



BELLBROOK WEE EAGLE FOOTBALL PACKET

Revised January 2009

WEE EAGLE FOOTBALL

Welcome to Wee Eagle Football,

We are delighted that your child is interested in learning and playing football with our Wee Eagle Program. This packet is designed to relate pertinent information about the overall expectations, practices, and games. Your child's coaching staff will contact you over the summer about our practice schedule that will begin in late July or early August.

The Wee Eagle Program is very broad, not only does it offer a great football program, but offers volleyball, wrestling, basketball, and cheerleading. We are very proud of this organization that serves over 400 students. Our program is governed by a board, which meets the third Monday of every month. These meetings are open to the public and we invite you to get involved.

The Wee Eagle Board decided to split the football teams and have two teams per grade level in 2007. There is a Purple and Gold Squad per grade level. There is no A or B team. Both teams per grade level are considered and treated equally.

We are expecting wonderful times this season. Don't forget that we are looking for our football players to display commitment, dependability, a positive attitude, but above all....respect for each other, their coaches and director.

We are also looking for parents who are willing to be trained to coach our children in the game of football which include sportsmanship, positions, the game of football and a positive attitude. If you work well with children and parents and can work in a team environment, then we encourage you to complete a coach's application and turn into the director. The application can be found on our website: www.bellbrookweeeagles.com.

Director of Football

Wee Eagle Football Policies

Parents and Players,

Welcome to our *Wee Eagle Family*! Please read the following very carefully, as the coaching staff will abide by our expectations. **Coaches will be trained in safety procedures as well as how to coach your child to offer your child the best quality instruction available.**

Expectations:

***Role Models**... football players are role models for the community. Please remember to be respectful to all. We expect good sportsmanship at all times. Don't forget that you represent your grade level and that someone is always observing you.

***Great attitude**... is a must! The coaching staff intends to challenge you to learn drills, football plays and positive sportsmanship. However, none of this is possible unless you remember that a great attitude goes a long way and makes for a great individual and team player!

***Homework**... great football players keep up with their studies. Please balance your schoolwork and football so that you can be successful at school and on the playing field. Schoolwork is very important!

***Citizenship**... please remember to display your great attitude in/out of school.

***Registration Form**... in order to play football, we need your registration form, fee and rules of conduct form.

***Physicals**... you may **NOT** practice or play football unless the coaching staff has received your physical form on the first day of practice in July or August. A sports physical form can be found on our website www.BellbrookWeeEagles.com. Please get your physical completed over the summer. If you do not have your completed physical form as indicated, **then you will NOT practice until it is turned in to the coaching staff. This will be enforced!**

***Parents**... Wee Eagles are a volunteer organization and we do require Parent Participation at all games. This is the only way we are successful. Positions will be made available to you by your Team Mom. You will be required to work a minimum of 4 games and a maximum of 6 games per child. Ex: If you have a 3rd grade player and a 6th grade player, you will be required to work 8-12 games.

Bellbrook Purple / Gold Team Selection

There will not be an 'a' or 'b' team. After an evaluation period the grade level will be divided into two equal teams using a draft system. One team will be designated as Purple and the other as Gold.

The players will be evaluated over the first three days of practice from Monday thru Wednesday. The two head coaches at each grade level along with their staffs will evaluate all players based on the following criteria:

1. Weight (those who are and are not eligible to carry the ball)
2. Speed & quickness drills
3. Ball handling skills
4. Stance positions
5. Knowledge and understanding of the game
6. Other

After that evaluation the two head coaches will divide the grade level into two equal teams using a draft system. This selection will be overseen by the Football Director.

The draft will take place following the Wednesday (the third day of practice) practice.

The draft will work as follows: Each team's head Coach will be determined by the Football Director with the concurrence of the Board of Directors. Each head coach will select one assistant coach prior to the draft. The Football Director will make final decisions as to the appointment of assistant coaches. Coach's children will automatically be on the team they are coaching. All players will be grouped according to those who are eligible to carry the ball (running backs) and those who are not eligible to carry the ball (offensive linemen & defense). Coaches will take turns drafting the players according to rank from the first three days of conditioning. The rankings will not be made public.

All players should know the color team that they will be on by the fourth day of practice (Thursday). All team placements are final. A new purple and gold team will be chosen each year. If your child played on the purple last year, they could play on the gold team this year if they are drafted on the gold team. After the draft is complete Five (5) coaches per team will be recognized by the program.

Equipment and game jerseys will be handed out on a Saturday determined by the Football Director. Both teams will be wearing the same purple jersey regardless if they play for the purple or gold team. We are all Wee Eagle players and play for Bellbrook.

The only consideration that the organization makes is for brothers. The organization ensures that brothers will be on the same team color for travel purposes.

The football program and Cheerleading program are two separate programs. Siblings of football players who cheer will be performing at home games only.

All teams practice at Sackett-Wright Park so therefore requesting that players be placed on the same team for carpool considerations is not necessary.

