



# Sabercat Football Incoming Freshman Meeting

**2025-2026 Football Season**

**Saguaro Sabercat Football Foundation  
May 13th, 2025**



# AGENDA

- Welcome
- Sabercat Football Update
  - Program Values, Coach and Player overview
  - Events
- Saguaro Sabercat Football Foundation (SSFF)
  - Sports Medicine & Physicals Information
  - Player Fees and Fundraising
  - Staying Connected
- Q&A.....Open Floor for Questions

Please hold questions until the end of the presentation 😊



# Darius (DK) Kelly Head Coach

## Football Update:

Goals, Values, Coaches, Roster, Camp,  
Calendar



## TEAM GOAL...

**Win a State Championship with Class, Integrity, and Academic Excellence.**

1995 - 4A  
2006 - 4A Div. I  
2007 - 4A Div. I  
2008 - 4A Div. I  
2010 - 4A Div. I  
2011 - Div. III  
2013 - Div. III  
2014 - Div. III  
2015 - Div. II  
2016 - 4A  
2017 - 4A  
2018 - 4A  
2021 - Open  
2023 - 6A  
**2025 – WIN IN ALL ASPECTS!**



## TEAM VALUES...

T. A. R. G. E. T.

- Toughness
- Accountability
- Relentlessness
- Growth
- Equality
- Trust



## COACHING STAFF UPDATE...

- Jacob DiMartino – Frosh HC
- Noel Mazzone – OC
- Butch Groncharoff – Run Game
- Frank Ruben, AHC
- Sean Potter, DC/LB
- Terrance Miller, TE, FB
- Chris Jennings – RB
- Derek McClure – OL
- Devonte Stokes – DB (Youth also)
- Keith Brigham – DL/DT
- Josh Mauro – DE
- Stephan LaSalle – S&C
- Jake Belpedio – ST
- Ryan Ramirez – QB
- Darryl Dobbins – Frosh OL
- Patrick Jones – Offensive Analyst

### Training & Support Staff

- Nickie Edwards May
- Mike Ruggeri
- Jonathan Castillo
- Nagui Sabbagh
- Paul Cummings – DFO
- Antonio Cuevas – Alumni Director

### Available Coaching Positions (Actively Pursuing)

- 1 Offensive Analyst
- 1 Defensive Analyst
- 1 DB Coach



# 2025 – 2026 SAGUARO SABERCAT FOOTBALL ROSTER...

- **Total Players Currently Practicing: 92**
  - Fall Seniors (c/o 2026): **19**
  - Fall Juniors (c/o 2027): **26**
  - Fall Sophomores (c/o 2028): **25**

**Note:** Incoming Freshman (c/o 2029): **22 and counting....Looks Promising!**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## June

06/02 – Strength & Conditioning Session I Begins

**06/02 - Summer Raffle Begins**

06/03– Parent/Player Meeting, 7:00pm

06/14 - St. Mary's Food Bank Volunteer Event

**06/16 - First Half Player Fee Due \$450 (MUST be paid to go to camp)**

**6/16 - Summer Raffle Drawing & Tickets/Money Due**

**6/16 - Freshmen Camp Meeting 6:30 arrival**

**6/17 - 6/20 Popcorn Fundraiser**

**6/24-6/27 - Mandatory Team Summer Camp (Camp Tontozona, Payson)**

06/30-07/06 - Team Summer Break

**07/07 – 2nd Half Player Fee Due \$450**

*\*There will be 7ON7/Big Man tournaments in June, but they are by invite only, dates are listed on team calendar on website*

## July

07/07 – Strength & Conditioning Session II Begins

07/10 – Team Potluck and Camp Meeting, 5:30-7:30pm

07/12 - Scrub the Hub Volunteer Event, TBD

07/19 - St Vincent de Paul Volunteer Event, TBD

07/26 -7/30 – Varsity Football Camp @ NAU

TBD – Football Equipment Check Out

## August

08/04 – First Day of School

08/08 - Jersey Night, 6:30pm

08/16 - Team Picture Day, 6am-12pm appx.



