

# Team Preview: Half Hollow Hills East – Thunderbirds

2016 In Review: The Thunderbirds finished with a 2-6 record in Division II as the team never really came together.

Departures: Josh Garvin Albany Football, Mike Gunther LIU Post Football, Mike Bakalo SUNY Maritime Football and Kenny Chavez ASA Football

Offense: the Thunderbirds run a Flexbone offense and the following players return; Kendal Nero-Clark senior WR 6'3 190 has excellent hands and is a superb athlete, Ernesto Mitchell senior RB 5'9 185, Jason Spinelli senior QB 5'11 195, Nyrel Sevilla sophomore RB 6'2 200, Andrew O'Gorman senior WR 6'2 205 and Trevor Catlin senior WR 6'2 225. Newcomers are Tyrese Gardner senior OL 6'2 280 and Stephen Khan senior RB 5'10 185.

Defense: they play 3-3-5 defense and return the following players; Kendal Nero-Clark senior DB, Ernesto Mitchell senior LB, Nyrel Sevilla sophomore LB, Andrew O'Gorman senior DE and Trevor Catlin senior DE. Newcomers are Tyrese Gardner senior DL and Stephen Khan senior LB.

Special Teams: To be decided in camp

Schedule:

Saturday, 9/09, @ Bay Shore, 2PM

Saturday, 9/16, Smithtown East, 1:30PM

Saturday, 9/23, @ Newfield, 1PM

Thursday, 9/28, Riverhead, 3:30PM

Saturday, 10/07, Centereach, 1:30PM

Friday, 10/13, @ Deer Park, 7PM

Saturday, 10/21, West Islip, 1:30PM

Friday, 10/27, @ Copiague, 6PM

Schedule is courtesy of [www.sectionxi.org](http://www.sectionxi.org)

Question Marks: Ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the Suffolk County Pre-Season Division II. The Thunderbirds didn't play well at all last year as the team really never came together however I saw them in a few 7 on 7 this Summer and they looked more united then they did last year. Will that reflect in more wins only time will tell?

Recruiting: Senior Kendal Nero-Clark is a FCS scholarship type player while seniors Ernesto Mitchell, Jason Spinelli, Andrew O’Gorman, Trevor Catlin and Tyrese Gardner will play somewhere at the next level. A sophomore to keep an eye on is Nyrel Sevilla who played as true freshmen last year and will only get better.

Coach's Comments: We are more determined than ever going into the 2017 season and all of our rising seniors cannot wait for this season to begin. We will be more explosive and aggressive this year and our guys are dedicated to watching their teammate’s backs. Coach Mike Maratto now in his 4<sup>th</sup> season