

Baldwin

Coach: Mylan Yekich (3rd year)

Returning Starters:

We have no returning varsity starters.

Season Outlook:

As with every team I'm sure, our line-up will be fluid trying to find the right match-ups and chemistry on the court, as well as knocking the rust off from sitting idle last season. This year is definitely a rebuilding year, getting the younger guys some varsity experience to progress for the second half of the season and ultimately next year.

Section Favorite:

Going off of past expectations, Bethel Park and Canon McMillan are always dominant, but with everyone taking a year off, it can ultimately be anyone's game to win.

WPIAL Favorite:

As always North Allegheny, but I hear Shaler may be giving them a run for their money.

Bethel Park

Coach: Zach Smith (9th year)

Projected Starters:

senior outside hitter Jackson Banes
senior middle hitter John Harmon
junior opposite Matthew Scabilloni
sophomore middle hitter Travis Cortopassi
freshman setter John Gasiorowski
freshman outside hitter Eddie Cebula
freshman defensive specialist Josh Lubawy

Season Outlook:

We are very young this year. Losing last year took a lot of potential playing time away from this year's upperclassmen so we have very little experience at the varsity level. I hate to use the word rebuilding but this is a year where my team will be doing a lot of learning on the job. Hopefully the team we see at the end of the year is improved upon what we saw at the beginning. In terms of goals and expectations for the season, we have none. We are going day by day and just trying to get better.

Section Favorite:

Favorite in the section has to be Canon McMillan. They've been cultivating a lot of talent for several years and always seem to reload quickly.

WPIAL Favorite: North Allegheny.

Canon-McMillan

Coach: Sheila Mitchell (7th year)

Returning Starters:

5-11 senior libero John Santonastasso
6-3 junior outside hitters Luke Fincham

Other Projected Starters:

6-2 senior opposite Cam Irwin
6-2 junior middle hitter Riley King
6-3 sophomore middle hitter Owen Ostrowski
5-11 sophomore setter Nick Kopec
5-11 freshman outside hitter Luke Bockius

Season Outlook:

We graduated 7 seniors who never got to play their last season. With that, we will be young this year. We look to bring in some of our underclassmen to play big roles this season. We do have some height joining the team, and that will help with our front row defense. No matter what, Canon-McMillan volleyball is glad to finally get back on the court!

Section Favorite:

With the loss of last year, it's hard to tell. Bethel is always strong, but we have all had a year off.

WPIAL Favorite:

I have to follow with what I said before; We all lost a year, so anything is possible!

Moon

Coach: Steve Nicola (2nd team)

Returning Starters:

5-9 senior setter Jesus Carrasquillo
5-11 junior outside hitter Gage Slide
6-0 junior outside hitter Josh Goode

Season Outlook:

We are looking for growth throughout the season. We have a lot of players with little or no experience playing volleyball.

Section Favorite: Bethel Park

WPIAL Favorite: North Allegheny

Peters Township

Coach: Tyler Fiely (2nd year)

Returning Starters:

6-0 senior outside hitter Brian Sullivan
6-0 senior setter/outside hitter Ethan Cooper
5-10 junior defensive specialist Caleb Eynon
6-2 junior outside/right hitter Nathan Dummer
6-5 junior middle hitter Will Josefoski
6-0 sophomore setter Nathan Klein

Season Outlook:

Lots of potential for this team. Although missing a year of high school this team is filled with players who played through the winter in club seasons. With an experienced group and another year of maturity this group should be one to watch coming out of WPIAL.

Section Favorite:

I do not believe there is a favorite. I would say Peters Township or Bethel Park from the talent I know that is around. Watch for South Fayette, a first year squad.

WPIAL Favorite:

North Allegheny, Seneca Valley.

Players to Watch:

Blaine Jones, South Fayette, outside hitter; Alex Vitas, Plum, middle hitter; Dolan Waldo, Bethel Park, middle hitter; Cole Dorn, North Allegheny, outside hitter; Joaquin Gardner-Gotera, Thomas Jefferson, middle hitter; Caleb Eynon, Peters Township, defensive specialist.

South Fayette

Coach: Ron Kelly (2nd year)

Projected Starters:

6-3 junior outside hitter Blaine Jones
5-11 senior setter Ryan Miller
6-4 senior middle hitter Mitchell Howard

Season Outlook:

This is my second year officially as South Fayette mens head coach, but the first year for the team. Being a first year program we have no returning starters or letterman. I have one player (Blaine Jones) that has true experience playing club ball at a high level. Jones, Miller, and Howard will be the backbone of our team. Our outlook will be promising if we continue to make progress. We've been concentrating on first ball and trying to get the guys understanding the game. They truly lack court sense because they never played at a high level. Hopefully we do not get frustrated early in the season and can get better daily.

Section Favorite:

Bethel Park always is a strong team. With last year off there might be some surprises battling for the sections

WPIAL Favorite:

North Allegheny and Shaler probably are the favorites.

Upper St. Clair

Coach: Josh Ficorilli (8th year)

Returning Starters:

senior libero Franco D'Amico

Other Projected Starters:

senior outside hitter Hunter Hanna
freshman outside hitter Justin Oswald
senior middle hitter Jordan Kweder
junior middle hitter Brandon Gala
junior opposite Ethan Rocks
sophomore setter Nate Rising

Season Outlook:

We have very minimal varsity experience. But an incredibly eager group.

Section Favorite:

Bethel Park is the last one to win it. Really it's anyone who had a good group of freshmen and sophomores 2 years ago when we actually played last.

WPIAL Favorite:

North Allegheny is always a favorite