



AVE MARIA ACADEMY
ROYALS

WELCOME TO AVE MARIA ACADEMY ATHLETICS

*Home of the
Champion ROYALS!*





Our History

The Ave Maria Academy Athletic Association (AMAAA) was formed in 2020 using the best practices of our four legacy schools:

Saint Anne

St. Bernard

Our Lady of
Grace

St. Thomas
More

We now have one of the largest & most successful athletic programs in the Pittsburgh Diocese and have already won **15 Diocesan Section and Championship titles!**

By playing sports, our student-athletes will develop leadership, teamwork, and good sportsmanship through competition in a Christian atmosphere. It is also a chance to bring our two campuses together as ONE team.



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2023-2024 AMAAA Board

Matt Hazel, Athletic
Director

Stephanie Massaro,
President

Jon Nanz, Vice
President

Joy Baldonieri,
Secretary

Natalie Podkul,
Treasurer

Members at Large:

- Bobby Balsom, Ali Gasperini, Pat Reilly, Amy Smith, Joe Villella, Marc Yester

AMA ANNUAL ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

43 sports teams across
14 different sports

Over 400 individual
student athletes

110 coaches

720 practices

570
games/meets/matches
played

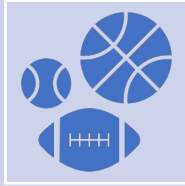
Over 1000+ volunteer
hours





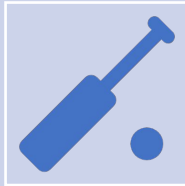
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What We Offer



Unlike public schools, we offer sports starting in Kindergarten and 80% of our students participate in at least one sport!

14 Different Sports offered for grades K – 8th.



We ensure that every child that signs up for a sport is placed on a team and every effort is made to play competitive sports in a Christian Manner.



We are blessed to have one of the largest and state-of-the-art gymnasiums in the diocese, along with an outdoor field for soccer, cross country, track & field, and an outdoor basketball court.

AMA SPORTS



FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
Co-ed Little Kickers (K-2)	Boys Basketball (3-8)	Boys Volleyball (4-8)	Soccer Camps
Co-ed Jr. Soccer (1-2)	Girls Basketball (3-8)	Co-ed Volleyball (3-4)	Cross Country Runs
Co-ed Soccer (3-8)	Little Peps (K-2)	Co-ed Little Runners (K-2)	Boys Basketball League & Open Gyms
Girls Volleyball (4-8)	Cheer (3-8)	Co-ed Little Kickers (K-2)	Girls Basketball Open Gyms
Co-ed Cross Country (3-8)	Co-ed Little Dribblers (K-2)	Co-ed Soccer (3-8)	
Co-ed Jr. Runners (1-2)		Co-ed Track & Field (3-8)	
Football & Cheer offered through the South Hills Chargers (3-8)			



How to get Involved

Coaching Opportunities

- Ave Maria coaches are volunteers who dedicate their time and talent in support of our student athletes.
- Coaching selections are made by the Athletic Director in consultation with the AMAAA leadership.
- Coaching Requirements:
 - Clearances & Clearance Confirmation Completed Annually
 - Prior Coaching Experience for JV/Varsity Teams
 - Great attitude, patience and organization.

AMAAA Board Membership

- Membership on the Athletic Board is open to the parents or guardians of school students that participate in AMA athletic programs and open positions will be communicated each year.



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AMAAA Home/Away Volunteer Opportunities

The AMAAA is
100% Volunteer-Run!

The support of
parents and
guardians is crucial to
ensure our student
athletes get the best
on-field/court
experience:

- Families are expected to work 2 shifts/child playing a sport:
- Mary plays volleyball and Joseph plays basketball & soccer = 6 volunteer shifts are expected.

Opportunities
include:

- Coaching, Admissions, Selling 50/50 chances, Gym/field set-up and clean-up, Concessions, Keeping the clock & book, Line judges, Track and Cross- Country tent assembly & disassembly, Time-Keepers



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Please Support Our Fall Harvest Basketball Tournament!

What is the Fall Harvest Basketball Tournament?

• **What is the Paul Garlitz Jr. Fall Harvest Basketball Tournament?** It is a tournament started in 2008 by St. Thomas More School to help raise funds to support the school's athletics program. It was renamed in 2010 after a beloved and highly-respected official in the league named Paul Garlitz Jr. passed away in March of that year. Paul was a Mt. Lebanon native who dedicated countless hours of his time to making elementary and high school sports better and he left a lasting impression on parents, student-athletes, and his fellow officials. After our merger in 2020, we decided to continue this highly successful and meaningful event.

• We host 32 girls/boys' public & catholic teams over two weekends of amazing basketball with lots of great food and lots of great people!

• Little Peps & Little Dribblers perform half-time shows at one or more of the games.

How does the tournament support all AMA sports?

• Under the guidance of our school leadership, our athletics program is **100% volunteer-run and 100% financially independent** — we receive no financial support from the school or diocese. We rely heavily on the Fall Harvest Tournament for the extra funding needed to maintain and/or upgrade our facilities and programs and to keep our registration fees low. Though Fall Harvest is a basketball tournament, it supports **ALL AMA SPORTS**. General examples of what Fall Harvest helps to fund are below:

- Customized uniforms for each sport
- Updated equipment for each sport
- Gymnasium/Field maintenance and upgrades
- Referee fees
- Tournament fees
- Concession supplies
- 8th grade recognition night
- 8th-grade sports banquet
- End-of-year team parties

WE NEED YOU TO VOLUNTEER AT THIS TOURNAMENT!



For More Information

- ❖ Please visit our website at <https://www.avemariaaa.org> where you can find additional information:
- ❖ Athletics Calendar
- ❖ Registration for Sports
- ❖ Individual Team/Family Information



AVE MARIA ACADEMY

#HAIL2MARY

LET'S GO ROYALS!