



LIBERTYVILLE BOYS CLUB FOOTBALL 2008 PROGRAM GUIDE

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INTRODUCTION

The Libertyville Boys Club is an Illinois not-for-profit organization that consists solely of volunteers that create and administer tackle football, flag football, and cheerleading programs.

Objective:

The Libertyville Boys Club (LBC) has been serving Libertyville and its surrounding communities for over 70 years by making instructional and participative football and cheerleading programs available to boys and girls between the ages of five and fourteen. LBC has provided youth sports activities to over 15,000 participants since its inception. The LBC Football Program is currently comprised of 20 in-house teams, 10 flag football teams, and 5 travel teams that serve over 600 boys and girls.

Our philosophy is simple; teach the fundamentals of the game of football and promote a sense of sportsmanship and fair play to our youth through participation in team activities in an environment that stresses fun for all participants. The LBC strives to provide a positive athletic experience and to nurture and support each child in his/her individual development.

All participants in the LBC Youth Football program have the right to and should expect to:

1. Be part of a team.
2. Try out for any position and earn that position through effort and skill demonstrated at practice and during game conditions.
3. Participate in all games at a position assigned by the coaching staff, and in accordance with the Rules and By-Laws of the LBC and the Tri County Youth Football League (TCYFL).
4. Receive quality equipment.
5. Be treated fairly by coaches, players, parents, TCYFL officials and representatives both on and off the field. In turn, players must extend the same courtesy to these individuals.
6. Address any representative of the LBC or the TCYFL concerning positions, playing time, practices, league play, rules, administration or any other pertinent topic. The head coach has the final decision as to positions, playing time, and other team-related issues within the framework, rules, and guidelines of the LBC and the TCYFL.

The value of the LBC experience is reinforced each time a former player or cheerleader reminds us of how the LBC experience positively impacted their life. Many of our former players as well as ex-NFL players have coached or are now coaching in our program making the LBC stronger each year.

Glen Kozlowski	Former Chicago Bears and current Head Coach at Wauconda High School
Ron Rivera	Former Chicago Bears and current San Diego Chargers Linebackers Coach
Jim Thornton	Former Chicago Bears and New York Jets
Jim Morrissey	Former Chicago Bears
Dave Duerson	Former Chicago Bears
Robin Earl	Former Chicago Bears
Vince Tobin	Former Chicago Bears Coach
Bob Wylie	Former Chicago Bears Coach
Bryan Wilcox	Former UCLA and current Assistant Coach at Libertyville High School

A majority of our players continue on to play football at the high school level. In addition, many of our former players are playing or have played at the college level such as:

Kevin Walters	Currently plays for the Houston Texans
Jack Simmons	Currently plays at the University of Minnesota
Jeff Fontana	Currently plays at the University of Northern Illinois
David Mooseman	Currently plays at the University of Michigan
Ryan Kennedy	Currently plays at Miami of Ohio
Kyle Nader	Currently plays at Drake University
Rajee Harris	Currently plays at Drake University
George Danilkowicz	Currently plays at North Dakota State University
Jim Randall	Currently plays at Western Michigan University
Matt Norcia	Currently plays at Wofford College
Nick Nickolich	Currently plays at Illinois Wesleyan University
Dave Maggio	Currently plays at Beloit College
David Romito	Currently plays at Carthage College
Chris Key	Currently plays at St. Cloud State University
Zach Criswell	Currently plays at Santa Barbara City College
Jordan Miller	Currently plays at Harper College
Eric Pritchard	Former Duke University
Kevin Fontana	Former Illinois State University
Santino Panico	Former University of Nebraska
Chris Jansen	Former University of San Diego
Jimmy Lewis	Former Yale University
Keith Heerdegen	Former Air Force Academy
Dan Romito	Former University of Chicago
J.C. Harrington	Former Harvard University
Matt Christensen	Former Michigan State University
Reid Christensen	Former Indiana State University
Kurt Christensen	Former Indiana State University
Dan Nikolich	Former Drake University
Brian Hamlett	Former University of Southern Illinois
Chad Mason	Former Valparaiso University
Paul Cronin	Former Valparaiso University
Ben Hodges	Former Augustana College

