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F R O M T H E

Sidelines

The Official Publication of the New York State High School Football Coaches Association

INSIDE:

BRINGING BACK
BENGAL PRIDE AT
BUFFALO STATE

PLUS:

STATEWIDE
POST- SEASON
DATES
(NYSFHSAA,
CHSAA, LI, PSAL)

ALSO:

ANNUAL 7V7
TOURNAMENT
CONTINUES TO
GROW



NO LONGER
OVERLOOKED



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THE NEW YORK STATE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION



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2024 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____ SCHOOL: _____ SECTION: _____

POSITION: _____ CONTACT PHONE: _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

****E-MAIL ADDRESS:** _____

MEMBERSHIPS RUN FROM DECEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 15

_____ Active Coach - \$30.00

_____ Athletic Director - \$30.00

_____ Institutional Member - \$125.00 (University, College, Professional Team)

_____ Retired Coach - \$20.00 _____ Friend of Football - \$30.00

_____ Staff Membership (Head Coach & up to 6 Assistants) - \$125.00

List Staff: *(Please Print)*

Name _____ E-mail Address _____

Name _____ E-mail Address _____

Name _____ E-mail Address _____

Name _____ E-mail Address _____

Name _____ E-mail Address _____

Name _____ E-mail Address _____

****Please provide e-mail addresses to ensure electronic delivery of all Association Publications.**

Please send completed form and payment to:

**NYSHSFCA, Bonnie Mangicaro, Treasurer
7170 Opal Drive, Liverpool, NY 13088**

Institutional Members



Cortland State University



Buffalo State University



Alfred University



Union College



Atlantic Coast Conference



Colgate University



Cornell University



Williams College



Brockport State College



Syracuse University



University at Albany



Hamilton College



University of Buffalo



St. John Fisher College



Utica University



University of Rochester

2023 Championship Dates

Regionals 11/17-11/18

East Regional

Class A: Middletown-11/17,6pm
Class B: Goshen- 11/18, 12pm
Class AA: Middletown-11/18,12pm
Class C: @Section 1- 11/18, TBA
Class D: @Section 1- 11/18, TBA
8- Man: @Section 4- 11/18, TBA

Central Regional

Class A: Vestal- 11/17, 8pm
Class B: Vestal- 11/18, 3pm
Class AA: Vestal- 11/18, 6pm
Class C: Vestal- 11/18, 12pm
Class D: Vestal- 11/17, 5pm
8- Man: TBA- 11/18, 6pm

West Regional

Class A: Will South-11/17,8pm
Class B: Will South- 11/18, 4pm
Class AA: Will South- 11/18,6pm
Class C: Will South- 11/18, 1pm
Class D: Will South- 11/17, 5pm

SemiFinals 11/24 - 11/25

East Semi Final

8 Man: Middletown- 11/24, 12pm
Class D:Middletown- 11/24, 3pm
Class A:Middletown- 11/24, 6pm
Class C: Middletown- 11/25, 12pm
Class B: Middletown- 11/25, 3pm
Class AA: Middletown- 11/25, 6pm

West Semi Final

8 Man: Cicero N Syracuse- 11/24, 12pm
Class D:Cicero N Syracuse- 11/24, 3pm
Class A:Cicero N Syracuse- 11/24, 6pm
Class C:Cicero N Syracuse- 11/25, 12pm
Class B:Cicero N Syracuse- 11/25, 3pm
Class AA:Cicero N Syracuse- 11/25,6pm

Finals 12/02 - 12/03

NYSPHSAA State Final

Class D: JMA Dome- Syracuse- 12/02, 12pm
Class A:JMA Dome- Syracuse- 12/02, 3pm
Class C: JMA Dome- Syracuse- 12/02, 6pm
Class B: JMA Dome- Syracuse- 12/03, 12pm
Class AA: JMA Dome- Syracuse- 12/03, 3pm

MMAA Championships 11/11

Division A: @Higher Seed (Time TBA)
Division B: @Higher Seed (Time TBA)

NYCHSFL Championships 11/18

AAA League: Mitchell Athletic Complex- 5pm
AA I League: Mitchell Athletic Complex- 2pm
AA II League: Mitchell Athletic Complex- 11am

CHSAA State Final 11/25

NYCHSFL AAA Champion VS. MMAA A Champion
(Time and Location TBA)

Long Island Championships

Class 1: Hofstra- 11/24, 12pm
Class 3: Hofstra- 11/24, 4:30pm
Class 2: Stony Brook- 11/25, 12pm
Class 4: Stony Brook- 11/25, 4:30pm

