

Hamburg Pirate Youth Football, Cheer & Pom Information

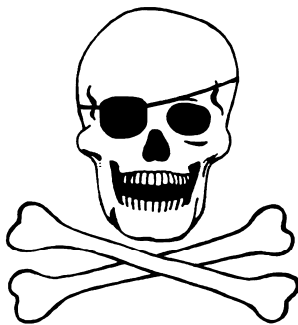
The Hamburg Pirate Youth Football Association would like to welcome back our football, cheer and pom families and extend a hearty "Welcome Aboard" to all our new Pirates. It's time to register for the 2008 Pirate Football, Cheer & Pom season. We are preparing for another great year and look forward to seeing all of you this season.

We hope that this newsletter will explain and clarify any questions you might have about our program. If you should have any questions that you still need answered, please feel free to e-mail your **football questions to Scott Acree at sacree@piratesfootball.com** or your **cheer questions to Carol Adams at cadams@piratesfootball.com** or your **pom questions to Kim Till at ktill@piratesfootball.com**.

Registration for 2008

**NEW Online Registration
April 4 – April 23, 2008**

**Or in person at
Navigator Cafeteria
Saturday, April 19th
9 a.m. to Noon**



H.P.Y.F.A.

P.O. Box 741, Hamburg, MI 48139

www.piratesfootball.com

F.Y.I

- All athletes must have a current physical, birth certificate, and last report card to verify the grade they completed in school (i.e. 6th grade, 7th grade, etc.). These need to be submitted to the coach on the first day of practice.
- Registration fees will be due in full at registration.
- Cheer and Pom players will be fitted for uniforms at uniform handout – NOT at registration this year.
- Veteran players that have not returned equipment or owe monetary funds will not be permitted to register.

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Board meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at seven o'clock in the evening (except August, September and October, when the meetings are held after practices). Everyone is welcome to join us. Please check the calendar at our website for dates, times and locations of meetings.

Our Program

Our program is part of the Livingston County Area Junior Football League (LCAJFL), which includes communities all over Livingston County. Again this year we expect that we will be fielding three full football teams – a Freshman, JV and Varsity team at each of our colors (Black, Red & White). We will also be fielding one instructional football team.

Our cheer and pom teams will be dependent upon our registration numbers. We hope to be able to field a squad at each color, but may have to combine colors to one squad at each level (as we did in 2007).

Players are placed on teams in the following order: veterans, siblings of veterans & then new players. Returning players or siblings of returning players are placed on teams based on their previous color. **Requests for specific team color placements are NOT honored-ALL new players (except siblings of veterans) are placed on teams through a blind draw.** Players are placed on teams based on their grade in school as of **September 2008.**

This year, we will not be sending out team placement letters. You will be able to find out your team placement on our website in June, by using your registration number (assigned during online registration) and your last name. At that time, there will also be a link to print out the information you will need, along with any forms for camps, fundraisers, etc.

We have decided to continue with the hiring of school and local groups to man the positions for our game days. While we did have some parental involvement last year in the way of parental volunteer groups, we found this not to work successfully for our program and are discontinuing this. Any interested school or local groups can e-mail volunteers@piratesfootball.com to express their interest.

2008 Fundraiser – New Change

Our fundraiser is changing a bit this year. There will be a modification of the Hungry Howie's card that we have had for the past few years. This year, in addition to having Hungry Howie's Pizza, buy one get one free pizza's, on the card, we are also partnering with other businesses to offer additional discounts to the community. If you have a business interested in partnering with us on our fundraiser card, please contact Scott Acree at sacree@piratesfootball.com.

Our fundraiser is a mandatory participation for each athlete in our program. Each athlete is required to purchase three \$10 fundraiser cards that they can keep or sell to others in the community. Players that wish to earn H.P.Y.F.A. prizes will have the opportunity to do so by selling more than the three mandatory cards. More information, order forms, and prize lists will be available in June. **The minimum fundraiser fee will be collected at registration (\$30) and you will receive the cards at equipment handout (July).**

2008 Football, Cheer or Pom Coaches

Anyone interested in coaching for football, cheer or pom teams for the 2008 season must submit a letter of interest, including references and a detailed list of your experience. All applications must be received (or postmarked if mailing) by **midnight April 19, 2008 for football and cheer** or by **midnight April 23, 2008 for pom**, in order to be considered. Coaches will be selected by a committee of executive board members.

