



*Livonia Blue Jays*



**CHEER**



Updated 8/14/2024

**2024 Football & Cheer**  
Parent information deck

# Safety and Welcome Blue Jays



## Safety:

- The safety of our athletes is our number one concern. The directors will ensure that all personnel have received the proper safety training and that information pertaining to athlete safety is made available to everyone. Directors will select a qualified person to be the player safety coach

## Blue Jays Competitive Advantage:

- Our competitive advantage is our Blue Jay community...we are different than other teams and it is our community that sets us apart. Just as iron sharpens iron, so we must sharpen each other.
  - *It is a privilege for young student athletes to be a member of the Blue Jay organization. The time, effort, and energy we all spend in making this program a success is based on a strong conviction that football/cheer and an education will provide the opportunity to build character, leaders, and sportsmanship. As a Blue Jay, we expect everyone to take pride in everything that you do as part of the program*

# Info and links



## Only mandatory raffle fundraiser:

- \$100 (one athlete) or \$200 (two + athletes)

## Hudl:

- Video of tackle football games to be shared with all parents

## Website

- [www.livoniabluejays.com](http://www.livoniabluejays.com)

## Email:

- [bluejayslivonia@gmail.com](mailto:bluejayslivonia@gmail.com)
- [Livoniabluejayscheer@gmail.com](mailto:Livoniabluejayscheer@gmail.com)

## Social Media – Facebook:



- [Livonia Blue Jays](#)
- [Livonia Blue Jay Cheer Facebook](#)

# 2024 Football introductions



## **Football Directors** (primary POC):

- Joe Hosking (Unit DIR – Varsity)
- Josh Kirk (JV)
- Shawn Hawkins (Freshman)
- Hans Heiman (Flag)

If you have questions, please reach out to the director for your squad (contact info on **slide 21**)

## **Football Head Coaches:**

- John Diponio (Varsity)
- Jon Reid (JV)
- Matt Rigley (Freshman)
- Matt McCullough (Flag)

# 2024 Coordinators



## **Player Safety Coach:**

- Ryan Franklin

## **Treasurer:**

- Shannon Hawkins

## **Photographers:**

- Maria Kirk (lead)
- Chris Kieltyka
- Jaimie Jollo
- Amy Campbell
- Freshman TBD



## **Fun-raisers:**

- Amy Wikelius

## **Kitchen:**

- Melissa Tibai
- Kim Gonzales

## **Field:**

- Celeste Burling
- Rebecca Lozon



# 2024 Cheer introductions



## Cheer Directors:

- Stacey Taylor
- Pam Milewsky
- Heather Poisson

## Cheer Head Coaches:

- TBD
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# Team building, camps, and uniforms



## Uniform Sizing:

- 2024 is TBD, last year was Sunday, June 6 by Sign-Up Genius
  - *Location: TBD*

## Cheer Camp:

- 2024 is TBD, last year was Wednesday, June 23 from 5:30-7:30 pm
  - *Location: TBD*



# Cheer practice

Dates are TBD



## Flag:

- Aug 8-Sept 3, Monday and Wednesday, 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Sept 6-Oct 1, Monday and Wednesday, 5:30pm-7:00pm

## Freshman:

- Aug 8-Sept 3, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Sept 6-Oct 1, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 5:30pm-7:00pm

## JV:

- Aug 8-Sept 3, Mon, Tue, Wed and Thur, 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Sept 6-Oct 1, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 5:30pm-7:00pm

## Varsity:

- Aug 8-Sept 3, Mon, Tue, Wed and Thur, 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Sept 6-Oct 1, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 5:30pm-7:00pm



## ■ October/Cheerfest Practice:

*Practice will be INDOORS, locations TBD*

*Flag will either be two or three days, times TBD*

*Freshman/Jv/Varsity will be four days, times TBD*

10/28/23 = Cheerfest,  
location TBD



# Fun-raising and Spirit Store



## Raffle *(only required fundraiser)*

- Raffle tickets are: \$100 for a single athlete or \$200 for multiple athletes within a family

## Spirit Wear

- Spirit Wear; last year we had two stores (BSN Sports and Inkorporate). Each one of us offers us different options and we probably will offer both again this year and will share with all parents. BSN is open year round.

