



Kell Longhorns Football



Welcome to the Kell Varsity Program!

Greetings Longhorn Players & Parents and Welcome to Kell Football!

This document has been created to provide our Longhorn parents and players with important information about our program. Participation on an athletic team can be a rewarding and meaningful experience that enhances a student's secondary education. It is important that each of us realize the time demands, responsibility, dedication and sacrifices required when making this kind of commitment.

Here you will find detailed information about the program, schedules, special events, GHSA standards, online registration and other required forms for players, etc. Our Coaches and Board members are dedicated to building a Longhorn legacy. We feel blessed to have the opportunity to work with the young athletes in this program. Thank you for your support of The Kell Football Program! Together, this will be our best year yet!

The following pages contain information that will help make our season successful:

COMMITMENT

Each member of the team **MUST**:

- Commit to being present at all team activities, including practices, meetings and contests with other schools.
- Be dedicated to becoming an excellent team member and school citizen.
- Strive to continually improve as an athlete.
- Demonstrate pride in team performance and himself as a member of the team.

GAME & PRACTICE SESSIONS

Practices are held daily during the regular season and as scheduled during the off-season and summers. Other related activities may be held on weekends. Any team member who must be late or miss practice, meetings or games must confer with his position coach.

Summer Participation is expected.

All freshman players who attend 90% of summer workouts will be eligible to dress and travel to the Corky Kell Classic.

REGISTRATION/DUES

You will register your player through KTC at www.kellfootball.com. There will be a link on the homepage.

PLEASE NOTE: Any outstanding dues must be paid in full in order for your player to participate in any outside events such as the College Tour. All season dues and any outstanding dues must be paid in full in order for your player to receive their spirit pack or any end of season gifts to include Senior Banner, Senior gifts, etc.

All players **MUST** register by 4/21 to be eligible to participate in Spring Football!

Registration fees for the Kell Varsity Program are as follows:

Basic Commitment (9th - 12th): \$1200.00

Package includes:

- Equipment & Uniform Assessment for 2025
- Assessment of 2024 Football Program Operating Expenses (Camps, 7 on 7's, etc.)
- Player Spirit Pack
- Kell Touchdown Club Membership

Payment PLAN breakdown:

- @ Time of Registration: \$50
- 4/21 = \$250
- 5/21 = \$250
- 6/21 = \$250
- 8/21 = \$400

ALL FEES ARE DUE BY AUGUST 21st

Ways to Reduce Fees Paid:

1. **FUNDRAISING:** A PORTION OF EVERY FUNDRAISER GOES TOWARDS PLAYER DUES
 - a. EXAMPLES: DOUBLEGOOD POPCORN, CALENDAR, LIFT-A-THON, CAR WASH
2. **SPONSORSHIP** = NON-FOOD, NEW SPONSORS
 - a. 50% OF THE SPONSORSHIP TOWARDS DUES
3. **-\$100: Volleyball Court Breakdown** = 3/26 Player attends set-up after school, 3/30 Parent AND player attend break down.
4. **-\$100: Volleyball Court Breakdown** = 5/1 Player attends set-up after school, 5/4 Parent AND player attend break down.
5. **-\$200: Baseball Parking** = dates throughout the summer will be on DIBS, work 6 hours, must be 18 or over to work.

****HARDSHIPS: If you have a hardship please reach out to Coach May as soon as possible!****

Multiple Players:

Families with multiple football players in the program will pay a \$800 fee per each additional child in the program in 9th -12th grades. You will pay the higher of the two dues (if there is one) and the \$800 will be charged to the lower fee. If you have a player in the Kell Junior Longhorns program their dues will be reduced by 50%.

THIS IS FOR HS FOOTBALL ONLY!

FUNDRAISING:

Running a successful program is expensive. In order to keep our participation costs down, we will have fundraising event(s) during the course of the year. Student-athletes are required to take part in all fundraising endeavors and a portion of some of the fundraising events will be credited to each family's dues. Details about fundraisers will be discussed by the coach and board at parent meetings.

SPONSORSHIPS:

KTC offers an incredible incentive to our families through Sponsorships. Any family that secures a new sponsorship for monetary donation only (not food sponsors). Player's name and grade must be included on submission) to have 50% of that sponsorship applied to their dues. All paperwork and payments must be submitted by June 1st, to ensure the sponsor is recognized in our media guide and field signage can be purchased for the season. This only applies to corporate sponsorship, In-kind sponsorships do not apply!

