



WHALER ATHLETICS NEWSLETTER

Fall 2023

A Message From Athletic Director Phil Orbe

Welcome to our first newsletter that will serve as both a review of the fall season and a preview of what to expect this coming winter season. The plan is to produce one of these at the end of each athletic season.

One of the main goals of our athletic department is to create a culture in which our various student-athletes can thrive socially, emotionally, academically and athletically. In order to accomplish this, the support of Whaler families is essential .

Please take the time to read our newsletter as it contains important information regarding the NLPS athletics program including how to register for sports, coach contact information, reminders along with student-athlete and team highlights and more.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

email: orbep@newlondon.org

Office phone 860 437 6435

Winter Athletic Registration is Open

Please remember that all prospective student-athletes must have proof of a current physical on file in the nurse's office and must register using our online registration program, FamilyID. Registration must be completed and approved before a student-athlete may participate. Do not wait until the last minute to register.

Registration can be completed by accessing this QR code with your phone's camera.



Fall Sports in Review

HS Girls Soccer

The HS girls soccer team, under the direction of interim head coach Mike Gorton, tripled their win total from the previous year. The team was competitive throughout the season and progressed to win two of its last five games. Award winners: Alina Skrabacz (All Star), Italia Salls (Honorable Mention) , Joy Schneider (Scholar-Athlete) and Nichelle Tucker (Sportsmanship Award)



Spotlight: Whalers in the Community

On August 26th both HS soccer teams participated in the city-wide Ryan's Day Soccer Festival at Caulkins Park. The teams ran skill based youth clinics and assisted in the day long event which included an NL Soccer Club alumni game.

HS Boys Soccer

The HS boys soccer team and Head Coach Jose Roman rebounded from a one win season to enjoy a fine season that resulted in a semifinal berth in the league semifinals, hosting a state game for only the third time in school history and finishing with an impressive record of 12 wins and 7 losses on the season. The team was comprised of athletes from 13 different countries. Award winners: Nico Churis (All Star), Frankee Morocho (All Star), Stouvenly Dortelus (Honorable Mention), Jhon Omelius (Honorable Mention), Alex Churis (Scholar-Athlete) and Eric Castro (Sportsmanship Award).

MS Girls Soccer

The MS girls soccer team played ten games on the season and boasted a roster of nearly twenty student-athletes. Coach Baylee Brackett is building a strong program that is in its developmental stage. The teams' resilience and sportsmanship were both constantly on display this fall.

MS Boys Soccer

The MS boys soccer team played also ten games in the regular season and went 8-1-1. That record was good enough for a berth in the conference finals vs. Groton MS. Although the team lost 2-1 in the final, the team played great. Coach Trevor Corallo and over thirty student-athletes have quickly established a noteworthy program.



MS Coed Cross Country

Coach Mike Morgan led our boys and girls cross country team through six meets this fall, This season culminated at Harkness Park in late October at the conference championships. On a cold, rainy day the team competed well and was led by seventh grader Avery Jones' 20th place finish which was less than one minute off of a top three finish.

HS Coed Cross Country

Interim Head Coach Jelani Lucas led our boys and girls country teams this past fall. The teams competed hard all season and all team members that finished the season did so posting personal records. Team awards were highlighted by sophomore Olivia Crane-Benjamin's second all conference selection and a Scholar-Athlete award. Other award winners were Julia Gauvin (Honorable Mention), Gabriel Frommer (Honorable Mention), Bianca Sinclair (Scholar-Athlete), Jamir Hall (Scholar-Athlete), and Amir Hall (Sportsmanship).



HS Volleyball



Veteran Head Coach Missy Parker guided our volleyball team to quite the turnaround season. The team improved from one win to ten this year, qualified for the state tournament and reached the league tournament's semifinals. Quite the accomplishment for a team with only one senior. Award winners were Serenity Lancaster (All Star), Nyarah Dudley (All Star), Cashel Jones (Honorable Mention and Scholar-Athlete), and Malahika Paulo (Sportsmanship).

