



Salina South Middle School Cougar Football



The Coaching Staff

Preston McCorkle

Seth White

Mike Shirk

Sam Holloway

Ryan Schafer

Lance Johnson

Our goal is to teach the fundamentals of football, the importance of teamwork, and character. The coaches will stress self-discipline, concentration, friendship, leadership, and good sportsmanship. This includes the classroom, hallways, and practice/game fields.

Safety -- Your child can be seriously injured or killed while participating in football.

Safety is our primary concern.

- Many of the exercises, drills and team rules are there to ensure your player is physically and mentally fit for football.
- Each player is unique and will develop at their own pace.
- We hope that this season will help develop new skills and confidence for each player who participates in the SMS program.
- A NOCSAE warning sticker must be visibly affixed to each helmet

WARNING: No helmet can prevent all head or neck injuries a player might receive while participating in football.

Do not use this helmet to butt, ram, or spear an opposing player. This is in violation of the football rules and such **can result in severe head or neck injuries, paralysis, or death to you** and possible injury to your opponent.

Player's Responsibilities

The participants of the SMS program are expected to abide by a code of conduct, which includes but is not limited to the following:

- Respect of coaches, team members, opponents, officials, cheerleaders, and other representatives involved with the SMS program.
- Participants will take proper care of the equipment that is issued to them to use. Immediately notify a coach if the equipment becomes damaged. Particular attention must be given to the care of helmets. **Never sit on your helmet and do not intentionally scrape or scar your helmet.**
- **Always have a pair of indoor shoes available – we may be forced inside due to bad weather.**
- Good sportsmanship is mandatory. No vulgar language, tantrums, displays of anger or fighting will be tolerated. Any such actions will result in disciplinary measures and may include suspension and or dismissal from the team.
- As a member of the SMS program you represent yourself and your teammates on and off the field. Whether in victory or defeat you will conduct yourself with pride and poise.
- Asthma inhalers should be at every game and practice–this is the player's responsibility.
- A Salina Middle School Football player will follow all training rules as set forth by USD 305 District Policy. (NO use of illegal drugs or alcohol will be tolerated)
- A Salina South Middle School Football player will be responsible for the equipment that is checked out to them by putting them away in **LOCKED** lockers.
- Maintain academic eligibility requirements set forth by USD 305 District Policy.

Coaches Responsibilities

1. Provide a positive attitude and respect all players.
2. Place the emotional and physical well being of the players ahead of the desire to win.
3. Always teach the techniques of the game in such a way as to provide a safe playing situation for the players.
4. Be familiar with basic first aid principles.
5. Organize our practices in such a way as to make sure they are fun and challenging for all of my players.
6. Familiarize myself with the rules of the game and the rules and policies of KSHSAA and SMS.
7. Use coaching techniques that are appropriate at the skill level and the players that I coach.

Absences

- Participants must notify their coach in advance if a practice is going to be missed. NO EXCEPTIONS.
 - **You must practice to play. No exceptions! If you are at school, you must practice**
- Parents can reach the coaches at school during school hours by phone or email. Players may also bring a signed note with them to practice to inform of an upcoming absence.

8th Grade	7th Grade
Coach McCorkle 309-3895 preston.mccorkle@usd305.com	Coach Holloway sam.holloway@usd305.com

Unexcused Absences

You must be at practice to play in games. If, for whatever reason a participant is absent without notifying the coaching staff it will be considered an unexcused absence, which will deem the following actions:

- 1st offense--- loss of playing time (2 quarters of a game)
- 2nd offense---1 game suspension
- 3rd offense--- dismissal from the team

Discipline

You are a member of the Salina South Middle School Football program and your **CHARACTER** on and off the field will always be a priority. Any football player who has a detention for any disciplinary reasons will receive loss of playing time, may be sent home for the day, or even a game suspension. Continually breaking school and/or team rules will result in dismissal from the team. We will use the student handbook and the administration to guide disciplinary action. Being a member of the football team is a privilege and not a right. **Behavior in school is a priority.**

Playing Time and Player Position

Playing time and player position is at the coach's discretion. **This decision will only be discussed between the coach and the player.** Our goal as coaches is to get as many kids into the game and play them as much as we possibly can every game. If a player does not get any playing time in the A game then they will play a majority of the B contest afterwards. Some players will play both A and B contests. A player's position on the field will be determined by what areas on the team we need help in. A player may not always play the position that they want to play. We will never put a player in a situation that they are not comfortable in.

