By Heather Lewis,
Seneca Valley Athletics & Activities Director

FALL SPORT UPDATES





Cross-Country: Boys & Girls

At the time of this writing, both teams were in the final stages of preparation for the WPIAL Individual championships and PIAA championships. At the PIAA Foundational Invitational, a precursor to the state championship meet, Raider boys finished seventh in AAA competition led by Ian Wahl's 16:26.90, earning 22nd place overall. In the girls race, our Raiders finished 21st in AAA and were led by Paige D'Amico's 21:01.30, placing 62 out of 210 participants. At the team section meet held in early October, the boys finished in third place (5-2) and the girls came in fifth (3-4). Final season results will be updated in the November issue.



Football

While the scoreboard results have not favored Raider Football, the effort and commitment from all members of this program cannot be questioned. A slew of injuries has resulted in numerous underclass players, freshmen and sophomores, gaining valuable playing time on Friday nights. Down the road, these experiences coupled with a healthy lineup will position Raider Football to compete with everyone on their schedule. The team has one game remaining on Oct. 30, and everyone wearing the SV on Friday night will look to send our seniors off in style.

Golf: Boys



As co-champions of the WPIAL Section III Boys AAA Golf, our boys varsity golf advanced to the WPIAL Team Semifinals at Champion Lakes Golf Club. Unfortunately, the team finished fifth and did not advance to the WPIAL Team Championship round. In the individual side of postseason competition, Seneca Valley had four players qualify out of sectional play – Josh Marquardt, Will Pefferman, Lucas Barber, and Bradley Steiner – to advance to the semifinals of WPIAL Individual championships. Josh Marquardt shot a 74 at Hannastown Golf Club, moving on to the final round of WPIAL Individuals. Marquardt carded an 81 at Sewickley Heights to finish 23rd overall out of all boys AAA competitors. Congratulations to the entire team and coaches on a fantastic season.

Golf: Girls

In girls golf action, the Raider varsity squad finished the season in fourth place in their section and 6-7 overall. While the team missed out on the WPIAL Team championships, juniors Kaelin McCann and Alana Stewart qualified out of sectionals to advance to the WPIAL Individual final rounds. Kaelin finished in 26th place and Alana in 32nd out of all girls AAA competitors. The future is bright as both Kaelin and Alana will return in 2027 to lead our Raider girls varsity golf program. Congratulations to the entire team on their accomplishments this season. We also want to take a moment to thank head coach Brian Pesavento who announced his resignation at the team's season-ending banquet to spend more time with his family. The time and commitment Coach Pesavento gave to all members of our golf program over the years is much appreciated. You will be missed, Coach!

Ice Hockey

The start of the regular season is relatively early, and Seneca Valley finds itself in fifth place in the standings, a mere three points out of first place. The Raiders have opened the season with a regular-time win, overtime win, and an overtime loss.

There is plenty of hockey to be played and no doubt this program will find itself in the thick of championship play at season's end.

Soccer: Boys

For the 14th time in his 32-year career, head coach George Williams has led Raider boys soccer to another section title finishing 9-1 in section play and currently 12-1 overall with two games remaining at the time of this writing. The Raiders will be one of the top seeds in WPIAL postseason bracketing, and a final recap will be provided in November. Good luck, boys!



Soccer: Girls



Girls varsity soccer finished the 2026 campaign 11-2-3 overall and 6-2 in section play, earning second place in girls AAAA Section 3. The team awaits its playoff seeding and will look to compete for a return appearance to FNB Stadium, site of the WPIAL Championships in early November. A final season recap will be provided in November. Good luck, girls!

Slow Pitch Softball

Raider girls slow-pitch softball closed out their regular season with a 5-9 mark.

Tennis: Girls

Final results from the 2026 girls varsity tennis season include section mark of 3-5 and overall record of 5-8.

Volleyball: Girls

As of this writing, girls varsity volleyball is in third place out of four teams in their section. While their section mark is 1-3, their overall record is a strong 10-4 including tournament titles at Franklin Regional and Norwin and a runner-up finish at the Plum tournament. The team has remaining section matches with North Allegheny and Butler and will await the WPIAL committee's bracketing to find out their seed in the upcoming championships.



