



The local newsletter featuring Hastings High School athletics.
Connecting, informing, & celebrating HHS student-athletes & programs.

DECEMBER 2019
ISSUE II

FALL SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

It was an existing season for the 412 student-athletes that participating in a fall sport at HHS! Highlights include:

- Average team GPA of 3.38, program retention rate of 81%
- Average multi-sport athlete rate of 56%
- Combined varsity W/L record of 54-46-4 (56% WP)
- Three teams won at least one section game & five teams finished in the top 3 in the Metro East Conference
- Girls' soccer finished 13-3-2, the most wins in a single season in school history. They hosted (and won) a section playoff game for the first time in over 20 years.
- Girls' soccer head coach Scott Meier was named both Section 3AA Coach of the Year and Minnesota State AA Girls Coach of the Year.
- Boys' soccer coach Christian Waage was named Section 4AA Assistant Coach of the Year.
- The synthetic turf at McNamara Stadium/Todd Field was a big hit. There were over 80 different events on 40 different dates, marking more than a 4x increase in events and 2x increase in dates compared to the average fall season on grass. Events included varsity and lower level practices and games, marching band, and HMS events. Four different community groups used the stadium at least once; Little Raiders football, HFC soccer, YMCA, SEAS. Todd Field also hosted three MSHSL section/state playoff games.

FB, VB EVENTS RAISE \$15K FOR CANCER RESEARCH



Football's "Tackle Cancer" and volleyball's "Diggin For A Cure" events combined to raise over \$15,000 for cancer research this fall! Kudos to our these programs, coaches, countless parent volunteers, and our generous community support for making this happen. We are proud to stand together in supporting our neighbors and friends.

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EVENT STAFF SPOTLIGHT: MR. DICK CRAGG

Dick Cragg has been vital to the success of Hastings High School athletics for over 30 years. Since 1991, Dick has served as the PA announcer for boys and girls basketball. He is also currently the PA announcer for boys and girls soccer and baseball. He has also served as the varsity football statistician since 1988. For almost three decades he was the conference statistician for football. He has also served as a site manager and/or announcer at a variety of other sports each year, as well as working countless section playoff games. In all, Dick works at over 40 games every year!

Dick is a military veteran, and retired teacher, coach, and sports administrator. He has been a part of numerous local athletic committees and school-community partnerships. He is a past recipient of the MSHSL Region 1AA "Distinguished Service" Award. He has always been drawn to sports at the high school level. He loves to "see kids maturing and becoming adults with the help of great coaches and a hard-working culture." He also strongly believes high school sports builds a sense of community. HHS is grateful for Dick Cragg and his dedication to Raiders athletics!

New in 2019-20, cashless technology is available at all home games! You are encouraged to purchase game tickets with debit cards and/or credit cards.

CHARACTER CAMARADERIE COMPETITION



Students, School Spirit, Super Fans

A significant point of pride within our school community is the great peer to peer support that our students provide each other. It is common for HHS to have the "larger" of the two student sections when we play any athletic contest. Our traveling football fans in particular often match or even exceed the number of home team students when we traveled to away sites.

High school sports do not see the same volume of attendance as they did 20 or 30 years ago. This is a national trend, and not isolated to Hastings in particular. The diverse school activities available, combined with advanced technology and other options for free-time entertainment means that less kids, adults, and community members attend high school games than ever before. We are proud that in Hastings - and at HHS in particular - we remain strong with regard to student support and school spirit. GO RAIDERS!