



Morris Warriors

SMOKE SIGNAL

JULY 28, 2016

PICTURE DAY

PICTURE DAY is scheduled for Saturday, August 6, 2016 at 9:00 am at the Warriors Game Field. Additional information will be provided in next week's Smoke Signal.

SCRIMMAGE - WARRIORS VS WILMINGTON

The Warriors will travel to Wilmington for a pre-season scrimmage against the Bobcats on Friday, August 5th. All players are to arrive at the Wilmington field by 6:00 PM. Game play begins at 6:20 and will last approximately 90 minutes. All four levels will play at the same time.

Location: 745 Widows Rd, Wilmington, IL

Arrive at: 6:00 PM

Dress: practice gear



GO WARRIORS!

DRINK DONATIONS DUE

All drink donations are due NOW. If you haven't already turned in your drink donation, please plan to do so at the next practice.

APPAREL ORDERS DUE

All pre-season apparel order forms are due on **Friday, July 29th**. You can order by turning in the form your athlete received at practice, or ordering online at

lazergraphicsinc.com/sale/warriors-football.html

GAME SCHEDULE

Our first game is **Saturday, August 13** at Homer Glen.

Saturday	8/13	Morris @ Homer Glen
Sunday	8/21	Manhattan @ Morris
Saturday	8/27	Morris @ Frankfort Black
Saturday	9/3	Chanooka Orange @ Morris
	9/12-13	No game this week.
Sunday	9/18	Tinely Park White @ Morris
Saturday	9/24	Morris @ Romeoville
Saturday	10/1	Richton Park @ Morris HOMECOMING!
Sunday	10/9	Morris @ New Lenox Knights

WHAT IS THE SMOKE SIGNAL?

The Smoke Signal is a weekly newsletter distributed via email by the last day of practice each week. It contains information on upcoming games and events and other important organizational information. **This is the only Smoke Signal that will be distributed at practice. All future Smoke Signals will be distributed via email only.** If you do not receive this week's Smoke Signal via email by Friday afternoon, please email mwsmokesignal@gmail.com. Likewise, if you want to update your email address or add additional email addresses to the distribution list, email the Smoke Signal and include your name, your athlete(s) name, and his/her level. The Smoke Signal can also be downloaded from the Warriors website.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Be sure to like the Morris Warriors page on Facebook to stay updated on all the latest information and announcements.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

The Warriors has a great website that links directly to the River Valley Youth Football League. Current and past editions of the Smoke Signal can be downloaded from the site. If you haven't already checked it out, take a look today!

www.morriswarriors.com

WARRIORS WHO'S WHO

The Warriors is an all-volunteer organization. There are many people who work directly with the kids and behind the scenes to build strong teams and make practices and game days run smoothly. The following list is intended to provide you with information for those you may need to contact this season.

HEAD COACHES *(full coaching staff list available on website)*

VARSIITY – Bryan Claypool	JV – Dan Darlington
LIGHTWEIGHT – John Darlington	SUPERLIGHT – Bruce Laurie
CHEER/POM – Jen Swartz	

SECRETARY Mike Martin morriswarriors@gmail.com
Mike maintains records and handles the collection of all paperwork.

SMOKE SIGNAL Tracy Lawyer mwsmokesignal@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS Misti Sater mistisater@yahoo.com

HOMECOMING Megan Romak romakiii@sbcglobal.net

CORNFEST Mike Leone leone92098@gmail.com

EVERYTHING ELSE John Maddox Jr. morriswarriors@hotmail.com

"Winners, I am convinced, imagine their dreams first. They want it with all their heart and expect it to come true. There is, I believe, no other way to live."

- Joe Montana

TIME, TALENT AND IDEAS

Volunteering for the Warriors comes in many flavors. It can mean offering your time to work in the concession stand or offering your talent to aid the program in another way. The volunteering of ideas is also especially helpful. If you have a certain talent that you think could benefit the organization, or an idea that you want to share, email the [Smoke Signal](#).

