

20

# FORT LEE BOYS BASKETBALL GAME NOTES

Sports Information - 3000 Lemoine Avenue, Fort Lee, N.J. 07024

## 2019-20 Schedule and Results

Overall: 0-1 | Home: 0-0 | Away: 0-1

### December

1 68-65

Dwight Morrow

	D Wight Monow	_, 00 00
27	NV - Old Tappan*	7 P.M.
28	TBA*	TBA
30	TBA*	TBA

	January	
3	Westwood Regiona	al+7 P.M.
7	Ramsey+	7 P.M.
9	Mahwah+	7 P.M.
14	Pascack Hills+	7 P.M.
16	Dumont+	7 P.M.
18	NV - Old Tappan	TBA
21	Ridgefield Park+	7 P.M.
23	Cliffside Park+	7 P.M.
25	Memorial (WNY)	1 P.M.
28	DePaul Catholic	7 P.M.
30	Mahwah+	7 P.M.
	- 1	

## **February**

4	Westwood Regional+	/	P.M.
6	Pascack Hills+	7	P.M.
11	Dumont+	7	P.M.
13	Ramsey+	7	P.M.
18	Ridgefield Park+	7	P.M.
20	Cliffside Park+	7	P.M.
25	Bergenfield	7	P.M.

\* denotes Jack Reilly Holiday Tournament + denotes BNC American Division contest *Italicizations* indicate home game





Fort Lee (0-1, 0-0 BNC)

Old Tappan (1-1, 0-0 BNC)

**HC:** Adam Shrager **HC:** Craig Ferraro

#### Game #2 - Home Game #1

December 27, 2019 - 7 P.M. | Fort Lee H.S. East Gymnasium (Fort Lee, N.J.)

2019 Jack Reilly Holiday Tournament - First Round

Officials

Referee: Frank Porfido; Umpire: Mitch Mele; Clock: Jim Rapp

#### **GAME GUIDE**

- The Bridgemen return to their own Jack Reilly Holiday Tournament having won the championship title last season for the first time in school history with a 72-55 win over Paramus Catholic on 12/30/18.
- Fort Lee begins the 2019-20 campaign 0-1, following a loss at Dwight Morrow (Englewood), 68-65, in a Big North crossover matchup.
- Against Dwight Morrow on the road on 12/20, the Bridgemen posted a fourth quarter 30-10 run behind junior guard/forward Hamza Ahmad's 25 points and five rebounds and senior guard/forward Luis Armas's 17 points and 11 rebounds.
- The Bridgemen advanced to the semi-final of the Bergen Invitational Tournament (BIT) last season following a 69-56 win over Wallington in the first round and a 71-68 win over division foe Pascack Hills in the quarter-final. Fort Lee fell to Hackensack in the semi-final bout, 77-60.
- In the 2018-19 NJSIAA North 2, Group II State Sectional Tournament first round, tenth-seeded Fort Lee traveled to the seventh-seeded Madison Dodgers, falling to the home side, 69-62.
- Before the 2019-20 season, Fort Lee added Josuwha Ford, '14 to the boys basketball coaching staff. Ford was a four-year player for the Bridgemen and played for four years collegiately at Ramapo College (D. III, NJAC). He will primarily serve as the freshman coach this season and as an assistant for varsity games. Ford previously served as a volunteer assistant coach with the Fort Lee girls basketball team for the 2018-19 season.

#### Fort Lee Athletics - Jordan Sarnoff

Sports Information Director + Public Address Announcer Mobile: 201.414.4102 | jordansarnoff@flboe.com

## The Bridgemen

## **NUMERICAL ROSTER**

<u>No.</u>	Player	Pos.	Cl.	Ht./Wt.	PPG/RPG/APG
1	Sontiliano Llaho	G/F	SR	6-0/180	0.0/0.0/0.0
3	Warren Wilkerson	G/F	JR	5-9/145	5.0/4.0/0.0
5	Luis Armas*	G/F	SR	6-3/195	17.0/11.0/0.0
10	Raffi Gueyikian	G/F	SO	6-1/225	3.0/4.0/0.0
11	Nathan Garcia	G/F	JR	5-6/125	7.0/2.0/3.0
12	Joshua Estella	G/F	SR	5-11/215	0.0/0.0/0.0
22	Isiah Stang	G/F	FR	5-8/130	6.0/1.0/0.0
23	Samuel Morell*	G/F	SR	6-1/196	0.0/0.0/0.0
24	Adam Khan	G/F	SR	5-11/170	2.0/2.0/0.0
25	Kevin Hernandez	G/F	SR	5-9/175	0.0/0.0/0.0
32	Hamza Ahmad*	G/F	JR	6-2/155	25.0/5.0/2.0

