



**Harrisburg NC**  
PARKS & RECREATION



**2021 POP WARNER INFORMATION SHEET  
FOOTBALL / CHEERLEADING**

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION:**

Regular Registration                             June 1 – June 30, 2021 (IN-PERSON REGISTRATION ONLY)  
  July 6 – July 23, 2021 (IN-PERSON REGISTRATION ONLY)

Offering physicals at  
Parks and Recreation Office                 July 31, 2021                                     8 am-10 am

Contact Mike Kirby **directly** by phone, (704) 455-0725, or by email, [mkirby@harrisburgnc.org](mailto:mkirby@harrisburgnc.org), to schedule.

Registration is IN-PERSON ONLY.

You must come to the Harrisburg Parks and Recreation Office located inside of Harrisburg Town Hall to register.

For **Pop Warner Football** updates please **visit**, <https://harrisburgnc.org/327/Pop-Warner-Football> and for **Pop Warner Cheerleading** updates please **visit**, <https://harrisburgnc.org/322/Pop-Warner-Cheerleading>.

Pop Warner was founded in 1929 and serves as the only youth football, cheerleading, and dance organization that requires its participants to maintain academic standards in order to participate. Consisting of approximately 425,000 young people ranging from ages 5 to 16 years old, Pop Warner is the largest youth football, cheer, and dance program in the world.

**FOOTBALL AND CHEERLEADING\*\*:**

**1. DIVISIONS OFFERED & ELIGIBILITY**

DIVISIONS	AGES as of 7/31/2021	WEIGHT
Mitey-Mite	7, 8, and 9	45-105 lbs.
Jr. Pee Wee	8, 9, and 10	60-120 lbs.
(older/lighter)	11*	60-100 lbs.
Pee Wee	9, 10, and 11	75-135 lbs.
(older/lighter)	12*	75-115 lbs.
Jr. Varsity***	10, 11, and 12	90-160 lbs.
(older/lighter)	13*	90-140 lbs.

*\*The asterisked provisions in each division allow the so-called “older but lighter” player to also qualify. The last year of eligibility falls under more stringent weight restrictions, per above.*

*\*\*Body weight is not a factor in cheerleading.*

*\*\*\*Contact Harrisburg Parks and Recreation if interested in registering for Jr. Varsity, prior to registering.*

2. **HOW MUCH WILL IT COST TO REGISTER MY CHILD?**

- **Football**
  - Cabarrus County Residents \$160 + \$100 Deposit = \$260
  - Non-Resident of Cabarrus County \$190 + \$100 Deposit = \$290
- **Cheerleading**
  - Cabarrus County Residents \$130 + \$50 Deposit = \$180
  - Non-Resident of Cabarrus County \$160 + \$50 Deposit = \$210

**The uniform/equipment deposit is refundable at the end of the season.**

3. **WHAT IS REQUIRED TO SIGN UP?**

- 1 Copy of Birth Certificate
- 1 Copy of 2020-2021 Report Card\*
  - *\*Must provide all 4 quarters including final grade and be legible.*
- Pop Warner Physical Form\*
  - *\*Child will be ineligible to play without this form properly completed.*
    - Must have physical **prior** to **August 1**.
- Pop Warner Player Contract
- Harrisburg Parks and Recreation Registration Form
- Registration Fee and Equipment Deposit

4. **IS THERE A REFUND POLICY?**

- **Athletic Refund Policy:** 100% Refund **prior** to your division's first practice. 50% **prior** to your division's first game. No refund **after** your division's first game. **A \$10 administrative fee will be processed on all refunds.**
  - If this program is **canceled** by **Harrisburg Parks and Recreation** a full refund will be given.

5. **WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE REGISTRATION FEE?**

- Registration fees assist with the cost of uniforms, equipment, field prep and maintenance, lights, insurance, Pop Warner Association dues, referees, game officials, on-site medic, and other league needs as deemed necessary.

6. **WHAT EQUIPMENT IS INCLUDED?**

- Football: Helmet, chin strap, shoulder pads, game day jersey, game day pants, and game day socks. The jersey may be kept at the end of the season.
  - The helmet, shoulder pads, and pants must be returned at the end of the season.
- Cheer: Uniform (top and bottom), bloomers, a bodysuit for under uniform, hair bow, cheer bag, pom poms, tennis shoes, and t-shirt.
  - The hair bow, cheer bag, tennis shoes, and a t-shirt may be kept at the end of the season.
  - The uniform, bloomers, bodysuit, and pom-poms must be returned at the end of the season.