Sponsorship packets are located on our website kellfootball.com

SEASON TICKETS:

FEES DO NOT INCLUDE SEASON TICKETS OR PARKING PASSES

PRE-SEASON PURCHASE- Season ticket Lanyards will be available for pre-purchase. All lanyards purchased will guarantee seating in the season ticket section for the Corky Kell Classic and any Playoff home games. Tickets will still need to be purchased separately for entrance to Corky Kell and Playoff games. These games are not part of your season ticket purchase. Prices are as follows:

1 Lanyard - \$70 (4 home games - Includes your seat for the Corky Kell Classic)

2 Lanyards - \$140 (includes 1 parking pass & \$20 Concession card)

3 Lanyards - \$210 (includes 1 parking pass & \$20 Concession card)

[DEADLINE TO PURCHASE: AUGUST 1ST, 2025]

4 Lanyards - \$280 (includes 1 parking pass & 2-\$20 Concession cards)

5 Lanyards - \$350 (includes 1 parking pass & 2-\$20 Concession cards)

6 Lanyards - \$420 (includes 2 parking passes, 4 - \$20 Concession cards & 1 media guide)

Parking passes will also be available for pre-purchase for \$20 each. These **will not be available for purchase after the pre-sell**

** Paper tickets will be for sale at the spirit barn to upgrade your GoFan admission to season ticket section at \$10 per ticket! **

PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

In order to participate in organized athletics, all student-athletes must have the following:

Signed release forms which include:

1. An Updated Medical Clearance form
2. Permission of Parent to Participate
3. Emergency Contact Information
4. Receipt of Student/Parent Handbook (Form A)
5. Cobb County Conduct Policy (Form B)

These documents must be reviewed, signed, and will be held on file each athletic season.

Note:

- A Valid Physical examination completed within twelve months/365 days of seasonal participation dates signed by the examining physician to be held on file at the school. Physicals are fully electronic. No paper physicals will be accepted.
 1. Prior to receiving a physical, you (the parent) will need to log in to your **ParentVUE** account and complete the necessary forms. When you log into **ParentVUE**, you will see tabs along the left side--the bottom tab should say Athletic Registration. You will click on "Athletic Registration" and follow it step by step.
 2. You will not be able to move from one step to the next without completing all necessary requirements. When you hit the 4th step, you will need to print **ALL** documents and bring those with you to physical night or your doctor's office.
 3. One of the documents will be blank for the doctor to fill out. After the physical, the blank document that gets signed by the doctor will need to be uploaded into your Athletic Registration account to then finalize your physical. (If you **DO NOT** have a ParentVUE account, then please come to the front office with your ID to get an access code. You must have a **ParentVUE** account in order to get to the Athletic Registration page. StudentVUE will NOT work for this.)
 4. In order to get access to ParentVUE, the parent/guardian must come to the actual school your child is currently attending (Rising 9th graders would need to go to their respective Middle Schools for access) to show proper identification
- Satisfaction of all eligibility requirements of the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) and Cobb Public Schools.

(All KHS athletes are subject to the Cobb County Policies that occasionally supersede individual school policies. All KHS football players are subject to additional discipline that will be levied by the KHS coaching staff).

ABSENCE POLICY

Unexcused absences from practices may jeopardize retaining a position on the team, an opportunity to earn a varsity letter, and/or playing time at the coaches' discretion. Punishment will be administered along with make-up work due to unexcused absences. Excused absences from practices may impact position on the team and playing time, not as a punitive measure, but for the safety of that individual, fairness to the rest of the team, and strategic reasons. Make-up work may be administered depending on the reason for the excused absence. This is at the coaches' discretion.

EQUIPMENT INFORMATION

SCHOOL ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT POLICY:

Students are responsible for and expected to maintain proper care of all equipment issued to them. Students are also responsible for payment of any lost, stolen or damaged items. Each item not returned will be assessed at a rate comparable to the current replacement cost. All equipment is to be returned at the completion of the season. Grades will be withheld for those who do not return or pay for lost/damaged equipment. Student-athletes are not to wear uniforms, either practice or game, at any time other than those allowed by specified team regulations.

TEAM CAPTAINS & LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Captains & Leadership Council are elected by team members and/or appointed by coaches. Prior to the selection, coaches will inform team members of the selection criteria and obligations of the position. **Holding a position of team captain or officer is one of honor, leadership, and responsibility.** As a result, students serving in this capacity are expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner both in and outside of school.

