



Merrimack Valley Spartans Football & Cheerleading

2020 was a year with such uncertainty and change. Before 2020, most people might have been reluctant to change. With this pandemic came a lot of horrible things and situations. We, as humans, are capable of changing and adapting to a new lifestyle and a new way of living. This shows change might be hard to make, but by being challenged and overcoming adversity, it shows change can be a good thing. It takes us out of our comfort zone and shows us that there's more than what is directly in front of us.

In such a short amount of time, the Spartan organization has come a very long way with the support from all our Spartan families, coaches, volunteers, and sponsors!

As an organization, we pride ourselves on being transparent and open with the amazing individuals that make up the Spartan family. With that said, there are quite a few questions that seem to be repetitively asked. We'd like to take this time to give the families with questions a few answers directly from us.

The Spartans are an organization within American Youth Football (AYF). AYF was founded in 1996 and showcases some of the best athletes in the country each year at nationals. The Spartans are in the Central Massachusetts conference. This just so happens to be the most competitive youth football and cheer conference in the state of Massachusetts. Yes, you read that correctly. This conference is the most competitive in the entire state of Massachusetts. The Spartans will be playing on a Division One level. We are firm believers in "iron sharpens iron". We want our athletes, football and cheer, in the most competitive conferences and divisions. We don't take the approach of being a big fish in a small pond. We will not take the easy road to winning.

The Spartans welcome any and all families that are currently playing or cheering within any other local football and cheer organizations. You do not need permission from your organization (city, recreational, pop warner) to leave and come play with an AYF organization. If you do currently belong to an AYF organization, you may be eligible to join the Spartans. Please contact us to discuss your options.



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There have been a lot of questions about our conference being within "Central Massachusetts". Yes, our conference does primarily exist of teams that are located in Central Massachusetts. We will have eight games per season. There will be four home games which will be played at the Greater Lawrence Vocational School in Andover. Our four away games will be played at other teams' home stadiums. We have been guaranteed by the president of our conference that we will not be forced to drive to the furthest team from our home city. That means, just like any other organization, we will have an away game that will be a bit further than a neighboring city. Instead of a 20-30 minute drive, it will be a 45-60 minute drive. If and when we play that particular team again, they will travel to our home field. We, as an organization, decided that this conference has the most competitive teams in Massachusetts and it will be worth the travel time to play the best of the best in the entire state.

Playing on a Division One level will only allow our athletes a higher exposure to next level schools in the area and out of state. The Spartans organization has networked to send our athletes to all-star games in Tennessee, Virginia Beach, and Las Vegas. At these games, there will be the top players from the entire US and will have high school coaches from all over the country as well. We also have the ability to produce highlight films for our kids to help them get invited or nominated for all-star games. The highlight films can also be sent to high schools for recruiting and scholarship purposes.

Now, on to our coaching staff. The Spartans have taken the time to seek out the most knowledgeable and football-minded coaches in the area. Collectively, our coaches have over 100 years of football experience between playing and coaching. We sought after coaches that will not only teach the game in a way no other organizations can offer, but also teach the youth how important being a good human off the field is. With home life and school being first priority, we want every athlete in our organization to realize football and cheer is a privilege. It is earned by showing respect and discipline at home and at school.

Lastly, one thing we are doing differently from any other organization is showing you exactly where your money goes. Your registration fees, fundraising, and donations are knowledge that is shared. We have comprised a complete breakdown of every single dollar the Spartan organization takes in. All accounted funds are spent on our athletes. Each cheer athlete receives their own personalized cheer uniform and warm up suit. Each football player receives two personalized game jerseys and a set of game pants. All uniforms are theirs to keep!



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We don't want to be average. We want to be GREAT! Greatness comes from being challenged every step of the way. We are here to give our athletes the best chance of growing on and off the field. We want to help our athletes be the best on the field and also be a better human off the field. Life isn't about taking the easy way. Why should we normalize taking the easiest route? We want to instill in our athletes that hard work pays off.

AYF has voted and there will be a 2021 Fall season as it stands today. Like all outdoor sports, we will follow the guidelines set by the governor. We will provide updates periodically as the guidelines are always evolving. The start of football and cheer training camp for the 2021 season will begin Monday, July 26th. YES, all football equipment will be handed out a few weeks prior to the actual start of camp. Uniforms will be in hand one to two weeks before the first game of the season.

THANK YOU! We appreciate you taking the time to get to know us better. We hope this has brought clarity to the questions that you may have had. If you have any more questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us directly. We will respond as soon as possible. Our email address is MVSpartansFootball@gmail.com. We will also respond to questions sent online through our website, www.MerrimackValleySpartans.com, as well as our social media pages. If you prefer to call, our phone number is (978) 566-3910.

The season will be upon us sooner than it seems. We have one question for you and your athletes...

What are you waiting for...?

Be a part of something GREAT!

WE ARE SPARTANS!