

BPJF 2018



Bethel Park Junior Football
2400 Oxford Drive PMB 421
Bethel Park, PA 15102
www.bpjf.org

Dear Bethel Park Junior Football Parents:

Welcome to the 57th season of Bethel Park Junior Football (BPJF). We are very excited to have you on board and look forward to an exciting season ahead.

In order to better serve the BPJF Families, we have compiled this handbook to provide you with the basic information concerning our football program. It is by no means an all-inclusive document, but it can serve as an informative reference for you throughout the year. You can also visit our website at www.bpjf.org for up-to-date information.

Please review the handbook as a family and get ready for a fun and exciting football season!

If any questions should arise throughout the year, please feel free to contact a BPJF Board Member.

Sincerely,

The Bethel Park Junior Football Board:

BPJF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Role	Phone	E-mail
Nik Del Greco	President	412.952.0451	nik.delgreco@bpjf.org
Mark Bruckner	Vice-President	412.996.9866	mark.bruckner@bpjf.org
Gus Lewis	Secretary	412.952.6718	justin.lewis@bpjf.org
Sean Walsh	Treasurer	412.505.3328	sean.walsh@bpjf.org
Bob Kitchen	Director	412.377.4259	b.kitchen37@bpjf.org
Bill Stewart	Director	412.445.9125	bill.stewart@bpjf.org
Nick Kellington	Director	412.738.2675	nick.kellington@bpjf.org
Bryan Henley	Director	412.841.4331	bryanhlenley@bpjf.org
Juliette Och	Director	412.901.6180	juliette.och@bpjf.org
Dean Ferency	Director	412.377.3118	dean.ferency@bpjf.org

*SHYFL Rep: Nick Kellington/Mark Bruckner

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Bethel Park Junior Football is to provide the children of Bethel Park with the opportunity to enjoy the experience of youth football. Football, more than any other sport, stresses the importance of conditioning, practice and teamwork. Bethel Park Junior Football is an organization committed to teaching the fundamental techniques required to be successful and ensure that all the participants experience the enjoyment of playing in a game situation. To accomplish our goals, the efforts of the players, coaches and parents must center on the team.

THE LEAGUE

Bethel Park Junior Football is a member of the South Hills Youth football League-SHYFL

REFUND POLICY

If, for any reason, BPJF is not what you or your child expected or if you are not willing or able to continue in the program, your \$150 registration fee will be refunded up until the first regular season game. If your child plays in the first game, or if you decide not to continue after that time, your registration fee will not be refunded. Equipment must be returned before your refund is issued.

TEAM WEIGHT REGULATIONS

Weight and age limits for players are mandated by the SHYFL and League. Players may not play in a division if their age exceeds the maximum age for that division prior to May 1 of the current season. The age and weight limits for 2018 are as follows:

K-2nd Grade:

- The MAX skill weight is 75 pounds. (Although, the Tight End is eligible to catch a forward pass; the TE is not permitted however to catch a screen pass or take a hand off of any type)
- The MAX playing weight is 110 pounds. Players over that weight are all subject to an Executive Board review.

Junior Varsity (3-4 grade) Division:

- The MAX skill weight is 95 pounds. (Although, the Tight End is eligible to catch a forward pass; the TE is not permitted however to catch a screen pass or take a hand off of any type)
- The MAX playing weight is 130 pounds. Players over that weight are all subject to an Executive Board review.

Varsity (5-6th grade) Division:

- The MAX skill weight is 115 pounds. (Although, the Tight End is eligible to catch a forward pass; the TE is not permitted however to catch a screen pass or take a hand off of any type)
- The MAX playing weight is 150 pounds. Players over that weight are all subject to an Executive Board review.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

The League requires BPJF to keep a copy of all players' birth certificates. (Please, no baptismal certificates). Any child whose birth certificate is not on file will not be permitted to play until it is submitted.

SELECTION OF COACHES

The BPJF Board takes the selection of Head Coaches very seriously. We like to put the best possible candidates in the position of Head Coach. The Board holds interviews for all interested Head Coach Candidates in May and a vote is held at the June meeting. In addition, all coaches are required to have the proper clearances.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER

It is the mission of Bethel Park Junior Football to provide our children with a very positive experience while learning and playing the game. This is best carried out if coaches, parents and players can all work together.

