

Owatonna Huskies Football 2023

OHS Football Philosophy

Building Winners...On and Off the Field

Owatonna Football Core Values

The Owatonna Football Program is designed to be an integral part of the overall educational experience at Owatonna High School. We believe there are many lessons and skills that can be learned on the athletic field that are difficult to teach in the classroom. The most important of these have become the core values of our program and are the characteristics that define a winner, both on and off the field.

- **Commitment to Excellence**
We will relentlessly pursue excellence in every aspect of our program, both on and off the field.
- **Competitiveness**
We will develop a healthy attitude toward competition and the leadership skills and confidence necessary to excel in a competitive environment.
- **Teamwork**
We will develop such a spirit of teamwork and selfless cooperation that the whole becomes better than the sum of its parts.
- **Discipline**
We will develop the awareness that nothing of any real value is ever achieved without discipline, hard work, dedication, and sacrifice.
- **Tenacity**
We will develop tenacity to overcome setbacks and adverse situations, and a resolve that defeat will never have the last word.
- **Class**
We will strive to be the right kinds of people, show poise under pressure, pursue victory with honor, and display class in all situations and under all circumstances.
- **Fun**
We will derive pleasure and satisfaction from working hard and achieving success, enjoy the camaraderie that comes from being a member of a team, and play “for the love of the game.”

Purpose

The aim of the Football Program at Owatonna High School is to accomplish the following goals and objectives:

- To maximize the skills and abilities of each player on the team.
- To prepare for competition by giving full effort in practice sessions.
- To win each game the team is involved in.
- To be the best team in the Northstar South-Maroon District.
- To win the Section 1AAAAA Championship and compete for a State Title.
- To treat our teammates, opponents and game officials with respect.
- To adhere to training rules and regulations.
- To accept the responsibility to train in the off-season.
- To represent Owatonna High School and the Owatonna community in a first-class fashion.

Ultimately, we are striving toward one goal that encompasses all the rest:

**To be the most respected Football Program
in the State of Minnesota!**



**The person you have become after you have
finished the chase is what is most important.**

Program Information

School: Owatonna High School
Address: 1455 SE 18th Street
Owatonna, MN 55060
Phone: 507-444-8800
Nickname: Huskies
Colors: Royal Blue and Silver
Team Established: 1893
Independent School District: 761
District: Northstar South-Maroon
Section: 1AAAAA
All Time Record: 569-383-30 (.595)
Conference Titles: 1981, 1982, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1989, 1999,
2007, 2008, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019
Section Runner Up: 1994, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2021, 2022
State Playoff Appearances: 1982, 1998, 1999, 2012, 2013, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
State Semifinalist: 2016
State Runners-Up: 1982, 1998, 2012
State Champions: 2013, 2017, 2018
Head Coach: Jeff Williams, 28th Year, 199-83 (.706)
Coaching Staff: Jeff Williams..... Varsity Head Coach
Varsity Offensive Coordinator
Quarterbacks V/B
Marc Achterkirch..... Varsity Associate Head Coach
Varsity Defensive Coordinator
Linebackers V/B
Seth Muir..... Defensive Line V/B
Jerry Eggermont..... Outside Linebackers V/B
Head Strength and Conditioning
Kyle Melcher..... Head Offensive Line V/B
Matt Skala..... Running Backs V/B
Nate Skala..... Wide Receivers V/B
Mark Clauson..... Special Teams Coordinator
Defensive Backs V/B
Neil Thompson..... Defensive Backs V/B
Brad Scharber..... Defensive Line V/B
Andrew McGuire..... Offensive Line V/B
Adam Woitalla..... B-Squad Head Coach
B-Squad Defensive Coordinator
Defensive Backs V/B
Cole Orlowski..... B-Squad Offensive Coordinator
Offensive Line V/B
Michael Bengen..... Tight Ends V/B
Dean Walters..... 9th Grade Head Coach
9th Grade Offensive Coordinator
Steve Zappa..... 9th Grade Defensive Coordinator
Marc Wiese..... Assistant 9th
Mike Klein..... Assistant 9th
CW Wolfe..... Assistant 9th
Ben Flack..... Assistant 9th

Captains:	Mitch Seykora, Owen Beyer, Jacob Ginskey, Torrin Smith
Superintendent:	Jeff Elstad
Principal:	Kory Kath
Assistant Principal:	Phil Wiken
Assistant Principal:	Hollie Jeska
Activities Director:	Marc Achterkirch
Activities Secretary:	Nancy Benson
Equipment Manager:	Eric Hancock
Game Manager:	Don Muir
Athletic Trainer:	Terry "TC" Carlyle
Band Director:	Peter Guenther
Cheerleading Coach:	Jenna Compton

