

TOGETHER WE STAND

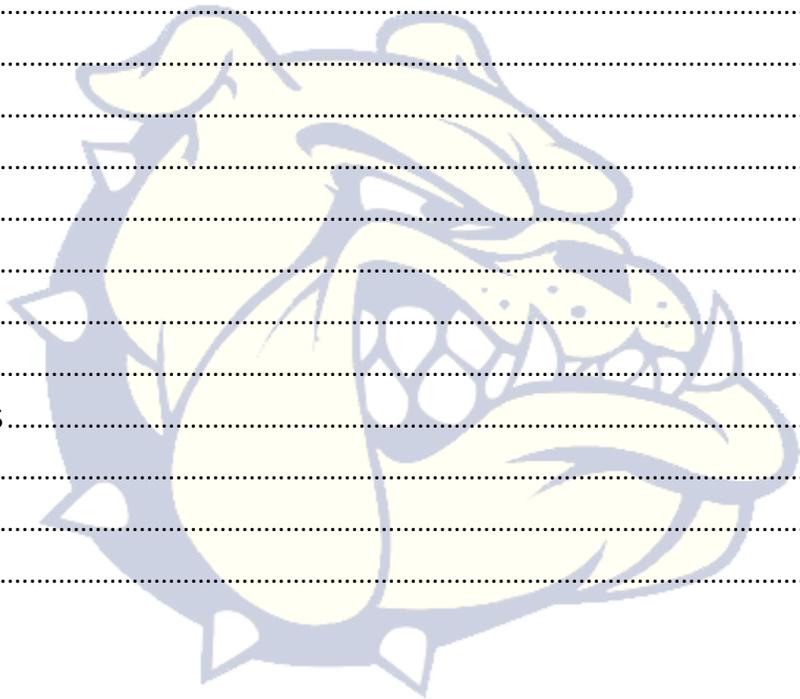


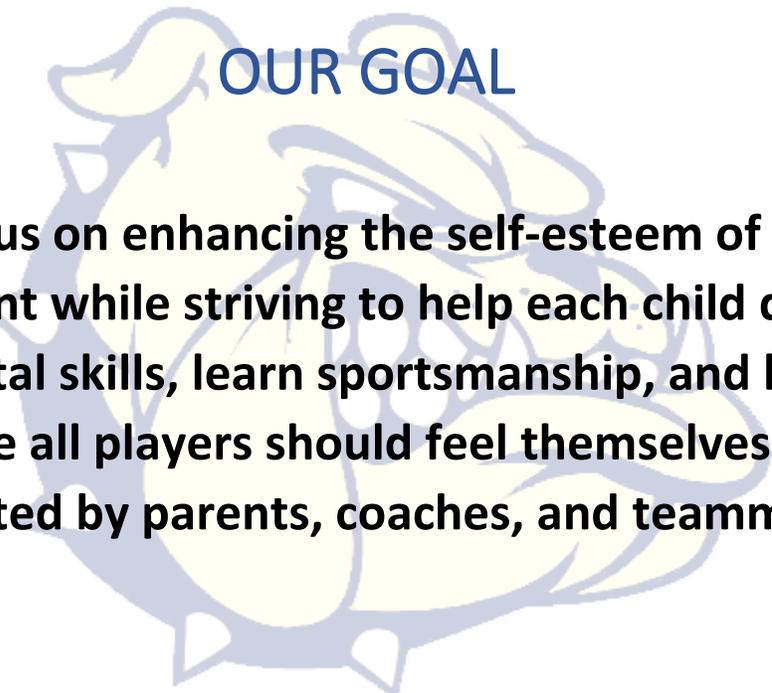
DECATUR BULLDOGS YOUTH FOOTBALL
6/7th GRADE
2024

TOGETHER WE FALL

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OUR GOAL

We focus on enhancing the self-esteem of every participant while striving to help each child develop fundamental skills, learn sportsmanship, and have fun. We believe all players should feel themselves strongly supported by parents, coaches, and teammates.

ALL FOR ONE

SAFETY

Safety is the number one priority of the Decatur Youth Football program. Decatur Youth Football strives to always provide a safe environment during practices and games. All coaches are trained in “heads up tackling” and teach these techniques to all players. Contact during practice is limited each week and drills are designed to minimize injuries. During inclement weather practices will be shifted to our indoor facilities (inclement weather to address thunderstorms and extreme heat). EMTs are also present during all home and away games.