SENECA VALLEY ATHLETES OF THE MONTH, SEPTEMBER



The Female Athlete of the Month for September is senior girls volleyball captain Sheridan Gallagher. A setter, Sheridan has been an important contributor to an 8-3 start on the season, a first-place finish at the Franklin Regional Tournament and a second-place finish at the Plum Tournament. She has showcased her versatility in tallying 529 assists, 70 digs, 25 aces, 15 kills and 7 blocks. Sheridan also surpassed the 1,000-career assist milestone and is on pace to break the record for Seneca Valley Girls Volleyball assists in a season (811), a mark she set in 2025. We recognized Sheridan as the September Female Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Sheridan!



The Male Athlete of the Month for September is boys golfer Josh Marquardt. A senior, Josh played his part in a successful season on the links for the Raiders. He finished above the cutoff line in all but one match this season, helping Seneca Valley to a 12-2 record, a share of the of the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) 3A Section 3 Championship and qualification to the WPIAL 3A Boys Team Semifinals. Josh shot a low of 35 in two matches and was the only SV golfer to qualify out of the section individual championships and the WPIAL 3A Boys Individual first round, where he finished 23rd out of 36 golfers. For an impressive month, we recognized Josh as the September Male Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Josh!

RAIDER ATHLETICS PARTNERS

The Seneca Valley Athletics Department is proud to partner with many community organizations and families whose support goes a long way in helping provide a quality athletic experience for our student-athletes. Listed below are our current Raider Athletics Partners – we thank you for your support!

NexTier Bank
"We're more than just a bank – we provide personal and business banking solutions that support our communities and help you reach your dreams."
www.nextierbank.com

Myers Law Group
"Official Law Firm Partner of Raider Athletics."
www.jpmyerslaw.com

Allegheny Health Network
"Official Sports Medicine Partner of Raider Athletics."
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Field Turf, USA
"A world leader in artificial turf and field surface for Raider Athletics."
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Hawkins Financial Services
"We strive to exceed our clients' long-term goals."
www.hawkins-fs.com

Heritage Seubert Financial Baseball Field
"We help families, businesses and institutions grow, preserve and transfer wealth."
www.heritageseubert.com

Cranberry Psychological Center
Cranberry Psychological Center
"Don't play games with your family's emotional health.
www.cranberrypsychcenter.com

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENT DATES FOR RAIDER ATHLETICS

Winter Sport Information

- Nov. 4: Final Drug & Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals for Winter Sports in Senior High School
  - 30 physicals offered starting at 2:45 p.m.
- Nov. 5: **Deadline** for winter sport paperwork; all papers are due in athletic office.
- Nov. 20: First official day of winter sports – mandatory tryouts begin this day.
- For tryout schedule, please contact the coach directly. Coaches contact information is located on the Athletics website under Participation Information tab.

REMINDERS for 2026-27:

- ALL paperwork for winter sports is due in the athletic office no later than **Thursday, Nov. 5, by 3 p.m.** Coaches will not accept paperwork on the first day of tryouts.
- The PIAA mandates the CIPPE Section 6 form as the only permissible form for doctor's signature.
- All required paperwork for 2026-27 athletic participation is available on the Parent Portal or Athletics website. Paperwork includes PIAA CIPPE Sections 1, 2, 5, & 6 and Drug Test Consent Form.
- If a student played in a fall sport, the only paperwork needed is PIAA CIPPE Section 7 and, if applicable, PIAA CIPPE Section 8 – these forms can be dated no earlier than Oct. 9.
- All student-athletes must register in the Parent Portal under "Sports Registration" before the start of each season.
- Complete information available on the District's Athletics website: Participation Paperwork
- Concussion baseline testing only needs completed every other year. Parents may call the Athletics Office at (724) 452-6040, x1752 to confirm the status of their child's baseline concussion test.
- Tryouts are mandatory. Student-athletes are expected to attend every tryout session.