

Official Newsletter of the Southern Connecticut Conference

From the Commissioner's Desk



Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

We had a great start to the 2012-13 academic year in the SCC. Despite having to battle some unusual weather, the league was able to complete a majority of its fall playoff competitions. *Thank you to everyone for your support and flexibility during these difficult conditions!*

Despite the weather challenges, league teams still fared extremely well in fall state competition – cementing the SCC's status as the "most competitive league in the state." Well-deserved kudos to the five SCC teams that captured state titles and to the seven others who were state runners-up.

More importantly, the league continued its partnership with The Sports Center of Connecticut to recognize the league's top scholar-athletes. So far, we've honored 42 student athletes who boast some impressive credentials on the field and in the classroom. ***Congratulations to everyone and continue the success!***

2013 looks even more promising! In addition to our upcoming winter sports playoffs, the SCC will host an Unified Basketball tournament, a Cheerleading Competition, and a week-long Arts Exhibition. And in late March, we will honor 44 students – "the best of the best" – at our annual Scholar Leader banquet. Lots of great opportunities to recognize our outstanding young people!

Best wishes,



Follow the SCC on **Twitter** @SCCcommissioner
or on **Facebook** - SCC Commissioner

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Thanks to Our League's Corporate Sponsors



SportsCenter of CT/SCC Scholar Athlete of the Month Program

For the seventh year, the SCC is partnering with the The SportsCenter of Connecticut (www.sportscenterct.com) on a Scholar Athlete of the Month program. Here are the recipients for the first three months of the academic year.

SEPTEMBER 2012 recipients

Jayna Concannon (Daniel Hand, volleyball), Caleb Ewald (Daniel Hand, football), Kasey Butts (Jonathan Law, soccer), Bryan Creevy (Jonathan Law, soccer), Claire Hendershot (Lyman Hall, swimming), Ryan Bohne (Lyman Hall, football), Carly Brereton (West Haven, soccer), Abdul-Razek Zachariah (West Haven, soccer), Shea Connors (Wilbur Cross, soccer), Sung-In Johnson (Wilbur Cross, cross country), Tracy Lynn Buechele (North Haven, volleyball), Matthew Marcarelli (North Haven, football), Davie Bruton (Fairfield Prep, soccer), Chris Golger (Fairfield Prep, football)



OCTOBER 2012 recipients

Edwin Matute (Career, soccer), Magda Sowa (Career, volleyball), David Sampoli (Amity Regional, cross country), Minnie Chen (Amity Regional, cross country), Julianna Maisano (East Haven, soccer), Connor Thompson (East Haven, cross country), Anthony DeTullio (Foran, football), Alexandra Corsi (Foran, swimming), Meghan Nelson (Mercy, volleyball), Sheena Landy (Mercy, soccer), Joseph Stein (Shelton, soccer), Alexa Merriam (Shelton, cross country), Matt Pias (Xavier, cross country), Zach Camner (Xavier, soccer), Taylor Eaton (Branford, soccer), Jaryd Hobbs (Branford, soccer)

NOVEMBER 2012 recipients

Carolyn Duman (Guilford, cross country), James Mackey (Guilford), Emily Ryder (Hamden, field hockey), Ryan Pearl (Hamden, cross country), Kathleen Kalbian (Cheshire, cross country), Sagar Nakrani (Cheshire, cross country), Khadijah Kenion (Hillhouse, volleyball), Je' Vaughn Moore (Hillhouse, football), Matt Shumaker (Notre Dame, football), Daniel Coppolo (Notre Dame, cross country), Justin Lange (Sheehan, football), Kristen McNally (Sheehan, field hockey)

The SportsCenter of Connecticut offers an exciting and unique venue of family fun, team building events, and professional lessons for golf and ice skating/hockey! Located at 784 River Road (Route 110) in Shelton, the Sports Center of Connecticut offers and a premier weather-protected golf practice facility, 18-hole miniature golf course, baseball & softball batting stadium, lazer tag arena, game zone, fun bowl and the world's only double-decker ice arena. For more information, visit www.sportscenterct.com or follow them on Twitter @SportsCenterCT