In closing, the Board of Directors of the Libertyville Boys Club would like to thank all of the tireless volunteers who are the backbone of the LBC and without whom the LBC could not sustain our programs year after year. It is their dedication and spirit that makes us confident that the LBC will be providing quality sports experiences for the youth of our community in the years to come.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The LBC maintains a scholarship program to enable eligible players to participate in the football and cheerleading programs with all or a portion of the fees being waived for that participant. Anyone may request that the LBC consider an individual for a scholarship by submitting a request in writing to the LBC President. The request should explain the circumstances surrounding the request. All information concerning the request, including the participant's name, will be held in confidence by the LBC and communicated internally only to those Board members that would be involved in administering the scholarship.

ADMINISTRATION

The LBC is administered by a Board of Directors that has full discretion relative to issues that impact the programs offered under the provisions of the by-laws. The Executive Board is comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer who are elected for one-year terms. The remaining three Board members are "directing" members. All Board members are responsible for the LBC's direction, budget, purchasing, publicity and other activities necessary for the LBC to function successfully. Members of the Board of Directors and their contact information may be found on Page 9 of this program guide as well as the LBC website.

FEEES

The fees assessed to participate in the program pay for the facilities, field preparation and maintenance, insurance, referees, league fees, jerseys, coaches' training, administrative costs, purchase and/or reconditioning of equipment, and other miscellaneous expenses. Although the LBC is a not-for-profit organization, fees are adjusted periodically to cover the total cost of the programs.

REFUND POLICY

Refunds will be issued on a sliding scale of the following: 1) Before the first equipment handout, a full refund will be provided. 2) Thereafter and up until August 15th, there will only be a 50% refund provided. 3) There will be no refunds issued after August 15th. Requests for refunds can be initiated on the front page of www.lbcfootball.org. Please provide the parents name, players name and mailing address. Any exceptions to this refund policy require approval of the Board of Directors and may not be reviewed and acted upon until the conclusion of the season.

COACHES

All of the LBC coaches and assistant coaches are volunteers. They expect your support, cooperation, and assistance. All LBC coaches are required to be either ASEP (American Sport Education Program) or NYSCA (National Youth Sports Coaches Association) certified. Our coaches have different levels of training and bring their own football knowledge, experience, and teaching techniques to the game. As a result, coaching styles, methods, and game plans can vary from team to team. All LBC coaches have a sincere desire to focus their efforts into a positive football experience for all participants. We ask that all players and parents be committed to the program and support the needs and efforts of the coaches. In support of the coaching staff, LBC makes the following comments:

1. Football is a very physical, fast moving, and intense game that can result in coaches shouting to get a player's attention. The LBC expects all activities associated with its programs to be instructional, motivational, supportive, and, at times, disciplinary in

nature. However, under no circumstances will LBC tolerate verbal abuse of any player or the use of offensive language in conjunction with these activities.

2. Coaches may use physical demonstrations as a teaching technique. Parents should be aware of situations involving physical contact and understand the purpose, intent, and extent of such contact in the context of football instruction and play. If for any reason, a parent is uncomfortable with a coach or situation, they should contact either the coach or any member of the LBC Board of Directors to discuss the situation.

POSITION ASSIGNMENTS

Football, unlike most other sports, is a game where most players do not touch the ball. However, football plays depend on every player executing their position's responsibility in unison with the rest of the team. Therefore, every position is critical to every play. In the tackle program, each coaching staff will have its own evaluation system for determining and assigning positions. Bear in mind that each position requires a special skill set that might not be suitable to every player. Players benefit greatly by learning and trying multiple positions. Attitude toward assigned positions plays a big part in the player's and team's success.

