



P.O. Box 294
Marengo, IL 60152
MarengoUnionJuniorTackle@gmail.com

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2026 Football Season! On behalf of our Board of Directors, we're thrilled to have you and your player join us for what promises to be an exciting year. With five new programs joining the NIFC this season, our competitive landscape is richer than ever. Below you'll find key details to help you and your family prepare for the season ahead.

Season Overview & Pre-Season Opportunities

- **Skills Training & Football Camp:**

MCHS Football staff and players conducted skills training sessions in April and May. A pre-season Football Camp is scheduled for July—registration details will be sent via email and posted on our website and social media as soon as dates are confirmed. Agility training sessions will be announced shortly as well.

- **Club Mission:**

As a non-profit run by a volunteer Board of Directors, our club thrives on active parental involvement. By volunteering—whether by running chains, assisting with concessions, or supporting fundraising—you directly enhance what we can offer the youth in our community. Please note, this season includes a slight increase in the volunteer fee, which is fully refundable upon completion of your volunteer commitments.

- **Our Thanks to Sponsors:**

Your support, along with generous sponsorship, helps us:

- Keep registration fees one of the lowest in Northern Illinois
- Purchase high-quality helmets (From Riddell) and shoulder pads for enhanced safety
- Expand participation for ALL children

Registration Fee & Financial Details

Your registration fee helps cover:

- NIFC League Fees
- Insurance
- Administrative costs (advertising, TeamSnap website/app)
- Concession expenses and officials' compensation
- Coaching clinics and background checks for coaches and board members

Active participation in our fundraising efforts is essential to keeping these fees low.

Practice & Game Schedule

- **First Practice:**

At the end of July we will have our first practice. Details will be sent out via email and posted on our website and social media as soon as dates are confirmed. The first two weeks, practices run Monday through Friday from 6:00–8:00 PM. Beginning August 12th, schedules may be adjusted at the discretion of your Head Coach.

- **Game Schedule:**

Games are typically played on Saturdays; however, some Sunday games may occur due to referee availability. The official NIFC game schedule will be released 1–2 weeks before the first weekend of games. Updates will be communicated via TeamSnap, our website, and social media.

Weather Protocol

We will hold practices in the rain unless the THOR GUARD Lightning Prediction & Warning System is activated. If it is, all participants will be moved to designated shelter areas (the High School or Equipment Building). Please be patient with our coaches during these times—they must remain until all players are safely picked up.

Practice Attendance & Attire

- **Attendance Requirements:**

Players must attend 10 practices before participating in a game. Regular attendance is essential for learning the fundamentals and fostering team spirit. If your child is unable to attend, please notify a coach, Team Mom, or message via the TeamSnap App. Late or missed practices will affect game participation.

- **Attire Guidelines:**

- **Days 1–3:** Players may wear shorts and t-shirts (with cleats and helmets); personal water is required.
- **From Day 4 Onward:** Full equipment is required:
 - **Personal Items:** Football pants (new white game day pants recommended; black practice pants encouraged), practice jersey, athletic supporter/cup, tethered mouth guard, socks, cleats, and a water jug labeled with your players name.
 - **Provided Items:** One reversible game day jersey, a helmet with chin strap, and one shoulder pad.
 - **Deposit:** A \$200 refundable equipment deposit is due at the equipment handout.
 - **Mouth Guards:** Worn-out mouth guards must be replaced (additional mouth guards are available for \$2 each, must be tethered to helmet and colored for visibility—no clear mouth guards allowed).

- Game jerseys may be worn on “game day Fridays” or to High School Football games only. Wearing the club’s jersey is a privilege that comes with the expectation of proper conduct.
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Refund Policy & Bounced Checks

- **Refunds:**
 - Full refund (minus raffle tickets and jersey cost) if cancellation occurs within the first week of practice.
 - 50% refund (minus raffle tickets and jersey cost) if cancelled during the second week.
 - No refunds will be issued after the second week.
 - Submit refund requests in writing to:
Marengo Union Junior Tackle Football Club
PO Box 294, Marengo, IL 60152
or via email at MarengoUnionJuniorTackle@gmail.com.
 - **Bounced Checks:**
A \$25 fee is charged for each bounced check. In such cases, only CASH or a cashier's check will be accepted.
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Parking Guidelines

Please refrain from parking on the grass or blocking access to emergency routes. Improper parking affects our relationship with the High School and may result in fines from Marengo PD.

Communication & Conduct

- **Staying Informed:**
All newsletters, announcements, and schedules will be distributed via email and the TeamSnap App, with copies available on our website and Facebook page.
 - **Code of Conduct:**
 - The **Parents Code of Conduct** (signed during registration) is available on our website.
 - The **Player Code of Conduct** will be signed during jersey sizing/equipment distribution and is also available online.
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Volunteering

Once game schedules are finalized (typically 1–2 weeks before the first games), volunteer sign-up will open via SignUpGenius. If you are unable to fulfill your assigned slot, please secure a replacement. Volunteers 16 years and older are welcome—including grandparents and older siblings. Remember to check in at the concessions to log your volunteer time.

- **Requirements:**
 - 1 Player: 2 volunteer slots
 - 2+ Players: 3 volunteer slots
 - A \$250 refundable volunteer deposit (due at equipment handout) will be returned at the season's end upon fulfillment of your volunteer commitments.
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Grievance Procedures

If any issues arise during the season regarding coaching, game timing, or play levels, please:

1. Speak directly with your child's Head Coach (feel free to include other coaching staff as needed).
2. If the matter remains unresolved, contact our Director of Coaching, Josh Koelper.

If you have program questions, concerns or ideas please email them to MarengoUnionJuniorTackle@gmail.com and a Board Member will get back to you in a prompt manner.

2026 MUJTFC Board of Directors:

President: *Sean Kearney*

Vice President: *Bryan Shannon*

Treasurer: *Paul Wyatt*

Secretary: *Nicole Shafer*

Director of Coaching: *Josh Koelper*

Director of Registration: *Nicole Shafer*

Director of Spirit Wear: *Brittany Whelan*

Director of Fundraising: *Brittany Whelan & Nicole Shafer*

Director of Equipment: *Bryan Shannon & Josh Ruffner*

Director of Field Maintenance: *Bill Warren, Sean Kearney & Paul Wyatt*

Director of Communications: *Gail Stadie*

Director of Concessions: *Nicole Shafer & Bryan Shannon*

Follow us on Social Media!