2013 SCC Events and Winter Sports Playoff Schedule

Jan. 7 – All-Conference Football Banquet – 5:30 p.m. @Anthony's Ocean View – New Haven

Jan. 28 – Unified Basketball – 3 p.m. @Floyd Little Athletic Center

March 25 – Scholar Leader Banquet – 6 p.m. @Anthony's Ocean View – New Haven

March 26 – Spring Sports Captains Council – 10 a.m. @Floyd Little Athletic Center

April 30 – Arts Exhibition Grand Opening – 5:30 p.m. @Creative Arts Workshop – New Haven

Winter Sports Playoff Schedule

Boys & Girls Indoor Track

Jan. 22 – Novice Meet – 3:30 p.m. @Floyd Little Athletic Center

Jan. 23 – East Sectional Meet – 4:30 p.m. @Floyd Little Athletic Center

Jan. 24 – West Sectional Meet – 4 p.m. @Floyd Little Athletic Center

Feb. 1 – Championship Meet – 4 p.m. @Floyd Little Athletic Center

Cheerleading Competition

Feb. 2 – 10 a.m. @Shelton HS

Gymnastics

Feb. 8 – Championship Meet – 5 p.m. @Jonathan Law HS

Wrestling

Feb. 9 – Championship Meet – 9 a.m. @Shelton HS

Girls Basketball

Feb. 14 – First Round – 6:30 p.m. @Higher Seeds

Feb. 16 – Quarterfinals @Sheehan HS - 12, 1:45, 3:30 and 5:15 p.m.

Feb. 18 – Semifinals @East Haven HS – 5 and 6:45 p.m.

Feb. 19 – Championship – 7 p.m. @TD Bank Sports Center – Quinnipiac

Boys Basketball

Feb. 21 – First Round – 6:30 p.m. @Higher Seeds

Feb. 23 – Quarterfinals @East Haven HS – 12, 1:45, 3:30 and 5:15 p.m.

Feb. 25 – Semifinals @East Haven HS – 6 and 7:45 p.m.

Feb. 26 – Championship – 7 p.m. @TD Bank Sports Center – Quinnipiac

Girls Ice Hockey

Feb. 18 – Semifinals @Higher Seeds – TBA

Feb. 19 – Championship – 5 p.m. @High Point Solutions Arena - Quinnipiac

Boys Ice Hockey

Feb. 27 – Division I/II Championship Games – 6 and 8 p.m. @High Point Solutions Arena – Quinnipiac

Boys Swimming & Diving

Feb. 25 – Trials – 4 p.m. @Cheshire Community Pool

Feb. 26 – Diving Competition – 5 p.m. @Hamden HS

Feb. 27 – Championship Meet – 6 p.m. @Moore Fieldhouse – SCSU

Recapping the 2012 Fall Sports Season

Listed below are the sport-by-sport divisional and playoff champions for the eight fall sports sponsored by the conference.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

SCC Championship – October 18 @Hammonasset State Park

Final Team Results: 1. Xavier, 46; 2. Fairfield Prep, 64; 3. Amity, 74; 4. Guilford, 128; 5. Cheshire, 133; 6. Hamden, 138; 7. Hand, 190; 8. Branford, 205; 9. North Haven, 240; 10. Shelton, 281; 11. Notre Dame, 342; 12. Sheehan, 400; 13. Foran, 422; 14. Jonathan Law, 432; 15. Wilbur Cross, 476; 16. Hillhouse, 501; 17. Lyman Hall, 509; 18. West Haven, 545; 19. East Haven, 569

First Place Finisher: Chris Alvarado (Fairfield Prep), 16:14

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

SCC Championship – October 18 @Hammonasset State Park

Team Results: 1. Guilford, 71; 2. Branford, 84; 3. Cheshire, 90; 4. Mercy, 95; 5. Hand, 105; 6. Hillhouse, 116; 7. Amity, 167; 8. Shelton, 196; 9. North Haven, 253; 10. Sacred Heart Academy, 262; 11. Foran, 321; 12. Hamden, 339; 13. Jonathan Law, 346; 14. Lyman Hall, 356; 15. East Haven, 426; 16. West Haven, 527; 17. Wilbur Cross, 548

