

Hampton High School Boys Soccer - History & Playoff Achievements

From 1957 to 1984, there was only one classification for boy's soccer. In 1985 it was divided into AAA and AA. In the year 2000, the third classification was added - AAA, AA, and A.

Hampton boys first started to play soccer in 1982. In 1985 through 1993, they played in the AA classification. In the years from 1994 through 2005, they competed in Class AAA, in sections composed of mostly local area schools. In 2004 and 2005 they were actually eligible to play in AA, but chose to "play up". From 2006 to the present they have played in Class AA - Section 2, with the same teams in the section (we dropped Neshannock in 2008 - the year the maximum number of games was reduced from 20 to 18). In 2010, Shady Side Academy joined the section – playing up from A.

The first coach was Angelo Albanese. He stayed 2 years. Mark Hergenreder followed him in 1984, then Steve Rysak took over for 1985 and 1986. Mark Perry was head coach from 1987 through 1990. In 1991 Mark moved over to coach Fox Chapel, taking the position from his father Jim Perry who retired. Jon Conner took over the Hampton job from 1991 to 1993. In 1994, Richard Maloney had a 1-year stint. Patrick Casper coached from 1995-1997. From 1998-2000, the school district hired British coaches through the MLS organization. Dave Smith was here in 1998 and 1999, Danny Barry served in 2000. Tommy Geis was head coach from 2001 through 2005, with Chuck Kelley serving as an assistant or volunteer coach for the first four years. In 2006 Chuck Kelley took over as head coach, with Chris Regan and Art Bigler as assistants. In 2007 Art Bigler was the assistant coach. Anthony Beilstein joined as assistant coach in 2008, and Art Bigler stayed on as a volunteer assistant. Chuck, Anthony, and Art continued coaching through 2010.

Playoff Achievements:

Hampton Boy's Soccer has not been a stranger in the WPIAL playoffs. In 1986, 1987, 1988, and 1993 they entered the playoffs. In 1989 and 1992 they made it to the semifinals.

In 1990, Hampton Boys were the WPIAL Champions in Class AA, under coach Mark Perry.

In 1990, Hampton Boys were also the PIAA Co-Champions with Great Valley, with a score of 0-0 after four overtime periods. The game was played at Shippensburg University. (Note: State championship final games are not decided with penalty kicks - if a tie cannot be broken in overtime, it is left to stand)

In 2003, they took 3rd place in Class AAA, Section 2 (behind Shaler and Pine-Richland).

In 2003 WPIAL Playoffs - they won the first round vs. Baldwin (after four overtime periods), then lost in the quarterfinal to Peters Township, the eventual WPIAL Champion.

In 2003 PIAA Playoffs - Hampton was the 5th seed from WPIAL in Class AAA. The four semifinalists entered the PIAA brackets plus Hampton, because of the "follow-the-winner" rule (Peters). Hampton defeated Peters Township in the first round of PIAA (after overtime and PKs), then lost to Upper St. Clair in the quarterfinal. Upper St. Clair won the PIAA Championship that year.

In 2004, they were Section Champs in Class AAA, Section 2. They were undefeated in the regular season.

In 2004 WPIAL Playoffs - they won the first round vs. Penn Hills, lost in the quarterfinal to Chartiers Valley.

In 2006, they took 2nd place in Class AA, Section 2 (behind Mars).

In 2006 WPIAL Playoffs - they won the first round vs. Southmoreland, won the quarterfinal vs. Thomas Jefferson, lost in the semifinal to Beaver (in OT.)

In 2006 they played in the 3rd Place Consolation game for PIAA - lost to Center.

In 2007, they took 2nd place in Class AA, Section 2 (behind Mars).

In 2007 WPIAL Playoffs - they won first round vs. Riverside (2x OT), lost in quarterfinal to Center (2x OT & PKs).

In 2009, they took 2nd place in Class AA, Section 2 (behind Mars).

In 2009 WPIAL Playoffs - they won the first round vs. Mt. Pleasant, won the quarterfinal vs. South Park, won the semifinal vs. West Allegheny (2x OT & PKs), lost in the final to Mars at Elizabeth Forward High School (score of 0-1).

