

**2023
PARENT HANDBOOK
&
CODE OF CONDUCT**

2023 EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT: Nick Zakowicz

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Mike Donnelly

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Willie Johnson

SECRETARY: La Tonya Smith

TREASURER: Vanessa Lozano

CHEER COORDINATOR: Keisha Owens

Welcome to the Fontana Pop Warner Football and Cheer 2023 Season

Fontana Pop Warner Football and Cheer has always been proud of the traditions that have carried us through more than 50 seasons. These traditions are simple - hard work, discipline and respect. Fontana Pop Warner has always been a leader in the community through youth sports, and the idea that academics and athletics go hand-in-hand. Fontana Pop Warner is also a huge family, with several generations coming back to play, coach and volunteer.

The following rules and regulations have been set to help Fontana Pop Warner Football and Cheer ensure that each and every child participating in our program will do so in a safe and nurturing environment. Failure to comply with the policies set forth by Fontana Pop Warner Football and Cheer and National Pop Warner can result in the adult violator being removed and/or banned from any and all Pop Warner functions, including but not limited to, practices and games. Violations in regards to our registration and participation policies can result in your child's suspension and/or removal from our program.

Registration and Participation Policies:

1. All registration fees are due and payable at the time of registration unless agreed to and approved by the Executive Board for a payment plan.
2. Any and all payment arrangements **must** be on time as agreed upon as per signed contract.
3. There is a **required** league fundraiser; ALL registered participants of Fontana Pop Warner Football and Cheer are obligated to participate.
4. Participation in all team obligations, sponsorship drives, team fundraising and home game field and snack bar responsibilities is expected.
5. All policies of Fontana Pop Warner Football and Cheer as well as Mt. Baldy Conference and National Pop Warner are to be followed.

The following must be provided before your child can take the field:

Proof of Age: Official Birth Certificate (County Seal) or Passport (The Mt Baldy-signed copy is acceptable)

Proof of Residency: Current (30 days) Utility Bill (Water, gas, electric, trash. NOT Cable or phone)

Sports Physical, dated after January 1, 2023 and on official Pop Warner Physical form.

Full Years Report Card: 2022/2023 school year

**If your Child's report card shows lower than a 2.0 GPA your child will be required to have his/her teachers fill out a scholastic form showing at least a 51% improvement.

Please be aware that if the above registration and participation policies are not adhered to, your child can be suspended from play, not receive pictures, and may not be permitted to attend the team banquet. While we make every effort to ensure that this does not happen, it is also the parent's responsibility to do their part.

ALL fees MUST BE PAID IN FULL, unless other arrangements have been made AND approved by the Board, ON OR BEFORE July 1, 2023 in order to be able to participate in mandatory practice and games. Your child will NOT be able to play until all fees are made current and may be removed from the team. Also, if payment arrangements are not kept, your child may be pulled from play, you will NOT receive pictures, trophies, or be able to participate in the banquet. There are to be NO EXCEPTIONS to this.

Please remember that Fontana Pop Warner Football and Cheer is a non-profit youth sports organization and runs completely by **Volunteers** and we can always use help. The funds for our program come from registration fees, fundraisers, and sponsorships. Without any of the above, this program would not exist.

Where does the money go???

In the 2022 Season, the total amount of expenditures for Fontana Pop Warner was over \$210,000. This includes League registration plus team fundraising costs to run the program:

Equipment and uniforms for players and cheerleaders (including training equipment & cheer mats)

Reconditioning of helmets where possible or replacement of non-usable helmets

Referees and EMT's

Field usage fees, including lights

Conference, National and travel fund fees (includes insurance premiums)

Office supplies and copying costs

Awards, trophies and volunteer recognition

Volunteer training, clinics, certification and badges

Field, office and snack bar equipment -maintenance and/or replacement

Team travel expenses for competitive levels

If a team qualifies for national travel, the cost to send a team is approximately \$75,000.00. Although there is a travel fund in place to help offset some of the cost, the **majority** of the expense will have to be raised by the team.

That equates to an average of \$750 per participant that **MUST** be raised in order to keep Fontana Pop Warner running each year. It is a huge endeavor, but is to be expected when participating in a nationally recognized program with such strong community ties. The amount that is required to pay and help fundraise is still not enough to cover expenses, so your Board of Directors works actively to not only continue to find funding, but to run the program as fiscally responsibly as possible.

**The participation of the parents and/or guardians of each and every
Player and Cheerleader is crucial to our success.**

General Information:

Football and Cheerleaders will be placed in the lowest possible playing division according to their age according to the Age Based Schematic issued by National Pop Warner.

NO PARENT OR COACH WILL DETERMINE WHAT DIVISION A CHILD IS PLACED IN.

PARENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD DURING PRACTICE OR AT GAMES.

