

## Butler

**Coach:** Lew Liparulo (29th year)

### Returning Starters:

6-0 opposite Anthony Panichelle  
5-9 middle hitter Caleb Proudfoot  
6-4 middle hitter Noah Wolford  
5-10 setter Cam Ray

### Season Outlook:

Hardworking and starting to come together as a team. We graduated a lot of experienced players last season. We will be in the mix in a tough section.

### Section Favorite:

Consistent Powers in our section will be North Allegheny and Seneca Valley with the rest of the teams being very competitive.

### Top Players to Watch:

Returning section standouts will be Seneca Valley opposite Nate DeGraff, North Allegheny setter Caleb Schall, and Seneca Valley libero Coleman McDonough.

## Fox Chapel

**Coach:** Phil O'Keeffe (20th year)

### Returning Starters:

senior Shelestak Benjamin  
sophomore Shepard Andrew

### Season Outlook:

We will be relatively young and inexperienced and not very deep. We will have 3 starting sophomores and 3 starting seniors who have never played before, but I really like what I am seeing so far. We should be able to pass and serve with any team we face, which always leads to good things. The sophomores are a solid group and the new guys are quickly getting up to speed. It is always difficult getting out of our section, but that will be the goal. If we do that we will know we can compete with anyone.

### Section Favorite:

I would assume North Allegheny and Seneca Seneca Valley, although I have not seen them this year. Shaler is a legitimate threat and they are deep.

### WPIAL Favorite:

Any of our top teams in the section. I think Penn Trafford is a solid team and from what I hear Hempfield could be in the mix as well.

### Top Players to Watch:

I think Ben Shelestak will be considered a top player.

## North Allegheny

**Coach:** Dan Schall (20th year)

### Returning Starters:

5-10 senior libero Ryan Treser  
6-3 outside hitter Cole Dorn  
6-0 setter Caleb Schall

### Non-starters who played significant role in 2021:

6-4 middle blocker Jack Birch  
5-10 setter Jake Koch  
6-2 outside hitter Titus LaMay.

### Season Outlook:

This is a close-knit group of competitors who have created some great moments and have played in some big matches throughout their careers. Our goal remains the same: be as good as we can possibly be as players and teammates.

### Section Favorite:

Seneca Valley will be an excellent squad, as they were a year ago. They, along with Shaler, will be among top teams. Our section will continue to test and help us develop as a team.

**WPIAL Favorite:** Seneca Valley

### Top Players to Watch:

With no intent of being exclusionary, the following players stand out: Seneca Valley: Coleman McDonough, Nate DeGraaf, and Dawson Ward; Shaler: Dom Rossi, Ian Weber, and Luke Hoffman, along with a wealth of young talent; North Hills: Dane Fazio; Fox Chapel: Eli Yofan; Hempfield: Chaz Ewer; Sean Gordon; Penn-Trafford: Patrick Schall, Alex Rugh; Norwin: Tyler Hussey; Troy Horvath. I am less familiar with teams in the South Hills section but know that there is a nice collection of talented players at Peters Township.

## North Hills

**Coach:** Cody Patterson (3rd year)

### Returning Starters:

6-4 junior middle hitter Daniel Spear  
6-0 sophomore setter Dan Dalton  
6-1 junior outside hitter Joe Frisco

### Season Outlook:

Even though we lost several seniors last season, this year's group has put in many hours of work in the offseason, and it shows. The team hasn't missed a beat, even though they are young. We are just as competitive, if not more competitive than last year's group, and it's only the beginning of the season.

### Section Favorite:

We look forward to competing against Butler. Last year's games were competitive and exciting

### WPIAL Favorite:

Peters Township will be looking for a rematch. We beat them last season when they were ranked in the top 10.

### Players to Watch:

Players to look out for on North Hills are setter Dan Dalton and outside hitter Joe Frisco.

## Pine-Richland

**Coach:** Chris Rotelli (1st year)

### Returning Starters:

6-3 opposite Colby Patrick

5-9 libero Justin Puthenpurayil

### Season Outlook:

This is my first year Varsity coaching the Pine Richland Boys Team. I coached the middle school program last year and prior to that I was coaching at Carnegie Mellon as well as Pitt Elite Volleyball Club Program. In all, I have over 20 years of volleyball coaching experience at collegiate, high school and grade school levels. We have two returning starters who are both seniors this year. We are rebuilding essentially from scratch. We had a very successful 8th grade team from last year and another one for next year so I'm hopeful more varsity starters will come from those groups. Our starting line-up consists of 4 seniors, 2 of whom are brand new but show potential, 1 junior and two freshmen. The two starting freshmen are playing setter and middle hitter. I'm also planning on dressing two additional freshmen at varsity for serve receive and back up setting. Our JV class shows a lot of potential as well and I hope they will develop significantly in the next two years. With the addition of two members of the coaching staff - Tom Krahe who played for Grove City in college and Tom Barrone who is a Pine-Richland graduate who is our new middle school coach - we have a good outlook on the future of the program to be competitive eventually.

### Section Favorite:

North Allegheny is the favorite in our section followed closely by Seneca Valley High School.

### WPIAL Favorite:

I'd put North Allegheny as the favorite in WPIAL as well at this point.

## Seneca Valley

**Coach:** Brett Poirier (2nd year)

### Returning Starters:

5-7 senior defensive specialist Austin Tatusko

6-4 senior outside hitter Dawson Ward

5-11 junior middle hitter Grant Hoover

6-7 senior right side hitter Nathan DeGraaf

6-1 senior libero Coleman McDonough

6-3 senior setter Aidan Uher

### Season Outlook:

Take one match at a time. Stay healthy and injury free. Be competitive in a tough section. Return to playoffs.

**Section Favorite:** North Allegheny

**WPIAL Favorite:** North Allegheny until someone beats them.

## Shaler

**Coach:** Paul Stadelman (11th season)

### Returning Starters:

5-11 senior middle hitter Josh Burkhart

6-5 senior setter Luke Hoffman

5-11 senior libero Zach Miller

6-6 senior opposite Tanner Planz

6-0 senior outside hitter Dom Rossi

6-5 senior opposite Marty Stanton

6-6 senior middle hitter Ian Weber

6-2 junior setter Ryan Callahan

6-1 junior outside hitter Joe Gannon

6-3 sophomore outside hitter Logan Peterson

6-4 sophomore setter Peyton Planz

### Season Outlook:

We are excited about the group of young men that we have this season. They all have been committed to getting better in the off-season and are excited about the opportunities and challenges in front of them. We have a lot of depth at each position and are focusing on our team's potential. We are hopeful to make playoffs in a very traditionally tough section and want to attempt to return to PIAA playoff competition.

**Section Favorite:** North Allegheny

**WPIAL Favorite:** North Allegheny