Any student who is involved in a violation of KHS rules (this includes the GHSA Rules) and regulations resulting in a suspension from school, or any student who is found to be involved with drugs, alcohol, weapons, or crimes outside of school will lose the ability to serve as a captain and/or Leadership Council member for the period of one calendar year. Any sitting captain or officer of a KHS team will have that position rescinded and will be ineligible to serve for a period of one calendar year.

SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY:

KHS expects all parties present at contests to display the highest possible level of sportsmanship. Players, coaches and spectators should treat opponents, game officials and opposing spectators with respect at all times. KHS reserves the right to warn, censure, place on probation or suspend any player, coach, or team attendant determined to be acting in a manner contrary to the standards of good sportsmanship. **Spectators who do not adhere to standards of good sportsmanship may be asked to leave the contest and/or be prohibited from future contests.**

An important GHSA Rule pertaining to student-athletes should be noted:

- Any **player** who is **ejected** from a GHSA contest shall be suspended from all levels of competition (i.e., varsity or sub-varsity) in that sport or activity (regular season or playoffs) until the period of suspension has expired. Ejections are based on judgment calls by an official and are **NOT** reviewable or reversible.

LEVELS OF PLAY

FRESHMAN: (note that we may or may not have a Freshman team this season, depending on participation numbers for the program)

Everyone will have an opportunity to play on the freshman team. At this level it is not about the score. 9th grade football is about:

- Development of fundamental skills
- Equal practice opportunities for all participants
- Having the coach's evaluation of an athlete's attitude, skills and team role determine game time, while working toward equitable playing time for all participants.
- Learning the rules of the game
- Demonstrating sportsmanship and fair play
- Developing ambition to achieve at the next level of competition
- Prioritizing skill and character development over winning

JUNIOR VARSITY:

This is a transitional level for high school athletics. Athletes and parents should expect the following concepts to be emphasized:

- Reinforcement and refining of fundamental skills.
- Having the coach's evaluation of an athlete's attitude, skills, and team role determine playing time
- Demonstrating sportsmanship and fair play
- Development of more sophisticated athletic strategies
- Specifically defining an individual athlete's role within the team concept
- Refining and reinforcing the concepts of commitment and team play.
- Focus on physical conditioning and development
- Developing ambition to achieve at the next level of competition
- Prioritizing skill and character development over winning

VARSITY:

The varsity level of competition is the culmination of the high school athletic program. Team play, sportsmanship, individual physical ability, motivation and mental attitude are very important aspects of competition at the varsity level. Team size at the varsity level can be limited. The number of participants on any given team is a function of those needed to conduct an effective and meaningful practice and to play the contest. It is vital that each team member have a role and is informed of its importance. The number of roster positions is relative to the students' acceptance of their individual roles in pursuit of team goals. While contest participation over the course of a season is desirable, a specific amount of playing time at the varsity level is never guaranteed. At the highest level of athletic competition in high school athletics, athletes and parents should expect the following concepts to be emphasized:

- Developing a high level of proficiency in the physical skills of the sport
- Having the coach's evaluation of an athlete's attitude, skills, and team role determine playing time
- Developing sophisticated strategy, situational analysis, and other mental aspects of the sport
- Specifically defining an individual athlete's role within the team concept
- Fostering maximum commitment to the athletic team
- Understanding and valuing the physical conditioning components of the sport
- Understanding the importance of individual sacrifice for the good of the team
- Winning within the rules of sportsmanship and fair play.

There are many decisions made on a regular basis by our coaching staff that may include which athletes should start a contest, which athlete should play at what position, and the amount of playing time an athlete will receive. Only members of our coaching staff make these very difficult coaching decisions after weighing a number of considerable factors. Generally, the most competitive, skilled team members will play the major portion of contests; however, teams cannot be successful without committed substitutes. These athletes must work as hard as they can to help make their respective teams as competitive as possible and be ready at all times to step forward to compete. They must also demonstrate the perseverance and commitment to strive towards advancing into a starting role.

ATHLETE – COACH RELATIONSHIP:

Participation in athletics should be an enjoyable experience for all parties involved be it a student, coach, or parent. Oftentimes participation tends to be emotionally charged and working constructively through these emotions can be an excellent learning experience. In most cases, the competition of athletics is extremely positive and complements the educational experience enjoyed by students at KHS.

Occasionally, conflicts between coaches and students do arise. These conflicts must be addressed and resolved immediately. They will be handled in a manner so that the benefits of athletic involvement may continue to contribute to the emotional and physical growth of KHS student-athletes.

