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| <p>Fall '08</p>  | <p>Bloomington High School NORTH Athletics Newsletter Proud to be a Cougar!</p> |  |
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This is the fall installment of the Bloomington North Athletic Booster Club Newsletter.

POM

Feel free to distribute this to interested friends & family of Bloomington North Athletics.

If you are interested in helping the Athletic Boosters support our athletes, please contact a Board Member

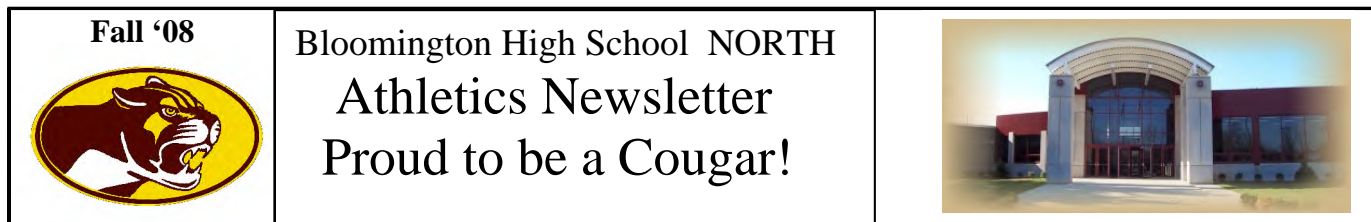
David Withered, Co-President; dwithere@indiana.edu
 Elaine Gaul, Co-President, egaul@indiana.edu
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 Kathy Thompson, Secretary
 Kris Stratten, Treasurer
 Stew Cutshall, Webmaster
 Denise Hoke, Apparel Chair
 Scott Bless, Athletic Director, Boys
 M'Lissa Baye, Board Member
 Ralph Dunbar, Board Member
 Jennifer Hollars, Athletic Director, Girls
 Ruth Hanna, Board Member
 Kathy McTigue, Co-Development Officer
 Chad Huck, Co-Development Officer

See the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the BHSN Athletic Booster Club at the end of the newsletter.

>>>> Athletic Apparel: Show Your Cougar Pride! <<<<

Do you have your Cougar Pride athletic apparel yet? Need a T-shirt or sweatshirt? Don't be caught at a game, meet or match without it.

Numerous fashionable apparel items are available at the BHSN Bookstore and at selected athletic events. Contact Denise Hoke or the school's main office for bookstore hours and more information.



Role of team representatives:

One of the changes the Booster Club has made this year is to expand the idea of having Team Representatives from each sport. To help coordinate this effort, we have asked each sport to identify a Team Representative to the Booster Club board.

These positions are not formal Booster Club Board positions, although a board member can choose to also be a team rep. It's important to understand that while team reps may not be voting board members, they still have significant influence on our decision-making process.

We want to see a Booster Club in which each sport, large and small, can be given opportunities to raise their concerns and to raise money for their needs.

We have identified these team representatives for most sports, but there are a few gaps still. If you are interested, please contact a Booster Club Board Member. These representatives are frequently selected at the beginning of the school year, so that all sports (even the winter and spring sports) can be aware of fund-raising opportunities throughout the year.

Each parent representative

- represents the sport and team at monthly Booster Club meetings
- coordinates and schedules parent volunteers for fund raising efforts
- maintains an updated copy of the team roster
- provides a picture and a copy of team roster to the Booster Club Secretary
- ensures each athlete receives (and hopefully returns, completed) a copy of the Booster Club's membership, contact info, and work rotation forms.

Team Representatives who wish to mobilize their sport's parents to earn money for their team can ask the Booster Club for help. When parents work at Booster Club fundraising events, part of the income goes into their individual sport's account and the rest goes into the Booster Club general fund, which benefits all sports. We are developing new types of fundraising efforts for parents to be involved in, and are exploring other options, but our biggest fundraising activity is still working at concessions for North sports events.