Grievance Procedure:

If parents have a concern about the program, practice schedules, playing time, coaches' conduct, equipment, another team's conduct during game situations, or other items that have a bearing on their player, the following procedure should be followed in addressing the concern:

1. Discuss the situation with the head coach -- off the field.
2. If the concern remains unresolved to your satisfaction, address the situation with the respective league commissioner.

PARENTS

Parents serve key roles for the team. Some of the activities that parents can be made responsible for include organizing an effective and efficient team communication procedure, seeking out and organizing volunteers for chain gangs and as scoreboard operators, shooting game films, helping compile team statistics or any other activity the head coach may deem necessary to assist with the team. We strongly encourage you to volunteer and actively participate in the overall success of your player's team.

CONCESSION STAND

All of the proceeds from the operation of the concession stand are used to help defray program expenses. Parent and player patronage of the concession stand is strongly encouraged to ensure its continued availability as a source of funding for the LBC. We encourage you to purchase halftime and after-game snacks and refreshments from the concession stand.

INSURANCE

The LBC does not carry medical insurance for players. Medical insurance is the responsibility of the participants.

WEBSITE

LBC has developed and maintains a website at www.lbcfootball.org. The website contains the most current information concerning LBC activities as well as important dates. Practice and game cancellations due to inclement weather or poor field conditions will be posted on the website as soon as practice or games have been confirmed to be cancelled. In-house game schedules and results are posted on the website. Game schedules and game results are also available for the travel teams on the website through a link to the TCYFL. Reference the site frequently so that you are up to date on any changes that may have been made. The website does not contain information relating to individual team practice schedules. Contact your player's coach directly for this information.

TACKLE FOOTBALL PROGRAM

EQUIPMENT

The following equipment is issued to each player and must be returned at the end of the season:

- Helmet and Facemask
- Chinstrap
- Shoulder Pads
- Pad Girdle
- All Pant Pads (Thigh, Knee, Hip, and Tailbone)
- Game Jersey & Pants (Game jerseys and pants are kept by the player at the end of the season.)

No use of alternate helmets, facemasks, shoulder pads, pant pads, or other protective equipment is allowed unless approved by the Director of Equipment. In addition to the equipment provided by the LBC, players are required to supply their own football shoes, athletic supporter with protective cup, and practice jerseys. (Note: Travel team players may wear either regular football shoes with replaceable cleats or shoes with molded rubber cleats while in-house players must wear flat soled shoes.) LBC's equipment is of the highest quality. Helmets are tested and reconditioned on regular schedule. New equipment is purchased on an annual basis to replace defective or worn equipment. Although the LBC strives to maintain quality equipment to ensure your player's safety in every way possible, it is the player's responsibility to inspect his/her equipment on a regular basis. If the equipment fails or is in need of repair, it is the player's responsibility to notify a member of the coaching staff immediately so it can be replaced or repaired as soon as possible. Players are encouraged to take care of their equipment as it must be returned to the LBC on the last day of the season in good condition.

PRACTICE

Football is a game that requires timing and coordination by all players on offense, defense and special teams. The game requires many hours of practice in order to develop the skills and ability to function together as a team. As such, coaches are permitted to practice four or five days a week until the start of school. Thereafter, three practices per week are the maximum number allowed for any team. The head coach establishes the practice schedule. It is imperative that players attend all practices. Missed practices can impact playing time and may prevent a player from securing a position that he/she wants to play. Attitude and commitment are essential. Since the success of the team depends on the involvement of every player, practice is an important component of the overall learning experience.

PLAYING TIME

To the greatest extent possible, the LBC promotes equal playing time in both the in-house and travel programs. Playing time can be affected by attendance, player readiness, or for disciplinary reasons. Equal playing time is not assured in the upper travel levels such as the lightweights or heavyweights; nevertheless, the LBC promotes game playing time for all eligible players.

