

SEAGOVILLE DRAGONS
FOOTBALL AND CHEER
HANDBOOK



Dear Parent/Guardian:

Welcome and thank you for choosing Seagoville Youth Sports Association (SYSA). Our goal is to provide a fun and, most importantly, safe environment for your athlete. This handbook will cover information regarding our organization, breakdown of fees and athlete/coach/parent expectations.

Youth sports should be a positive and memorable experience for everyone. Our coaches' goals are to provide athletes with the opportunity to be the best athletes they can be. We intend to teach the fundamentals through practice and conditioning while also instilling discipline, respect, accountability, and teamwork. We are committed to making this an outstanding season, but we cannot do it alone. Our organization depends on committed parents and athletes to make a successful season.

The athlete's level of improvement is related to the amount of effort put forth into each activity the team undertakes. As an organization, we will emphasize the importance of accountability. Our coaches expect athletes to make an earnest effort in everything they do. Likewise, our organization has the same expectations of our staff and coaches.

Again, I would like to thank you for choosing SYSA. We look forward to having a great season.

Thank You,

Katy Fernandez

SYSA President

SYSA Board of Directors

Katy Fernandez

President

Yolanda Rodriguez

Secretary

Alexis Allen

Fields Coordinator

Brandon Lowrey

Vice President/Boys

Angela Williams

Treasurer

Korey Green

Public Relations Director

Chazedy Johnson

Cheer Commissioner

Chris Williams

Equipment Coordinator

Suzan Jackson

TBall Commissioner

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Football & Cheer Parents/Guardians agree to:

- Read and accept the policies included in this handbook.
- Be a positive role model for every child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all athletes, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice, and activity.
- Not engage in ANY form of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, athlete, or parent such as taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
- Teach children to play by the rules and resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Ensure that the athlete is prepared with the proper equipment for practice and games (i.e., mouthpiece, proper fitting cleats, etc.)
- Never ridicule any child for a mistake or losing a game
- Promote a sports environment that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and refrain from their use at all organizational events.

Accountability

A parent/guardian is required to be present at all practices and games for safety and liability reasons. If for some reason a parent/guardian cannot be present other arrangements must be coordinated with the Head Coach/Team Mom. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to make sure athletes are at practice and games at the designated times. If there are transportation issues, please address it ahead of time with your Head Coach/Team mom so that arrangements can be made, if possible.

Zero Tolerance Policy

While SYSA recognizes the need and desire for competition, it also believes that the values of sportsmanship, self-control, and personal responsibility are of much greater importance. Each adult has an obligation to exemplify these qualities to our youth. Anyone who engages in a verbal or physical altercation or an incident of unsportsmanlike conduct at the game site or any other activity will face disciplinary action by SYSA. Violators will be required to meet with the SYSA's board or disciplinary committee. SYSA has the authority to sanction or suspend any athlete, manager, coach, or parent.

Any spectator who violates the Code of Conduct will be asked to leave the facility and may be required to meet with the SYSA Board of Directors prior to further attendance. Failure to do so may result in more severe penalties up to and including revocation of organization membership. He /she shall also be subject to trespassing laws.

Communication

*AFTER REGISTRATION MAKE SURE TO DOWNLOAD THE **Sports You App**- THIS WILL BE OUR PRIMARY FORM OF COMMUNICATION.*

Game, practice, cancellations, including last minute cancellations, will be communicated through the app. Please advise the head Coach or team mom, if you are adding a parent or guardian to the app.

Things not allowed in group chat are as follows:

- Inappropriate or negative conversations
- Sale of item other than football equipment or team spirit/apparel items
- Any personal information as in Social, Birth Certificate, School records etc.

For additional information, please visit our website and follow us on Facebook.

Coaches

All SYSA Coaches are volunteers. Most of our coaching staff have families and full-time jobs. They have chosen to pass along their passion and knowledge of the sport to the youth of Seagoville by volunteering their time to coach. We are committed to building strong relationships with you and your athlete and are looking forward to a successful season!