COACHES RESPONSIBILITIES

- Coaches will provide instruction at practice so that each player can improve their skills and be ready to play. Coaches will correct mistakes in a positive and productive manner.
- Coaches will monitor attendance and participation at practice.
- Coaches will communicate in a positive manner and build confidence through positive reinforcement.
- Coaches will ensure a safe environment (i.e. weather and field)
- If a player is in appropriate physical condition and has appeared for and meaningfully participated during practices, the coach will assure that each eligible player plays in the weekly games.
- Coaches will monitor playing time for each player. While coaches *are not* required to equalize playing time, they *are* required to see that each eligible team member gets meaningful playing time of AT LEAST 6 plays per game (not to include Special Teams) at the Kindergarten through 6th grade level.

FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Each player will be on time and ready for practice and games.
- Arrange to have your child at practice on time and picked up promptly at the end of practice. Parents are encouraged to have a back-up plan in case weather shortens practice.
- Team members should come to practice in good physical condition to ensure they are able to handle the demands of summer practice.
- Players will participate fully in all drills and practice activities. Absences for medical reasons or vacation, etc. will be communicated to the coach. Frequent absences from practice or failure to participate in drills may affect playing time.
- Each family will be required to provide BPJF with a separate Duty & Equipment check in the amount of \$150 at Equipment Pick-up. This check will be returned at the end of the season when volunteer duty has been fulfilled and all equipment is returned.
- Each family will be required to participate in a fundraiser and/or Social event that is chosen by BPJF.
- Code of Conduct must be signed by each Family prior to start of first practice

PLAYERS RESPONSIBILITIES

- Be respectful to all of your coaches.
- Make sure you have the proper equipment
- Be a good teammate.
- Be a good winner, but also be respectful when your team is losing.

Transportation

Transportation to and from all practices and games are the responsibility of the parents/guardians. The Business Managers will provide all team members with a team roster during the first week of practice so that you may arrange to car pool, if needed. **Please be prompt in picking up your child after practice.** Our coaches volunteer their time and often come straight from work. Please be considerate so that they can get home to their families.

Volunteering

Bethel Park Junior Football is a volunteer organization. Absolutely no member of the organization is paid for his or her time. Your support on and off the field is required and greatly appreciated.

It is expected that all parents/guardians help to contribute to the continued success of BPJF. If you are interested in volunteering and have not reviewed the list of committees, please contact the Committee Chairperson.

WHAT IS REQUIRED TO RUN A TEAM

It takes everyone on each individual football team to run a successful team throughout the season. The Head Coach will choose 3 or 4 Assistant Coaches. In addition to the coaches, there is a Business Manager and an Assistant Business Manager. While the coaches instruct and coach their players on the practice field and on game day, the Business Managers handle the communication side of things with the families. Volunteers are needed to be an Announcer, Photographer, Videographer, Spotter, Time Keeper, Stick Handler, Play Monitor and to sell 50/50 tickets.

COMMITTEES

BPJF would not be a success without the help and volunteering of parents. The following is a list of committees, chairpersons and board representatives:

Committee	Chairperson	Board Representative	Phone Number
After Practice Parties	Dean Ferency	Dean Ferency	412.377.3118
Business Managers	Juliette Och	Juliette Och	412.480.0936
Concessions	Justin Lewis	Justin Lewis	412.952.6718
Fields /Equipment	Bob Kitchen Nick Kellington	Bob Kitchen	412.377.4259
Fundraising	Bill Stewart	Bill Stewart	412.616.2076
Picture Day	Juliette Och	Justin Lewis	412.480.0936
Yearbook	Dean Ferency	Dean Ferency	412.377.3118
12 Year Old Recognition Night	Mark Bruckner	Mark Bruckner	412.512.1594
Player Safety Coach	Nik Del Greco	Nik Del Greco	412.952.0451

COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION

All comments or concerns should be directed to the Head Coach of your team. If the Head Coach cannot resolve the problem, contact a Board Member. The Board will then address your concern.

For the safety of the players, we ask that only coaches and players be permitted on the field during practice and games. In addition, only coaches, business managers and the required volunteers are permitted on the field during games.

