



FALL ATHLETICS NEWSLETTER



'THE TIDE IS RISING'



FALL SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

This 2023 Fall season, there were a lot of success and achievements accomplished throughout all of our fall high school and middle school sports.

- Varsity Soccer
- JV Soccer
- MS Soccer
- Varsity Golf
- JV Golf
- MS Golf
- Varsity XC
- MS XC
- Varsity Crew
- MS Crew

DP ATHLETICS



VARSITY SOCCER



Every journey commences with a single step. As the Tide reflects on the season that has recently concluded, the team is filled with hope because the Tide has believe they've taken significant strides toward establishing a strong program that can remain competitive in the PCL for years to come. Throughout this year, every player has shown remarkable growth in their skills and abilities, with perhaps no one demonstrating this more than Braeden Fisher '26. Despite the challenges he faced in the previous season, he entered this year with an unwavering positivity that influenced the entire team, revealing unexpected leadership qualities.

Coach Green would like to commend our swing players, Gustav Najdek '27, Dan Mongiello '25, and Nico Del Prim '27, who, although they didn't always see much playing time in varsity games, dedicated themselves to their development and trained diligently, striving to earn more minutes. They also stepped up when called upon to play significant roles in varsity matches on multiple occasions.

Coach Green's respect also extends to the unsung heroes of our team, namely Charlie Krug '25, Brandon Petticord '25, Jake Murphy '24, and Luke Hodlofski '25. They began the season further down the pecking order but at times found themselves as starters, as Coach Green prioritized qualities like toughness, aggression, and fighting spirit. These players proved that hard work holds more significance for me than raw talent. John Savage '26, Matt Pascale '25, and Reid Anderson '25 were unsung heroes in their consistency, consistently giving their best effort and output, which allowed Coach Green to address various challenges and solidify their positions as varsity players.

Our pursuit of respect was made possible by three new arrivals who were ready to make meaningful contributions. These three freshmen were self-assured in their abilities and didn't let their underclassman status deter them from demanding respect from both their teammates and opponents. Blake Hostetter '27, Drew Yusko '27, and Nate Palermo '27 are the foundation of a significant rebuilding effort for Devon soccer.

The excitement is genuine, and Coach Green has high expectations for Josh Rick '26, who has already achieved All PCL status. Coach Green anticipates that next year will be his best yet, and if he can surpass this year's nearly 20 goal contributions, he may have a shot at being named the best player in the PCL and earning All-State recognition.

Finally, Coach Green would like to express his gratitude to our seniors, who were determined to have a better season than the last and to leave with their heads held high. The only regret is not being able to have Mark Bennett '24 play more games due to injury. Nick Walton '24 exemplified the leadership every coach desires, consistently putting in effort even when his natural talent fell short. He provided stability and wholeheartedly embraced the team's "Family" mantra. Lastly, Connor Savage '24, the Tide's Swiss army knife, who displayed such leadership that I didn't even need to name him captain. He was unequivocally our most crucial player.

Coach Green demanded improvement over the previous year, and the Tide delivered, conceding 23 fewer goals, and scoring 10 more. The Tide instilled fear in the favorites and more established teams in the league. Notably, the Tide held Malvern Prep scoreless in the second half, LaSalle scoreless in the first half, led Roman 2-1, and led St. Joes Prep 5-2 at halftime. One of the Tide's most satisfying outcomes was a 1-1 draw with Lansdale away, under circumstances that are by now well-known. But perhaps our best result came in a 2-1 double overtime victory over Marple Newtown in a hostile environment.

As the year concludes, Coach Green is filled with optimism, knowing that the Tide are losing only four players, and our younger athletes will continue to grow stronger and more capable. The best is undoubtedly yet to come.