❑ BSN Store: <https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/michigan/livonia/livonia-blue-jays>

- The store will reopen at the beginning of practice for the final time. Specific dates TBD

## Concessions

- Kitchen coordinator
- Concessions is a source of income for the Blue Jays
- Requests will be made through the season to donate items to be sold at the concession stand during home games (Gatorade, water, pop...)



## Other Fun-raisers (optional)

- Fundraising coordinators
- Bowling night out, Kona Ice truck, Mod Pizza, Cooler of Fun, etc.



# Donations

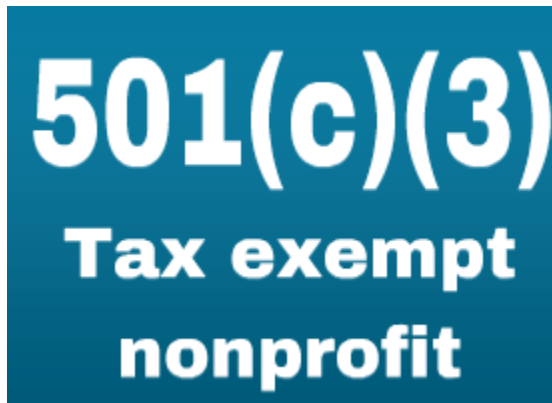


## **5013c** (*nonprofit*)

- Livonia Blue Jays are an entirely volunteer run organization, and we rely upon the generous donations from our community partners to fulfill our mission of providing enrichment and life instruction through youth athletics
- The Livonia Blue Jays are a non-profit organization and part of the Livonia Junior Athletic League (LJAL) 501(c)(3) charitable organization
- Federal EIN 38-6071783 and Michigan ID # 723313

## **Corporate sponsorship and or donations (tax deductible), please contact**

- Treasurer – *Shannon Hawkins* [hawkins.beauty@yahoo.com](mailto:hawkins.beauty@yahoo.com)



# Volunteering



The LJAL is a volunteer organization; for 8 games we have over 540 spots to fill

- Volunteer coordinator: N/A
- Each player's family must volunteer to **work at 4 events**. Must be 18 years of age or older
  - *Example: kitchen, field set up/clean up, chain gang, announcing, time clock, etc.*
  - *If the volunteering is not completed; potential consequences include:*
    - ❖ Not allowed to attend year-end banquet
    - ❖ Loss of veteran status
- *Sign Up at "Sign Up Genius"; download the app*



*Links coming soon and  
posted to Facebook  
page*

# Code of Conduct (included with your registration)



## Use of social media

- Be respectful
- Communication of program information
- Photo sharing opportunity
- Not a medium for airing of grievances



## Game day

- Be Respectful on/off the field:
  - *Officials*
  - *Opponents*
  - *Blue Jay coaches/directors*

## Issue resolution

- 24-hour rule:
  - *Wait 24 hours before discussing an issue with coaches and / or leadership*

## Escalation of issues

1. Speak to head coach
2. Speak to director
3. Speak to unit director



# Expectations



## The Goal:

- The goal is to improve, to get better every day!
  - *We use football and cheer as mechanism to achieve this goal and develop student athletes to be the best person they can be both on and off the field*

University of Kentucky  
25 cheer national  
championships

Bill Belichick  
6 super bowl wins

Nick Saban  
6 national championships

“We lose games because of lack of good judgement both on the field and off. A player who is doing poorly in school can cost us a game. If you have the **right thoughts, habits, and priorities** – which in once sense is the definition of character – if they can do those things here, they can do them anywhere.”  
- Nick Saban

# Next steps...



1. Read and review the attachments that were emailed out
2. Introduce **yourself** to your team's coaches and assistants as well as the directors
3. If you want to **get involved**, just do it. Reach out to one of the directors or coordinators... If you know of a business that may want to donate, let us know
4. Get your athlete a completed [physical](#)<sup>1</sup> from your doctor and upload to SportsEngine prior to our first game
5. Be the fan that everyone wants to be! Be the **positive and encouraging** force for everyone of one of our student athletes

