



Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of the Kennewick Grid Kids board members and coaches we would like to welcome you to the Kennewick Grid Kids (KGK) Football Program. It is a pleasure to have you and your child as a part of the program and we truly hope you will be a positive supporter of the program. We are thrilled to begin working with you towards the KGK Football mission, which is to "develop youth athletes of character on and off the field." We firmly believe that youth athletics provide a vehicle for educating athletes in valuable life lessons. Football teaches personal responsibility, self-control, teamwork, and mental and emotional endurance. Additionally, the KGK football family provides an immediate opportunity for our young athletes to experience the kinship that they will hopefully continue to develop over their time with our program.

As a youth sports program, we are aware that there are times when parents have concerns. If you have a concern regarding the program or if we can assist you in anyway, we encourage you to contact us. Please keep in mind that youth football can be a competitive sport at times and the emphasis should be on growing your young athlete. Those players who abide by the rules, work hard, and put their team in the best situation to be successful will see plenty of time on the field. Obviously natural ability plays a major part in this equation. We do feel, as a staff, that since we are with our players every day in practice and have the opportunity to see them perform not only in games but also in practice, we are in the best position to evaluate performance and effort. Academic performance and proper demeanor, on and off the field, can play a major part in our evaluation of athletes. Regardless of how any situation may unfold on the field, we encourage your young athlete to speak to their coach first and find out how they are doing on their new teams. We encourage you to be a supportive sponsor in your child's growth in this new endeavor and help them through this process and reinforce the principles of hard work, attitude, and work ethic.

Joining something new can always be a bit confusing at first. We hope that you reach out to us for any questions along the way. With that said, we have provided a list below of the next steps you can expect along the journey to your new team and coach.

- Today you will be receiving your helmet and shoulder pads during our checkout process. You will also be getting your pants size and jersey details taken care of.
- Sat. August 5<sup>th</sup> – New player tryouts. You will need to bring your helmet, shoulder pads, wear cleats and bring plenty of fluids to drink. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early so that we can get you lined up and ready to run through 3 quick drills.

10:00am – 7 year olds  
11:00am – 8 year olds

12:00pm – 9 year olds  
12:30pm – 10 year olds

1:00pm – 11 year olds  
1:30pm – 12 & 13 year olds

- Sun. August 6<sup>th</sup> – KGK Player Draft. Nothing that you need to do here. Your athlete will get drafted by one of our eight teams. Your new coach will contact you within 48 hours to give you the next steps and let you know when and where your first practice will be held.
- Mon. August 14<sup>th</sup> – First week of practice starts. Most teams practice Mon, Tue, and Thur.
- Sat. September 9<sup>th</sup> – Pictures and first game. You will receive more details from your coach.

We hope this season is filled with excitement and pride as you join our football family.