Northstar South-Maroon District

New Prague
Northfield
Owatonna
Rochester Century
Rochester John Marshall

Section 1AAAAA Member Schools

New Prague
Northfield
Owatonna
Rochester Century
Rochester John Marshall



Eligibility Rules

Academic Eligibility

In order to be academically eligible, the player must be making satisfactory progress toward graduation. This means that the following number of credits must have been accumulated each year in order to play:

Sophomore	7 Credits
Junior	14 Credits
Senior	21 Credits

Failure to meet the above requirements will cause the player to enter a probationary period of half a year. The conditions for remaining eligible during the probationary period are determined by the Activities Director. Usually this requires the player to register for 4 credits and be passing all coursework at the next marking period (mid-quarter or quarter). Failure to meet those requirements will result in immediate ineligibility to participate in any practices or games until satisfactory progress is demonstrated at the next grading period.

Physical Examination

In order to practice or play in a game or scrimmage, all players must have a physical on file in the Activities Office. Physicals are required every three years and are typically done prior to the 7th and 10th Grade seasons. Status of Physical Exams are available on Infinite Campus under “Health and Screenings”. Physical exams were provided free of charge at the Owatonna Clinic 26th Street location on August 1-3. If a player does not have a valid Physical on file after those dates, he will need to schedule a physical with his family physician before he is eligible to practice or play.

Chemical Use

The use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, or any controlled substance including steroids will cause the player to be ineligible to compete in scheduled contests for a period of time. Practice is at the discretion of the Head Coach. The penalties are:

1 st Violation	2 games or 2 weeks, whichever is longer
2 nd Violation	6 games or 3 weeks, whichever is longer
3 rd Violation	12 games or 4 weeks, whichever is longer

The violations are cumulative throughout the athlete’s participation in high school athletics. Appeals must be made to the Principal within 10 days of the decision.

Criminal Conduct

If a player is found to have committed a crime, he may be ineligible to compete. Penalties will be determined by the Principal and/or the Activities Director.

Harassment and Violence

Racial, religious and sexual harassment or violence will cause a player to be ineligible. Penalties will be determined by the Principal and/or the Activities Director.

Social Media

Treat every post and conversation on social media sites as if it were a “Nationally Televised Press Conference.”

Hazing

Hazing and initiation rituals are barred by the Minnesota State High School League. Participation in a hazing event will cause the player to be ineligible. Penalties are the same as for chemical use.

Suspension from School

If a player is suspended from school, he will be ineligible to practice or compete on the days the suspension is served. A Code of Conduct punishment may also be delivered. Suspensions will be handed out for fighting, vandalism, possession of banned items, etc. These activities are not tolerated.

School Attendance

In order to be eligible to practice or compete that day, the player must be present in school. Excused absences and School-related absences such as field trips and college visits are the exception. Players will be expected to be in class on time for 1st Period on days following away games regardless of the time the team returned home.

Ejection

As per Minnesota State High School League rules, ejection from a contest will result in a one game suspension. A second ejection will result in a four game suspension.



Team Policies and Procedures

Attendance

All players will be expected to attend every team function throughout the course of the season and to be on time. This includes practices, games, scrimmages, team meetings, fundraisers, etc. If a family emergency such as the death of a family member should arise, please call the Head Coach of your son's team to discuss the situation. If a player is injured, he will be expected to report to the Training Department for treatment during all scheduled team activities. If a player is too ill to practice, he should stay home and recuperate. Please call the Head Coach of your son's team prior to the scheduled practice time to inform him of the absence. Once school has begun, please call the Attendance Secretary to report the absence and ask that she also put a note in the appropriate Coach's mailbox at school to inform him of your son's absence from school and practice that day. Please call the following numbers to report your son's absence due to illness:

Varsity	Coach Williams	444-8908
B-Squad	Coach Woitalla	444-8904
9 th Grade	Coach Walters	475-0761
Attendance	Ms. Rosenau	444-8805

Tardiness will require that the player carry out extra conditioning assignments. Missing practice due to illness or family emergency will not result in the permanent loss of position on the depth chart. However, playing time in the next game may be reduced simply because the player missed important practice time and is unprepared for the upcoming opponent. Missing a team event due to family vacations, trips, work, oversleeping, suspension from school, detention, etc. will be considered unexcused and will subject the player to extra conditioning and loss of position on the depth chart. Playing time in games may also be reduced. Chronic unexcused absences will result in dismissal from the team.

