



Gavin Baron - 8th grade
Granby Memorial Middle School

Gavin is excited to be on Junior Team HMF because he wants to encourage his classmates to run and he looks forward to meeting new people in the local running community. Gavin loves running because it is fun, and he likes seeing his race times improve as he becomes a stronger runner.



Paul Coccaro - 7th grade
Griswold Middle School (Rocky Hill)

"I am excited to be a member of Junior Team HMF because it will give me the opportunity to continue competing in races and keep me in shape for next season. I like the competition of running against other athletes my age and the strategy of running against different style runners."



Saraswathi (Siri) Denni - 7th grade
Martin Kellogg Middle School (Newington)

"I am very impressed with the amazing work HMF has been doing and very honored to be part of Junior Team HMF. I love running because it helps me build my stamina and do better in my karate class."



Deacon Gascon - 7th grade
Tolland Middle School

"I am very excited to be on Junior Team HMF because I am looking forward to meeting other runners from many other schools and getting the chance to compete in HMF 5ks and races! I love running because it keeps me active and fit, and it helps me in other sports. I enjoy setting goals and working hard to meet running goals for myself."



Andy Glidden - 8th grade
Vernon Center Middle School

"I am excited to be on Junior Team HMF because I like being part of a team. I love running because it's challenging, fun and a lot of my friends run, too."



Henley James - 7th grade
Bristow Middle School (West Hartford)

"I'm excited to be part of Junior Team HMF so that I can meet other kids excited about running and improve as a runner. I love running because I like being outside and can do it by myself or with friends."



Emmett Kristoff - 8th grade
Vernon Center Middle School

"I am excited to be on the team and I am looking forward to meeting people with the same interests. I love running because for me, the sport is a way to get a break from everything else. I enjoy only having to focus on what is going on in the moment and it overall reduces my stress."



Lyla Lopez - 6th grade
Essex Elementary School

"I am excited to be chosen as a member of Junior Team HMF because it will be so fun to run with other student athletes who love running as much as I do. I love to run because I enjoy challenging myself to be the best runner I can be!"



Lily Markavich - 8th grade
Wamogo Middle School (Litchfield)

"I am excited to be on Junior Team HMF; it is an honor to be on a team that is this unique and special because I hope to continue my running career through college! I love running because it is an amazing sport that anyone can do to feel great mentally and physically!"



**Hailey Morgan – 8th grade
Vernon Center Middle School**

"I am excited to be on Junior Team HMF because I get to meet new people who like staying active. After my first ever race I knew that running was what I wanted to do because it works with my head and keeps me going."



**Cormac Neely – 6th grade
Suffield Middle School**

"I like running because I feel free and there's nothing holding me back."



**McKenzie Ricci – 8th grade
Mansfield Middle School (Storrs)**

"I'm excited to be part of a community of people who also like running. I like running because when I finish a run or a race it feels good to have accomplished something challenging."



**Raegan Richards – 7th grade
Charles H. Barrows Stem Academy (North Windham)**

"I am excited to be on Junior Team HMF because it is a new opportunity and I think I'll like it! I like running because I feel like it releases stress and it makes me more fit."



**Jason Rycerz – 8th grade
Sage Park Middle School (Windsor)**

"I am excited to be a part of Junior Team HMF so I can stay connected to the running community during the off season and I love to be part of a team. I love running because it's a sport I can do all year round and improve."



**Nathan Settevendemie – 6th grade
Mabelle B. Avery Middle School (Somers)**

"I am excited to be on Junior Team HMF to help inspire other kids who love to run as much as I do. I love running because it's fun setting big goals and then working toward them, and because I love to race."



**Violet Spooner – 7th grade
Tantasqua Regional Junior High (Fiskdale, MA)**

"I am excited to be selected for Junior Team HMF because of the fun new experiences it will give me as a runner. I love running because it is fun, and because I get to meet other runners who enjoy it as much as I do."



**Taylor Suffish – 8th grade
Griswold Middle School (Rocky Hill)**

From an early age Taylor was a swimmer, excellent at the backstroke. Swimming helped build her future running endurance. She started to ask about opportunities to run and decided to move from swimming to running. She loves running because your part of a team but then it's you against you.



**Maria Tostarelli – 8th grade
Sage Park Middle School in Windsor**

"I am very excited to be on Junior Team HMF because I have always had a passion for running and I always strive to be my best. I love running because it's always a super fun adventure and it helps me improve my physical and mental health."