SYSA Coaches are committed to:

- Communicating their philosophy
- Providing your athletes with instruction on how to play football safely and properly.
- Treat you with respect.
- Bringing out the best in your athletes' abilities
- Setting a positive example of how to participate in team sports and competition.
- Make all decisions in the best interests of the team.
- Being professional on and off the field
- Treating all athletes equally
- Being examples of honesty, integrity, and accountability
- Dealing with all situations with respect and honesty
- Providing up-to-date information regarding games/practices
- Communicating expectations

In return, we ask that you communicate any schedule conflicts in advance as well as any concerns regarding your child to the coach.

Registration Fees

Registration	Cost	Dates
Flag Football Registration	\$175	January 1 st - June 1 st
Tackle Football Registration	\$250	January 1 st – June 1 st
Cheer Registration	\$350	January 1 st – June 1 st

***\$100 Nonrefundable deposit due at signup. All fees are due, in full,
by June 1st-NO EXCEPTIONS!**

****Late registration fee due, in full, at signup.**

Fees must be paid prior to any equipment or uniform being issued.

Payment plans and automatic drafts available by request.

What is included in registration	Estimated Amount
Uniform Football	Flag \$100 Tackle \$160
Cheer Uniform	\$260 per participant
League Fee's	\$65 per participant
City Fee's	\$15 per participant
Insurance	\$10 per participant

Refund Policy

All sales are final, and no refunds will be issued. Participants/Parents/Guardians suspended or dismissed due to infractions against the code of conduct, or any other reason will not receive a refund for any fees, donations or funds raised for SYSA.

If you have any questions concerning our refund policy, please contact us at:

972-287-7580 or seagovilleyouth@yahoo.co

What does registration go towards?

There are year-round operational costs to keep an organization functioning and prepared for the future. In addition to sponsors and donations, registration offsets the cost of providing the best experience possible to all our athletes. SYSA will have **ONE** mandatory league fundraiser in 2024.

Costs covered by registration include, but are not limited to the following:

Fee Type	Estimated Amount
Referee Fees	\$5,700
Field Security	\$2,800
Football Insurance	\$1,000
League Athlete Fee	\$6,000
Concession Startup	\$1,500
Cleaning Supplies/ Replenishment	\$200
Concession License/Inspection	\$200
Field Paint/Maintenance	\$850
City of Seagoville Athlete fees	\$1,800
Game/Practice Footballs	\$350
Equipment Replenishment	\$1,000
Rental Helmet Hardware	\$2,500
Certification Books	\$200
Administrative costs	\$300
Promotional Materials	\$500
Balance of Uniform	\$60-\$100
Homecoming Decorations	\$500
Trophies/Medals	\$2,000
Home Coming Gifts	\$600

SEAGOVILLE YOUTH SPORTS ASSOCIATION

SYSA strives to keep the costs associated with playing as reasonable as possible. We encourage parents to attend the monthly parent meetings to ask questions and learn more about the funds needed to operate a league.

Team Fundraisers are opportunities for individual teams to participate in fundraising activities.

Please be aware it is mandatory that every athlete attend all team fundraising events. These fundraisers will be determined by each team and may cover the following:

- Team Outing/Team Building
- Practice Equipment
- Team Travel for Playoffs or Championship

Payment methods for fundraisers are as follows:

- Cash
- Check
- Debit/Credit Card
- Zelle 972-287-7580*
- CashApp \$SYSA1*

Please provide the following information when submitting mobile payment

- Athletes first and last name
- Parents first and last name
- Phone number
- Email address

Sponsors/Donations

If you know a company interested in supporting SYSA youth teams this year, we are accepting donations and sponsorships. Every season we rely on sponsors and donations to cover fees and other projects. Your donation will contribute to the quality of our organization and will assist in making this season a memorable one. All donations are 100% tax-deductible. 2024 Sponsor letter and form is attached to this handbook.

FOOTBALL INFORMATION

Mandatory Fundraising

SYSA will have mandatory Team fundraiser. Failure to participate in the mandatory fundraiser may result in exclusion from team events, gifts, and awards. Fundraiser funds should only be collected by the SYSA Treasure and must be turned in at one time to cut down on confusion. A receipt will be provided for payments.