Injury

The OHS Athletic Training Staff will be present at all practices and home games. The trainers will handle all injuries that occur in those situations. In the event that a player sustains any sort of injury, he should seek treatment first from the OHS Athletic Training Staff. Please do not seek primary treatment from a family physician or a chiropractor before seeing the Athletic Trainer. This applies to all injuries, whether football related or not. The only exception to this would be an injury that requires emergency treatment. The Athletic Trainer is an expert in the area of sport-related injury and will administer primary treatment and establish a rehabilitation schedule. In the event that a doctor's care is necessary, the Athletic Trainer is able to refer the player to a physician who is an expert in sports medicine. This will ensure that the injury is treated properly and the player can return to the field as rapidly as possible. Handling all injuries through the Athletic Training Department also keeps the lines of communication open with the coaching staff so they remain informed of the player's status. As stated earlier, all injured players are expected to attend all team functions and may receive treatment from the Athletic Training Staff at that time.

You may contact the Athletic Trainer Terry "TC" Carlyle at the following numbers:

Cell: 507-213-1924

TC is generally available until 11 PM Monday through Saturday. Do not call on Sunday.

Safety

The safety of our student-athletes is our most important consideration. Football is a contact sport and injuries are bound to occur. That being said, the Owatonna High School Football Staff is committed to taking every step necessary to ensure the safety of our players. We do so in the following ways:

- We attempt to put our players in the best equipment possible. The Quarterback Club has supplemented the school district budget to provide protective equipment that is, in many cases, the same that is worn by Division I College and NFL players.
- We take the time to ensure that every player is fitted for their equipment properly. Our staff and equipment managers fit every helmet and shoulder pad on every player in our program. An independent equipment representative also checks each player to ensure that his helmet fits properly.
- We give all of our players a safety briefing in which we reinforce the need to use proper technique to avoid injury.
- We teach all techniques with player safety in mind. We will never instruct a player to carry out a blocking or tackling technique that will endanger his health.
- We do not endorse any performance-enhancing supplements that are not endorsed by the American Federation of High School Athletics or the Minnesota State High School League. This includes anabolic steroids, chemicals such as “Andro” that are metabolized by the body into anabolic steroids, supplements containing pseudoephedrine, creatine, or stimulants including those containing large doses of approved substances such as caffeine.
- To the best of their ability, players should refrain from bringing food containing nuts into the locker room or on team buses. Nut allergies can be very serious and we are often not aware of a player’s allergy.

Playing Time

The Owatonna Football Program does not cut athletes from the squad. Any person who is interested in being a part of the team is welcomed. Being a part of the team does not, however, mean that the player will necessarily play in a game. Each level of our program becomes more serious and selective and the emphasis shifts from a participation-based youth program to a focus toward on-field success at the Varsity level. The philosophy of each level of play is as follows:

- Grades 1-2 Park and Rec “Mini Husky” Football: Emphasis on an introduction to the skills related to the game of football.
- Grades 3-4 Park and Rec “Mighty Husky” Football: Emphasis on fun, participation, and learning a wide variety of football skills. Blocking and tackling are introduced.
- Grades 5-6 Park and Rec “Junior Husky” Football: Emphasis on fun, participation, refining advanced skills such as blocking and tackling, and learning position specific techniques.
- Grades 7-8 Middle School Football: Emphasis on fun and advancing in the skills of the game. The OHS system of play is introduced. While participation is fostered by having multiple teams at each level, playing time is not necessarily equal.
- 9th Grade Football: Emphasis on fun and learning the OHS system of play. More advanced techniques are taught. Playing time is based on a player’s skill level and who can best help the team in any given situation. We will attempt to play as many players as possible in each game, but playing time will not be equal.
- B-Squad Football: Emphasis on fun, refining the OHS system of play, and preparing to play a given offensive and defensive position at the Varsity level. Playing time is based

on a player's skill level and who can best help the team in any given situation. The best team will be on the field in critical situations. Playing time will not be equal and is not guaranteed in any given game.

- Varsity Football: Emphasis on fun, perfecting techniques and the OHS system of play and representing our school and community. We will attempt to win every contest we play in and our best team will be on the field. Playing time is not guaranteed. It is earned based upon the ability a player has to help the team win.

Playing time is at the discretion of the coach of each level of play. If a player is not happy with the amount of time he is seeing on the field, we encourage him to approach his coach to discuss why he is not playing as much as he would like and what he can do to see more time. Parent phone calls or emails will not influence the coach's decision-making process when it comes to playing time.

