



# STEUBENVILLE CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

## Crusader Athletic Club Newsletter

Welcome to the new Crusader Athletic Club! Thirty-six of you are the inaugural members of the club that we hope to grow quickly with your help. It would be nice to see our membership at 100 at this time next year.

It is time for us Crusaders of the past to step up and make some good things happen with our sports programs at CCHS. Central has a proud sports tradition, one of the best in the Ohio Valley. State Championships have been won in football, baseball, and track. A number of our boys' and girls' teams in the various sports have won OVAC Championships. Numerous former Crusader athletes have made All State or All OVAC teams. Many have earned sports scholarships and played collegiate and, in a few cases, professional sports. This is a wonderful sports tradition that needs to continue! And we need your help, if it is to continue.

Recruiting members to the club is our first request of each you. The 36 of us have connections to many former athletes and other supporters of CCHS athletics. We need to spread the word and actively recruit our friends and family members to become club members. CCHS sports need to be rejuvenated and a great club geared toward supporting CCHS athletics and, when needed, stepping up and providing financial support will be invaluable to our new Athletic Director, Mike Barber.

Most of you know Mike Barber. For those of you who may not, Mike Barber loves CCHS and is really committed to improving the program. Mike realizes that it is going to take help from the whole CCHS community and he is hoping that our club can be a driving force to help motivate the Central community.

When we first started to talk about the club the idea was to keep it simple. The first goal we talked about was just keeping club members informed about CCHS sports. Many of you live out of the area and just want some basic information about the current status of our athletic department. Regular updates will be a primary focus of the club.

The second goal is to raise money to help support CCHS sports, both girls and boys, through our annual dues and a couple of fundraisers each year. One of the fundraisers would be an annual golf tournament to be held during Homecoming weekend. The golf tournament held this

past year during Homecoming was about having fun. In the future it needs to be about raising money as well as having a whole lot of fun!

As members of the Crusader Athletic Club you will be given the first opportunity to play in the tournament. This past year we had a waiting list of individuals wanting to play.

Other fund raisers would probably be simple requests for donations to support a special need of the athletic department. Examples could be purchasing a football helmet, a basketball uniform, a new locker for the locker room, a piece of equipment for the weight room etc. Maybe annually a couple of needs at different price points can be identified so each of us could choose what we can afford to do.

It is understood that maybe not all members will be able to help with these funding requests. Help if you can. If not able to, your dues are helping and we still want you as a member of our club!

The final goal of the Club is to have fun as we support the school we all love! It is our hope that we can build in a couple of opportunities during the year where we can just have fun.

The bottom line is we need your help. If you have some ideas to share please let us know.

-Mike Mehalik class of 1972

### **2021 Lady Crusader Cheerleading**

The Catholic Central High School Cheerleaders were involved in lots of activities, fundraisers, and promoting spirit at our school. We held a fundraiser to raise money to get new uniforms, and we were able to raise enough through the generosity of friends, family, and fans. We also were able to purchase new metallic poms, and we now have competitions tumbling mats as well! We held a "Cheerleader for a Day" Camp which was very successful and each of the campers were able to come out onto the field to cheer for pregame at one of our football games this past season. We held four successful pep rallies, decorated the gymnasium and lockers, and marched in the homecoming and Christmas parades.

### **2021 Crusader Cross Country**

The 2021 edition of the Catholic Central Cross Country Team was led by first year Head Coach Tiffany Dobson and Assistant Coach Bob Stanko. Our young boys' team consisted of 4 Freshmen and 2 Sophomores. They were led by freshman Andrew Rohde who earned Class 1A-2A honors with his runner-up finish in Class 1A-2A and 37<sup>th</sup> overall. Andrew also placed 13<sup>th</sup> at the East District XC Championships. We have a bright future ahead of us with such a young and determined team.

The Lady Crusaders boasted 1 Senior-Rebecca Bolster, 2 Juniors and 4 Sophomores. They were led by Sophomore Emiliana McCallister who earned medals in all of her races. The girls also have many talented runners returning and we expect a bright future for them as well.

