

Welcome Warriors to the 2008 Football Season!

Season Start Notes:

Practices/Games: Updated practice/game schedules, is on the reverse side of this message. Please make sure you have the right team practice schedule! Keep your teams Head Coach informed as to dates when the player will miss a practice or game. Head Coaches will inform you of any change to the practice/game schedule as to sites or times. Until then follow the schedule as printed. Please pick up your player immediately after practice. The coaches give an awful lot of time, they shouldn't have to wait around for a player to be picked up. Maps for any away games will be made available to all teams prior to the start of the game season. No bus transportation will be provided to away games, we want the families to come to all the games! It is the parents responsibility to get players to games on time. Maps can also be downloaded at the league web site at: <http://www.aayfl.org>.

Games at Banting: For the 2008 season we will be playing the majority of our home games at Banting Park, located on Wolf Drive, just north of the intersection of Moreland Blvd and Hwy 164. Due to the rains in June and construction of the new fire station on Summit Ave.(Hwy 18) we are not able to move into our new field at the WRO Youth Complex until next season. Banting will be a very good site for our games, with a covered Concessions and restrooms near the field.

Games/Practice at Heinen Field: This is school district property, state law prohibits the **use of tobacco and alcohol** on this property.

Please help keep our fields clean, this is for the safety of the players and just good manners. **Use of these facilities is a privilege, not a right.** The programs future use of the facility will not be jeopardized by a few inconsiderate individuals.

Parking at Heinen is available to the east of the field and to the south (service building parking). Do not block private drives on College Ave. You will be ticketed.

League rules **require** that spectators be outside the field of play a minimum five yards. At our Heinen Field **all** spectators will be on the south side of the field by the trees. Team benches will be on the street side of the field. At other sites, there may be a rope, track, or bleachers. The restraining line becomes that which is furthest away from the field. Teams can and will be penalized for fans who violate this rule. For the safety of all players and fans, please stay well off the field of play. Our insurance only covers participants and organization personnel registered with the league.

Equipment: Players who need equipment or adjustments to equipment can do this Tuesday (8/12) and Wednesday (8/13) from 7-7:30pm, after practice. After these dates call me to make arrangements. (**Note:** Most players are not used to wearing a football helmet, helmet exchanges will not be made until **after 3 days of practice**, unless a coach sends a player for a different helmet. If you need air in your helmet tell your coach, he has a special pump for this. **DO NOT** attempt to do this yourself (a punctured air liner costs \$35.00). **Shoulder pads** must be kept tight, make sure that straps and clips are locked in after adjusting the fit. **Use only** electrical tape to do this (please remove tape after the season). **Mouthguards** need to be fit for each players mouth. Trim the back of the mouthguard to size. Place the mouthguard in boiling water for 10 seconds, then immediately place on top teeth, gently bite down, suck the air out of your mouth to set fit. This can be repeated as needed. Make sure you have a good mouthguard all season. Players with braces or other special mouth work must be fitted by their dentist. The first Mouthguard is issued with equipment, those needed afterwards can be obtained from your Head Coach at a cost of \$2.00.

New this year - The Warriors have purchased at a team price, Hard Cup Chin Straps. They are color coordinated to the helmets, have a more comfortable feel, with added protection, and will last for years if taken care of. The cost is \$8.00, and will be available at Equipment Issue.

Concession Stand: A concession stand will be available at each home game, proceeds help keep our player fees reasonable. Please visit it often! If you are able to help work in the concession stand please contact me and I will let you know which times are available. **Your help is needed!** For those unable to work the concession stand we are asking that each family **donate a case of soda (pepsi or coke products) or 20 oz. bottled water**, to the concession stand. Donations can be dropped off at my home, the concession stand on home game days, or given to me at the 3/4th grade scrimmage at Heinen on August 23th. Anyone who can help out in securing products for the concession stand please contact me. We are always looking for donations of chips, candy, condiments, etc.

Fund Raising: "Thank You" to all who have participated in the Grab Bag Fund Raiser at Orientation. It was the second consecutive sell-out of the Grab Bags! If we receive additional product donations, Grab Bags will be available at the scrimmage on 8/23, and our concession stand during our home games. Grab Bags sales fund our Scholarship Program to provide registration assistance for those who are not financially able to pay for their player to play.

Field Development Fund - With the Warriors heading to a new home we have started a fund to help outfit the new field with the necessary amenities. Mike Sandy, Navy 5th Grade Head Coach, has taken on the challenge of coordinating the raising of funds for this purpose. The goal is to raise \$10,000.00 to add Goal Posts, Bleachers, Team Benches for the field, and if possible for the use at the temporary field at Banting this season. Mike has put out the challenge to each of the coaches, but we'd like to see all the Warriors Families help if possible. Your employer may have a matching grant program that could be used for this type of project. The donation will be tax deductible to the extent allowed by the IRS, under the 501c(3) status of our program as Associate Members of the WI All American Youth Football League. Anyone wishing to help out can contact Mike (somethingsandy@aol.com) or myself for details and what we can offer for Corporate Contributions of \$500.00 or More

Problems/Complaints: Any questions, problems, concerns, or complaints within a team must be directed to the Head Coach first, at the proper time and place. Not in the middle of a game or practice, nor in front of the players. If your concerns are not rectified then contact me.

Lets have a fun, safe, exciting season!

Just for kids,

Jim Grisaffi
Program Coordinator
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