



August 2019

Dear Wrestling Families,

We want to take a moment to update you on the status of the PYAA wrestling program. This past April the PYAA board was approached by the youth wrestling coaches stating their desire to begin a new wrestling program, The Pirate Mat Club, and that they no longer wished to continue their participation in PYAA. While we attempted to reconcile differences, the coaches decided to pursue the creation of a new club rather than work through differences from the past season with PYAA. Essentially what this meant to PYAA is that the current wrestling coaches resigned their positions from the PYAA wrestling program. The PYAA wrestling program will continue to be offered as one of our sport opportunities to area youth at C-FC. We will be searching for replacement coaches in the fall and hope to continue offering a very robust wrestling program that focuses on teaching fundamentals, having fun, and providing opportunities to those that would like more advanced learning opportunities.

It has also come to our attention that there may be some misinformation in the community about PYAA and the wrestling program. The following is an attempt to clear up any inaccurate information that may be in the community.

1. PYAA did not receive any funds from the previous wrestling program when it joined PYAA in 2016. The PYAA wrestling program account began with an initial deposit of \$455 in January 2016, which was generated from the participation fees charged by PYAA that first year we offered the program.
2. PYAA has always paid for USA cards which are needed as wrestlers participate in Regional and State competitions. We apologize for the delay in reimbursement for those cards at the end of this season, but we had issues identifying which parents needed to be reimbursed. In order to reimburse any expense, a receipt is required to validate the expenses for our recordkeeping. We will have a better process in the future and again apologize for the delay in payment.
3. We understand there was frustration with PYAA not purchasing new wrestling singlets. To provide background, every July PYAA adopts a budget that is approved by the PYAA Board of Directors. Prior to July, we work with all coaches in all programs to get an equipment request

for the upcoming season so that we can budget funds appropriately. After the budget was approved, the wrestling coach made a request to purchase forty new singlets. Those forty singlets were not included in the budget this past year. In order to help meet the wrestling programs' needs and still work within our budget, we agreed to purchase twenty singlets this year with a plan of budgeting and purchasing the additional twenty singlets this coming season. In December 2018, twenty singlets were purchased and given to the wrestling coaches for distribution. One issue that was brought up by some parents is that PYAA purchased all new basketball uniforms this year, which we did, but that purchase had been planned for the last three years and was not made until funds had been saved to purchase the uniforms.

4. A wrestling coach attended a monthly meeting in late February 2019 stating that the wrestling room was overcrowded and asked if they could use one of the gyms for practice. The PYAA board was excited about the growth of the program and was very happy to accommodate this request. The wrestling coach indicated that they were fine for this year, but wanted to have a plan for next season. We do have a plan to accommodate this request this coming season. Facility use is scheduled by the PYAA Sports Director who communicates directly with the C-FC school regarding all youth sports practice times and facility use requests. The C-FC school requested that there be one person to contact for all youth sports instead of a dozen different coaches. C-FC gives priority to high school and junior high sports practice/event schedules. The remaining time slots are equally divided among the youth sports requests based upon the coaches availability. We will do our best to be as equitable as possible when scheduling gym space for the wrestling program.
5. Some people in the community have the perception that all PYAA coaches are paid except wrestling. This is inaccurate information. PYAA relies heavily on volunteer coaches for all of our programs in order to keep participation fees low. In the fiscal year 2018/2019, we had six paid coaches and twenty-three volunteer coaches. The paid coaches were in basketball and volleyball. Each grade that had a paid coach had higher participation fees charged to help cover their coaching costs.
6. PYAA has adopted the use of an iPad Point of Sale system to provide financial accountability for concessions and admissions at PYAA home tournaments. It is imperative that our funds are accounted for and that we are transparent about our recordkeeping. Our goal for every home tournament is that it is a successful event that makes the community proud of our youth, coaches, and facilities. Each home tournament is also viewed as a fundraising opportunity, so minimizing food waste while meeting the needs of the participants and spectators is considered a priority. Keeping records of admissions, number of participants, and concessions items sold at each tournament helps future volunteers and planners prepare accordingly. All home tournament revenue and fundraising goes towards the general PYAA operating fund and

is not solely held for that individual sport. Donations have been made to the C-FC school in the form of sports equipment that benefit all C-FC athletes in different sports programs.

We hope that we were able to clarify a few of the misconceptions that may be circulating. We appreciate your participation in PYAA youth sports and encourage you to attend monthly meetings to help sustain the volunteer based organization. Communication between coaches, parents, community members and PYAA is encouraged to help keep a pulse on each sport and provide a positive experience for our youth. Monthly meeting announcements, meeting minutes, annual budgets, financial reports, and general PYAA information is posted on the [www.pirateyaa.com](http://www.pirateyaa.com) website.

Sincerely,

PYAA Sports Director & PYAA Board of Directors

**PYAA Board of Directors**

Mark Brone – President, Hank Rollinger – Vice President, Ben Adank - Treasurer, Shelli Brone - Secretary,  
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