Our Junior High teams are rich with talent as the boys boasted 9 runners and were OVCCL Team runner-ups and our 3 girls were among the top runners in the Junior High circuit.

### **2021 Crusader Golf Team**

I was anxious going into this season because I had a veteran team returning with expectations and drive to become better than what they were the day before. The team showed leadership and continuity from day one, competition within the team led us to a 19-7 record for the regular season. We had three players this year earn medalist honors, which is a great accomplishment as a team because it shows every person pushed each other to become better. We finished the OVAC Tournament with a second place finish and had Senior Brendan Schaefer qualify for the District Tournament at the of the year. The support from family and friends played a huge factor to our success as every tournament we played in, there were supporters for our players every time no matter what the weather was like and I personally thank them for that. I was grateful to coach these student athletes and it is an honor to be able to announce that we also had four players who were apart of the Academic All Ohio Team and Brendan Schaefer was First Team Eastern District, Johnny O'Karma and Olivia Gibas were Second Team Eastern District, and with Honorable Mention was Vince Barcalow. I thank everyone who supported the Catholic Central Golf Team!

### **2021 Crusader Football**

The 2021 Crusader Football season was highlighted several players being named to area all-conference and all-star teams, as well as the commitment, hard work, and dedication of the senior class. Tim Lamantia, Massimo Lancia, Antonio McGinnis and Primo Toriscelli were the 4 seniors on the 27 player roster. Their leadership was evident, not only in their work ethic, but also in the example they provided the underclassmen. Lamantia LB and Toriscelli WR were the seniors named to area teams. QB Andrew Dorsey, OT Willie Rao and RB Dashon Seditz were the juniors receiving honors. Sophomores Tyler Ialenti and Brayden Rauch, along with Freshman Tommy Pergo also received honors. With 23 of 27 players returning in 2022, the Crusaders are optimistic about improving on the 3-7 record this past season and working to get back into the post season playoffs.

## **2021 Lady Crusader Soccer**

The 2021 girls' soccer season marks 3 years as head coach for Johnathon Hoover. The team saw considerable improvement on previous years. After a combined seven wins in the previous two seasons, this year's team finished with a record of 12-5-1. They earned the number one seed for the OVAC tournament, there they faced a tough Linsly team where they finished as runner-ups for the second year in a row. The Lady Crusaders earned the number three seed in their section, where they were victorious in their first round matchup over Ridgewood, but were eliminated from the state tournament in the following round by Bishop Rosecrans. Junior Maria Meyer earned Second Team All-State, First Team Eastern District and First Team All OVAC. The team earned its third Street All Academic Award and Coach Hoover won his second Street Coach of the Year. The girl's team graduated eight Seniors from this year's team but they are looking to be another strong contender in the 2022 season.

## **2021 Crusader Soccer**

The boys' soccer team had another successful season. Twenty boys participated on this year's team. They played a competitive schedule against other teams from within the OVAC and they qualified and participated in the OVAC tournament. They also participated in the "Together We Care" cancer event along with the other local soccer teams to raise money to help local cancer patients. They advanced into the second round of the Ohio State playoffs where their season ended in overtime after a dramatic and exciting comeback. Throughout the season the boys continuously developed and displayed their will and desire to always compete and improve. As with every year, we will miss the 5 Seniors who are graduating and look forward to the beginning of next year and the return of our remaining and new players.

## **2021 Crusader Volleyball**

The Crusader Volleyball Team started off with 3 tough losses before going on a strong 6 game winning streak. After defeating Brooke High School in an intense 5 set game and sweeping an undefeated Southern Local, the team finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the OVAC, just missing the tournament. The girls were able to avenge their early season loss against rival Toronto at home before ending the season in tournament play against Caldwell.

Team Honors include: 5<sup>th</sup> Place OVAC, Seeded 7<sup>th</sup> out of 17 teams in District 5 Division 4, Jayda Jones-District 5 Division 4 Honorable Mention, Clara Symington-1<sup>st</sup> Team District 5 Division 4, District 5 All Star Game, OVAC All Star Game & Wheeling Intelligencer All Valley Volleyball Team.