Role of Parents

It is our belief that parents play a critical role in the success of our program. Parents financially support their son's participation in football, schedule their lives around their son's practice and games, encourage their sons to be the best that they can, and are there to support them when things are going well and when they are not going so well. What follows are a few guidelines that parents should follow in order to ensure that their son has a positive experience in the football program and beyond:

- Monitor your son's grades. Insist that he study and earn good grades. Put academics first. Do not be afraid to call a member of the coaching staff if you believe we can help your son refocus on academics. It is our first priority as well.
- Monitor your son's social activities. Get to know his friends and girlfriend and monitor his hangouts, curfew, language, rules, etc. Talk to him about drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and sex and encourage him to make the right decisions. If you do not communicate well in these areas, the wrong people may influence your son. Again, the staff is available to help you in any way that we can in these areas.
- Support the coaching staff, teachers, and administration. They represent authority. You will send your son the wrong message if you ridicule his coach, teacher, or principal. Support the rules, philosophies, and systems of the program and the school.
- Be a model of poise and confidence when you watch your son play the game. Keep emotions under control.
- Give your son time and space after a game. He may not be interested in rehashing every referee call, every coaching decision, and especially, every mistake he made. Just tell him how much you love watching him play.
- Let your son participate because he wants to. Don't force it down his throat. Don't push him to play in order to win a scholarship. Doing so pressures him unduly. Let him play because he loves the game. If he is good enough, he can earn a scholarship.
- Ask your son what his goals are for the season, what he will consider to be a successful season, and what he feels his role will be on the team. Be sure that your expectations are in line with his. If they are not, drop yours and accept his.
- Be realistic about your son's abilities. God gave us many different skills and limitations. Encourage your son to work hard and do the best he can. Then, accept his role on the team and let him know how important it is to the team's success.
- Be positive with your son. Complaining about playing time, policies, systems, etc. will certainly rub off. Negative parents raise negative sons...negative sons don't play.
- Keep in mind that the coaches see your son in many situations that you do not. We spend many hours with them in practice and observe how they handle themselves in the classroom and in the hallways. The coaching staff is committed to putting the best team on the field that is possible. Have faith that we know what we are doing.

- Understand that politics have no impact whatsoever in the Owatonna Football Program. Team roles and playing time are earned based upon merit, not how rich the family is or who the parents are. Don't be envious of other players. Think of them all as if they were your own son.
- Let the coaches push your son a little. It's a tough world out there. Let him begin preparing for it by allowing the coaches to challenge your son to be better than he ever thought he could be. Resist the temptation to step in as soon as things get tough for him. Mental toughness can only be learned in tough situations. Have faith that we, too, have the best interests of your son at heart. We are trying to make him a better player and a better person. This is true of starters and reserves alike.
- Release your son to the game. It is his experience, not yours. Every joy, success, failure, and problem is his...allow him to deal with each experience on its own and as it comes.
- Remember that if your son is making good decisions about academics, alcohol and drugs, sex, and friends, sports is a great dessert. If not, no amount of athletic success will make things okay.
- Love your son no matter what.

Communication

Players should always feel comfortable approaching coaches with any questions or concerns they might have. While playing time is a coaching decision and the coach will always have the final word, we are always willing to explain to a player why he is not playing as much as he would like and what steps he can take in order to increase his playing time in the future. Parents and guardians are always free to call members of the coaching staff with questions about the team and the program. If a player parent or guardian should have a concern about anything related to the Football Program, the appropriate steps to take are listed in the order they should occur:

- 1) The player should talk with his coach about the concern and attempt to resolve it man to man. This teaches individual responsibility. If resolution is not found:
- 2) The parent or guardian should call the Head Coach of their son's team at his office phone and set up an appointment to discuss the concern. If resolution is not found:
- 3) The parent or guardian should call the Varsity Head Coach at his office phone and set up an appointment to discuss the concern. If resolution is not found:
- 4) The Varsity Head Coach and the parent or guardian should set up an appointment to discuss the concern with the Activities Director. If resolution is not found:
- 5) The matter should be referred to the OHS Principal.

We are always interested in hearing the opinions and insights of people who have the courage of their convictions. Anonymous messages will not be read or taken seriously.

Travel to Games, Scrimmages, and Off-Site Practices

Players will be expected to travel to and from "away" contests on the school-provided bus or van. Traveling together develops a team focus and builds camaraderie and chemistry. Should an emergency arise that requires a player to leave a game in a separate vehicle, the parent must sign a waiver form and personally hand it to the Head Coach of the team. Travel waivers are available under the Info tab at owatonnafootball.com.

Travel to Team Dinners, Fundraisers, and Other Team Activities

Parents will be asked to sign a waiver allowing their child to drive or ride with another player to, or during, team activities. Failure or refusal to sign the waiver will require a parent to drive their child to all said activities.

