

“Pride of Methacton”
Warrior Athletics – March Celebrations
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The “Pride of Methacton” newsletter is a monthly publication which delivers to our schools and community updates on the commendable achievements of our athletic programs and milestones reached by individual athletes. Please enjoy this installment of the “Pride of Methacton”, which focuses its attention on an update/recap of our winter sports season.

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Student-Athletes of the Month:

Winter Season:

- December- Amanda Tsai – Girls Swimming and Christopher Spletzer – Boys Indoor Track
- January- Kaitlyn Clark – Cheerleading and Ryan Valle – Boys Swimming

PAC Citizenship Award: Ryan Baldwin of the Boys Basketball Team

PAC Winter All-Academic Team:

<u>Cheerleading</u> Amber DeMichele	<u>Boys Basketball</u> Kevin Trafford	<u>Girl’s Basketball</u> Nicole Timko
<u>Boy’s Swimming & Diving</u> Jan Perez-Bonilla	<u>Girls Swimming & Diving</u> Alexandria Ferrance	<u>Wrestling</u> Grant Baker

Methacton Wrestling:

A young Warrior wrestling team finished up the season with a 4-5 overall record with wins against Phoenixville (54-22), Pope John Paul II (66-10), Upper Merion (66-12) and Pottstown (70-4). Leading the team in individual wins were junior co-captain Grant Baker and sophomore Damian Moser with seven apiece. Co-captain Brody Borkowski, along with Moser, finished among the top six in their respective weight classes at the District One North Tournament. Brody also registered the

fastest fall of the season needing just 24 seconds to put away his opponent in the Upper Merion meet. Freshmen Levi Borkowski, who finished as the team leader in falls, also qualified for the District Tournament.

Wresters finishing the season with winning records were Grant Baker (7-2), Damian Moser (7-4), Matt Blakemore (5-2) Brody Borkowski (6-5). Levi Borkowski (6-5) Josh Retzlaff (5-4), Joey Simko (5-4), Eddie Carbajal (3-1) and Josh Kusy (3-2).

With no seniors on the squad and a total of 11 freshmen seeing varsity action this season, the future looks promising.

Methacton Girls Swimming:

The 2020-2021 girls swimming season was one of continuous adjustments. The team jumped into competition after a shortened pre-season, complete with a significant interruption at the end of December. Our schedule was limited, with only five dual meets and no invitational meets or PAC championships. Despite these challenges, we finished with a record of 4-1. We had strong swims all season from our seniors and team captains Alex Ferrance, Hailey McGarrity, and Emma Ginther. In the last dual meet of the season, freshman Madison Wimmer qualified for the District championship meet in the 500 freestyle with a personal best time. She finished 10th at the District meet and set another personal best! We are excited for next season, since a large number of our returning swimmers will be experienced upperclassmen looking to build on the successes they had this year.

Methacton Boys Swimming:

The Methacton Boy's Swim Team had an incredible season despite all the challenges presented to them due to COVID restrictions. Due to COVID, the boy's had limited practice time in the pool and had to adjust their dryland training. In addition, the season was very short with only five meets to achieve their individual goals - whether that was to swim a personal best time or to qualify for the District Championship meet. The boy's took the challenge with ease. From the start of the season to the end of the season, each boy either had a personal best time or a seasonal best time at every meet! Their determination did not stop with best times, they also won every meet this year to be undefeated with a 5-0 record! Two records were also broken this year: pool record for 200 Medley relay and the team record for the 100 yard backstroke. The team of Christopher Groff (so), Dylan Phan (jr), Tommy Gibbs (jr), and Jan Perez Bonilla (sr) broke the pool record for the 200 Medley Relay with a time of 1:38.21 (previous time was 1:38.30). Christopher Groff also broke his own team record in the 100 yard backstroke going a 52.74 (his previous record was 53.81).

In our postseason, we had six boy's qualify for our District Championship meet. Qualifications for the meet this year were incredibly hard. Typically, there are 42 entries per event in a normal year and District 1 cut that down to only 16 swimmers per event. The boy's had to swim a fast time even to get into this meet and in one of the five meets we had all season - this put a lot of pressure on the kids looking to swim at the District level. The District Championship meet was held on February 27, 2021 at the Graham Aquatic center in York, Pa. Tommy Gibbs (jr) competed in 100 yard butterfly and 100 yard freestyle. He placed 5th overall in the butterfly event and 10th overall in the 100 freestyle event. Christopher Groff (so) competed in the 100 yard backstroke and finished 7th overall. Both boys joined up with Jan Perez Bonilla (sr) and Dylan Phan (jr) in the Medley relay and Ryan Valle (sr) joined Gibbs, Groff, and Bonilla for the 400 freestyle relay. The 400 freestyle relay medaled and finished 8th overall. At this meet, Tommy Gibbs has secured a spot at the State Championship meet

in the 100 yard butterfly. Just like District Championships, the qualifications for the State Championship are extremely tough. The competition usually holds 32 qualifiers per event; this year due to COVID there are only 16 qualifiers in each event across the whole state. Gibbs will be competing in the State Championship meet on March 20, 2021 at Cumberland Valley High School.

Congratulations on a successful 2021 winter season and Go Warriors!

