

West Edmonton Raiders Football Club

Parent & Player Handbook

Revision 1: May 2019

Revision 2: September 2019

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See Also: West Edmonton Raiders 3-Year Strategic Plan

**WELCOME TO RAIDER FOOTBALL!**

The West Edmonton Raider Football club is one with a proud and diverse history. Our club was created in 1967 with our Bantam team. Since then we have added Peewee, Atom, Midget and Female Midget Football teams and we will be adding Flag teams soon! We are pleased to welcome you into our Raider Huddle and we ask that regardless of being new, or being a returning Raider, that you familiarize yourself with the expectations of our organization so that we may continue the proud Raider tradition of good sportsmanship, teamwork and community.

**2019/2020 West Edmonton Raiders Directory**

**Board of Directors**

**PRESIDENT:** Linda Pederson

**VICE PRESIDENT:** David Kravitz

**SECRETARY:** Brenda Galbraith

**TREASURER:** Troy Hilliker

**DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL OPS:** Michelle McKay

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE:** Ray Menard

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE:** Kristy Skwaruk

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE:** Amanda Abrantes

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE:** 2 Vacant Positions

West Edmonton Raiders Website: [www.westedmontonraiders.com](http://www.westedmontonraiders.com)

Use this site to keep up to date on Events, our Calendar, forms and more.

[www.facebook.com/westedmontonraiders](http://www.facebook.com/westedmontonraiders)

@edmonton\_west

Capital District Minor Football Association (CDMFA) – [www.cdmfa.ca](http://www.cdmfa.ca)

This is our governing League. Team standings, rules, schedules, scores and field information can be found here.

**Communication**

RAMP interactive is our primary method of communication. We have integrated our website with the RAMP TEAM app. You will receive an invitation to each registered email to join the team. If you have not, or you would like to add additional email addresses – just let us know. The Ramp Team app can be used on your mobile device to send instant messages, provide availability for games, practices, events and more. You can even share photos.

**HUDL**

Hudl is the program that our Teams use for game and practice footage. Film will be shared with the Team, and at times, Coaches may request that players review certain plays, games, etc. Once you have been uploaded onto the Roster, you will receive an invitation to join HUDL. If you have used the program before, you should simply need to login and select your team or season.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Our goal is to provide a quality football program that teaches the fundamentals of the game while emphasizing fitness, cooperation, self-discipline, and camaraderie. Our program compliments and enriches skill development for young athletes aged 7 to 15. Our coaches concentrate on player/team development, an appreciation of the game of football including the necessities of good sportsmanship.

**PHILOSOPHY**

OUR GOAL is to develop both the mind and body of each player so that he/she is a contributing member of our team as well as an honourable citizen.

OUR PROGRAM is based on respect, integrity and strength of character.

OUR PHILOSOPHY focuses on development and is built on the following principles:

*Sportsmanship*: The game of football will be enjoyed for its own sake, with proper consideration for fairness, ethics, respect, and a sense of fellowship with one’s competitors.

*Tradition*: “Once a Raider, Always a Raider”. Our organization is very welcoming of new players, their parents and volunteers. Raiders are always welcome back.

*Safety First*: The safety of your child is paramount and all measures will be taken to protect from injury.

*Fitness:* Conditioning and training is important in our program and it is important that our players take part in regular practices so he/she is prepared for game time.

*Fun:* Football is meant to be fun! We try to ensure our players have fun playing football while developing skills. Our goal is to encourage them to continue playing the sport long after their years with the Raiders.

**CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT**

This Code of Conduct (Code) has been developed to protect and support the Raiders, players, coaches, parents and board members. This Code is intended to guide the behavior of all players, coaches, parents, board members and executive members in support of the Raiders Mission Statement, the rules of play, by-laws, policies and procedures and the following values:

* Teamwork
* Leadership
* Good Sportsmanship
* Coach & Player Development
* Enjoyment

**PLAYERS:**

***As a Player, I will:***

1. Remember that Coaches and Officials are there to help me and I will show them respect and I will play by the rules and in the spirit of the game.
2. Not make or communicate (through email or any other social media) offensive, abusive or insulting remarks toward any other player, official or parent. I understand that by wearing a West Edmonton Raiders Jersey, I am an ambassador of the Club.
3. Show good sportsmanship, remembering that winning isn’t everything and I will acknowledge all good plays / performance (those of my team and of my opponents).
4. Not use illegal substances, tobacco or alcohol products.
5. Control my temper and recognize that fighting & “mouthing off” can spoil the activity for everyone.
6. Act in a respectful manner and not use vulgar verbal or body language.
7. I will do my best to be a true team player and consistently display high standard of behavior.
8. Attend all practices and games and will communicate any absences or issues to my Coaches and / or Team Manager.
9. Not use any personal or social media communication channels to communicate any conflicts, debates or confidential issues, recognizing that mass communication methods (including email) can detract from the West Edmonton Raiders ability to resolve issues and disputes in a timely, equitable and professional fashion.

**PARENTS:**

A parent’s expectations and attitudes have a significant bearing on a child’s attitude toward other players, officials, managers, coaches and other parents.

***As a Parent I will:***

1. Exhibit good sportsmanship at all times, never condone violations of the rules of the game, or exhibit behavior contrary to the spirit and rules of the game.
2. Place the well-being and safety of each player above all considerations.
3. Not make abusive remarks to any official, player, coaches, volunteer or league administrative personnel.
4. Respect and show appreciation for the trained volunteers, coaches, officials, managers and trainers and will remember that children learn best by example; and,
5. Be responsible in ensuring attending guests also abide by the Code of Conduct.
6. Whereas it is a player’s responsibility to attend all practices and games and where they are not able to attend, it is their responsibility to communicate this to their coach or team manager. If unable to do so, it will become a Parent’s responsibility.
7. Not use any personal or social media communication channels to communicate any conflicts, debates or confidential issues, recognizing that mass communication methods (including email) can detract from the West Edmonton Raiders ability to resolve issues and disputes in a timely, equitable and professional fashion.
8. Understand that Game time is at a Coaches’ discretion. The West Edmonton Raiders offer equal opportunity to all players during practice, however, game time is at the discretion of the Coach. Concerns should be addressed via your Team Parent Rep, or directly to the Board of Directors (Football Operations).
9. Respect the 24 hour rule as described in this manual before bringing forward any issues or concerns to the Parent Liaison or Director of Football Operations.

**COACHES:**

As a Coach you are in a position of great responsibility in the development of children. The attitudes and behaviours that you exhibit will set the tone for the players and parents you work with.

***As a Coach I will:***

1. Treat other coaches, players, referees and parents with respect and exhibit good sportsmanship at all times.
2. Place the well-being and safety of each player above all considerations.
3. Abide by the rules of the game and exhibit appropriate behaviours both on and off the field.
4. Respect and show appreciation for the trained volunteers, officials, managers and trainers and will remember that children learn best by example.
5. Strive to take advantage of additional opportunities for training and education to maintain and enhance my skills as a Minor Football Coach.
6. Not use any personal or social media communication channels to communicate any conflicts, debates or confidential issues, recognizing that mass communication methods (including email) can detract from the West Edmonton Raiders ability to resolve issues and disputes in a timely, equitable and professional fashion.
7. Respect the rules set forth by the Board of Directors in respect to practice times, schedule of practice days, special guests and formal requests.
8. Comply with, at all times, the bylaws, policies and regulations of the West Edmonton Raiders as adopted and amended. (Staff will be notified of changes as required).
9. All deviations from the schedule, including Film Days, Guest Coaches and extra activities must be submit to the Board of Directors in writing (either email or hand written) with enough notice for deliberation and consideration of liability coverage. Please note that NO other form of notice will be considered.
10. Remember that I am an Ambassador for the Club and will conduct myself as such.
11. Distinguish myself as a Coach by wearing Raiders Gear when on the field.

