

South Hadley Youth Football Parents Handout 2009

Welcome to the 2009 season of South Hadley Youth Football! The teams play games against other teams in the Suburban Amateur Football League throughout Western Mass. The practices begin in early August with the games in September and October.

SHYFA

SHYFA is the football programs parent's booster group. This group's main function is to fundraise additional money which provides for uniforms, banquet, practice equipment and buses. The board needs help so please sign up today. Visit SHYFA's website at www.shyfa.com or contact Kerry-Ann Quinn at shyfa00@gmail.com.

Coaches

Coaches are always needed! If you are interested in coaching for the 2009 season, please inform the Recreation Department prior to the season. Coaches need to complete the NYSCA certification course, CORI check and other related paperwork.

Practices

Practices will begin Monday, August 3th at the Beachgrounds. The practice times will be as follows:

- **Bengals (3/4th Grade) will practice from 6-7:30pm**
- **Panthers (5/6th Grade) will practice from 6-8pm**
- **Cats (7/8th Grade) will practice from 6-8pm**

Pre-season practices will be held Monday-Thursday evenings until school begins in the fall. Once school begins, practices will be Tuesday-Thursday evenings. Practice schedules are always subject to change. All updates will be posted on the SHYFA website at www.SHYFA.com.

For the first week of the season, players are only required to wear their shoulder pads, helmet, cleats and mouth guard. Leg pads are not required. Practice will be held on the side closest to the apartment building for the first few weeks.

Equipment Handouts

Equipment handouts will be held before the season begins. If a player does not make their designated time, they will get their equipment once practice begins. It is important that each player attends their scheduled time so the coach can fit them with equipment that fits properly. Players that cannot pickup their equipment on the dates listed below can get their equipment once the season begins. The dates are as follows:

- **Cats (7/8th):** **Tuesday, July 28th: 6-7:30pm @ Town Hall**
- **Panthers (5/6th):** **Wednesday, July 29th: 6-7:30pm @ Town Hall**
- **Bengals (3/4th):** **Thursday, July 30th: 6-7:30pm @ Town Hall**

The individual player is responsible for their own cleats, under-garments and a cup. Players with braces should get a mouth guard that is fitted to protect them. All other equipment will be supplied through your user fee.

Game Schedules

Each team will be separated into a varsity and JV team. The purpose of the JV program is to get every player more playing time. All players will be invited to attend the varsity games; however playing time may be limited for some.

Varsity games will be held on Saturday evenings or Sunday afternoons. The JV games will be played on Saturday mornings. Each team should get four home games and four away games. The teams travel throughout various towns in Western Mass.

User Fee

The user fee is \$90 for all divisions. Financial aid is available to anybody that needs it and meets the Recreation Department's requirements. Included in the user fee is the following:

- Helmet, shoulder pads, leg pads, practice uniform, game uniform (which are all returned following the season)
- League dues, referee fees, etc...
- Lighting of the practice field
- Field lining and maintenance
- Two mouth guards

Parents may be responsible for other purchases such as banquet tickets, jackets, buses and other fundraising events. Football is a very expensive sport and SHYFA does a wonderful job subsidizing it.

Birth Certificate

Any player that didn't play during the previous season must turn in a copy of their birth certificate with their registration form. Players will not be eligible to practice nor will they receive their equipment without this form.

Questions:

Questions can be forwarded to recreation@southhadley.org or the Recreation Department office at 538-5039.