JV SOCCER



The Tide JV Soccer Team finished the season 4-13. Scoring goals came in bunches and the team missed some great opportunities in 3 of their games that could have given the team winning opportunities if we had a little bit of luck. Despite not finding the net, the tide had some very exciting games that they competed in to the very end through hard work, teamwork and determination. After an opening loss to Calvary Christian, the Tide bounced back with two wins with Charlie Finnegan '26 leading the way taking control with a great individual effort to break a tie and score two goals to help get the tide back on track. Gustav Najdak '27 was very solid in goal during this stretch behind the defense including Chase Chapman '27, Dan Mongiello '25, Colin Brannan '27, Ryan Spack '26, Trip McGowan '26 and Finlay Manifold '26. The Tide had a four game stretch where we played some very tough opponents including Malvern, LaSalle, Ryan and Carroll. The Tide worked hard to get better and their passing and movement did improve against Carroll where they had one of our best efforts. It wasn't until we played Collegium that we saw some goal scoring again. Aram Amirian '26 and Andrew Buzzbee '27 got their first assists of the year and Buzz added his first goal off a nice combo from Charlie. From his marking back position he sent a lovely ball to Ryan Golden '27 streaking down the flank who crossed perfectly to Buzz for a memorable finish. Ryan Spak, Colin, and Nico all scored and Ryan Golden had two goals including a PK. We had great efforts from Sean Thiele '26, Darian Williams '27 and Michael Cline-Thomas '26 this day. the team then played Interboro with a come from behind win on a sparsely grassed Interboro pitch. The tide were down 2-1 at halftime on a goal from Nico who was the recipient of a great pass from Bradley Hart '26 who worked extremely hard to beat defenders to get him the ball. Nico went on a rampage scoring three more goals for the Hat trick +1. Jason Kleiner '26 played solid as usual and got the tide an insurance goal to put a fork in a frustrated Interboro team. Our next game the tide played a tough O'Hara squad who let the tide get back in it at the very end when Dan got a rebound and buried one behind the fallen keeper to get us within a goal. the tide put high pressure on and it was an exciting finish with a couple of good chances. The tides next close game came the last match of the season against Upper Merion. The Tide had two guests from Varsity besides our regulars Dan and Nico with John Savage '26 and Blake Hostetter with the team. The tide played well but were having a tough time finishing. the tide stayed together until the end and fought the whole way. Coach Heavey appreciates all the support from the Athletic department and looks forward to helping the team to grow this family to a become a fierce competitor in the beautiful game.



MS SOCCER



The Tide MS soccer team had another great season, while participating in the region 17 CYO Soccer League. The team started off to a hot start with winning their first three games of the season. The Tide took down, St. Simon & Jude in their home opener 3-1, St. Elizabeth's 1-0, and Windsor Christian Academy 5-2. After that, games started to become a bit tougher and more competitive for the Tide. The team then tied to St. Norbert's, St. Agnes, and received their first loss against St. Aloysius. The Tide eventually ran into a dry spell falling short to St. Norbert's in their second match of the year and St. Philip & James. The team then ended the season with a solid victory of St. Simon & Jude for the second time with the score of 3-1 and then struggled to finished opportunities in the last game of the regular season against St. Joseph's 4-1. With the record of 5-4-2, the Tide secured the 4th seed for the CYO Region 17 playoff tournament where they took on St. Elizabeth. This game was neck and neck to the very end and unfortunately the Tide struggled to put away any opportunities and lost 1-0 to end their great season. St. Elizabeth's then went to win the Region 17 Championship. The team was led in goals by Liam Baracco '28 with 8 goals and two hat tricks. The team was also glued together by Ryker Bergeman '28 who scored 4 goals on the season, Gill O'Neil '29, Max DiBona '29, Connor Monteleone '30, and Teddy Theil '30 in the midfield. The team defensive wall was led by Charlie Kleiner '28, Dean Huey '28, Evan Petaja '30, Michael McCalla '30, and John Veith '28. Finally, the teams brick wall on the goal line, Jackson Fisher '29 had a great year making some unbelievable saves to help protect the Tide's net. Jackson collected one shut out on the year. The Tide also had four players selected to the Region 17 All-Star game, Ryker Bergeman, Liam Baracco, Charlie Kleiner, and Evan Peteja. Lastly, the Tide MS soccer team wishes the best of luck to our 8th graders, Ryker Bergeman, Charlie Kleiner, Liam Baracco, Dean Huey, Prasad Nunez '28, and John Veith as they move up to the High School program next Fall!



