

White Bear Youth Football



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ Sheet)

Whether you and your child are brand new participants to White Bear Youth Tackle Football, or you've engaged in multiple seasons with us, the following information should help prepare and support both you and your child for the season ahead.

- **What type of EQUIPMENT do I need to provide/purchase for my athlete?**
 - Mouth Guard, White Football Helmet, Shoulder Pads, Black Football Pants, Padded Football Girdle, and Football Cleats. **Optional Items - Football Gloves, Protective Girdle and Cup*
- **What type of equipment does the White Bear Youth Football Association provide?**
 - Orange Football Jersey - Last Name Printed on Back
- **Why doesn't the association provide helmets and shoulder pads for athletes?**
 - Though we would love to provide all equipment for all of our athletes, we do not have the storage space and person-power to properly maintain the durability, safety and effectiveness of this equipment. As an association, we keep our registration fees for families extremely low compared to other associations who house and provide all equipment. Our partnership with Schutt and belief that a lot of equipment being purchased for multi-year usage for our athletes, ultimately makes playing tackle football much more affordable..
- **How are 4th and 5th grade teams created?**
 - Once all geographical location data is gathered when registration closes, our board of directors organizes this data and tries to keep as many registered athletes as possible connected to neighborhoods/schools they are associated with. Keep in mind, however, that this may need to be manipulated depending on how many total registered athletes we have per school neighborhood. If numbers are low in one school neighborhood, for example, registered athletes from this area may be asked to join a team with more athletes they do not attend school with.
**Friend requests will not be accepted for any teams.*
- **How are 6th, 7th and 8th grade teams created?**
 - WBYP 6th, 7th and 8th grade teams are created through an evaluation process. Board members, designated 6th/7th/8th grade head coaches, and H.S. varsity football players and staff assist in putting on a 2-night practice format where each athlete is evaluated on their size, speed, agility, and overall football skill and knowledge. After two nights of evaluation, head coaches and board members evaluate the data collected and utilize it to have a player draft. We also put forth a detailed interview process to select coaches we feel will provide a positive experience for all athletes regardless of which team they are on. Teams will be evenly selected based on player skill and experience. **Friend requests will not be accepted for any teams.*
- **When does the season officially BEGIN?**
 - We kickoff all 4th-8th grade team practices the final week in July. All athletes are asked to be at our Season Kickoff Bear Booster Camp 630pm-800pm at Podvin Park Monday-Thursday of this week. Organized practices, skill drills, and playful games will take place during this week to get coaches, players and families prepared and excited for the start of the season.

- **When does the season END?**
 - Unless multiple games are needing to be rescheduled due to weather, all 4th-5th WBYF teams' seasons will be completed before the start of MEA weekend which begins October 17, 2024. If your child is in 6th/7th/8th grade, they may participate in one bonus game taking place after MEA before the end of the month of October.
- **Is there a post-season/playoffs?**
 - No. The MetroEast Youth Football league, which White Bear Youth Football participates in, does not conduct playoff football.
- **How often, when, and what time of night can I expect my child to have PRACTICE during the season?**
 - According to the Metro East Youth Football League the White Bear Youth Football Association is affiliated with, all 4th-8th grade teams should participate in organized football activities no more than 5 days/nights a week. Multiple variabilities will play a role in how often and when each team will practice each week. Depending on each White Bear Youth Football coach, their work/personal schedule, field availability, weather conditions, etc., all team practices could take place anywhere from 430pm-8pm throughout the season. **If coaches/teams have a desire to have a practice on a varsity football game night, we highly encourage them to do this immediately after school to allow all athletes and families the opportunity to attend those games to support the H.S. program.*
- **How often, when, and what time of night can I expect my child to have GAMES during the season?**
 - Because we work in conjunction with the Metro East Youth Football League, and they have ***LOT*** of details to factor in when making 4th-8th grade league schedules, there is a lack of consistency when scheduling games. Depending on each team and grade level, your child could play any weeknight Monday-Thursday, and/or any time day or night on Saturdays. The MEYFL does their best to create a solid schedule to be sent out to all associations by the first week in August, however, these games are subject to change week to week depending on games being switched due to weather, and unexpected city and school scheduling conflicts. **Please reference the Metro East Youth Football League website throughout the year to keep up to date with all 4th-8th grade youth football schedules.*
 - <https://www.meyfl.org/>

If you have any questions regarding any of the information provided above, please contact the White Bear Youth Football Association at - info@wbyouthfootball.org. Thank you!

Go Bears!