**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS by FIRST TIME HWRHS ATHLETIC FAMILIES – FALL SPORTS:**

1. **Why are User Fees so High and why, for example, is Boy’s Soccer Different than Girl’s Soccer?**

Families are required to fund 80% of the cost to play a sport. The exact User Fee per child is determined by taking the total cost to run the sport, divided by the minimum number of players required to fill teams.

Sports vary in general because the costs associated with that sport are variable. The reason, for example, Boy’s Soccer has a lower cost than Girl’s Soccer is Girl’s Soccer has three guaranteed levels while Boy’s has two guaranteed levels (with a third available if sign up numbers warrant it). So while the teams have the same costs, the total number is being divided by a greater number of players.

Additionally, some program’s Boosters donate money to their program, which reduces the gross amount it costs to run the program.

1. **What if my child gets injured or does not make a team they try out for?**

A family will be reimbursed a percentage of the User Fee when a child is injured, based on how deep into the season the injury occurred. For example, if the child was injured half way through the season, the family would be reimbursed approximately 50% of the User Fee.

A child who is not selected as a member of the program will be fully reimbursed the User Fee. We would first encourage you to consider switching sports because we believe athletic participation aids in the transition into high school and spawns academic success.

It is important to note, if a child is selected, for example, for a Junior Varsity Team and the student had aspirations of being on a Varsity team, a refund would not be given.

1. **Do you have Freshman Level Teams like other schools?**

Because the Athletic Department at Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School wants to encourage participation in athletics, we will offer sub varsity teams (Freshman, Junior Varsity) where participation numbers by program allow.

Traditionally, both Boy’s and Girl’s Soccer each have Freshman and Junior Varsity programs. Cross Country, Football, Field Hockey and Volleyball have Junior Varsity while Golf and Cheer just have Varsity Teams.

1. **What is time commitment for my child and what general times do practices occur?**

All fall teams should expect a Monday through Friday commitment from approx. 3:00-5:30 for practices. Teams generally begin games at home or on the road between 3:30 and 4:00 during the week. Varsity teams (other than Football) could have weekend commitments from time to time. Football will have a JV or Varsity game every Saturday.

The Fall athletic season for all sports besides Football begins the weeks before school begins and runs through the end of October.

Varsity Teams and Football will extend into November, with Football ending on Thanksgiving Morning.

1. **Where do practices and home games take place?**

**Team Practices Games**

Field Hockey Fairhaven Field Fairhaven Field

Football Back Fields Stadium

Boy’s Soccer
 FR Donovan Park Donovan Park
 JV, Var Back Fields JV – Back Fields, V - Stadium

Girl’s Soccer
 FR Donovan Park Donovan Park
 JV, Var Back Fields JV – Back Fields, V – Stadium

Golf Myopia Hunt Club Myopia Hunt Club

 Driving Range

Volleyball HWRHS HWRHS

1. **Whom do I contact if I have questions?**

**For administrative questions…**

Athletic Director – Craig Genualdo Athletic Secretary – Trish Field

c.genualdo@hwschools.net p.field@hwschools.net

(978) 468-0485 (978) 468-0439

**For Athletic Trainer questions…**

Certified Athletic Trainer – Nick Jarboe

nick@harmelingpt.com

**For Sport Specific Questions**

**Sport Coach Booster Parent**Cross Country Steve Sawyer Joelle Moroney

s.sawyer@hwschools.net joelle.moroney@gmail.cmom

Cheer Brendan Graffum TBD

 Bgraf2185@yahoo.com

Field Hockey Jennifer Blaha Laurie McKechnie
 Jennifer.reagan@hotmail.com lauriemckecnie@me.com

Football Jim Pugh Jeremy Coffey

 Jimpugh11@gmail.com jb\_coffey@yahoo.com

Golf William Corley Corinne Curtis

 w.corley@hwschools.net c.curtis@hwschools.net

Boy’s Soccer Matt Gauron Jody Seger
 m.gauron@hwschools.net jseger@comcast.net

Girl’s Soccer Nancy Waddell Jen Caulfield
 nfwaddell@gmail.com jen.caulfield@comcas.net

1. **When does the season start and what is the schedule before school begins?**A team specific schedule from the first day of practice through Labor Day will be posted to the Registration Web Site on or around August 1st.

Generally, the start dates are as follows

August 18th Football, Cheer
August 24nd Field Hockey, Golf, Boy’s and Girl’s Soccer, Cross County, Volleyball
2. **What if I cannot afford the User Fee? Is there financial assistance available?**

Scholarships are available to those that qualify. Please see the “Athletic Forms and Handbooks” Page within the Athletic Section of the High School web site for Scholarship guidelines application.

1. **Will my son/daughter have time to go to extra help after school before practice?**

Yes. Practices are not allowed to begin before 3:00 PM for this very reason. Home game do not begin until 3:45. For away games, buses tend to leave at 2:30, 10 minutes after school ends and so these would be difficult days to attend after school sessions.

1. **How Competitive are Tryouts? Is my child good enough to make a team?**

This really depends on what sport we are talking about. For some sports, yes, tryouts are competitive. There are, at times, 9th Graders who do not make a team of their first choice. Some 9th graders do make Junior Varsity while as few will make a Varsity Team. Golf and Boy’s & Girls’ Soccer are the fall sports that are the most competitive. Football and Boy’s & Girl’s Cross Country are no cut sports. Volleyball and Field Hockey welcome new players to the Junior Varsity level and do a great job welcoming new players to their team.