Equipment

The player will be issued all the necessary equipment to play the game of football with the exception of cleats and a mouth guard. We take great pride in providing the best equipment that money can buy. All protective equipment will be fitted with the assistance of the coaching staff and equipment managers. If any piece of equipment does not fit properly, it should be brought to the equipment manager for exchange. The player will be expected to maintain the equipment throughout the season and should let the equipment manager know as soon as possible if any repairs need to be made. At the end of the season, the player will be expected to return all equipment checked out to him. The player will be required to pay the replacement cost of any piece of equipment that is not returned.

Attire and Grooming

OHS Football Players represent the school and the community in all they do and are expected to conform to certain standards of attire and grooming. When involved in any team function, the player will refrain from wearing clothing that is obscene or promotes tobacco or alcoholic beverages. On game days, the player will wear the appropriate game jersey throughout the day. This promotes team unity, develops focus on the upcoming game and lets students and staff members know that we are playing that day and that we are a team.

Uniform

When wearing an OHS Football Uniform, the player is a representative of the entire community of Owatonna and should carry himself accordingly. Additions to the uniform must meet with the approval of the coaching staff. Jewelry of any kind is prohibited by rule. We are a team. We will look like a team. We will play as a team.

Sportsmanship

The Owatonna Football Program has a very simple sportsmanship policy. As representatives of the community of Owatonna, Owatonna High School, and the proud tradition of a Football Program that dates back to 1893:

We Will Never Embarrass the Blue Jersey

Other Sports

The Owatonna High School Coaching Staff encourages our players to participate in other sports throughout the school year. Two and three-sport athletes have always formed the backbone of our program and our best players have traditionally been multi-sport athletes. That being said, we also believe that during the football season, football must be the primary athletic focus. Players are not to participate in other sport activities during the three days prior to a game. This includes ice skating, open gym, open wrestling, skateboarding, inline skating, etc. This will allow the staff to instruct a reserve should a player become injured in one of these activities. Violation of this policy will result in reduced playing time in the next contest.

Lettering

All players who participate in all practices, games, and other team functions at the Varsity level without an unexcused absence and who did not serve a suspension due to a MSHSL violation will be awarded a Varsity Letter for the sport of Football. Underclassmen that are pulled up to the Varsity during the course of the season or at the conclusion of the regular season may be awarded a Varsity letter at the discretion of the Head Coach.

Pulling Players Up

There are two major reasons we may ask a player to play up a level. These are:

1. The talent level of the player is such that he will be best served by playing at a higher level of competition in order to maximize his ability.
2. There is a significant weakness at a certain position that can best be filled by a player at a lower level.

For these reasons, we will only pull up a player if he will see significant playing time at the higher level and has the ability to compete against bigger and more skilled athletes. If this proves not to be the case, the player will be returned to his age-appropriate level. Before calling up an 8th grader to the 9th Grade Team or a 9th grader to the B-Squad Team, the coach will contact both the parents and the player to discuss the situation. If the player or his parents have reservations about such a move, the player will remain at his age-appropriate level.

Because we assume that the ultimate goal of all players in the program is to play at the Varsity level, we will typically talk only with the player prior to pulling him up to the Varsity. If parents have reservations about such a move, they should contact the Head Coach.

Fundraising

The Owatonna Football Program and its booster organization, the Owatonna Quarterback Club, conduct a number of fundraisers throughout the year to supplement the budget provided by the school district. Currently, the school district provides the salaries for three Varsity, two B-Squad, and two 9th Grade coaches, travel to away games, officials for home games, and a given amount for the purchase of balls, uniforms and protective equipment. Through the efforts of our players, coaches, parent volunteers, and friends of the program, we have been able to purchase additional equipment, pay additional coaches, and provide services that the school district simply cannot afford. Over the past several years, the Quarterback Club has provided the following to the Owatonna Football Program:

- Gilman Gauntlet Sled, 5-Man Blocking Sled, 2-Man Blocking Sled, Blocking Chute
- CoachComm Tempest 9-Person Wireless Head Phone Set
- Digital Editing System
- Digital Remote End Zone Camera
- Stadium Banners
- Waterboy Hydration Systems
- Powerade
- Video Cameras
- Sideline Replay System with iPads
- LCD Video Projection Systems
- JUGS Passing Machine
- Playbook and Depth Chart Software
- Game Program Printing for all Regular Season Home Games
- MVP Plaque
- Support to OHS Hall of Fame
- Nike Varsity, B-Squad, and 9th Grade Game Jerseys
- Sideline Jackets
- Travel Bags
- Schedule Posters
- Scrimmage Transportation
- Banquet Awards
- Coach Bus Upgrade for all Varsity Games and B-Squad/9th Grade trips to Winona
- Vicis Zero 1 and Riddell Speed/Speed-Flex Helmets
- Stadium Improvements
- Riddell Power Shoulder Pads
- Speed Development Equipment

