

Cornell Football Parents

2017 Freshmen Parent Information Sheet

Spring Game – Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 7:00 PM

- Consider Attending - About half of the incoming freshmen typically attend the spring game; some stay on campus with older players (arranged with the help of the coaches). Please note: Since most incoming freshmen have already made their one allowable official visit to campus, beyond being housed in the dorm, NCAA rules require they pay all other expenses associated with their trip.
- See Coaches and Players in Action - Great opportunity for the incoming players to see the coaches and returning players in action, and to socialize with one another and the returning players.
- Attend the Tailgate – There is an open potluck tailgate party in the stadium parking lot on Saturday (no food or beverages will be provided per NCAA rules, so please bring your own and/or a dish to share). Please join us under the big red *Cornell Football Parent* tent starting at 4:00 pm. For anyone interested in helping out with the parent group, we'll be having an informal meeting in the parking lot at about 3:30. This will be a good opportunity to learn more about both the Cornell Football Association and the parent group for anyone who is interested.

Summer 2017

- Optional Summer Training - The football program cannot require incoming freshmen to train in Ithaca over the summer; however, many incoming freshmen voluntarily choose to do so. Last summer, about 20 freshmen spent time training in Ithaca – some for a month or more, others for a few weeks. Most then returned home for the week preceding Reporting Day.
- Housing Accommodations - Incoming freshmen players can contact returning players for suggestions and recommendations on securing housing during the summer. Such options can include subletting space in available housing. Generally, freshmen have been able to stay with older players in their off-campus houses and apartments. Per NCAA rules, incoming freshmen are required to pay the going rent for any housing they secure (but rent in Ithaca is very inexpensive over the summer). Rent and other housing details are dependent on the individual arrangements made.
- Build Relationships and Transition to College - This is a great way for your player to transition to college football, prepare for the season, and build relationships

with the older players (who were, without exception, very welcoming to the freshmen last summer) and with the other freshmen.

- Bring Workout Apparel - The football program issues limited workout apparel to incoming freshmen during the summer so players should still bring their own cleats, gym shoes, workout clothes, etc.
- Meals – The cafeteria is not accessible to incoming freshmen. Be sure your player is prepared to eat out or to share with the purchase of groceries.

Reporting Day – Monday, August 14, 2017

- Move-in Day - Reporting day is the first official day of practice; the football program will send you very specific details including when the players may move into the dorms (which, last year, was at 9:00 am on Reporting Day). Football players move-in earlier than other students, so parking and unloading are very easy.
- Equipment - This is when the players receive their equipment, including gym shoes, sweats, shorts, etc. Everything they need to practice, lift, condition, etc. is provided.

Home Games

- Before Game Activities - All players dress for home games; those players on the travel roster (62, per NCAA rules) will have breakfast at the Statler Hotel on campus before the game. All other players meet at the Statler Hotel after breakfast to participate in the traditional pre-game parade to the stadium (following the marching band). Parents typically line the route between the Statler Hotel and the stadium to cheer and take pictures.
- Complementary Tickets - Each player is entitled to four tickets per game. Per NCAA rules, the football program has the players fill out a ticket request form on Wednesday or Thursday of each week where the names of the people using the tickets must be listed in advance. If you need more than four tickets to a particular game, your player can ask other players who will have extra tickets for that game and arrange to use such extra tickets. Tickets are then picked-up at will call (by player name) prior to each game; photo identification is required.
- Tailgate Party - The parents, in conjunction with the Cornell Football Association, have tailgate parties before each home game in the stadium parking lot. The one exception is Homecoming, when the stadium parking lot is used for Homecoming activities; the parent tailgate party is then moved to the lot adjacent to the wrestling center.

- Season Parking Passes - Game day and season parking passes may be purchased starting this summer at www.cornellbigredtickets.com. Last year, season passes cost \$60 and individual game passes were \$10/game except for Homecoming which was \$25. You'll need a parking pass to park in the main stadium lot.
- 2017 Homecoming - This season, Homecoming is scheduled for the game vs. Brown on October 21, 2017. If you can only attend one game this season, this would be the game. Cornell does a great job with Homecoming activities, both the evening before and on game day.
- Pre-Game and Game Day Schedule - If you arrive in Ithaca on the Friday before home games, you will probably not see your player that evening (although a brief visit is possible). After practice, the team has dinner together so the players' schedules are full.
- Friday Evening Parent Social - This season, the parents will be having socials on Friday evenings in the Regent Lounge of the Statler Hotel starting at 7:00 pm; the lounge does have bar food (hamburgers, sandwiches, etc.) so you can have dinner there, too if you like.
- Post-Game Activities - At the conclusion of all home games, the team goes into the locker room briefly and then the players come back out to the field in uniform. This is the best time to take pictures with your player.
- Player After-Game Meal - The players then shower and meet in the Hall of Fame room for post-game pizza, etc. (to be provided by the Cornell Football Association). This is a player meal only. Many parents then make arrangements to have dinner with their player later in the evening.

Away Games

- Travel Team - Only 62 of the players travel to away games; for 2017, the total roster will probably be about 125. The travel roster is not finalized until Wednesday or Thursday of each week, so your player may not find out if he is traveling until a few days before the game.
- Complementary Tickets - Each player on the travel roster is entitled to four tickets per game, and the same process is used as for home games. Tickets are then picked-up at will call (by player name) prior to each game; photo identification is required. For some away games, once you pick-up your tickets from will call you must enter the stadium (this is not the case for home games and some away games).
- Travel Schedule - The team will typically travel by bus to each away game on Friday and return to Ithaca following the game on Saturday.