In 2009 PIAA Playoffs - they won the first round vs. Clearfield, won the quarterfinal vs. West Allegheny (OT), won the semifinal vs. Palmyra, lost in the final to Octorara at Hersheypark Stadium (score of 1-2).

In 2010, they were Section Champs in Class AA, Section 2 (ahead of Knoch and Mars), with a record of 17-1-0.

In 2010 WPIAL Playoffs - they won the first round vs. Steel Valley, won the quarterfinal vs. Keystone Oaks (OT), won the semifinal vs. Belle Vernon, and won the WPIAL Championship game vs. Mars by the score of 4-1 (at Baldwin).

In 2010 PIAA Playoffs - they won the first round vs. Schenley, won the quarterfinal vs. Belle Vernon, won the semifinal vs. Palmyra, and won the PIAA Championship game vs. Archbishop Wood at Hersheypark Stadium (score of 1-0).

Hampton High School Boys Soccer History - Addendum

Most high school sports in Pennsylvania are governed by the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA). The PIAA was founded in 1913, and is divided into 12 geographical Districts. Hampton plays in the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL), which is District 7 under PIAA. Since the WPIAL was founded in 1906, it is grandfathered to use the name WPIAL instead of District 7. And to answer the commonly asked question, no there is not an "EPIAL". For state championships, districts 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 in the western region generally play against districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 11 and 12 in the east, although there are exceptions. In AA boy's soccer, the 3rd place finisher in District 3 plays in the western half of the bracket.

For soccer, WPIAL maintains an on-line records archive. It goes all the way back to 1957 for boy's soccer WPIAL championships. It only lists the first place finishers, and nothing else. WPIAL also has on-line archives for season records and section standings, as well as WPIAL & PIAA playoffs - complete back to 1997. PIAA has archives for state soccer championships back to 1973, listing the winner, runner-up, site and scores. PIAA has complete records for the state soccer playoffs with the brackets and results back to 1997.

For PIAA (and WPIAL), from 1957 to 1984, there was only one classification for boys soccer. In 1985 it was divided into AAA and AA. In the year 2000, the third classification was added - AAA, AA, and A.

In 1983 there were 48 high schools playing soccer in the WPIAL. In 2010, there are 106 schools playing soccer.

The first boy's soccer coach at Hampton was Angelo Albanese. Originally from Italy, Angelo was a former 3-time All American soccer player at Slippery Rock University in 1976-78. In the 1978-79 season, Angelo played professionally for the Pittsburgh Spirit of the Major Indoor Soccer League. When hired to coach the Hampton boys in 1982, he was a teacher at the Pressley Ridge School. He relied on his assistant Larry Karworski to ride the bus with the players to the games, where he drove to meet them. Angelo also coached middle school intra-mural soccer at Hampton. In 1984 he moved to the Lampeter-Strasburg High School in eastern PA to teach Spanish and coach soccer. He coached both the boys (until 1997) and the girls (until 2000) at Lampeter-Strasburg. He still teaches Spanish there today, where I was able to contact him. Angelo remembered "our Talbots" (as he referred to them) from the early years, and had this to say: *"My time at Hampton was wonderful and I often think of those years and those young men fondly. I am pleased that the program is so successful, and I am certainly proud to have had the opportunity to coach there. It was a great school with wonderful, supportive parents."*



Bottom Row: T. Geis, G. Stoltz, R. Uhl, M. Henne, R. Sovek, P. Sarver, S. Konefal. Second Row: M. Killian, P. Corbiel, J. Schaiter, A. Tanner, C. Docherty, B. Wilson. Third Row: R. Killian, M. Matelan, C. Rathke, Sang, S. Cafaro, D. Huber, R. Barton

1982 Varsity Team
Note: young boy, bottom left is Tommy Geis



Junior Varsity Bottom Row: S. Dodge, A. Yates, K. Flese, J. Cafaro, Second Row: D. Miller, M. Santelli, B. Lesser, Top Row: J. Hare, C. Montgomery, S. Boselowitz, J. Salvatore

1982 JV Team

There were a number of Hampton players who returned to help coach the Talbots. Most notable was Tommy Geis, a member of the first team. Tommy (Class of 1985), was the boy's head coach from 2001-2005. Tommy was also a girl's assistant coach in 1989. Brian Lesser (Class of 1986) was an assistant coach, and Jerry Hare (Class of 1983) was a volunteer coach, both in 1990 under Mark Perry. Jeff Rathke (Class of 1987) was the assistant in 1991 under Jon Connor. And Chris Regan (Class of 2001) was assistant coach in 2005 and 2006. Chris was a Regional All-American player at Wheeling Jesuit University (Class of 2005).