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UPS

Volunteer sign-up sheets are available at practice by the trailer. Please be sure to sign up to fulfill your volunteer obligation. If you have questions about volunteer duties, contact [Misti Sater](#).

WARRIORS HOMECOMING

It's never too early to start planning for homecoming! This year's homecoming celebration will be held at our last home game of the season on Saturday, October 1st. We try to make this a fun and exciting day for all of the boys and cheerleaders. We're always looking for new ideas, so please don't hesitate to get involved! Contact [Megan Romak](#) to share your ideas or to volunteer to help with this year's homecoming activities.

KEEP IT CLEAN

Morris High School allows the Warriors organization to use the practice fields and game field during the season. We are grateful to them for allowing us to use their facilities and hope to continue to do so for many more years.

To help maintain a positive relationship with the school, it is important that we keep the fields clean. Be sure to pick up all of your garbage after every practice and dispose of it in the dumpsters and trash cans provided around the fields and facilities. Please also talk with your athlete about the importance of respecting the property and picking up their bottles and cans after every practice and game.

NO BUTTS ABOUT IT

The Smoke-free Illinois Act prohibits smoking and the use of any other tobacco products on all school property. This includes practice fields, game fields and all parking lots on school property.

CORN FESTIVAL PARADE

The Corn Festival parade will be on Sunday, October 2. All the kids involved in the Warriors organization are invited to participate in the parade by riding on the float. It's always amazing to see the great group of kids representing our organization!

More information regarding what type of help will be needed for this event will be available in a future Smoke Signal. For now, put the date on your calendar and be prepared to show your Warrior pride at Corn Fest!

VOLUNTEER POLICY & PROCEDURE

Each home game requires more than 70 volunteers to assist with various tasks throughout the day, which doesn't include the all-volunteer coaching staff! Some people take on tasks that keep them active all day while most are only asked to help out for a couple of hours. No matter the length of your commitment, your presence and participation is both needed and appreciated.

Each family is required to volunteer to help with home game activities at least three times per athlete through the season. (Scholarship families are required to volunteer four times.) Even if every family meets the minimum requirement, we will still be short of the number of volunteers required for the season. Please consider helping out as much as possible. The success of our program depends on you!

TO RECEIVE VOLUNTEER CREDIT: You are required to sign-in to get credit for volunteering. There will be a Volunteer binder at the concession trailer for each even we host. Everyone (setup, tear down, concessions, etc.) is required to sign in at the beginning of your shift. **If you do not sign in, you will not get credit for volunteering.** Note that the volunteer fee will only be refunded if you have met the full volunteer commitment.

Unfortunately, there has been a high percentage of volunteer 'no-shows' in past years. This puts everyone in a very difficult position, which is especially true of the first shift concession workers since this is our busiest period. The volunteer roster is included in the Smoke Signal distributed the week prior to our home games. If your name is on the list, we're counting on you to show up. **If you've signed up to volunteer and cannot fulfill your obligation, you need to find your own replacement.** We also ask that you [email the volunteer coordinator](#) to inform us of the change.

If there are circumstances beyond your control that prevent you from meeting your volunteer requirement this season, please contact [John Maddox](#).

VOLUNTEER JOBS

The following volunteer jobs need to be filled for each home event that we host.

SETUP – Arrive at the field at 7:30 and prepare it for the games. Setup the field markers and the outer rope, setup the bleachers and team benches, place trash cans around the field, and make sure the clock table is ready to go. (3-5 people)

TEAR DOWN – Undo all the hard work of the setup team.

Make sure that all garbage has been emptied and all game equipment is safely stored away. (3-5 people)

CHAINS – Move chains during game play. (3 people per game)

CLOCK – Run game clock during game play. (1 person per game)

CONCESSIONS – Sell concessions throughout the day. (6-8/game)

MISCELLANEOUS – There are also several miscellaneous jobs to be filled by each game, including announcer, stats, grill chief, raffle sales, and apparel sales.

“Individual commitment to a group effort -- that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.”

- Vince Lombardi