Examples

1. The travel program is highly competitive and teams are composed of the best-qualified players. The lightweight and heavyweight levels do not have equal play rules. The best players may play both offense and defense in a given game.
2. The in-house program emphasizes instruction, development, and equitable participation for all players. The in-house program has an equal play rule set by the LBC By-Laws that requires 11 players to leave the field and 11 different players, or as many as are on the sideline if a team has fewer than 11, to replace them with every change in possession.
3. If more than 22 players are on an in-house team, position sharing is required. Since position sharing can be difficult for the head coach to administer during game situations. An assistant coach is normally responsible for ensuring appropriate substitutions and equitable playing time.
4. Due to an unexcused absence from practice, or for disciplinary reasons, a player may be given limited playing time or none at all. The coaching staff will notify the player, his/her parents, the respective league commissioner, and the opposing coach in advance should this occur.

FLAG FOOTBALL PROGRAM

EQUIPMENT

The following equipment is issued to each player:

- Game Jersey (Game jerseys are kept by the player at the end of the season.)

All other equipment is supplied by the LBC with the exception of a mouthpiece and personal sports apparel. As a safety precaution, players are required to wear flat bottom athletic shoes.

The flag football division is currently comprised of ten teams that have been assigned collegiate team names. Games are played on Saturdays on the Butterfield School Athletic Fields. The season consists of eight games. Games consist of four quarters, each quarter lasting ten minutes. A running clock is used except for the last minute of the second and fourth quarters. There are no post season or championship games.

PRACTICE

Teams normally practice one time during the week to learn offensive and defensive play in preparation for the games.

PLAYING TIME

Eight players are on the field at one time either on offense or defense. Eligible players must play the entire game, either on offense or defense. Coaches are encouraged to play their players in as many different positions as possible on offense and defense during the course of the season.

A referee is used to enforce the rules of the game and to ensure that there is no unnecessary roughness or physical mismatches that could result in one player dominating another.

TRAVEL FOOTBALL PROGRAM

TRI COUNTY YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE (TCYFL)

LBC's traveling teams compete in the TCYFL, playing against travel teams from selected Chicagoland communities. The TCYFL is administered by a Board of Directors consisting of an executive board and a representative from each member community. The TCYFL By-Laws and Playing Rules establish the framework for the traveling teams game play. Game rules are based on IHSA rules, modified to address specific needs of youth players, to include such issues as age and weight limitations and equitable play provisions. The TCYFL conducts a postseason championship tournament in each of its two divisions (Elite and Premier) and a TCYFL Bowl between the divisional champions. The LBC actively participates in the operation of the TCYFL to assure that its travel teams participate in the best possible competitive and developmental football program available. Visit the league website at www.TCYFL.net for additional information.

COACHES COUNCIL

The coaches' council is comprised of ten current and former coaches who review any infractions of the LBC By-Laws and the Coaches' Pledge and administer appropriate corrective/disciplinary action.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

E-mail addresses for the LBC Board of Directors as well as other non-board directors can be found on Page 9 of this program guide as well as on the LBC website.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The most commonly asked questions regarding the LBC tackle football program can be found in the back of this program guide. Remember to access the LBC website for the most current information.

Libertyville Boys Club Board of Directors

President	Meade Detweiler	president@lbcfootball.org
Vice President	Mike Currier	vp@lbcfootball.org
Secretary	Dan Nikolich	secretary@lbcfootball.org
Treasurer	Rich Harris	treasurer@lbcfootball.org
Director of Registration and Website	Mike Johnson	mjohnson@lbcfootball.org
Director of Grounds	Rich Danilkowicz	grounds@lbcfootball.org
Director of Special Events	John Teichman	lboysclub@aol.com
Director of Rules & Competition		
Director of Equipment		equipment@lbcfootball.org

OTHER CONTACTS:

Director of Public Relations		relations@lbcfootball.org
Director of Concessions	Joan Danilkowicz	concessions@lbcfootball.org
Director of Flag Football	Bob Post	director@lbcfootball.org
Director of Cheerleading		cheer@lbcfootball.org
Director of Travel Football	Dan Henneberry	travel@lbcfootball.org
Webmaster		webadmin@lbcfootball.org
Website		www.lbcfootball.org

Mailing Address		Libertyville Boys Club P.O. Box 6382 Libertyville, IL 60048
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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

TACKLE FOOTBALL PROGRAM

Q- What are the differences between the in-house and travel programs?

