

# Dearborn Lions Email Newsletter for July 23, 2010

## Completion of the Registration Process

Since you are receiving this email newsletter, you have taken at least the initial steps to register your child for the 2010 season by (1) completing a Dearborn Youth Football Association (DYFA) registration form, (2) paying the registration fee, and (3) posting or rolling over a security deposit.

To complete the process, you must (4) complete a Downriver Junior Football League (DJFL) registration form, which includes verification of a physical examination, and have it notarized and (5) complete a DJFL Medical History and Information form. Both forms are available for download at our website ([www.dearbornlions.org](http://www.dearbornlions.org)).

You must also provide (6) proof of Dearborn residency (a copy of your drivers license, gas or electric bill showing current address) and (7) a copy of your child's birth certificate. If your child is a returning player, you should have already submitted proof of residency and a copy of your child's birth certificate.

These previous four requirements should be submitted by mail to the DYFA at PO Box 1995, Dearborn, MI, 48121-1995 no later than July 31. **For your convenience, you may also submit these registration materials in person at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center on Thursday, July 29, from 6-8 p.m. at our table in the lobby.**

Dr. Abdullah, former DYFA President, will conduct sports physicals on equipment hand-out day (August 15) at a cost of \$15. If you plan to have Dr. Abdallah perform your child's physical on August 15, you may submit that form at equipment hand-out. All other forms should be submitted by the July 31 deadline.

Finally, you must (8) read and sign the Parent Contract, which will only be available at the Mandatory Parent Meeting (see below); and (9) purchase, at a cost of \$100 per child, your raffle tickets, which will also only be available at the Mandatory Parent Meeting.

**Only children who have completed all nine registration requirements will be issued equipment on August 15.**

## Parent Service Time

Since we, as parents, expect our children to dedicate their time and effort to the program, it's only fair that we, as parents, make a similar commitment. Consequently, parents are required to provide two-games worth of Parent Service Time (PST) for each child they have in the program.

Parent Service Time will be performed at our home games. Blue plays home games on September 11 and 25 and October 9 and 23. Silver plays home games on September 11 and October 2, 16 and 23.

The first opportunity to sign up for Parent Service Time will be at the Mandatory Parents' Meetings and we encourage you to do so. Sign up opportunities will also be available during the pre-season at the team trailers at both Hemlock and Ford Field. If you have not signed up for your Parent Service Time by Thursday, September 2, our Volunteer Coordinator will assign you

Parent Service Time at two games. **Failure to fulfill your Parent Service Time obligation will result in the immediate forfeiture of your \$100 deposit, and you will be required to post a second \$100 deposit prior to the next practice session.**

### **Mandatory Parent Meetings (Adults Only, Please)**

Each child in our program is required to be represented by a parent/guardian at one of our Mandatory Parent Meetings, which will be held at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center.

This year, our Mandatory Parent Meetings for parents/guardians of football players will be conducted Monday, August 9. Parents of returning players will meet briefly at 7 p.m., while parents of new football players will convene at 7:15 p.m. Parents of cheerleaders, both new and returning, will meet Tuesday, August 10, at 7 p.m.

One of the purposes of the Mandatory Parent Meetings is to discuss the Parent Contract, which all parents are required to sign and submit as part of the registration process. The Parent Contract will only be available at these Mandatory Parent Meetings.

Following each meeting, parents will be required to purchase their Roaring Raffle tickets at a cost of \$100 for each child in the DYFA program. Payment must be by check or money order, payable to the DYFA, or by cash. The purchase of raffle tickets is a registration requirement, and the tickets will only be available at the Mandatory Parent Meetings.

### **Equipment Hand-out**

Equipment hand-out will take place Sunday, August 15, at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, according to the following schedule: Freshmen, 2-2:45 p.m.; Junior Varsity, 2:45-3:30 p.m.; Varsity, 3:30-4 p.m.

Only children who have completed the entire nine-step registration process and were represented by a parent/guardian at the Mandatory Parent Meeting, will be eligible to receive equipment. If you intend to have Dr. Abdallah perform your child's sports physical on August 15, please plan to arrive no later than the beginning of the time interval designated above. Sports physicals will only be provided to registered DYFA participants.

### **Practice Schedule**

Practice begins Monday, August 16, at 5:30 pm. Only children who have completed the entire nine-step registration process and were represented at the Mandatory Parent Meeting will be allowed to participate.

Our tentative practice schedule for the first two weeks is August 16-20, 5:30-8 p.m.; August 21, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; August 23-27, 5:30-8 p.m.; August 28, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

For the first four days of practice, football players will wear shorts, athletic cup, t-shirt and football helmet, unless instructed otherwise by the head coach.

On Friday, August 20, football players will begin practicing in full gear— pants, shoulder pads, etc.

Please make certain that your football player or cheerleader brings water or a sports drink to practice every day. The DYFA does not provide water at practices.

Also, please bear in mind that parents/guardians are not allowed on the practice field, per DJFL rules.

### **Materials Fee**

On Saturday, August 21, Team Moms will begin collecting the Materials Fee, which is \$25 per registrated child. The fee helps cover the costs of halftime snacks and drinks, materials for the Parent Day posters, post-season gifts for coaches and other miscellaneous expenses incurred during the season. Although this is a voluntary contribution, please consider making this donation, since it directly benefits your child. Team Moms will collect this donation through September 2.

### **Picture Day**

Picture Day will be Saturday, August 28. Photographs will be taken at both Hemlock and Ford Field, beginning at 10 a.m. All children are expected to be photographed, however, parents are under no obligation to purchase any photos.

### **E-Mail Newsletters**

Once practice begins, e-mail newsletters will be sent out on either Thursday or Friday each week. This process will continue throughout the season.

### **Communicating with DYFA Administrators**

If you have a question or concern, please contact us through the DYFA website at [www.dearbornlions.org](http://www.dearbornlions.org). This site allows you to send an e-mail to anyone on the DYFA Board of Directors. You may also call our President, Hussein Berry, at 313-580-8007.