Injuries

Any football related injury, regardless of outward appearances, is taken seriously and will be addressed as such. Safety is our primary concern and extra care will be taken in dealing with any reported injury. We would also encourage participants to make known any injury to his coach immediately upon occurrence. Participants should not hide injuries in order to facilitate more playing time. Any player sustaining an injury which requires a doctor's care will be required to provide a medical release from that doctor prior to further participation in games or practices.

Equipment Information

The school district will provide all necessary football equipment, with the exception of shoes or other personal type pads. The cost of this equipment is over \$300 per player. Upon return of the equipment at the end of the season an inventory will be taken and any missing equipment will be paid for at that time. Parents will also be asked to pay for any misused or broken equipment showing damage above normal wear. All equipment must be turned-in clean and washed. **Please follow washing instructions carefully. DO NOT dry the equipment with high heat.**

- It is important to have your practice gear washed at a minimum of once per week – staph infection is always a concern.
- Equipment is not to be altered in any way without the approval of the coaching staff. The coaching staff will take special cases into consideration, i.e.... medical reasons.
- Special equipment, such as visors for helmets. EVERYTHING must be approved by the coaching staff prior to use on the Salina South Middle School football team.

Practice Time

7th Grade

3:00 - 5:00

Parents, please make arrangements to pick up your player no later than 5:15 pm.

8th Grade

3:15-5:15

Parents, please make arrangements to pick up your player no later than 5:30 pm.

Sideline Behavior

Players are to pay attention to the game while on the sidelines. Injuries have often occurred to players not paying attention and being run into on the sideline as a result of the play on the field. Therefore, joking, horseplay, and any inappropriate behavior or comments will result in the player being asked to leave the game and sideline.

Eligibility

South Middle School firmly believes in the concept of **Student-Athlete**. The classroom always comes first. We will follow the district policy as it pertains to participation in games. Practices are handled a little differently. Each week an eligibility list comes out. If a player is on the report, they will have extra conditioning at the end of each practice until their name is off the eligibility list.

Bus Transportation

Players are to behave and listen to the coaching staff at ALL times on the bus. Inappropriate behavior can result in extra conditioning and not being allowed back on the bus again.

- Away Trips
 - Players are encouraged to bring a reasonable amount of snacks, food, and drink for the ride home. Small coolers/lunch boxes are acceptable. Food and drinks will be provided after games for the bus ride home.
 - Players may listen to music while on the bus. Headphones/earbuds are required. The general rule is, if the coaches can hear the music, it is too loud and the player will be asked to turn it down. Ignoring the coach's request will result in loss of the privilege.
 - It is USD 305 district policy to have players have a signed note on file in the office BEFORE the team leaves the school – if they want to ride home with their parents from an away game. If this procedure is not followed – the player may not travel to the next away game.

Parents at practice

Please give your athletes some space, this is their football season. The kids really act differently when they are being closely watched by parents. They do not want to disappoint you. You are welcome to watch practice, but please stay in the parking lot. **DO NOT** go onto the grass practice field or try to follow the team onto the game field (unless accompanied by a coach). This is a safety and courtesy issue. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Schedule

7th/8th Grade Football Schedule 2023

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Aug. 31	Derby North	Away	4:00
Sept. 7	Lakewood	Home	4:00
Sept. 14	Newton	Away	4:00
Sept. 21	Maize South	Home	4:00
Sept. 28	Derby	Away	4:00
Oct. 5	Maize	Away	4:00
Oct. 12	Hutch	Home	4:00

*8th Grade game will immediately follow the the 7th grade game