7. **WHAT EQUIPMENT WILL I NEED TO PROVIDE FOR MY CHILD?**

- Football: Practice pants with pads, a practice jersey, cleats, and mouthpiece.
- Cheer: Practice a t-shirt, shorts, and tennis shoes.

8. **CAN I USE A DOCTOR'S STANDARD PHYSICAL AS MY PHYSICAL?**

- No. Section II of the Physical Fitness and Medical History Form must be completed and signed by a licensed state examiner. The form is the official certification that your child has been cleared medically to participate in Pop Warner. The form must be signed in the same year as the season in which you wish to participate.

**9. WHY DO I NEED TO PROVIDE MY CHILD'S REPORT CARD?**

- Pop Warner requires proof of scholastic fitness. Participants must have a minimum or equivalent of a 2.0/70% in order to participate.

**10. WHAT IF MY CHILD DOES NOT HAVE A 2.0 AVERAGE?**

- If your child does not meet the scholastic requirements, they may submit a Scholastic Eligibility Form. This form must be accompanied by a progressing progress report or report card to be eligible for play by the scholastic deadline (TBA). If no progressing progress report or report card is submitted in this window then the player shall be found ineligible for the rest of the year.

**11. WHEN DO I RECEIVE MY DEPOSIT?**

- Deposits are refunded after equipment and uniforms are returned to the department. When returning equipment **please** verify the name and address to which the refund check will be mailed. Allow **2-4 weeks** for processing.

**12. WHAT IF MY CHILD IS TRYING OUT FOR THE SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM?**

- In order to play Pop Warner football, you must pre-register. A full refund will be granted should your child make the school team (proof of school participation may be requested).

**13. HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN I'M ON A TEAM OR SQUAD?**

- Football: Once registration has ended, drafts will take place. Once players have been drafted onto a team, the coach of that team should contact you no later than the weekend before the start of practice.
- Cheer: Once registration has ended, squads will be formed. The coach of your squad should contact you notifying you of your first practice day and time.

**14. WHEN DO PRACTICES START AND HOW OFTEN ARE THEY?**

- Football: Practices start the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August. Practices are twice a week for 2 hours. For the first month, there will be Saturday practices in addition to the 2-weekday practices. Once games start, practices may remain twice a week for the younger age groups. Junior Pee Wee and up may continue to practice 3 times a week. Practices are at the discretion of the coach. Your coach will determine your practice days. Practices are typically Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday (but may be any combination of days).
- Cheer: Practices start the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August. Practices are typically twice a week for 1.5-2 hours. For the first month, there may be a Saturday practice as well until games begin.

**15. WHERE ARE PRACTICES HELD?**

- Football: Practices will be held at Harrisburg Park.
- Cheer: Practices will be held at Harrisburg Park.

**16. WHEN DO GAMES START?**

- Games begin the Saturday before Labor Day and are typically held on Saturdays (some Friday evening games may be held). The game schedules will be released by Pop Warner the week prior. Cheer coaches will tell you which game the cheer squad will cheer at that week.

**17. WHERE ARE GAMES PLAYED?**

- Along with hosting a number of games at Harrisburg Park, the Harrisburg Cowboys also travel to other Pop Warner associations within the Pop Warner Little Panthers League.
- For a complete list of associations and directions, please visit <http://www.popwarnerlittlepanthers.org/page/show/539947-game-sites>.

**18. WHERE DO I FIND THE GAME SCHEDULE?**

- Pop Warner usually releases schedules the Monday prior to the first Saturday game.
- Game schedules may be found at the following link: <http://www.popwarnerlittlepanthers.org/page/show/539948-schedules-and-results>.
- This link will also be viewable from the Harrisburg Pop Warner Football webpage.

**19. HOW LONG IS THE SEASON?**

- The season begins in August and typically ends mid-November.

**20. HOW TO BE A COACH:**

- Potential coaches **must** be 18 years or older, complete a Pop Warner Volunteer Application form, an online Parks and Recreation coach's application, online criminal background check, and sign the Coaches Code of Conduct. Approved coaches must attend a mandatory coach meeting and have a picture made for an ID badge. Coaches are **required** to wear their ID badges at **all** practices and games.

