



## 2021 WINTER SPORTS Preview

### SPORT: BOYS BASKETBALL



*2019-2020 CHAMPION - WILBUR CROSS*

### TENTATIVE PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

*First Round – Thursday, March 18*

*Quarterfinals – Saturday, March 20*

*Semifinals – Tuesday, March 23*

*Championship Game – Friday, March 26*

*Note: If you lose in the first round/quarterfinal, you will be scheduled additional games the week of March 22-26.*

#### **Division 1 Teams:**

Amity, Fairfield Prep, Hamden, Hillhouse, Law, Notre Dame, Shelton, West Haven, Wilbur Cross, and Xavier

#### **Division 2 Teams:**

Branford, Career, Cheshire, East Haven, Foran, Guilford, Hand, Lyman Hall, North Haven, and Sheehan

## Division 1 Team Previews:



**SCHOOL NAME:** Amity Regional

**SPORT:** Boys Basketball

**SCHOOL NAME:** Amity Spartans

**Head Coach (# of years coaching):** Jeff Nielsen (22 years)

**2021 Captains:** To Be Determined

**Top Returners:**

Sebastian Holt – Sr forward, 1 year starter.

**2021 Season Outlook:** Stay safe, follow health and safety protocols. Have fun playing basketball, enjoy being on the court and in the gym. Each day that we are allowed to play is a gift and we should make the most every opportunity.



**SPORT:** Basketball

**SCHOOL NAME:** Fairfield Prep

**Head Coach (# of years coaching):** Mike Papale

**2021 Captains:** Tim O'Leary, Finn Donelan, Conner Moore

**Top Returners:**

Tim O'Leary, Sr Captain;

Finn Donelan, Sr Captain;

Conner Moore, Sr Captain;

Logan Carey, Jr, Leading scorer as a sophomore;

Max Manjos, Jr, All SCC as Sophomore;

Jack Petrafesa, Jr, 6<sup>th</sup> man as a sophomore.

**2021 Season Outlook:**

A young Prep team from last year is a year older now and brings back a ton of experience. The Jesuits finished the last 12 games of the regular season 9-3 and won the opening round of the Division 1 State Tournament before it was canceled due to COVID. The Jesuits are looking to build on the progress that they made last year with their strong core group of returning players.



**SPORT:** Boys Basketball

**SCHOOL NAME:** Hamden High

**Head Coach (# of years coaching):** Jarrad Beck

**2021 Captains:** TBA

**Top Returners:**

Joe Williams sophomore guard;  
Elijah Holder sophomore forward;  
Deandre Coardes junior guard;  
Emanuel Boles junior guard.

**2021 Season Outlook:**

Our goal is to be competitive during the regular season and improve for tournament play.



**SCHOOL NAME:** James Hillhouse High School

**Head Coach (Number of Years coaching):** Renard Sutton (11th year)

**2021 Captains:** Mathew Gibbs and Emmanuel Brown

**Top Returners:** Mathew Gibbs and Emmanuel Brown

**2021 Season Outlook:** We want to continue to establish a competitive mindset and maintain a high-level program. "We're young, but resilient."



**SPORT:** Boys Basketball

**SCHOOL NAME:** Jonathan Law

**Head Coach (# of years coaching):** Jamie Anderson (4th year)

**2021 Captains:** Brian Felag, James Marino, Noah Tutlis

**Top Returners:** Brian Felag Sr Forward, Noah Tutlis Sr Forward

**2021 Season Outlook:** These are difficult times we're in and we are extremely pleased to be playing at all. This is crucial for the development of these young men. Our goal, as always, is to put a good product on the floor that consistently competes and grows as a unit.



**Sport:** Basketball

**School Name:** Notre Dame West Haven

**Head Coach:** Jason Shea, 8th Year

**2021 Captains:** Ben Carroll, James Rawlins III, Robbie Oliverio, Tevis Blount

**Top Returners:**

Ben Carroll, 1st Team All-SCC 2020, Senior

**2021 Outlook:**

I'm just excited to be back in the gym with my players preparing to play meaningful games and competing for an SCC Championship. We graduated a lot of scoring and experience, but the talent and toughness on our roster will allow us to compete for an SCC Championship.