If you have a question or concern you may approach your coach before or after practice or game. During practice, there are water breaks called and your child may come sit with you at that time, but **MUST** return to the field at the end of the water break. During games, your child is in the very capable hands of the coaches, trainers, team parent and of course, the EMT, who is on hand in case of injuries. Unless there is an emergency, you will not be allowed to "visit" with your child during the game.

Please remember, this a volunteer youth sports organization, any time you can give will be gretaly appreciated. Please have respect for the coaches, team parents, board members and all other volunteers of the our progran who freely give their time to help the children. Football is a contact sport; we strongly suggest that at least one parent be at all practices and games.

Care and use of Fontana Pop Warner Football & Cheer Equipment and Uniforms:

Please be advised that all gear and/or uniforms are on loan basis only unless otherwise instructed. You are responsible for the care of the uniform. If lost, stolen or intentionally altered, you will be responsible for the full replacement cost. Please wash all uniforms in cold water and line dry.

PLEASE NOTE THAT PARENTS AND SIBLINGS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO WEAR THE AWAY JERESYS, THIS IS A CONFERENCE RULE AND WILL BE ENFORCED AS SUCH.

Refunds:

It is the policy of Fontana Pop Warner Football and Cheer **NOT** to issue a refund once your child has taken the field after July 31st. Any requests for a refund prior to the start of the season must be made in writing. The league fundraiser is **NOT** refundable. (please see the refund policy for more information)

Rules of the turf:

The turf fields at Ralph M. Lewis Park have recently been replaced. This list of rules, taken directly from the City website, outlines the rules for turf fields. Please keep these rules in mind when sending your child to practices and games, and when attending games at Ralph Lewis Park. Please keep in mind that many of our fellow Mt Baldy Conference Associations hold games on turf fields and will expect you to follow similar rules.

- Fields may be used by reservation only. There will be no open play at the park due to the strict regulations for the use of the synthetic fields.
- Fields are for football and soccer activities only, unless permission is granted by the City of Fontana to conduct a special activity.
- Those using the fields may wear only standard molded plastic cleats no longer than two inches. No metal or V cleats are allowed.
- Staking of any object into the field turf is strictly prohibited.
- Chewing gum is not permitted because gum causes damage to the grass-like fibers.
- Shelled snacks are prohibited (i.e., sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, etc.) because shells compact the infill and clog the drain system.
- Food, flavored drinks (including soft drinks), sports drinks, and energy drinks are not permitted because they may damage the grass-like fibers.
- Smoking is strictly prohibited.
- No paint or field marking is allowed.
- Spectators are not permitted on the playing fields.
- Chairs are not permitted on the playing fields.
- Vehicles are not permitted on the playing fields.
- Permitted organizations must designate a field supervisor for all field uses. The field supervisor is directly responsible for informing all team coaches, representatives, participants, and parents of the City of Fontana policies regarding Ralph M. Lewis Park field use.

Please also remember that Ralph M. Lewis Park is a Sports Facility – operated and monitored by the City of Fontana. Failure to comply with these rules can and may impact our organization’s ability to obtain permits in the future.

Dogs are not permitted at this Sports Facility at any time. Smoking is not permitted, nor is drinking any alcoholic beverage. Parking rules, both inside the facility and on surrounding streets, is monitored and enforced by the City and Fontana P.D.

Seeds (Sunflower, Pumpkin, etc.) are not permitted – anywhere in the park. This rule is not exclusive to the turf fields, but also the grass spectator areas and bleacher areas.

Both Fontana Pop Warner and the City of Fontana reserve the right to remove any spectator that refuses to adhere to these rules. Refusal to follow rules can and may result in suspension and/or removal from the Fontana Pop Warner program.

Fontana Pop Warner Football & Cheer **Parent's Code of Conduct**

All parents/guardians who have children participating within the Fontana Pop Warner Program must abide by a Code of Conduct, which includes the provisions that follow. Any violation of these rules may result in the revocation of privileges in the Fontana Pop Warner Program for season or seasons.

I/We agree to be financially responsible for League/Pop Warner equipment issued to player/cheerleader other than the normal wear and breakage during games or practice. Further, I/We will reimburse the League/Pop Warner for the loss or damage to league-owned equipment.

I/We agree to pay the registration fees as set forth upon registration day, as well as to participate, to the best of my/our ability, in League and Team fundraisers. I/We understand that failure or refusal to do so may result in my/our player/cheerleader being removed from the team for one or more games.

I/We agree to follow all Fontana Pop Warner rules and City of Fontana ordinances, in regard to the use of City fields.

I/We agree to abstain from the possession and drinking of alcoholic beverages and the possession or use of any illegal substance at any Pop Warner function, INCLUDING GAMES, PRACTICES AND PIZZA PARTIES.

I/We agree not to deliberately incite or participate in “unsportsmanlike” conduct at any Pop Warner function. Action will be taken for violations of any verbal, physical assault*, intimidation and/or “unsportsmanlike” conduct.