VARSITY GOLF



This year's 2023 Devon Prep Tide Golf Team returned a few seasoned starters, but also featured some new faces that added to the overall success of the team. From the captains to the supporting cast of players, nobody was going to deny this team what they set out to do from day one: Win a State Title as a Team. Over the past three years, Devon Prep now owns three State Championships (two team and one individual-Nick Ciocca '24). They also have a State Runner-Up to their names. For a program that wasn't really talked about over the past ten years, you can believe that everyone knows who this team is now. Our captains (Nick Ciocca, Dan DiLella '24, and John Curran '25) should be recognized for the effort they put in over the past few seasons. These guys never waivered on what their team goals were, even when wins weren't easy to earn over the many talented teams they played. But with the help of John Lewis '24, Alek Shah '24, Chris Pullano '26, Nace Barry '26, Pat Manion '26, Jude McCann '26, and Andrew Carroccio '27, this group of young men achieved something special: they won a team title in a sport that focuses on individual efforts. This team selflessly bought into a main goal, and they managed to keep that goal in mind even if it meant sacrificing reps in regular season matches. We wish the graduating seniors the best of luck as they move onto the next challenge of college, and can't wait to see what next year's team brings.



JV GOLF



The Devon JV Golf team had another great season! On multiple occasions the JV squad was called into action to represent the varsity team taking on the Nazareth Academy, Father Judge, and Lansdale Catholic with a big win over Nazareth Academy. Some highlights of the season include Dylan Kenneson '25, when he shot 4 straight pars against Haverford. Dan Dowling '27 and Zach Mishock '25 dominating hole #5 at Linfield on multiple occasions with killer drives. Against Episcopal Academy Ron Wolfe '24 came within inches of a hole in one on the 9th hole. Jack Bonner took charge against Haverford and predicted his improvement, shooting one of his best scores in the season. Will Shank and Santos Gentile '25 were quiet leaders on the course each day, staying focused on the task at hand and consistently working on their game. Gavin Ola '25 has developed a smooth swing that produces great results off the tee and Grant Gale '25 who shot his low score of the season in our match against the Haverford School. The future of Devon Prep golf is bright with the talent on this JV team.



MS GOLF



The MS Golf team ended its 2023 season on Thursday October 19th, 2023 with a win over Princeton Academy by the score of 202 to 205. The Tide ended their season with a 3 and 1 record.

The Tide had an increase in players this year from 8 to 15 players, the team was split into two groups, the Course Ready group, and a Developmental group.

The Course Ready Group had returning Players Tad Manion '28, Ben Veith '28, Naish Lynch '28, Luca Calzaretta '28, and Kellen Seal '28. The newcomers who made it to the Course Ready group, were Desmond Malt '28 (who finished the year with the lowest average score), Andrew Murray '28, and Conner Hamilton '28.

The Developmental Group consisted of Ryan Aquilante '30, and Riley Brennan '29 both were named co-rookies of the year. Other members of the Developmental group were Ben Barron '28, Patrick Carroll '29, Jack Fatica '29, Will Ferraro '29, and Jake Pellecchia '29.

Overall it was a very great year and the team plans to continue to stride forward into next golf season!



VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY



The Tide high school cross country team had a great fall 2023 season! We had a team of 12 boys which consisted of 3 seniors, 3 juniors, 2 sophomores and 4 Freshmen. Half of the team had prior XC experience, and the other half were new to the sport.

We started off with a fun first preseason race at the end of August, at the Oakbourne Relays. It was different than your normal XC meet, where teams of 2 runners ran 1 mile at a time, with a total of 4 miles for each pair. This meet gave the team a chance to get to know each other and run in a casual and fun environment.

Our main season consisted of four Philadelphia Catholic League meets which were held at Belmont Plateau. This is a tough course and gave the boys experience running hills in a racing environment. In addition, every other Saturday, we traveled to invitationals including Kutztown and Hershey, where there was plenty of talent to give all of our runners a challenge. The boys braved the tough running conditions, for example, Kutztown was extremely hot and Hershey was cold, windy and rainy. In early October, the Tide traveled to the William Tennent Invitational, and all of the boys were pleased to finally race on a flat course – this was a relief and the Tide had more than a few personal bests that day!