**RAIDERS BOARD MEMBERS:**

As a Board Member I commit to not only representing my association but also respecting and advancing the League’s mandate and maintain the principles, integrity and dignity of the Capital District Minor Football Association.

***As a Board Member, I will:***

1. Prepare in advance of meeting and be familiar with issues on the agenda.
2. Fully participate in meetings while demonstrating respect, kindness, consideration and courtesy to others.
3. Excuse myself from my position if my circumstances change and I am unable to manage my duties.
4. Respect and adhere to the rules, policies, procedures and bylaws of the CDMFA.
5. Not use any personal or social media communication channels to communicate any conflicts, debates or confidential issues, recognizing that mass communication methods (including email) can detract from the CDMFA’s ability to resolve issues and disputes in a timely, equitable and professional fashion.
6. Not use my status or position with the Raiders to influence or gain a benefit or advantage for myself, my family or others with whom I have a significant personal or business relationship.
7. Board members should not, unless absolutely necessary, provide services or be compensated for services provided to the club on a long term, or continuous basis. One time circumstances are to be reviewed and voted on by the board.
8. Treat coaches, players, officials, parents and colleagues with respect and will exhibit good behavior and sportsmanship at games.
9. Make decisions based on the best interests of our Players and Program.

**POINTS OF UNDERSTANDING**

**ATOM / PEEWEE / BANTAM**

1. **OVERVIEW:**

Not every child is created equally. We understand that children will demonstrate different abilities both physically and mentally. Our Coaches strive to be very objective and to place kids in positions that will not affect them negatively, both physically and mentally. Everyone’s “READY” time is different. Please respect the experience of our Coaches and allow them to make that call. The worst that we can do is to “play through our children”. Coaches need your support to make this work.

1. **IMPORTANCE OF PRACTICE:**

Football is a game that best exemplifies “practice makes perfect”. One cannot stress the importance of practice enough. It is one of the only sports in the world where if you don’t know where your are supposed to be, or what you are supposed to be doing, or where your team mates are supposed to be and what they are supposed to be doing at any given time, in any given play, then the machine breaks down. If you are lost, so are your team mates, and so is the game. Football is a physical game of CHESS. Physical fitness and mental toughness are acquired through practice and repetition.

1. **SCHOOL VS. FOOTBALL:**

Sports are a privilege. Please feel free to use our Coaches to help your child achieve academic excellence. “John, I hear that you have had some problems with homework… you know I can’t let you come to practice until your homework, so what can I do to help you…” etc. Work before play, our Coaches understand and promote the value of school and will use their influence to assist your child’s education in a positive manner.

1. **OTHER SPORTS (Finish what you start):**

As a club, we are quite cognizant that kids play other sports, and we endorse that they do… we have only one rule: FINISH WHAT YOU START. Simply put, a playoff soccer game is by far more important than our practice but, a hockey practice s not as important as our Game. So please use your best judgment and communicate with the Coaches. (Noting your availability is easy to enter next to your name in the TEAM RAMP app. Please feel free to connect with your team manager if you need help in learning how to use the app).

1. **POSITIONS:**

The West Edmonton Raiders are a developmental club. We provide instruction and knowledge in the fundamentals of football. The goal of our Coaches is to impart as much information about a variety of positions to your player. Please be aware that Players that commit themselves to only being “a quarterback” will limit their play time and their opportunity to develop fully. Until players reach physical maturity, it is difficult to know what position(s) they are best suited for. We do NOT believe in limiting a player to one position. Our coaches will select the role(s) that your player is best suited for, and this could change year over year, and even throughout the season.

