

Barnesville Boys Golf Team Ready To Hit Links

By Tracy Hinsz

The Barnesville Trojans have opened up their practice season preparing for another boys golf year with a young squad looking to build off of last year's success.

Head Coach Matt Askegaard returns for his 15th season leading the Barnesville Trojan Boys Golf program.

Back for her second season is assistant coach Kendra Jolicoeur who will coach the junior varsity and junior high teams as well, with Ayden Hauck joining their staff as a volunteer coach.

Returning to the team for 2026 are Heart O' Lakes All-Conference golfers Jacob Strand and Will Brasel.

Strand is a sophomore and Brasel a freshman that have been on the varsity team for the last few seasons. They will be looked at to provide leadership to another young group of golfers.

"Last season the boys golf team put together a solid and competitive campaign," said Coach Askegaard. "We finished fifth in a strong conference field that saw Staples-Motley, Park Rapids and Wadena-Deer Creek join the HOL Conference.

The group showed steady growth from the beginning of the year through postseason play, with scores trending in the right direction as players gained valuable experience and confidence.

Our depth across the lineup played a key role as multiple golfers were able to contribute meaningful rounds in conference and invitational meets.

Leading the way were two standout performers in sophomore Jacob Strand and freshman Will Brasel with both earning HOL All-Conference honors. They consistently posted some of the lowest scores in the league. Their leadership set the tone for our



The Trojans boys golf team members are, left to right, front row-Wyatt Tucker, Isaac Hanson, Kam Thompson, Dominic Green, Landon Dahl, Jacob Strand, Decklin Bauer; back row-Elliot DuBord, Lincoln Foster, Carter Askegaard, Logan Olson, Carson Smith, Will Brasel, Sam Axness, and Jaron Poepping.

team in practice and competition, demonstrating a commitment to improvement and course management."

Other golfers returning with varsity experience and looking to make an impact this season include junior Elliot DuBord and eighth grader Carter Askegaard.

The roster is made up of seniors Dominic Green and Carson Smith;

juniors Landon Dahl, Logan Olson and Jaron Poepping; sophomore Isaac Hanson; freshmen Sam Axness and Kam Thompson; and eighth graders Decklin Bauer, Lincoln Foster and Wyatt Tucker.

"Beyond our top performers, several younger players stepped into bigger roles and showed promising development. They gained valuable varsity experience that will benefit

the program moving forward.

Our team's ability to stay competitive in most meets reflected a strong work ethic and positive culture. With our fifth place finish leaving room for improvement, the foundation built throughout the season positions the program well for continued growth and future success."

The Trojans will compete in

Section 8AA and the Heart O' Lakes Conference this season with Coach Askegaard pinning the favorites tag in the conference, section and state on Staples-Motley, Hawley, Perham and Fergus Falls.

"We have a young team with good experience that are looking to take the next step this season," said Askegaard. "We want to improve

individually and as a team every day and every meet.

I am excited to see how our season shakes out. It will be fun to see who will step up and surprise everyone with their play. Our goal is to improve our individual and team games, compete at a high level and have fun. It should be a great season."

Lady Trojans Golf Team Looking To Defend HOL Title

By Tracy Hinsz

The Barnesville Lady Trojans golf team returns to the links searching to defend the Heart O' Lakes Conference Championship they won a year ago.

"Last year was an unforgettable season with our four seniors and winning the HOL Conference Championship," stated Coach George Haj. "Bella Snobl was our lone state qualifier and will be sorely missed as will Sierra Seefeldt, Tessa Aberle and Kennedy Peterson. They were Heart O' Lakes All-Conference, had a phenomenal year and will be hard to replace.

But I know this year's seniors are excited to add to their legacy. I think the success of the last six years has helped build our program into what it is today."

The task at hand might be tall, but Barnesville returns three golfers that had a hand in winning the championship last season.

Seniors Ella Brasel and Claire Olson will anchor the varsity lineup with junior McKenna Seefeldt helping lead the underclassmen for spots on the varsity squad in 2026.

Returning for his 13th season as Head Coach of the Lady Trojans is George Haj who won Heart O' Lakes Conference Coach of the Year in 2025. He will be assisted again this season by Kendra Jolicoeur with Allie Aadland joining as a volunteer coach as both will help run the Junior Varsity and Junior High programs.

"We will have a strong top three



The Trojans girls golf team members are, left to right, front row-Ava Huesman, Taryn Packer, Claire Olson, Caitlyn Johnson, Sierra Seefeldt, Mya Haspel, Ella Brasel, Myrah Karels, Monica Wilson, Lily Sauvageau, Head Coach George Haj, Manager Kyla Haj, and Asst. Coach Kendra Jolicoeur.

golfers with Ella Brasel, Claire Olson and McKenna Seefeldt returning this year," said Coach Haj. "Brasel was also HOL All-Conference in 2025 and just missed out on going to state. She has been on the varsity since seventh grade and brings a wealth of

experience.

We also expect big season's from Olson and Seefeldt as they have witnessed what it takes to compete individually, while helping the team and are ready to step up and make a name for themselves this season.

These three will also be our captains in 2026.

Monica Wilson has really come along the last few years and we hope she takes another step this year to help our golf team. We are also looking at newcomers Ava Huesman

and Taryn Packer to make the jump to compete at the varsity level as well.

Our hopes are for the other girls to push each other at practice and on the Junior Varsity that will make our varsity team stronger."

This year's roster includes seniors Brasel and Olson; junior Seefeldt; sophomore Huesman; freshman Myrah Karels, Packer and Wilson; eighth graders Mya Haspel and Caitlyn Johnson and seventh grader Lily Sauvageau.

Barnesville will once again compete in the HOL Conference and Haj believes that Hawley, DGF and Barnesville will be favored to win the Championship this season with Detroit Lakes favored to win the Section.

Coach Haj is confident that the team will be highly competitive throughout the season.

"We are very excited about the upcoming year," mentioned Haj. "Our goal is to compete for another HOL Championship. We want to be playing our best golf at the end of the season.

Our team is very competitive and works extremely hard to improve every day they come to practice. They have great camaraderie, dedication and want each other to do well. They will need to perform when it counts under pressure situations, but I believe they can.

The upperclassmen have really stepped up this year and have brought a lot of energy and enthusiasm to our team.

Their passion for the game is contagious. Hopefully they will put together another great season of Lady Trojan golf."



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