VARISTY HEAD COACHES

FALL 2019



Jay Ciraco, Head Coach Varsity Football

Coach Ciraco brings 15 years of experience coaching high school football at the Varsity level to the Harrison Husky Football Program. Mr. Ciraco teaches physical education at Louis M. Klein Middle School and also coaches Varsity Baseball and Girls Varisty Basketball at Harrison High School. A three sport varsity athlete as an HHS student, Coach Ciraco also played Division 1 baseball. An accomplished athlete, respected teacher and dedicated coach,

Mr. Ciraco serves as a mentor to student athletes and exemplifies the values that the Harrison Central School District and Harrison Community hold for Husky Football- respect, commitment, accountability and development.



Abbey Nicholson, Head Coach Girls Varsity Volleyball

Coach Nicholson has coached volleyball for 5 years and played at the NCAA Division 2 level in college. Ms. Nicholson currently serves as a teacher aide at the Parsons Elementary School as well as the head coach for the Harrison High School Girls Varsity Volleyball Team. Coach Nicholson serves as a role model for her student athletes and believes that the way athletes approach life directly mirrors their attitudes and expectations on the court.



Alejandro Galeano, Head Coach Boys Varsity Soccer

Coach Galeano has coached and played soccer for many years, including 10 years with the National Premier Soccer League. Mr. Galeano played soccer at the college level and brings a deep level of expertise in and dedication to the sport. Coach Galeano believes how an athlete approaches practice impacts his attitude and performance in games. He sets high expectations for Harrison student athletes both on and off the field.

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Allison Daday, Head Coach Varsity Field Hockey

Coach Daday has coached Field Hockey at the high school level for more than 10 years. Ms. Daday began at the modified level and continued to play through college, where she received Division II NCAA Academic Honors. Ms. Daday also works as a Special Education teaching assistant for the Rye City Schools. Coach Daday trains student athletes to work hard and smart, help each other, remain positive and approach the field with a winning

attitude to achieve excellence together as a team.



Quan Huynh, Head Coach Girls Varsity Tennis

Coach Huynh has 20 years of coaching tennis at the modified, JV and Varsity levels, and played tennis in high school and college. During the spring season, Mr. Huynh also coaches the Harrison High School Varsity Boys Tennis Team. Mr. Huynh has taught in the Rye City Schools for the past 11 years. Coach Huynh's primary focus is to develop student athletes to achieve their maximum potential.



Jon-Erik Zappala, Head Coach Girls Varsity Soccer

Coach Zappala has coached both boys and girls soccer for 21 years at the modified, JV and Varsity levels, and has played soccer for more than 30 years. Coach Zappala holds certifications including: Advanced National Diploma, United States Soccer Coaches; State and Regional Levels 1, 2 and 3; and Goalkeeping Diplomas. Mr. Zappala has taught in the Harrison Central School District for the past 16 years. Coach Zappala embraces the philosophy of sound mind, sound body and

believes that to meet high expectations as a team student athletes must respect themselves and others.

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Charlie Bennett, Head Coach Varsity Cross Country

Coach Bennett has coached cross country and track for seven years, and has taught orchestra in Harrison for 8 years. Mr. Bennett ran on the Cross Country team in high school and continued to compete at the Division III level in college. Coach Bennett believes that High School athletics serve to balance the academic life with physical challenge and self-discovery and the team atmosphere is where we learn from one another and hold ourselves accountable.



Julia Brefere, Head Coach Varsity Cheerleading

Coach Brefere brings 8 years of coaching competitive cheerleading to the Harrison program, and has coached at the modified, JV and Varsity. Ms. Brefere cheered all four years while a student at Harrison High School as well as in college at the Devision I level. Coach Brefere supports student athletes in their quest for constant growth, learning and camaraderie, and believes that great programs come out of a long journey of hard work, perseverance and dedication.



Phillip Dearstyne, Head Coach Girls Varsity Swimming

Coach Dearstyne has coached swimming for 25 years, and has spent the past 20 years coaching both the Girls and Boys Varsity Swim Teams in Harrison. Coach Dearstyne swam competitively through both high school and college. Mr. Dearstyne also has taught in Harrison for 20 years. Coach Dearstyne develops student athletes to work hard, train and become better prepared for life by engaging with teammates, by gaining physical and emotional maturity

through competition, and by comprehending that there are no limits to their potential.