

GRAND ISLAND JUNIOR VIKINGS NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2009 ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

We are happy to welcome all participants and parents to another great season at the Grand Island Jr. Vikings Football and Cheerleading. As we embark on the 2009 season we hope to continue the success and growth our organization had in 2008. The football teams had a great year. Our 85lb team went undefeated in their division with a squad made up of mostly rookies, the 105lb team won the Super Bowl for their division, and our 135lb team went undefeated and Super Bowl Champions in their division. Congratulations to all!

The Junior Vikings Football and Cheerleading organizations will begin practicing at Sidway School on July 27th. When school starts the football teams will move to Veterans Park and the cheerleaders will move into one of the school gyms. The football teams will practice under the lights.

The Board will require coaches to do their very best to ensure that each player is utilized to his or her utmost potential given their current skill set...with a focus on individual player development and not merely on wins and losses. GIJV will continue the minimum play rule and coaches will be required to have an independent statistician on his and her coaching staff tracking each player's involvement during games. During the off-season the Board implemented a requirement for all of our football coaches to become certified. We had a great success and most of the coaches have already completed their certification.

Continuing this year, all parents and participants will be required to sign a Code of Conduct Agreement and receive the League Handbook for the 2009 season or they will be ineligible to participate in the cheerleading or football organizations.

I would also like to thank each and every person that volunteered their time to the organization over the past year. The volunteers are the backbone of our organization. Your dedication is what continues to make our organization such a great success.

I look forward to seeing you all out at the field!

Mike

THANK YOU PARENTS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Cheerleading News

Practice starts Monday, July 27th at Sidway School from 6-8pm. Parents are asked to stay for the first practice for a brief parent meeting and while sneakers and uniforms are handed out.

Practices are every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6-8pm. Cheerleaders must be prepared to practice in comfortable clothing—NO Denim—with hair tied back, SNEAKERS, and a water bottle with their name on it. When school starts practices are from 6-7:30, and will be moved inside (location to be announced). The first competition this year is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 4th. Coaches must be informed if your child is competing by Friday, August 8th. To be part of the competition squad, cheerleaders may miss no more than 3 practices from the start of school to the end of the season—this is for the safety of the girls. **This does not mean that practices up to that time are optional!!** Each girl is an integral part of the squad and the entire squad suffers when anyone is absent. Please plan your child's schedule accordingly. For competition, all cheerleaders must be in full uniform with hair in a high ringlet ponytail—if you choose not to curl your child's hair, hairpieces are available for purchase at www.cheerleaderhairpieces.com or Beauty Eternity (phone# is 683-1181) in the Galleria Mall (second floor). I highly recommend Beauty Eternity as they sell quality hairpieces that last.

Each squad is in need of a team mom to supply snacks for halftime of each game—if you are interested, speak to your child's coach during the first week of practices. The head coaches are as follows:

Blue Squad (2nd & 3rd grade)--- Amy Saleh

Gold Squad (4th & 5th grade)--- Corrine Coluci

White Squad (6th, 7th, & 8th grade)-Traci Goc

These coaches are volunteers and put a lot of hard work and energy into making this a fun, successful season for your child. Please show them the respect and encouragement that they deserve—your attitude reflects on your child's.

Thank you in advance for a great season!

Pat Mongan, Cheerleading Coordinator

Fundraising news

Raffle ticket money must be turned in **Wednesday, September 2nd**. If you do not have them please contact Sue Bass at 860-7875 as soon as possible. Any child who does not turn in their raffle ticket money by the deadline will not be able to participate in practices or games—this will be strictly enforced.

Banquet is November 15th at the Convention Center

Football news

Practice starts Monday, July 27th at Sidway School from 6-8pm. Parents are asked to be there at 5:30 for the first practice for a brief parent meeting.

Practices are held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6-8pm, please be there 15 minutes early whenever possible. Home games will be held at Veteran's Park. Players must be prepared to practice in the following: cup and jock strap, girdle and pads (hip, knee, thigh and tail), shoulder pads, rib pads, helmet and face mask, football spikes, practice pants, practice jersey, practice socks, mouth guard, and chinstrap. No game pants, jersey or socks to be worn for practice! It is important that the equipment be a snug fit not loose; if you are not sure please ask the equipment manager or one of the coaches for assistance. Suggestions on where to purchase any equipment are the following: Sorrentino's Sports Center (2323 Sheridan Dr.), Dick's Sporting Goods, Laux Sporting Goods.

The coaches are as follows:

85lb head coach: Bob Pavone
assistants: Mohammed Saleh, Alan Heacock, Thomas Knight, Brad VeRost, Pat Curtin

105lb head coach: Tracy Akers
assistants: Sean Muggli, Tom Cecere, Henry Grunzweig, Rich Bevilacqua

135lb head coach: Ken Genova
assistants: Mike Mosher, Joe Gioeli, Scott Buzby, Todd Brandon

These coaches are volunteers and put a lot of hard work and time into making this a fun, safe and successful season. Please show them the respect and encouragement that they deserve. Start your conditioning now by doing sit-ups, push-ups and running!!

Reminders

ANY NEW PLAYER/CHEERLEADER MUST BRING A COPY OF THEIR BIRTH CERTIFICATE TO THE FIRST PRACTICE. ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT REINE AKERS AT 773-3618.

SNACKSTAND NEWS

Every parent must volunteer at least one shift in the snack stand per child in the league. The shifts will be posted at the snack stand. If you miss your shift and do not find a replacement, **YOUR CHILD WILL NOT PLAY/CHEER**. This will be strictly enforced. This organization is run by volunteers. Everyone is expected to do their share. Any questions please contact Shirley Marsh.

Website

For any information you may visit our website at www.jrvikings.org.

See you Monday, July 27th!!



PO Box 145
Grand Island, NY 14072