## **ALPHABETICAL ROSTER**

<u>No.</u>	Player	Pos.	Cl.	Ht./Wt.
32	Hamza Ahmad*	G/F	JR	6-2/155
5	Luis Armas*	G/F	SR	6-3/195
12	Joshua Estella	G/F	SR	5-11/215
11	Nathan Garcia	G/F	JR	5-6/125
10	Raffi Gueyikian	G/F	SO	6-1/225
25	Kevin Hernandez	G/F	SR	5-9/175
24	Adam Khan	G/F	SR	5-11/170
1	Sontiliano Llaho	G/F	SR	6-0/180
23	Samuel Morell*	G/F	SR	6-1/196
22	Isiah Stang	G/F	FR	5-8/130
3	Warren Wilkerson	G/F	JR	5-9/145

Breakdown						
Bridgemen by Grade	Bridgemen by Height					
Seniors (6)	Luis Armas (6'3")					
Juniors (3)	Hamza Ahmad (6'2")					
Sophomores (1)	Samuel Morell (6'1")					
Freshmen (1)	Raffi Gueyikian (6'1")					
	Sontiliano Llaho (6'0")					
	Joshua Estella (5'11")					
	Adam Khan (5'11")					
	Warren Wilkerson (5'9")					
	Kevin Hernandez (5'9")					
	Isiah Stang (5'8")					
	Nathan Garcia (5'6")					

## **COACHING STAFF**

Head Coach: Adam Shrager - Second season Assistant Coach (JV): Sean Scully - Fourth season Assistant Coach (F): Josuwha Ford - First season

Volunteer Assistant Coach (F/V): Leo Ellison - First season Volunteer Middle School Coach: Lewis Maira - First season

## **PRONUNCIATION GUIDE**

#1 Sone-tell-ee-ah-no (prefers Soney [sony]) LA-ho, #5 AHR-mas, #10 Gay-key-in, #23 (prefers Sam) Mor-ell, #32 HAM-zuh

\* denotes captain



## 2019-20 BNC American Standings

Team	Division	Overall	PCT
Westwood	0-0	2-0	1.00
Pascack Hills	0-0	1-0	1.00
Cliffside Park	0-0	1-1	0.500
Ridgefield Park	0-0	1-1	0.500
Fort Lee	0-0	0-1	0.00
Dumont	0-0	0-0	0.00
Mahwah	0-0	0-0	0.00
Ramsey	0-0	0-2	0.00

The Series: Fort Lee vs NV - Old Tappan

Last Five Meetings: Fort Lee leads, 3-2

1/9/19 - FL wins, 48-45

12/30/17 - FL wins, 42-28

12/30/16 - NV/OT wins, 78-45

1/28/16 - NV/OT wins, 56-30

1/15/15 - FL wins, 54-52

NV - Old Tappan: Last Five Games (Includes '18-'19)

12/23/19 - W vs Bayonne (OT), 49-46

12/20/19 - L vs Cranford, 60-54

2/21/19 - L vs Westwood Regional, 60-56

2/19/19 - L vs Ridgewood, 69-60

2/16/19 - W vs Hasbrouck Heights, 61-56

Fort Lee: Last Five Games (Includes '18-'19)

12/20/19 - L vs Dwight Morrow, 68-65

2/25/19 - L vs Madison, 69-62

2/21/19 - W vs Paramus, 56-52

2/17/19 - L vs Hackensack, 77-60

2/16/19 - L vs Indian Hills, 60-52

**Bold** denotes 2019-20 season



### **Dwight Morrow Recap:**

Fort Lee opened the 2019-20 campaign with a trip west on Route 4 to Englewood to face the Maroon-Raiders. The home side completed a 24-13 mark in the first quarter and lead the scoring affair in half of the periods played. The Bridgemen posted a 33-10 run in the fourth quarter behind junior G/F Hamza Ahmad's 25 points and senior G/F Luis Armas's 17 points. Off the bench, newcomer Isiah Stang contributed a pair of three-point field goals and junior Warren Wilkerson added a jumper and long ball of his own to finish his season debut with five points.

