

# St. John Paul II wins five soccer tournaments in 2016

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*St. John Paul II seniors won four soccer tournaments this season. - Photo submitted*

*St. John Paul II's junior soccer team won one tournament and finished second in another this season. - Photo submitted*

Soccer teams from St. John Paul II again dominated Catholic elementary school play in 2016.

The school's senior team won four championship during an undefeated season while the junior team won one championship.

The SJPII senior boys hosted its annual invitational tournament in May, defeating local rival St. Andrew 2-1 with goals from outside the penalty area by Mauro Lulli and Matthew De Michele.

It was the third consecutive year that SJPII won the tournament, extending its undefeated streak to 19 games. It was the largest tournament in Halton Catholic District School Board history, with more than 1,300 coaches, players and game officials participating. Organized by SJPII, the tournament raised \$1,500 for the Halton Catholic Children Education Fund.

Later in May, SJPII won all of its game at the St. Ignatius of Loyola Secondary School feeder school tournament, edging St. Matthew 2-1 in the championship game. De Michele and Lulli scored the goals for SJPII.

A 2-0-1 record in preliminary play advanced SJPII to the semifinals of the Ascentrick Sr. Invitational in June.

After ousting St. Matthew, SJPII blanked St. Mark 3-0 in the final. Lulli, Lucas Russo and Bryan Soares scored the goals and Ethan Ceolin provided excellent defensive play.

The last championship for the SJPII seniors came in the St. Andrew Invitational on June 21, with a 6-0 win over St. Dominic in the final. Captain Charlie Francuz, Lulli, Russo, Jacob Dadufalza, De Michele and Soares scored the goals.

The SJPII juniors' title came in an invitational meet St. John Paul II hosted in April. Two goals from Billy Raitt and singles from Oscar Kowalczyk, Andrew Richardson, Jack Francuz, Nicolas Lopac and Rodrigo Noblecilla gave SJPII a 7-3 win over St. Joan of Arc in the final.

The SJPII juniors also played in the St. Christopher Jr. Invitational in Burlington in May, earning the silver medal by reaching the championship game. St. Andrew won the gold with a 4-3 decision.

SJPII has won 18 championships since 2012.

Other contributors to the championships included Nicholas Zanatta, Luke Spano, Matthew Zanatta, captain Lukas Del Vecchio, Michael Filice, Daniel Antonini, Manuel Bustamante, Ethan Ceolin, Matthew Musulin, Michael Palmeri, Jason Soares, Matthew Sostaric, Noah Nishizaki, head coach Matthew Aslett, assistant coach Nic Bruno and manager Anthony Ceelen.

<https://www.insidehalton.com/community-story/6751683-st-john-paul-ii-wins-five-soccer-tournaments-in-2016/>