Dianna Russini



Dianna Russini, Class of 2001, was a rare four-sport athlete at Northern Valley Old Tappan, lettering in soccer, basketball, softball, and track. She amassed an impressive nine varsity letters in her four years at Old Tappan, with soccer and basketball leading the tally with three varsity letters each. Dianna was a three-time First Team All-League selection in soccer, and earned All-County recognition each of those three years. In her junior year, her team advanced to the finals of the Bergen County Tournament and lost to nationally ranked IHA.

In basketball, Dianna was part of a dynasty team that earned four league titles in her four years, and captured the school's only County Finalist appearance for girls' basketball. Her tenacious style of play and team-first attitude helped spur the team to an undefeated 16-0 league record in her senior season, as well as Joe Poli Tournament Runner Up, and earned her First Team All-League and All-County recognition. Dianna was a member of the softball team, as well, and earned Second Team All-League honors.

In her senior year of high school, Dianna mastered yet another sport, and became a star track runner. She broke the school record for the mile and held that title for many years. Dianna was recognized in her first and only track season as First Team All-League and First Team All-County.

After graduating from NVOT, Dianna, who grew up in Norwood, attended George Mason University, earning a Bachelor of Science in Communication. She played women's soccer there all four years. Dianna is currently working for ESPN as an NFL host, reporter, and insider. You can catch her on SportsCenter, NFL Live, and even on the sidelines reporting many games. She is one of the leading reporters in her field and paves the way for other female reporters in a male-dominated sport. She's often the first to break stories due to her tenacious work ethic and highly respected reputation in NFL circles.