

Big Blue Newsletter

Pride, Respect, Love, Protect...Togetherness. We are the SAINTS!

Volume 2 Edition 25

April 2014



Another great year has passed...another coming soon! Thank you all for making it so.

Thank you to all of our wonderful young men and women that make Nansmond Suffolk Pop Warner what it is today! We had a successful season with our first returning Cheer squads in the Tiny Mite and Junior Pee Wee divisions, which brought 12 young ladies out each weekend to support our teams. They all cheered as one unit as we had only one set of coaches to manage the squad. This coming season we will need a Cheer coordinator and we have already secured a Cheer coach for the TM or MM squad.

As for football, we had one Tiny Mite, one Mitey Mite, and one Junior Pee Wee team, which enriched 78 young men into better individuals than we received them. We had several new players and each team had their challenges, as nearly every team will over the course of a season...but overall we had happy healthy athletes and we expect them all to return this coming season as a more developed squad and ready for even more success!

I would like to give special thanks to all of you that support our organization, which makes us able to have the most protective equipment for our men and women and no worry of selling candles or candy. Lastly, a special thank you to all of our awesome volunteers and coaches that make it all possible.

By Chris Dailey

**The Lady Saints
are back!**



I'm proud to say that we again had 12 Cheer participants and as part of our Saints family and we are very grateful. The Lady Saints were led by Ginna Grady and Fran Johnson and consisted of a Tiny Mite squad of 5-7 year olds and a Junior Pee Wee squad of 8-12 year olds. They were wonderful to watch and hear cheering "We're BOOM BOOM dynamite...we're boom boom DYNAMITE!" while supporting our young men each weekend. This coming year the girls will need to be broken into each age group to follow the proper Pop Warner program but we will need a coach for each level and a Cheer Coordinator to make this continue. If you can or know someone that is interested, please contact me as soon as possible. Please step up offer to help lead this program into another successful year and keep the program strong and competitive. Next year we plan on participating in the year-end competitions locally and nationally if selected to do so. Ginna was only 16 when the season started and was unable to be listed as the head coach on paper but she stepped up to teach the girls how to Cheer and amaze the crowd and thrill the team. Luckily my dear friend Fran Johnson was able to step as the adult to make this wonderful cheer team a reality. I can't wait to have them all back again this coming season and make us all proud to be a Saint!



JUNIOR PEE WEE LED BY COACH CHRIS HUHTALA

Our Junior Pee team had several returners, some pulled up from Mitey Mite to make the numbers work many new players to the Saints and football alike. We had a very gifted squad and all the young men left the season sad that it was over but with smiles and ready to come back next year. We had a very young team and did not fair well with the multiple teams we met with 8-10 older lighters (11 year olds less than 85 lbs) and we had only 1. This coming season will certainly be different as we will have numerous 11 year olds and a much more skilled group. Or team is always spoken of very highly amongst the adults that meet them on and off of the field, getting compliments on how they are compassionate and sportsmen in all ways.

I wanted to personally thank Chris Huhtala for stepping up at the last minute to be the head coach of this team even though he had no family members participating this year in our program since his son finished Pee Wee last year. Chris has been and continues to be the role model and very gracious with his time to support and teach these young men.

We were grateful to get offensive help from coach Craig Johnson who managed to coach as much as possible living weekdays in Richmond for his work and helping us out on Game Day. He has a wonderful relationship with the young men and we look forward to him being able to assist again this year. After all was said and done we had our most successful offensive output against a very powerful defense of a Division 1 team, which we moved the ball the best of the season. This season had many great plays and all the players were leaps and bounds ahead of their abilities from the beginning of the season, which defines success in my book. 2014 looks to be a more successful year in the win - loss column.

This past season was truly a rebuilding year for our age group, as most of the boys were in their first season of Mitey Mite, or in their very first year in the sport. The hard work, comradery, and the emerging leadership qualities that I saw from this team was impressive for a group so young to the sport. The boys definitely had the Pride, Respect, Love, Protect, and Togetherness that makes this organization great.

We had a challenging season with many ups and downs; but, at the end of the season, I saw this group playing tough and learning to play together. The 2013 Mitey Mite team never gave up, fought hard in every game, and eagerly ran every play possible with the game time available to them; regardless of the score. Our team pushed for yardage and the possibility of a score, even after the game had gone the other way. The team's record and the scores of the games did not reflect the winning effort by all of the players on this team. As the Head Coach, I could not have been more proud of my group. I am looking forward to watching all of them apply their new football skills and knowledge next year.

Thank you, to all of the coaches and parents that made this year great. We could not have had the great time and fun without all the support and help that myself and the players received from you all. GO SAINTS !!!

