



Parent Information Letter

For Fall 2024

Welcome back to another season of Royals Football! The information below is based on a typical football season. Events and expectations may be adjusted if needed.

GENERAL DATES AND INFORMATION:

- 1) Player Commitment: Playing football is a huge commitment and we rely on parents to encourage players to make every effort to attend all practices, games, and meetings. Practices are daily after school, exact time to be determined. Film and meeting are at noon hour or after school and changes from week to week. Games are weekly - generally on Thursday or Friday. All playoff games are on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. To help in your planning:
 - a. The season will likely begin **August 26th**. Once the league schedule is released, we will be able to offer more information. Our first game will likely be held the **week of September 8th**. The SHSAA requires that players have accumulated sufficient practice time before they are allowed to play in a game.
 - b. The regular season extends into late-October, and the post-season could extend as far as provincials on the November long weekend.
Players are expected to book off work!
 - c. An awards night is traditionally held in November to culminate the season. Player registration fees typically cover the cost of the player's meal and keepsakes.
- 2) Please check the Football Sask. website for important information, such as academy dates
- 3) Spring Training Camp: **June 10th – 14th**, after school. Athletes are expected to attend all days.
- 4) Baseline concussion testing:
We will be offering baseline concussion testing through Craven Sport Services (cravensportservices.ca or 306-934-2011) prior to the start of the regular season. The cost was \$145 per athlete, and the testing is optional. (If you have private health coverage, this fee is reimbursable.) Lee Stevens is our on-site physio for most games.
- 5) Clothing:
 - a. Players registration fee includes a player package of t-shirt and shorts.
 - b. Players should plan to purchase their own individual mouth guard, girdle, and cleats.
 - c. We typically organize a clothing sale for the year: T-shirts, hoodies, and hats may be available for purchase through an on-line clothing store in the spring and limited items in the fall.
 - d. Jackets: A jacket order was placed about a year ago. Players can order a letterman jacket through the Al Anderson's clothing website. The cost for a jacket is over \$300, and there is a minimum order of 12.
- 6) Photos:
Individual and team photos are taken in the fall. Purchasing these is optional. Photography during games and the production of a team yearbook has been done in a number of ways over the years: sometimes by a volunteer parent, and sometimes by students. If this is an area of interest to you, please let Teresa Koop-Hunter know.

FUNDRAISERS AND PARENT EXPECTATIONS

Depending on our expenditures and the size of our roster, player registration fees can cover around half of overall costs. Our budget goes towards things such as officials, team travel, some/all team meals, player clothing packages, physio fees, equipment replacements costs, field costs, year-end awards, etc. We conduct two major fundraisers to help keep player registration fees as low as possible.

- 7) Bottle Drive: tentative date – **Tuesday, September 3rd**
- Every family must send 2 members (player and parent) to participate in the bottle drive. Otherwise the 100.00 deposit cheque will be cashed.
 - Parents that are signed up to drive will meet at the school at 5 pm; all other parents will meet at Crystal Car Wash at 6 pm.
 - For the September bottle drive, players will have a BBQ supper following practice and then will participate in the bottle drive.
 - Each player should bring at least two cardboard boxes for glass.
 - Royals Football has a drop and go account set up at Sarcan so families may drop off bottles at any time before or after the bottle drive. Our code phrase for the machine is “**go royals**”.
 - We will also need **2-3 lockable trailers** at Crystal Car Wash. These need to be taken to SarCan on the day following the bottle drive.
- 8) Discount Book Sales: Early fall
 These are one of our major fundraisers. Each player will be required to sell a minimum of 10 cards at \$25 per card; players will be arranged in sales groups.
- 9) Home Game Duties:
- All parents are required to work a minimum of one home game shift during the regular season. Tasks include: concession, barbecuing, painting lines on the field, working the flags, score-keeping, selling 50/50s, etc. A ‘no-show’ for a shift will result in the \$100 deposit cheque being cashed.
 - If we host a play-off games which means working an additional shift. The advantage is that we don’t incur extra travel expenses, and it makes it easier for parents to attend!

COMMUNICATION:

- 10) We are a growing school-based team and are also welcoming players from other communities.
- We have 3 methods for communicating with parents:
 - a dedicated tab for “MHS Royals Football” on our school website where we can post general information: <https://blogs.spiritsd.ca/martensvillehighschool/mhs-royals-football/>
 - a TeamLinkt account which is used for organizing volunteer shifts, providing updated information about games and practices, etc. (Parents, please ensure that we your current e-mail address on the registration form and that you accept the invite when it arrives.)
 - a facebook page (“Martensville Royals Football Club”) where we post upcoming games, etc.
- If you obtain information through one of these formats, it is being shared on behalf of the team and will be accurate to the best of our knowledge. If you hear information elsewhere or have questions, please contact Teresa Koop-Hunter (teresa.koop-hunter@spiritsd.ca) if it is regarding registration, fees, game-day support, or administrative questions or Tyler Munday (tyler.munday@spiritsd.ca) if it is regarding equipment, players, or coaches. *We want our coaches to concentrate on coaching and minimize any miscommunications.* We encourage the developing maturity of our players by having them handle their own communication whenever possible.

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE:

The football parent executive and the coaching staff are very excited to get things rolling this year for the Fall Season. Your committee this year is:
 Teresa Koop-Hunter (parent-staff liaison)
 Rita Harrison, Erin Gordon, Michelle Zinterer, Amanda Dumont
 Grade 10 parent: _____

We are trying to keep the number of fundraisers to a minimum and make football affordable for everyone. If you have a business or know of one that would like to sponsor some money or product for the concession, please contact Teresa Koop-Hunter at the school. We acknowledge all sponsors, and tax receipts may be issued upon request.
Thank-you for all your support!