## Important Info for Parents

- We are a Nike Elite High School
  - There are only 2 high schools in Arizona and 47 high schools in the country with this distinction
  - Athletes must only wear Nike attire during all football related activities (practice, games, football social media posts, etc)
  - No other brand logos can be visible
- Players will have a flex class schedule
  - First period is PE and day ends with 8th period (3:20pm)



## COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

**It is important to teach our players the importance of giving back!**

**Players are expected to participate in one community service event per month from January – July in our off season.**

**Events are coordinated by our board, then communicated to our parents/players to sign up**



# Saguaro Sabercats Football Foundation (SSFF)

## SSFF Booster Club Information

Program Costs, Fees (Tax Credit)  
Fundraising, Communications, RMA,  
Volunteering



# BOOSTER CLUB MISSION STATEMENT

## Support the Saguaro Football Program with the

- Tools
- Equipment
- Meals/Events

**Needed to enhance the safety and growth of each player**

## In an environment that promotes:

- Academic Excellence
- Mental Discipline
- Leadership
- Peak Team Performance



# MEET THE 2025 BOOSTER CLUB & BOARD COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

## Saguaro Sabercats Football Foundation Members

**President**

Tim Keenan



**Travel/Meals**

Adrienne Eder

**Vice President**

Alexis Verlinde



**Merchandise**

Christie MacMurray

**Treasurer**

Christie MacMurray

**Volunteers**

Deanne Baldwin

**Secretary**

Kim McClelland

**Concessions**

CJ Harris

**Board Advisor**

Toni Cummings



**Communications**

Open

**Player Fundraising**

Tiffany McRae



**Corporate Sponsorship**

Nicole Rodriguez

## Board Committee Chairpersons

**Events**

Christie MacMurray & Toni Cummings



**Senior Parent / Varsity Banquet**

Wendi Martinez, Toni Cummings & Alexis Verlinde



**Website Manager and Game Day Photographer**

Victor Bobbett

**Alumni Director**

Antonio Cuevas

**Community Relations**

Christina Forwood

**Broadcast Booth**

Open

**Game Day Chains Crew**

Open

**JVB Banquet**

Open



# VOLUNTEERING – HOW CAN I HELP?

- We **require** parents volunteer a minimum of 3 times during the football season, at any of the home games.
- There are plenty of volunteer opportunities available – examples include after school meals on game days, selling merch at games, and working the concession stand.
- Our goal is we help one another out as a community so we never have to miss our son's games -> JV parents work at Varsity games and Varsity parents work at JV games.

**Want to build additional skills? Come find us, we'll help get you started on your volunteer journey!**



# SPORTS MEDICINE AND PHYSICALS

**COST - \$25** ALL PROCEEDS COME BACK TO OUR ATR

Players need a physical dated after March 1, 2025 uploaded into RMA BEFORE SUMMER FOOTBALL ACTIVITIES June 2nd. This will be the same requirement every year.

Saturday May 17th 7am - noon

See handout for signup

Nickie Edwards May, ATC, LAT  
Email: [nedwards@susd.org](mailto:nedwards@susd.org)  
Office: 480-484-7130



# IMPORTANT DEADLINES

## 2025-2026 AIA Physical Form

- Link for the form is on home page at Saguarofootball.com and SUSD Athletics website
- Every player must be cleared in RMA before participating in any summer activities

