

## Baldwin

**Coach:** Milan Yekich (4th year)

### Returning Starters:

5-11 senior middle hitter Niraj Thapa  
5-6 senior outside hitter Marshal Rai  
6-4 senior middle hitter Luke Campana  
6-0 junior outside hitter Logan O'Donnell  
5-6 sophomore libero Bibek Bhujel

### Season Outlook:

As with the start of every season, a lot of off season work is done to build off of last year and improve. At this stage we are changing around the starting line up to see what the best chemistry is and what makes the most sense. I believe if we can look past on court mistakes, and stay focused on playing the game and keeping composure, we will do fairly well within our section. I believe teams are past the hiccups given to us from covid, and will all be improved and ready to play this season.

### Section Favorite:

Our section is always changing who is the favorite to come in at the top. I believe Peters Twp will still be a really good team, with South Fayette and Upper St. Clair fighting for that top spot. As with every season, anything can happen and things can definitely change as the season goes on.

### WPIAL Favorite:

As always, North Allegheny is at the top of the list. There are definitely other teams close behind them such as Seneca Valley, Hempfield, & Penn-Trafford.

## Bethel Park

**Coach:** Zach Smith (6 years)

### Returning Starters:

6-1 senior outside hitter Fred Schein  
6-0 junior middle hitter Lenny DeMartino  
5-6 sophomore setter John Gasiorowski  
5-10 sophomore setter Eddie Cebula

### Season Outlook:

We have some talented pieces but will need to put it all together and play smart volleyball in order to be successful this season. I have no idea where that puts us in the section or the WPIAL as it seems that everyone is retooling and it will be a race to see who can put it all together first.

### Section Favorite:

Peters won it last year so they have to be up there. I have also heard some very good things about USC this year.

### WPIAL Favorite:

Has to be North Allegheny until someone beats them.

## Canon-McMillan

**Coach:** Sheila Mitchell (8th year)

### Returning Starters:

5-6 senior setter Logan Bui  
6-4 senior outside hitter Luke Fincham  
6-2 senior middle hitter Riley King  
6-4 junior opposite Owen Ostrowski  
6-2 junior middle hitter Ben Fincham  
6-0 Sophomore outside hitter Luke Bockius

### Season Outlook:

We are looking forward to getting this season started. The team has been working hard to get back to playoffs this season. Our seniors have stepped up to become strong leaders and our returning starters have made a strong connection on the court.

### Section Favorite:

It's going to be a battle for the top spot for a lot of us. I see a potential shake up at the top, but it won't be easy.

**WPIAL Favorite:** North Allegheny

## Moon

**Coach:** Steve Nicola (4th year)

### Returning Starters:

6-1 junior middle hitter Ben Molnar  
6-2 sophomore setter/outside hitter Charlie Basil  
5-11 senior opposite Gage Slide  
6-0 junior libero Luis Carrasquillo  
6-5 junior outside hitter Raleigh Rickerd  
6-4 junior setter/outside hitter Bradyn WInters

### Season Outlook:

We have lots of returning starters. We are hoping to improve out record from last year and make the playoffs.

### Section Favorite:

After an undefeated season last year, I think Peter's Twp is still the team to beat in our section.

**WPIAL Favorite:** North Allegheny

## Peters Township

**Coach:** Tyler Fiely (3rd year)

### **Returning Starters:**

5-11 senior libero Caleb Eynon  
6-2 senior outside hitter Nathan Dummer  
6-0 senior outside hitter Tommy Bametzrieder  
6-5 senior middle hitter Will Josefoski  
6-6 junior outside hitter Ryan Deegan  
6-0 junior setter Nate Klein

### **Season Outlook:**

High aspirations after only losing two starters from last year's section winning team. I expect to bring a quality level of competition this year and some exciting volleyball to watch.

### **Section Favorite:**

I think this year will be quite the fight. With talent beginning to show and a year of growth for the younger teams I expect the sections level to be up a couple notches. I am excited to see how the madness settles out in the end!

### **WPIAL Favorite:**

North Allegheny. Although they may have lost some significant contributors they continue to replenish and replace. I expect them to be the team to beat, but watch out for Hempfield. I think they have quite the group of athletes there capable of high skill volleyball.

## South Fayette

**Coach:** Ron Kelly

### **Returning Starters:**

6-3 senior outside hitter Blaine Jones  
6-2 senior outside hitter Mason Dorfner  
6-4 junior middle Nive Praveen

### **Season Outlook:**

This year we have added a lot of new players. We had 34 players try out have 28 on roster so we are young. We have a good base but need to replace our setters and our top 2 passers. We will get better throughout the year as players learn the game and we can start to get some team play in. We do have competition for some positions which makes players better. Hoping to make the playoffs again this year.

### **Section Favorite:**

I think Peters Twp is section favorites returning a lot of players. It could be interesting in our section.

### **WPIAL Favorite:**

I would say North Allegheny as WPIAL favorite but saw Seneca Valley is ranked nationally by USA Today makes me wonder.

### **Top Players to Watch:**

Blaine Jones is a returning all state player

## Upper St. Clair

**Head Coach:** Josh Ficorilli (9th year)

### **Returning Starters:**

6-5 senior middle hitter Porter Rauch  
6-0 junior setter Nate Rising  
6-0 senior opposite Tanner O'Grady  
6-1 senior setter/opposite Ethan Rocks  
6-2 sophomore outside hitter Justin Oswald

### **Season Outlook:**

High expectations with a handful of returning players who have significant varsity experience. Overall young squad with only four seniors.

### **Section Favorite:**

Peters Township is the returning champion. Bethel Park is always strong. Canon-McMillan is young and on the rise. South Fayette has a strong outside hitting presence.

### **WPIAL Favorite:**

North Allegheny is always the favorite. Norwin has a ton of returning seniors. Penn Trafford is always in the mix at the end.

### **Top Players to Watch:**

Will Josefoski, Peters Township; Nate Klein, Peters Township; Blaine Jones, South Fayette; Ben Fincham, Canon-McMillan.