

GO GRIFFINS

EMHS ATHLETICS 26/27

I AM BECAUSE WE ARE

At Ernest Manning High School, our athletics program revolves around community and culture. We believe there is nothing individual about a successful season. Every accomplishment is built on the support of teammates, coaches, teachers, families, and peers, helping one another become the best versions of ourselves. We aim to create an environment where student-athletes are supported so they can excel in their sport, academics, and the broader school community.

Over the past three years, we've ended our athletics season by asking our graduating student-athletes what it means to be a Griffin. Their responses included: "not being afraid to fail," "taking chances," "never giving up," "embodying leadership, sportsmanship, and teamwork," "pushing yourself to new limits," "being part of a community that pushes you to work hard," "being a positive influence," and "having people around me who care about me and the sport we are playing." These principles will continue to define the Ernest Manning Athletics culture and shape the way we compete, lead, and support one another.

In 2025-2026, more than 500 student-athletes proudly represented Ernest Manning through Griffin Athletics. We encourage all students to take an active role in EM Athletics, whether that be trying out for one of our competitive teams, joining a non-cut team, or supporting the Griffins from the stands. We want YOU involved in Griffin Athletics because every member of our community plays a role in moving our program forward.

One of the greatest strengths of our program is our coaching staff. Most of our teams are led by teachers within our building who generously volunteer their time because they genuinely care about helping student-athletes reach their full potential. They play a crucial role in shaping the character and skills of our athletes, ensuring they reach their potential both in their sport and in the classroom.

Students' first opportunity to get involved during the 2026-2027 athletic year will be at our Fall Sports Fair on Tuesday, September 1. Students can learn more about our fall sports, meet our coaches, and discover where they can contribute to Griffin Athletics.

I look forward to welcoming our new Griffins and watching our returning student-athletes continue to push our culture forward.

Go Griffins!

Mike Klukas
Athletic Director



August

20 Football SR/JR
Training Camp

26 Senior Boys/Girls
Volleyball Tryouts

27 Senior Girls Soccer
Tryouts



Fall Sports

- Football
- Volleyball
- Golf
- Cross Country
- Girls Soccer
- Swimming

Follow us on Instagram!

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GO GRIFFINS

FOOTBALL

Ernest Manning is home to highly competitive Senior and Junior Football programs. Both teams compete in Division 1, with the Senior team competing in the SSA 5A Tier, the highest level of high school football in Alberta.

Over the past four seasons, the Senior Football team has won three Division 1 City Championships (2022, 2023, and 2025) and two Alberta 5A Provincial Championships (2023 and 2025). Ernest Manning is the only CBE school to win two Alberta 5A Provincial Football Championships. Following the 2025 season, 11 Griffin student-athletes committed to continue their football careers at the U Sports and junior levels, bringing that total to 33 over the past three seasons.

Leading our Senior Football program is Alberta Football Coach of the Year and CSHSAA Football Coach of the Year, Garth Melrose. Coach Melrose is supported by an experienced coaching staff that includes former CFL players and coaches with experience at Team Alberta, the CJFL, and U Sports football.

Coach Jeff Rondeau enters his second season as Head Coach of our Junior Football team. A former U Sports athlete at St. Francis Xavier University, Coach Rondeau and his staff continue the proud tradition of Junior Griffin Football. The Junior program has also enjoyed tremendous success, winning Division 1 City Championships in 2019, 2021, and 2024.

Safety is our top priority. Certified Athletic Therapists are present at every practice and game, all players complete preseason baseline concussion assessments, and every coach is Safe Contact Certified through Football Canada. We also follow a limited-contact practice philosophy, and all helmets meet or exceed safety standards. Football is a program where we develop our school's athletes, regardless of experience level, body type, or position. Many of our players are trying football for the first time, so students should never hesitate to come out and give the sport a try.

Training camp begins Thursday, August 20 at Ernest Manning High School.

- Senior Team: 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- Junior Team: 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

For more information about EMHS Football, to join our mailing list, or to receive the complete training camp schedule, please contact:

Senior Head Coach: Garth Melrose – gcmelrose@cbe.ab.ca

Junior Head Coach: Jeff Rondeau – jbrondeau@cbe.ab.ca



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[@emhs.athletics](https://www.instagram.com/emhs.athletics) [@emhscbe](https://www.instagram.com/emhscbe)

GO GRIFFINS

VOLLEYBALL

Ernest Manning High School is home to highly competitive Girls and Boys Junior and Senior Volleyball programs. All Ernest Manning Volleyball teams will compete at the Division 1 level for the 2026 fall season.

The coaching staff at EMHS is known for its collaboration and extensive experience in both coaching and playing volleyball. Their dedication brings out the best in our athletes and continues to drive the success of our program. That success was reflected during the 2025 season as Senior Boys Head Coach Diandra Bridges was named the 2025 CSHSAA Volleyball Head Coach of the Year, while our Senior Girls team returned to the SSA 5A Provincial Championship for the first time in 12 years.

The volleyball program at EMHS offers a rewarding experience for both Junior and Senior athletes. Senior teams often travel to out-of-town tournaments, broadening their competitive exposure, while Junior teams compete locally within the Calgary area.

Both Senior teams also participate in the prestigious Griffin Invitational, hosted annually at Ernest Manning. The program emphasizes competition, a supportive team environment, personal growth, camaraderie, and school spirit.

