



Parent Information Session: 2024 Season

Agenda

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- Welcome
- The Club
- Football
- Cheer
- Questions

The Club

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LTF Mission Statement

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Mission Statement:

To provide a positive and supportive environment for youth to develop skills and winning attitudes, improve character and sportsmanship, while competing in a fun and challenging atmosphere.

Philosophy:

By explaining, demonstrating, and using repetitive drills, our coaches will focus on proper body positions and proper fundamentals of each skill, and will encourage our players to repeat these fundamentals. Our coaches will focus on developing self-esteem and confidence by believing in our players and giving them positive reinforcement.

Purpose:

By becoming a part of Edwardsville Little Tigers Football, youth will experience:

- An improvement of self-esteem and self discipline
- A renewed respect for authority
- A respect and concern for others through sportsmanship
- An inclination to give 100% effort to all they endeavor

Organization

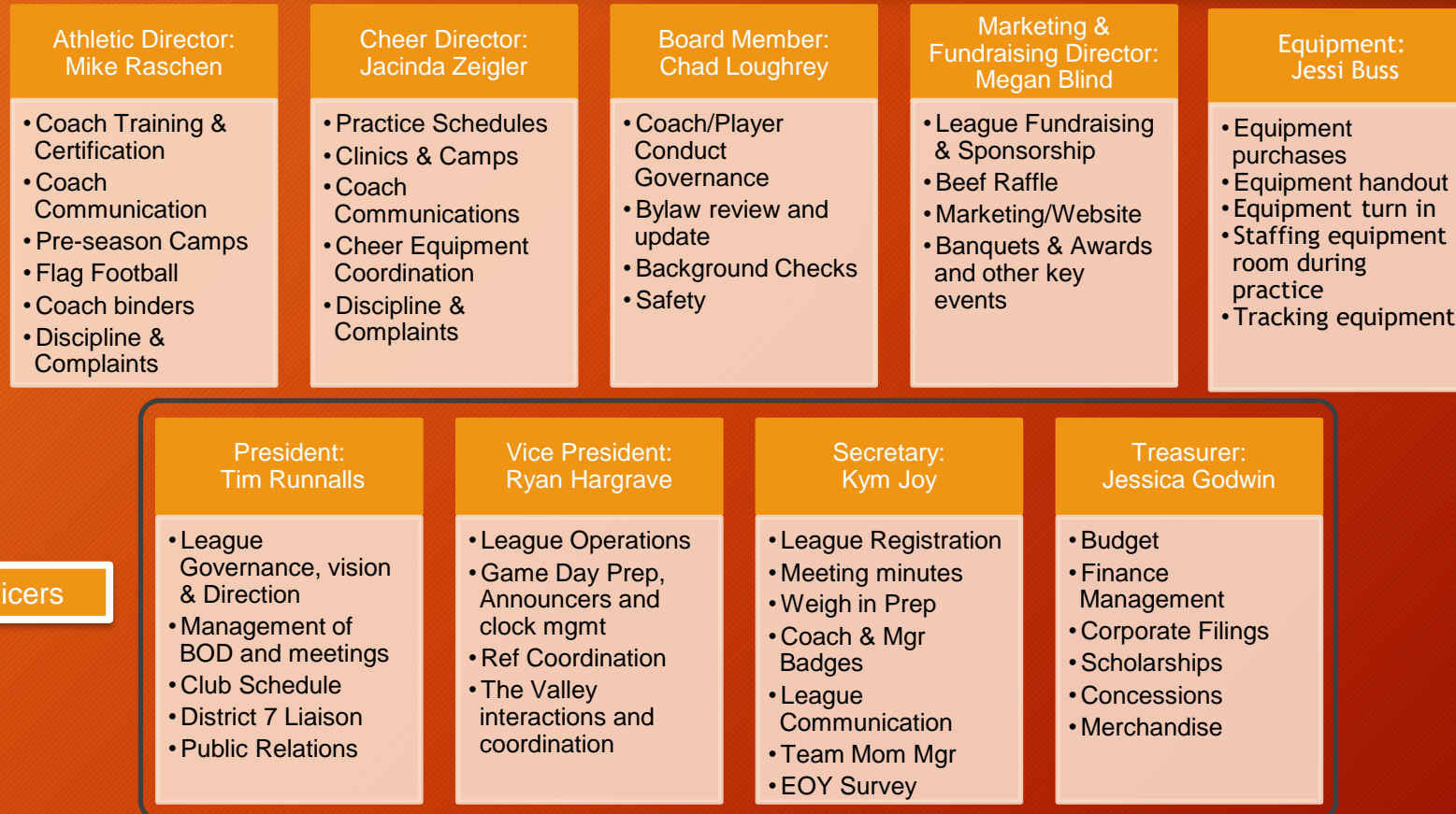
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- Founded in 2006
- 100% volunteer organization
- LTF is a not-for-profit 501c 3 private company (not a school, not a government entity)
 - Proud supporter of EHS, Lincoln and Liberty Football



