

Mt. Carmel FIRE, Inc.

2009 Informational Meeting

The Mt. Carmel FIRE, Inc., Amateur Football Club, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and a Christian-owned Men's Amateur Football Club (commonly called "semi-pro") and Sports Ministry based on the East side of Cincinnati, in the Eastgate-Beechmont area. As a non-profit organization, the FIRE is comprised of athletes, coaches and volunteers from surrounding communities in Hamilton, Clermont, and Brown counties.

The team was established in 2007 by John Reeves and Kyle Dincler, now the owner/operator, and is entering its 3rd year as a member team of the United States Football Alliance. The USFA is a premier semi-pro league in the Mid-West, with member teams located in Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, and Michigan.

Mission Statement

To allow adult men the opportunity to compete in amateur football in an atmosphere that fosters discipline, respect, sportsmanship, and fun for everyone involved;

To provide adult men with opportunities to advance from the semi-pro level of competition to collegiate and/or professional national/international levels of competition;

To support and develop amateur athletics in our local community;

To build positive and encouraging relationships within the local community;

To provide ministry opportunities at personal, team, and community levels, through fellowship and service.

In our first ever year of competition, we established ourselves as a disciplined, hard-working, and reputable team and organization.

Here's what some of our peers have said:

"The FIRE have a great thing going on in Cincy! The game with us was the cleanest game I have ever been a part of! It was a beautiful experience!"

PJ Siefker- Owner, Ada Dark Knights

"This is the kind of team that we wanted!"

Rich Sterling- Head Coach & Owner, Pittsburgh Pride

"I was very impressed by the Mt Carmel FIRE. All around it was a great experience."

Tom Turner- Owner, Northwest Ohio Raiders

"I think the FIRE have a great thing in Cincinnati. They are the face of what a lot of teams should try to achieve. The FIRE are the best sportsmen I've played in my semi-pro career."

Ryan Barnhouse- General Manager, West Virginia Crash

Team expectations, regulations, and rules are not easy, nor are they meant to be. But they are not harsh. They are fair. Within the boundaries of Team guidelines, you will flourish as a member of the FIRE, and will represent the very foundation of what this team is all about. They may be different and inconvenient, but they are needed in order to be a disciplined and successful team! The following team rules will allow you to exhibit self-discipline, class, and good character. We expect you to be committed, disciplined, and ready to work with your teammates to win a championship!

Teams that do not have discipline may win a game against an inferior opponent, but will not win against a lesser team that has discipline! You must have solid self and team discipline. This involves many things: proper conduct on and off of the field, treating everyone with respect, and doing what you are supposed to do when you are supposed to do it.

It is vital for you to understand that the Mt. Carmel FIRE Amateur Football Club was established not only to allow the opportunity for men to play football, but through that opportunity, to minister to those involved and to the surrounding community. Any behavior or attitudes that do not support and protect this identity will not be tolerated, and will not allow you to be a part of the FIRE.

TEAM MUST ALWAYS come before the individual! There ARE NO stars on this team. There ARE 40+ teammates *WORKING TOGETHER* to have a *CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON!*

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2009 Schedule Outline (subject to change)

January

January 17 Saturday – Indoor Player Evaluations

February

Individual work

Possible positional camps

Possible offensive and defensive camps

March

Practices Begin (indoors if weather won't allow, and budget does)

- Tuesdays (possibly Wednesday) 6pm – 8:30pm
- Saturdays 9am – 12pm

March 17 Tuesday – FULL CONTACT practices begin

- Deadline to have all pads and equipment
- Deadline to have helmet painted black

April

April 4 Saturday – Offense vs. Defense scrimmage

April 11 Saturday – Starting Positions & Team Captains Named

April 18 Saturday – Team Dues (\$150) MUST BE PAID IN FULL

May

May 2 Saturday – Final Saturday Practice

- Possible Team Family Picnic following practice

May 9 Saturday – Controlled scrimmage vs. TBA

May 16 Saturday – Preseason game vs. TBA

- Team Picture Day

May 23 Saturday – Possible Preseason game or Team Family Picnic

May 30 – Season begins

Weekday practices continue on Tuesdays or Wednesdays

Season Outline

Week 1 May 30

Week 2 June 6

Week 3 June 13

Week 4 June 20

Week 5 June 27

Bye July 4

Week 6 July 11

Week 7 July 18

Week 8 July 25

Week 9 August 1

Week 10 August 8

Post Season

WFC West

Tri-State Sharks

Southwest Ohio Blazers

Miami Valley Warriors

This season we are drastically cutting down on travel time. All of our divisional opponents' home fields are less than 1 hour away.

We will have 2 conference home games at Anderson High School, and 2 conference away games.

Likely opponents for those 2 travel games are:

Lima Warriors

Ohio Outlawz

NW Ohio Raiders

NW Ohio Knights

Northern KY Xtreme *

Kentucky Wolverines *

None of these teams are farther than 3 hours away, and we will most likely travel to the Wolverines and the Xtreme, who is in Cincinnati.

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Sponsorships

It takes a lot of money to run a semi-pro football team. We have to pay for the field, refs, ambulance, security, etc. for every home game, not to mention the new home uniforms that we're getting this season. In order to offset these costs, we are relying heavily on sponsorships. For every sponsorship that you are responsible for bringing to the FIRE, we will give you a 10% referral commission. You can easily pay your player fee in part or in full with just one or two sponsorships.

Recruiting and Contract Signings

With the addition of area teams to the USFA, such as the Sharks, Xtreme, Warriors and Blazers, it is more important than ever to get contracts signed early. The contracts are honored by the USFA and will keep players from jumping to another team in the league for any reason. Many past players are holding out to see where their friends are signing before making a decision, and we understand that. What we are asking is that you don't sign a contract with any team until you see what each team has to offer. Many players have played for multiple teams in the area and know what they can expect from each one. Since the FIRE is a new team to the area, we've put together a list of "perks" that come with being a part of the Mt. Carmel FIRE.

What the FIRE has to offer our players:

Greatly respected by the teams in our league for our sportsmanship

All home games are played at Anderson High School on field turf w/ a family-friendly atmosphere and low ticket prices

Practice facility located right off of I-275

All games are broadcast live on the Internet for friends and family to listen to at home

All games recorded on DVD and the Internet feed is voiced over the video

All games are aired, along with a coaches show, on Anderson Community Television

Player statistics recorded and submitted to the league for all-star game consideration

State-of-the-art website with photos from every game and a private player message board