

Rams Club Meeting Minutes

Date: September 8, 2026 **Time:** 6:30 PM

Meeting Cadence: 2nd Tuesday of each month

BBQ Fundraiser

- Event date: October 16th
- Menu: Boston butt (pork) and chicken plates. Smoking process takes approximately 8 hours depending on the cut.
- This year's sale is pre-sale only. Any leftover plates may be sold inside the game at the concession stand, since the BBQ sale itself will be located outside the gate.
- Pickup time is 12p-3p at Harding; plates will be pre-packaged and ready for pickup (no on-site cooking/assembly at pickup).
- Volunteer needs won't be finalized until ticket sales are closer to final, but organizers want committed volunteers lined up in advance.
- **Tickets:** On sale now via GoFan; sales close October 14th (2 days before the event).
- **Action item:** Reach out to community partners and the newly formed Alumni Association to help with prepping/packaging and day-of support.

Concession Stands

- 3 home games this season; first home game is **September 18th**.
- Plan is to open both home and visitor concession stands for all 3 games.
- Approximately 12 volunteers needed total to staff both stands.
- Volunteers do **not** need to be Rams Club members — staff, family members, and community members are welcome to help.
- If enough volunteers cannot be secured for both stands, the visitor concession stand may be opened to another school team/club in exchange for a percentage of that stand's profits.
- **Action item:** Sign-up sheet to be sent out; interested volunteers can contact the Ms. Ivey or Ms. Richardson by email, phone, or text.

Parent & Family Outreach

- Discussion on improving outreach to all families about Rams Club membership and volunteer opportunities (no recent "Parent Square" outreach has gone out).
- **Action item:** Create a Google form for families to express interest in:
 - Becoming a Rams Club member
 - Volunteering (including concession stand support)
 - Supporting Homecoming activities
- Form will be distributed via ParentSquare with an easy-to-share link (e.g., Bitly) to all Harding families.
- Ms. Brewer will help support this effort, including Homecoming-related outreach.

All Sports Banquet (May 2027)

- **Date:** May 22, 2027
- **Location:** Johnson C. Smith University — Grimes Lounge (off-campus)
- **Time:** Doors open 6:00 PM; social/seating period 6:00–6:30 PM; event runs 6:30–8:30 PM
- **Guest policy:** Each athlete receives 2 complimentary guest tickets (unchanged). Additional guests beyond that will incur a per-person cost (estimated \$8–\$10, not yet finalized). Cost details to be communicated to families early in the year rather than close to the event.
- **RSVP:** Will continue via GoFan.
- **Menu:** Voted and finalized — **Chicken Parmesan**, served with tossed salad (two dressing options) and seasonal vegetables.
- **New idea proposed:** Explore a printed or digital banquet program/booklet featuring tiered corporate sponsorships (e.g., presenting sponsor, diamond level) as a fundraising opportunity. Mr. Fowler may be a resource to help develop a project/fundraising plan for this.
- **Reminder:** this is an all-sports (fall, winter, spring) banquet; coaches may still host their own individual team banquets if desired, but those would not be funded by the Rams Club.

Homecoming & Alumni Tailgate

- First-ever **Alumni Tailgate**, to take place on the baseball field (middle field, inside the gate area).
- **Registration:** \$75 per spot, includes 2 game tickets and up to 5 people. Registrants may purchase multiple spots (e.g., 5 spots = space for approx. 25 people) for larger groups such as reunion classes.
- Tailgate hours: 4:00 PM – 7:30 PM.
- Tents, chairs, grills, and personal food are allowed; food trucks will also be available for Homecoming.
- Clear ground rules to be communicated in advance: no alcohol, no smoking on school premises.
- **Open discussion/decision:** Tailgate will not be restricted to alumni only — opening it to the broader community was supported, to maximize participation and revenue.
- The reserved Rams Club member area (Vegas Gold, Platinum, Champion Circle) remains restricted to members only; alumni tailgate attendees without a game ticket may still attend the tailgate but not enter the members-only area or game if tickets are sold out.
- A separate Homecoming planning call will be scheduled this week to finalize tailgate logistics.
- **Key contacts:** Lisa T. and Allyson R. are leading Alumni Association efforts and should be included in ongoing tailgate/homecoming planning.

Pink Out Game

- **Date:** October 9th (away game at Philip O'Berry)
- Pink Out shirts on sale now for \$10 via GoFan.
- Distribution of shirts will be organized prior to the game.

Club Logo & Merchandise

- New club logo voted on and finalized this meeting (Option A selected).
- Logo will be used across all Rams Club merchandise and membership package items (t-shirts, quarter-zips, sticker decals, etc.).
- Membership items will be shipped directly to members' provided addresses by the club's apparel partner (BSN/Nike rep), with 7–10 day delivery.
- **Action item:** Club will reach out to all members to collect shirt/apparel sizing information.

New Committees & Partnerships

- **Teacher Athletic Advisory Committee** introduced (established by Mr. Walker): a committee of teachers to improve communication between coaches and teachers regarding student-athletes' academics/behavior, and to increase teacher presence at games. Ms. McIntosh (Math Department Chair) is a founding member.
- **New community partnership:** Polo Ice introduced as a partner for upcoming games.
- **Jets Pizza:** Discussed as a potential concessions addition.