

# Team Preview: West Islip - Lions

2016 In Review: The Lions finished with a 10-1 record in Division II losing to Half Hollow Hills West in the County Finals.

Departures: Drew Cestaro Binghamton Lacrosse, Kevin DiCapua Nassau CC Football, Tim Mullane Prep School Football, James Foote Albany Football and Patrick Mulcahy Pace Lacrosse.

Offense: the Lions run the Spread offense and the following players return; Mike LaDonna junior Athlete 5'11 185 will have to play QB as Jake Guercio went down with an injury, Anthony Giardina senior OT 5'8 170, Richie Racanelli senior WR/TE 5'10 175 might be the hardest working player on this team, Joey Rota senior RB/WR 5'8 185, Pat Cunningham junior WR/TE 6'1 180 has great speed that will allow us to move him around, Abramson Jahry senior TE/HB 5'10 250 is very strong, Matt Moynihan senior OL 5'10 215 and Marco Francavilla senior OT 5'10 205. Newcomers are Guy Tasso senior WR 6'0 165 is a former Soccer player, Max Albanese junior WR, Teddy Aponte senior RB and Luke Alicea junior WR.

Defense: they play 4-4-3 defense and the following players return; Mike LaDonna junior LB, Anthony Giardina senior DT, Richie Racanelli senior Safety, Joey Rota senior Safety/OLB, Pat Cunningham junior Safety, Abramson Jahry senior DT, Matt Moynihan senior DE and Marco Francavilla senior DL 5'10 205. Newcomers are Guy Tasso senior Safety, Max Albanese junior CB and Luke Alicea junior CB.

Special Teams: Joey Rota senior is the LS everything else will be decided in camp

Schedule:

Friday, 9/08, @ Smithtown West, 6PM

Saturday, 9/16, Newfield, 2PM

Saturday, 9/23, @ Huntington, 1:30PM

Thursday, 9/28, North Babylon, 3PM

Saturday, 10/07, Deer Park, 2:30PM

Saturday, 10/14, @ Bay Shore, 1PM

Saturday, 10/21, @ Half Hollow Hills East, 1:30PM

Saturday, 10/28, Centereach, 2PM

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

Question Marks: Ranked 2nd in the Suffolk County Pre-Season Division II. West Islip always puts a solid team on the field however the loss of QB Jake Guercio to injury could be hard to overcome time will tell.

Recruiting: Since they only have one returning starter it's hard to gage the current group in terms of recruiting status

Coach's Comments: We are a very committed team in a very tough division II. Our kids believe in the West Islip tradition and will not go down without a fight and we expect nothing less than a championship. Coach Steve Mileti now in his 9<sup>th</sup> season