- Additional Protective Equipment
- Playbook Printing
- Down Markers
- Locker Room Banners and Signs
- Weight Room Equipment
- Weight Lifting Program Software
- Blocking Dummies
- Locker Room Goal Boards
- Additional Coaches

Funds for these items and services are raised by the following events:

- Huskies Card (Players)
- Youth Camp (Coach Skala, Coaches and Current Players and Alumni)
- Game Program (Coach Clauson, and Parent Volunteers)
- Concession Stand (Coach Muir, and Parent Volunteers)
- Email/Text Blitz (Coach Williams)
- Eagles Meat Raffles (Parent Volunteers)
- ~~VFW Pancake Breakfast (Coach Wanous, Players, and VFW Volunteers)~~
- ~~Huskies Ticket Book (Players)~~
- Golf Tournament (Coach Wiese)

With the combined efforts of the Owatonna Public School District and the Owatonna Quarterback Club, we continue to build a first-class football program for the student-athletes in this community. Please support us in all of our endeavors!

Calendar

Official Game Schedules with the most current dates, times, and locations can be found at www.Big9.org. You may subscribe to the site to receive updates on your phone in real-time. Practice times and other team events can be found under the Calendar tab at www.owatonnafootball.com We do our best to keep the Calendar accurate and updated.

Awards

A number of honors are given to players throughout the season and at its conclusion. Below is an explanation of how recipients of these awards are selected:

- Captain-Selected by a vote of the returning Varsity Players.
- MVP-Selected by a vote of the Varsity Players.
- Offensive/Defensive/Special Teams Player of the Year-Selected by the Varsity Staff.
- Lineman of the Year-Selected by a vote of the Varsity Players.
- Champion of the Year-Selected by the Varsity Staff.
- Northstar Maroon-South All District-Nominated by Head Coach. Selected by a vote of the District Head Coaches.
- Northstar Maroon-South Honorable Mention-Nominated by Head Coach. Selected by a vote of the District Head Coaches.
- Big 9 Scholar-Senior who is a contributing member of the team and maintains a cumulative GPA of 3.7.
- All-Area-Selected by the Sports Editor of the Owatonna People's Press.
- All-State-Selected by a vote of the Associated Press member sportswriters.
- Academic All-State-Nominated by Head Coach. Selected by a panel of Head Coaches throughout Minnesota.
- All Star Game-Nominated by Head Coach. Selected by a panel of Head Coaches throughout Minnesota.

Game Schedules

Varsity

Saturday August 26	Scrimmage	9:00 AM Prior Lake HS
Friday September 1	HASTINGS (DEDICATION)	7:00 PM
Friday September 8	at Chanhassen	7:00 PM
Friday September 15	NEW PRAGUE (HOF)	7:00 PM
Friday September 22	at Northfield	7:00 PM
Friday September 29	ROCHESTER CENTURY (HC&TC)	7:00 PM
Friday October 6	at Mankato West	7:00 PM
Friday October 13	ROCHESTER JM (SR NIGHT)	7:00 PM
Wednesday October 18	at Apple Valley	7:00 PM
Tuesday October 24	Section Quarterfinals	7:00 PM High Seed
Saturday October 28	Section Semifinals	7:00 PM High Seed
Friday November 3	Section Finals	7:00 PM High Seed
Thur-Sat November 9-11	State Quarterfinals vs. Section 3	TBD
Fri-Sat November 17-18	State Semifinals	TBD US Bank
Saturday November 25	Prep Bowl Finals	4:00 PM US Bank

B-Squad

Saturday August 26	Scrimmage	9:00 AM Prior Lake HS
Thursday August 31	at Hastings	5:00 PM
Thursday September 7	CHANHASSEN	5:00 PM
Monday September 18	at New Prague	5:00 PM
Monday September 25	NORTHFIELD	5:00 PM
Monday October 2	at Rochester Century	4:30 PM
Saturday October 7	MANKATO WEST	11:00 AM
Thursday October 12	at Rochester JM	5:00 PM
Tuesday October 17	APPLE VALLEY	5:00 PM

9th Grade

Saturday August 26	Scrimmage	9:00 AM Prior Lake HS
Thursday August 31	HASTINGS	5:00 PM
Thursday September 7	at Chanhassen	5:00 PM
Tuesday September 12	NRHEG	5:00 PM
Monday September 18	NEW PRAGUE	5:00 PM
Monday September 25	at Northfield	5:00 PM
Monday October 2	ROCHESTER CENTURY	6:00 PM
Saturday October 7	at Mankato West	11:00 AM
Thursday October 12	ROCHESTER JM	7:00 PM
Tuesday October 17	at Apple Valley	5:00 PM

