

# PRIVATE SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATION



## 2017 EAST DIVISION PREVIEW

### Long Island Lutheran Crusaders

**2016 Record:** (10-1-0 PSAA-D1/19-2-0 Overall)

**Head Coach:** 2016 PSAA Coach of the Year Mike Longo, 3<sup>rd</sup> Year

Following a shock 1-0 semifinal loss in the PSAA Soccer Championships, the senior-laden 2016 PSAA Regular Season Champions character shined through with two overtime victories before finishing as runners-up in the NYSAIS-AA Championships.

**Key Losses:** Regular Season MVP Cameron Peterson, Senior (CD); Ian Murchison, Senior (MF); Jack Sanders; Senior (GK)

**Key Players:** Anthony Morales, Senior (CD); Ryan Essigman, Senior (CM)

**Season Outlook:** "Last year's role players to step up this year after Luhi lost so much talent to graduation." - Todd Huebner, L.I. Lutheran A.D.

"With 9 starters lost from last years runner up season we will definitely be in a rebuilding season. Working on turning athletes into soccer players." - Mike Longo

### Portledge School Panthers

**2016 Record:** (8-3-1 PSAA-D1/10-5-1 Overall)

**Head Coach:** Pedro Fernandes; 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

Victorious in eight of the last nine league games propelled Portledge to their 1<sup>st</sup> PSAA Championship in history.

**Key Losses:** Sam Pelcher, Senior (AM); Marco Piuggi, Senior (GK)

**Key Players:** Jonathan Escobar, Junior; Luca Caviezel, Sophomore (AM); Landon Rush, Freshman

**Season Outlook:** "Coming off of last season, one that was nothing short of spectacular, I understand there is a lot of pressure on this young team. Even with the lack of seniors this season, the young energetic players are working very hard and we're looking forward to watching them do right by each other and the school. I've always believed results come from hard work and working well with each other, something the young men are showing already, and we can't wait to see how they perform this season." - Pedro Fernandes, Head Coach

## **Waldorf School of Garden City Wolverines**

**2016 Record:** (6-4-1 PSAA-D1/6-4-1 Overall)

**Head Coach:** Shane Flanagan, 5<sup>th</sup> Year

The Wolverines followed up their 2016 PSAA Championship with their 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive top three league finish.

**Key Losses:** Erik Beauvais, Senior (ST); Peter LePorin, Senior (CD)

**Key Players:** 2015 PSAA Championships MVP Aidan Koubel, Senior (CD/AM)

**Season Outlook:** The closer the postseason arrives the more seasoned the Waldorf boys squad is every season. Always contender, always a danger and never an easy out.

## **Our Savior New American School Pioneers**

**2016 Record:** (6-6-0 PSAA-D1/7-6-0 Overall)

**Head Coach:** Jon Allen, 23<sup>rd</sup> Year

After being outscored 13-5 in two regular season losses, the Pioneers stunned undefeated Long Island Lutheran with a 1-0 semifinal victory advancing to the PSAA Championship Game.

**Key Losses:** Sammy Cerron, Senior (CF); Johanz Tusiime, Senior (MF)

**Key Players:** Jonatan Cackowski (MF); Ben Allen (GK)

**Season Outlook:** The Pioneers look to rebuild on their postseason success and contend for the 2017 title, but it will be a challenge following the loss of the bulk of the roster.

"Our young players will have to rise to the challenge in 2017 after graduating 7 key starters last year." - Jon Allen

## **Lawrence Woodmere Academy Tigers**

**2016 Record:** (4-4-0 PSAA-D2/4-6-0 Overall)

**Head Coach:** Luis Montoya; 1<sup>st</sup> Year

Lawrence Woodmere Academy finished fifth missing out on the playoffs by one point and improving for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive season.

**Key Players:** Ryan Hickey; Senior (MF), Jacob Udvadia; Senior (MF)

**Season Outlook:** The return of All-PSAA Seniors Hickey and Udvadia look to lead a seasoned Tigers team to their first playoff berth since the 2014 championship season.

## **Schechter School of Long Island Lions**

**2016 Record:** (1-6-1 PSAA-D2/1-6-1 Overall)

**Head Coach:** Kerry Dalton; 9<sup>th</sup> Year

The offensively gifted Lions averaged over 3 goals scored per game.

**Key Players:** Ari Kantorowitz; Sophomore (MF)

**Season Outlook:** The Lions look to shore up defensively to make the jump upwards in the division.

## **The Knox School Falcons**

**2016 Record:** (0-10-0 PSAA-D1/0-10-0 Overall)

**Head Coach:** Nic DeZenzo; 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

The Falcons battled in every game played including four losses by 2 goals or fewer.

**Key Losses:** Max Chen, Senior (CF)

**Key Players:** Edip Akyurek, Junior (CD); Nicholas Lazo, Senior

**Season Outlook:** The young Falcons continue their growth looking in a battle for a playoff berth.

“Knox soccer team is looking very positive. We have a great balance of new faces and returning upperclassmen leadership. We are looking to build off a good end of the year last year.” - AD Walter Townes