Ernest Manning High School is proud to partner with Hudl. Our Hudl camera allows us to film and livestream volleyball games, support student-athlete recruitment through access to game footage, and serve as a valuable coaching tool for skill development and team analysis.

Senior Volleyball Tryout Information

Senior Boys and Senior Girls tryouts will take place at Ernest Manning on the following dates:

- Sr Boys/Girls: Wednesday, August 26: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM.
- Sr Girls: Thursday, August 27 at 7:00 AM
- Sr Boys/ Girls: Thursday, August 27: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
- Sr Boys/ Girls: Friday, August 28: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM



Grade 10 students are not permitted to try out for Senior Volleyball teams unless they have been granted special permission from the Senior Head Coach. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact your respective Senior Head Coach.

Junior Volleyball tryout dates and times will be announced at our Fall Sports Fair on Tuesday, September 1 at noon.

For more information about EMHS Volleyball, please contact:

Senior Boys Head Coach: Diandra Bridges – dlbridges@cbe.ab.ca

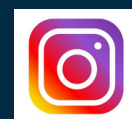
Senior Girls Head Coach: Rachel Sorley – rasorley@cbe.ab.ca

Junior Boys Head Coach: Nicole Schnurrenberger – njschnurrenberger@cbe.ab.ca

Junior Girls Head Coach: Trevor Goudreau – tpgoudreau@cbe.ab.ca



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GOLF

The Ernest Manning Golf program enters its fourth season during the 2026 school year. The team enjoyed an outstanding 2025 season, capturing the Senior Boys 4A/5A Zone Championship. Since the program's inauguration, five Ernest Manning golfers have gone on to compete at the NCAA level.

More information about the Ernest Manning Golf team will be available at our Fall Sports Fair on Tuesday, September 1 at noon.

For more information about EMHS Golf, please contact:

Head Coach: Taylor Slaght (twslaght@cbe.ab.ca)



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GO GRIFFINS

GIRLS SOCCER

Calling all Grade 10-12 female student-athletes! The Ernest Manning Senior Girls Soccer program competes at the Division 1 level and continues to establish itself as one of the top programs in the city. The coaching staff is very knowledgeable about the sport and passionate about developing student-athletes. Their commitment to athlete development creates a positive, competitive environment where student-athletes are challenged to reach their full potential on and off the field.

The program has also become a strong pathway to post-secondary soccer. Over the past two seasons, four Griffin student-athletes have continued their soccer careers at the post-secondary level: Brooke Burrows (UBC Okanagan), Macy Schmaltz (Medicine Hat College), Payton Kondo (University of Alberta), and Nicole Filek (University of Calgary).

Ernest Manning High School is proud to partner with Hudl. Our Hudl camera allows us to film and livestream soccer games, support student-athlete recruitment through access to game footage, and serve as a valuable coaching tool for player development and team analysis.

Senior Girls Soccer Tryouts

First Tryout: Thursday, August 27 at 3:00 PM (*meet at Ernest Manning at 2:30 PM for registration*).

Additional tryout information will be provided at the first session.

For more information about EMHS Girls Soccer, please contact:

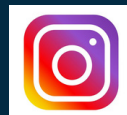
Head Coach- Simon Schofield – ssschofield@cbe.ab.ca

Assistant Coach- Michelle Roussy – mlroussy@cbe.ab.ca



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SWIMMING

Ernest Manning's swim team is a non-cut team, meaning that swimmers of all abilities can join and compete! The team practices three times a week in the morning throughout the fall. With multiple events and categories, there is something for everyone! The swim team provides a fantastic community for student-athletes to meet others and have fun. The season culminates in a meet at the MNP Centre, one of the most exciting athletic events of the entire school year!

Coaches Omnia Anderson, Sydney Talbot and Mike McManus cultivate a fun, competitive and energetic atmosphere where students can improve their swim skills and feel part of a team.

For more information about Swim please contact:

Coach Omnia Anderson (oanderson@cbe.ab.ca)

Coach Sydney Talbot (sytalbot@cbe.ab.ca)

Coach Mike McManus (rmmcmanus@cbe.ab.ca)



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CROSS COUNTRY

Ernest Manning's Cross Country team is a non-cut program that welcomes runners of all abilities to join and compete. The team participates in meets throughout the city, leading up to the City Championships and Provincials. The 2025 season was highlighted by our Senior Boys team capturing the City Championship.

Head Coach Brett Madill leads the Cross Country program. Cross Country offers an excellent opportunity to compete, stay active outdoors, cross-train for other sports, and connect with a diverse group of student-athletes.

More information about the Ernest Manning Cross Country program will be presented at our Fall Sports Fair on Tuesday, September 1 at noon.

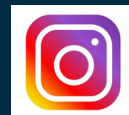
For more information about EMHS Cross Country, please contact:

Head Coach: Brett Madill (bdmadill@cbe.ab.ca)



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Athletics Available at Ernest Manning High School

Fall Sports	Winter Sports	Spring Sports
• Football • Volleyball • Golf • Girls Soccer • Cross Country • Swimming	• Wrestling • Basketball	• Badminton • Rugby • Track & Field • Boys Soccer • Field Hockey • Handball • Girls Flag Football

It's going to be a fantastic year for Ernest Manning Athletics!

We look forward to seeing all students at our Fall Sports Fair on Tuesday, September 1st. Please follow our Instagram **@emhs.athletics** for updates on our sports teams.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at
miklukas@cbe.ab.ca.

Go Griffins!