First Place Finisher: Kellie Davis (Hillhouse), 18:53

FOOTBALL

Division Champions

Division I West – Xavier (4-0)

Division I East – Hand (4-0)

Division II West – Hillhouse (4-0)

Division II East – North Haven (4-0)

BOYS SOCCER

Division Champions

Oronoque – Branford (7-0-1)

Housatonic – Amity (5-1-2)

Hammonasset – Daniel Hand (6-0)

Quinnipiac – Fairfield Prep (7-1)

SCC Playoffs

Quarterfinals @Higher Seeds

#1 Fairfield Prep 1, #8 Shelton 0 (Oct. 28)

#5 Xavier 0, #4 Daniel Hand 0 (Xavier advances via PK, 4-3) (Oct. 28)

#2 Amity 4, #7 Sheehan 1 (Oct. 28)

#3 Branford 3, #6 Guilford 0 (Nov. 2)



A FIRST HORNET STING! Branford won its first-ever SCC girls soccer title – defeating Shelton, 1-0, in overtime on November 6. (Photo by Bill O'Brien)

Semifinals @Higher Seeds

Fairfield Prep 2, Xavier 1 (Saturday, Nov. 3)

Branford 3, Amity 2 - 2 OT (Monday, Nov. 5)

Championship Game – November 6 @ West Haven HS

Fairfield Prep 1, Branford 0

GIRLS SOCCER

Division Champions

Oronoque – Branford, North Haven, East Haven (4-2)

Housatonic – Cheshire (6-0-2)

Hammonasset – Daniel Hand (5-1)

Quinnipiac – Mercy (5-0-1)

SCC Playoffs

Quarterfinals @Higher Seeds

#4 Shelton 3, #5 Amity 1 (Oct. 27)

#1 Mercy 1, #8 Guilford 0 (Oct. 28)

#6 Branford 4, #3 Hamden 2 (Oct. 28)

#7 Daniel Hand 2, #2 Cheshire 1 (Nov. 3)

Semifinals @Higher Seeds

Shelton 1, Mercy 1 - Shelton advances via PK, 7-5 (Nov. 2)

Branford 1, Daniel Hand 0 (Nov. 5)

Championship Game – November 6 @ West Haven HS

Branford 1, Shelton 0 (OT)

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GIRLS VOLLEYBALLDivision Champions**Oronoque** – East Haven (7-1)**Housatonic** – Cheshire, Amity (7-1)**Hammonasset** – Foran (8-0)**Quinnipiac** – Mercy (6-0)SCC Playoffs**First Round – October 27 @ Higher Seeds**

#6 Branford 3, #11 Jonathan Law 0 (25-17, 25-22, 25-20)

#10 Guilford 3, #7 East Haven 0 (25-23, 25-16, 25-17)

#8 Sheehan 3, #9 Lyman Hall 2 (18-25, 26-24, 25-17, 24-26, 15-13)

Quarterfinals – November 2 @ Higher Seeds

#1 Cheshire 3, #8 Sheehan 0 (25-9, 25-11, 25-16) (Nov. 1)

#2 Mercy 3, #10 Guilford 2 (25-18, 22-25, 25-18, 21-25, 15-10)

#3 Amity 3, #6 Branford 1 (25-16, 25-19, 21-25, 25-20) (Nov. 5)

#4 Sacred Heart Academy 3, #5 Foran 2 (25-14, 25-22, 24-26, 22-25, 16-14)

Semifinals – November 5-6 @ Higher Seeds

Cheshire 3, Sacred Heart Academy 0 (25-14, 25-14, 25-20) (Nov. 5)

Amity 3, Mercy 1 (25-18, 18-25, 25-17, 25-20) (Nov. 6)

Championship Game – November 7 @ North Haven HSCheshire vs. Amity - *cancelled (co-champions declared)*

RAMS RETURN TO THE TOP! Cheshire won the SCC girls swimming & diving title for the 18th time in 19 years on November 5 at Southern Connecticut State University. (Photo by John Wood)



FALCONS SOAR! Xavier won the SCC boys cross country title – the Falcons' third title in the last four years and ninth overall. (Photo by Bill O'Brien)