**\*\*The Town of Harrisburg Parks and Recreation, as of Spring 2019, has gone paperless with volunteer applications. \*\***

Applications can be completed online at <https://www.harrisburgnc.org/FormCenter/Parks-and-Recreation-7/Volunteer-Coaching-Application-62>

- Once approved, coaches and volunteers will still need to visit the Parks and Recreation office to have their photo ID badge made.

**The completion of the paperwork does not guarantee a coaching position.**

For more information call (704) 455-7275 or visit <https://www.harrisburgnc.org/227/Coaching>.

- All head coaches must also **complete** the **USA Football Clinic** either online or by attending a scheduled clinic. **Attend** the four-hour Mid-south Region Coaches training which includes information on Pop Warner Rules and Philosophy, Risk Management, and the Pop Warner Code of Conduct (completion of these requirements certifies head coaches for three years).

## **CHEER ONLY:**

### **1. WARM-UPS:**

- Your coach may request you to purchase a set of warm-up clothes (jacket and/or pants) to wear. This may be an additional cost that is not part of the registration fee.

### **2. COMPETITION: TBD**

- All Pop Warner cheer squads are **required** to attend Local Cheer Competition (in Concord or surrounding area). Cheer Competition is typically held on the third weekend in October. It is **mandatory** for each cheerleader to attend unless there is an extenuating circumstance. Your cheer squad relies on each cheerleader to be there. Your coach will work on a routine consisting of dance, cheers, and stunts that are appropriate for your age level. They will perform this at a local competition.
- For the **Junior Pee Wee age group and up** – if you advance past locals, your squad will be **required** to attend the Regional Cheer Competition – held out of state. Competition is scheduled the Thursday and Friday prior to **Thanksgiving**. In 2019 competition was held in Virginia Beach. Again, this is **mandatory** for each child to attend as your squad relies on you for the routine. Squads are **required** to check-in **Thanksgiving Day** and to spend the night. Competition is typically the Friday after Thanksgiving.
- If the squad advances past Regionals, they are **REQUIRED** by Pop Warner to attend Nationals in Disney World the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week in **December**. Each family **should** expect to incur travel expenses along with food expenses for the parent or chaperone with each child. These expenses can range from \$600-\$800 per person.
- All cheerleaders must be chaperoned by **at least** one parent. Pop Warner **requires** you to stay on a Disney Resort property and book through their travel agency. You **are not** allowed to stay at a different resort. You must stay for a **minimum** of 2 nights. Pop Warner is **strict** about these requirements. Details about this will be sent out closer to competition time.

### **3. FUNDRAISERS:**

- In an effort to raise money to help cover the cost of the competition, if needed, the squad may participate in fundraisers throughout the season.

### **4. UNIFORM FITTING:**

- A uniform fitting/team meeting will be scheduled prior to the start of the season. The date and time are TBD but will be sent to all cheerleaders prior to.

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mike Kirby, Recreation Coordinator (ages 9-15)

(704) 455-0725

[mkirby@harrisburgnc.org](mailto:mkirby@harrisburgnc.org)

Erin Kegley-Parris, Recreation Coordinator (ages 3-8)

(704) 455-0723

[ekegley@harrisburgnc.org](mailto:ekegley@harrisburgnc.org)

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**COACHES MEETING:**

Football: TBD  
Cheer: TBD

**SKILLS ASSESSMENTS:**

Football: TBD  
Cheer: N/A

**PHYSICALS:** A doctor will be onsite to do physicals for those who need them.

*By appointment only.\**

\*Contact Mike Kirby directly by phone or email.

Football and Cheer: **Sat, July 31, 2021** **8am – 10am** **Town Hall – Parks and Recreation Office**  
\$25 (cash only – exact change please)

**DRAFTS:**

Football: End of July  
Cheer: N/A

**PRACTICES:**

Football: Beginning of August **Monday, August 2, 2021**  
Cheer: Beginning of August **Monday, August 2, 2021**

**GAMES:**

Football: Early Sept **TBD**  
Cheer: Early Sept

**END OF SEASON:**

Football: Mid November **TBD**  
Cheer: Mid November

***\*NOTE: FOOTBALL GAMES ARE TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON-FIELD AVAILABILITY.***

For more information on the 2020 Fall season please visit us online at [www.harrisburgnc.org](http://www.harrisburgnc.org) or call the Parks and Recreation office at (704) 455-PARK (7275). We look forward to a successful Fall season!