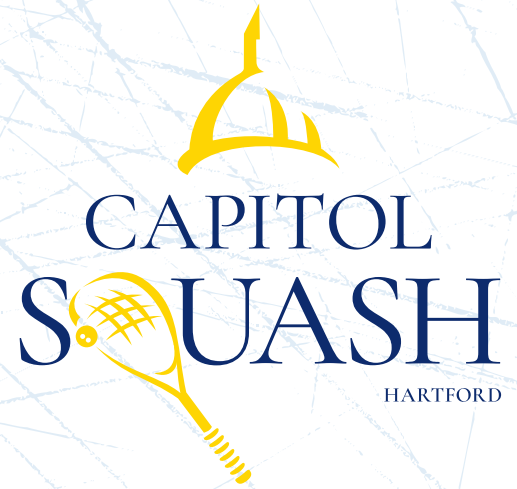




THE 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Expanding Partners
Expanding Impact



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A Message From the Board

Dear Friends of Capitol Squash,

Over the past six years, I've been honored to chair the board of directors of Capitol Squash. During this time, I've had the privilege of watching this remarkable program grow in both size and impact.

We strengthened our partnership with Trinity College, won our first Squash + Education Team Nationals, navigated a pandemic, recognized our first high school graduates, and celebrated our tenth anniversary.

This growth is a testament to Capitol Squash's commitment to its students and the dedication of our board, staff, and volunteers.

As I prepare to step down from my role, I'm excited to announce that next year, Dan Joseph and Carlos Feged will be stepping in as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. I know they will guide Capitol Squash into its next chapter with energy, passion, and enthusiasm.

Capitol Squash is so much more than an afterschool program. I've witnessed how, through their participation in Capitol Squash, our young students grow into leaders that implement the values of respect, persistence, hard work, and initiative to build promising futures for themselves.

*Walter Harrison, Chair 2019-2025
Capitol Squash Board of Directors*

*"It is with the deepest appreciation
that I recognize Walter Harrison's
contributions to Capitol Squash. During his
tenure as Chairman of the Board, he led us
into a period of growth and new beginnings.
Capitol Squash's success is in large part a
testament to Walter's steady leadership and
undeniable love for the program."*

*- Paul Assaiante
Head Men's Squash Coach Emeritus
Trinity College*



Dear Supporters of Capitol Squash,

This past year, Capitol Squash expanded our reach and deepened our impact. Thanks to your support, our program is achieving remarkable milestones:

- **100% of seniors matriculated to college this fall.** They are attending American University, Bowdoin College, Central Connecticut State University, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Trinity College, and UConn Hartford.
- **Students across middle and high school engaged deeply in the college and post-secondary process.** They participated in weekly workshops, visited campuses including Boston University, Central Connecticut State University, Mount Holyoke College, and UConn Storrs, and met directly with university admissions leaders.
- **Our teams excelled on the squash court.** Capitol Squash secured a 2nd place finish for the Middle School Girls A Division at SEA Team Nationals and sent our first-ever team to the U.S. Squash Middle School Championships.

- **Our students participated in academic enrichment** ranging from debates and geography workshops to vocabulary competitions. They also attended memorable field trips including Hartford Public Library, Auerfarm, Hartford Stitch, Yale Peabody Museum, and Hungerford Nature Center.
- **Alumni continue to inspire the next generation**, with Adriana and Gabe captaining the first alumni-led Capitol Cup team and mentoring current players.

Each of these accomplishments demonstrates the power of long-term support. Your continued generosity ensures that every year, more young Hartford students discover the game of squash and gain access to years of academic support, mentorship, and life-changing opportunities.

Gratefully,

Meg Taylor
Executive Director



\$3.8 Million in Financial Aid and Scholarships to Date



25 Matches and Tournaments

88% Average Program Attendance



2,149 Program Hours

428 Average Participant Hours



100% of Graduating Seniors Attending College

100% High School Graduation Rate



13 Colleges Visited

5 Weeks of Summer Programming

“The Capitol Squash and Kennelly School partnership is thriving! Our students and their families are deeply appreciative of the opportunity to engage with the dedicated Capitol Squash staff while learning the exciting and challenging sport of squash. This partnership continues to enrich our school community, fostering teamwork, confidence, and healthy lifestyles through sport and mentorship.”

- June Cahill
Principal
E. B. Kennelly School



An Emerging Partnership With E. B. Kennelly School

School Partnership Liaisons

Capitol Squash hired two staff members at E. B. Kennelly School to act as School Partnership Liaisons. They coordinated school presentations, supported student transportation, and communicated with teachers and families to ensure a smooth start to this new partnership.

Exposure Field Trips for all 3rd-7th Graders

Capitol Squash brought all of E. B. Kennelly's 3rd-7th grade students on field trips to tour Trinity's campus, learn about higher education, and play some squash. Through this initiative, Capitol Squash was introduced to over 350 students.

Largest Incoming Class Ever

Following the field trips, a record number of students tried out for Capitol Squash. After a months-long tryout process where students demonstrated hard work, respect, and commitment, we welcomed 20 new students, our largest incoming class ever!



A Growing Partnership With Trinity College

Capitol Squash's First Trinity College Student

This fall, Angel, who joined Capitol Squash in 6th grade, became our first alumnus to attend Trinity College! Angel earned a full scholarship and plans to major in Data Analysis. We are incredibly proud of this exciting milestone — for both Angel and Capitol Squash.

Access to New Facilities

This past summer, our students trained in the brand-new, air-conditioned squash courts at Trinity's Scully Center. Additionally, we moved our offices and classrooms to the third floor of the Ferris Athletic Center where we have increased access to the courts this school year.

Connecting With Trinity Admissions

Our students had many opportunities to connect with Trinity's Admissions Office this year including a lunch with admissions staff, a guided campus tour, and a Q&A panel with current Trinity students.

Learning From the Nation's Best, Right at Home

Throughout the last school year, three Trinity squash team members served as interns to help teach our students the fundamentals of squash. This past summer, Melanie and Anna attended Trinity College's squash camp where they received elite training from top coaches.

“The partnership between Trinity College and Capitol Squash has allowed us to share Trinity's love of squash with Hartford youth for over ten years. We are so excited to watch our partnership become even stronger with new spaces, increased collaboration, and the first Capitol Squash-Trinity College student. This special relationship will continue to benefit young Hartford students for years to come.”

- Lauren Patrizio
Head Women's Squash Coach
Trinity College

- Moustafa Hamada
Head Men's Squash Coach
Trinity College



Our Donors

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

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*We apologize for any errors or omissions.
Please contact us with corrections at
info@capitolsquash.org.*





Our Mission

The mission of Capitol Squash is to empower youth of Hartford to reach their potential as athletes, students, and engaged citizens.

Capitol Squash strives to provide youth with life-changing opportunities through the sport of squash, intensive educational support, mentoring, and community service activities.

CAPITOL SQUASH

300 Summit Street

Box 702611

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capitalsquash.org

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