

Dearborn Lions Newsletter for August 26, 2011

Picture Day

Picture day will be Saturday, August 27. Envelope order forms will be sent home with your son and/or daughter at the end of practice on Friday. Freshmen photographs will start promptly at 9 a.m., followed by JV at 9:30 a.m. and Varsity and all cheerleaders at 10 a.m. All players and cheerleaders are required to participate in the team and individual photo sessions, although parents are NOT obligated to purchase anything.

If you decide to place an order, please complete one order form for each child, and attach one payment per order form. Please have your order envelopes filled out and ready to submit upon arrival. Additional order forms will also be available Saturday at the site. Parents are not permitted to enter the photography area or interrupt photographers. If you would like to take photos, please do this on your own time.

If you have questions or need assistance, designated staff members will assist you.

Players are to wear their assigned SILVER jersey and game pants and cheerleaders are to wear their full uniform with leotard.

Practice for each team will begin at the conclusion of the team's photo session and end for everyone at noon. Players will practice in their game uniform. Cheerleaders are asked to bring a change of clothes for practice.

Parent Service Time

As explained at our pre-season Parent Meetings and in our Parent Handbook—distributed to all parents—parents/guardians of youngsters participating in our program are required to provide two-games worth of Parent Service Time per child during our four home dates.

On each of our home dates, we have three games—freshmen, jv and varsity—so parents have 12 games to select from when signing up for Parent Service Time. Please do NOT sign up for a game in which your child is participating.

Parents may sign up for Parent Service Time at the trailer immediately before or after practice, as well as during practice, weather permitting. Parents are free to select when and at what job they will fulfill their Parent Service Time requirement through Thursday, September 1.

Parents who have not voluntarily signed up for Parent Service Time by September 1 will be assigned—as needed—by our Parent Service Time Coordinator. Failure to fulfill your Parent Service Time obligation will result in the immediate forfeiture of your \$100 deposit.

You may contact our Parent Service Time Coordinator, Dawn Werth, at dawnwerth@dearbornlions.org.

Materials Fee

During the first three weeks of practice, Team Moms will collect a \$25 Materials Fee from parents. This is a voluntary fee which, for football players, covers (1) the drink and snack that participants receive at halftime, (2) materials that go into the making of a poster for each child on Parent's Day, and (3) thank you gifts for coaches at the end-of-the-season party.

For cheerleaders, the Materials Fee helps to cover expenses incurred for the end-of-the-season Competition, such as hair bows, face tattoos, food for breakfast and lunch and the limousine.

Please make every attempt to provide this money to one of your Team Parents prior to the Labor Day Weekend.

Raffle Ticket Collection

Collection of raffle ticket stubs will begin Tuesday, September 6 at the trailer and continue through Friday, October 21.

During this interval, you may deposit your stubs in the collection bucket immediately prior to and after practice, as well as during during practice.

Winning tickets will be drawn at halftime of our varsity game against the Dearborn Tractors on October 22 at Fordson High School.

2011 Scrimmages

Tuesday, August 30 in Lincoln Park and Thursday, September 1 in Woodhaven.

The four-way scrimmage at Lincoln Park will take place on their practice field, which is located at 4050 River Drive, Lincoln Park, MI 48146. Players should arrive no later than 4:30 p.m. The scrimmage will run from 5-8 p.m. Players are to wear their white game jersey and silver practice pants.

Our scrimmage with Woodhaven will take place from 5:30-8 p.m. The football field is located in a park behind the Woodhaven Recreation Center 23101 Hall Road, Woodhaven, MI 48183 and Police Department. If you come to the softball fields, you have gone too far. Players should arrive no later than 5 p.m. wearing their white game jersey and silver practice pants.

We do not provide water or snacks at scrimmages, please make sure your player brings water.

Cheerleaders do not cheer at scrimmages. Instead they will have a regular practice at Ford Field, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Screw-In Cleats

If your son is wearing shoes with screw-in cleats, please note that if he breaks or loses a cleat during a game, he will be removed from the game and may not re-enter until the broken or misplaced cleat has been replaced. It is your responsibility to purchase extra cleats and make sure they are available should this happen. Talk to the head coach about storing them in the team equipment bag.

Medication on the Field

If your child needs to have medication on the field, please be sure to send it with him or her to all practices and games. Enclose the medication in a clear plastic bag to protect it from the weather and clearly write their name and squad on the bag.

Personalized Practice Jerseys

Order forms for personalized practice jerseys were distributed this week. These are practice jerseys which parents purchase through the Dearborn Lions and their child's last name and jersey number can be printed across the back. The sizes provided on the order form are the only sizes available. Please keep in mind when ordering, these are intended for use during practice and therefore need to fit over your child's shoulder pads. If your child would also like to have a practice jersey to wear as a regular shirt, you may wish to consider ordering a second size. We accept cash only and all orders must be pre-paid.

We will continue collecting personalized practice jersey orders—along with full payment—until the end of practice on September 6, which is our deadline to submit an order. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Window Decals

Order forms will be sent home by Thursday, September 1, 2011.

Merchandise at Practice

Lions merchandise will be available for purchase at the trailer Wednesday, August 31, both before and after practice.

T-shirts are \$5 apiece or five for \$25, and sweatshirts—both regular and hooded—are \$10 apiece or three for \$25.

Purchase your merchandise while our inventory is still large and all sizes are available.

"Meet the Team" Meeting

If you missed our "Meet the Team" gatherings last Saturday, please see one of your Team Moms to obtain a copy of the information sheet that was passed out. It contains, among other things, contact information for your child's coaching staff, as well as an explanation of the attendance policy. In short, all practices are mandatory, and if your child misses practice, you must contact the Head Coach *prior* to the beginning of practice. Otherwise, the absence will be considered unexcused and your child will be subject to discipline, which may impact his playing time on game day.

Freshman Football: Nancy Marini, Zarefa Marini and Cathy Matelic

JV Football: Katie Marano and Lori Saad

Varsity Football: Rose Camarena and Dawn Werth

Cheerleading: Tina Barron, Stephanie Heisey and Bonnie Wright

Football and Cheerleading Registration

Football registration is officially closed. We will continue to accept cheerleader registrations for the next few days, pending squad availability. If you know of any young ladies interested in joining one of our three cheerleading squads, please direct them to our Cheerleading Director, Stephanie Heisey (313-791-2490).

Parking Lot Safety

With over 150 children being dropped off and picked up at our practice site, the parking lot and the lanes leading into it can become dangerous. Please exercise extra caution and courtesy to fellow DYFA families when driving in these areas and ask any friend, relative or sibling picking up or dropping off your child to do the same. Please avoid driving near the trailer at all times, since many of our youngsters and parents are walking in this area and please slow down.

Email Distribution List

If you would like to add an email address to our email distribution list, please send an email to administrator@dyfa.org, providing your child's first and last name and squad.