Freshmen Brady Smith '27, Caleb Garecht '27, Andrew Rockich '27, and Teddy Marvin '27 all improved their 5K times as the season progressed, with Brady and Caleb running well enough to join the varsity team at District 12 Championships.

Sophomores: New to XC, Ben Weir '26 improved his times by over 4 minutes throughout the season; and Spencer Collins '26, although out with a stress fracture for most of the season, showed great team spirit and came to cheer on the team at every meet!

Juniors: Pierce Rohlfing '25 ran great and came so close to breaking the 20 minute barrier with a 20:00 time on the difficult Belmont Course on Oct 11 at our last PCL Meet. Wyatt Theissen '25 improved his times as well and Sam Kleiner '25 who was new to XC ran well and ended up placing 18th at Districts and qualifying and participating in the PIAA State Championship meet.

Our seniors, Pat Rullo '24, Max Collins '24, and Ian Fabris '24 continued to improve over prior years and all achieved personal bests this season! Pat placed 3rd at Districts and ran a great race at PIAA States to place 28th with a time 17:02.

This team worked hard and pushed each other – as a result, faster times were achieved, and the team spirit was monumental. Congrats to all for a great 2023 season!



MS CROSS COUNTRY



At the end of another remarkable season for the Devon Prep Tide middle school cross country team, it is time to reflect on the accomplishments, growth and experiences of our runners. The 2023 season was a great one filled with dedication, teamwork and personal bests.

Whether laughing or pranking each other during warm-ups, encouraging each other on runs, or huddling up at the end of practice, our boys fostered a strong sense of unity and camaraderie this season. They cheered for each other during races and pushed each other during practice up hills at Valley Forge Park and through tough workouts at Wilson Farm Park. It was inspiring to see them come together as a group.

In addition to our CYO league meets, the Tide participated in several invitational meets, including one at the Shipley School and another at Marsh Creek. The boys ran a number of different courses and experienced races of varying lengths, from 1.65 miles up to 4K (2.5 miles). Throughout the season, the team displayed an unwavering commitment to sportsmanship and togetherness, on and off the course. Every single athlete made incredible strides in performance and deserves to feel proud of his hard work and perseverance.

In the 8th grade, Joel Rajasekaran '28 showed excellent determination in his first ever cross country season, shaving his 4K time by nearly 8 minutes to 20:39 by the end of the season. AJ Adams '28 steadily improved as the season went out, finishing with a 4K PR of 20:55 and emerging as a leader in the process. Devak Shah '28 closed his middle school cross country career on a high note with a personal best of 20:58 and improved his form along the way. Oliver Parenteau '28 made great improvement from last season in both his time and competitive mindset and finished the season with a PR of 21:25.

In the 7th grade, Trevor Heebner-Elliott '29 finished in the top ten at the Shipley Meet and took 2nd place in the Marsh Creek two-mile race. Evan Martin '29 cut his 3K time down to 15:02 by the end of the season. Fred Tucker '29 saved his best for last, ending with a PR of 21:28. Look forward to seeing what you all have in store next year!

In closing, congratulations to our middle school cross country team on their hard work this season, and the efforts from the 8th grade runners especially for their contributions and dedication to the team. Each and every race, the boys showed tremendous dedication and grit, and were primed to make the jump to the 5K next year in high school. To the returning runners, the Tide are excited about your bright future and look forward to your accomplishments next season.



VARSITY CREW



Team VI has continued to grow Devon Prep's rowing program racing more races this fall than any previous team. Lead by Senior Co-Captains Julian Esposito '24 and Austin Thomas '24, we took a slightly different approach this fall, opting for more mixed lineups in a more diverse set of events. Much of this was possible due to the strong showing from the Junior class, a promising Freshmen class of four and our acquisition of another double.

Standout racing performances were two 3rd places at Head of the Christina in our first participation. First by the Novice Quad of Fr. Brendan Cuff '27, Fr. Sherwin Dsouza '27, Jr. Chris DeMaio '25 and Fr. Andrew Albert '27. Second by the Varsity Quad of Sr. Austin Thomas, Jr. Matt Cuff '25, Sr. Julian Esposito and Jr. Nishan Shamlian '25.

