

# The Hawks Nest

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Lehigh Valley Steelhawks



## Steelhawks 2014 PIFL Season Schedule



The Lehigh Valley Steelhawks previously announced their 2014 PIFL schedule at a press conference; hosted by Roosevelt's 21<sup>st</sup> Bethlehem, the Official Post Game Party Spot of the Steelhawks. The Steelhawks will open their season at home, against the Trenton Freedom, on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

The PIFL has a 15 week schedule, containing three bye weeks, six home games, playing primarily on Saturday nights. The PIFL season begins March 22<sup>nd</sup> and concluding on June 28<sup>th</sup>. The Steelhawks open the season at home for the first time – taking on the Trenton Freedom in a 4pm Sunday afternoon game inside Stabler Arena.

There are three new teams in the PIFL for the 2014 season, all of which help expand the league northward – the Harrisburg Stampede, Nashville Venom, and Trenton Freedom. Harrisburg and Trenton will become familiar foes of the Steelhawks, each are on the schedule three times each – Trenton makes the trip to the Valley twice, while the Steelhawks travel westward twice to take on the Stampede. Lehigh Valley's biggest existing rival, Richmond Raiders are back on the schedule for two games, one home and one away.

With the addition of these

teams, the league will be breaking into two separate conferences. An American Conference consisting of the Alabama Hammers, Albany Panthers, Columbus Lions, and Nashville Venom; and a National Conference that will contain the Steelhawks, Harrisburg Stampede, Richmond Raiders, and Trenton Freedom. The PIFL schedule will feature each team having two rival opponents in which they face those opponents three separate times throughout the season making up half of their regular-season schedule. For the Steelhawks, those rival opponents are found in Harrisburg and Trenton.

Playoffs will now consist of the top two teams from each conference facing each other in semi-final matchups with the winners from the American and National Conference meeting in the championship game.

The most notable matchups on the Steelhawks' schedule include a week 8, May 11<sup>th</sup>, Mother's Day home game against the Alabama Hammers; a week 12, June 6<sup>th</sup> trip to Richmond for the first shot of redemption from last season against the Valley's biggest rival; and then a week 15, June 28<sup>th</sup> regular season home finale again taking on the Raiders.

The Lehigh Valley Steelhawks full 2014 schedule is as follows:

Week 1 – 3/22 BYE

Week 2 – 3/29 BYE

Week 3 – Sun. 4/6 Lehigh Valley vs. Trenton Freedom 4:00pm

Week 4 – Fri. 4/11 Lehigh Valley @ Harrisburg Stampede 7:30pm

Week 5 – 4/19 BYE

Week 6 – Sat. 4/26 Lehigh Valley vs. Trenton Freedom 7:00pm

Week 7 – Sat. 5/3 Lehigh Valley vs. Harrisburg Stampede 7:00pm

Week 8 – Sun. 5/11 Lehigh Valley vs. Alabama Hammers 4:00pm

Week 9 – Sat. 5/17 Lehigh Valley vs. Nashville Venom 7:00pm

Week 10 – Sat. 5/24 Lehigh Valley @ Trenton Freedom 7:00pm

Week 11 – Sat. 5/31 Lehigh Valley @ Columbus Lions 7:00pm

Week 12 – Fri. 6/6 Lehigh Valley @ Richmond Raiders 7:00pm

Week 13 – Sat. 6/14 Lehigh Valley @ Albany Panthers 7:00pm

Week 14 – Sat. 6/21 Lehigh Valley @ Harrisburg Stampede 7:00pm

Week 15 – Sat. 6/28 Lehigh Valley vs. Richmond Raiders 7:00pm

We hope to see you at the Steelhawks' home games this season!

### This Months Featured Programs:

- 1st and Goal Academic Program:
  - ◆ Presented by ESSA Bank & Trust
- Steelhawks Jr. Football League (SJFL)
  - ◆ Presented by Velocity Sports Performance inside Game Time Fieldhouse and Domino's Pizza

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## The Return of Pascle: His Experiences On the Year

Wide receiver Troy Pascle returns to the Steelhawks this year, healthy and ready to dominate the league. In just three games played last year, Pascle had 11 catches for 228 yards and 5 touchdowns.

He spent part of the offseason in camp with NFL teams, including the NY Giants where they spoke highly of his athletic ability and also his character. When you talk to Troy, you immediately see how remarkable he is as a person. He's truly exemplifies all the values the Steelhawks

"But the most humbling compliment was when they told my agent as impressive as I was my character shined above all else. From the way I carried myself, to my attitude on the field, my appreciation for their interest in me. It was encouraging to know that they liked the person Troy Pascle, more than the athlete.." WR Troy Pascle

look for in a player, on and off the field, and we couldn't be more excited to have him back in the Valley!

Pascle took the time to provide us with some insights into his experiences this past year.

