

Centennial Junior Knights Football - FAQs

How much does it cost to play and what do the fees cover:

The 2021 registration fee for all grades is \$375. Each year typically there is an initial down payment due and then a few dates for installment payments to pay the rest.

This fee covers the following:

- Season Dues and Expenses
- Equipment (helmets, pads, practice and game jerseys)
- Spring Football workouts
- Summer Football workouts
- Homecoming parade
- Junior Knight Night
- Games at the Fortress (the High School football field)

Players will be responsible for football pants, socks, cleats and mouthpiece. Equipment must be returned after the last game.

Is there a Refund Policy?

Refunds are based on these dates:

- 100% refund BEFORE June 1st
- 50% refund BEFORE August 1st
- After August 1st: NO REFUNDS
- Note: Cancellation of the Season due to COVID restrictions (or other unforeseen events) will result in a graduated refund schedule.

When does the season start and end?

- Spring workouts run for 2 weeks May 10-20th in 2021.
- Fall practices are expected to start on Monday, July 26th.
- The first game will typically be late in late August but could be early September (TBD).
- The last regular season games are mid-October. Playoffs begin immediately following the regular season in late October, and as long as the team keeps winning, you will be playing in the championship games typically the weekend before Thanksgiving.

We usually schedule an end of season party for all Junior Knights after Thanksgiving, but before the Winter break in December.

When are practices held?

Practice times are typically follow a Mon, Wed, and Thursday routine but can vary at the discretion of coaches. In 2021, we expect all teams to practice on Mon, Wed and Thursday. Younger grade groups usually practice from 5:30 to 7:30, and the middle schoolers usually go from 6:30 to 8:30. Again, this decision is made by the head coach based on what's best for that team.

Where are practices held?

Practices for all grades are held on the Centennial High School athletic campus but alternate locations like Hillside and Northwood elementary school fields are also used occasionally – in the Spring for example.

When are the games?

All games are held on Saturdays. Times vary week by week, but typically elementary school (4th and 5th grade) games are held in the morning or early afternoon. Middle school games (6th, 7th, and 8th) are typically 3:00, 5:00 and 7:00 PM. Times vary more for the elementary school teams.

Where are the games?

All home games are held at the Centennial High School football field, referred to as “the Fortress”. Away games are typically held at the opposing team’s high school field.

What equipment is provided?

Equipment provided for use during the season, includes helmet, shoulder pads, game and practice jerseys. This equipment must be returned at the conclusion of the season.

What equipment do I need to provide?

Mouthpiece, socks and cleats. Plus, each player should purchase their own pair of all black football pants for the middle school teams.

What is expected of me and my boy?

Here are the key expectations:

- Players need to attend all practices unless they are sick or have some other good reason
- Players and parents should communicate if they are going to miss any practices or games
- Players should be a good team player and follow what the coaches say including embracing their recommended position
- **Parents – and this is VERY IMPORTANT but all parents are expected to Volunteer and help with activities related to Game Day.** There are many roles needed to make the program work (i.e. concessions, grilling, work the sideline chains, announcer, collect money at entry, etc.). It takes a village.
- Also, parents should be patient with coaches keeping in mind they work hundreds of hours at no cost to coach their teams
- Beyond these, each coach will provide their team specific expectations

Are there tryouts and how is playing time determined?

Unlike most other Junior sports, there are not tryouts to be on the team. For middle school, there are no guaranteed playing time requirements. Playing time is solely based on the coaches discretion but all coaches do their best to get kids playing time knowing that the goal of our program is to keep and develop players to later play at the high school level. The elementary school level kids do have minimum playing time requirements established by the league. Each coach will provide more details on this.

During the Season What is the Method of Communication from Coaches to Players and Parents

Communication varies by team. However, many of the coaches leverage and maintain an e-mail list to communicate to all parents. Other methods include leveraging Apps and related technology like “GroupMe” and “TeamSnap” as examples. Also, coaches will provide verbal reminders to the kids and parents as well both before and after practices and games.

How do I get General Information on the Junior Knights football program?

All information is on the Centennial Knights football website at <https://www.chsknightsfootball.com/>

The information for Junior Knights is within the Knights section on the website at <https://chsknightsfootball.com/jrknights>

The easiest way to get to our website information though is to simply search on “[jrknightsfootball.com](https://www.chsknightsfootball.com/)”

In what football leagues will the teams participate?

Our elementary school teams (5th grade and below) will play in the Cobb Football League <http://www.cobbfootball.com/> . Our middle school teams will play in the GMSAA (Georgia Middle School Athletic Association, <http://www.gmsaafotball.net/>

What does the program do to ensure player safety:

Player safety is really the highest priority for the program. The following outlines some of the aspects to ensure player safety:

GMSAA Rules: Full contact during regular season practice shall:

- Not be allowed on more than three (3) practice days per week
- Not be allowed to occur on more than two (2) consecutive days
- Last no more than 30 minutes per day
- Be limited to 90 minutes per week

All coaches to be certified AED/CPR.

Athletic/Medical Trainer in attendance at all games (home & away).

Do the Junior Knights have a Mission and What is It?

Yes the Junior Knights mission is the following:

The Centennial Junior Knights Football Program is a non-profit organization created to develop and prepare middle school athletes for high school football.

Junior Knights Football is dedicated to fielding competitive teams who play in the Georgia Middle School Athletic Association (GMSAA) and dedicated to preparing its athletes to excel at the high school level.

The organization is governed and organized by volunteers and actively supports and partners with the Centennial High School football program.

How can I help?

Two words – “Volunteer” and “Recruit”.

Junior Knights Football is a 100% volunteer run organization. Board members, coaches, team moms, and game day operations folks all donate their time and talent to help make this a great experience for the families of our community. If you have football playing and/or coaching experience and would like to join the coaching staff of any of our teams OR if you would like to help as a team mom/dad or help with game day operations, concessions, equipment, etc. we have LOTS of opportunities available. Please send a note to our e-mail address: <mailto:juniorknightsfb@gmail.com>

All parents and/or guardians are expected to volunteer for at least 3 game day shifts during the season.

We also need help building the rosters, meaning recruiting young boys who want to play. Typically our teams start smaller and then build momentum as they move up in middle school. Boys and families have friends that want to play or influence them to play. If you know of a boy/family who wants to play, please refer them to our webpage and this frequently asked questions doc but also forward their information to the e-mail address: <mailto:juniorknightsfb@gmail.com>