**Please use the 2025-2026 form, last year's forms will not be accepted**

**Instructions on how to use RMA:**

**<https://www.saguarofootball.com/page/show/7987234-activate-rma-instructions>**



# QUESTION: WHY DO WE NEED TO COLLECT FEES FOR THE FOOTBALL PROGRAM?

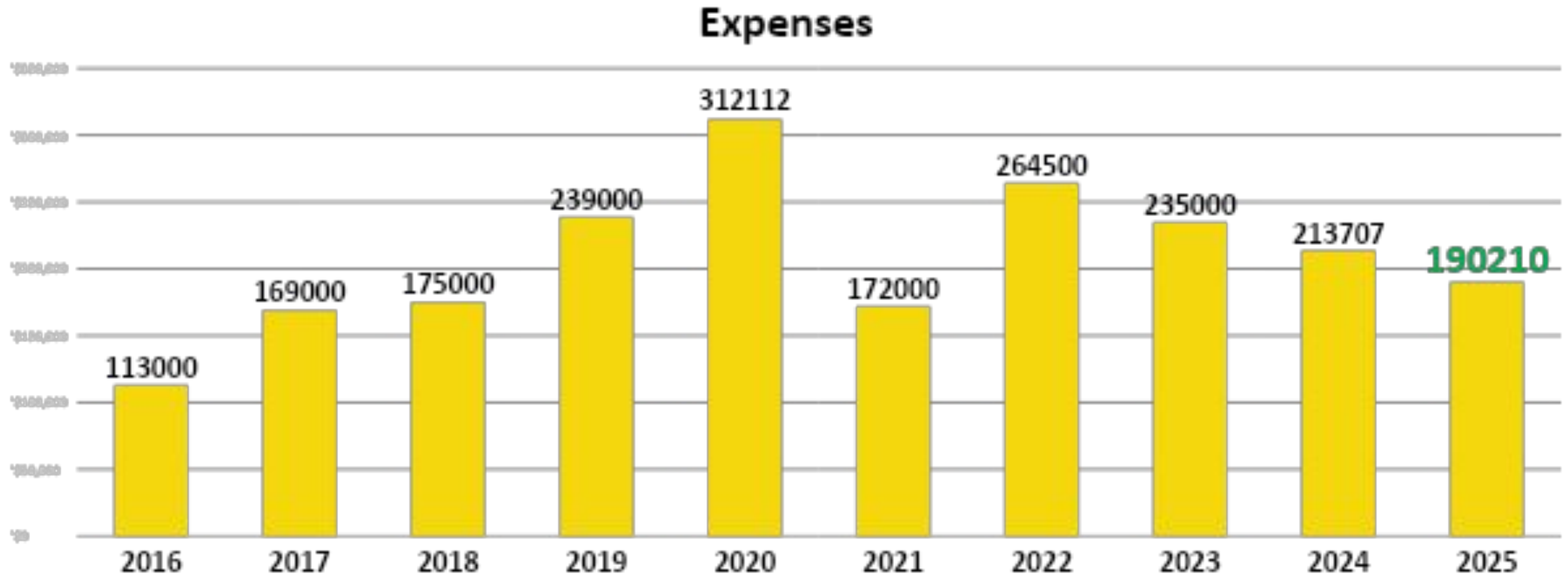
## Answer:

- Supports costs related to the football program
- Ensures a safe and organized experience for players
- Covers expenses such as uniforms, equipment, food, etc.

*The next few slides will go in depth on this topic!*



# FOOTBALL PROGRAM EXPENSES OVER 10 YEARS



# QUESTION: HOW MUCH MONEY IS NEEDED TO SUPPORT OUR PLAYERS AND THE PROGRAM DURING THE 2025 - 2026 SEASON?

**Answer: Approximately \$190,000...and here's why...**

<b>What Do These Funds Support?</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Concessions	<b>\$500</b>
Merchandise	<b>\$10,000</b>
Team Meals	<b>\$31,000</b>
Coaching Administration (i.e. Training, Camp, 7v7, travel, etc.)	<b>\$82,250</b>
Athletic Training Room	<b>\$3,000</b>
Operations/Audio Visual	<b>\$29,160</b>
Player Fundraising	<b>\$2,500</b>
Corporate Sponsorship	<b>\$8,000</b>
Misc. Office Expenses/Fees	<b>\$2,000</b>
Special Events/Banquets	<b>\$13,800</b>

**Note: An additional \$8,000 will be added to this section for playoffs, etc.**



# QUESTION: WHY DO PARENTS NEED TO PAY SUSD AND SAGUARO FOR PLAYER FEES?

**Answer:** Here is a breakdown of how both fees are used. The SUSD fees **cannot** be used for all the required items needed to run the football program.