E-mail letters of interest to:

Football Coaches:	Scott Acree at sacree@piratesfootball.com
Cheer Coaches:	Carol Adams at cadams@piratesfootball.com
Pom Coaches:	Kim Till at ktill@piratesfootball.com

Letters can also be mailed to Scott, Carol or Kim at: H.P.Y.F.A., P.O. Box 741, Hamburg, MI 48139.

Football, Cheer & Pom Programs

Instructional Football – 2nd Graders Only. Maximum weight is 110 pounds. Practices begin on August 4, 2008 and will be held three evenings per week for two hours each evening. Practice days and times are subject to coach's discretion. Teams play Saturday games that may begin on August 30, 2008 (approximately 7 games). Games are played in scrimmage form with no score being kept. Each team will begin their play from the forty-yard line and working toward their goal. Teams will not kick or punt in this division.

Freshman Football – 3rd and 4th Graders. Maximum weight is 125 pounds.

JV Football – 5th and 6th Graders. Maximum weight is 150 pounds(140 pounds running back weight).

Varsity Football – 7th and 8th Graders. Maximum weight is 220 pounds (160 pounds running back weight). Practices begin on August 4, 2008 and will be held five evenings per week for three hours each evening. After the first game, practices are three evenings per week for 2 hours each evening. Practice days and times are subject to coach's discretion. Teams play Saturday games that begin on August 30, 2008 and will run for 9 consecutive Saturdays (some teams may have "bye" games).

All football weights are with equipment on.

Cheer & Poms. Teams are placed by grades, the same as football (see above). Cheer/Pom teams may be combined based on enrollment numbers. Cheerleaders cheer during the entire game. Pom girls will perform a dance routine during halftime and a cheer routine during the third quarter. **Girls will be expected to remain for the entire game to support the football and cheer teams.** Cheer & Pom practice begins August 4, 2008 and will be Monday-Thursday 6-8 p.m. After the first game, practices will be Monday-Wednesday 6-7:30 p.m.

Cheer/Pom players will be fitted for uniforms at uniform pick-up in July. Cheer & pom packs can be ordered during registration. Please see the online form for more information.

Pom players will be using the Capezio Dance Shoe again this year. The Varsity rep will be on-site for the girls to try on the shoes and take orders. We will post the dates and times on our website once we have them set.

Cheer players will need a white cheer shoe. Any brand/style is acceptable, but must have interchangeable color tabs/stripes. MC Sports in Brighton has offered the Zeph Butterfly to HPYFA players at a discounted price – if bought through HPYFA. More information will be available at registration (or at online registration).

Registration Fees and Information

- **The registration fee for Football, Cheer & Pom is \$200 (includes \$30 mandatory fundraiser fee).**
- **The fundraiser cards will be distributed at equipment/uniform handout.**
- **In addition to cash and check payments, we will be accepting credit card payment thru Google Checkout. This year there is NO convenience fee per player for the use of this service.**
- **Refund Policy: A \$25 handling fee will be deducted from all refunds.**
 - 100% refund (after \$25 handling fee) will be granted prior to 1st week of practice.**
 - 75% refund (after \$25 handling fee) will be granted through the 1st week of practice.**
 - 50% refund (after \$25 handling fee) will be granted through the 2nd week of practice.**
 - 25% refund (after \$25 handling fee) will be granted through the 3rd week of practice.**
 - No refunds will be permitted after the 3rd week of practice.**
- **Fees: A \$25 return check fee for non-sufficient funds applies.**
- **Please refer to the "Our Program" section on page 2 for the new method of delivery of the team placement information, camp forms, fundraiser forms, etc.**