## Upcoming dates

- 5/14 (varsity FB), 5/15 (JV FB), 5/16 (freshman and flag FB)
  - Raffle ticket & practice pack \$ due
- **TBD** Blue Jay Cheer uniform try on
  - Raffle ticket & practice pack \$ due
- 6/8 Tim Shaw Football camp free (at Clarenceville HS)
  - 6/20 & 6/21 (2023) Franklin's Football camp \$25 from 9am - 11:30am ([link](#))
- June 10, 11, 12 (2024) three-day FB camp (optional) from 6:00pm - 7:30pm (at Grant Elementary)
- **TBD** Cheer Camp
- 8/5, 8/6, 8/7 (2024) start of practice<sup>2</sup>, but no pads
- 8/8 (2024) start of practice with pads
- 8/19/2024, raffle 5pm-8pm (can bring stubs to Bentley)
- Picture day is **TBD** at time TBD at Grant Elementary / Mies Park (more info coming soon)

1. Physicals are required prior to the season starting. They must be dated after April 15<sup>th</sup> and must be received prior to first game  
2. Practice schedules and times are subject to change pending Head Coach's plan for season and inclement weather. Head coach will communicate with parents closer to the start of practice/games and throughout the season





**We are looking forward to a  
great year!!!**

**Go Blue Jays!**

# 2024 Cost information



## Football registration:

- \$300 – tackle
- \$200 – flag

## Football practice / sport pack<sup>1</sup>:

- \$100 for flag: includes reversible game jersey, t-shirt, and shorts
- \$120 for tackle: includes reversible game jersey, t-shirt, practice jersey

## Fundraiser (mandatory)<sup>1</sup>:

- Raffle tickets are: \$100 for a single athlete or \$200 for multiple athletes within a family (football or cheer)

## Other gear needed prior to 1<sup>st</sup> practice:

- Girdle (tackle only),
- Mouth guard w/ strap (all),
- Water bottle / jug (all),
- Cup and cup underwear (all)
- Cleats (black preferred, next option is blue / white)

## Cheer registration:

- \$150 – all squads

## Cheer practice / sport pack<sup>1</sup>:

- \$200 – all squads and includes lots of gear the girls need to cheer for the season

## Fundraiser (mandatory)<sup>1</sup>:

- Raffle tickets are: \$100 for a single athlete or \$200 max for multiple athletes within a family (football or cheer)

1. Practice/sport pack and fundraiser money is due at uniform try-ons (May / June) and must be collected to receive your athlete's uniform

Note: throughout the season, there may be additional expenses that arise; we do our best to communicate in advance and minimize the expenses for our families

“Any **Blue Jay football** athlete  
can wear any color cleats they want...  
as long as they are black, white or blue”  
- Henry Ford



# Football practice and game day info



## Football practice info:

- Parents must be 50ft from practice field

## Timely pick up

- Please be at practice 15 minutes prior to the end of practice

## Inclement weather

- If the weather looks bad....stay close !!!
- In cases of extreme heat, the Blue Jays will follow the lead of the Franklin High School Athletic Department's Heat and Humidity Policy
- If practice is cancelled, a "Remind" text and Facebook post will provide notification

## Football Game day info (Saturday / Sunday):

### Typical Arrival and Game Start Times:

- Flag arrival, 8:00 am;  
game time, 9:00 am
- Freshman arrival, 9:30 am;  
game time, 11:00 am
- JV arrival, 11:30 am;  
game time, 1:00 pm
- Varsity arrival, 1:30 pm;  
game time, 3:00 pm

*This is subject to change. Some non-Livonia teams have different start times*

**As of 5/8/24, game times are TBD**

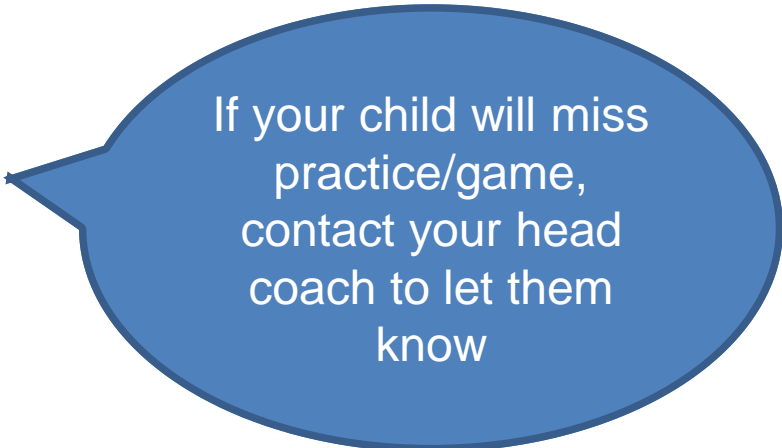
# Football & Cheer policy on missing practice



