

**THE BEST OF THE WEST:
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA* AMATEUR TEAMS
THAT WON NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS,
1916-2023**

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Although the approximate western third of Pennsylvania is known for its football prowess and the professional football and nonfootball franchises that are or were located in Pittsburgh, the following table shows that the area has had a number of outstanding amateur teams in a variety of sports.#

Name	Highest Achievement
1916 University of Pittsburgh football team	Consensus major college national champion+
1918 University of Pittsburgh football team	Consensus major college national champion+
1924 University of Pittsburgh cross country team	Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Athletes of America champion
1927 Heidelberg Soccer Club	National Amateur Cup champion
1928 University of Pittsburgh men's basketball team	Consensus major college national champion+
1929 Heidelberg Soccer Club	National Amateur Cup champion
1935 Carnegie Institute of Technology women's rifle team	National Rifle Association Women's Intercollegiate Rifle Team champion
1936 Carnegie Institute of Technology women's rifle team	National Rifle Association Women's Intercollegiate Rifle Team champion
1936 Carnegie Institute of Technology men's rifle team	National Rifle Association National Indoor Intercollegiate Rifle Match champion
1937 Carnegie Institute of Technology women's rifle team	National Rifle Association Women's Intercollegiate Rifle Team champion

Name	Highest Achievement
1937 University of Pittsburgh football team	Consensus major college national champion+
1940 Morgan Strasser soccer team	National Amateur Cup champion
1942 Pittsburgh Gallatin soccer team	National Open Cup champion
1943 Morgan Strasser soccer team	National Amateur Cup champion
1945 Donora High School football team	High School Sports History champion+
1949 Morgan Strasser soccer team	National Open Cup champion
1952 Harmarville soccer team	National Open Cup champion
1954 Pittsburgh Beadling soccer team	National Amateur Cup champion
1954 Monongahela PONY League team	PONY League World Series champion
1955 Heidelberg soccer team	National Amateur Cup champion
1955 Washington PONY League team	PONY League World Series champion
1956 Hamarville soccer team	National Open Cup champion
1961 Natrona Heights Senior League baseball team	Senior League World Series champion
1962 Gannon College men's bowling team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics champion
1966 Waynesburg College football team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics champion
1968 Indiana University of Pennsylvania men's golf team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics champion
1970 Westminster College football team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II champion
1973 Indiana University of Pennsylvania orienteering team	United States Orienteering Federation Intercollegiate champion

Name	Highest Achievement
1973 Community College of Allegheny County men's cross country team	National Junior College Athletic Association co-champion
1973 Duquesne University football team	National Club Football Association champion
1974 Clarion University men's bowling team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics champion
1975 Indiana University of Pennsylvania orienteering team	United States Orienteering Federation Intercollegiate champion
1975 Community College of Allegheny County men's cross country team	National Junior College Athletic Association Team Marathon champion
1975 Edinboro University men's cross country team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics champion
1976 Indiana University of Pennsylvania orienteering team	United States Orienteering Federation Intercollegiate champion
1976 Clarion University women's gymnastics team	Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women champion
1976 Mercyhurst University men's tennis team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics champion
1976 Community College of Allegheny County men's cross country team	National Junior College Athletic Association Team Marathon champion
1976 Edinboro University men's cross country team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics champion
1976 Community College of Allegheny County men's cross country team	National Junior College Athletic Association champion
1976 Community College of Allegheny County women's cross country team	National Junior College Athletic Association champion
1976 Westminster College football team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II champion

Name	Highest Achievement
1976 University of Pittsburgh football team	Consensus National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I champion+
1977 Clarion University women's swimming and diving team	Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Small College champion
1977 Clarion University women's gymnastics team	Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women champion
1977 Community College of Allegheny County men's cross country team	National Junior College Athletic Association Team Marathon champion
1977 Community College of Allegheny County men's cross country team	National Junior College Athletic Association champion
1977 Westminster College football team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II champion
1978 Community College of Allegheny County men's indoor track team	National Junior College Athletic Association champion
1978 Clarion University women's swimming and diving team	Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Small College champion
1978 Saint Vincent College men's bowling team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics champion
1978 Community College of Allegheny County men's cross country team	National Junior College Athletic Association Team Marathon champion
1979 Slippery Rock University men's outdoor track team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III champion
1980 Clarion University women's swimming and diving team	Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Division II champion
1981 Clarion University women's swimming and diving team	Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Division II champion
1982 Clarion University women's swimming and diving team	Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women Division II champion

Name	Highest Achievement
1983 Clarion University women's swimming and diving team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion
1984 Clarion University women's swimming and diving team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion
1986 Clarion University women's swimming and diving team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion
1987 Slippery Rock University women's judo team	National Judo Association champion
1988 Westminster College football team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II champion
1989 Westminster College football team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II champion
1990 Community College of Allegheny County men's basketball team	National Junior College Athletic Association Division II champion
1990 Allegheny College football team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III champion
1992 Slippery Rock University women's handball team	USA Team Handball College champion
1994 Westminster College football team	National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division II champion
1995 Slippery Rock University women's water polo team	USA Water Polo champion
1996 University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown men's wrestling team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion
1997 Slippery Rock University women's handball team	USA Team Handball College champion
1997 California University of Pennsylvania softball team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion

Name	Highest Achievement
1998 California University of Pennsylvania softball team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion
1999 University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown men's wrestling team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion
2002 Robert Morris University men's hockey team	American Collegiate Hockey Association Division 3 champion
2003 Duquesne University football team	Consensus National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Football Championship Series Mid-Major champion+
2004 California University of Pennsylvania women's basketball team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion
2004 Mercyhurst University women's rowing team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion
2008 California University of Pennsylvania men's ice hockey team	American Collegiate Hockey Association Division 3 champion
2009 Carnegie Mellon University women's tennis team	Intercollegiate Tennis Association champion
2011 Mercyhurst University men's lacrosse team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion
2012 University of Pittsburgh men's Ultimate Frisbee™ team	USA Ultimate Division I College champion
2013 University of Pittsburgh men's Ultimate Frisbee™ team	USA Ultimate Division I College champion
2015 California University of Pennsylvania women's basketball team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion
2016 Steel Valley High School football team	MaxPreps Small Schools champion+
2022 Mercyhurst University women's rowing team	National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II champion

Name	Highest Achievement
2022 Indiana University of Pennsylvania men's seven-person rugby team	National Collegiate Rugby Organization Division II champion
2023 Indiana University of Pennsylvania men's seven-person rugby team	National Collegiate Rugby Organization Division II champion

*For the purpose of this table, the following counties are considered part of western Pennsylvania: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Somerset, Venango, Warren, Washington, and Westmoreland.

#This list represents the research done by the compiler during 2023 and may not be definitive.

+For mythical national championships, only unanimous or consensus champions were chosen. Thus, there were a number of partial mythical national champions that are not listed.