REGISTRATION

Fee

Residents \$220.

Non-residents \$255

Fees cover costs for game jersey, league fees, referees, and insurance.

Players must provide a copy of their birth certificate and proof of school grade for the 2023- 2024 School Year.

Players must be registered to practice and participate in games. Any players not registered prior to the second week Games (8/31) will not be allowed to participate this season.

Costs and Equipment

Purchase your own or rent: Rental equipment is available on a first come, first served basis for \$65 with a \$200 security deposit.

**Financial assistance is available to Decatur Residents who demonstrates a need*

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PRACTICE

LOCATION – Ebster Recreation Center, 105 Electric Avenue, Decatur, GA 30030

- Practices during the regular season will be held every week on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursdays. Practices will last for 2 hours beginning at 6pm and concluding at 8pm
- Any cancellations or changes will be communicated via email from either the head coach of the team or a program supervisor.
- Please ensure that you regularly check your emails for important updates and information.
- You also have the option of downloading the GroupMe app for your personal device. Information and updates will be communicated through this platform in addition to email and the team website.
- Players are to report to practice with full equipment unless otherwise communicated by head coach or program supervisors.
- Parents are encouraged to attend practice, however, are asked not to interrupt the practice by coming onto the field of play.
- Our program is committed to player safety and striving to protect the health and well-being of every child. During the preseason athletes will go through a heat acclimation phase. This period will focus on increasing stamina and getting used to the heat they will face during the season. During this time, we will gradually increase the amount of equipment and intensity of practice as the kids get used to the amount of work.
- Full-contact drills will be limited during the preseason and regular season as the number of exposures may increase the chance for injury to youth players. We will **NEVER** exceed 30 minutes of full contact drills at any point during the football season.
- All coaches are Certified through the USA Football Heads Up Program. Heads Up Football ensures that every coach is thoroughly trained in fundamental aspects of football safety, injury prevention and injury recognition.



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FORMS NEEDED

- Current player physical
- Birth Certificate
- Signed Player/Parent Code of Conduct
- Right to Treat Form
- GMSAA wavier
- Concussion wavier
- Current utility bill

FOOTBALL EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

Mandatory Items

- Football Cleats
- Football Socks
- Practice Football Pants
- Practice Jersey
- Shoulder Pads
- Football Helmet
- Athletic Cup
- Hip and Tail Pads
- Chinstrap
- Mouthpiece
 - Only one allowed
- Knee and Thigh Pads
 - Must be worn no exceptions

Optional Items

- Arm Pads
- Football Gloves
- Helmet Visor
- Neck Rolls
- Shock absorbers.
- Back Plates & Rib Protection

Places to find items.

- **Dicks Sporting Goods**
 - 4310 Lavista Rd a100, Tucker, GA 30084
- **Academy Sports**
 - 1585 Scenic Hwy S, Snellville, GA 30078
- **Play it Again Sports**
 - 2122 N Decatur Rd, Decatur, GA 30033



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**Also note that equipment is available for rent at Ebster on a first come first served basis.*

LEAGUE

GMSAA

We are happy to announce that the 6/7th grade team will be joining the GMSAA program this upcoming season! The Georgia Middle School Athletic Association (GMSAA) is the largest residence based middle school football program in the country with more than 4,500 student-athletes. The GMSAA is committed to our athletes along with their growth and knowledge of the game. Our board of directors and region managers have more than 100 years of experience in coaching the fundamentals of the game, player safety, and leadership in the community. Being a GMSAA member is an honor for both the member programs and the league. To learn more about the league please follow the link below to redirect to the home page for GMSAA

[Http://www.gmsaa.com](http://www.gmsaa.com)