2024 LTF Board of Directors

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Officers

All above responsibilities may have a need to resource a committee to support execution of various tasks. That committee and its members will be sourced, guided, and governed by the Director who is accountable for the given responsibility.

Stakeholder Priority Pyramid

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Players
and Teams

Coaches

Parents

Sponsors

Board

- Goal for the Board is to make decisions that will maximize the experience for Stakeholders: Players and Teams, Coaches, Parents, Sponsors and the Board.
- Players and Teams come first
- If successful we will create a Club that is sustainable and growing

Recent Investments in the Club

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Safety

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- Make sure players have access to modern and quality equipment.
- Require football coaches to become USA Football certified
- Require all coaches to participate in CDC concussion training
- Athletic Director and Cheer Director oversight of coaches
- Two “First Responders” leading LTF Safety Committee
 - Heat Policy
 - Lightening Policy
 - Safety Representatives at LTF events



What to Expect

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- Season runs July until late-October (Nov for play-offs)
- Practice 3-4x a week is intensive to ensure players and cheer are ready for games.
 - Coaches focus on physical readiness, acumen, and teamwork
- It's not just about the games...it is an experience
 - Friday Night Lights
 - Parades
 - Cheerfest
 - Annual Fundraiser
 - Banquet



Expectations of Parents and Players

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- Players:
 - Attend practice and games and give it your all
 - Be a good teammate
 - Balance responsibilities with school and sports
 - Represent LTF on and off the field
 - Maintain issued equipment
- Parents:
 - Communication via TeamSnap and Team Managers
 - Support your player and their responsibilities
 - Engage and talk with the coaches when you have questions or concerns
 - Follow all LTF and District Rules while on-site and adhere to away game location rules
 - Registration Fees: \$180 + \$50 Family Fee (sibling discounts)
 - Equipment Deposit: \$300 (check)
 - Support the Club through volunteering or participating in season activities
- New LTF Rules and Regulation document is a work in progress



<https://theoleprintshop.tuosystems.com/stores/little-tigers>



Volunteer Opportunities

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Volunteer Requirements

As part of the team approach, each LTF Family is required to complete the following:

- Minimum of 6 hours of volunteer work for LTF

LTF is Recruiting!

- Games Day Operations: Safety Rep, Field Set-Up/Close Down/Concessions/Press Box
- Team Managers
- Event Support
- Keep an eye out for emails and TeamSnap notices

Events, Fundraising and Sponsorship

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SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Different levels available
- Recognition at LTF games, banners

FUNDRAISING

- LTF merchandise store
- Meat Raffle
- Annual Fundraiser
- Russ Eidson Moose Lodge Memorial Golf Tournament



Key Program Dates: Subject to Change

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- July 2nd: 1st Practice (Team Dependent)
- July 13th and July 14th: Equipment Handout
- August 23rd: Friday Night Lights Pep Rally (6pm - 8pm)
- August 24th/25th: First game of season
- October 9th: Edwardsville Homecoming parade (we walk)
- October 31st: Edwardsville Halloween parade (trailers are typically coordinated)
- November: Play-offs for eligible teams



Football

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Football Overview - What is Needed?

