

# HOPKINTON HIGH SCHOOL

## FALL SPORTS NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2020

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### From the AD

In August I said that the challenge to this season was not in starting; it was in finishing. This challenge would not be overcome without the herculean efforts of our coaching staff, who worked tirelessly to keep our athletes safe. It took “buy-in” from the athletes and parents, the vast majority of whom accepted and dealt with a different looking season than they had ever imagined. Finally, it took the trust of the administration and School Board that we could maintain our vigilance for the entire season. We did it!!! Despite a schedule littered with Division II opponents, our Hawks showed the competitive athleticism that is a staple of all of our teams. We dealt with coaches and players in quarantine, cancelled a few games when needed, and all of our varsity teams competed in NHIAA tournaments or championships. At the end of the day, we have two new 2020 banners to hang in our gym; Girls Cross Country and Girls Soccer. While those championships were certainly highlights of the fall, everyone should feel great about what we accomplished together. Great job!!!

In lieu of an Awards Night, this newsletter will have to do. I was hoping to embed a link to the slideshow below but it is too big. Please visit the website to view the fall slideshow - it is longer than usual because I included the senior recognition and list of award recipients in it. Hope you enjoy!

Dan Meserve, AD

[Athletic Website](#)

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# JV Girls Soccer

Coach **Rusty Wightman**



ADVERSITY as defined in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary; *A state or instance of serious or continued difficulty or misfortune.*

First and foremost, a huge shout out to those that made it possible for us to play this season. I can not imagine where I would be emotionally right now without this game, but what about the athletes? Our kids need an outlet, not only from a national pandemic, but their day to day struggles not to mention the negativity that surrounds us all in these crazy times we are in. So with all my heart thank you to Dan Meserve, and all those that are responsible for making this season happen.

With a very short pre season to prepare, the Hawks JV ladies soccer team started our season against div. 2 powerhouse BOW, our first test and my first opportunity to see what this team was capable of. Although the outcome was not a win, I saw great potential and with a couple adjustments we were able to dominate possession and create far more goal scoring opportunities than Bow in game 2 resulting in a 0-0 draw. It only got better from there, every game showed vast improvements and the team really responded well to my occasional formation changes and adjustments. The determination and hard work displayed from every player on the team was amazing to witness, perfect attendance and no injuries made practice sessions productive, resulting in every player showing improvement in all areas and aspects of the game. Our team captains this year were Tayla Tomaz, Lexi Lawler, and Kiley Ehrmanntraut and they ensured the team remained focused on our goals while having a lot of fun in the process. The Hopkinton Ladies Soccer program remains strong and I continue to be impressed with the character, athleticism, and resilience of every Hopkinton athlete. Our season finished 6-2-1 against div. 2 opponents.

For the love of the game,  
Coach Rusty Wightman

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# JV Boys Soccer

Coach **Rob Miller**



The JV boys soccer team – a young squad featuring *twelve* freshmen – faced a season of transition in the “Year of Covid.” The boys embraced a technically-demanding, possession-driven coaching style, and opened with two grueling home-and-home series against Div II Bow and Merrimack Valley. Although the squad dropped all four games, the team showed steady improvement each time out, and made progress gelling as a group.

The boys then turned the corner in splitting their home and home series with Div II rival John Stark. Buoyed by growing confidence, the boys then took two straight from Pembroke Academy and carried a respectable 3-5 record into a season finale game against the Div I Concord freshmen. Challenged to break the game into manageable ten minute segments of play, the boys went into halftime tied after an inspirational finish by Patrick “Magic” Buss knotted the game at 1-1. The boys took a brief 2-1 lead on a blast from Colby Boissy two minutes into the second half, but then surrendered the equalizer less than a minute later. The teams then traded chances in a thrilling second half but were knotted up at 2-2 at the final whistle, leaving the squad with a 3-5-1 record for the season without a single game played against a Div III rival.

Seven different players scored goals for the team, while Lucas Miller led the team in assists. The team got exceptional goalkeeping from Colby Boissy and Coach’s Award Winner Ben Taylor, spectacular defense from the “Iron Curtain” of outside backs Tom Ellsworth and Most Improved Player Award Lincoln Wilson, Mike Jutton, and Sportsmanship Award Winner Cam Bassett. Kevin Ball added rock solid play from the center defensive midfield position, steadying the team’s spine all season.