TEAMS

Division C Region 1



Chattahoochee



Centennial



East Forsyth



Johns Creek



North Springs



Riverwood



Northview

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LOCATIONS

Riverwood High School

- 5900 Raider Dr, Sandy Springs, GA 30328

Northview High School

- 10625 Parsons Rd, Johns Creek, GA 30097

Decatur High School

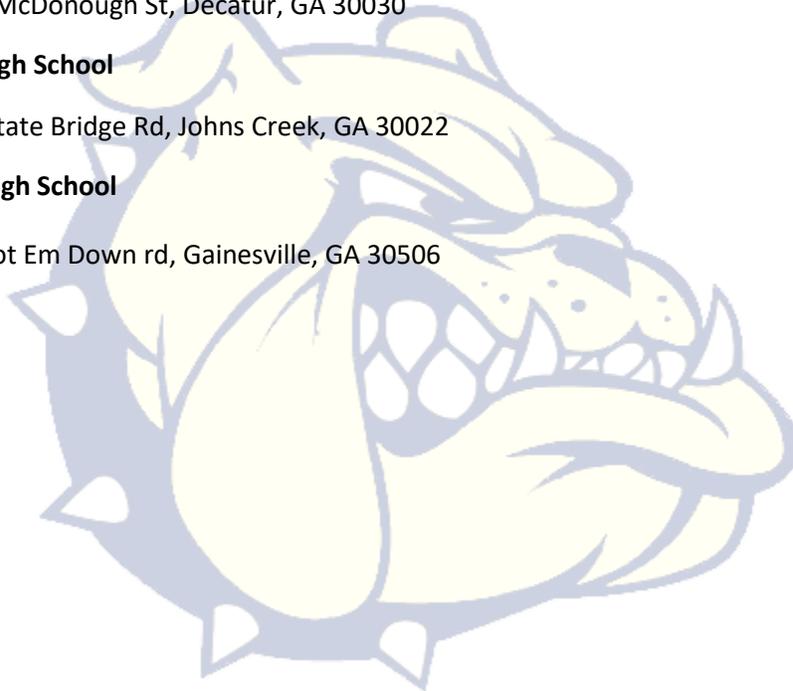
- 310 N McDonough St, Decatur, GA 30030

Johns Creek High School

- 5575 State Bridge Rd, Johns Creek, GA 30022

East Forsyth High School

- 8910 Jot Em Down rd, Gainesville, GA 30506

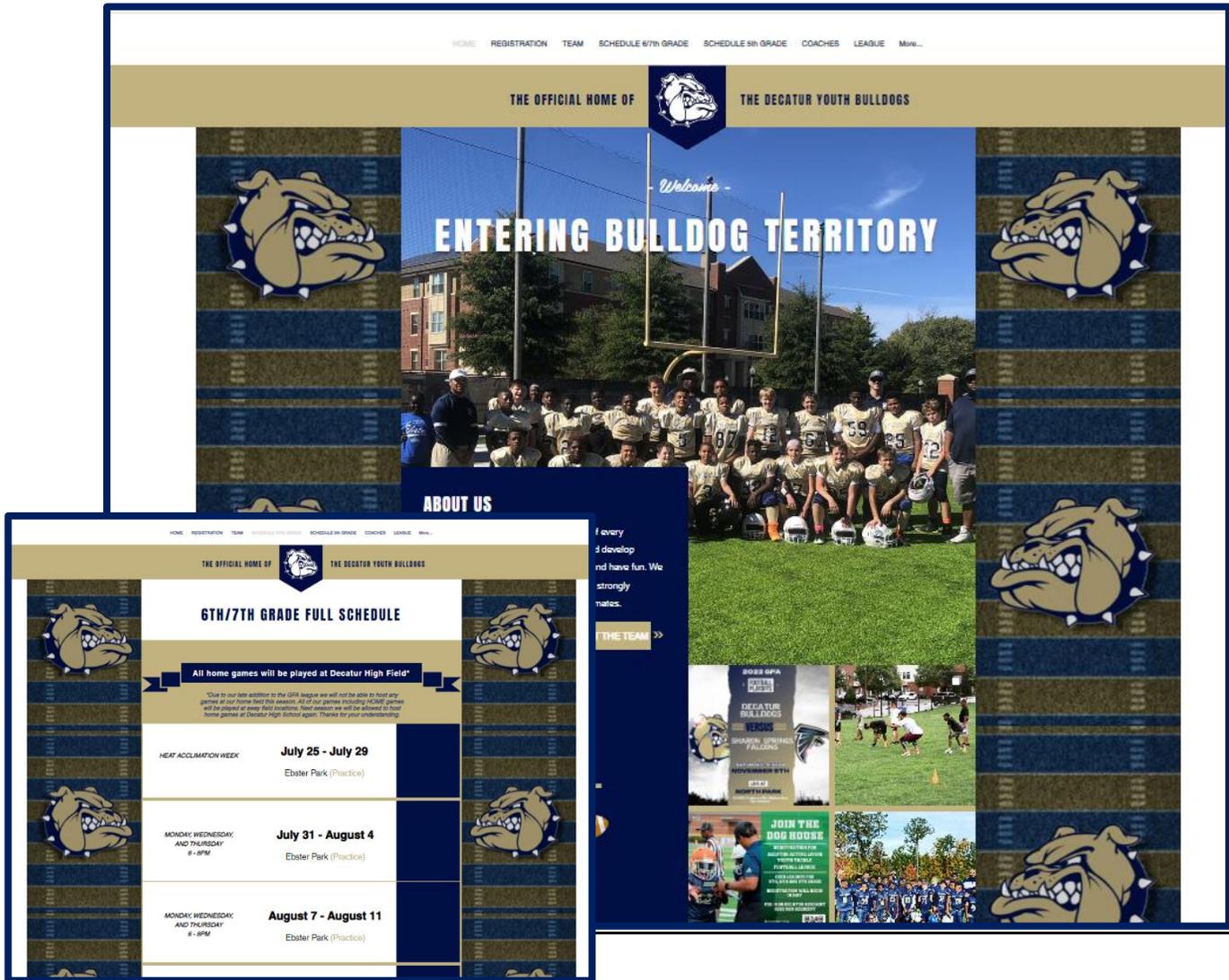


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TEAM WEBSITE

We have an official team website located at DecaturBulldogs.com. This site will be updated every Sunday night with schedule changes and previous week game results. From this site you can access the registration links, social media accounts, game photos/videos and full schedules.



PLAYBOOK

Playbook will be available to download online from the website once the coaches make it available. We will go over the plays with the kids during practice, but we do ask that they familiarize themselves with the playbook at home as well.

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VOLUNTEERS

Throughout the season we will require volunteers to help with various aspects of the program. These activities include the following.

- Chain crew during games.
 - Must be at least 16 years of age to operate the chain crew.
 - Cannot interact with/coach players while on the sideline.
- Post Game snacks.
 - An online sign-up sheet will be posted in the GroupMe, and parents will be asked to pick a week to be responsible for the post game snacks for the kids.
 - Please let us know if your child has any food allergies prior to the first game.
- Coaches
 - We are always on the lookout for volunteer coaches for this season and next.
 - We have until the end of Week 2 Games to add coaches and players.
 - Please let Ms. Stacy or any of the current coaches if you are interested in participating.