## SSFF – Booster Club - \$900

- Equipment/Uniforms
- Travel
- Team Summer Camp
- 7v7
- Meals for all levels
- Banquets
- Hudl/Band App
- Coaches Training
- Concessions
- Merchandise



## SUSD - \$200 (Tax Credit)

- Facility Maintenance
- Lights
- School Buses
- Summer Weight Sessions
- AIA Officials
- Volunteer Coaches
- Athletic Workers (i.e. referees)
- Ticket Takers/Ticket Sellers
- Security and Police Officers



***SSFF spends approximately \$2000 per player, this cost is covered with Player Fundraising/Fees, Corporate Sponsorships, and Family donations.***



# QUESTION: WHAT ARE THE 2025-2026 FOOTBALL SEASON FEES?



**SSFF**

<b>SSFF Player Fee/Fundraising Minimum</b>	<b>\$900</b>
All Fees/Fundraising is due <b>July 7th</b>	



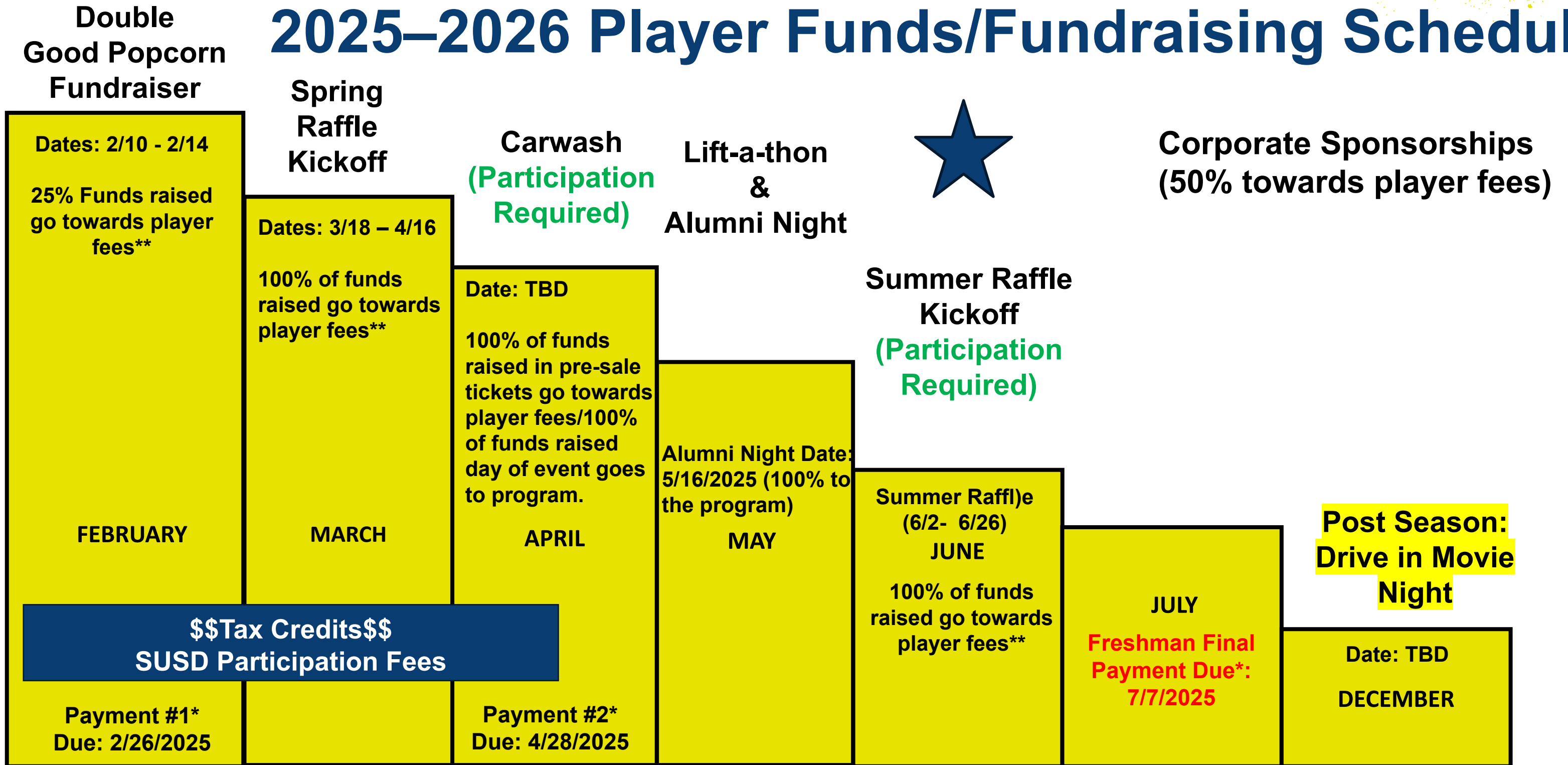
**SUSD**

SUSD Player Fees	Due	Amount
Weightlifting Session I	TBD	\$200
Weightlifting Session II	TBD	\$150
SUSD Participation Fee*	TBD	\$200
<b>SUSD Player Total</b>		<b>\$550</b>

*\*Families eligible for the SUSD free/reduced lunch program are also eligible for reduced participation fees. Go to <https://www.susd.org/departments/nutrition-services> to complete the free/reduced lunch application*



# 2025–2026 Player Funds/Fundraising Schedule



\*Player Fundraising payment due dates

\*\*Percentage of fees will be applied to your player fees, only if your player participates in this fundraising effort



# QUESTION: HOW ELSE CAN I HELP SAGUARO SABERCATS FOOTBALL TEAM?

## Shopping Donations

### FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARDS



The Kroger Family of Companies is committed to community engagement, positive social impact, and charitable giving at the national and local levels. Every community is unique, but our common goal is to partner with the neighborhoods we serve and help the people there live healthier lives.

