



Mason Comets Touchdown Club Minutes

September 4, 2012

The meeting was brought to order by President Ted Kenniston in the Harvard Room at the High school. Minutes of the August 27th meeting were read and approved by Lisa Mullen and Ron Saresky. The treasurer's report was presented by Todd Peck. The audit should be closed within a week and a complete and final report will be given at that time. Motion was made by Anthony Pilone and seconded by Amy Mason to accept the report as given.

Coach Tony Affatato of the 8th grade Green team gave a report on Middle School football. Things are going very well – we had a win against Colerain and that is great news! The 8th grade teams had a pizza party on Labor Day after practice and the coaches would like to thank the Touchdown Club for supplying the pizza. Thanks to everyone for their support – we appreciate everything you do for us. Coach Affatato said the teams are getting better and stronger and looking forward to the remainder of the season.

Coach Castner – Coach thanked all those who attended the Lancaster game – he was amazed at the crowd we had traveling that long distance. The team and coaches appreciate the spirit that the crowd brings to the games. Big thank you to the Swallen and Hauser families for making sure the team was fed at Lancaster last week. We had a win and that is good but we're far from where we need to be. This was a sweep week – all 3 high school teams had wins and that's big. We had 24 people on the sidelines with injuries or illness – asking parents to help emphasize that players need to wash hands, don't drink after any one, try and stay healthy. Helmet safety is a concern that has to be looked after by the player – air in the helmet is very important and only they are able to tell when they need to have their air checked or adjusted. This is important to prevent concussions. This week we take on Glen Este – they could propose an issue but we'll be ready. They probably will not have a freshman team to play this week so we're looking for another freshman team to play. Tuesday's and Wednesday's are big work days, we go hard and the kids need to show up. This Friday is Alumni Night – our goal is to have 100 alumni football players on the field and in the locker room. There will be a reception in the end zone prior to the game. Grades are an issue – we have 23 D's and F's and this will be addressed through the Accountability Program. We will have study tables both priority and high priority every week. Parents please stay on your players and make sure they are concentrating on their school work. The protocol for addressing playing time for a player is 1) the player needs to talk with his position coach. They need to be responsible enough to do this themselves and not have Mom or Dad do it for them. If they don't get the answer they need or want they should 2) talk to the Offensive or Defensive Coordinator and 3) then lastly if they still want more they should talk with the Head Coach. This protocol must be followed – this is the only way any answers will be given.

Coach Castner addressed the membership apologizing for any comments made by him at previous meetings which may have made anyone uncomfortable. He had hoped people would know him well enough to know his comments were in jest and that he did not mean to offend anyone. The fact that someone took his comments out of context and anonymously sent an email to the Superintendent of Schools and the Athletic Director was upsetting because no one took the time to come to him and talk to him directly. He stressed that he has an open door policy and would like to sit down and discuss with anyone that has a problem directly – maybe not agreeing but talking to understand. He pledged his support, love and excitement for the young men on the Varsity, JV and Freshman teams and he believes in these players and wants to help them develop.

Old/New Business:

Food Committee is planning for Alumni Night – Lanette Szymkowicz announced Deb Stamper is the Chair for this event. Volunteers are in place and we have food promised and coming in for Friday night. The reception begins at 5:30 and goes until 7:00 with the Alumni planning on going to Lucky Dog Grille after the game. The Spaghetti Dinner tickets will be distributed Wed. and Thurs. after practice for the freshman players and at the team meal on Friday for the sophomores thru seniors. Each family will be given 4 tickets to sell. Maggiano's will provide the food this year. There will not be any ticket sales at the door – all tickets must be pre-sold. We will be pre-selling Homecoming T-Shirts at the Atrium on September 13th from 4:30 – 6:30 pm. Shirts are \$10 each. We will also have them available at the Spaghetti Dinner.

Comet Cards need to be closed as soon as possible. We need to get the unsold cards back and close this down by Thursday of this week.

Spirit Wear - Judy Jensen is finished with Spirit Wear.

Concessions – Volunteers good for Friday night – still need some for Tuesday night and on the 15th from 4:15 to the end of the game. Please sign up if you haven't already done so.

Winter Social – venue still be determined but we do need to keep in Mason rather than going outside the city. Team Mom's should let Lisa know what their raffle basket will be as soon as a decision has been made so we can avoid duplications. The Social is February 2nd.

Split-the-Pot is good with volunteers for Friday night.

Terri Borden is good on programs and volunteers for this week's game.

Coach Kendall has asked that we purchase compression shirts for the Special Team players. The quote from CTA is \$1,050.00. Motion was made by Judy Hauser and seconded by Jack Dowling to purchase the shirts – motion was passed.

Lana Fender spoke regarding the SWINK program and wanted everyone to know that this is clearly a volunteer program we set up to help with viewing, taping and sharing games. It is NOT mandatory and was never meant to be implied as mandatory. After using the product if anyone is dis-satisfied they will receive a full refund, just let us know.

Throw Back jerseys have been ordered and will be here on Friday – late afternoon.

The next meeting will be on September 10th in the Harvard Room. Motion to adjourn was made by Anthony Pilone and seconded by Jeff Bunch.