**SPORT:** Boys Basketball

**SCHOOL NAME:** Shelton

**Head Coach (# of years coaching):** Brian Gardiner (13th year)

**2021 Captains:** Gavin Rohlman and Jay Cimmino

**Top Returners:**

Gavin Rohlman - Sr., 6-3 Forward. 3 ppg, 4 rpg, 3 apg, 1 spg;

Jay Cimmino - Sr., 5-10 Guard;

Vinny DeFeo - Jr. 6-4 Guard. 4 ppg, 3 rpg, 1 spg;

Randy Mones - Jr. 6-2 Forward. 3 rpg;

Robert Correia - Sr. 5-9 Guard;

Tim Hilser - So. 5-10 Guard

**2021 Season Outlook:**

We have a young team that is excited to get on the court and prove themselves. Our two best players, Brian Belade and Melvin Kolenovic, transferred to prep schools because they were worried we wouldn't have a season, but the remaining Gaels are ready to fill in the gaps.



**SPORT:** Boy's Basketball

**SCHOOL NAME:** West Haven High

**Head Coach:** Ty Sullivan (3rd year)

**2021 Captains:** Malcolm Duncanson, Javaun Calhoun, Manny Belcher

**Top Returners:**

Malcolm Duncanson 6'0 Senior PG 17ppg, 8rpg, 4apg; All-League and All-State in 2020.

Javaun Calhoun 6'6 Jr F- 6ppg, 7rpg, 4bpg;

Manny Belcher 6'3 Jr G 10ppg, 4rpg;  
Eli Blackwell 5'8 PG

**2021 Season Outlook:**

Expectations for the year are to compete for a Conference championship.



**SPORT:** Boys Basketball

**SCHOOL NAME:** Wilbur Cross High School

**Head Coach (Number of Years coaching):** Kevin E. Walton, Sr. (9th year at Cross/24th Overall)

**2021 Captains:** Dereyk Grant

**Top Returners:**

Dereyk Grant, Sr. Guard, 2 year starter, All SCC (1<sup>st</sup> Team), 2020 New Haven Register All-Area, New Haven Tap-Off Club, SCC Tournament MVP;  
Jayvon Taylor, Sr. Guard, 2 year starter – 10 ppg, 3 spg;  
Ja'Don Thomas, Junior Guard;  
Noah Rainge, Sophomore Forward;  
Christian McCleave, Sophomore Guard;  
Jarel Delgado, Sophomore Guard;  
Jamel Lee, Sophomore Guard.

**2021 Season Outlook:**

This team will always be remembered for their perseverance and how they handled the adversity of the pandemic and the subsequent quarantine. They have not been in school since March 2020 yet they have continued to thrive academically and have managed to stay above the fray. Since we began practice last week they have done everything that is asked of them. I didn't realize how much I missed them until we were back in the gym together. My expectations for this season are the same as every year. We will compete night in and night out and when the dust settles, we expect to be right in the mix for the SCC Championship. "Adversity doesn't build character; it reveals it."



**SPORT:** Boys Basketball

**SCHOOL NAME:** XAVIER

**Head Coach (# of years coaching):** Michael Kohs (22<sup>nd</sup> year)

**2021 Captains:** Ryan Gazzillo and Parker Hunter

**Top Returners:**

Parker Hunter - Sr. 6-1 G

Justin Menard - Soph 6-1 G

Anthony Parker - Soph 6-2 G

**2021 Season Outlook:**

Having graduated 4 starters from last year's team means not a lot of experience going into this season. Our guard play should be a strength of our team and we have the potential to be a good shooting team from the perimeter. Team rebounding, great team defense, and development of depth with our younger players will be a must in order to have a successful season.

**\*\*\* SCC DIVISION 1 BASKETBALL \*\*\***