PSAL - TBA



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2022 Champions

NYSPHSAA

Class AA

Section 1- Carmel
Section 2- CBA- Albany
Section 3- Cicero N Syracuse
Section 4- Corning
Section 5- McQuaid
Section 6- Buffalo Benett
Section 9- Newburgh
NYSPHAA Champions: Buffalo Bennett

Class A

Section 1- Somers
Section 2- Niskayuna
Section 3- West Genesee
Section 4- Union Endicott
Section 5- Hilton
Section 6- Jamestown
Section 9- Our Lady of Lourdes
NYSPHSAA Champions: Somers

Class B

Section 1- Pleasantville
Section 2- Ravena Coeymans Selkirk
Section 3- Homer
Section 4- Maine- Endwell
Section 5- Batavia
Section 6- Iroquois
Section 7- Peru
Section 9- Port Jervis
Section 10- Massena
NYSPHSAA Champions: Maine- Endwell

Class C

Section 1- WestLake
Section 2- Warrensburg
Section 3- General Brown
Section 4- Waverly
Section 5- Attica
Section 6- Lackawanna
Section 7- Saranac
Section 9- James O'Neill
Section 10- Gouverneur
NYSPHSAA Champion: James O'Neill

Class D

Section 1- Tuckahoe
Section 2- Cambridge
Section 3- Dolgeville
Section 4- Tioga
Section 5- Oakfield Alabama/Elba
Section 6- Randolph
Section 7- Moriah
NYSPHSAA Champion: Tioga

8 Man

Section 3- Morrisville-Eaton
Section 4- Groton
Section 5- Pembroke
Section 9- Tri- Valley
Regional Champion: Pembroke

Conference 1

Section 8- Farmingdale
Section 11- Ward-Melville
Champion: Farmingdale

Conference 2

Section 8- Garden City
Section 11- Bellport
Champion: Garden City

Conference 3

Section 8- Plainedge
Section 11- Sayville
Champion: Sayville

Conference 4

Section 8- North Shore
Section 11- Bayport-BluePoint
Champion: Bayport-BluePoint

PSAL

Bowl Champions: James Madison
Cup Champions: Dewitt Clinton
Conference A Champions: Erasmus Hall
Conference B Champions: A.P. Randolph

2022 Championships: Erasmus Hall

CHSAA

AAA

CHSFL: St. Anthony's
MMAA: St. Francis

2022 Champions:
St. Anthony's

AA

CHSFL: Holy Trinity

2022 Champions:
Holy Trinity

2022 Award Winners

Skip Paradin Service Award- Thomas Heinzelman (Section 2)
Hunter Low Media Service Award- Anthony Morgano (Section 9)
12th Man Award- Wallace Wilson (Section 11, Longwood)
Assistant Coach of the Year- Jeff Sabatino (Section 6, Amherst)

Class AA Coach of the Year- Steve McDuffie (Section 6, Bennett)
Class AA Player of the Year- Jayden Lewis (Section 6, Bennett)
Class AA Scholar Athlete of the Year- Andrew Miller (Section 11, Northport)

Class A Coach of the Year- Anthony DeMatteo (Section 1, Somers)
Class A Player of the Year- Stevie Finnell (Section 8, Garden City)
Class A Scholar Athlete of the Year- Joseph Krasniewicz (Section 9, Warwick)

Class B Coach of the Year- Matt Gallagher (Section 4, Maine Endwell)
Class B Player of the Year- Peter Liotta (Section 8, North Shore High School)
Class B Scholar Athlete of the Year- Nicholas La Rosa (Section 8, North Shore High School)

Class C Coach of the Year- David Moskowitz (Section 9, James I. O'Neill)
Class C Player of the Year- Joe Tomasso (Section 4, Waverly)
Class C Scholar Athlete of the Year- James Compito (Section 9, Burke Catholic)

Class D/8-Man Coach of the Year- Nick Aiello (Section 4, Tioga)
Class D/8-Man Player of the Year- Caden Bellis (Section 4, Tioga)
Class D/8-Man Scholar Athlete of the Year- Benjamin Wortkoetter (Section 6, Wilson)

NYS Metropolitan Coach of the Year- Buddy Krumenacker (Section 8, Farmingdale)

2022 State Championship Award Winners

Class AA - Bennett HS		
MVP Offense-	Jayden Lewis	Section 6
MVP Defense -	Rashard Perry	Section 6
Sportsmanship-	Xzavier Goodman	Section 6

Class A - Somers HS		
MVP Offense-	Matt Fitzsimons	Section 1
MVP Defense -	Jake Polito	Section 1
Sportsmanship-	Mike Keane	Section 1