I can’t wait to see what these boys do against teams in their own division next year. We’ve been testing ourselves against bigger, faster and stronger opposition all year, and the boys have really developed well. With another year of growth and experience under their belts, I expect great things from this squad. There is no reason that these boys can’t form the core of another championship team for Coach Zipke a couple of years down the road.

Coach Rob Miller

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# JV Field Hockey

Coach **Jen Sanborn**



This year's jv team had a great season! We faced all division 2 teams and ended with an undefeated season. For starting the season with no goalie and five players that is an amazing outcome! The five JV players; Maddy Houston, Sylvia Dustin, Signe Hogblom, Elizabeth Trafton, Carissa Muller were bolstered by a group of girls who swung down from varsity to get additional time. This young group showed great skill and talent. They are a selfless group of players who are willing to play anywhere and try new positions, like Carissa who stepped into goal for the first time and did outstandingly. This team proves to show strength and depth for the Hopkinton Field Hockey Team. We look forward to next year and to a great season.

Thank you to our team captains Maddie Houston and Abby Condon!

Coach Jen Sanborn

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# Varsity Field Hockey

Coach **Kate Hohenberger**



Captains: Meggie Haley, Madeleine Maughan, Kate Bouchard

This year was unlike any other. We had no summer league and we were missing some key players to start our season. When the season did start we learned that our regular season consisted of Division II teams. Thankfully we had a handful of new players who brought strength to our team and we were ready for the challenge. I am proud to say we ended our regular season 5-1-1. We then headed into the playoffs not having had seen any of the teams we were playing against. We knew it would be tough, but we were ready. We made it to the third round and we had one more game to win to make it to the final four. We, unfortunately, fell short 3-2 against Bishop Brady. Although the end result was not what we were hoping for we can still be proud of the season we had.

This year's team truly felt like a family and it is thanks to our seniors. This year we had five seniors who I would like to thank for their hard work and dedication. Meggie Haley, Madeleine Maughn, Caroline Barrett, Ana Miller, and Brooklyn Tanuvasa, thank you for all you have done for Hawks Field Hockey.

Thank you for your hard work!  
Coach Kate Hohenberger

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# Varsity Golf

Coach **Dave Chase**



The 2020 season saw the largest number of student athletes come out for the golf team in recent memory. 17 underclassman competed each day to make the travel team and participate in a varsity match. When the regular season came to a close 12 of the players earned that varsity experience. All 17 golfers had the opportunity to play in at least 2 matches as we added some JV matches as well. The team showed a great work ethic and continued to improve daily. Finishing the season with a 10-3 record good for 6<sup>th</sup> place in division 3 (first year in division 3). Kody Dexter was the most consistent golfer, averaging a 38 for 9 holes and played as the teams #1 golfer. He also earned medalist honors in 7 of our 8 matches. Hal Stokes and Evan Fairney battled all season for the #2 and #3 spots showing huge improvement each match. Ryan Metzger and Joe Yanzo were the other two golfers who ended up earning the opportunity to go the state tournament. This year the State Tournament was held at Derryfield Country Club and the Hawks finished 7<sup>th</sup> out of the 19 teams. Kody Dexter shot a team low 80 to advance to the individual state tournament where he shot an 86 and ended up tied for 8<sup>th</sup> place out of 186 golfers in division 3.

The future looks bright as the Hawks will return all 17 golfers. Members of this year's team were:

Freshmen: Tyler Czarkowski, Matthew Dermody, Zach Hopper, Jackson Kovar, Jackson Nylund and Adam Richter.

Sophomores: Eli Burrell, Evan Fairney, Drew Haley, Dan Lee, Jake Staples, Hal Stokes and Joe Yanzo.

Juniors: Max Aframe, Kody Dexter, Riley Gagnon and Ryan Metzger

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# RedHawks Football

Coach **Jay Wood**



Captains: Dylan Barrett, Vincent Waddell, Alex Brown, Mike Oberheim

The 2020 Redhawks Football program played its 5th year of varsity football, moving up to division II, while dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite concerns that the new division might prove too difficult, the Redhawks showed they could more than compete. They finished the shortened season with a 4-2 record, with wins over Pembroke, John Stark, and Merrimack Valley, and qualifying for the Division II playoffs. The leadership from all of our upperclassmen was outstanding and the vigilant daily protocols to help prevent Covid-19, kept us playing and able to compete. Thank you to our outstanding crop of seniors for leading the way.