- Team Hotel Information - The football program will provide parents with information regarding the team hotels for those travelling to the game who would like to stay in the team hotels. However, team hotels are not necessarily in close proximity to the stadium (for those who won't have a car) and you will only have a brief opportunity to visit with your player on Friday evening, as the players will not have much free time.
- Tailgate Parties - The parents, in conjunction with the Cornell Football Association, have tailgate parties prior to each away game. The details vary depending on the city.
- Post-Game Activities - At the conclusion of all away games, the team goes into the locker room and then the players come back out (often after showering) to visit with friends and family (the parents wait outside near the locker rooms) and to eat a post-game boxed meal. This is your only opportunity to visit with your player on game day; the bus usually leaves for Ithaca about an hour after the game ends.
- Travel Attire - The football program issues sweat suits to the players which they wear to and from away games; your player will not need a suit, tie, etc. (except for team pictures, and even then it's only a head shot out of uniform).

Game Schedule, Notes, Statistics and TV/Radio Information

- The 2017 game schedule can be found at the following link: <https://cornellfootballassociation.org/cornell-football-schedule-events/> (once all game contracts are finalized, the game schedule including kickoff times will be posted on the Cornell Football official website)
- In the week preceding each game, the football program posts exceptionally detailed Game Notes on this website regarding the history of the program, the opponent/rivalry, player bios, statistics, TV and radio broadcast information, etc.
- Following each game, the football program posts the complete Box Score of the game on this website which includes all team and individual game statistics.

Cornell Football Association

- What is the Cornell Football Association? The Cornell Football Association, Inc. ("CFA") is an independent autonomous not-for-profit 501(c)(3) which provides significant support to the football program through various fundraising activities. All donations are tax deductible, and 100% percent of your contributions inure to the benefit of Cornell Football.

- Join the CFA - Its membership is comprised of former players, coaches, parents, alumni and friends of Cornell Football, and we would encourage all incoming parents to join the CFA for the 2017 season.
- Benefits the Players - Among the many ways the CFA supports the program is by hosting pre-game tailgate parties, and player activities. This year the CFA will provide the player post-game meals that were previously provided by parent donations, so please consider becoming a member.
- Attend Fundraising Events - One of the CFA's fundraising events is an annual golf outing in Ithaca. This summer, the 61st Annual Ben Mintz/CFA Golf Outing will be held on July 28th and 29th. More details will be provided by the CFA, but all are welcome and encouraged to participate.
- How to Sign-up - The CFA's website can be found at: <https://cornellfootballassociation.org/>.

Cornell Football Apparel and Accessories

- Personalized Jackets - We will be organizing a personalized his/her jacket order for parents; the jackets are red for men and black for women and typically include your player's last name and number. Additional details will be provided later.
- Where to Purchase Cornell Football Apparel:
 - The Cornell Store - The Cornell Store has locations on campus and at the Ithaca Mall. You can purchase Cornell football apparel and accessories in person or online: <http://store.cornell.edu/>
 - Cornell Football Association - Apparel can also be purchased online through the Cornell Football Association; 20% of the proceeds from the CFA apparel site go back to the CFA, helping to support the football program: <http://www.skorfanshop.com/shops/portal/?fanshopid=658&CFID=21938678&CFTOKEN=ef300e325af81366-1DD1750F-DF85-E400-784A34840D9A3442>
 - Kraftees - Located in College Town also has good selections: <http://kraftees.com/store/cornell/>
 - Personalized Cornell accessories and gifts can also be purchased online through All About U: <http://allaboutu.biz/>

Travel and Restaurant Tips

- Make Reservations Early - Make hotel reservations EARLY for all home games and away games in small towns (such as Dartmouth this season) and consider making sure you can cancel without penalty within 24 hours of arrival (in case your player does not travel, for example).

- Flying to Ithaca - If you'll be flying to home games, direct flights to Ithaca (from Detroit on Delta; from Philadelphia on American; and from Newark on United) tend to fill-up early and be more expensive. Check flights into other airports near Ithaca (Elmira, Syracuse, Binghamton, etc.) for better fares.
- Plan Ahead for Dinner - If you plan to take your player out to dinner in Ithaca after home games, make dinner reservations well in advance. Ithaca has a lot of good restaurants, although many are pricey and fill-up quickly.

Parent To-Do List

- Join the parent Facebook group by e-mailing Angela Kelley at akelley@pierogies.com. This is a great way to ask questions of parents of returning players and keep in the loop on parent and program activities. It's also the best way to find out about opportunities to get involved with the parent group.
- Consider attending the spring game and the Saturday tailgate party.
- Figure out your player's summer plan and make any necessary arrangements.
- Join the Cornell Football Association at: <https://www.cfamembership.com/membership>
You may join now for the upcoming season.
- Plan on attending some games and participating in the parent socials and tailgates. This is a great way to support your player (whether or not he's getting playing time) and make new friends from all across the country. These next four years will fly by, so get involved early!
- Buy a cowbell. If you plan on attending any games, you'll need it!!

If you have any questions, feel free to contact either Mike Scullen or Cherise Coles, the parent representatives on the CFA Board this season.

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