1. **PLAY TIME:**

The Raiders pride themselves on being a developmental club. This does NOT mean that we don’t want to win. It means that we will NOT put winning ahead of providing instruction, opportunity and experience to our players. It is expected that ALL players will receive the opportunity to learn through practice. During pre-season and regular season play, players that have demonstrated good attendance, a positive attitude and a strong work ethic will receive preferential playing time. It does NOT mean that we make promises of the amount of field time that your player will receive. Coaches must balance player safety (not only of your player, but of the team mates on the field), experience, physicality, knowledge, player confidence and the strength of the competition when determining their lines. It is extremely difficult for Coaches to concede a win so that players can be rewarded for their efforts at practice, but this is a mandate of the regular season with the Raiders Club.

1. **PLAYOFFS:**

While we are a developmental club during the pre-season and the regular season, our Coaches are invited to reward improvement, skill, dedication and talent with game time during the play off season. The goal of our regular season is to provide depth to our play off season, however, coaches are allowed the opportunity to take the win during playoffs. This means that ALL players will have the chance to work hard, improve and develop through our season, and at practice, but they are not promised any field time during the playoff season. *It is expected that Coaches will use their discretion to give opportunities to developmental players when a significant lead has been gained.*

1. **PARENTAL CONDUCT:**

Please be exemplary to your children. We teach players that one leads best through example. If you have any issues, thoughts or just want to talk, please choose your arena wisely. There is always a time and a place but this time and place is not in front of your children, nor during a game or practice. We ask that you respect our 24 hour rule. If you have an issue or concern to address, please wait 24 hours before bringing this matter forward. After the 24 hours, contact your Parent Liaison and they will make themselves available to you.

**Above all, HAVE FUN, ENJOY FOOTBALL AND SUPPORT YOUR KIDS BY BEING THERE.**

**They love to show off for you, this is even more true for those Bantam teens!!!**

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PROCESS**

If you have a complaint, the following process must be followed. Note – before following these steps, you MUST respect our 24 hour rule. NO complaint that is made before the 24 hour rule has passed will be considered or addressed. Complaints that do not follow these steps will NOT be addressed:

1. Serious complaints MUST be submit in writing. Complaint should be submit to the Team Parent Representative / Liaison. Email is considered an acceptable form of a written complaint. Complaint Forms are also available by request.
2. Each complaint MUST include:
	1. Full Name of Complainant
	2. Date of issue
	3. Names of Witnesses
	4. Detailed description of issue / incident
3. The Parent Liaison will attain as much information as possible pertaining to the incident and will submit it to the Director of Football Operations.
4. The completion of a Formal Complaint Form and / or Incident Report by all parties involved may be requested.
5. A full investigation will commence.
6. If a Complaint is deemed severe, or involves child safety, it is possible that suspensions will be assessed while the investigation proceeds.

**Any member, including but not limited to, Board Members, On-Field Staff (Coaches, trainers, etc.), Parents and Players whom are found to be in breach of policy or the bylaws are subject to reprimand**. A report will be completed by the Director of Football Operations for any offense. In the event that it is a conflict of interest for the Director of Football to commence the investigation, the President or Vice President will take the lead.

Upon Board review, discipline may include demotion, probation, or removal from the Club.

For complaints and/or incidents that involve another Club, the Raiders Complaint Form and/or the CDMFA Complaint forms should be completed. These forms should be submit directly to the Club President for review and further action. The Club President will:

1. Review situation
2. Attain additional information
3. Determine if situation can be handled internally or between Clubs; or if the CDMFA should be involved.
4. The disciplinary process will proceed as outlined in the Raiders Policies & Procedures.

