

Frequently Asked Questions – Hawkettes

www.bartletthawksyouthfootball.com

GENERAL

What are the Hawkettes?

The Hawkettes are a high energy pom team. Our focus is on having fun, building friendships and learning fun new routines, as well as providing basic knowledge of dance team fundamentals. Our routines are a combination of pom usage, kicklines and dance choreography, consisting of synchronized team moves and a variety of dance styles.

How are the Hawkettes different from Cheerleading?

We do not cheer or do stunts, and we do not perform on the sidelines. We perform choreographed pom routines during the halftime portion of the Bartlett Hawks Youth Football games, as well as the 4th of July parade.

What is the age range?

The Hawkettes are open to all girls ages 6 to 14. They must be 6 years old by June 1st.

Is prior dance experience required?

No. Anyone meeting the age criteria may join. We have different squad divisions to accommodate the difference in age and talent level.

When does the season start?

Pre-season: We begin in June, as soon as school is out. Practice is twice a week in the evenings for 1 hour (exact days/times TBD). This is a critical time for attendance. The girls will spend the month of June in “boot camp”, learning the routine they will perform in the 4th of July parade. At this time they will be evaluated for skill level. They will be expected to perform the parade routine in small groups for the coaching staff, and the squad divisions will be announced after the parade.

Regular Season: We will take the week off after the 4th of July and then the regular season will start. We will continue to practice twice/week in the evenings through the end of the season, which is usually the end of October.

Will there be a Parent/Hawkette Orientation Day?

Yes. We will have a Meet N’ Greet/Parent Orientation Day towards the end of May. We will introduce the coaching staff, and go over the expectations and goals for the season. This is also a great time for the girls to get acquainted.

Will there be fundraising activities?

Yes. There is a mandatory cash raffle. Families will purchase a set of tickets for \$100 for up to two participants that they may then resell. The raffle payment will be required at uniform pick up, which will be the week before pre-season practice starts (early June). The drawing will take place Homecoming weekend. There will be several optional fundraising events throughout the year as well.

What other activities are the girls expected to attend?

Fourth of July parade – The girls will march in the parade, and perform a short routine a couple times during the route.

Picnic/Picture Day – Team photos as well as individual photos will be taken at this time, in their uniforms.

PRACTICE

Where do the Hawkettes practice?

We practice outdoors, at Hawk Hollow Elementary School, through early September. We may move indoors to the gym mid-September through October.

What do the Hawkettes wear for practice?

The girls are required to wear their Hawkettes t-shirt and regulation shorts. This is a strict policy. Uniformity in practice attire promotes a sense of team unity and togetherness. The practice attire is included in the price of the program. For footwear, the girls are required to wear a sturdy gym shoe with good arch support. No sandals, flip flops, crocs, etc are allowed, as they are dangerous and could cause injury during practice.

What do the girls need to bring to practice?

They will need to bring their poms, a water bottle, sun screen and bug spray.

What is expected of the Hawkettes in between practices?

The girls will be given an instructional DVD of each routine they are learning. It is expected that they practice at home in between practices, and come ready to learn their next segment the following practice day.

What if my daughter has to miss a practice?

If your daughter cannot attend practice, her coach must be contacted either by email or by phone prior to the practice time. While it's expected that things will come up from time to time, we expect the girls to attend practice on a regular basis, as the rest of the team depends on their participation.

How will I know if practice is cancelled?

You will be notified by email and it will be posted on our website. Please be aware that often the decision to cancel a practice is made between 1 to 2 hours before practice is scheduled to begin. You may also receive a call from your coach or team parent. Please check your email or the website and do not call the hotline.

Uniform

What do the Hawkettes wear?

Our performance attire is geared toward show-stopping entertainment. We wear a sequined uniform (top and shorts), long sequin/velvet gloves, metallic poms and performance boots. The core pieces of the uniform are loaned out each season, but there are also personal items which are yours to keep. A complete breakdown of all uniform items will be provided upon registration.

Performances

How often do the Hawkettes perform?

We perform during all home tackle games (both Saturdays and Sundays). Each squad will perform 1-2 games each day (based on a rotating schedule). Average time commitment during any given performance day is 1-2 hours. There are typically 4-5 home weekends during the season, between Sept and October.

Do they perform at away games?

No, not at this time.

When do the Hawkettes need to arrive on game day?

The girls should plan on being at the football field when the game is designated to start. Halftime is typically about 30 – 45 mins after the game starts, and this will give them time to warm up, stretch and practice prior to their performance.

Do they need to stay for the whole game?

If they are only performing one game that day, the girls are free to leave after their performance. If they are performing 2 games, they will need to either stay until halftime of the following game, or they can leave and come back at the start of the second game.

What happens on Homecoming Weekend?

One weekend during the regular season will be designated as Homecoming. There will be special events, on-field presentations, car decorating and lots of fun. There will also be yard signs available for purchase to recognize your child's effort. All the girls are expected to perform that weekend.

Are concessions available during the games?

Yes, we have a concession trailer on site at all the home games. All teams count on the profits to help fund the league.

Other

Where can I purchase Hawkettes apparel?

Apparel and other items are for sale at registration, all home games and other special events.

Will there be an end of the year banquet?

Yes, we will have a banquet at the end of the season, which is usually the beginning of December. The Hawkettes will receive their trophies and also a DVD of the highlights of the Hawks/Hawkettes season.

Who may I contact for more information?

If you have any other questions about the Hawkette program, you may contact us at hawkettes@bartlethawksyouthfootball.com .