Class B - Maine Endwell HS		
MVP Offense-	Anthony Policare	Section 4
MVP Defense -	Adam DeSantis	Section 4
Sportsmanship-	Tyrrell Woolfolk	Section 4

Class C - James I. O'Neill		
MVP Offense-	Jordan Thompson	Section 9
MVP Defense -	Thor Swanson	Section 9
Sportsmanship-	Nick Waugh	Section 9

Class D - Tioga HS		
MVP Offense-	Ousmane Duncanson	Section 4
MVP Defense -	Caden Bellis	Section 4
Sportsmanship-	Drew McCumber	Section 4

Lazarus trying to raise Buff State

By Francis Boeck @FrancisBoeck

Lazarus Morgan knew he was at a disadvantage taking over SUNY Buffalo State Football in February of 2022.

“We looked at the first year as basically Year Zero,” Morgan said “We were behind the ball in

recruiting.

We had to get that first class in and get the proper coaches around them. After that it’s just about getting guys to buy in. If you take care of culture, the talent will follow.”

The Bengals struggled in 2022 going 0-10, being outscored 309-68 in the process.

But things are finally turning around for Morgan and company. On September 16th , Buffalo State beat Dean College 41-7, snapping the longest active losing streak in D-III and giving Morgan his first win as head coach.

“It felt amazing,” Morgan said, whose Bengals are currently 1-4. “There’s a lot of hard work that goes into. I couldn’t be prouder of our players and our coaching staff. We’ve been building the culture that we want. Then we had to learn how to win a football game.”

“Last year we weren’t very competitive in most games. Every game we’ve played in this year has been competitive. We’ve had the lead in three games that we didn’t have last year. So, you can see things are changing.”

A former defensive back at Utica College, Morgan knows New York State Football. The Bronx native coached at his alma mater for five years after graduating in 2008. He served as a defensive coordinator at both Alfred University and Cortland before arriving in the Queen City.

Convincing kids to join a program that just broke one of the nation’s longest losing streaks is not easy. Being on the very western edge of the state can also be a disadvantage with so many D-III schools within a three-hour drive of Buffalo.

However, Morgan has some things going for him on the recruiting trail – having an urban campus and cost.

“Buffalo State right now is the most affordable four-year institution that allows you to play four



**Photo by: Dylan Devine -
Buffalo State Athletics**

years of college football,” Morgan says.

He says New York State has some of the best D-III football in the country. And while his staff will occasionally go out of state to find players – Morgan will also keep the focus on kids in the Empire State.

“I keep telling the kids ‘We’re going to win here, we’re going to get things turned around here’,” Morgan said. “The location is too good; the price of the school is too good and the coaches here at good recruiters.”



**Photo by: Dylan Devine -
Buffalo State Athletics**

WNY
Athletics

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Main Feature

Westhampton's Laube proving the doubters wrong at UNH

By Jerry Sullivan @byjerrysullivan

Dylan Laube was 5 years old, little more than a baby, when his dad pushed him to play football for the first time. His older brother, who was 7, was playing in a league for 6- to 8-year-olds. It would be fun for Dylan, family bonding time.

He hated it.

"I would cry every day, 'I hate it, I hate it'," Laube said last week by phone. "I wore elbow pads, wrist pads, every pad possible for my body. I got my butt beat the whole time. Finally, when I was 6 or 7, I started to get good.

"And I just loved it."

A child tends to love things when he's good at them. Laube became a star in the kids' league, and in time one of the finest football players ever produced in the state of New York.

At Westhampton High, on the southern coast of Long Island in Suffolk County, Laube put up astonishing numbers as an all-purpose back. He rushed for 6,495 yards and scored 120 touchdowns as a runner, receiver and returner in his career.

As a senior, Dylan led Westhampton to a 12-0 record. He rushed for 2,680 yards and 47 TDs that season, leading his team to a Class III title. In the championship game alone, he had 227 yards rushing and six touchdowns.

The response from colleges? Mainly crickets. Stony Brook, a haven for Long Island kids, courted him for years and then backed away. Brown, an Ivy League school without scholarships, said he could walk on.

Laube was a lacrosse star in high school and had offers from many of the top colleges in the country, including Duke, Notre Dame, Lehigh and Albany. He wanted to play football, and tried to use his lacrosse talents as leverage to play both sports in college. But nothing

materialized.

"I liked lacrosse, but I never loved it like football," he said. "A couple of schools got me in touch with the football coach, but it never worked out."