**EQUIPMENT LIST**

Your player has been provided with an extensive, and expensive, list of equipment. This equipment is the responsibility of the Player. All players are responsible for returning their equipment clean, in good repair, and ON TIME. The following is a list of equipment that was issued to each player, along with a general replacement value.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MUST BE RETURNED** | Helmet | $ 400 |
| Chin Strap | $ 10 |
| Shoulder Pads | $ 250 |
| Home Game Jersey | $ 90 |
| Away Game Jersey | $ 90 |
| Practice Jersey | $ 40 |
| Game Pants | $ 70 |
| Knee Pads | $ 10 |
| Belt | $ 10 |
|  | **TOTAL VALUE** | **$ 970.00** |
|  |  |  |
| **NON-RETURNABLE** | Girdle | $ 40 |
| Mouth Guard | $ 5 |
| Socks | $ 10 |
|  | **TOTAL VALUE** | **$ 55** |

You have been entrusted with equipment valued at almost $1000. It is important that equipment is well maintained and looked after. Equipment not returned, or damaged beyond repair, will be charged at the cost listed above.

Equipment that is not cleaned, nor laundered will be subject to a cleaning fee of $100.

Equipment must be returned on the date indicated. Players do NOT need to be in attendance for equipment drop-off. Equipment that is returned late will be subject to a $50 fee.

Charges for equipment will be communicated via the RAMP Team App. Players will be provided 72 hours to respond. If no response is received, these fees will become payable.

Fees due for late, uncleaned or missing equipment will be deducted from the Equipment deposit provided. If the deposit was provided via credit card, the credit card will be charged the appropriate fees as per the schedule above. If the deposit was made with a cheque, the cheque will be cashed in full. If monies remain, the West Edmonton Raiders will issue a cheque for the balance. Cheques are issued at the end of the month and will be mailed to the address provided at registration.

**VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:**

The West Edmonton Raiders functions entirely on Volunteer help. NO position, including the Board of Directors and Coaching, is a paid position. This means that your help, or your lack of it, impacts the quality and experience of our Players. It takes a lot of help to run a club of this size. The following is an overview of our Volunteer positions. More details on description follow as well:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **POSITION** | **DESCRIPTION** |
| Board Members:PresidentVice PresidentTreasurerSecretaryDirector of Football OperationsDirector at Large | Attached |
| Attached |
| Attached |
| Attached |
| Attached |
| Attached |
| Role varies dependent on activities & needs (i.e. events, recruitment, policies, etc. |
| Equipment Manager | Oversees Player equipment for the entire club, recommends orders, reviews cleanliness, makes repairs, sends helmets for recertification, etc. provides repair kits to each team & keeps them stocked. |
| Head CoachAtomsPeeweesBantamsOther | Manages team activities, players, coaches, practices, games and rosters. Communicates with Board, Team Manager and Director of Football Ops as needed. |
| Assistant Coach(s) AtomPeeweeBantamOther | Manages players, rosters and follows plans as outlined by Coach and/or Director of Football Ops. |
| Head Trainer | Manage Team Trainers & medical supply inventory |
| TrainerAtomPeeweeBantam | Address, assess and attend to injury / illness. Make recommendations & follow concussion protocols |
| Clubhouse VolunteersAtom (Mondays)Peewee (Wednesdays)Bantam (Thursdays) | Cashier for retail store in clubhouse. Tidy washroom, merchandise, handle money, provide information, etc. |
| Team ManagerAtomPeeweeBantamOther | Communicate team messages, perform attendance, assist with inquiries, act as conduit of information between parents & coaches (sometimes the board as well). Submit team scores to CDFMA, update rosters, etc. coordinate team events, etc, |
| Event Committee | Plan, set up, clean up & execute fun days, BBQs, etc. |
| Silent Auction / Parent Pub Night Committee | Plan, set up, clean up, attain donations, etc. |
| Fundraising Committee | Plan, organize & execute fundraising activities |
| Home Game Day SticksPeeweeBantam | Operate chains & downs markers on fields for every home game. |
| Scorekeeper / TimekeeperPeeweeBantam | Operate time clock & score board during all home games. |
| Game Day AnnouncerPeewee Bantam | Provides play by play commentary, introduces players, coaches and officials, etc. |
| Game Day FilmingAtomPeeweeBantam | Film all games (both home & away) to be shared & uploaded into HUDL. |
| Edmonton Eskimos Liaison | Coordinate all booth volunteers. Attend every home game to provide support and assistance. Communicate with Eskimos contact. |
| Edmonton Eskimos Booth Volunteer | Sell merchandise at Edmonton Eskimos Home Games. This is a mandatory volunteer position |
| Casino Volunteers | Required volunteer position in every even numbered year |
| CDMFA Casino Volunteers | 3 or more volunteers required to work CDMFA Casino in even numbered years. |
| Year End Banquet Committee | Plan, organize, set up, take tickets, clean up, may host Silent Auction, coordinate with venue, sell tickets, etc. |
| Recruiter | Assist at events in discussing our club, attracting new players, distributing flyers, etc. |
| OTHER:50/50ConcessionGame Day photographerProgram Coordinator (game day)Sponsorship Committee& more | TBD each season & by Volunteer interest. |

