

FROM THE GREENWICH ACADEMY

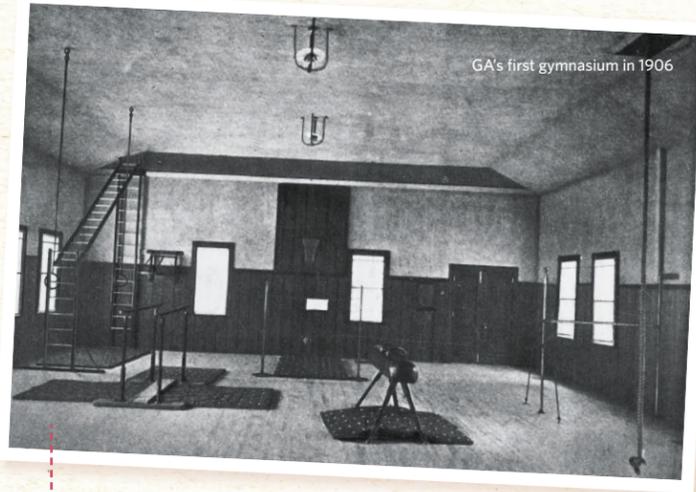
ARCHIVES

Athletics at GA

By Archivist Nancy Wasserman

Athletics have been an integral part of each GA girl's education for decades. Today, our school boasts 16 varsity sports ranging from soccer to squash to softball. These programs result in more than 10 graduates annually who go on to participate in sports at the college level. Like many aspects of the school, the athletics program has evolved rather dramatically over time.

Early admission catalogs dating back to 1868, when the school was still a coeducational institution, make no mention of athletics or exercise. It wasn't until the 1902-1903 catalog that athletics and the construction of a new gymnasium (completed in 1906) are mentioned.



GA's first gymnasium in 1906

With a new gym came new expenses; by 1907, Senior and Intermediate School students were incurring an annual \$1 fee for use of the gym. Families of Primary School students were only charged \$0.50 per year.



GA's tennis team in 1907, practicing at the courts near Principal Newton Hobart's house



Track and field competition in the 1920s



Field hockey team in 1923 at what is now Brunswick's preschool and kindergarten campus

A LOOK BACK

GA's athletics history tells the story of the changing interests of the GA girls, the growth of the school, and the increasing focus on competitive girls' athletics.

(Competitive teams shown in bold)

1907 Boys – **Basketball, Baseball, Track & Field**
Mixed – **Tennis**

1920s **Basketball, Field Hockey, Track & Field, Riding**, Tap Dance (referred to as a sport by Jean Pethick)

1930s **Archery, Badminton, Basketball, Field Hockey, Riding, Softball, Track & Field, Mensendieck***, Volleyball (intramural)

1940s **Badminton, Field Hockey, Riding, Softball, Volleyball**, Archery, Health Team, Mensendieck, Rifle, Walking Team

1950s **Badminton, Basketball, Field Hockey, Softball, Riding**, Cheerleading, Dance, Golf (intramural), Mensendieck, Swimming (intramural), **Tennis** (intramural), Volleyball

1960s **Basketball, Badminton, Field Hockey, Lacrosse, Riding, Softball, Tennis**, Cheerleading, Golf, Volleyball

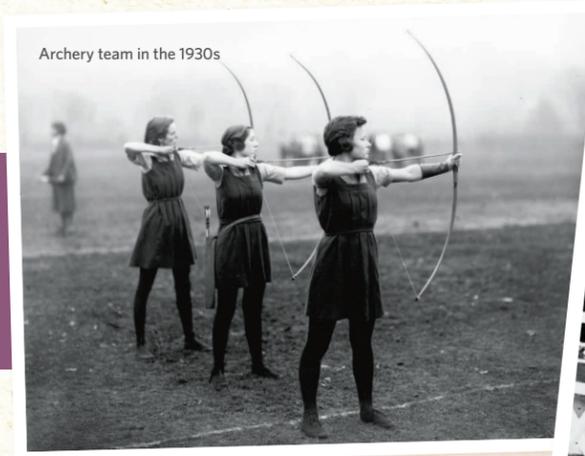
1970s **Badminton, Basketball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Lacrosse, Tennis**, Cheerleading

1980s **Badminton, Basketball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Lacrosse, Skiing, Tennis**

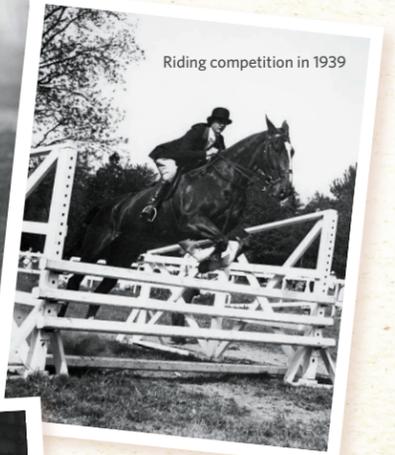
1990s **Basketball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Squash, Tennis, Volleyball**

2000s Present: **Field Hockey, Volleyball, Cross Country, Soccer, Basketball, Squash, Fencing, Swimming and Diving, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Tennis, Sailing, Softball, Crew, Golf, Track and Field**

* The Mensendieck System is a therapeutic technique that taught proper movement and posture.



Archery team in the 1930s



Riding competition in 1939



Rifery Team in 1941

A sign of the times! A local newspaper article from 1941 mentions riflery in the context of an enlightened citizenry and preparedness for defense. In addition to Ms. Peabody (1922-1945), Jean Gorton Pethick (1924-1960) and Angela Tammaro (1965-present) had a tremendous impact on the development of GA's athletic program. These women were pivotal in establishing our athletic program and transforming GA into the athletic powerhouse it is today.

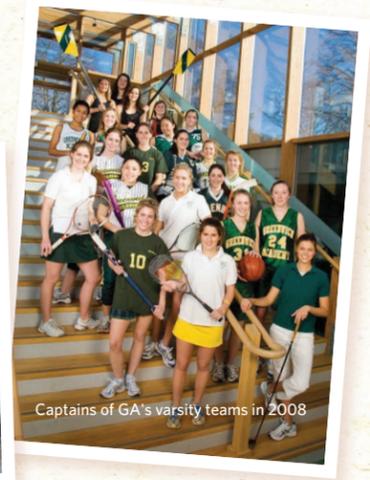


Lacrosse Team 1967

As interests in various sports waxed and waned, so too did the roster of sports offered at GA. In the spring of 1967, GA formed its first competitive lacrosse team. The team played three games against other schools that year and was undefeated.



Captains of GA's varsity teams in 1939



Captains of GA's varsity teams in 2008