If you have any questions concerning the team selection please contact the Football Director first before contacting the Wee Eagle Board.

Practice Expectations:

***Attendance...** coming to practices is very important. It is required by SWBL that all players must condition for a certain amount of days prior to suiting up in pads. It is also very important to attend practices to learn the plays and build our team spirit.

***Schedules...**practices will begin in late July/early August, Monday-Friday at Sackett-Wright field. **Practices will then be held on dates determined by the coach until the end of October.** You will know this information. Please try to avoid scheduling other activities on those days to avoid conflicting schedules. Thank you.

***Punctual...** football players are expected to be on the field ready to go at the start of practice. Also, it is very important the parents pick up their football player at the **end of practice on time**. These volunteer coaches need to get home to their families. Thank you!

***Attire...** football practice pants, jersey, pads and helmet with chin strap and mouthpiece are expected to be worn along with full protective gear. Your child will be issued a t-shirt and shorts that should be worn to conditioning practice in the beginning of the season with their football cleats, helmet, chin strap and mouthpiece.

***Food/Drinks...** please eat light before attending practice. Don't forget to bring a large water bottle.

***Hydration...**please be sure your football player drinks plenty of water during the day. It is **extremely** important that the players are hydrated before they get to practice, especially on the hot summer/early fall days. Waiting to drink water at practice is too late. Bringing a wet wash cloth to practice on the hot days is recommended. Cooling the body down with a cool cloth works wonders.

***Websites...** please note that your team mom will create a website with **pertinent information** regarding practices and upcoming games. This website will have a link from the official Wee Eagle Website, www.bellbrookweeeagles.com. Weekly emails and One Call Now messages will be sent regarding last minute changes or reminders. **Maps to the away games will be on the Bellbrook Wee Eagles website: www.BellbrookWeeEagles.com.**

***Player Development...**all players will be developed by the coaches to reach their potential. If your child shows interest in wanting to learn different positions, this will be developed during practice, not games.

Game Expectations:

***Uniforms**... Game Jerseys may be worn to school ONLY prior to game day if determined by the coach.

***Food/Drinks**... **NO** gum is allowed. Please bring a water bottle as you may drink water during the game! Please eat before or after your game.

***Attendance**...**you must be on time to the practice before the game.** The time before the game is to review plays and to stretch to prevent injury. **Please be on time!**

***Playing Time**...playing time will be determined by player's attitude and performance on and off the field.

Chain of Command

Any parent or coach having issues with the program must address these issues with the head coach first. Then bring it to the director's attention if the issue still exists. Final decision will rest with the director. Director must have the board's approval. If at anytime parent or coach is in disagreement with the decisions made. Individual may take issue to the board meeting to get resolved. At no time is an individual allowed to petition on the practice or game fields on issue. All parties involved must look at what's in the best interest for the kids and promote good sportsmanship among all teams throughout the program.

Registration

Registration will be held in January and February. Times will be from 8:00 to 10:00am at the South East St. school house (old Sugarcreek School). In order to avoid late registration fee of \$20.00 you must be signed up and paid for by May 1st. Scholarships must be approved by May 1st. If your scholarship is not approved your registration will not be accepted.

Without payment in FULL by equipment hand out day the player will not receive equipment. If your player doesn't return equipment from last year, player will be responsible for paying for lost equipment if they want to participate.

Please get signed up and paid for early. It makes things much easier.

Policies and Procedures

Selection of Coaches:

Anyone desiring to coach will be required to complete an application for review by the Football Director. Though desirable, it is not necessary that the coach have previous football experience.

The Football Director and Board of Directors are developing training standards which will be sent out in the near future. In the near term, it is likely the head coaches will have to be certified youth coaches. Eventually, the program is moving toward requiring all coaches to be certified youth coaches.

The Head Coach is determined by the Football Director with the concurrence of the Board of Directors. Input from other coaches and parents is encouraged and will be considered.

The Football Director will make final decisions as to appointments of assistant coaches. The Head coaches will have input as will the parents. The Football Director will make the final selection with the concurrence of the Board of Directors. Assistant coaches will be placed by head coach. If not approved to coach, you don't coach. No self invited coaches, please.

All coaching selections are for one year periods. Selection as the head coach does not necessarily ensure the person will remain head coach in the following years.

Coach Behavior:

Demeaning, verbally or physically abusive behavior will not be tolerated. Coaches will be held accountable for their actions. Any coach engaging in such behavior will be subject to dismissal from the program. Coaches in violation will receive a verbal warning, written warning to the board, then dismissal from the program for one year. Any such dismissals will be made by the Football Director with notification to the Board of Directors. The initial dismissal will be for at least one year and cover all Wee Eagle programs. After one year, the offending coach may address the Football Director for reinstatement. If the Football Director agrees with the possible reinstatement, the matter will be presented to the Board of Directors for consideration.

