

Dear Fans and Friends of CCS,

10 November 2008

I write today to offer an update on the status of the Covenant Central Cougars soccer team. We appreciate your interest in and help with sustaining this sports program for the home schooled youth of our area. We are a non-profit charity, operated entirely by volunteers—not even the coaches are paid.

This year we expect to roster 35-40 players for a full schedule of both varsity and junior varsity contests against public and private schools around the state. Our players range from 7th grade to seniors, with the majority being 10th and 11th graders. Already, our players are eagerly gathering for group conditioning, as well as working on their own during the week. The squads will begin practice in January. Last year our varsity finished 11-7 and our JV finished 6-2. Having lost only two seniors, this year promises to be as successful, even though we have planned a tougher schedule.

We are funded entirely by parents and the generous support of sponsors. The cost of fielding a varsity and junior varsity program is about \$4,500 per year plus uniforms, or \$150-\$200 per player. Expenses include referee fees, insurance, equipment and uniforms. Our desire is to raise enough support through sponsorship and fund-raisers to lower the cost to under \$75 per player. So, we ask that you consider investing in the future of these young people. We have enclosed a pledge sheet for your use. The following is a summary of our projected expenses beyond the basics of uniforms, referee fees, and insurance:

- a. **January Varsity team clinic.** The cost of this all day training will be about \$1,200 or \$50 per player. We have committed to provide two scholarships, but would like to defray some of the cost to all the players. Total cost: **\$1,200.**
- b. **January JV team clinic.** The cost of this all day training will be about \$600 or \$30 per player. We have committed to provide two scholarships, but would like to defray some of the cost to all the players. Total cost: **\$600**
- c. **Game balls and practice balls.** We are required to have a minimum of three NFHS approved balls for each game. We would like to have 4-6 game balls available. The cost will be \$40-\$50 per ball. Estimated cost: **\$240-300.** We would also like to purchase 8 additional practice balls, for about \$25 each. Estimated cost: **\$200.** Total for soccer balls: **\$400-\$500.**
- d. **Field and training equipment.** We will need to paint the field several times during the season. Estimated cost: about **\$60.** We have no gymnasium facilities, but we would like to have some field training equipment; as a minimum these include: agility ladder (\$50), hurdles (\$40), and cones (\$30).
- e. **“Middle-school” clinic expenses.** Among our goals as an organization is to promote service among our players AND to promote soccer throughout our community. Soccer is the fastest growing sport in the world; we want to see Sumter “on the map” with quality soccer for all—public, private and home school! We hope to offer soccer clinics for the community at least twice each year, prior to the recreation league season. We want to be able to grant scholarships and partial scholarships to deserving players, so every interested player has opportunity to improve his or her skills. Estimated cost: \$40 per player.

We know Covenant Central soccer is a great value for our players: its good training and a lot of soccer! It is also good for Sumter soccer in general. More importantly, we strive to honor Christ in all that we do. Still, we have some who need financial help, and we'd like to be able to minimize the cost to all players. We have enclosed a sponsor pledge sheet for your use as you consider making a financial contribution. We have also enclosed a copy of our current schedule, because we hope you will come out and cheer for the Cougars throughout the season. Thank you for considering giving to Covenant Central.

GO COUGARS !

www.CovenantCentralSports.com

For the Cougars,
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