



# St. Mary Crusaders Senior Football 2016

## Player Information and Fees

Welcome to the 2016 **St. Mary Crusaders Senior Football Team**. My name is Sean Dennison and I am the Head Coach and a teacher at St. Mary C.S.S. I would like to take this opportunity to provide the players and their families with some general information about the program and a breakdown of the fees for those wishing to be a part of the team. As a Crusader alumnus and as I enter my 19th season as a football coach, I am eager for the opportunity to teach and develop football skills and techniques. Yet, my priority of fostering and enhancing life skills like respect, responsibility, focus, accountability, passion, pride and working with others is something I hold in the highest regard. The instilling of these values coupled with my firm belief that our athletes are students first is paramount to my coaching philosophy. I hope every member of the program has a positive and memorable life experience this season.

I am excited to continue to build upon the 2015 season as our team not only displayed success and progress on game days but also demonstrated character, maturity, discipline and commitment both on the field and in the classroom. I am so proud to represent these fine young men as we, the smallest school in our league, embark on a season where I perceive our biggest challenges as our greatest opportunities.

### Practices

Our practices for the upcoming season are Monday-Thursday at St. Mary. They **begin promptly at 3:05pm and will be finished at 5:15**. There is a possibility that we may have a practice on a Saturday, later in the year around playoff time; but that will be determined at a later date. It is expected that players attend every practice. If there are circumstances where a player is not able to attend a practice, they **must** either inform me at school or communicate with me through our Remind App service, in advance. I would rather the player make this communication instead of a parent or guardian as I believe these young men should be responsible and accountable for their own actions.

### Games

Our season will begin with an exhibition game on Friday September 9, at St. Mary. We will be hosting Westdale S.S.. Family and friends are encouraged to attend. Our regular season begins on September 16. Our complete schedule will eventually be found on the Board website: [hwcdsb.ca/athletics/schedulesstandings](http://hwcdsb.ca/athletics/schedulesstandings). Players will be provided with school bus transportation to and from all regular season and playoff games. The bus will pick the players up and drop them off at St. Mary.

### Booster Volunteers

The St. Mary Crusaders football program is privileged to have a wonderful group of parent or booster volunteers that come together and facilitate various activities and events that enhance the overall experience for the junior and senior players as well as the coaching staff.

*Our booster volunteers:*

- *prepare dinner for the players and coaches every Thursday evening after practice.*
- *provide fruit, snacks and refreshments throughout our pre-season practices.*
- *provide food and refreshments for spectators at all of our home games, donating proceeds back to the program.*

- *promote the football program to incoming grade nines and the community.*
- *solicit area businesses for sponsorship to fund these activities.*

If you would like to be a part of this fantastic group of volunteers, please contact Christine Sauer for more information: **christine1299@bell.net**

### **Football Equipment**

All players are provided with the following equipment at the start of the season:

- Helmet
- Shoulder pads
- Thigh and knee pads
- Practice pants
- Game pants
- Belt

It is expected that all of the equipment issued to the individual player be returned at the end of the season. The student will be responsible for paying the cost for any lost or unreturned equipment.

### **Fundraising Dinner**

This year the St. Mary football program will be hosting a pasta dinner as a fundraiser. It will be the responsibility of the players to set up, serve food, and clean up after the dinner. As part of the football fee payment, all players will be provided with 4 tickets to the dinner. Players will then have the opportunity to sell these tickets to family and friends. **The money from the sale of these tickets will be retained by each player.** Additional tickets will be made available upon request. The date of the fundraiser will be announced soon but tentatively we are looking at the dinner to be held during our bye week (Oct. 17-21).

### **Football Fees**

The cost to each player as a member of the football team will be **\$300.00**. This cost will cover the following items:

- 4 pasta dinner tickets @ \$15 each (money from ticket sales retained by the player)
- Game jersey
- T-shirt
- Shorts
- Custom game socks
- Practice Jersey
- Mouth guard
- Coaches' apparel
- Refreshments at halftime and during season
- Football Banquet (year end)

**Payment of Fees:** It is encouraged that all fees be paid through **School Cash Online**. For more information about this online direct deposit service, visit: ***stma.hwcdsb.ca*** and click on "***school cash online***").

**NOTE: I HOPE TO HAVE THIS ONLINE SERVICE READY BY WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 7.**

The coaching staff and I are looking forward to a wonderful season.

Many thanks,

Coach Dennison