



Ryan Miller at 630-690-4880 or rmiller@wheatonparks.org.

Are you ready for some FOOTBALL?

The season is almost upon us! Evaluation week begins Monday, August 3rd. Evals for players in the 70, 80 and 90 pound weight classes will be held at Hubble Middle School. 100, 115, 130 and Varsity will be at Atten Park.

Evaluations begin promptly at 6:00 pm. Players are advised to be at the appropriate field no later than 5:45 to ensure they are fully dressed and ready to go when things get underway at 6:00.

Players are required to have all of their protective equipment in order to fully participate. This includes helmet, colored mouth guard attached to helmet (clear mouth guards are not allowed), shoulder pads, rib guard, knee, thigh, hip and tailbone pads, as well as protective cup. It is strongly suggested that players wear football cleats as well. It is a good idea to have these broken in a bit in order to avoid blisters.

For any player who still does not have equipment, the equipment room at the Community Center will be open following evaluations from 8:30 PM until 9:30 PM, Monday – Wednesday. The equipment room will NOT be open during draft nights, Wednesday and Thursday.

All players, including Head and Assistant Coaches' sons, must be present for evaluations. If a conflict arises, please contact

So what happens at Evals?

All players are different in terms of skill, experience and physical development. That's why it is important at the youth football level to build teams with players of similar abilities. During Evaluation Week each player will be tested and evaluated on speed, strength, agility and aggressiveness, as well as football skills. Each day, the coaches will begin by running the players through some warm up exercises. Then players will be divided up and coaches will observe them as they perform various football drills. Contact will begin on the second night of evaluations and will be a controlled, gradual process. Care will be taken to match players of like size and ability during contact drills.

Remember to bring plenty of water to Evals. Coaches will ensure that the appropriate number of water breaks are taken.

The Draft Process

Once the coaches have had a chance to see all of the players in action, it's time to select teams. This begins after Wednesday's evaluations when the Gold Coaches will conduct their draft. Players not selected in the Gold draft will continue the evaluation process on Thursday. At the conclusion of Thursday's evaluations, the Silver Coaches will begin their draft process. All players will be selected to a team and will be contacted no later than Saturday by their drafting team. **Draft results are final.** There will be no movement of players from Gold to Silver or from team to team once the draft process is completed. Exceptions for weight transfers will be made as necessary to ensure players are participating in the proper weight class.

Once the draft is completed, each team will begin its regular practice schedule at the discretion of the coach.

Message to Rams Families:

As the 2009 Wheaton Rams football season approaches, we want to inform you about game scheduling for Gold and Silver teams. As was the case last season, the growth in the number of teams in the Bill George Youth Football League (BGYFL), of which the Rams is a member, at each weight level and the availability of referees and fields for games necessitates that both Gold and Silver teams will have to play on Saturdays and Sundays. Please understand that this is a league-wide necessity, not a Wheaton Rams or Wheaton Park District decision. All scheduling is handled at the BGYFL level. If you anticipate any conflict with your player's ability to participate, please notify the Coaches Committee member as listed below for your player's weight class by 07/27/09. This information will be shared with all head coaches during evaluation week, prior to the draft. We also ask that if your player will be unable to attend any part of evaluation week – and we stress that attending evaluation week is very important -- you notify the Committee member for your player's weight class so we can make certain they are considered by all coaches in the draft. If you have any other questions or concerns leading up to evaluation week and the draft, please feel free to contact your corresponding Committee member.

Thank you,

2009 Wheaton Rams Coaches Committee

70lbs – John Herrera – jherrera@visionps.com
80lbs –Chris Calloway - ccallowa@sbcglobal.net
90lbs –Brian Moberg -
brian.moberg@sbcglobal.net
100lbs –Troy Westerman -
troy.e.westerman@exxonmobil.com
115lbs - Jeremy Taylor -
jeremymtaylor@comcast.net
130lbs –John Herrera – jherrera@visionps.com
Varsity –Dan Robbins -
coachrob92@hotmail.com

Still looking for email addresses

We are still collecting email addresses to allow electronic distribution of this newsletter. Thanks to all of you who have already provided yours! Please help us in our efforts to *save* some green (and some trees) by *going* green. Simply send an email, containing your name and email address to ramsnews@yahoo.com. All contact information gathered here will be used solely for the dissemination of the newsletter. Sign up today!

Important Dates

Please mark your calendar for these events...

8/3 – 8/7	Evaluation Week
8/22 - 8/23	Wheaton Kickoff Classic
8/24 – 8/27	Football/Cheer Pictures

Got pics?

We are looking for electronic versions of action photos from years past for a special project. If you would like to share some of your Rams pics, please email them to ramsnews@yahoo.com.