On his experience in an NFL camp: "The best part of the experience with the NY Giants was the feeling of knowing that I had accomplished something almost every single person in my life had told me I would not do. Not as a slap in the face to them but to know that the odds were against me, but yet through prayer, hard work and overcoming huge obstacles I had made it in spite of all of the negativity and lack of support. Another great experience was competing against other players in the NFL and dominating them (I mean that humbly) I was able to prove to myself that not only can I make it in the NFL I can be a difference maker as well."

On the compliments he received from the NY Giants

organization: "The Giants organization as a whole from GM Jerry Reese to Coach Tom Coughlin and OC Kevin Gilbride and their scouts all reiterated to my agent how impressed they were with me.

They loved my athleticism and work ethic and the way I competed. Several comments were made about my speed, the most interesting and funny being "Pascle if you ever learned how to slow down you'll be a great player one day," it was the most confusing critique/compliment I've ever received. But the most humbling compliment was when they told my agent as impressive as I was my character shined above all else. From the way I carried myself, to my attitude on the field, my appreciation for their interest in me. It was encouraging to know that they liked the person Troy Pascle, more than the athlete."

On returning to the Steelhawks and indoor football: "I'm extremely excited to once again have the opportunity to be a Steelhawk. I was very open from day 1 about my faith and troubled past, but EVERYONE received me and respected me.



was healthy to compete again that's why it was a no brainer to reunite with this organization. As far as the game goes, I'm excited about learning more. Last year I competed and played as an athlete, not a seasoned indoor football player. The game was so different and

new to me, half the time I had no idea what I was doing. I honestly feel that once I have a full training camp, and more time to study film and master the playbook and different routes and not just run past people, I feel I could be the best player in the league, not in a cocky or arrogant way, but I think having the opportunity to really focus and learn from Coach Thompson with no interruptions can help me reach an elite level as an indoor football player for the Steelhawks and help us win a championship."

With the experience of last season, and a full training camp, Pascle looks to be a huge impact player for the Steelhawks that

"I think having the opportunity to really focus and learn from Coach Thompson with no interruptions can help me reach an elite level as an indoor football player for the Steelhawks and help us win a championship." WR Troy Pascle

the rest of the league will fear having to defend. We look forward to having the opportunity of having him being a part of the Steelhawks team for as long as possible. Pascle is still high on the radar for many teams at

the higher level and the entire organization hopes that he has the opportunity to move up. Whether Pascle is on the Steelhawks' roster or not, he will always be a part of the Steelhawk Family .



## **Featured Programs:**

### **1st and Goal Academic Program**

Introducing the Steelhawks 1st and Goal Academic Program, powered by ESSA Bank & Trust. The two have partnered together to help support the academic achievements throughout all the schools in the Lehigh Valley. The Steelhawks organization wanted to come up with a program that they felt would enhance education. And what better way than to help local teachers and school district officials by partnering together on an academic excel-

"We already have a number of schools signed up to participate in this year's inaugural program and we couldn't be more thrilled to work with each of them. We take a lot of pride in giving back to the community and couldn't be happier that ESSA Bank & Trust is partnering with us on this great educational initiative." Head Coach and Assistant GM Chris Thompson

lence initiative, which should help promote perfect attendance, academic achievement, and better behavior within your respective classrooms.

The program only has one goal of trying to bring a better atmosphere to the classroom and for families being able to spend time together at a local Professional Indoor Arena Football Game with their students. In addition, the Steelhawks will be there to support every school that participates.

**What we would be providing to the schools would be as follows:**

- Game Ticket Vouchers for any regular season home game
- A visit to your school for support of the program
- Chance to win other prizes
- Assist with other programs such as: Anti-Bullying, PSSA Testing, and Track and Field Day.

The Steelhawks are extremely excited

about embarking on this academic excellence program for this and many seasons to come.



"ESSA Bank & Trust will be the leading service-oriented community financial institution offering a full range of financial products to greater Pocono/Lehigh Valley area customers. We will ensure our long term prosperity by providing products and service in a manner consistent with high standards of quality, on a profitable basis, at the fairest price, in order to create the best possible value for our customers. They will be delivered through distribution systems staffed and supported by customer-driven, friendly, productive employees with a high degree of integrity."

### **Steelhawks Jr. Football League (SJFL)**

The newly formed SJFL is brought to you by Velocity Sports Performance at Game Time Fieldhouse and Domino's Pizza. Together they want to bring the fast paced action of indoor arena football to our area's youth this spring for the league's inaugural season. We want the SJFL to provide the Valley's youth with a fun, competitive atmosphere that we believe will create an excellent platform to showcase local talent, provide insight to arena football, and build personal relationships with our Steelhawks.

The SJFL will be a full contact tackle football league using an arena format and we wanted to target youth teams already in existence. Consequently, it

will provide an opportunity for the youth to experience the excitement of football in what would be the off-season of their respectable youth football league or team.

**The league will feature the following:**

**Two Divisions:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade (Ball Carrier Weight Limit- 115 lbs.) and 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade (Ball Carrier Weight Limit- 130 lbs.)

**Season Length:** 4 regular season games played on the weekends of April 26, May 3, May 11, May 17. A regular season champion will be crowned at the end.

