

# GERMANTOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB

Welcome players and parents to the 32<sup>nd</sup> season of Germantown Hawks Football. The Germantown Youth Football Club, a non-profit organization dedicated to the youth of the community and the sport of football, sponsors the program. The GYFC was formed to allow students in grades 5-8 to play in an organized tackle football league. The GYFC is affiliated with the Wisconsin All American Youth Football League (AAYFL). **The program is not affiliated with the Germantown School District or the Germantown Recreation Department.**

## Purpose

The GYFC will provide an opportunity for youth to participate in the sport of football and bring together youth of the Germantown School District through a common interest in fair play and fellowship, while having fun.

## Goal

The goal of our program is to educate youth on the proper techniques of football, stressing teamwork, discipline, commitment, and fair play while providing a learning and caring environment.

## Membership

Membership in the program is open to anyone who wishes to participate. There will be no cuts. Students must be residents of the Germantown School District or attend a school within the boundaries of the GSD. Chapter 220 students attending school in the Germantown School District are eligible to participate.

## Teams

Players will be divided into squads based on age, weight, and ability. A Teams will be formed primarily for 8th graders, B Teams primarily for 7th graders, C Teams primarily for 6th graders, and D teams primarily for 5th graders. Players cannot play below their grade level.

Roster limits for the teams are as follows – two teams could be created at each level if numbers hit 46 per grade.

8th Grade: One team in 2026 based on current numbers.

7th Grade: One team in 2026 based on current numbers.

6th Grade: One team in 2026 based on current numbers.

5th Grade: One team in 2026 based on current numbers.

The maximum weight of an A Team player eligible to carry the football is 160 lbs without equipment. The maximum weight of a B Team player eligible to carry the football is 140 lbs without equipment. The maximum weight of a C Team player eligible to carry the football is 120 lbs without equipment. The maximum weight of a D Team player eligible to carry the football is 100 lbs without equipment. These restrictions will be determined prior to league play based on roster weight verification. The official team weigh-in will take place between the first official league practice date and September 1st.

While the GYFC has no policy on the minimum weight required to participate, we encourage parents to carefully evaluate the child's physical status before registering.

## Playing Time

It is the policy of the Germantown Youth Football Club that all players have the opportunity to play in each league game. Our coaching staffs are dedicated to providing all players with the opportunity to play a meaningful role with their team through practices, scrimmages, and game action. The Germantown Youth Football Club has adopted specific playing time requirements for the program.

Three factors will be taken into consideration by our coaching staff when determining playing time at all levels.

1. Playing time is based on the player's understanding of their position and the playbook.
2. Playing time is based on practice attendance.
3. Playing time is based on the player's physical status.

### A Teams (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

- Each player will be taught an offensive and defensive position on the team.
- If requirements are met, every player will have the opportunity to play in each league game.
- No reserve inter-squad scrimmages will take place based on the rules of the AAYFL.
- Lack of weight and size may limit playing time in some game conditions.

### B Teams (7<sup>th</sup> Grade)

- Each player will be taught an offensive and defensive position on the team.
- Every player must belong to either an offensive or defensive squad.

- Players will receive a minimum of one quarter (6 to 8 plays) of playing time on EITHER offense OR defense.

## C Teams (6<sup>th</sup> Grade) & D Teams (5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

- Each player will be taught an offensive and defensive position on the team.
- Every player must belong to BOTH an offensive squad AND a defensive squad.
- Each player will receive a minimum of one quarter (6-8 plays) on BOTH offense AND defense.

## Practices / Equipment

Equipment handout will be scheduled before the season starts at Friedenfeld Park. All players will be properly measured and fitted for equipment. If your player cannot attend the scheduled handout, they will be measured and fitted for equipment during the first week of practice.

Our football season begins in August. Practices are held rain (but not lightning) or shine on the practice fields at Friedenfeld Park on Country Aire Drive. Once school begins, practices will be scheduled an average of three times per week for approximately two hours per practice. Practice schedules will be emailed or distributed at the equipment handout, and available on our website.

A league rule states that a player must have 10 hours of conditioning practice (acclimatization standards) time before participating in any physical contact. We realize there are vacations and other activities still going on in August, but please try to attend all practices. The coaches are more likely to provide additional playing time to those players who participate and are prepared. We encourage each player to start a daily conditioning routine two to four weeks before the first practice.

Practice schedules will have all needed info on what football gear will be worn in the month of August. We follow WIAA regulations on practice guidelines. For the first few practices, the players should wear comfortable workout clothes (shirt, shorts, cleats, and socks).

The club will provide helmets, shoulder pads, knee pads, belts, pants, and jerseys. Players are responsible for providing their own cleats and 5 pad girdle which can be purchased from a sporting goods store. Upon receipt of your football equipment, you will be required to guarantee that all equipment will be returned in good, clean condition at the end of the season, including jerseys.

## **Games**

The AAYFL season consists of eight games played on Saturdays in September and October. Each team plays its own game. Times may vary, but normally A Teams play at 9:00 AM, B Teams play at 10:45 AM, C Teams play at 12:15 PM and D teams at 1:45 PM. Two pre-season scrimmages will be held at other league member facilities in August.

## **Registration Fees**

\$425 per player, \$295 each additional player in family.

## **Scholarships**

To help defray the overall costs of operating the GYFC, (i.e., player and team equipment, insurance, officials, new field development), registration fees are collected. However, the GYFC does not wish to exclude Germantown school district students who are unable to pay these fees due to financial hardships which may occur. The GYFC board has scholarships available which may cover all or a portion of your child's registration fees. Those families receiving scholarships may be asked to assist the program as volunteers. Parents should contact board members (Brandon Preiss at 920-412-8846 or Kevin Kletti at 414-828-0223) before registration with Scholarship related questions.

## **Refund Policy**

There will be no refunds after registration, unless the player transfers school districts, or for certain cases that must be approved by the GYFC board of directors.