FIELD HOCKEY**Regular-season Champion:** Cheshire (10-0)SCC Playoffs**Quarterfinals – November 3 @ Higher Seeds**

#1 Cheshire 5, #8 Sacred Heart Academy 0

#4 Branford 2, #5 Hamden 1

#2 Daniel Hand 5, #7 Mercy 0

#3 Guilford 7, #6 Amity 0

Semifinals – November 5 @ Cheshire HS

#1 Cheshire 0, Branford 0 (Cheshire advances via penalty strokes, 4-2)

#2 Daniel Hand 2, #3 Guilford 1

Championship Game – November 6 @ Cheshire HS

Cheshire 1, Daniel Hand 0

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING**Division I Champion** – Amity (6-0)**Division II Champion** – North Haven (7-0)**SCC Championship – November 5 @ Moore Fieldhouse – SCSU**

Team Results: 1. Cheshire, 1314; 2. Amity, 1037.50; 3. Branford, 694.50; 4. Hand, 535; 4. Mercy, 522; 6. Sacred Heart Academy, 516; 7. Lyman Hall, 468; 8. Hamden, 462.50; 9. North Haven, 384.50; 10. West Haven, 342; 11. Foran, 312.50; 12. Sheehan, 276; 13. Shelton, 231.50; 14. Jonathan Law, 156; 15. East Haven, 122; 16. Career, 13

Fall All-Conference Teams on the Web

The 2012 Fall Sports Final Standings and All-Conference and All-Division selections are available on each sports' respective page on the SCC website - www.southernconnecticutconference.org.

SCC Teams Win Five State Titles in the Fall

354

Since the league's inception in 1994, SCC schools have now won 354 state championships.

Once again, SCC member-schools fared extremely well on the playing fields. During the 2012 fall season, SCC teams won five state championships. Seven additional teams earned runner-up status in CIAC state competition.

STATE CHAMPIONS (5)

Boys Cross Country – Guilford – Class MM

Girls Swimming – Branford – Class M

Football – Hillhouse – Class M – *defeated Berlin, 34-12*

Football – Daniel Hand – Class L – *defeated Windsor, 23-6*

Football – Xavier – Class LL – *defeated Norwich Free Academy, 48-14*

STATE RUNNER-UPS (7)

Boys Cross Country – Xavier – State Open

Girls Cross Country – Guilford – Class MM

Girls Swimming – Cheshire – Class L

Field Hockey – Cheshire – Class L – *lost to Darien, 4-0*

Field Hockey – Guilford – Class M – *lost to Wilton, 3-0*

Girls Volleyball – Cheshire – Class L – *lost to Darien, 3-0 (25-14, 25-18, 25-21)*

Boys Soccer – Fairfield Prep – Class LL – *lost to Norwalk, 2-0*



JESUIT PRIDE: SCC champion Fairfield Prep reached the Class LL state championship boys soccer game before falling to Norwalk. The Jesuits were the first SCC boys soccer team since 2000 (Guilford) to reach a state title game. (Photo by Bill O'Brien)

S(tate) C(hampion) C(onference)* Notebook

SCC, SCC, SCC!!! – Three SCC football teams – Xavier (Class LL), Daniel Hand (Class L) and Hillhouse (Class M) – won state championships this fall. *It was the fourth straight season at least two SCC teams won state titles.*

In fact, the three state championships tied for the most since three teams won titles in 2005 (Xavier-LL, Branford-MM, and Daniel Hand-M).

HISTORY OF SUCCESS – Since the league's inception in 1994, SCC teams have won 26 state titles. Daniel Hand has the most state titles with six, followed by Cheshire (5) and Xavier (4)... Overall, SCC teams are 26-8 in state championship games, and that includes two All-SCC matchups (Hand vs. Hillhouse in Class M, 2005; Cheshire vs. Hamden in Class LL, 1996).

MORE HISTORY – In those 19 seasons, league teams have combined to win two or more state titles nine times, including each of the last four seasons... Since 2004, SCC teams have captured 14 state football titles – the most of any conference in the state. Next are FCIAC (10) and NVL (9).