Equipment Rental

Equipment rentals are NON-REFUNDABLE and are only available on a first come first served basis. Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that equipment and uniform fits correctly when received. Report any issues to the Equipment Director immediately.

- \$50 rental fee for Helmet
- \$50 rental fee for Shoulder Pads

All issued equipment must be returned at the end of the season. *Failure to return equipment will result in exclusion from team gifts/parties/awards and may also result in legal action.* If providing your own equipment, please make sure you mark it with your athlete's name.

Parents/guardians are responsible for obtaining mouthpieces, proper fitting cleats, and practice pants.

Certification

All athletes that participate in the Texas Youth Football Association are required to be certified by the league annually. This certification is done prior to the season and verifies that a child is the correct age and is playing with the appropriate age group. It is vital that **EVERYONE** is present on the day of our certification and has the proper documentation. For certification we will need the "Original Birth Certificate (BC), your child's final report card. We will not keep the BC; it will be returned the day of certification.

If you do not have the original BC, then the following Alternate forms of "Proof of Birth" will be accepted:

1. Valid Military Dependent ID Card
2. Valid Passport
3. State issued ID card

Certification is MANDATORY. If a child is not certified **they will not be eligible to play**, so please make sure that you have your child present on the day of our certification and make sure you do not make plans for that day.

Uniforms/Sizing Day

The importance for sizing day is so that each participant receives the correct size uniform. Attendance on sizing day is **mandatory for EVERYONE**. Uniform orders **will not** be placed for those who do not show up.

- Athletes may keep their custom uniform packages.
- Uniforms must be clean at all games.
- Uniform packages must be verified and signed out by parent or guardian.
- Cheerleaders may keep all items in uniform package.
- Must have a parent or guardian present at the time of sizing.

Attendance

There is a lot to learn in a short amount of time so good attendance helps both the athlete and the team. We need you to support us in this effort and make sure that your athlete is available for the scheduled practices, games, and other events such as picture day, equipment hand-out and turn in. There is no room for special privileges on a team. SYSA does not tolerate the abuse of absences or tardiness to practices, games, or other scheduled events. We understand that there are times where your child will not be able to attend practice (i.e., illness or school function). Should your athlete need to miss practice, please contact the coach, or team mom at the earliest time possible before the beginning of practice. The expectation is that all athletes be present and on-time to practice.

- Be early for all games and practices — 15 minutes before practice start time and 1 hour before start of game.
- Tardiness, due to forgetting equipment, will not be tolerated.

Injuries

SYSA takes injuries very seriously. The following are general rules regarding injuries. Injuries will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

- Be honest about injuries with both the Coach and Trainer
- The Head Coach will check injury and determine if the athlete can continue playing.
- Do not pressure athletes to play when hurt.
- Injured athletes, not able to dress in full gear, will still be required to attend practice and observe their team. Wear practice gear when observing
- Athletes will NOT be played if hurt, even with parental approval- athlete safety comes first.
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Game Cancellation Policy

SYSA is committed to the wellbeing of our athletes and parents. The SYSA Field Commissioners will make the decision as to field status by 5 pm on weekdays; by 7:30 am on Saturdays. Storm conditions, lightning, and extreme temperatures typically factor into the decisions. Please check the **Sports You** app or Facebook page prior to your game. **DON'T assume that your game is cancelled until communication has been made by your Coach or league representative!**

Please be aware that:

- Cancelled games are NOT guaranteed to be rescheduled.
- SYSA field status will be posted on the Sports your app or Facebook page.
- Field closures may vary by association.

Cold Weather

SYSA will cancel or postpone any game in which the temperature is below 32 degrees. At 7 a.m. on game days, SYSA will decide the following for games scheduled at the SYSA field:

- Cancel all games prior to noon **OR** cancel all games for the entire day.

In case of freezing weather, higher than 32 degrees, athletes are encouraged to wear additional clothing under their uniform.

Acceptable Items	Unacceptable Items
long sleeves, long pants, extra socks, gloves, stocking caps (without straps), hoodie, headbands (to cover ears)	earmuffs (with plastic or metal pieces), scarves or any items deemed unsafe by SYSA officials and/or referees.