*The term physical assault includes but is not limited to: hitting, slapping, pushing, spitting, kicking, or striking in any way with any part of the body or physical implement.

I/We agree not to use abusive or profane language at any time during any Pop Warner Function.

I/We agree not to criticize, belittle, antagonize, berate or otherwise incite the coaches, players, cheerleaders, volunteers or fans and or opposing teams, its players, coaches, cheerleaders, volunteers or fans by word of mouth or gesture.

I/We agree to accept all decisions of the game officials, judges, or conference Officials as being fair and called to the best of their ability.

If at any point there is a concern for my child's well-being, I/we will follow the grievance procedure as outlined by the Fontana Pop Warner Board of Directors, and referenced in our bylaws.

If I/we have an issue with any coach, player or conduct we will follow the proper grievance procedures. I/we will also not have communication with any other child other than my own in reference to behavior, or anything related to Pop Warner. If there is a problem on a team, I will again follow the grievance procedures

I/We agree not to interfere nor be in the area of the Pre Game check in area or “scale area” on the football fields.

I/We will not post anything derogatory, or boasting (gloating) about another player, member, or anyone involved with any league affiliation on any internet site, such as social media sites, via email or anywhere that can be publicly seen, AND I/we agree to monitor our player/cheerleader's use, and further understand that the child may be suspended from the program for violating this policy.

I/We agree to take responsibility for any actions that violate this Code of Conduct by a guest or relative of attending parent/guardian.

Fontana Pop Warner Football & Cheer Parent’s Code of Conduct Disciplinary Process

First offense: Verbal warning**

Second offense: Parent/Guardian and child(ren) will be removed from the practice or game.** FPW Board of Directors will issue a written warning.

Third offense: Parent/Guardian and child(ren)- all teams- will be removed for the season. After one year, the parent/guardian may apply to be reinstated. Upon review by the FPW Board of Directors, the child(ren) will be allowed to participate.

A probation period of one year with no offenses will apply. If during the probation time, the parent/guardian does not comply with the “Parent’s Code of Conduct” he or she and child(ren) will be permanently removed from the Fontana Pop Warner program.

**Depending upon the severity of the offense committed by a parent/guardian, the FPW Board of Directors have the authority to by-pass the first and second offense procedures and act to use the third offense guidelines if necessary.

At any time the local authorities may be contacted. The parent/guardian offense would be viewed by those local officials for further actions to be taken to the full extent of the law.

Fees for 2023 Season Fontana Pop Warner:

\$100 – League Fundraiser (*non-refundable*) – Due upon signup (no team placement without this deposit)

\$300 – Registration fee – **Due July 15th**

If payment arrangements are requested, they must be done in writing at registration– if payment arrangements aren’t kept, player /cheerleader can and may be pulled from practice.

***Please note –ALL TEAMS will have additional MANDATORY team fundraising.**

Parent
Initials

Younger division teams may have lower fundraising needs, and competitive teams may have higher. Football and cheer parents have equal expectations for team fundraising and participation. Signing below means that you agree to pay **the team fundraiser and actively participate in fundraisers, OR seek at least one (1) Sponsorship of \$150 or more.**

Please be advised that by signing below you acknowledge that you have read and understand the Fontana Pop Warner Football and Cheer Parent Handbook, including Registration and Participation Policy, The City rules regarding turf fields, the refund policy, the Parent/ Adult code of Conduct, the Social Media Clause and that you further understand the consequences of these policies.

Person(s)/ Parent(s) signing are responsible for all friends and family members to follow the rules as well.

Childs Name

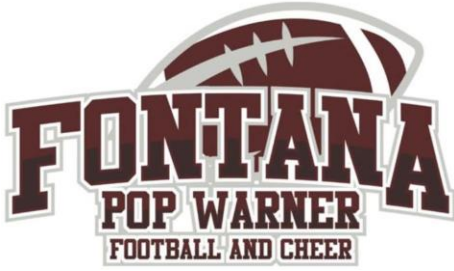
Childs Name

Parent/Guardian Name (PRINT)

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Fontana Pop Warner Football & Cheer



2023 Fontana Pop Warner Refund Policy

It is the policy of Fontana Pop Warner Football & Cheer Association that once your child has taken the field to practice after **July 31st-NO REFUNDS**, neither full or partial will be given.

Full or partial refunds will **ONLY** be considered if your child resigns and has not taken the field at any time after **July 31st** or if your child is unable to certify with the team due to injury.

All requests for refunds must be submitted in writing to the Association within fifteen calender days of the date of resignation. All refunds will be subject to review by the Fontana Pop Warner Executive Board and are subject to approval. All refunds will then be subject to an administrative fee (minimum of \$25) to be determined at the the time of refund.

The League fundraiser is **NOT refundable**

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Printed Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Printed Name of Participant(s): _____

Dated: _____