

Welcome to the Downingtown East Football Family! **Downingtown East Football Association** (DEFA) is a non-profit, volunteer organization comprised of parent, players, coaches, family members and friends dedicated to supporting the Downingtown East High School Football Team. Our purpose is to provide financial support for program activities and events throughout the year that the school district may not fund.

As a member of the Cougar Community, we will seek out volunteers to assist with fundraisers and events that support your player. We invite you to contribute your time and talent wherever and whenever you can. We will provide a list of activities that may require committee chair(s) and volunteer positions to make the season a success. **Freshman parents are required to volunteer for the 50/50 raffles during Varsity home games.** It is critical for our Freshmen families to be involved for the future success of the program. We are confident that you will find volunteering the perfect chance to meet other football families and players.

It is important to understand that communication will be direct from the head coach to your player. DEFA is not involved with scheduling and will only communicate changes as directed by our coaching staff.

- Varsity Head Coach – **Mr. Michael Matta** (mmatta@dasd.org)
- Freshmen Head Coach - **Mr. Gino D'Andrea** (gandrea@dasd.org)

Our main platform for posting events and team information is the team's official website (www.downingtowneastfootball.com). We encourage you to bookmark or save the website to the home screen of your device.

Every year, we update our email distribution to ensure current players and parents stay informed on current events. All players must be registered through our website (<https://www.downingtowneastfootball.com/playerregistration>). We encourage you to follow our Downingtown East Football Community Facebook page.

We are looking forward to a fantastic Season!

Jessica Ehst

President

Jimmy Griffiths

Treasurer

Kerri Rudiger

Co-Vice-President

Dipa Desai

Secretary

Kim Moses

Co-Vice-President

Erran Robson

Secretary



Visit our website for all information pertaining to the Downingtown East Football Team!

www.downingtownteastfootball.com

Find:

-  Current events & fundraisers
-  Media from local press
-  Links to professional game photographs
-  Individual team photographs
-  Coaches and Staff
-  Team schedules and results
-  Learn about our Cougar Alumni
-  Register for the annual Blue & Gold Camp
-  Volunteer information
-  Sponsorship opportunities

And ... Player Registration!

You're invited to attend DEFA Board Meetings












As a member of the Cougar Community, you are cordially invited to attend our monthly meetings. The Downingtown East Football Association meetings are held the 1st Monday of the month from 6:30 – 8 pm in the High School library.


Listen and share suggestions as we discuss plans for the year. We'd love for your input and ideas! This club supports all teams (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors) so all parents are invited to contribute.

Share your ideas & Be involved!

DEFA provides support to the Downingtown East Football program and all football players in several ways; including but not limited to:

-  Scholarships toward Blue & Gold Camp
-  Procurement of training equipment
-  Subsidization of game and recruiting films; Hudl
-  Subsidization of busses for team trip
-  Pre-game snacks/meals
-  Team Photographer & Videographer
-  Picture Day lunches
-  Family Picnic
-  Annual Banquets

To support these and other activities, several fundraisers will be held throughout the year, which will include:

-  Pancake Breakfast
-  Dine & Donates (supporting our sponsors)
-  Gold Card sales
-  50/50 Raffles
-  Game program sales

Below are the 2023 Board and Volunteer Chair positions:

Board Role	Officer		
President	Jessica Ehst		
Vice-President(s)	Kerri Rudiger & Kim Moses		
Treasurer	Jimmy Griffiths		
Secretary(s)	Dipa Desai & Erran Robson		
Volunteer Positions	Chairperson	Co-Chairperson(s)	
Freshmen Team Parent(s)	Tami Kenney		
Senior Parent(s)	Jenn Stott	Samira Badawi	
Team Camp	Jeannine Skelton	Meghan Funderburg	
Picture Day	Kelly Hornak	Gisselle Patton	
Team Dinners	Gretchen Fowler	Lynn Baker	Samira Badawi
Pre-Game Food	Lindsay Polidore	Tami McGowan	Jack Lammy

Chairperson(s) Responsibilities and DEFA Liaisons:




Position	Responsibilities	DEFA Liaison
Senior Parent Coordinator(s)	Coordinate senior parent activities (i.e., pep rally dance, senior night, banquet highlights, etc.).	Kerri Rudiger
Freshmen Team Parent	Manage Freshmen parent responsibilities for home games (i.e. 50/50 Raffles, Program Sales, Banners). Assist with Freshmen Team banquet and communicate with the Freshmen Team Head Coach.	Jessica Ehst
Program Ad & Sales Gold Cards	Assist with soliciting for sponsorship ads for game program, and local business participating for Gold Cards.	Jimmy Griffiths Jessica Ehst
Team Camp	Coordinate volunteers to help cook & serve meals to players for 3 days. Need for at least 18 volunteers.	Kim Moses Kerri Rudiger
Picture Day	Assist with line-up, verify names & accurate spelling, confirm jersey numbers. Collect photo forms.	Dipa Desai Erran Robson
Team Dinners	Create and plan menu for weekly team dinners with the committee. Create sign-up to be sent by DEFA secretaries.	Kim Moses
Pre-Game Food	Pick-up & deliver coolers, drinks, food/snack items for the team by 3 pm on game days.	Kim Moses

2023 Important Dates*

Mark your Calendars!

February 21	All-Parent Meeting (required)
March 5	Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser (A-L)
March 26	Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser (M-Z)
May 20	Cougar Fan Fest "Beef & Beer" Event
May 21	Senior "Draft" Day
May 29-June 2	Mini-Camp (all players)
TBD	Valor Bowl
June 19-23	Blue & Gold Camp (9 th mandatory)
TBD	Tyler Kroft Camp
July 17-20	Team Trip/Camp (10-12)
July 21-30	Vacation
July 31-August 3	Pre-Season (all players)
August 7-11	Heat Camp (4-7 pm all players)
August 11	Mothers Clinic
August 12	Gold Card Blitz (all players)
August 14-18	2-a-days (all players)
August 18	Team Pictures
August 24	Kick-off Team Dinner
September 21	Powderpuff Game
September 14	Senior Dad Experience
October 13	Senior Night
December 10	JV/Varsity Banquet

*Dates are subject to change

-  9th graders are required participate in Blue & Gold Camp!
-  10-12 graders are **not** to miss Team Trip/Camp!
-  Freshmen players are invited to participate in the summer workouts with the team but it not required.

Any changes to the calendar will be communicated.