Methacton Boys Indoor Track:

The Methacton Boy's Track and Field team had an incredible winter season, unfortunately with unscored meets there is no record to report. However, the Boy's team looks to keep momentum rolling into the Spring Season with a new coaching staff and some new Personal Bests! Chris Spletzer, Justin Weychert, Jordan Layos, and Chris McGlynn make up the team captains for the winter and spring seasons. A strong base for the incoming underclassmen and great leadership for the returning upper classmen. Some notable college commitments from the senior class include, Chris Spletzer (University of Pennsylvania), Charles D'Orazio (Penn State), and Aaron Sanchez (East Stroudsburg University). There are high hopes for the Warriors heading into the spring season, and Coach Bennett looks forward to working with a very talented team of athletes.

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Methacton Girls Indoor Track:

The Girls Winter Track and Field athletes overcame a number of obstacles throughout the season which included: COVID cases, winter storms, postponement and rescheduling of every meet (multiple times for each meet) during the season, just to name a few. Through it all, the girls attended practice every day, almost always practicing outside from November through March, just in hopes of competing. On March 4, they hosted the first ever outdoor "Polar Bear Quad Meet" at Methacton. Competing against Perkiomen Valley, Pottsgrove and Upper Perk, the girls proved to themselves and their competition that their hard work has its rewards. Although official scoring was not kept, the coaches did score the meet on their own as 3 separate dual meets. The results were:

Methacton: 47 Perk Valley: 29

Methacton: 59 Upper Perk: 12

Methacton: 59 Pottsgrove: 3

In addition to the outstanding team performance, two freshmen put on a show. Aubrey Beaugard ran her first race as a high school athlete and won the 800M with a time of 2:28.86. That was the 6th fastest 800M time in school history. Summer Mellow competed in her first 3 events, the 55M, 200M and Long Jump and won all three! Her time in the 55M Dash, 7.67 seconds, was the 7th fastest in school history. Senior Madi Eastmure was also an event winner in the 55M Hurdles. The Methacton girls dominated the event, taking the first 4 places and 8 of the top 9 places.

The girls will travel to Boyertown on March 10 for another Winter Track Outdoor Meet. A special "Thank you" goes out to the athletic office for providing these athletes an opportunity to compete this season.

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Methacton Boys Basketball:

The Methacton Boys Basketball program completed their season at 11-7. We were 6-2 in divisional games, finishing second in the Liberty division. This year presented multiple challenges for the winter season as delays, cancellations, and reschedules were a big part of the season. To the players' credit they persevered through all the adversity. Despite the challenges, the team was still able to have a successful season.

The team won 4 of its first 5 games. The middle of the season was very up and down with wins and losses. Before finishing the season winning 4 of the final 6 games. Including a game against Abraham Lincoln team which including a career high of points from Brett Byrne with 34. Also, Cole Hargrove set the single game record with 9 blocks in that game. Although we finished with 6 regular season losses, 5 of losses were 3 points or less. So the Warriors were competitive in most of the games.

That set the team up to be the #16 seed in the PIAA 6A District 1 tournament. The Warriors hosted the #17 seed Central Bucks South in a first round matchup. After getting down 22-9, we were able to battle back to win 46-38 behind Cole Hargrove's 23 points and 21 rebounds. The next round set up a matchup of last year's District 1 Championship game with the #1 seed Cheltenham Panthers. Despite a strong 17 point effort from Brett Byrne, the Warriors fell 45-43 with an opportunity to tie the game with 3 seconds left. Despite the playoff loss, the team battled hard and made the coaching staff proud. We are looking forward to what the future holds for the program.

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Methacton Girls Basketball:

The Girls Basketball team is currently preparing for the PIAA District 1 6A Playoffs. This is the 15th time in in the past 17 years that the program has qualified for district playoffs and the fifth straight season. The team has had a very successful season to date posting a record of 14-5 overall and 12-2 in the PAC which was the second best record in the league. The team's regular season record earned them the #9 seed in the 20 team District 1 6A playoffs.

Junior Nicole Timko (16.7 ppg) became the 8th female in school history to record 1,000 career points on February 9, 2021 vs Pope John Paul II. She currently ranks 4th all-time with 1,181 points. Sophomores Cassidy Kropp (9.9 ppg) and Mairi Smith (9.9 ppg) both have had solid 2nd seasons at the Varsity level. Senior Alli Hazlett (6.3 ppg) and Junior Tori Bockrath (5.0 ppg) have provided additional scoring and solid play all season.

Coach Craig Kaminski notched his 300th career win vs Upper Perkiomen on February 17, 2021.

The JV team finished with a record 12-7 on the season. Sophomores Reana Torres (10.7 ppg) and Ashley Fisher (10.0 ppg) were the leading scorers on the team.

Methacton Cheerleading:

The cheerleading squad competed at the District One championships on Friday, March 19 and qualified for the PIAA state championships to take place on April 10 in Hershey. Go Warriors!

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Please contact me with any suggestions or feedback regarding this publication. The Athletic Office is working hard to continue to strengthen our relationship with the school community by providing the best possible communication.

Paul Spiewak, Assistant Principal for Athletics and Activities