*****SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE*****

Go to Big9.org for current schedules

Contacts

Head Varsity Coach**Jeff Williams**

Office: 507-444-8908

Email: jwilliams@isd761.org**Head B-Squad Coach****Adam Voitalla**

Office: 507-444-8904

Email: awoitalla@isd761.org**Head 9th Grade Coach****Dean Walters**

Cell: 507-475-0761

Email: dwalters@isd761.org**Athletic Trainer****Terry “TC” Carlyle**

Office: 507-444-8828

Cell: 507-213-1924

Email: tcarlyle@isd761.org**Activities Director****Marc Achterkirch**

Office: 507-444-8989

Email: machterkirch@isd761.org**Activities Secretary****Nancy Benson**

Office: 507-444-8988

Email: nbenson@isd761.org**Owatonna High School Main Office****Jacquie Grunklee**

Phone: 507-444-8800

Email: mrosenau@isd761.org**Attendance Secretary****Megan Rosenau**

Phone: 507-444-8816

Email: mrosenau@isd761.org

Media

Radio

KRFO AM 1390

- Live broadcast of all Varsity Games. Pregame at 6:30 PM, Kickoff at 7:00 PM.
- Coaches show every Saturday at 9:05 AM.

Live Stream

Owatonna Live: www.owatonnaalive.com

- Live broadcast of all home Varsity Games.

Print

Owatonna People's Press: www.owatonna.com

- Published four days a week. Contains previews, features and game stories.

Steele County Times: www.steelecountytimes.com

- Weekly newspaper that does a great job with game stories, photos, and player features.

Web

Owatonna Football Website

www.owatonnafootball.com

- Team information, pictures, rosters, schedules, statistics, weather, newspaper links, maps to opponent's locations, history, and much more.
- NEW THIS YEAR: Game stories, previews, and player features from Jon Weisbrod, formerly OPP Jon. Check articles out under the NEWS tab.

Big 9 Conference Website

www.big9.org

- Official schedule of all Big 9/Big SE teams
- Field locations for all games

Social Media

Twitter

[@huskiesfootball](https://twitter.com/huskiesfootball)

- This is our primary method of communicating the latest happenings within the Owatonna Football Program. We encourage you to follow us for the most current updates.

Instagram

[@tonnafootball](https://www.instagram.com/tonnafootball)

- Pictures of the latest happenings within the Owatonna Football Program.

Photography

Oldenburg Photography

- Individual and Team Photo Packages. Varsity pictures will be taken on Tuesday August 15 at 12:00 Noon. B-Squad and 9th Grade Pictures will be taken on August 15 at 11:30 AM. Packages will be available. Call 507-455-0959 or email mikephoto0959@gmail.com to order additional prints.

Walter Photography

- Action photographs taken at each varsity game and are posted on his website. Go to owatonnafootball.com to find the link.

Video

Walter Photography

- A Highlight Video of the varsity season will be available at the Football Banquet.

Special Events

Team Photos

Tuesday August 15, 11:30 AM, OHS Stadium

Team and individual photos will be taken for use in the Game Program. Packages will be available for purchase. Money must be turned in at the time of the shoot if you wish to purchase a package. Contact Oldenburg Photography at 455-0959 or email mikephoto0959@gmail.com for reorders or more information.

Rally at the Fair

Sunday August 20, 7:00 PM, Fair Square Park at the Steele County Fairgrounds

Annual Pep Rally at the Fair to kick off the start of the Football Season. Introductions of Varsity Players, Coaches, and Cheerleaders. Admission is free.

Gold Card Blitz Night

Wednesday August 23, 5:00-8:00 PM, Varsity Locker Room

Annual Varsity, B-Squad, and 9th Grade Fundraiser. Cards offer discount at over 20 locations in Owatonna and cost \$25. Cards will be distributed to the players during the first week of practice. Players will return \$500 (20 cards sold) at 5:00 PM on Blitz Night. Those who have not sold all their cards will go out in teams and sell them by 8:00 PM.

Cards can be purchased after the night of the blitz by calling Coach Williams at 444-8908 and leaving a message. Proceeds benefit Owatonna Football.

Youth Football Clinic Night

Thursday August 24, 6:15-7:45 PM, OHS Stadium

All Varsity players will report to the shed at 6:15 PM to get their equipment ready to go for the clinic. Youth players will begin at 6:30 PM and will participate in a variety of football drills at multiple stations around the field. Our players will introduce themselves, demonstrate the drill, and coach the participants as they rotate from station to station.