One of the ways in which we do this is through Fry's Community Rewards program. This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at Fry's and swipe your Shopper's Card.

*Click on the Fry's Community Rewards picture above to create a digital account and/or link your Fry's card.*

<https://www.saguarofootball.com/shoppingdonations>



# PARENT COMMUNICATION

## Check out our website and follow us on social media:

- Website - [Saguarofootball.com](http://Saguarofootball.com)
- Facebook - Saguaro Sabercat Football Family and Alumni
- Instagram – Saguaro Football

**Additional communication channels will be used and available to you once your students graduate 8th grade, stay tuned!**





# THANK YOU TO OUR SAGUARO SABERCAT FOOTBALL PARENTS!!!

- **THANK YOU...**for your dedication to the program
- **THANK YOU...**for not only being committed to your child but being committed to every player on this team. It really does take a village
- **THANK YOU...**for encouraging our players and coaches to give their all and hold nothing back
- **THANK YOU...**for your kind words
- **THANK YOU...**for showing up and cheering even when you may not have felt like it
- **THANK YOU...**for your unwavering support of this team, the coaches, the trainers, the Board, and everyone who is a part of this program
- **THANK YOU...**for volunteering, and fundraising, and all the things that are required to make this program a success

**WE APPRECIATE YOU...**  
**WITHOUT YOU, THERE IS NO US.**



# Q & A