Hot Weather

Mandatory 2-minute water breaks will be given during each half of the play for all age groups when the temperature is 104 or higher, or at the request of both coaches.

Cancellation During Game

Once the game is in progress, cancellation is left to the center referee. Games cancelled after the second half begins are considered final and will not be made up. Games cancelled before the second half begins will be rescheduled, when possible.

Issues or Complaints

Under no circumstances is a parent/guardian to approach a coach or official with a complaint or issue during practice or game day. Issues or complaints should first be discussed with the Head Coach to try and arrive at a resolution during a SCHEDULED meeting. Any issue or complaint that cannot be resolved at the team level will use the Chain of Communication: Athletic Director, Cheer Commissioner, VP of girls, VP of Boys, Secretary and lastly the President. Emails and phone calls will be directed to the Head Coach, if resolution at team level has not been attempted.

24 HOUR RULE: Please allow 24 hours after a game to address any issues with a Coach. Emotions are escalated immediately following a competition and it is in the best interest of everyone to allow time to calm down and address issues in the proper manner.

FOOTBALL INFORMATION

Dear Athlete,

Welcome to SYSA! We are excited to have you. You have responsibilities at home, at school and in the community. To be a successful team, you must abide by the following. All athletes must:

- Conduct themselves with class, dignity, and positive attitude both on and off the field.
- Recognize and respect the authority of all coaches, referees, parents, and team moms.
- Arrive to practice prepared and on time.
- Work as a team; we will not tolerate any form of bullying.
- Be accountable to their actions on and off the field.
- Try and make the most of your abilities.
- Compete with effort, desire, passion, and sportsmanship!

Any violation of one or more of the rules is an indication that this team, and being a part of it, is not a priority. Violations may lead to warnings to game suspension. Your parents/guardians have provided you the “privilege” to enjoy youth sports and they have the authority to take it away. Your parents may notify any of the coaches if you are slacking on your responsibilities. We, as coaches, take this very seriously. If a parent notifies us of any violations of your responsibilities, we will assist with discipline- from reminders to game suspensions or quarters missed. It is expected that you conduct yourself in a manner that will reflect positively upon you, your teammates, and the SYSA organization.

Game Day Rules

- Be early for all games — 1 hour before game time.
- Wear the appropriate uniform and be ready to play.
- Walking on game field is prohibited.
- Helmet must be worn or in your hand while on the field.
- Walking off the field will result in you being benched the rest of the game along with additional consequences.
- Play the game hard, win with enthusiasm and intensity.
- Be respectful of your team and your opponents.
- Black, Royal Blue, White, (team colors) are the only colors permitted for undershirts, socks, gloves, etc... at practices and games.
- Equipment problems should be addressed before or after practice.
- Do not cut or alter equipment in any way.

Minimum Play Rule

SYSA DOES NOT enforce madatory play rules. SYSA attempts to play as many athletes as possible during each game but there is no guaranteed playing time set by SYSA. Playing time is earned during weekly practives prior to each game. Playing time is evaluated by practice attendance, practice involvment. It is the responsibility of the Head Coach and Assistant coaches to ensure that skills are consistantly evaluated. At any time during the season, parents/guardians can inquire about their childs playing time.

- Coaches are instructed that if a child is not on the starting offense or defense then every effort should be made to incprporated these athletes into special teams (i.e. kick off and kick return teams)
- All age groups are instructed that if a team is winning or losing by 21 points at the end of the third quarter then second/third string athletes should be subsituted in regularly.

CHEER INFORMATION

Mandatory Fundraising

SYSA will have mandatory Team fundraiser. Failure to participate in the mandatory fundraiser may result in exclusion from team events, gifts, and awards. Fundraisers should only be collected by the SYSA Treasure and must be turned in at one time to cut down on confusion. A receipt will be provided for payments.