You should have received a package outlining your Volunteer Requirements and options to fulfill this. If you did not, please contact our Director of Volunteers. A sign up sheet will also be circulated at our AGM, and is available in our Clubhouse. Positions are filled on first come, first served basis.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

1. **If I am sick or cannot attend a practice or game, who do I call?**

Please make note in RAMP Team under “availability”. Once you’ve done that, feel free to also send a message to the team with the “Team Chat” function.

1. **If the weather is bad, do we still practice or play games?**

Practice is determined by two factors. Our Environmental Policy (attached), and the condition of the City of Edmonton Fields. We do not practice in air quality that is worse than a 7, in lightning, or in temperatures less than -23 degrees Celsius. See our environmental policy for more details.

Changes to our practice schedule will be determined no later than 2 hours before our scheduled start time and are communicated via RAMP Team.

Games are determined by the CDMFA and will be announced as soon as they are received via RAMP Team.

1. **What if I lose my equipment?**

Your equipment deposit will be cashed, and you may be responsible for additional replacement fees as per the values outlined in this handbook.

1. **What if I decide to quit football? Do I get a refund?**

If you decide to quit football, you must return your equipment immediately. Refunds will be issued as per our Refund Policy (see attached)

1. **Are mouthguards provided?**

Yes, you will receive one when you receive your equipment. The club will ONLY provide you with one mouthguard. Replacements are available in the Clubhouse for $5.

1. **If I have some concerns or issues, who do I contact?**

You should speak with your Parent Liaison / Team Manager. They will relay your concerns to the appropriate individual(s). Our process of communication is also outlined and hanging on the bulletin board in the Clubhouse.

1. **Who looks after me if I am injured?**

Each team has their own first aid certified Trainer who will assess and assist you. Parents should NEVER enter the field unless asked to by a Coach or Trainer.

1. **How can I earn my Volunteer Credits?**

You must complete your mandatory Eskimo booth date(s), Casino dates and any other requirements for the season as outlined in the Volunteer Guide for the season.

1. **When do we practice?**

The Raiders practice from 6pm to 8pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

1. **Where do we practice?**

Our home practice fields are just west of the FX Recreation Center and just north of the Johnny Bright Bowl. The Atoms practice to the far west, the Peewees in the center and the Bantams in the East closest to the FX gyms. You will also have practices that are scheduled in the Jasper Place (Johnny Bright Bowl). Check our website, or RAMP Team for each practice location.

1. **When do we play our games?**

Atoms typically play Sundays from August to the end of October.

Peewees and Bantams play either Saturday or Sunday.

1. **Where is our Clubhouse?**

Our clubhouse is located in the brown, brick building next to the tennis courts and the Johnny Bright Bowl. The clubhouse is open during practices and home games only. You can tell that the Clubhouse is open when the sandwich board sign is displayed outside.

1. **What’s in the Clubhouse?**

We have a washroom for use by Raider members. We also have great Raider Wear and some tasty snacks for sale… along with cold beverages for those warm practices, and hot beverages for those chilly nights.

