

Parent Meeting (July 25, 2024 @ 6:30 pm CHS gym)

INFO FOR 4TH – 8TH GRADERS

Flag 7-on-7 Jerseys – Please bring your spring flag jerseys to equipment handout if you played in the 7-on-7 and did not turn it in. We reuse these jerseys each Spring.

Practices: Practice schedule can be found on our website at <https://www.columbusfootball.net/> under the youth tab. The start time on the practice schedule is when practice starts. Please have your child arrive 15 minutes prior so they are ready to go at the start of practice. Practice will take place at the high school by the football shed. Practice gear is integrated black pants, red practice jersey, helmet shoulder pads, mouthguard, and football cleats. Make sure your child has a water bottle and enough water for the entire practice. If your child will not be at practice, please contact the coach directly to let them know (preferably through Team Reach App)

1st Day of Practice (6th – 8th graders): August 4, 2025 @ 5:00 p.m.

1st Day of Practice (4th/5th graders): August 11, 2025 @ 5:00 p.m.

Game Schedules: Game schedules are also posted on our website under the youth tab. Your coach will advise you on when you should be there for warm-ups before the games. Please make sure your child is at the games on time with ample amount of warm up time. Please double check that they have all equipment and uniforms upon arrival at the games. Game gear is integrated red pants, game (4th & 5th white for 6-8th grade white or red) jersey, helmet, shoulder pads, mouthguard, football cleats. Please make sure that your child brings plenty of water for the games.

Padded Flag – 1st game is on August 23. This is a scrimmage between all three padded flag teams on the high school football field (tentative time is 3 pm).

1st Game for 6th – 8th graders will be August 23 @ Cbus on the High School Field (6th – 4:30, 7th – 6pm, 8th – 7:30pm)

Rules: These can also be found on our website under the youth tab.

Enrollment #s: As of right now, we have 13 (4th) and 23 (5th), total of 35 kids in our 4/5th grade (3 teams split between the 4th/5th grade), 15 - 6th graders, 14 - 7th graders and 18 - 8th graders. The league we play in requires 15 kids to be put on the schedule. If you know of any kids that haven't signed up yet that want to play, please have them do so soon.

Coaches: Coaching staff for 8th and 7th grade are Chris Kessenich, Nick Uebelacker, Chris Orange and Adam Smith. Coaches for 6th grade is Joel Leistiko and Coty Milligan. Coaches for Padded Flag are Derek Berget and Geoff Hoglund. Still needing an additional head coach for Padded Flag. Scott Allain will be an assistant. We are looking for two others that would be interested in being assistants since we will have 3 padded flag football teams. We will have 1 head coach and 1 assistant per team. To coach, help or even be on the field to assist, you must be USA Certified along with passing a background check. You cannot be involved until these are completed.

Fundraiser: We will be doing two fundraisers this year. LeRoys Meat Market and Fantasy Football Cards. Each child is expected to sell a certain number of items (which can be combined between the two fundraisers). If you have two kids in the program, the requirement is less. The breakdown of each item required to sell will be available at the fundraiser handout on July 21, also located on our website under fundraiser. If you are on a scholarship, these numbers will be different per the form you filled out.

Fundraiser Hand Out: July 21, 6:30 p.m. @ parent meeting

LeRoys Fundraiser Turn in is August 08/21/2025 5pm – 7 pm, at the football shed.

Fantasy Football Card Turn in: 08/26/2025

LeRoys Pick up: 09/18/2025 @ 5 pm in the high school parking lot

Picture Day: Picture Day for 4th - 8th grade is scheduled for Tuesday, August 19 @ 5:00 p.m. (during practice time). They will do individual pictures and use those pictures to compile a team picture. Players should bring all of their equipment on this day and dress in their game day attire which includes their helmet, shoulder pads, red game pants, game jerseys and football cleats (please make sure uniform is clean for the pictures). If you are unable to make pictures on August 19, please reach out to us ASAP as our photographer will be leaving on vacation and would like to do all make-up pictures ahead of the August 19 date.

Volunteering: Volunteering is required and for each player you have in the program, you must volunteer 2 shifts and meet the minimum fundraiser requirement to get your \$40 security deposit back. We are offering a \$100.00 volunteer opt out. If you don't sign up for all your shifts, you will be required to pay this volunteer opt out fee. Sign up is done through [Signupgenius.com](https://signupgenius.com). Once our schedules are known for all grade levels, a Signupgenius will be emailed out. I recommend signing up as soon as you can so you can get the times and days that work best for you. If you are on a scholarship, your volunteer requirement is different per the form you filled out.

Volunteering is what makes our organization possible and successful. All coaches are volunteers and put in many hours throughout the season to make your child's season better. What we ask of you as parents is to roll up your sleeves and help us out in other ways. Volunteering is a requirement from the CFO. For each child that you have in the program, you as parents/grandparents, etc, are required to work 2 volunteer shifts. We have four home games this year so there will be a lot of opportunities to volunteer.

"One of the Greatest Gifts You Can Give Is Your Time"

Physical Forms: Below you will find attached a WIAA Physical Clearance Form and the Alternate year card. All students participating in interscholastic sports must have the Physical Clearance Form done or an alternate year card completed prior to practice or participation. We recommend kids getting the Clearance Form in 5th grade and 7th grade, to line up with the high school requirements of Freshman year and Junior year.

The WIAA Alternate year card needs to be completed in the year that you don't have to have the Physical Clearance Form done. These would be 6th grade, 8th grade, Sophomore year and Senior year.