Stadium Cleanup

Friday August 25, 12:00 PM, OHS Stadium

Sophomores will clean the stadium grounds and prepare the field for play.

Varsity, B-Squad, and 9th Grade Scrimmage**Saturday August 26, 9:00 AM, Prior Lake High School**

Varsity, B-Squad, and 9th Grade will scrimmage both offensively and defensively at Prior Lake High School. Admission is free.

Address of Dan Patch Stadium at Prior Lake High School: 7575 150th Street West, Savage, MN 55378.

Mini Husky Pup Football**Saturday September 9, 16, 23, 30 - 9:00-10:15 AM, OHS Practice Fields**

Coach Melcher will assign Varsity and B-Squad players to work with the Mini Husky Pup program each week. The program teaches fundamental skills and games to players entering 1st and 2nd Grade.

Tackle Cancer Night**Friday September 29, 7:00 PM, OHS Stadium**

Tackle Cancer donations will be taken at the gate with proceeds benefiting the Randy Shaver Cancer Research and Community Fund.

Homecoming**Friday September 29, 7:00 PM, OHS Stadium**

Game vs. Rochester Century. Parade in downtown Owatonna at 1:30 PM. Varsity Team rides on a float.

Senior Night**Friday October 13, 6:30 PM, OHS Stadium**

Prior to the Varsity contest vs. Rochester JM, we will honor the parents of Senior Varsity Players, Managers, Cheerleaders, and Student Trainers.

Varsity and B-Squad Banquet**Sunday December 10 (tentative), 5:30 PM, Owatonna Eagles**

Varsity and B-Squad players receive year-end awards. Parents and friends are invited to attend.

Reminders

✓ Register Online: MSHSL Form, Insurance Waiver, Equipment Responsibility Agreement, and Current Physical Exam on file by Friday August 11 at 12 PM

Forms must be received by the Activities Office and registration verified. Failure to register on time will cause the player to be ineligible.

✓ Pay Activity Fee by Friday August 11 at 12 PM

Online electronic payment of \$175 made to Owatonna High School. Failure to pay fee on time will cause the player to be ineligible. Arrangements for a delayed payment or a fee waiver must be made through the Activities Department.

✓ Attend Parent Athlete Meeting August 14 at 6 PM in the OHS Auditorium

If the player is unable to attend, he must make up the meeting at a time to be designated by the Athletic Department. Failure to attend the makeup meeting will cause the player to be ineligible. We encourage all parents to attend as well.

✓ Buy 2023 Owatonna Football Apparel

Support Owatonna Football by purchasing Huskies Football Logo Apparel. Ordering information can be found at www.owatonnafootball.com. Orders will be accepted through Wednesday, August 16.

✓ Order a Photo Package by August 15 at 11:30 AM

Individual and Team Photos will be taken by Oldenburg Photography on the Game Field on Tuesday August 16 at 11:30 AM. Package information will be handed out at Parent-Athlete Meeting. Money and order form must be handed in at the time of the pictures. Additional packages may be ordered by calling 455-0959.

✓ Purchase and Mold Mouth Guard by Tuesday August 15 at 8 AM

Failure to come to practice with a mouth guard will result in the player being held out of any contact and given extra conditioning.

✓ Presell Gold Cards Prior to Blitz Night on Wednesday August 23 at 5:00 PM

All players 9-12 will participate in the Gold Card Blitz from 5:00-8:00 PM. Cards will be distributed during the first week of practice and a Presale Sheet is available on our website.

✓ **Youth Football Clinic on Thursday August 24 at 6:15 PM**

Coach Skala will assign Varsity Football Players to run stations for 3rd through 6th Grade Football Players.

✓ **Buy Activity Ticket**

Single game tickets and Activity passes will be provided through Hometown Ticketing. All Big 9 Schools and the MSHSL will be utilizing Hometown Ticketing for online ticket purchases this year. Go to www.owatonnaactivities.com and click on the Hometown Ticketing box to make purchases and download tickets to your phone.

Activity Pass

Student-\$43

Adult-\$93

Husband/Wife-\$143

Senior Citizen (62+ and out of District)-\$43

District Employee Spouse-\$48

(Processing fee will be added to all online transactions)

Individual Game Tickets

Adult-\$8

Student-\$5

If you prefer a “hard” pass, they will be available in the OHS Activities Office for an additional small fee.

Senior Citizens (62+ and in District) may pick up a FREE “hard” Activity Pass in the OHS Activities Office. This option is not available through Hometown Ticketing.