If you have more questions, please speak with your Team Manager/ Parent Liaison, or see someone in our Clubhouse who can find the answers for you, or point you in the right direction!

**REFUND POLICY**

In order to withdraw from Raiders Football, you must do the following:

1. Notify the Club in writing via email. Emails should be sent to the Registrar, Vice President or President. An email can easily be sent via the contact page on our website: <http://westedmontonraiders.com> NO exceptions or other methods will be accepted.
2. At the time of withdrawal, you must make arrangements to return all equipment. The withdrawal date will be recorded as the date of equipment return. Upon return of the Equipment, the Registrar will receive a completed equipment return form for refund processing.

NO REFUND WILL BE PROCESSED UNTIL ALL EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN RETURNED.

1. A full refund, less a $50 non-refundable deposit, will be provided if notification of withdrawal is completed before completion of the spring season, at the end of June.

If withdrawal occurs prior to the start of the first regular season game, but after the June deadline, a refund of up to 50% may be permitted at the Club’s discretion.

IF no spring season occurs, and the season begins in August, a full refund, less a $50 non-refundable deposit, will be provided if notification of withdrawal (including equipment return) occurs no later than 2 weeks before the first regular season game.

1. After the first regular season game, NO refunds will be provided. NO exceptions.
2. Refunds will be issued at the end of the month with the Raiders regular Accounts Payable activities and will be mailed to the person and address used at registration.

**REGISTRATION:**

Full payment of all fees and completion of all registration forms, including copies of Alberta Health Care cards and a copy of Bantam report cards, including name and grades, must be received by the Registrar BEFORE any player will be allowed on the field.

THIS IS A LIABILITY ISSUE… NO EXCEPTIONS EVER!

Cheques that are returned NSF, and Credit Cards that are declined, will be subject to a fee of $40. Should your cheque be returned NSF, or your credit card declined, you will need to repay the original amount, plus $40 in either cash, certified cheque or money order before your player will be allowed on the field.

IF you need to make payment arrangements, please see the Board of Directors, or email us. WE WILL WORK WITH YOU.

**GENERAL RAIDERS CALENDAR 2020**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| DATE | DESCRIPTION | WHO |
| January | Spring Training Camp Registration Opens | Peewee & Bantams  |
|  | Female Midget Registration Opens | High School Aged Females |
| February | Spring Training Begins | Peewees & Bantams |
|  | Tackle Football Online Registration Opens | Atoms, Peewees & Bantams |
|  | Head Coach Applications Accepted | Coaches |
|  | Female Midget practices commence | Female Midget |
|  | Flag Football registration opens\* | TBD |
| February / March | Spring Training Commences | Peewee & Bantam |
| March | Head Coaches determined | Board |
|  | Coaching Staff Recruitment begins | Head Coaches |
|  | Flag football practice commences | TBD |
| April | Coaches Meeting | Director Football & Coaches |
|  | Board/Coaches Dinner | Board & Coaches |
| May | Tackle Football practice commences | Atom, Peewee & Bantam |
|  | Equipment Issue | Atom, Peewee & Bantam |
| June | Underwear Fundraiser | All |
|  | Raider Wear Order Forms due | All |
|  | Parent Pub Night & Silent Auction | All – with purchase of ticket |
|  | Leduc Jamboree | Atom, Peewee & Bantam |
| July | NO Football | All |
| August | Tackle football resumes | Atom, Peewee & Bantam |
|  | Preseason Games commence | Peewee & Bantam |
|  | Team & Individual Photos | All |
|  | Registration for tackle closes | All |
| September | Regular Season Games commence | Atom, Peewee & Bantam |
|  | AGM | All |
| October | Regular Season continues | Atom, Peewee & Bantam |
|  | Pink Sock Breast Cancer Awareness Month | All |
|  | Banquet Ticket Sales | All |
|  | Season Completion | Atoms |
|  | Equipment Return | Atoms |
|  | Playoffs kick off | Peewee & Bantam |
| November | Playoffs continue (possibly) | Peewee & Bantam |
|  | Year End Banquet & Awards Ceremony | All |
|  | Equipment Return | Peewee & Bantam |
|  | Next Year Plan Finalized | Board |
|  | Clubhouse Closure | Board |

