



Registration is in Full Swing!

Sure it's baseball season but preparations for the upcoming football season are already well under way and we want to make sure that all interested kids have a chance to play. If you haven't already done so, please register your child today! Visit www.wheatonparkdistrict.com to register online. Also, a hard copy form can be downloaded from the site or found in the Winter 2010 Wheaton Park District Program Guide. Simply fill it out and submit it via mail or in person to:

**Wheaton Park District
Community Center**
1777 S. Blanchard Road
Wheaton, IL. 60187

It's Time to Weigh-in

Please mark your calendars for the annual preseason weigh-in on Thursday, April 22nd from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Community Center gym. For those of you new to the Rams Program, the preseason weigh-in allows us to record weights on each player, verify birth dates and other important registration information and answer any questions you may have. With over 600 players in the Rams program, it is essential we get an early jump on insuring all players are registered in the correct age/weight class. This also helps determine the number of teams we will field in each division as well as the number of coaches needed. And, as if this isn't challenging enough, with the implementation of

a number of changes to league rule this year, it is even more important that every parent and player understands the age/weight requirements and is registered correctly.

We strongly encourage every player to attend even if you are far away from the weight limit for your age group. The process is fairly simple, quick and painless. Please make it a point stop by and hit the scale! See you on April 22nd!



New League Rules for 2010

The Bill George Youth Football League has adopted some rule changes for the upcoming season. These changes are an attempt to help players of all ages and weights play with their classmates. Here is a brief synopsis of the two most significant changes for 2010. Full details on all rule changes can be found on the league website (www.bgyfl.org).

A Younger/Heavier rule has been added to allow a younger, heavier player to play closer to his own age group. This means a player that is younger than the level at which he is attempting to play can drop down a weight class and play as a Stripper as long as he weighs no more than 10 lbs. over that level's Stripper weight.

Example: At the 103lb weight class, a player may not be 12 years old before September 1st and must weigh no more than 103.5 lbs. on Opening Day (114 lbs. if he is a Stripper). However, under the Heavier/Younger rule, a player who is not yet 11 before September 1st and weighs up to 124 lbs. on Opening Day may also play at this level as a Stripper. Prior to this rule change, this player would have had to play up at the 118lb weight class.

An Older/Lighter rule has been added to allow older, lighter players to drop down one level. So a player at the correct level for his age who weighs 20 lbs. less than the level below him can move down one weight level.

Example: At the 118lb weight class a player may not be 13 before September 1st but if he weighs less than 83.5 lbs. he can choose to move down and play at the 103lb level. Prior to this rule change, he would have had to play with teammates and opponents who weighed up to 56.5 lbs. more than he does.

Confused? Then please make sure you attend the preseason weigh-in on April 22nd to have all of your questions answered.

Have you seen the new website?

We've revamped our website! It's still a work in progress but we've updated the look and feel to make it more useful to members of the Rams Family. There are a ton of new features including a calendar showing all key Rams events and a photo gallery showing pictures of players past and present. Log on to www.wheatonrams.com and check it out!

Speaking of pictures...

Have any photos of your Rams player that you would like to share? Send them to us at ramsnews@yahoo.com and we'll be happy to post them in the new Gallery section of our website.

Mark Your Calendars

Weigh-ins and equipment fitting/pick-up for tackle players will be held at the Community Center on **June 25th** at 6:00 pm, **June 26th** at 9:00 am and **July 17th** at 9:00 am. All tackle players and a parent or guardian must attend one of these sessions.

Evaluations for tackle players will begin on **August 2nd**. All players must be present for evaluations.

The 2010 season starts with the Annual Wheaton Bowl. This year's Kick-Off Classic will be held on **August 21st** and **22nd** at Graf Park. More details will be provided as we get closer to the event.

Bill George Youth Football League play officially begins the weekend of September 4th and 5th. The full schedule will be posted on the league website (www.bgyfl.org) in late August.

Super Bowl weekend is scheduled for November 12th - 14th. Games will once again be held at Benedictine University in Lisle.

Board Meetings

Board meetings are held on the second Monday of every month and are open to the public. The time and location of each month's meeting may vary so please check the Calendar section of our website or call 630-690-4880 for details on any meeting you wish to attend.

