



Morris Warriors

# SMOKE SIGNAL

JULY 28, 2017

## WHAT IS THE SMOKE SIGNAL?

The Smoke Signal is a weekly newsletter distributed via email by the last day of practice each week. It contains information about upcoming games and events, along with other important organizational announcements.

**This is the only paper Smoke Signal that will be handed out at practice. All future Smoke Signals will only be distributed via email.**

If you do not receive this week's Smoke Signal via email by Friday evening, please check your spam folder. If it is not there, email [mwsmokesignal@gmail.com](mailto:mwsmokesignal@gmail.com). Likewise, if you want to update your email address or add an additional email address to the distribution list, email the Smoke Signal. Include your name, your athlete's name, and his/her level, and your specific request. (Ex. Change email address, add email address, etc.) The Smoke Signal can also be downloaded from the Warriors website each week.

## LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Be sure to like the Morris Warriors page on Facebook to stay updated on all the latest information and announcements.

## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

The Warriors website is full of information about the program and the season's schedule and activities. Be sure to bookmark it!

[www.morriswarriors.com](http://www.morriswarriors.com)

## GAME SCHEDULE

Saturday	8/19	@ Chanooka	
Sunday	8/27	vs. Manhattan	
Saturday	9/2	vs. Frankfort Square	
Sunday	9/10	@ Bourbonnais	
Saturday	9/16	@ Seneca	
Sunday	9/24	vs. Homer	
Saturday	9/30	vs. Tri City - HOMECOMING	
Saturday	10/7	@ Frankfort	
Playoffs	October 14-15 and October 21/22	TBD	
Semi Finals	October 28/29	Location TBD	
Super Bowl	11/5	@ ATI Field - Joliet	

## PICTURE DAY

**Picture Day** is scheduled for Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the Warriors game field. Picture forms will be handed out at practice. Please plan to arrive 10 minutes early so pictures can begin on time.

## POOL PARTY!

The Warriors organization is hosting an open pool night at the Morris City Pool on Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm. All Warriors athletes and family members are welcome. This is a great opportunity to cool off and have some fun with teammates after a long first week of practice!

## PAPERWORK AND FEES DUE

All outstanding fees and paperwork, including current physical forms, are due ASAP. These items can be turned in to Coach Ox or Misti Sater at practice.

**Physicals** – New players will not be allowed to practice without a current physical. Returning players should provide a completed physical form ASAP. Any athlete without a physical on file on August 14<sup>th</sup> will be unable to practice or participate in games.

**Photo / Birth Certificate** – New players must have a birth certificate and current photo on file by the end of this week to continue practicing.

## DRINK DONATIONS

Drink donations should be turned in this week if you have not already done so.

**JV / Varsity** - 24 pack of 12 oz. cans – Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, or Dr. Pepper

**Superlight / Lightweight** – 24 pack of 20 oz. bottles of Gatorade – Fruit Punch, Lemon Lime, Orange, or Cool Blue

Only the drink flavors indicated will be accepted. Please do not bring brands or flavors other than those listed above.

## COMPRESSION SHIRT ORDERS

Compression shirt order forms are due TODAY. Shirts have been designed by and are being produced by RayJus, a local Morris business. The order form is included in this week's Smoke Signal email and is available on the Warriors website. Be sure to turn your form in with payment today!

*"Winners, I am convinced, imagine their dreams first. They want it with all their heart and expect it to come true. There is, I believe, no other way to live."* – Joe Montana

## TIME, TALENT, & IDEAS

Volunteering for the Warriors comes in many flavors. It can mean offering your time to work in the concession stand or offering your talent to aid the program in another way. The volunteering of IDEAS is also especially helpful. If you have a certain talent that you think could benefit the organization, or an idea that you want to share, email the [Smoke Signal](#).

## SMOKE SIGNAL EDITOR

After managing the Smoke Signal for 7 seasons, my tenure with the Warriors will come to an end at the end of the 2017 season. As such, we are in need of someone to assume responsibility for creating and distributing the Smoke Signal beginning next year (2018). I would like to begin working with the new editor mid-season to transition this responsibility. If you have questions about this position or are interested in assuming this role next season, email the Smoke Signal at [mwsmokesignal@gmail.com](mailto:mwsmokesignal@gmail.com).