PRLPT,
Coach Rawls

MIGHTY MITES LED BY COACH WES RAWLS





**TINY MITES LED BY COACH
BRIAN ATWOOD**

It was a very rewarding season for the 2013 addition of the NS Tiny-Mite Saints. This year's team had a record of 7-1 and finished with the best record in the Tiny-Mite division. It was extra special to the coaching staff because, out of the twenty-eight players on the roster nineteen had never played before! I would like to thank my coaching staff of Chip Runyon, Dexter Casterlow, Terry Caple, Dustin Hagy, Shawn Britt and B.J. Baker for doing such a wonderful job. Also a big thank you for my team Mom Jennifer Groves and our team Photographer Jessica Brock. We started practice and every game with a cheer, which really identified who we were as a team. The cheer went "What are we" All in! "How are we going to do it" Together! "Who are we" Saints! The young men really bought in to the team concept, no one more important than the other. Our team motto was "Never Give Up". We had a lot of highlights and defining moments to our season, but three of them really stick out. The first one was a game against Hampton; the game was tied 6-6 with 10 seconds left and we had time for just one last play. Offensive coordinator Chip Runyon called a 47 reverse and this is how it went, the snap from Cole Atwood to Quarterback Jackson Runyon who runs right and hands off to T.J. Almond who breaks to the left side and picks up some outstanding pancake blocks from Bennett Parker, Cameron Joachim and Preston Wright and T.J goes untouched for 40 yards for the game winning touchdown! The second was against Olive Branch and we had just taken the lead with two minutes left in the game and the Bulldogs were driving to tie the game. We called time out and our defensive coordinator Dexter Casterlow made a switch on and on the very next play Jayden Jackson stepped in front of a receiver and intercepted the pass to help seal our 18-12 victory. The third one was the famous "Mud Bowl" verses The Va. Beach Mustangs and we had not beat them in a real long time. We were up by a touchdown with a minute left and they faced 4th and goal from the five yard line. They ran a sweep to the left side and our line got sucked in and our cornerback Preston Groves was the only man standing in the way of a game tying touchdown and Preston stopped the running back at the two yard line to seal the 12-6 victory. Just a few other stats; we had no center quarterback exchange fumbles, a safety by Preston Wright, three fumble recoveries two by Steven Lewis, three interceptions two by Kahlil Caple, held a team to no first downs, scored six touchdowns on nine plays and had a 19 play drive. It was such a special season for all the coaches, players, parents and fans! It was so great to see how much the young men loved playing together and for each other! These young men were mentally strong beyond their years and they lived by our motto "Never Give Up".

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!
PLEASE GO TO:
WWW.SAINTSFOOTBALL.ORG

CHEER

De'ya
Julie
Shelby

Rebecca

Mackenzie
Demora

Lynna

Livian Matthews
Sarah Johnson

Sarah Meyers
Emmie Johnston

Kat Burns

JPW

Camron
Evan Wilson

Zeeq
JJ

Benedict
CJ

Brendan

Brian

Carter

Big Mike

Ailey Oliver

Ahmad Cross

Jack Stroud

John King
Brixton Hines

Evan Rawls

Jeffrey Dailey

Joe Riddick

Jackson Greene

De'Ryan Antis

Domini C

2013 Saints

Nicholas Hamilton
Connor McCaskill

Carter Holman

Bryce Fowler
Camryn Furwood

William Saunders
Landon Matthews

Der Patel

Nathan
+yler oelury

Zachary

Jack

Jacob

Ericta

Tyler

Ben

Owen Rawls

Nathan

Barin Fowler

Coreman

Mason

TM

Coel Hagy
Gav'nocker

Michael

Grayson B

Noah Olson

Preston

Aidan

Khalil Carl

Jayden

Camron

Steven

Preston

Howard

Travell
De'Marion

Aidan
Cameron Rust

Parker

Jackson

Bennett

Coleman

Cooper

Camron

Jack

Will

Daiveon

George

Dad's Night

Thursday May 29th 6 p.m.

...with special guest speaker Coach Lew Johnston!

All Dads only...FREE...no kids please.

Please join use for beverages, food, and a great time!

Upstairs at Embroidery etc.

152 South Main Street

Suffolk VA 23434

Our 2013 Donors

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**Thank you to N-SA and everyone that has supported our program!
If I missed anyone, please feel free to contact me.**

**This is all possible due to generous tax deductible Donations!
Please keep our program STRONG and the KIDS HAPPY!
Please send any tax deductible donation to:**

**NSPWF
1522 Bateau Landing
Chesapeake VA 23321**



**The BEST home field in Pop Warner!
Thank you Nansemond-Suffolk Academy!**