X-MEN AGAIN – With its 48-14 win over Norwich Free Academy, Xavier (12-1) became the third SCC team to win three straight state titles. Cheshire holds the league record with four (actually six, 1992-1997) consecutive appearances... Remember, the SCC's first year was 1994... Daniel Hand also won three straight state titles from 2003 to 2005.

GIVE THEM A HAND – With its 23-6 win over Windsor in the Class L final, Hand became the fifth SCC football team win 13 games in a season (Hand, 13-0 in 1997 and 2011; Xavier, 13-0 in 2010 and 2011).



THE BEST: Daniel Hand won the Class L title and earned the state's #1 ranking in every state football poll. The Tigers were also the recipient of the Kelly Award by the Walter Camp Foundation (photo by Bill O'Brien).

* - give credit for the SCC (State Champion Conference) acronym to Xavier assistant coach Andy Guyon, who tweeted it on December 7.

SCC/FCIAC Announce Two-Year Football Scheduling Partnership

In late November, the SCC and the Fairfield County Interscholastic Athletic Conference (FCIAC) announced an unprecedented two-year football scheduling partnership.

The leagues have scheduled 24 football games in each of the next two seasons (2013 and 2014).

With the 2013 and 2014 seasons each having an extra week (i.e., an 11th game) on the schedule, the SCC and FCIAC will have 17 head-to-head contests in the first week in both years (competing teams will alternate home and away).

In addition, seven additional SCC-FCIAC games will be played in each of the next two seasons. Since both leagues have an odd number of teams playing football, teams in each league have “open weeks” in their schedules. As a result, the leagues were able to match up seven games.

Recently, the leagues finalized the times and dates for the 24 games in 2013.

“The Week one matchups are an exciting way to kick off the 2013 football season,” explained SCC Commissioner Al Carbone.

“Since Yom Kippur falls on a Friday in 2013, we had to make a few adjustments because many schools are not allowed to play. However, we were still able to space out the week one games over four days,” he added.

“Most importantly, thanks to our football coaches and administrators for their support of this endeavor. Hopefully, other sports can take advantage of this new partnership.”



2013 WEEK 1 – Challenge Games

Wednesday, Sept. 11

Hillhouse at Darien – 3 p.m.
Fairfield Prep at Stamford – 6 p.m.
Cheshire at Ridgefield – 7 p.m.
Jonathan Law vs. Harding @ Kennedy Stadium – 6 p.m.
Fairfield Warde at Foran – 7 p.m.
New Canaan at Daniel Hand – 7 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 12

Staples at Xavier – 6 p.m.
North Haven at Bridgeport Central – 6 p.m.
West Haven at Greenwich – 7 p.m.

SCC Monthly Report Debuts on SportingNewsCT.com



This year, the SCC along with Don Boyle, founder of the highly-popular website – www.SportingNewsCT.com – have partnered to produce an online “SCC Monthly Report.”

Each month, Don and his staff review the various SCC sports championship events and programs along with game highlights, student-athlete, coach and administrator interviews, and much more.

Thursday, Sept. 12 continued

Trumbull at Shelton – 7 p.m.
Danbury at Hamden – 7 p.m.
Wilton at Guilford – 7 p.m.
Bassick at East Haven – 7 p.m.
Fairfield Ludlowe at Lyman Hall – 7 p.m.
Wilbur Cross at Brien McMahon – 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 13

Trinity Catholic at Sheehan – 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 14

Notre Dame at St. Joseph – 1 p.m.

2013 SCC/FCIAC Bye Week Games

Fri., Sept. 20 – St. Joseph at Fairfield Prep – 6 p.m.
Fri., Sept. 27 – Branford at Wilton – 7 p.m.
Fri., Oct. 4 – Ridgefield at Notre Dame – 7 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 12 – Foran at Trinity Catholic – 1:30 p.m.
Fri., Nov. 1 – Sheehan at Fairfield Warde – 7 p.m.
Fri., Nov. 8 – East Haven at Fairfield Ludlowe – 7 p.m.
Fri., Nov. 15 – Darien at North Haven – 7 p.m.

** Please note – the home teams will switch in the 2014 season.*