

**Derek Almeida Head Football Coach  
Fairhaven High School**

Derek Almeida is the head football coach at Fairhaven High School. Over his career, he has compiled a 98–37 overall record, with three state championships and four state title game appearances. Almeida spent the first 15 years of his career as an assistant coach, coordinating on both sides of the ball, honing his craft. Almeida’s teams are known for their toughness, physicality and team discipline, implementing a triple option attack offensively and a relentlessly attacking 4-2-5 scheme on the defensive side of the ball. His first head coaching position was at Falmouth High School, where he took over a program coming off multiple losing seasons and low participation numbers, and led it to a Division 2A state championship in his third year. After six seasons at Falmouth, Almeida returned home to lead his alma mater, Fairhaven High School.

At Fairhaven, he again inherited a program that had struggled with both wins and participation. Since returning in 2020, his teams have gone 55–13, won four South Coast Gold Conference championships, and reached the state championship game three straight seasons, capturing Division 6 state titles in 2023 and 2025. Almeida has been recognized as a Boston Globe Coach of the Year (2016, 2023, 2025), Boston Herald Coach of the year (2016) and New England Patriots Coach of the Year (2025).