Every coach is expected to strive to develop the skills of each participant and to educate the players on the specific skills to succeed. Development of sportsmanship is a critical component to the entire program. Coaches are expected to conduct themselves professionally to achieve this goal. Win at all cost coaches will be asked not to participate.

Parent Behavior

All parents are expected to promote good sportsmanship. Any parent acting in a vulgar or disruptive manner will be held accountable as well. A parent in violation will first receive a verbal warning from the director, a written warning to the board, and upon third violation parent and participant will be dismissed for one year. Initial dismissal will be for one year. After one year offender may address director for reinstatement.

For Practice Only

Bellbrook Wee Eagles

Extreme Weather Practice Policy

This policy is effective immediately and is as follows:

Heat Index 90 degrees and above - 15 minutes of practice, mandatory full 5 minute water breaks.

Heat index 95 degrees and above - No helmets or shoulder pads, 15 minutes of practice, mandatory full 5 minute water break.

Heat index 100 degrees and above - Practices shall be cancelled.

If these Heat Indexes are in Bellbrook, they are to be followed.

Heat Index readings will be taken $\frac{1}{2}$ hour prior to practice beginning. EXAMPLE: If practice is scheduled for 6 pm, the director and head coaches will determine the Heat Index using the National Weather Website at 5:30 pm. If practice is scheduled for 7 pm, the director will determine the Heat Index using the National Weather Website at 6:30 pm. If indexes are above 100 $\frac{1}{2}$ hour prior to practice, practices will be cancelled.

National Weather Website

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?CityName=Dayton&state=OH&site=ILN>

To check the Heat Index enter Bellbrook, OH or 45305 in the search box.

Implemented August 2007/Revised January 2009

Frequently Asked Questions

- What equipment/uniform will be provided for my child?
- What equipment/uniform am I responsible to provide?
- How are the teams organized?
- How will my child be placed on a team?
- Can I request my child to be on a specific team?
- How often will my child practice?
- Does my child need a physical?
- Where do I get the physical form?
- Are there any other documents required?
- Why do I need three copies of my child's birth certificate?
- What is the SWBL?
- When will we receive a game schedule?

What equipment/uniform will be provided for my child?

- Game jersey
- Practice jersey
- Game pants
- Practice pants
- Shoulder pads
- Pad set for pants
- Helmet w/ chin strap
- Mouth guard

What equipment/uniform am I responsible to provide?

- Cup and athletic supporter
- Rubber molded cleats
- Large water bottle

Optional, however recommended:

Padded chin strap - basic strap provided

Pad girdle

Note: above items will be available for purchase at equipment hand-out.

How are the teams organized?

The 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders each play within their respective grade level. A purple team and a gold team will be formed for each of those squad levels. Team colors are of no significance and do not represent status or ranking in any way.

How will my child be placed on a team?

The first 3 days of practice will be conditioning and evaluations of players. The head coaches and other support staff will be running the players through a series of drills in which their results are recorded. Following the third night of practices, the head coaches will meet to select their teams based on a draft selection with the Football Director overseeing the process. Coaches will take turns making their player selections to assure the teams are evenly matched.

Can I request my child to be on a specific team?

No... Due to the selection process, specific team requests will not be accommodated.

How often will my child practice?

The following is the typical practice schedule (all practices will be at Sackett Wright):

- Practice in pads will begin after the required days of conditioning have been met and practice will typically be held Monday – Thursday from 6-8 pm until school starts.
- Once school begins practices are typically reduced to three nights per week (it will be up to the coaches of each team to decide which days per week they will practice; typically there is no practice on Fridays once the games start).

Does my child need a physical?

Yes, all players must have a physical completed by a licensed physician in the current calendar year for that season before they can participate in any conditioning, practices, or games. These physicals need to be turned in to the Football Director by the first day of conditioning.

Where do I get the physical form?

The physical form is located on the Bellbrook Wee Eagles website so that you may download it at your convenience. The web address is www.BellbrookWeeEagles.com.

Are there any other documents required?

Yes, please see the web site for Forms 1-5; the SWBL Parents Consent form will be available from your coach or team mom. You will also be required to provide three photocopies of your child's birth certificate. The copies must be of a certified birth certificate issued by the county with the official seal. Hospital birth certificates will not be accepted.

Why do I need three copies of my child's birth certificate?

- SWBL - must retain a copy for their records
- Bellbrook Wee Eagles - must have a copy on file
- Coach/Team Mom - must have a copy in possession during all game times, in the event a child's age is questioned.

What is the SWBL?

The South Western Buckeye League is the league association to which the Wee Eagles belong. The league currently consists of teams from all over the Miami Valley. Visit www.swblpeewee.tripod.org for more information.

When will we receive a game schedule?

The tentative schedule will be posted on our web site www.BellbrookWeeEagles.com or the SWBL web site www.swblpeewee.tripod.org.

Rev. 01/09

Attach:

Bellbrook Wee Eagle Football Rules of Conduct

Registration Form

Photo Release Form

Physical

Registration Form

Positions Available for Parents to Participate

Coaching Application