**Fee:** \$125.00 per player. Includes a customized team jersey, Steelhawks season ticket pass, a scheduled team session with Velocity

Sports Performance, a spot at the SJFL Skills Camp at Game Time Field

House with Steelhawks players and coaches, and a minimum of 4 games inside the arena on our turf..

**General Information:** Equipment must be provided by the team or player and practices will be held on the coach's own accord. In addition, a coaching packet and coach's seminar will be provided to prepare them for the upcoming season.

To sign up, or if you have any questions please contact Chris Thompson (cthompson@lvsteelhawks) or Lauren Petri (lpetri@lvsteelhawks.com).



## Lehigh Valley Steelhawks Training Camp Roster as of 1/1/2014

QB Adam Bednarik—West Virginia (6'2, 225)	DB Leavander Jones—James Mad (5'11, 180)	WR Brandon Renford—Buffalo (5'9, 175)
K Michael Barnhard—FDU (6'1, 218)	FB Mike Jones—SE Missouri St. (6'1, 250)	WR Rashad Rich—Bacone (6'1, 210)
WR Daniel Borne—UAB (5'10, 205)	WR Jesse Julmiste—UMass (5'9, 175)	DB Matt Scott—Del St. (5'11, 193)
DL Arlando Brown—Utah St. (6'3, 240)	DB Justin Laguna—Kean (5'10, 200)	DL Brandon Suttom—Catawba (6'3, 290)
DL Rudy Cerami—(E. Stroudsburg (6'3, 310)	OL John Lavelle—Delaware Valley (6'2, 295)	FB Zak Tupper—East Stroudsburg (6'1, 250)
LB Jonas Celian—WV Wesleyan (6, 225)	WR Richie Martin—C. Conn St. (6'1, 200)	OL J.B. Walton—WV Wesleyan (6'3, 307)
LB Cory Darby—Kutztown (6'4, 225)	OL Kyle McCarthy—W. Conn (6'4, 330)	DL Justin Wells—UAB (6'3, 300)
DB Devin Duggan—Duquesne (5'11, 212)	QB Shane McSweeny—Wesley (6'2, 218)	FB Rich White—Southern Illinois (5'9, 215)
DB Stanley Dunbar—Rhode Island (5'10, 200)	OL Rashaud Mungro—E. Kentucky (6'6, 310)	DB Stefaun Whitehead—Bryant (5'11, 190)
WR Eric Foxworth—Wagner (5'9, 200)	DB Terrence Osborne—Del Val (5'9, 170)	WR Cameron Williams—S. Virginia (6'1, 190)
OL William Hall—St. Francis (6'5, 380)	WR Troy Pasceley—Louisville (6'2, 210)	DL Michael Woodhouse—Montgomery JC (6'4, 270)
DB Dwayne Hollis—NC Wesleyan (5'10, 180)	OL Joseph Pearson—Guilford (6'2, 300)	
LB Tim Hume—Cheyney (6'2, 265)	WR Scott Pillar—Albright (6'1, 190)	

## FINAL Open Tryout for 2014 Season - To Be Held Jan. 26th

The Lehigh Valley Steelhawks professional indoor football team will be holding their final open tryout for their 2014 PIFL season on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at Iron Lakes Sports Complex, the official practice facility for the Steelhawks. Located at 3625 Shankweiler Road, Allentown, PA. Registration begins at 1:00pm. Cost will be \$50 when a player pre-registers, \$65 at the door. Any player that

attended the first 2014 open tryout are invited to back to participate free of charge. Player evaluations will begin at 2:00am. Cost includes evaluation, drills, and testing by the Steelhawks Professional Coaching Staff, a Steelhawks t-shirt, and one ticket voucher to a 2014 game. Two individuals (LB Cory Darby and DB Stanley Dunbar) were signed to the training camp roster from the team's

first open tryout in November.

Registration is now available online, at the Steelhawks website, [www.lvsteelhawks.com](http://www.lvsteelhawks.com). Any player needing that needs to stay overnight may call the teams' Official Hotel Provider, the Best Western Inn and Suites (5630 Tilghman Street, Allentown) and ask for the Steelhawks rate of \$69/night rate.



[www.lvsteelhawks.com](http://www.lvsteelhawks.com)

**COME FLY WITH  
US!**

The Greatest Show on Turf returns to the Lehigh Valley! The Lehigh Valley Steelhawks, founded in 2010 are a professional indoor football team that plays in the Professional Indoor Football League (PIFL). The season runs from February all the way through June.

We hope to see you at the Stabler Arena to cheer on your hometown team this season, as they strive to bring the Champions Cup to the Valley.

Our mission is "To consistently serve our Guests [Ticket Holders], Partners [Sponsors], and our Homes [Teams Cities] at the highest possible level and to do so with integrity, kindness, affordability, and passion on the field, in our front offices, and around the communities in which we play."

Season Ticket Packages NOW ON SALE FOR AS LITTLE AS \$8 per game!!! Call 610-282-3100 to get yours today!