Uniforms/Sizing Day

The importance for sizing day is so that each participant receives the correct size uniform. Attendance on sizing day is **mandatory for EVERYONE**. Uniform orders **will not** be placed for those who do not show up. **\$100 deposit (part of fundraiser) is due on Fitting Day**

- Athletes may keep their custom uniform packages.
- Uniforms must be clean at all games.
- Uniform packages must be verified and signed out by parent or guardian.
- Cheerleaders may keep all items in uniform package.

Uniform Hand Out

The VP of Girls and Cheer Commissioner will hold a day for uniform pick up and sign out. Registration must be paid in full before sizing.

Uniform packages include:

Bow	Shell	Skirt
Bloomers	Socks	Bag
Camp shirt	Camp Shorts	Warm-up Jacket/Pant

Equipment Care

Please follow cleaning requirements attached to the cheer uniform. Cheer shoes must be cleaned before each game and should only be worn at games and competitions. Pom-poms should be kept clean and stored in a dry area. It is the responsibility of each athlete to ensure that the cheer uniform is complete, to include pom-poms, socks, and shoes, when arriving at a game or event requiring the wearing of the uniform.

ATHLETE AND PARENT PLEDGE

I, the athlete, hereby state pledge:

- I, as an athlete, will use every effort to be a positive member of my team and always exhibit good sportsmanship.
- I will attend and actively participate in every practice and event scheduled. If I cannot make it, I will inform my coaches as to why I am unable to attend.
- I will practice and play to the best of my ability.
- I recognize that I am playing a team sport as such the interests of the team shall take precedence over individual exploits.
- I will not criticize the performance of another teammate, a coach's decision, a referee's call, or an opponent.
- I will conduct myself in a respectable manner at practices and at games.
- I will not attempt ever to deliberately injure another player.
- I realize that failure to comply with the above regulations will result in loss of game time, suspension, or release from athletic program.

Athlete signature _____ Date: _____

I, the parent/guardian, hereby pledge:

I, as a parent/guardian, understand am to conduct myself in a civil and respectable manner at all events. Failure to do so can, and will, result in disciplinary actions including fees, fines, and expulsion. I understand that this conduct will also result in my children being removed, if deemed necessary by the SYSA board. I understand that anyone that may accompany myself or my child to an SYSA event or function, will be held to these same standards and I will be held accountable for their actions.

I understand there is a 24-hour Cool Down period after games before contacting staff and that any complaints, comments, or concerns should be addressed at the team level and the chain of communication should be used if a conclusion is not to my satisfaction. I will not use social media or team chats or events to vent frustration directed at SYSA personnel.

I understand that the consumption of alcohol, use of illegal drugs, and tobacco products (to include vaping) are prohibited except, in designated areas.

I understand the equipment provided is the sole property of SYSA. All items must be returned at the end of the football season or when my child is no longer participating with SYSA. Failure to return property will result in a hold being placed on the athlete and ineligibility for any awards trophies or events from SYSA. Further refusal to return property or pay the associated fees will result in theft charges being filed.

I understand that there will be no modifications of any kind to the equipment issued by SYSA. This means no additional padding, or anything else that might violate the integrity of the helmet. There will be no additional padding or modified straps/buckles added to the shoulder pads.

I understand that there will be **NO REFUNDS** for any reason. I understand that SYSA is a Non-Profit Organization and relies on Registration Fees, Donations, Sponsors and Fundraisers to provide the best and safest environment for my child.

I agree to participate in the Fundraisers for the 2024 Season. I understand that failure to participate may result in my child not receiving any SYSA Awards/Trophies or not being allowed to participate in future events. I also agree to, whenever possible, support any volunteer fundraisers or organized team events.

I have carefully read and fully understand this contract and its contents entirely. If I do not understand something I have asked all questions to clarify any misunderstanding that I may have and I sign this of my own free will and agree to abide by these rules and regulations.

Parent signature _____ Date: _____

Board Member _____ Date: _____

Chain of Command Football

Team Mom

Head Coach

Athletic Director

VP of Boys

Chain of Command Cheer

Team Mom

Head Coach

Cheer Commissioner

VP of Girls

Please follow the chain of command when presenting concerns. We want to do our best to address any concerns or situations that arise in a timely manner. But we can only do that if the chain of command is followed.