

Team Preview: Riverhead – Blue Waves

2016 In Review: The Blue Waves finished with a 1-7 record in Division II the worst season in coach Shay's tenure.

Departures: Not Available

Offense: they run a Multiple Set offense and have the following players returning; Darnell Chandler senior WR 6'3 190, Tommy Powers senior WR 5'8 160, Ben Mearkle senior TE 5'11 205, Joe Stimpfel senior OL 5'11 265, Dean Koukounas senior OL 6'7 215 and Rudy Polanco senior OL 5'7 265. Newcomers are Christian Pace junior QB 5'9 165 and Albert Daniels sophomore RB 5'10 155.

Defense: they play a 4-4-3 defense and have the following players returning; Darnell Chandler senior DE, Tommy Powers senior DB, Ben Mearkle senior LB, Joe Stimpfel senior DL, Dean Koukounas senior DE and Rudy Polanco senior DL. Newcomers are Christian Pace junior DB and Albert Daniels sophomore DB.

Special Teams: To be decided in camp

Schedule:

Friday, 9/08, @ Deer Park, 6PM

Saturday, 9/16, @ Centereach, 2PM

Saturday, 9/23, Smithtown East, 1:30PM

Thursday, 9/28, @ half Hollow Hills East, 3:30PM

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

Saturday, 10/14, Copiague, 1:30PM

Saturday, 10/21, @ Huntington, 1:30PM

Saturday, 10/28, Smithtown West, 1:30PM

Schedule is courtesy of www.sectionxi.org

Question Marks: Even though they ranked 11th in the Suffolk County Pre-Season Division II the Blue Waves had their worst record since coach Shay took over as coach 20 years ago, This year they have better senior leadership the question is will that be enough to get them back to the playoffs? Only time will tell but knowing coach Shay he will be driving his team to succeed.

Recruiting: Seniors Darnell Chandler, Tommy Powers, Ben Mearkle, Joe Stimpfel, Dean Koukounas and Rudy Polanco will play somewhere depends on the 2017 season play.

Coach's Comments: Looking to get more competitive and not get blown out. Also we have a large Spanish community so trying to get our coaches to learn the language to recruit these players to play football. Coach Leif Shay now in his 20th season