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April 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians of Marengo Union Junior Tackle Football Club players:

On behalf of the Board of Directors we would like to welcome you to the 2018 Football Season. We are anticipating a very exciting year, starting with offering Football Camp – July 9th-11th. Football camp is being orchestrated by the High School this year. We will email out information about registration for camp and post it on our website as it becomes available.

For those of you who are not aware, Marengo Union Junior Tackle is a not-for-profit club that is run by a volunteer Board of Directors. When you choose to become a part of this club, we expect each and every parent to enthusiastically take an active role in their participation commitments – a minimal effort that produces a significant impact on our club. By volunteering your time and supporting our fundraising efforts, you directly affect what our club is able to provide for the youth of our community. With the continued generous financial support from our sponsors and all the volunteers that are needed to sustain this club, we have been able to:

- Keep our fees at an unbelievable low level – ensuring the ability for all families to participate. No other program in our area can understand how we do it. It's because of your commitment to volunteer and support our fundraising efforts that this is possible – **THANK YOU!**
- Provide for an increasing number of participants each and every year. We look forward to, and promote increased participation as our goal is to increase our numbers each year.
- Provide Spirit Wear for purchase at a minimal mark-up to promote team pride.
- Replace worn, broken, and outdated equipment as needed. Recondition and clean our equipment annually. **All helmets at every level are Riddell Edge Revolution helmets. No helmet is more than 2 years old!**
- Provide camps for the education and fundamental instruction for our players.
- Purchase equipment for teaching, training & practicing for the game of football.
- Provide awards and recognition for our participants.

Your role in this club does not end with the registration fee – Volunteering is a **CRUCIAL** ingredient to the success of this Club. The registration fee only partially covers the following:

- NIFC League Fees
- Insurance
- Administrative costs, including advertising
- Concession costs and Official's Compensation
- Website
- Coaching clinics
- Background checks for coaches and board members

In order to keep our registration fees so low, your participation in our fundraising efforts is necessary!!

Practice Schedule:

Our first practice is scheduled for July 30th. Schedule for the first three weeks: Monday through Friday 6- 8 pm
After that practices are reduced to: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 6-8 pm.

****Please note – This is just a guideline. Practice schedules are subject to change at the discretion of your coaches; Times will be adjusted later in the season due to shortening daylight.**

Weather Conditions:

We will practice in the rain; **however**, if weather conditions set off the THOR GUARD Lightning Prediction & Warning System, all participants will be removed from the fields to take shelter in either the High School or the Equipment Barn. Depending on the time and conditions, practice may or may not resume. That means under these conditions, you as parents must be available to pick up your child from practice. Please be respectful of our coaches – they cannot leave until your children are picked up.

Practice Attendance Requirements:

All football players **must participate in 10 practices before they can participate in their first game**. This is a league rule and no exceptions will be made. Commitment to practice not only is required to learn the fundamentals, skills, and plays required for the game, but shows your commitment to being part of a team. Attendance will be taken weekly throughout the season and **will affect** your game time. If you will not be at a practice, please call a member of your child's coaching staff or team mom. **We expect everyone to be on time for all practices. If you miss more than one practice per week, you will not be allowed to play until the 2nd half of your game. If you miss more than 2 practices a week, you will not be allowed to play in your game that week. Please be on the field (not in the parking lot) dressed with designated equipment on and ready to practice no later than 6:00 pm.**

Practice Attire:

For approximately the first 3 days of practice (or at the discretion of your coaches) players do not need to bring or wear their equipment except for their cleats and helmets. Players may wear shorts and T shirts during this time, and **must always provide their own water**. After this time, (usually the 4th day of practice) the coaches will let the players know when **equipment/full pads** practices will begin. When this occurs the following equipment is **mandatory** for each practice:

- You must provide your own practice pants and practice jersey, athletic supporter/cup, socks & cleats.
- We will provide helmet, shoulder pads, and (1) mouth guard (additional mouth guards can be purchased for \$1.00). Chewed and worn mouth guards must be replaced. Mouth guards are to be colored and attached to helmet for visibility to the Officials & Coaches. **No Clear Mouth guards are permitted.**
- Game Jerseys may be worn to school on “game day Fridays” or to our High School football games only. Appropriate behavior is expected at all times, especially when wearing your Marengo Union Junior Tackle jersey or uniform.
- Athletic supporter/cup (provided by you). If you are not wearing a cup at practice, you will be marked absent from the practice attendance. If you do not wear a cup for a game you will not be allowed to play. This is an NIFC rule and is put in place for your protection – no exceptions!

Refund Policy:

A full refund minus raffle tickets and cost of the jersey will be offered if cancellation is within the first week of practice & a 50% refund minus raffle tickets will be offered if cancellation is within the 2nd week of practice. No refunds will be offered after the first two weeks of practice. **All requests for refunds must be submitted in writing to Marengo Union Junior Tackle Football Club, PO Box 294, Marengo, IL 60152 or via email to MarengoUnionJuniorTackle@gmail.com.** After requests are received in writing, you will be notified and arrangements will be made for exchange of any equipment & refund/deposit checks.

Bounced (NSF) Checks:

We are immediately charged \$25.00 for every bounced check presented on our account. If this happens, you will be contacted and you will be required to pay the NSF fee of \$25.00 in addition to the original check amount. We will only accept Cash or a Cashier’s Check at that time order to participate in our Club.

Parking: PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS! By doing so, you hurt the relationship we have with the high school.

Marengo PD has been contacted and tickets WILL BE issued. This includes blocking the approach to the fields for emergency vehicles and obstructing the “Shady Lane” road and entrance. This entrance is used for emergency vehicles – which includes Fire Trucks and Ambulances!!

Communications:

Newsletters, announcements, game schedules, etc. will be distributed via the parent representatives throughout the season. We will make every effort to have the same handouts posted on our website for review. Please help us keep you informed by staying in touch with your fellow teammates and your team parent representative. Emails will be used by your parent representative. You can reach a member of the board, at: MarengoUnionJuniorTackle@gmail.com.

<u>Saturday Teams</u>
Flyweights
Lightweights
Middleweights
Heavyweights
7 th & 8 th Graders

Parents Code of Conduct: The Parents Code of Conduct was signed as part of your registration paperwork. A copy is available for your review on our website: www.marengojuniortackle.com

Volunteering: After the game schedules have been set by the NIFC (usually 1-2 weeks before the first games), volunteer sign up will be available. If you cannot fulfill your volunteer slot, it is **your** responsibility to find a replacement. Volunteers are what make this program possible and your help is appreciated!

Grievances: If a problem arises during the season regarding coaching, game time, level of play etc. these are the steps to take to solve the problem:

- Try talking to your child’s head coach with or without other members of their coaching staff present.
- If there is still an issue, please contact our Director of Coaching- Chris Vandello.

If you have program questions: Please email them to: MarengoUnionJuniorTackle@gmail.com and a Board member will get back to you in a prompt manner.

2018 MUJTFC Board of Directors:

- President: Chad Miller
- Vice President: Bryan Holst
- Secretary: Mandy Grandinetti
- Treasurer: Pam Lampe
- Director of Coaching: Chris Vandello
- Director of Registration & Fundraising: Nicole Frohling
- Director of Communications: Angela Kentgen
- Directors of Equipment: Chad Miller and Bryan Holst