1990 Co-Champions proudly display their trophy and medals

The players on the 1990 team were the Class AA, Section 8 champions, and they were undefeated in section play. Their regular season record was 21-1-0. Their only loss was the first game of the season against North Allegheny. They went on to win the WPIAL Championship and were crowned Co-Champs with Great Valley in the state playoffs. That PIAA game was played in a cold rain at Shippensburg University. It was scoreless after four overtime periods. Their overall record was 25-1-1.

1990 Varsity = C. Condelucci, C. Kuba, J. Rihn, K. Jones, D. Deninno, C. Shiring, K. Miles, R. Wenzel, B. Gerlach, C. Rihn, G. Gerlach, E. Child, S. Hauck, C. Lesser, M. Nellis, M. Jones, A. Lawrence, T. Hahn, J. Bujaky, B. Vitunic, B. McCabe. Coach Mark Perry

1990 Junior Varsity = M. Wolff, J. Zottola, B. Yendell, D. Casagrande, M. Schwartz, J. Vogrin, B. Kreuger, B. McGeown, A. Hornyak, D. Ziegler, C. Lee, M. Linder, K. Plavan, A. Kilic, K. Miller, C. Anderson, D. Schmitt, I. Rudy, R. Bigante, M. Killmeyer, A. Basile.

The township placed signs along Route 8 at the northern and southern boundaries proclaiming "Home of the 1990 State High School AA Soccer Champions".

The 2003 defeat of Peters Township, the WPIAL champion, in the first round game of the state playoffs is a favorite memory in the minds of many Hampton fans. Becky Jackson wrote: *"It was one of the most exciting games I ever attended - the win over WPIAL champions Peters Twp in fall 2003 in the first round of the PIAA playoffs. It was especially exciting since Peters had beaten us in the WPIAL playoffs. It was Neil's senior year and Eric's freshman year. The game went into overtime and was still tied after overtime, so it went to penalty kicks. We went through the first five kicks, then all the way through 10 kickers - with even the goalie having to take a PK. Still tied, Neil started the line up over again as the 11th kick - Peters guy missed his and Neil's went in the net and the Talbots won the game!"*



Row 1: M. Al Rakaf, T. Gacka, J. Valentic, B. Winters, E. Weinheimer, D. Hillier, N. Wilt, R. Banks, S. Al Rakaf Row 2: T. Bickel, Team Manager, Y. Cohen, B. Tervo-Clemmens, A. Habay, T. Lyons, B. Foster, T. Ubinger, N. Jackson, E. Jackson, K. DeNinno Row 3: E. Varrato, B. Kolonay, R. Herring, S. Cramer, JT Hite, R. Roethlein, J. Cohen, M. Spear, B. Banks Row 4: Coach A. Bigler, Coach C. Kelly, C. Swanberg, S. Flatley, J. Cordisco, M. Gorham, O. Hudac, S. Regan, JD Knapp, P. Finnegan, Coach T. Geis

In 2005, Chuck Kelley left his assistant coaching position in Hampton after four years, to become head coach for the Butler High School boy's soccer team. Chuck returned to Hampton in 2006 as head coach for the Talbots, after Tommy Geis resigned to take a coaching position in Alaska.

Under Head Coach Kelley, the Talbots have qualified for the playoffs 4 of the last 5 seasons. In 2009 they were both WPIAL and PIAA tournament finalists. In 2010 they won both the WPIAL and the PIAA Championships.