 **RAIDERS ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE POLICY**

**STORMS:**

During a rain storm, practice will continue unless, or until, the playing surface becomes dangerous to player safety. Coaches will call practice when/if this occurs. If a thunderstorm/lighting occurs during a practice, coaches will call practice and remove players from the field. if a thunderstorm/lightning is present prior to practice, the Club will determine whether or not to practice. This determination will be communicated no later than one hour prior to scheduled start time.

Please note that players may be requested to attend, and practice may still be canceled. The accepted thunderstorm policy is practice/play can continue 30 minutes after the last thunder clap.

Practice will be canceled, or called early, if tornados are present in the vicinity.

**AIR QUALITY:**



 Source: Environment Canada https://weather.gc.ca/airquality/healthmessage\_e.html

The West Edmonton Raiders will use AQHI calculations in the following manner:

* 1. 1. Access the latest AQHI calculations using the Alberta Environment website as the calculations on this site are updated hourly compared to Environment Canada’s site that only updates every three hours and uses a less comprehensive pollutant algorithm.
	2. http://airquality.alberta.ca/map An app for smartphones is available.
	3. a. Be sure to locate Edmonton area on the map as other areas such as Strathcona county and St. Albert have their own stations.
	4. 2. Click on the AQHI station name
		1. a. This will bring up a pop-up box with the current AQHI value for that station.

3. Note the station, time and Index calculation in the pop up box

 b. Updates are occur hourly (usually at the top of the hour)

* 1. 4. If the air quality is “3” or below, practices will continue as normal.
	2. 5. If the air quality is an index of “4-6” practices can be adjusted by: a. Reducing the intensity
	3. b. Reducing the duration of practice
	4. c. Providing longer rest periods
	5. 6. If the air quality is “7” or above, outdoor practices will be **cancelled**. If alternate indoor gym facilities can be located, practice will move indoors. If classroom space can be located, film or playbook review will be utiltzed. Outdoor practice time will be rescheduled if possible.

Adapted from: Air Aware – Air Quality Monitoring Guidelines, Alberta Soccer Association. Accessed website: August 25, 2018. Check for updates annually.

**WINTER WEATHER:**

Practice will continue in winter weather unless the temperature is less than -23 degrees Celsius. Please note that games will often proceed in this weather. Practice will not be cancelled due to snow or wind chills that are not in excess of -23 degrees Celsius.

If practice is cancelled due to Winter Weather, Coaches may elect to host film review, classroom work or indoor practice based on availability. In this case, Teams will communicate the change.

**EXTREME HEAT & HUMIDITY:**



Source: Environment Canada <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/seasonal-weather-hazards/spring-summer.html#heat_and_humidity>

Practice during hot summer days will be monitored using the Humidex scale. When temperatures are above +25 degrees Celsius, coaches will add more hydration breaks and players will be monitored for any symptoms of heat exhaustion. Parents and players should be vigilant that players are hydrating 2-4 hours prior to practice and that enough water is available to players during practice time.

When Humidex values are above +30 degrees Celsius, practice may continue, at the Coach’s discretion, in a modified capacity. Modified means that cardiovascular activities (high intensity running, etc.) will be kept to a minimum.

**GENERAL:**

Practice cancellations will be communicated no less than 60 minutes before their scheduled start by the West Edmonton Raiders Football Club.

Individual Teams will communicate any modified plans to their teams no less than 30 minutes before their scheduled start. The Club will try to make arrangements to reschedule cancelled practices. Please watch your messages for updates.