The big schools, the FBS colleges, the Power Five? Forget it. In fact, only one school in the second tier of Division I, the FCS, showed serious interest: New Hampshire, which plays with the likes of Albany, Towson and yes, Stony Brook, in the Coastal Athletic Association (and doesn't have men's lacrosse).

Laube said it didn't help coming from Long Island, which is hardly a hotbed for college football talent (though Jimmy Brown was from there).



Photo by: UNH Athletics

“A lot of recruiting is crazy,” said Tommy Herion, who played quarterback at UNH until 2021 and is now running backs coach and recruiter. “I went through it as a player and now I see it from a coaching standpoint. For some reason, whether it’s location or whatever, they kind of slip through the cracks.”

Today, many FBS coaches regret allowing Laube, who is 5-foot-10, 208 pounds, to fall through the cracks. Ask Central Michigan head coach Jim McElwain, who told his players at half-time that Laube was like the character in “Where’s Waldo”. Laube torched the MAC school for 295 yards receiving on 12 catches in a 45-42 loss to the Chippewas.

“I’ll tell you where Waldo is,” McElwain said after Laube went for 371 total yards and three touchdowns. “He was in the end zone a whole bunch.”

Laube was mainly a special-teamer early in his career at New Hampshire. But as a junior, he led the nation in FCS all-purpose yards with 194.3 a game. He was in the top 10 in the country in total touchdowns (19), rushing TDs (15) and punt return average (13.7 per return. He was top five in the CAA in nine stats.

This season, Laube is again leading the FCS national stats in all-purpose yards with 247 per game, 50 better than the next best guy. Through five games, he had 86 carries for 423 yards and 27 catches for 381 yards. He has 11 TDs, including a 100-yard kickoff return and 56-yard punt return for the 2-3 Wildcats.

The major coaches knew where Waldo was after his all-American breakout season in 2022. Hundreds of FCS players jump to the higher levels through the transfer portal nowadays. Laube wasn’t lacking for suitors for his final year.

“I’m a very loyal person,” Laube said. “Of course, there were a couple teams out there I could have gone to ... I thought about it, and I was like, ‘You know what. No one even talked to me (before college). The only team that truly gave me a shot was UNH. Why am I going to bail on them now?’”

So he stayed at New Hampshire, convinced they could make an FCS title run. But despite Laube’s offensive exploits, and averaging 36 points a game, they’ve lost three of five heading into a bye — the losses by a combined 10 points.

Herion, who has seen Laube grow from a “loud, goofy kid” to an all-American, said Laube has been an exemplary leader through the tough losses.

“He’s been awesome,” Herion said. “Everyone has views of what leaders should be. He won’t be yelling all the time; he leads by example. He’s been really positive with the guys, talking about getting to the next play and rolling with that.”

Laube said the bye week came at an ideal time, allowing the Wildcats to regroup, evaluate their season and remind themselves of their vast potential heading into the second half.

“Most teams would be like ‘We’re 2-3, it’s a bad start’, head down, all that stuff. But no, we’re heads up, having fun, super confident. I’m reassuring everyone that we’re a great team. Let’s play to our ability every single day.”

That starts, of course, with the star running back, who has aspirations to play in the NFL and is being projected as high as the fifth round by draft analysts. Laube has been called the “Christian McCaffrey of the FCS”.

“I’m very big on, ‘If you’re good, they’ll find you’,” he said. “The running back position itself is changing. The NFL offenses are more air raids. The running backs are becoming more like a receiving back, a scatback, not just a bruiser. He’s fast, shifty. It’s kind of current for me.

“I’m on special teams, too. A lot of scouts like me as a returner, too. They can kind of use me anywhere.”

Herion says Laube makes his life a lot easier. He’s never seen this many NFL scouts hanging around New Hampshire during his six years in Durham.

“I’m pretty sure we’ve had every NFL team in here,” Herion said. “I’m not 100 percent sure on that, but it’s pretty damn close. Knock on wood, but he has the talent to play in the league and that’s his end goal.”

At this point, it’s not Where’s Waldo, but where might he be headed. Laube says there’s a lot left to prove, but he believes he’ll make the NFL. If they call his name next April, his entire family might be crying.



2023 7 on 7 & Lineman Challenge Winners

by Francis Boeck

Everyone knows that football season starts long before the official first day of practice in late August. High School Football is a year-round commitment – that only intensifies the late summer and fall. In mid-July, nearly 50 teams from across the state took their off-season training to SUNY Cortland for a day to take part in the 2023 NYSHSFCA 7v7 Championships & Lineman Challenge.