These forms can also be found on our website under the Forms and Document tab:

WIAA Alternate Year:

<https://dt5602vnjxv0c.cloudfront.net/portals/22516/docs/forms%20-%20documents/physical%20alternate%20year%20card.pdf>

WIAA Physical Clearance

<https://dt5602vnjxv0c.cloudfront.net/portals/22516/docs/forms%20-%20documents/wiaa%20physical%20clearance%20eval.pdf>

Website and Facebook:

Website: <http://columbusfootball.net>

Facebook: [\(2\) Columbus Football Organization | Facebook](#)

The CFO will try their best to keep the website and Facebook page as up to date as possible. If you have questions, check one of these two places. We also have our google calendar uploaded on our home page so you can check for any upcoming events with the CFO. Under the Youth Programs Tab, you will find the different grade levels. There you can find schedules and other information pertaining just to that grade level.

Our Columbus Football Facebook is another page to keep up to date on stuff and be reminded of things happening. We will try to leave a message on Facebook with practice changes or early release of practice due to weather along with sending an email or text message out.

You can also check out our google calendar on our website and input it into your calendar.

Text Notifications: If weather is bad and we need to cancel practice or cancel practice early, we will send an email and text with that information. If you wish to receive texts, you must sign up by Texting the Key Word: [PaddedandTackle25tshq22516](#) to 334-310-2497.

Equipment Handout: July 22 (4-8th graders)

Equipment Handout is scheduled for July 22

Equipment that your child will receive includes a helmet, shoulder pads, 2 game jerseys for 6-8th grade and 1 game jersey for 4th/5th graders, practice jersey, game pants, practice pants and mouthguard. The only thing else that will be required by you is football cleats and a water bottle for practice. Please make sure you review the equipment form you signed during registration. You are responsible for making sure you keep track of your equipment, and that all equipment is turned on October 14.

Washing Equipment – Please do not wash the red pants with the white jerseys! Please wash all jerseys and pants in cold water and air dry.

Note: If you purchase a face shield for your child, it must be a CLEAR visor (not colored or tinted)

Equipment Hand in: October 14

Equipment Hand in at the end of the season is scheduled for October 14. All players, after your games on October 11, will come to the football shed and turn in your helmet and shoulder pads. All other equipment needs to be washed and turned in on October 14. We need all the equipment returned to make sure we get everything back. Any missing items, you are responsible for paying for them. Please see the equipment form you signed during registration for costs.

Youth Night: The CFO Youth Night is scheduled for August 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Columbus Varsity game. This is a fun night for all our youth and a great way for us to come together as a community at the Columbus High School Football game. Please have your child wear their jerseys to the game as they will get in free if they have their jerseys on. At the start of the 2nd quarter, we will have all the kids meet down by the opening in the gate (closest to the high school parking lot). At half time, the kids will be split within their teams and will run from the field goal line to the center of the field and be introduced on the field. After being introduced, we will then go back to the opening in the gate, and we will form a tunnel for the high school football players to run through to start the second half of their game.

Concussion and Head Injury Forms: You signed when registering that you reviewed the concussion and head injury form. Please make sure you review this and if there are any signs or symptoms, immediately let your coach know. Concussion information can also be found on our website under the Parent tab.

Concussion Fact Sheet

<https://dt5602vnjxv0c.cloudfront.net/portals/22516/docs/forms%20-%20documents/concussion%20fact%20sheet.pdf>

Concussion Parent Athlete Info Sheet

https://dt5602vnjxv0c.cloudfront.net/portals/22516/docs/forms%20-%20documents/concussion%20parent_athlete_info_sheet-a.pdf

Concussion in Youth Sports

<https://dt5602vnjxv0c.cloudfront.net/portals/22516/docs/forms%20-%20documents/concussion%20in%20youth%20sports.pdf>

Heads Up Concussion Parent Athlete Info

https://dt5602vnjxv0c.cloudfront.net/portals/22516/docs/forms%20-%20documents/headsupconcussion_parent_athlete_info.pdf

TEAM REACH Communication:

Your coaches as well as the CFO will be communicating through Team Reach this year. To sign up, download the TeamReach App on your phone and enter the below Group Code that is your grade. The schedules are also in there for the season, which you can sync to your calendar. Once teams are divided up for Padded Flag, there will also be separate team codes for the three teams.

Name	Group Code
CFO Flag Football	CFOFlagfootball
CFO Padded Flag	PaddedFootball
CFO Tackle Football 6th grade	CFO6thgrade
CFO Tackle Football 7th grade	CFO7thgrade
CFO Tackle Football 8th grade	CFO-8thgrade

Golf Outing Gift Baskets and Dinner Tickets

Our big fundraiser of the year is our Golf Outing which is scheduled for August 1. We still need a parent in the 6th grade to volunteer to put together a basket. The silent auction basket with the highest bid, that grade wins a pizza party. If you're interested, please reach out to us and we can give you a roster for that grade. For 4th grade – Sarah Othmer, 5th grade Danielle Simerson, 7th grade Justin Stark and 8th grade Laura Schmied are putting together a basket. You should have received an email from them.

If you would like dinner tickets to the golf outing, they are \$35.00.

Prairie Ridge Consent Forms

Prairie Ridge is requiring us to have a consent form on file for each child that is playing this year. The documents can be picked up at the parent meeting and MUST be turned in by the first day of practice in order for your child to play.

Columbus Code of Conduct

Our organization prides itself on great sportsmanship both on and off the field, and this includes players, coaches, parents and family members. When you signed up, you agreed to follow our code of conduct. Please make sure to read through it fully. Two things to note, when upset for whatever reason, please wait a full 24 hours to contact the coach. The coaches are more than happy to discuss with you the issue, but it is best for all when the emotions aren't as high so we ask for a full 24 hours before contact is made. Our organization will not tolerate any type of unsportsmanlike behavior, and this goes towards yelling at the referee's as well. Please be kind. Let the kids play and the coaches coach.