The 2009 team surprised a lot of people with their successful run deep in the playoffs. They were the first team since 1990 to make it all the way to the WPIAL Final, where they lost a 1-0 heartbreaker to Mars (the third defeat by the Planets that year). The 1 goal win over South Park and the shootout win over West Allegheny in the WPIAL playoffs were two memorable moments. The trip to the PIAA Championship game at Hersheypark Stadium was a thrill for both the team and their fans. However, a 2-1 loss to Octorara meant the players ended the season with two large silver medals.



(First Row) N. Sobotka, K. Pelkey, C. Hunkele, Z. Mancini, J. Lichina, J. Ferrero, D. Petruski, Z. Carter -- (Second Row) A. Farabaugh, G. Kovac, K. Weinheimer, S. Wach, M. Brodman, B. Wilt, E. Donatelli, T. Kurkiewicz, M. Doust, A. Efke, C. Scherer -- (Third Row) Asst. Coach Beilstein, B. Margaria, S. Mottola, Q. Sobotka, J. Gialanella, J. Mercier, Coach Kelley, M. Trimm, J. Lichina, P. Scherer, J. Carter, Asst. Coach Bigler -- (Fourth Row) G. Hall, G. Smith, Z. Kocak, S. Stasko, C. Delposen, J. Durkot, J. Taylor, H. Arch, E. Wilson.

The 2010 Talbots built upon the success of the previous year, and took it to a whole new level – setting school records all the way to the state championship game. Stepping out from under the shadow of their rival Mars, the team won the section title for the first time in six years (only the 5th team in the history of the program to win the section). They were highly ranked throughout the season by the local media, placing at or near the # 1 spot for almost the entire time. The Pennsylvania Soccer Coaches Association (PSCA) ranked the team at # 2 in the state for small schools throughout the regular season. An unexpected 1-0 section loss to Knoch in the middle of the season ruined their perfect record, but perhaps served as a wakeup call that focused the team moving forward. And they never looked back. They entered the WPIAL playoffs as the # 1 seed in AA Boys. Other than a 2-1 overtime win over Keystone Oaks, the boys seemed to have a rather easy time getting to the WPIAL Final. Paired up with Mars for the second year in a row, the Talbots soundly defeated their rival to the north by the score of 4-1. Armed with the first gold medal, the team pushed on for more. The state playoffs found the team playing the first two rounds at North Allegheny stadium. It was a treat for many Hampton fans to come and



2010 SECTION – WPIAL – PIAA CHAMPIONS

(Front Row / Kneeling) I. Waldschmidt, S. Mottola, K. Weinheimer, G. Kovac, A. Farabaugh, J. Carter, S. Wach, M. Brodman, T. Kurkiewicz, J. Gialanella, Z. Kocak, P. Scherer, H. Arch – (Back Row / Standing) Chuck Kelley - Head Coach, Tom Rapp - Bus Driver, M. Williams, D. Antol, K. Wahrenberger, S. Stasko, M. Trimm, Q. Sobotka, A. Efke, C. Milic, J. Mercier, B. Wilt, M. Doust, E. Donatelli, B. Margaria, C. Scherer, G. Smith, E. Wilson, A. Dilts, S. Margaria, J. Taylor, C. Delposen, Art Bigler - Assistant Coach, Anthony Beilstein - Assistant Coach --- Not Pictured: S. Davies, W. Haley, G. Milic, K. Palmer, D. Schellin.

watch the Talbots defeat Schenley and Belle Vernon. It was the second trip to Hollidaysburg in as many years for the boys to take on Palmyra again in the semi-final and beat them. Although Hersheypark Stadium was a familiar venue for the boys, the outcome was nothing like the prior year. Playing with skill and confidence, the Talbots defeated Archbishop Wood of the Philadelphia area in a 1-0 game that would give them the first outright PIAA Championship soccer title in the 29 year history of the program at Hampton High School. They finished the year with a 25-1-0 record, the best in school history.

***Information contained in this Hampton High School Boys Soccer History was obtained from various sources. Hampton Township School Board meeting minutes and Board Notes were researched at the school district administrative offices. Hampton High School yearbooks were reviewed at the high school library. WPIAL and PIAA on-line archives were studied and copied. Numerous parents of former players contributed information and comments. It is my hope that the information and timeline I have assembled is accurate, but I welcome any additional information or corrections.