe Carlynton in a close contest.

9/30: John Paul Calvino and Jake Likoudis each scored goals in regulation as the high school boys' soccer team found themselves headed to overtime in a tight 2-2 contest with Riverview. Then Tommy Quinn set-up Ethan Atta for a shot heard round the world (well at least in Oakmont) as the boys scored 40 seconds into the extra frame for a 3-2 win, keeping their playoff hopes alive.

Middle School Field Hockey:

The middle school field hockey team is off to a nice start.

9/9: Middle School Field Hockey were evenly matched but lost to Fox Chapel 2-0.

9/10: The middle school field hockey team beat Greensburg YWCA 2-0. Scoring were Elliot Keverline and Teresa Silvaggio.

9/17: The middle school field hockey team played well against Winchester Thurston.

7th and 8th Grade Soccer:

The 7th and 8th grade soccer team currently finds themselves in fifth place in the Diocesan soccer league with two loses and a tie. They are improving and winning their exhibition games.

9/15: The 7th and 8th grade soccer team won their game against St Edmunds 5-0. Scoring were Mark Bence with 2, Mikaela Canzia, Maria Ravotti, and Jonah Burchill each with one.

9/17: The 7th and 8th grade soccer team lost a tough game to St Kilian 4-2.

9/18: The 7th and 8th grade soccer team played Blessed Trinity and ended in a 1-1 tied. Scoring the lone goal was Marco Anselmino.

9/25: The 7th and 8th grade soccer team played so well together winning 5-1 over Portersville Christian.

9/26: The 7th and 8th grade soccer team lost a tough one 4-3 to Blessed Seelos. They played a valiant second half after being down 2-0 at halftime but eventually lost in the closing minutes of the game.

9/27: The 7th and 8th grade soccer team beat Winchester Thurston 3-2 in a nail-biter.

6th Grade Soccer:

The 6th grade soccer team currently finds themselves in second place in the Diocese soccer league with 2 wins and a tie. They are playing extremely well in both section and non-section games.

9/15: The 6th grade soccer team won their game 5-1 over St Edmunds. Scoring were Enzo Anselmino with 4 and an assist, and Michael Richthammer with one goal and 3 assists.

9/17: The 6th grade soccer team tied St Kilian 4-4, scoring the tying goal in the final minutes of the game.

9/18: The 6th grade soccer team played Ave Maria and won 6-1. Scoring were Connor DeWitt with 2, and netting one each were Michael Richthammer, Maggie Koenig, Mark Rounding and James Donahue.

9/26: The 6th grade soccer team played a great game beating Blessed Seelos handily 6-1. Enzo Anselmino scored five of the six goals with Matthew Conley netting the sixth.

9/29: In a game that could be summarized as humorous, the 6th grade soccer team lost to Shady Side Academy 6-4. Enzo Anselmino scored two and had an assist, and Matthew Conley and Michael Richthammer each netted one in their only loss thus far.

5th Grade Soccer:

The 5th grade soccer team has played in several close contests but are still looking for their first win.

9/9: The 5th grade soccer team played well but lost 3-1 to St Kilian.

9/11: The 5th grade soccer team lost a tough battle with St. Louise 2-1. Scoring off a cross from Simon Archer was Alex Jurewicz.

9/18: The 5th grade soccer team played St. James and lost 5-0.

9/26: The 5th grade soccer team lost another tough battle to St. Bede 2-1.

9/27: The 5th grade soccer team lost a challenging game to Winchester Thurston 3-1.

9/29: The 5th grade soccer team lost a difficult game to Eden Christian 4-0.

4th Grade Soccer:

The 4th grade soccer team is still looking for their first win despite playing well.

9/11: The 4th grade soccer team lost a tough battle against Archangel Gabriel 3-1. Scoring the lone goal was Garvin Whetzel.

9/18: They played Guardian Angel losing 3-0.

9/19: They played St. Killians losing their third game.

3rd Grade Soccer:

The 3rd grade soccer teams are playing some outstanding soccer at such a young age.

9/11:

-The 3rd grade navy Soccer beat Archangel Gabriel 6-2. Scoring were Zach Guillen with 3, John Paul Farah with 2, and Georgia Chufo with one.

- The 3rd grade gray soccer team beat St. Bede 5-1. Scoring were Danielle Whitney with 3, and netting one each were John Paul Richthammer and Gia Anselmino.

9/18:

-The 3rd grade navy soccer team beat St. Killian 5-1. Scoring was Zach Guillen with 2, Eddie DeWitt with 2, and Georgia Chufo with one.

-The 3rd grade gray soccer team tied St. Killians 3-3. Scoring for Aquinas were John Paul Richthammer with 2 and Orin Pribich with one.

9/25:

3rd grade gray vs. 3rd Grade navy – In the battle of Aquinas, both teams gave it their all and it was a great game! Navy ended up pulling it out in the second half and won 4-1. The game was tied 0-0 at halftime.

2nd-8th Grade Cross Country:

Our young runners are placing high in their races and doing a phenomenal job.

9/10: The Grade School XC Team had a great race at the Sts. Peter and Paul Invitational on Friday. **The Developmental Boys Team finished 1st and the Varsity Boys Team finished 2nd.**

Top individual finishers were:

Developmental Boys - Thomas Bogdewic (4th place), Isaac Vangura (6th place), Zach Guillen (7th place), John Paul Richthammer (8th place).

JV Girls - Jacqui Whitsel (8th place). Varsity Boys - Zach Schellhaas (7th place), Mark Bence (8th place).

Varsity Girls - Ava Vangura (6th place).

9/20:

From the Blessed Seelos Meet, the results are as follows:

Developmental Runners: Isaac Vangura (2), Zach Guillen (3), Thomas Bodgewic (5), John Paul Richthammer (6), Max Predis (8) also ran were Duke Carroll, Eamonn Erdley Luke Schellhaas, Regan Carroll, Teddy Burchill, Danny Austin, Christopher Donahue, Ozzie Pribich.

Girls Developmental Runners: Victoria Bodgewic (6), Rita Donahue, Mary Austin, Nora Reppermund

JV Girls Runners: Jacqui Whitsel (15), Anna Schellhaas, Josie Donahue and Morgan Randall

JV Boy Runners: Mark Rounding (6), Time Crawford (14), Linus Burchill and Cominic Phipps

Varsity Girls Runners: Ava Vangura (3), Tess Austin (15), Julia Jurewicz

Varsity Boys Runners: Mark Bence (6), Jonah Burchill (12), Lucas Conley (18) and Luke Crawford (18)

9/26: The Developmental boys placed second in their race as a team in the North Catholic Invitational. Isaac Vangura was first overall.

9/30: The Developmental boys placed first in North Area Diocesan Championship. All runners ran well.

Girls' Co-op Volleyball with Blessed Trinity Academy:

The girls playing volleyball with our co-op with Blessed Trinity are doing quite well. The 7th and 8th grade team is currently 6-1 in section play. The 5th and 6th grade Bulldogs are 5-2 and the Crusaders are 2-4.

The girls finished 4th out of the 8 teams that were there at the Holy Cross tournament.