Spotlight: Whalers in the Community

On September 29th and 30th, our volleyball program hosted a free, two day, introductory skills clinic for the city's middle school aged female athletes. The week after the seventeen participants and their families were invited as special guests to attend a varsity game.

HS Girls Swimming

Senior Sian Crespo and junior Addison Hurd both competed with the Fitch Co-Op team. The team won the conference's regular season title and finished a close second at the ECC Championships. Sian Crespo earned honorable mention all league status.



HS Football

The football team currently sports a 5-4 record going into the Thanksgiving game vs. NFA. Coach Bobby Sanchez's squad has won four of its last six games. The world's oldest high school football rivalry is set for a 10 am start on Thanksgiving morning at NLHS' Cannemela Field. Long lines are expected. Those with Ultimate Whaler Pride Passes, GoFan tickets and other passes can go directly to the front gate to avoid the wait.

A review of the football season will be featured in our next newsletter.

The Fall athletic season would not have been possible without our many unsung heroes. These people went above and beyond to make the past three and half months possible.

Thank you

- Mr. DeVento and the NLHS band
- Coach Huntington and the NLHS cheerleaders
- The Gridiron Club
- Team managers
- Athletic event staff
- NLPD and NLFD
- NLYF running concessions
- NLHS Cafeteria for the afterschool meals



Winter Athletics Preview

Below are the winter offerings, head coach and their contact email

HS Wrestling - Mike Gorton - gortonm@newlondon.org

HS Coed Fencing - Chris Baker - cbaker@nessf.org

HS Comp Cheer - Deb Huntington - huntingtond@newlondon.org

HS Boys Basketball - Dave Cornish - dcornishjr@gmail.com

HS Girls Basketball - Tammy Millsaps - millsapst@newlondon.org

HS Coed Indoor Track - Jelani Lucas - lucasj@newlondon.org

HS Unified Sports - Tim Kwochka - kwochkat@newlondon.org

HS Comp Dance Team - Lilian Cook - cookl@newlondon.org

MS Unified Sports - - TBA - contact orbep@newlondon.org for info

MS Boys Basketball - Donovan McClean - mccleand@newlondon.org

MS Girls Basketball - Joshua Ford - fordj@newlondon.org

All sport practices begin on Monday, November 27th except HS boys basketball (November 30th), HS and MS Unified sports (December 20th).



Spotlight: Unified Sports

Unified Sports® is a registered program of Special Olympics that combines athletes with and without intellectual disability (or other developmental delays) on sports teams for training and competition. All Unified Sports® teammates are of similar age and teams are placed in competitive divisions based on their skill abilities, and range from developmental to recreational to competitive.

Practices and most competitions take place on Wednesdays directly after school. We need peer partners. Register and come join the fun !!!

Supporting Our Athletes

We encourage our school community to support our Whalers at both home and away games. The NLHS athletic department does charge admission for home wrestling, boys basketball and girls basketball contests. Admission prices are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and senior citizens.

New this year is the Ultimate Whaler Pass to home games. A purchased pass gets you into all home regular season games where admission is collected. Pricing is \$40 for adults and \$20 for students and senior citizens. These passes can be purchased at home events.

We do accept Venmo, CashApp and have begun to use GoFan for ticketing. Most away venues that charge, do incorporate GoFan for all of their ticketing.

Following NLHS Athletics

Follow New London Athletics on Social Media

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@nlhsathletics <https://twitter.com/nlhsathletics>
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Follow New London Athletics on ArbiterLive for schedule changes and directions to sites.

HS - <https://www.arbiterlive.com/Teams?entityId=15840>
MS - <https://www.arbiterlive.com/Teams?entityId=49434>

Get CIAC Mobile for directions, schedules, game rosters, tournament info and directions.

Membership: www.CIACmobile.com



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