If at any time a student-athlete or parent desires to lodge a complaint or discuss a potential conflict, the following protocol should be observed:

- Contact Coach May immediately

BULLYING & HAZING POLICY:

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe environment that is free from hazing for students and staff members. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the academic and athletic goals of the school district and KHS, and are prohibited at all times.

Any student who commits the following offenses may be suspended or permanently dismissed from the team or activity. The head coach in conjunction with the school's administration will determine consequences.

Bullying:

No person shall willfully attempt to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent and present ability to do so, or shall intentionally exhibit a display of force such as to give the victim any reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm: (A) on school grounds at any time; (B) off school grounds at any school activity, event, or function; or (C) en route to and/or from school or school-sponsored activities.

Hazing:

“Hazing” refers to committing an act against a student or coercing a student to participate in activity for purposes of joining or having affiliation with a group/student organization that could potentially degrade, humiliate, or create a substantial risk of physical and/or emotional harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate.

Hazing includes but is not limited to:

- Any type of physical brutality such as beating, striking, whipping, branding, electronic shocking or placing any harmful substance on the body.
- Any type of physical activity such as exposure to weather, restricted confinement, sleep deprivation, or any activity that subjects a student to the risk of harm or could adversely affect the mental and/or physical health or safety of the student.
- Any activity that intimidates or threatens a student with ostracism, subjects a student to extreme mental stress, causes embarrassment, shame or humiliation that adversely affects the dignity of a student or discourages a student from remaining in school.
- Any activity that causes or requires a student to perform a task that violates any state or federal law and/or school district policies or regulations.

A "Student organization," is a group, club or organization having students as its primary members or participants. This includes classes, grade levels, teams, activities or particular school events. A “student organization” does not have to be an official school organization to come within the terms of this definition.

Hazing, regardless of age and/or physical stature can be exceedingly harmful. Hazing, in particularly at the high school level, is troubling because the developmental stages of adolescence create a situation in which many students are more vulnerable to peer pressure due to the tremendous need for acceptance, making friends and finding approval into one's peer group.

Except, as otherwise required by law, any student in grades six through twelve who commits the offense of bullying, and for the third time during a school year shall be assigned to an alternative school program in addition to any other disciplinary action deemed appropriate.

LOCKER ROOM:

The locker room is a place for athletes to prepare for practice or a game; it is not a hangout. Student-athletes are responsible for all of their belongings including valuables. **Make sure your locker is locked when you leave the locker room.** Never leave any personal belongings unattended while in or out of the locker room.

No cleats of any type may ever be worn inside the locker room. No glass containers are permitted in the locker room. Athletes will not be permitted to conjugate inside the locker room without the proper supervision of a coach at all times.

THEFT:

Theft is an **UNACCEPTABLE** behavior for a Kell Football player. This includes theft in any place at any time (at school, in public, in the locker room, etc.). **DO NOT TOUCH/TAKE ANYTHING THAT DOES NOT BELONG TO YOU.** Do not take another player's knee pads, girdle, helmet, shoulder pads, money, electronics, etc. Do not take possession of another person's property in any venue under any circumstances. Violation of this policy will result in punishments and possibly suspension from team activities up to dismissal from the team. **THERE IS NO PLACE FOR A THIEF ON A TEAM!!!**

TEAM MEALS:

Pre-game meals are a privilege at Kell High School, and will be served for Varsity and Junior Varsity on game days. A great many people put forward a tremendous amount of work to make our meals the best around.

Take PRIDE in that and be thankful. Players are not allowed to distract team meals. If your actions take away from our team's focus, you will face disciplinary action. The parents and supporters who give us team meals are not butlers and maids. Show your appreciation by acting polite and always disposing of your trash. Always thank our supporters as you leave.

ATHLETIC TRAINING ROOM POLICIES:

KHS is very fortunate to have highly qualified and skillful full-time trainers as a members of our staff. On school days our trainers are oftentimes in the school building and usually stays until the conclusion of the last practice or home game. During weekends and times when school is not in session, the trainer is required to be on site only for contests and for some scheduled scrimmages. Occasionally, the trainer will be on site for non-school day practices. The training program is available to help our athletes receive the best possible care.

At certain times, however, the trainer and training room facilities are extremely busy. Consequently, access to the training room and its services is limited to athletes who require care only. Training services are granted on a first come, first served basis on practice days. On game days, students will be treated in an order that will allow bus and/or game commitments to be met.

