



Dear Harwood 7th Grade Football Parents,

Our coaching staff is always excited to welcome our new football players to Harwood. Since we don't have enough opportunities to communicate every detail of our program to you, we hope some of the information in this letter may be helpful to you.

We expect to see 100 plus 7th graders attempt to figure out their equipment on the first day of practice and wander toward the practice field with huge question marks over their helmets. Please be reassured that this is normal and we are accustomed to it. One fact of 7th grade football life is that some of our athletes are children in men's bodies and some of them are children in children's bodies. Fortunately, HEB athletics is also aware of this and has provided an outstanding way to give both types of children the opportunity to compete with those of comparable build and ability.

All HEB 7th grade football programs have four different teams which play their own separate schedules during the season. Our "Sweet 16" teams consist of our larger and more athletically developed players. "Sweet 16 A" team will include the players we have evaluated as being the furthest along in their physical and athletic development. Our Sweet 16 "B" team includes players we judge to be physically and athletically developed to a level just shy of the Sweet 16 "A" players. These teams will compete in games against their equals from schools in HEB and Birdville. Our "American" 1 and 2 teams include our players who are smaller and are probably not as far along in their athletic development (yet!). We attempt to divide these two teams equally so that there is little difference between the quality of the two teams. This is why you will see our American 1 scheduled to play against someone else's American 2 occasionally, and vice versa.

Please note that we must have the completed Physical Forms in our files and the UIL Participation Packet completed online before your child will be allowed to participate in any practice or game. Please go to HJH Sports Page on our website and click on the **ONLINE UIL ATHLETIC FORMS** after June 15, 2021, register and complete the online forms. Note, if you can't register immediately keep trying at a later date. A Physical has been enclosed for you to have completed by a physician after May 1 and prior to the beginning of school.

The Boys Athletic Expectations is on the home page of the Harwood Boy's Athletics and explains what we expect of our athletes in conduct, grades, etc. The primary goal of the Harwood boys' athletic program is to develop the concepts of teamwork, integrity, work ethic, responsibility, and citizenship, as well as, prepare our athletes to become part of the Trinity High School athletic program.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact our coaching staff at any time via telephone or e-mail. The athletic coordinator's phone number is (817) 354-3360 or e-mail claudeblackwelljr@hebisd.edu .

Thank you,

Claude Blackwell, Boys' Athletic Coordinator Head Football
Carter Cleveland – Head Basketball
Orlando Eureste – Head Track
Louis Goeke – Head Off-Season
Hugo Martinez – Head Cross Country
Brady Rabbitt -