## Absences: Excused vs. Unexcused

### Example:

- Catechism = Excused
- Didn't feel like practicing = Unexcused



If your child will miss practice/game, contact your head coach to let them know

- *Unexcused absences will result in loss of playing time in the next game*
  - SMYFA rules: any otherwise eligible player having two (2) unexcused absences from practices during a game week shall be held out for 1st half of that week's game. Any otherwise eligible player having three (3) or more unexcused absences from practice during a game week shall not participate in that week's game. Each Unit shall have the right to grant the Head Coach for any Team in a Unit the discretion to limit the playing time of any player who has missed more than two (2) or more practices in any given week, based on considerations for player(s) safety.



## Website

- [www.livoniabluejays.com](http://www.livoniabluejays.com)

## Email:

- [bluejayslivonia@gmail.com](mailto:bluejayslivonia@gmail.com)
- [Livoniabluejayscheer@gmail.com](mailto:Livoniabluejayscheer@gmail.com)

## Social Media – Facebook:



- [Livonia Blue Jays](#)
- [Livonia Blue Jay Cheer Facebook](#)

## SignUp Genius App

- Volunteer spot signup



## Huddle Notes

- Posted Wednesday evening
- Review past and future events



# 2024 Contact info (call/text/email)



## Directors:

- Joe Hosking (Unit DIR FB JV)
  - 248-882-3982
  - [william.hosking@gmail.com](mailto:william.hosking@gmail.com)
  - [kpartylite@aol.com](mailto:kpartylite@aol.com)
- Josh Kirk (FB JV)
  - 734-649-1352
  - [joshkirk37@yahoo.com](mailto:joshkirk37@yahoo.com)
- Shawn Hawkins (FB Freshman)
  - 248-755-0021
  - [s81hawkins@gmail.com](mailto:s81hawkins@gmail.com)
- Hans Heiman (FB Flag)
  - 734-664-1267
  - [hheiman@ltu.edu](mailto:hheiman@ltu.edu)
- Stacey Talyor (Cheer)
  - 734-837-7664
  - [staylor3579@gmail.com](mailto:staylor3579@gmail.com)
- Pam Milewsky (Cheer)
  - 734-890-0091
  - [prmilewsky@gmail.com](mailto:prmilewsky@gmail.com)

## Head Coaches Football:

- John Diponio (FB Varsity)
  - 734-765-2709
  - [jdiponio@livoniapublicschools.org](mailto:jdiponio@livoniapublicschools.org)
- Jon Reid (FB JV)
  - 734-658-8437
  - [Reidjon18@yahoo.com](mailto:Reidjon18@yahoo.com)
- Matt Rigley (FB Freshman)
  - 313-610-9818
  - [mattr217@yahoo.com](mailto:mattr217@yahoo.com)
- Matt McCullough (FB Flag)
  - 734-673-0941
  - [mmccullough40@yahoo.com](mailto:mmccullough40@yahoo.com)

## Head Coaches Cheer:

- Pam Milewsky (CR Varsity)
  - 734-890-0091

Coming soon



8/7/24

**Final**

2024

**SCHEDULE**

2024 Schedule football and cheer

Aug. 17 (Bentley) 3-way scrimmage vs other Livonia teams

Aug. 25 (away) Blue Jays @ Novi Bobcats

Sept. 7 (Home) Walled Lake Braves @ Blue Jays

Sept. 14 (away) Blue Jays @ Garden City Cougars

Sept. 22 (away) Blue Jays @ Livonia Orioles

Sept. 28 (home) Northville Colts @ Blue Jays (Family Day Game)

Oct. 5 (home) Dearborn Lions @ Blue Jays

Oct. 13 (away) Blue Jays @ Livonia Falcons (UM Stadium)

Oct. 19 (home) Livonia Eagles @ Blue Jays (Pink Out Game)

Oct. 26 CHEERFEST

Oct. 27 SMYFA Semi-finals

Nov. 3 SMYFA Championship

Nov. 10 Blue Jays Year-End Banquet (Laurel Manor 2pm-6pm)