Coach Jay Wood



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# Varsity Boys Soccer

Coach **Scott Zipke**



Captains: Andrew Beckwith, Ian Heck, Gabe Lopez

The boys' soccer team had a fun and competitive season. Playing mostly D2 opponents, the team averaged over 2 goals/game while allowing less than 0.7 goals against per game. Playing 13 games, the team secured six shutouts and only allowed two goals from the run of play all season long. The 1st and 2nd rounds of the tournament saw the Hawks secure 4-0 and 6-0 victories, respectfully. The quarterfinals proved a big test, as we went to Kearsarge and played to a 0-0 draw. In penalty kicks, however, the Hawks displayed their experienced and calm demeanor as they easily advanced to the semi-finals.

In uniquely Covid fashion, the semi-finals were played on our home field against perennial playoff opponent Gilford. Unfortunately, the season came to a sudden end when Gilford was awarded a penalty with 20 seconds remaining in regular time. The sudden nature of the ending was tough but these Hawks carried themselves with class all season long and the fall 2020 soccer season proved to be a wonderful experience for all.

Coach **Scott Zipke**



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# Varsity Cross Country

Coach **Rob Rothe**



Captains: Cate Westbrook and Michael Eggers-Emerson

The fall season brought many challenges to the teams this year. Having to work with a lot of uncertainty, a shortened season, new policies, all new race formats, a new home course, and a different level of competition was all part of this crazy season. As I am often surprised and impressed by these groups, I was once again this year. They brought their traditional resilience, fortitude, positive energy and top results that have been a staple of these endurance athletes over the years.

For the boy's team, receiving a fresh group of eager freshmen was just the thing to finally bring their numbers equal to the girls. Leading the way for the team this year, freshman Ben Daniels won multiple local meets and placed 7<sup>th</sup> at the championships. He was followed closely by freshman Matt Clarner and senior Michael Eggers-Emerson who together created a formidable top three. They would go on to claim the coveted fourth place spot at the DIII

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championships to earn a trip to the Meet of Champions where they would finish the season as 15<sup>th</sup> in the state.

On the girl's side, there were no incoming freshmen and a number of outgoing seniors that brought their numbers down. In addition, a few injuries knocked some of the girls for the majority of the season. However, with their depth from previous years, they continued to progress and show their strength against every team they met during the regular season, defeating everyone in their path. Led predominantly by juniors Anna O'Reilly and Cailey Stockwell, they were closely followed by senior Cate Westbrook and sophomore Clara Locke to make a strong top four. Sophomore Hannah Bennett would come back at the very end of the season to add to their top five and together they would claim the title of DIII Champions for the second time in three years.

The next week O'Reilly would place an outstanding 11<sup>th</sup> at the Meet of Champions and the team would finish the season as 10<sup>th</sup> in the state.

To all the seniors who I have followed and coached over the years, it has been a tremendous journey. Best of luck in your future endeavors and keep running!

Thank you to all the athletes, volunteers and parents in helping to keep such a big team working together successfully for a great season!

Coach Rob Rothe and asst Brian Lavoie



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# Varsity Girls Soccer

Coach **Mike Zahn**



Captains: Caitlin Clark, Brooke Carlson, Annie Higginbotham

The Lady Hawks Girls Varsity Soccer team ended another successful season clinching the Div. III title versus Campbell HS. The Hawks ended with a 7-4-2 record that included eight of the thirteen games against division two opponents. The Hawks had a record of 42 goals for, 16 against, and 5 shutouts. The team decided during preseason to include the phrase “STILL HERE” onto their warmup shirts and their foresight to know they would get to the final and win was spot on. Ending a successful career with the Lady Hawks program were senior captains Caitlin Clark and Brooke Carlson. Thank you to assistant coaches Courtney Benson '14 and Ellie Morrall '19 along with JV coach Rusty Wightman for all their hard work and commitment to the program.

Coach Mike Zahn asst. Courtney Benson