For the Maroon-Raiders, Andres Fulgencio finished the game with a 28/15/1 mark and Bertin Placide finished seven points behind him with a 21/5/3 mark.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	F
FL	13	13	6	33	65
DM	24	13	21	10	68

## **Jack Reilly Holiday Tournament:**

The 2019 Jack Reilly Holiday Tournament will feature a new seven team format with six returning teams and one newcomer joining the tournament. John F. Kennedy (Paterson) joins Fort Lee, NV - Demarest, NV - Old Tappan, Lyndhurst, Bergenfield and Paramus Catholic for three days of holiday break hoops at The Fort. JFK (Paterson) received a bye until the semi-final on 12/28 where they will take on the winner of the Fort Lee/NV - Old Tappan game at 7 P.M. in Fort Lee.

There is no true consolation bracket this year.

The completed bracket is available on the media resources page at FLBOE.com.

## TALE OF THE TAPE





0-1 - Overall - 1-1

0-1 - Conference - 0-0

0-0 - Division - 0-0

L1 - Streak - W1

XX - '19-20 Last 5 - XX

XX - '19-20 Last 10 - XX

65.0 - PPG - 54.5

#### THE 4-1-1

**New Kids on the Block:** Following the graduation of six seniors, the Bridgemen return seven players from last season's varsity squad behind four newcomers, of which one is an underclassmen.

**The Grind:** Only one returnee participated in parts of every game last season with senior Luis Armas playing in 27 contests for the Bridgemen in 2018-19 where he averaged 27.8 minutes per game. Armas finished the year with 751 minutes played out of a possible 864.

We Call Him 'H': Junior Hamza Ahmad was rock solid from the stripe in Englewood last Friday when he made all 10 of the free throws he attempted. Ahmad followed that up by making three of five attempted three-point shots and three of eight attempted two-point balls.

He's Back: Josh Ford, '14 returns to the boys basketball bench as an assistant coach for the 2019-20 season. Ford played for the Bridgemen under legendary coach John Ziemba during the program's heyday which led to Fort Lee's first and only Big North American Division title to date which came in the 2012-13 season. Ford played for four years at Ramapo College as a guard where he finished among the program's all-time top five assist leaders. After his senior year in 2017-18, in which he was a captain, Ford was named the NJAC Defensive Player of the Year with his 105 rebounds, two blocks and 25 steals. Ford previously served as a volunteer assistant coach with the Fort Lee girls basketball team last season.

#### 2018-19 In Review:

The 2018-19 season brought about a wave of change for the Bridgemen, beginning with the man at the helm. Adam Shrager joined the Bridgemen as head coach following a tenure at Champion High School in Boerne, Tex. (Full bio is available on the Media Resources page).

Fort Lee began the season on a three game skid falling to Dwight Morrow, Westwood Regional and Ramsey at home before picking up three consecutive wins in the Jack Reilly Holiday Tournament vs Lyndhurst, NV - Demarest and Paramus Catholic, culminating in their championship berth. Towards the midway stretch of the season, the Bridgemen notched big wins over longtime rivals Cliffside Park and Ridgefield Park, sweeping the home-and-away series with both schools.

Perhaps the most thrilling victory for the Orange and Black came on January 24, 2019 against Mahwah at home when senior Huasly Paredes-Garcia launched a game-winning three-point field goal with 2.9 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter; Fort Lee would take the game, 59-58.

In the first round of the 2018-19 NJSIAA North 2, Group II State Sectional Tournament, the tenth-seeded Bridgemen traveled to the section's seventh-seeded Madison Dodgers for a high scoring duel that saw both teams put up a combined 131 points. Despite having three players score in double-digits and a team total of nine three-point field goals made, Fort Lee would fall on the road, 69-62, ending their season.

Fort Lee finished the season with a 14-13 record, 6-8 in the Big North Conference American Division.

In May of 2019, Paredes-Garcia announced his decision to continue playing basketball at Utica College, a Division III school in Utica, N.Y..

Previous Game Statistical Leaders:

Minutes.....Luis Armas, 32 .....Nathan Garcia, 30 Points.....Hamza Ahmad, 25 .....L. Armas, 17 Defensive rebounds.....L. Armas, 11 ......H. Ahmad and Warren Wilkerson, 4 Offensive rebounds......H. Ahmad and Raffi Gueyikian, 1 ......All others, 0 Rebounds.....L. Armas, 11 .....H. Ahmad, 5 Free throws made......H. Ahmad, 10 ......R. Gueyikian, L. Armas and N. Garcia, 1 Three-point goals made.....L. Armas, 4 .....H. Ahmad, 3 Two-point goals made......H. Ahmad, 3 .....L. Armas, 2

Season Composite Line Score (Through one game)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	T
Fort Lee	13	13	6	33	65
Opponents	24	13	21	10	68