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- What do parents need to provide?
 - Molded Cleats
 - Integrated pants
 - Shirt to be worn under shoulder pads. Having a dri-fit shirt will help to wick away the moisture
 - Protective cup and athletic supporter or compression shorts
 - Water bottle with your player's name on it. Water hoses will not be utilized
- What does the Club provide?
 - Helmet/shoulder pads (to be returned)
 - Game and Practice Jersey (to be returned)
 - Mouthguard/practice shirt/2 pair of socks (player to keep)



Football Overview

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- Practices:
 - Before 1st game
 - Tues, Wed, Thurs 6 - 8:00PM
 - Sat: 8 - 9:30AM
 - After 1st game
 - Tues, Wed, Thurs 6 - 7:30PM
 - Coaches can adjust the practice schedule
- Games:
 - Each team has 1 game per weekend, unless designated a “bye” week.
 - Games can be either Saturday or Sunday
 - First game: August 24th or 25th
 - Last game: End of October
 - Playoffs can go into early November
 - Show up at least an hour early before games
- Practices (Tykes):
 - Before 1st game
 - Tues, Wed, Thurs 6 - 7:30PM
 - Sat: 8 - 9:30AM
 - After 1st game
 - Tues, Thurs 6 - 7:30PM
 - Coaches can adjust the practice schedule

Teams

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- 6 Age Groupings: Tykes (5 & 6U), 7U, 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U
 - Age on 7.1.24 (How old are you on 7.1.24?)
 - Possible flexibility for July and August birthdays.
- Most teams will have between 14 - 30 players
- Splitting teams: Consider with ~+30 players
 - Available coaches
 - Key position players - Center, QB etc.
 - New vs veteran players
 - Decision rests with the Board on splitting and how players are assigned to teams



Play Time

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- LTF strives to balance player development and competition.
- Commitment to player development
 - Every player will be fully engaged in practice and drills - exception for discipline issues
 - Minimum 8 plays every game offense or defense (includes special teams in playoffs)
 - Greatest emphasis at the younger ages (Tykes)
 - When winning by more than three touchdowns player development is emphasized
- Commitment to competition
 - Not equal play = reward ability, hard work, attendance and attitude
 - Not rotating positions = football is super specialized (Not every player plays quarterback. Stripers have limited play.)
 - Winning is fun
 - Greatest emphasis at the older ages (11U)
 - In playoff games competition is emphasized
 - Football is a team sport: team > me
- This balance is an art and not a science. Every team, every player and every situation is unique. The Athletic Director supported by President and Vice President will work with coaches to exercise this balance.

The Conference

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- Member of the Mississippi Valley Youth Football Conference
 - Alton, Bellville (Devils), Collinsville, Granite City, Highland, Jerseyville, Mascoutah, O'Fallon, Troy
- Growing Conference: Waterloo - 12U and 14U only
- <https://leagues.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1558216>
 - Fields
 - Schedules / Standings
 - Bylaws / Rules & Regulations
- Show respect to referees, opposing team and parents on and off the field (social media). You represent the Club.



Cheer

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Cheerleading Overview

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- Our cheerleading squad is a development program to give exposure and live-game cheer experience.
 - The program does not offer tumbling training, complex stunts, or competitive-level squad routines (outside of Cheerfest).
 - The program does develop and train on several cheers, basic stunts/jumps, half-time cheer/routine for game day.
- Cheerleaders are often aligned with football player siblings or age.
- Practice at home is essential!
- Gameday attitude is key - Be ready to cheer on the team!
- Practice is physically demanding. Come hydrated, rested, and prepared for the weather



Cheer Overview - Time Commitment

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- Practices:
 - Everyone: Tues, Thurs, and Sat (Sat until games start)
 - Weekday Practices: 6 - 7:30PM
 - Saturday Practice: 8 - 9:30AM
 - Regular practices start Tuesday July 2nd
 - At home practice week of July 14th
 - Equipment will be handed out July 9th and 11th before practice
- Games:
 - Each team has 1 game per weekend, unless designated a “bye” week.
 - First game: August 24th or 25th
 - Last game: End of October
 - Playoffs can go into early November



Cheerleading Overview - Survival Guide

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- What do parents need to provide?
 - Shoes (mostly white, but we're not particular about that!)
 - Hair up in ponytail/out of face
 - Water bottle with your cheerleader's name on it
 - Black leggings, sweater, gloves, hat to wear when weather becomes colder
- What does the club provide?
 - Uniform top/skirt (to be returned)
 - Practice shirt/hair bow (cheerleader to keep)

Questions?

Thank you!

www.littletigersfootball.com
littletigersfootball@gmail.com