The other most notable race performance was a last minute boating of Fr. Brendan Cuff and Fr. Jason Bushra '27 in a novice Double who came in third at our final regatta having only rowed this lineup four times.

Individually, two oarsmen stood out this fall. Junior Chris DeMaio raced Novice and JV and has become a masterful bowman and technician. The other is Freshman Brendan Cuff who started his first season slow, but through hard work and perseverance has become a student of the sport moving from the middle of the boat to the stroke seat where he sets the rhythm and pace for practices and racing.

As mentioned before, we raced more races this year than ever before, but due to the dedication and willingness to gain experience, many oarsmen raced twice at the Head of the Schuylkill (third largest fall race in the country) and the Hidden River Chase.

With promising results this fall and a pair of injured oarsmen coming back to the team in February, our spring campaign looks to be a strong one.



MS CREW

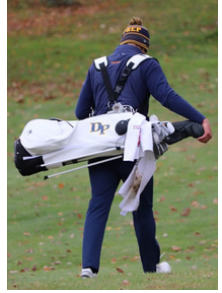


The Middle School rowing team met twice a week through the fall to learn the fundamentals of rowing in the crew room at Devon Prep. Practices consisted of rowing on the Concept 2 ergometers, focusing on building endurance, rowing at a consistent stroke rate, and doing practice pieces at maximum effort. Over the course of the season we tracked the total meters rowed during practice. Congratulations to Andrew Stauffer '29 for narrowly edging out Brian Daniel '29, 50,867 meters to 50,114 meters.

The team concluded their fall season on the Schuylkill River on Saturday, October 21st. With the help of high school students Matt Norton '25, Salvatore Albert '27, and Coach MacAlister and Coach Baseman, the team took two quads out and gained experience on the water.



END OF AN ERA



Nick Ciocca '24

So often we miss it. We think it is going to last forever and then in the blink of an eye it is over. Just like that. We very rarely appreciate it when it is happening-assume that it will always be there and we take for granted the fact that we are witnessing greatness. Over the past four years we have seen dominance at the high school level that we may never see again. On October 25th, at Penn State, Nick Ciocca played his last competitive high school golf match. That fact went almost under the radar as the team hoisted another state championship trophy. A feat that has almost become the norm for the program since Nick started here. In Nick's four years at Devon Prep he has been a four-time Individual State Finalist, a State Individual Champion (-6), a two-time Top 10 State Finalist, a member of a four-time State Team Finalist, a two-time team State Champion, a Team State Runner-Up, two-time PCL Player of the Year, a four-time All-PCL player, a two-time PCL Champion, a Four Time District Medalist (2A) and a two-year Captain. All while maintaining a 3.7 GPA He has left a legacy that will be hard to match... in any sport. While Nick's era of greatness has come to a close, the impact that Nick has had on the program will be felt for a very long time! We wish him the best as he continues his golf and academic career at the University of Notre Dame!



Josh Rick '26
2nd Team All Catholic
Soccer



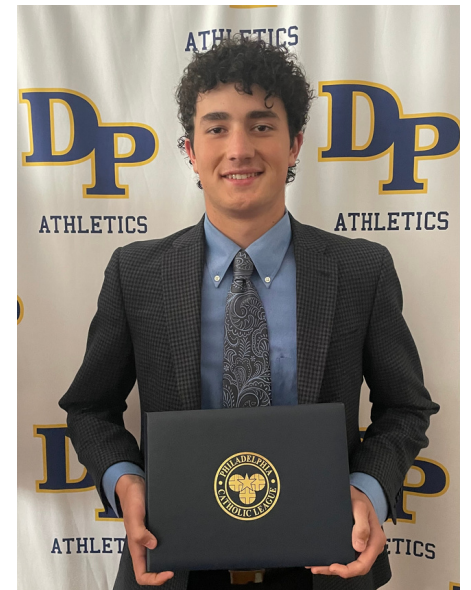
Pat Rullo '24
1st Team All Catholic
Cross Country



Dan DiLella '24
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Golf



Nick Ciocca '24
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John Curran '25
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