

Mission Statement: Union County Youth Football and Cheer is a non-profit organization (in association with the VFL-Volunteer Football League), comprised of volunteers, seeking to instill the love of football/cheer and to encourage the children of Union County to be physically active and to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Emphasis is placed not only on athletic skills, but also academic importance, good sportsmanship, and ethical character.

Football is a full contact sport and you are encouraged to read the included information on concussions, as well as to research the injury possibilities related to this sport. Any child that incurs a concussion will be required to present a medical release before being allowed to resume their position on the team. Upon registration of your child, you are assuming all risks and agree to hold the league and members harmless should an injury occur, as stated on your application.

The UCYFAC currently has three different age brackets for football. Cheer is limited by overall enrollment, not age. Each team will have one head coach with 3 assistants. Parental presence is encouraged; however, unless you are an assigned assistant parents are expected to remain off the field during practice times. Practices for both football and cheer are typically 3 times per week for a period of 2 hours. During this time, players will go through a series of warm ups, drills, full contact practices, and cool downs. Water breaks are provided.

Football/cheer season begins in July and lasts until playoff are completed in November. Games typically begin in August. The number of home games varies from year to year. Away games require travel to different fields within the VFL, such as Clinton, Oak Ridge, Claxton, and Scott County. Parents are responsible for transportation to and from all games.

Football participants will be provided with a jersey, pants, shoulder pads, and a helmet for use during the season. You are assuming responsibility for this equipment. This equipment is to be turned back in to the league upon completion of all games. As stated on your application, should you fail to return the equipment to the league you will be charged a fee of \$250 to replace that equipment. UCYFAC reserves the right to take legal action for compensation of this equipment and any legal fees incurred will be assessed to you.

Football participants will also need a good pair of cleats, a mouth guard, and a protective cup. These items are parent responsibility. Players may not participate in hitting drills without a mouth piece, these are required.

Cheer participants will receive a basic uniform. Shoes, socks, bows, and warm-ups will be the responsibility of the parent.

Each team and cheer group will have an assigned "team mom" that will be your direct source for any information or questions you might have. Team moms will then bring any concerns to the league director.

UCYFAC does not choose the officials, they are a third party association paid by the league.

Parental responsibility: your child is expected to attend all practices. It is understood that family issues arise and situations may prevent you from being there on occasions; however, football is a full contact sport and it is in the best interest of your child to participate in as many practice sessions as possible. Coaches reserve the right to bench any player that misses an excessive amount of practices in order to keep all players safe. If you have concerns or conflicts regarding practices or games please see your team mom asap to seek out a solution.

It should be noted, “the VFL conference on game day will allow teams with small numbers to match-up and play the game”. While this results in an automatic forfeit the game will still be played. This is a conference policy. As a parent, it is of the utmost importance that your player be at all games possible to insure the equal distribution of playing time and therein, the safety of all players. However, please also note that playing time is not guaranteed as this is a competitive sport. Nevertheless, ALL participants in both football and cheer will be recognized at a banquet at the end of the season.

All members of the UCYFAC are volunteers and human. The UCYFAC holds an ethical standard for all coaches, team moms, and board members. If you have a concern please take this to either your team mom or the director. As a parent, you are asked to refrain from any on field confrontations with coaching staff or officials and to maintain a spirit of sportsmanship at all times. Any type of profanity or physical confrontations will not be tolerated and may result in your removal from the premises. Games and practices are typically played on school property and, as such, school policies are in place. Tobacco products and alcohol are strictly prohibited. A designated smoking area will be provided but is not, under any circumstances, allowed in the stand or around players. The UCYFAC reserves the right to ban any parent that continually breaches these policies.

The UCYFAC wishes to encourage a parental presence and younger siblings are welcome. However, as a parent, you assume all responsibility for the safety and supervision of your younger or non-enrolled children and the UCYFAC shall be held blameless.

In an effort to keep registration fees to a minimum fundraisers may occur throughout the season to offset the overhead expenses of the league and all parents are encouraged to participate.

Your registration fee helps to offset the following expenses:

- *League insurance (please note that parent insurance remains primary in the event of injury)
- *Officials compensation
- *Security personnel and availability of ambulance or medical personnel at all home games
- *VFL conference fees

Only players or cheerleaders are excluded from gate fees. There is an admission fee at each game, home or away.

No outside food or drinks are permitted. If you are caught with said items you will be asked to throw them away. If you refuse, you will be asked to leave the premises.

No coolers are allowed other than those brought by coaches for their team members only.

We are delighted that you have chosen to participate in the UCYFAC league and look forward to a wonderful season!