



2021 KNIGHTS FOOTBALL INFORMATIONAL SHEET

Background:

The Knights program was founded in 1999 to provide youth football players in the Fishers – HSE program an opportunity to compete in the Indiana Elementary Football Association (IEFA), which is considered the highest level of youth football for this age group. The program was founded on a high standard of work ethic and performance. Over the last 19 years, the Knights program has been considered as the gold standard in the IEFA with teams playing in multiple state title games and capturing 5 State Championships. A significant element of the Knight's tradition over the years is that the boys are strongly encouraged to carry the same work ethic and performance into their classrooms and to exhibit leadership in their everyday lives. Being selected to the Knights is a special honor and responsibility.

League:

The Knights compete in the Indiana Elementary Football Association (IEFA). The IEFA is considered a statewide league and is comprised of teams such as: Avon, Ben Davis, Brownsburg, Carmel, Center Grove, Decatur, Fishers-HSE, Franklin Central, Lawrence Central, Lawrence North, Noblesville, North Central, Northwest, Pike, Perry, Terre Haute, Warren Central, Westfield and Zionsville. Any player in the 4th, 5th, or 6th grade that will not reach his 13th birthday prior to June 1 is eligible.

Competition:

The IEFA demands a high-level of youth football competition. The players will be expected to put forth maximum effort at all practices and games. This level of competition allows for an accelerated development of the players' knowledge of the game on both sides of the ball. As coaches, we will remain committed to emphasize strong fundamentals in all aspects of the game. Knights players will be expected to comprehend sophisticated techniques and duties in all phases of the game. There is not a better way to prepare for junior high and high school football.

Coaching Staff:

The Knights coaching staff is to be the most dedicated, organized, prepared and motivational coaching staff in the IEFA.

Team Selection:

The Knights program is competitive by design. The goal is to assemble the best possible combination of players that will provide the overall program the opportunity to compete for league championships. The IEFA limits rosters to no more than 40 players. Final roster cuts will take place following the last tryout. The Final Roster will be determined by the coaching staff. Selection criteria will include both tangible and intangible considerations such as size, speed, athletic ability, toughness, leadership, awareness, attitude, and effort. Playing time is not guaranteed.

Time Commitment:

The Knights will practice 2-3 nights a week with games on Saturday afternoons. During the preseason (first two weeks), the Knights will practice 4 nights. While the Knights is considered one team, there will be an "A Team Game" on Saturdays and a "B Team Game" following the A game or as scheduled. The goal of the "B Team Games" is to assure all players get the opportunity to gain playing experience. The Knights schedule does not contemplate Fall Break and all players are expected to remain in attendance for practice and games. Perfect attendance should be everyone's expectation.

Costs:

In addition to the fees associated with participating in the Mudsock Youth Football Program, there is an additional charge of \$350 to participate in the Knights Program. This additional fee covers various items, including team events, uniforms, equipment, league fees, practice jerseys, awards, etc. Spirit wear will be made available for purchase to parents as well.

Key Dates:

- Knights Tryouts – October 25-27 at Mudsock Fields
- Team Announcement – By November 4
- Team Meeting – November 15 at Billerica Community Room
- Knights Service Event – Nov / Dec / Jan (1 or 2 service events)
- Optional Knights Football Clinics – Feb / Mar / April / May / June - TBD
- Mandatory Coaches / Parents Only Meeting – Monday, June 21, Billerica 7pm
- Knights Practices begin – Monday, July 12
- Knights Camp – July TBD (Fri-Sun), Rose Hulman College
- Knights Meet the Team & Picnic – Saturday July 17 or 24
- IEFA Weigh-In & Scrimmage – July 31
- IEFA Kickoff Classic (First Game) – August 7
- IEFA Playoffs Begin – October 2
- IEFA State Championship – October 23
- Knights Player Banquet – October 30