## WARRIORS HOMECOMING

It's never too early to start planning for homecoming! This year's homecoming celebration will be held at our last home game of the season on September 30<sup>th</sup>. We try to make this a fun and exciting day for all of the players and cheerleaders. We are always looking for new ideas, so please don't hesitate to get involved! Contact [Megan Romak](#) to share your ideas or to volunteer to help.

## CORN FESTIVAL PARADE

The Corn Festival parade will be on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. All kids involved in the Warriors program are invited to participate in the parade by riding on the float. It is always amazing to see the great group of kids that come together to represent our organization at this event!

More information regarding what type of help will be needed for this event will be available in a future Smoke Signal. For now, put the date on your calendar and be prepared to show your Warrior pride at Corn Fest!

## KEEP IT CLEAN

Morris High School allows the Warriors organization to use the practice fields and game field during the season. We are grateful to them for allowing us to use their facilities and hope to continue to do so for many more years.

To help maintain a positive relationship with the school, it is important that we keep the fields clean. Be sure to pick up all of your garbage after every practice and dispose of it in the dumpsters and trash cans located around the facilities. Please also talk with your athlete about the importance of respecting the property and picking up their bottles, cans, and wrappers after every practice and game.

## NO BUTTS ABOUT IT

The Smoke-Free Illinois Act prohibits smoking and the use of any other tobacco products on all school property. This includes practice fields, game fields, and all parking lots on both Shabbona School and MCHS school property.

## VOLUNTEER POLICY & PROCEDURE

Each home game requires more than 70 volunteers to assist with various tasks throughout the day, which doesn't include the all-volunteer coaching staff! Some people take on tasks that keep them active all day, while most are only asked to help out for a couple of hours. No matter the length of your commitment, your presence and participation is both needed and appreciated.

Each family is required to volunteer to help with home game activities at least three times per athlete through the season. (Scholarship families are required to volunteer four times per athlete.) Even if every family meets the minimum requirement, we will still be short of the number of volunteers required for the season. Please consider helping out as much as possible. The success of our program depends on you!

**TO RECEIVE VOLUNTEER CREDIT:** You are required to sign-in to get credit for volunteering. There will be a volunteer sign-in sheet at the concession trailer for each event we host. Everyone (setup, tear down, concessions, etc.) is required to sign in at the beginning of your shift. **If you do not sign in, you will not get credit for volunteering.** Note that the volunteer fee will only be refunded to you if you have met the full volunteer commitment.

Unfortunately, there has been a high percentage of volunteer 'no-shows' in past years. This puts everyone in a very difficult position, which is especially true of the first shift concession workers since this is the busiest period. The volunteer roster is included in the Smoke Signal distributed the week prior to each of our home games. If your name is on the list, we're counting on you to show up. **If you have signed up to volunteer and cannot fulfill your obligation, you need to find your own replacement.** We also ask that you email volunteer coordinator [Misti Sater](#) to inform us of the change.

If there are circumstances beyond your control that prevent you from meeting your volunteer requirement this season, please contact [John Maddox](#).

## VOLUNTEER JOBS

The following volunteer jobs need to be filled for each home event we host.

**SETUP** – Arrive at the field at 7:30 am and prepare it for the games. Setup field markers and outer rope, setup bleachers and team benches, place trash cans around field, and make sure clock table is ready to go. (3-5 people)

**TEAR DOWN** – Undo all the hard work of the setup team. Make sure all garbage has been emptied and all game equipment is safely stored away. (3-5 people)

**CHAINS** – Move chains during game play. (3 per game)

**CLOCK** – Manage game clock. (1 per game)

**CONCESSIONS** – Sell food/drink throughout the day. (6-8 people per game)

**MISCELLANEOUS** – There are also several miscellaneous jobs to be filled each game, including announcer, stats, grill chief, raffle sales, apparel sales, etc.