The athletic grounds of Cortland were packed with painted white lines separating 16 40-yard fields and tents with players, coaches and fans filling the gaps.

For the first time in the tournament's history, the "big guys" were invited to take part in the Linemen Challenge and Tug-of-War Competition.

East High out of Section V won the Large School 7-on-7 Championship. While Waverly took home the Small School Title for the second straight time.

Afterwards, Waverly QB Joey Tomasso noted he was happy to take home the trophy again – but ultimately the day was about preparing for the fall.

"We played a lot of games here today," Tomasso said. "It's going to help with our conditioning. 7-on-7 is about how well you can compete and execute. We did that well today and hopefully we can roll that into the season."

Small School 7 on 7 Champion:

Waverly - Section IV

Large School 7 on 7 Champion:

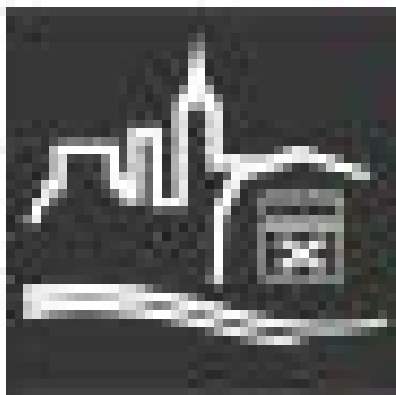
East High - Section V

Lineman Challenge:

UPrep - Section V

Tug-of-War:

Ballston Spa - Section II



NEW YORK

BEEF

COUNCIL

NYSHSFCA Insurance Info



GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM

As a membership benefit, coverage is provided by the Commercial General Liability Policy issued to the National Organization of Coaches Association Directors. This policy will provide general liability coverage to the New York State High School Football Coaches Association and its members.

CARRIER

Houston Casualty Company

POLICY PERIOD

One Year From Date of Membership

UNITS OF INSURANCE

\$1,000,000	Each Occurrence
\$2,000,000	General Aggregate (per Member)
\$1,000,000	Products/Completed Operations
\$1,000,000	Personal & Advertising Injury
\$ 300,000	Fire Damage
\$ 50,000	Sexual Abuse (per Member)
Excluded	Medical Payments

COVERAGES

- ✦ Educator Professional Liability
- ✦ Participant Legal Liability for Insured members
- ✦ Liability assumed under insured written contract
- ✦ Defense Cost outside limits

EXCLUSIONS

- ✦ The use of automobiles, buses, watercraft and aircraft
- ✦ Property of others in the care, custody, and control of the insured.
- ✦ This insurance does not apply to members that coach at an All-Star game that is not approved by your state coaches association.

CAMP INSURANCE

Today, most Coaches are involved in some type of sports camp. Please note that our General Liability Program follows insured members while working at camps and/or conducting their own personal camp.

In addition, Participant/Accident Coverage is required for coaches and/or participants. Should an accident occur during a camp, clinic or event, this secondary coverage helps offset the loss suffered by families affected by such accidents.

NEW PROCEDURE FOR CAMP INSURANCE

As a member benefit of your state coaches association, all members in good standing have a \$1,000,000 per occurrence General Liability policy limit that provides coverage for their coaching activities. In order to protect the General Liability policy from potential claims, the insurance company has mandated that all coaches must obtain signed waivers and provide Participant/Accident insurance for their participants.

In order to obtain a certificate of insurance showing proof of insurance or naming an additional insured, the following must be in place:

- ✦ **Waivers:** Signed waivers showing indemnification language
- ✦ **Participant/Accident Insurance:** You must have Participant/Accident coverage in place for all participants attending sports camps.

PURCHASE INSURANCE

- ✦ Camp Insurance Request form is available on our website: www.loomislapann.com

INSURANCE ADMINISTRATOR

LOOMIS & LAPANN, INC.

INSURANCE SINCE 1892

www.loomislapann.com

(P) 800-566-6479 | (F) 518-792-3426

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kbeiler@loomislapann.com

Disclaimer: This is an insurance overview for summary purposes only; for complete policy terms and conditions please refer to the NOCAD Master Policy.

7 on 7 Tournament & Coaches Clinic



MARK Your Calendar! Save the Dates

NYSHSFCA Upcoming Events in 2024!

2024 NYSHSFCA Annual Football Clinic

February 29, March 1 and March 2*

Turning Stone Resort

***Please note change for clinic dates!!**

2024 NYSHSFCA Annual 7 on 7 Championships and Lineman Challenge at Cortland State.

FIRST EVER
Girls Tournament - Friday July 12th

**Boys Tournament & Lineman Challenge- Saturday,
July 13th**