A- The in-house program is a developmental league, whereas the travel program is a more competitive league. Players who try out for and are not assigned to a travel team are assigned to an in-house team to further develop their skills for consideration on a travel team or to further prepare for high school competition. All players are required to try out for the travel teams. This requirement is necessary to maintain parity in the in-house program.

Q- How are players placed on teams?

A- Players are evaluated in different categories such as speed, blocking ability, passing ability, and catching ability for the first several weeks of practice. After that, the coaches will make a decision as to the whether your player will be assigned to a travel team or to an in-house team, based upon their evaluations. During the evaluations, all players at the same level practice together. After players have been assigned to teams, players practice with their own teams.

Q- What if we are on vacation when preseason or regular season practices begin, or when equipment pick up days are held?

A- We are aware that summer is vacation time for many families. You should contact the league via email at info@lbcfootball.org to let the LBC know on which days your child will be absent. If a player does not attend the mandatory travel tryouts, the player will be penalized in accordance with the LBC rules which could include issuance of a 3rd strip making the player eligible to only play the center position or removal from the program with a refund of fees in accordance with the refund policy.

Q- What if my player has health issues?

A- If players have any health issues such as asthma, diabetes, or allergies, parents should ensure that they have their medication available to them during both practices and games and that the medication is clearly marked with their name. Parents should also ensure that the coach is aware of any health issues at the outset of the season, especially exercise induced conditions and the warning signs for a specific player.

Q- When will my player be able to practice with equipment?

A- Each in-house player must have three days of conditioning practices before they will be allowed to practice in pads. This is an IHSA rule as well as for the player's safety. Each coach is responsible for tracking the number of conditioning practices attended to ensure that each player meets this requirement.

Q- How often are practices held?

A- After the first two weeks of conditioning, in-house practices will be held no more than three days per week, with two practices being held Monday through Thursday and the third practice being held on Friday. Practices are not allowed to exceed 90 minutes in duration.

Q- What happens in case of inclement weather?

A- . Always keep in contact with your respective head coach or check the LBC website at www.lbcfootball.org for updates. In the event that your player is at practice or playing in a game and there is a change in the weather, the Butler Lake sports complex is equipped with a lightning detection system. If the detection system is activated, all practices/games will be immediately suspended and/or cancelled depending upon the severity and length of the storm event. In the event of a storm event, you should be prepared to pick up your player immediately as there are insufficient shelters to provide adequate protection at the Butler Lake sports complex.

Q- Do the coaches receive training?

A- All LBC coaches are certified through either ASEP (American Sport Education Program) or through NYSCA (National Youth Sports Coaches Association).

Q- How do I contact my player's coach with questions?

A- Coaches will tell the players and parents how they wish to be contacted such as home phone, work phone, cell phone, or e-mail. E-mail is becoming a preferred method of communication. It allows the coach the opportunity to respond when he can concentrate on your question. Parents should be sensitive as to the topics they choose to discuss with the coach when other players/parents are present. Parents should discuss issues with the coach either before or after practice, not during.

Q- What equipment is provided?

Shoulder pads, helmet and chinstrap, practice/game pants and all pant pads, belt, and game jersey are provided by the LBC. If you want to supply your own equipment, it must be approved by the Director of Equipment.

Q- What are team parents?

A- Team parents assist the coaching staff with off-field administrative duties throughout the season. Some of the duties that team parents perform can be fielding questions from the parents of players on the team, passing out handouts, collecting forms, creating and passing out team newsletters, coordinating team snacks, and planning team parties.

Q- Can my player pick the position he/she wants to play?

A- Players wishes and abilities are taken into consideration when coaches choose players' positions, but it is the coaches who ultimately decide which player will play what position. Football is a team sport and a coach has to consider all of his players' abilities and the team's needs when assigning positions.