In the event of an athletic injury, the trainer is in immediate control. At away contests, if the trainer is not present, the host school medical personnel are in control. If no medical personnel are present, members of the coaching staff are instructed to "take charge" of the situation and, if warranted, call for emergency care. All sport related injuries must be reported to the athletic trainer. No student will be permitted to return to competition without clearance by the trainer, which may also include written permission from a physician.



TRANSPORTATION POLICY:

When KHS provides transportation to and from athletic events, student-athletes are required to ride that transportation. The members of the athletic staff feel it is in the best interest of the team that everyone travel together and share the game experience. As the “guardian” during these trips, the athletic staff must be able to account for the whereabouts of all student-athletes and insure their safety. It is an expectation for our student-athletes to conduct themselves appropriately while on bus transportation.

Any misconduct will result in a penalty including and up to dismissal if warranted. Student-athletes will be responsible for any damages to bus property and subsequent costs to repair or replace.

In the event there are extenuating personal circumstances and a parent wishes to take responsibility for transporting his/her son, it is required, barring unforeseen circumstances, that the parent/guardian provide written notice to the coach requesting exception 24 hours in advance.

This individual must also meet with a member of the coaching staff informing the coach of pre-arrangements. Student-athletes may then ride with their parent/guardian. Student-athletes may not ride with other student-athletes or anyone else.

LETTERING POLICY:

An athlete may letter in any of the following ways:

1. Completing Senior Season in good standing with the Coaching Staff
2. Starting on Offense, Defense or Special Teams at any time during the season
3. Competing in 10 Varsity quarters
4. Effort, Achievement and Contributions deemed “letter worthy” by the coaching staff and/or leadership council.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

In order to stay updated, please make sure that your player’s registration is completed with a current email so that you will be included on our distribution list. In addition, we will provide everyone with a text code so that they can sign up for Remind text messages. Our social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter & Instagram) are other ways to stay in the loop on activities, updates, etc.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Coach May- robert.may@cobbk12.org

KTC Board President - president@kellfootball.com

Membership/Dues - membership@kellfootball.com

Sponsorship- sponsorshipvp@kellfootball.com

Thank you for your interest and participation in the Kell Football program. We are looking forward to another amazing season! Let's go Longhorns!!

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!

SIXTEEN TIPS FOR POSITIVE PARENTING IN

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 1. Be positive with your athlete.** Let them know you are proud they are part of the team. *Focus on the benefits of teamwork and personal discipline.
- 2. Encourage your athlete to follow all training rules.** Help the coaches build commitment to the team. *Set a good example in your personal lifestyle.
- 3. Allow your athlete to perform and progress at a level consistent with his ability.** *Athletes mature at different ages; some are more gifted than others.
- 4. Always support the coaching staff when controversial decisions are made.**
*The coaches need your backing to keep good morale on the team.
- 5. Insist on positive behavior in school and a high level of performance in the classroom.** *Numerous studies indicate extracurricular involvement helps enhance academic performance.
- 6. Stay calm in injury situations.**
*Parents can help minimize the trauma by being in control and offering comfort.
- 7. Cheer for our team and players.** Opponents and referees deserve respect. *Realize that high school players will make mistakes. Your support is needed during tough times.
- 8. Promote having fun and being a team player.** Very few high school athletes receive scholarships. *Concentrate on what is best for the team. Preoccupation with statistics can be very distracting.
- 9. An athlete's self-confidence and self-image will be improved by support at home.** Comparison to others is discouraged. *Encourage athletes to do their best regardless of brothers or sisters who may have been outstanding players.
- 10. Winning is fun, but building positive team values is most important.** *The concept of working together to perform a task will have lasting benefits. Winning takes place when all the little things are done correctly.
- 11. Find the time to be an avid booster of school activities.** *Help build a solid support system for coaches and athletes.
- 12. Help students keep jobs and cars in proper perspective.** *Materialistic values can detract from the commitment to the team. Teenagers should have the opportunity to take advantage of extracurricular activities.
- 13. Athletes must attend all practices and contests.** *Stress the necessity to make a commitment to the team. Practice is important.
- 14. Emphasize the importance of well-balanced meals and regular sleep patterns.** *An athlete functions best when care is taken to consume nutritious food and obtain sufficient rest.
- 15. Many athletes enjoy participating in several sports.** *Specialization in one sport may prevent an athlete from enjoying great team relationships in other activities.
- 16. Persistence and being able to accept a role is extremely important for the team to be successful.** *Not everyone will be a starter, but everyone is important to the team. Some players may not develop until their senior season. Encourage them to be persistent.

