

1992 Girls Soccer State Champions



Front Row (L to R): Jen Layton, Melissa Gugalski, Joanna Reinhardt, Irene Tzovolos, Lori Robinovitz, Danielle Brzyski, Lauren Jordan, Laurie Pells, Terri Eckerstrom, Sharon Chrissy Brzyski, Coach Paul Parker
Back Row (L to R): Coach Laura Lenio, Nicole Florentino (team manager), Cami Pantiel, Amy Herterick, Aundrea Tilly, Sharon Volz, Amy Spagnola, Ellen Wilson (peeking thru), Keisha Dyer, Kristin Krause (over top), Cathy Conner, Nicole Lebo (peeking thru), Megan Patrowicz, Melanie Fourd, Jen Critelli

The 1992 State Championship Girls Soccer team completed its season with a final record of 17-3-2. The team was coached by Paul Parker.

The team began the season with a record of 2-1 before going on an 11-game winning streak. That streak unfortunately ended with a 1-0 defeat in the Somerset County Final against Bridgewater. This left the girls in a unique situation. Despite a dominant regular season, they found themselves in a different position than the previous two years. After winning the conference and county titles the past two seasons, the team

was not able to repeat in 1992; their loss to Bridgewater in the county finals ended their two-year reign as champions, and they lost the conference to Hackettstown on record. 1992 Girls Soccer State Champions However, these disappointments fueled their state tournament run. Coach Parker and the captains set the team's goals to win the Group III Sectional Championship.

The Lady Raiders were seeded 3rd in their section and began their state tournament run against Notre Dame. Their quest almost ended abruptly when they went into halftime down by a goal. However, in the second half, Hillsborough came back with three unanswered goals. Then, the girls went on to beat Bishop Ahr 3-1. In the next round the team travelled to Steinert for the Central Jersey Group III Sectional Final. They scored in the first 40 seconds of the game, and their defense held Steinert scoreless to win 1-0, claiming the school's first ever sectional title.

The Lady Raiders then defeated Deslea in the Group III Semifinals in a shootout (4-2) to put them in the Group III State Finals. This victory was also significant because it marked Coach Paul Parker's 100th win as a girl's soccer coach.

The state final, played against nationally-ranked Northern Highlands was held on a turf field on November 21, 1992. The game was especially difficult as the team was outshot 24-3. Nevertheless, the girls played one hundred minutes of scoreless soccer, and the two teams were declared co-champions, winning the first-ever state championship in the history of HHS girls' soccer. After the game, commenting on the shared title, Coach Parker said, "It's like kissing your sister!"..."We are happy. It's our first state championship. Whether it's a co-championship or not, it's still a championship."

The Hall of Fame Committee is proud to induct the 1992 State Championship Girls Soccer team into the 2016 Class of the HHS Hall of Fame.