UNIFORMS



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DECATUR

AMERICAN FOOTBALL UNIFORM



WHITE / NAVY / VEGAS GOLD

NAVY / VEGAS GOLD / WHITE



799 PARK NORTH BOULEVARD, CLARKSTON, GA 30021
GOSPORTSWAREHOUSE1@GMAIL.COM 404-921-7766

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PLEDGE

Decatur Youth Football Player Commitment Pledge

I hereby pledge to provide commitment, care, and encouragement for my team and myself by following this Player Commitment Pledge:

1. I will play for the fun of it, not to please any parents or coaches.
2. I will never allow negative aspects to enter my game.
3. I will play by the rules at all times.
4. I will accept success and failure, victory, and defeat with good grace and without excessive display of emotions.
5. I will respect the ability of my opponents because without them there would be no game, and I will **ALWAYS** shake hands after each game regardless of the outcome.
6. I will notify my coach if I cannot attend a practice or a game.
7. I will never argue with or complain about the referee's calls or decisions.
8. I will control my temper and, most of all, resist the temptation to retaliate.
9. I will not attempt to hurt anyone with my words or my actions.
10. I will concentrate on playing Football and on affecting the outcome of the game with my best effort. I will work equally hard for my team and for myself.
11. I will exhibit good sportsmanship by cheering all good plays, whether they are my teams or my opponent's.
12. I will treat all players the way I would like to be treated.
13. I will NOT use social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) as a place to tease, taunt, bully, or harass other players, their parents, my coaches, or anyone else (using words or uploaded pictures). If I have a problem with someone, I will tell my coach.
14. I will cooperate with my teammates, coaches, opponents, and the referee.
15. I will never forget that I am representing Decatur Youth Football Program, and I will take care of the facilities and equipment provided.

