



WHALER ATHLETICS

Fall 2024

NEWSLETTER

A Message From Athletic Director Phil Orbe

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year 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.

Our athletic department has enjoyed a good start to the school year and is excited to share with our school community many of our programs' highlights and accomplishments.

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 Cross Country

The HS cross country program, under the direction of head coach Jelani Lucas enjoyed a solid season. Junior Olivia Crane-Benjamin earned all ECC status for the girls and the boys fielded a complete team of five for the first time in recent memory. Each team member's times improved greatly from the beginning of the year to the end. Award winners were Troy McKelvin Jr. (Boys Scholar-Athlete), Geoff Semira (Boys Sportsmanship), and Olivia Crane-Benjamin (Girls Sportsmanship and Scholar-Athlete).



Spotlight: Whalers in the Community

The Whaler cheer program ran a youth clinic in early October which attracted over twenty-five future Whalers. These elementary and middle school students were invited to cheer at a home football game on October 18th.

MS Cross Country

The Whaler MS cross country team competed in five meets including the league championships at Harkness Park. Head Coach Mike Morgan did an outstanding job of introducing these student-athletes to the sport. We look forward to watching this program grow.

MS Girls Soccer

The MS girls soccer team lead by head coaches Olivia Santana and Esteban Reyes Jr. won two matches on the season. They had been winless the past four seasons. This team of over twenty-five girls competed and represented themselves well

MS Boys Soccer

Coach Trevor Corallo, after guiding the team to last season's championship game, led an extremely young team this season. The team, consisting of more than thirty-five student-athletes, won four of nine games.



HS Girls Soccer

Veteran Head Coach Krisitna Ciotto led the high school girls soccer team to a productive season as the team competed hard in fifteen varsity and five sub-varsity games. Senior Darielys Arnold led the team in scoring and was named to the ECC Honorable Mention list. Christine Forestal was named as the team's Scholar-Athlete award winner while Nevaeh Riddick was the team's sportsmanship award winner.

HS Boys Soccer

Head Coach Jose Roman led our boys soccer team to a historic season. The team won nine games and qualified for both the ECC and CIAC state tournaments for the second consecutive year. The team lost a thrilling ECC Division II Tournament final match. Most impressively the team won the first regular season soccer league championship in over forty years. Niko Churis, a four year varsity starter was named all conference along with fellow senior Yovany Sanchez. Brian Escalante and Erlin Almendarez both achieved all conference honorable mention status. Other league award winners were Stouvenly Dortelus (Scholar-Athlete), and Oscar Amaya (Sportsmanship), Churis, Sanchez and Jorge Almendarez received invitations to play in the Senior Bowl game at Trinity Health Stadium on November 23rd. Coach Roman was also honored as head coach.



HS Girls Volleyball

Head Coach Missy Parker led our girls volleyball team through a difficult schedule. The team persisted throughout and ultimately finished the season on a high note winning three games. Award winners were Adrianna Vitorino (All ECC), Alyse Manley (Honorable Mention), Kyani Allgood (Sportsmanship), and Cahel Jones (Scholar-Athlete) A highlight in the season was a team trip to UConn to take in a division one college game.





HS Football

Currently with a 5-3 record, Head Coach Bobby Sanchez has the Whalers in prime position to make a state playoff appearance. The team has two regular season games remaining including the Thanksgiving game at Norwich Free Academy. This game will extended the nation's oldest high school football rivalry.

A full review of the football season will be in our winter sports newsletter.



Winter Athletics Preview

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

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

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

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

HS Wrestling - Mike Gorton - gortonm@newlondon.org

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

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

HS Comp Dance - Lillian Cook - cookl@newlondon.org

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

MS Unified Basketball - Summ Cipriani - ciprianis@newlondon.org

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

MS Girls Basketball- TBA

All HS sport practices begin on either Monday, December 2nd or Thursday, December 5th.

MS basketball tryouts are on Monday, November 25th and Tuesday, November 26th.

Following NLHS Athletics

Follow New London Athletics on Social Media



<https://www.facebook.com/NLHSWhalers>

@nlhsathletics <https://twitter.com/nlhsathletics>

NLHS Athletics <https://www.instagram.com/nlhsathletics/>

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>