Unacceptable Behavior

BPJF has adopted a *Zero Tolerance Policy* regarding abuse. The organization WILL NOT tolerate physical or verbal abuse of its players, parents, coaches or referees. Abusive behavior of any kind is grounds for review and possible dismissal from the

organization of the player, parent/guardian or coach by the Board. Please refer to Article VIII, Sections 8.1-8.5 of the BPJF By-Laws for further clarification of our Zero Tolerance Policy.

Alcohol/Tobacco Policy

Alcoholic beverages and the use of tobacco are not permitted prior to, during and after all on-field activities. This policy is strictly enforced within the program and is prohibited on any community field. Please refer to Article VIII, Section 8.2c of the BPJF By-Laws for further clarification of our Zero Tolerance Policy.

EQUIPMENT

It is expected that the equipment BPJF provides for your child will be returned on time and in its entirety at the end of the season. BPJF provides the following equipment:

1 Practice Jersey	1 Game Jersey
1 Pair of Practice Pants	1 Pair of Game Pants
Thigh, Hip, Knee and Tailbone Pads (7)	Shoulder Pads

You will need to provide:

Black Helmet	Mouth Guard with strap (non-clear)
Spikes	Girdle
Socks	

FOOTBALL CAMP, PRACTICE & GAMES

Football Camp

Football camp will be held August 1 – August 07, for all SHYFL teams.

Camp is generally held Monday through Friday from 6-8pm. Players practice in T-shirts, shorts and helmets, the first week and full pads for the remainder of the camp. Coaches reserve the right to schedule scrimmages or make-up practices on Saturdays in August.

Football Practice

Beginning September 04, practice is held Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00-8:00pm. After the start of the season, a maximum of six hours of practice per week is allowed. This does not include an additional two hours that is allowed for film sessions and team meetings. Coaches reserve the right to modify the practice schedule as needed.

Game Days

Termite, Junior Varsity, Varsity and Big Mac games are held on Saturdays at the Bethel Park High School Stadium and on the Park Avenue Field behind the Bethel Park Community Center.

PLAYER ACTIVITIES

Picture Day

Individual and team pictures will be taken in August. The Business Managers will pass along information regarding your specific time and other details.

Picture day at Park Ave-8/19

Picture Day - Rain Day-8/20

Youth Night

It has been a long standing tradition with Bethel Park High School to allow our players to participate in the excitement of high school football. Before the start of the first home game, our players are introduced by team and then run across the stadium field. Our players are admitted free of charge to this game. Parents are responsible for their children at this and all high school football games.

Specialty Nights

We also try to do fun things for our players throughout the season. We have a Rita's Italian Ice Night and a Hot Chocolate and Cookie Night for the players and coaches.

ADULT ACTIVITIES

Season Kick-Off Social

An opportunity to get together for an adult social to kick off the season. This is scheduled for **Saturday night Sept. 18, 2018**. This event has turned into one of our largest fundraising events. We encourage everyone to support this event and become involved in some way.

EXTRA COSTS

During the football season, you may be asked to contribute to different things for your team. In addition, you may be asked to contribute to end of the year Coaches' gifts and/or Business Manager gifts.

BPJF FUNDS

Through the funds raised by registration, fundraising and the sponsorship program, Bethel Park Junior Football is able to provide the following:

PARK AVENUE FIELD IMPROVEMENTS

All New Field Sod
Sprinkler and Drainage System and Excavating
Shed Remodeled

GAME DAY

Referees
EMT Services
Field Supplies

EQUIPMENT

Storage Fees
Practice/Game Uniforms & Pads
Helmet Decals
Blocking Dummies/Shields
Equipment Reconditioning

LIGHTS

Monthly Electric Bill for Lights at Practice Fields

ADMINISTRATIVE

Insurance
Bethel Park Recreation Fees
Office Supplies
Postage
SHYFL League Fees

PLAYER EXTRAS

June Camp T-shirts

Tailgate Party

End of the Season Team Parties

Yearbooks

After Practice Parties

Plaques

12 Year Old Recognition Night plus gifts

Multi-Year Player Gifts

6th grade Senior Game event and Jersey's