Sportsmanship is: Moral behavior in sports. There is more to sportsmanship than simply being nice. You also must understand why some actions are right or wrong. Sportsmanship is a learned behavior. It does not happen by itself.

Player's signature: _____

Name Printed: _____ Date: _____

Note: To participate in Decatur Youth Football Program, this form must be signed and dated. Failure of the player to read and sign the Players Commitment will automatically render the player ineligible to participate in activities home or away. In addition, by signing this player commitment, players agree to abide by this Code of Conduct. Violation of any of the guidelines set forth above will automatically render the player unable to participate in or attend any Decatur Youth Football sponsored event (home or away).

IMPORTANT DATES

- **8/5** – Equipment Fitting and Parents Meeting
- **8/7** – Full Pads Practice Begins
 - Will start the normal practice schedule MWTH – 6-8pm
- **8/31** – First Regular Season Game
- **9/28** – No Games Fall Break
- **10/5** – No Games Bye Week
- **10/9** – No Games Bye Week
- **11/2** – First Round of Playoffs
 - **Top 8 Teams Advance to Playoffs Single Elimination Format**
- **11/9** - Second Round of Playoffs
- **11/16** – Championship Game

SCHEDULE

The full schedule is available in several places.

- Team Website – DecaturBulldogs.com
- Google Calendar – A link to subscribe to the calendar can be found on the website and will also be available in the GroupMe App
- Schedule Handout

Although rare changes to the schedule do happen. Any changes to the schedule will be posted in GroupMe so please monitor the app weekly.

The collage features several screenshots from the Decatur Bulldogs website. At the top, there's a banner for 'UPCOMING EVENTS' with dates 7/20, 8/1, 8/2, and 8/5. Below this, there are three main schedule sections: 1) '4TH/5TH GRADE FULL SCHEDULE' with a banner stating 'FULL SCHEDULE IS UPDATED AND FINAL' and a game on Saturday, August 24 at 11:00 AM. 2) 'Conditioning *Shorts @ Ebster' on 8/1 at 6:00 PM. 3) 'FULL SCHEDULE' for 4/5th Grade Full Schedule on 8/5 at 6:00 PM. A calendar view on the right shows a weekly schedule from Wednesday 2 to Wednesday 9, with 'Practice - Full Pads' at 6:00pm - 8:00pm on Wednesdays and a 'GAME DAY - SS ELLIS V DECATUR (4/9P)' on Saturday 5 at 2:30pm - 4:30pm.

2024 Schedule

Decatur Bulldogs 7th Grade

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Event Details</u>
Sat, Aug 24	BYE	
Sat, Aug 31 9:00 am	Riverwood	@Riverwood 5900 Raider Dr Sandy Springs, GA 30328
Sat, Sept 7 12:00 pm	Northview	@Northview 10625 Parsons Rd Johns Creek, GA 30097
Sat, Sept 14 4:00 pm	North Springs Home	@Decatur HS 310 N McDonough St Decatur, GA 30030
Sat, Sept 21 11:00 am	John's Creek Away	@Johns Creek 5575 State Bridge Rd Johns Creek, GA 30022
Sat, Sept 28	BYE	
Sat, Oct 5	BYE	
Sat, Oct 12 11:00 am	East Forsyth Away	@East Forsyth 8910 Jot Em Down Rd Gainesville, GA 30506
Sat, Oct 19 4:00 pm	Centennial Home	@Decatur 310 N McDonough St Decatur, GA 30030
Sat, Oct 26	TBD	@Decatur 310 N McDonough St Decatur, GA 30030



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COMMUNICATION



CONTACT INFO

- **Stacy Green – Program Supervisor**
 - 678-553-6549
 - Stacy.Green@decaturga.com
- **Kyle Pennington – Head Coach – 6/7th Grade**
 - 404.245.1482
 - CoachKWP@gmail.com
- **Jarrold Lindsay – Assistant Coach**
 - Jarrod.Lindsay@gmail.com
- **Alex Dugar – Assistant Coach**
 - alexanderdugar@gmail.com



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