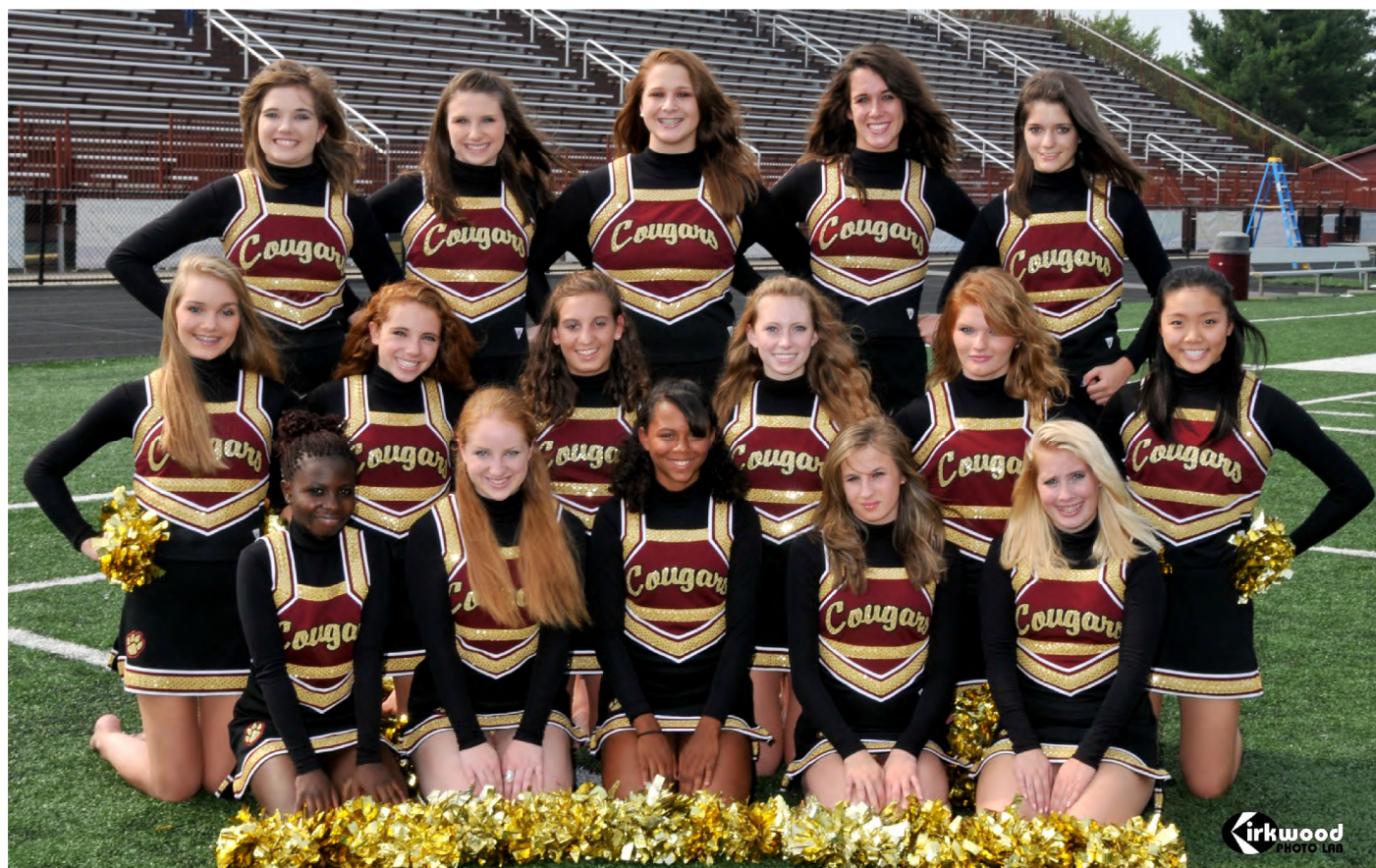
Any Team Rep can contact the Concessions Coordinator to arrange time slots for their parents, and this need not be during their sport's season. For example, cross country parents filled the Varsity football games, while football parents did the JV and freshmen games. However, it is ultimately the Concessions Coordinator's responsibility to make sure all events are fully staffed and the role of the Team Rep may be only to help fill the schedule.

Should you choose to become a Team Representative, you will find that many or most of your parents will enjoy working at concessions once they have done it, and that it's a great opportunity to meet other parents and become a more involved part of the North family.

Fall '08



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Kirkwood PHOTO LAB

POMS HEAD COACH: - Kristi Kluesner

From Coach Kluesner:

The North Poms have 16 members this year. The squad is a young squad this year...almost half are freshmen, however they are a strong varsity group. The team has placed for UDA Nationals in Florida and will qualify for JamFest Nationals this October. The girls perform pom, jazz, and hip-hop routines for games and competition. They will host the Cougar Invitational in partnership with the IU Hoosier Dance Team this December. The event will include studio, middle school, high school, and collegiate teams from the Midwest.

Web site for updated information and photos –
www.kicksdance.com/north

POMS SENIORS



Kirkwood

Fall '08



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BHSN Athletic Booster Club Frequently Asked Questions September 2008

“How do I join the club?”

A. If your child plays a sport, we already consider you a bona fide member of the Booster Club. Congratulations! We do have a fundraising membership drive underway, however, in which we ask for a financial contribution to help support North athletics.

“Why do you need money from me?”

A. Your student athlete's team receives no operating funds from the school, MCCSC or the state. The athletic department's revenues from ticket sales, concessions, apparel and advertising foots the bill for each sport. Quite simply, this revenue falls short of what is needed to support all of the athletic teams. To offer quality programs and quality experiences for your student athlete, we need each family to contribute in some way.

As your son or daughter came up through youth leagues and travel teams, undoubtedly you paid significant fees along the way. If we parents make similar investments in the high school experience, North athletics will be better able to afford the uniforms, equipment and related items our teams need. Your cash donation will make a difference!

“Can I contribute in some other way?”

A. Yes! In addition to cash donations, there are many other ways to contribute to the success of your team. First, you can attend Booster Club meetings on the first Monday evening of every month and get involved with the issues and activities that support North athletics. Sign up for concession stand work and earn money for your student athlete's program. Sign up as a ticket taker for games to earn additional financial support. Help out with fundraisers for your team. Become a positive role model and help other parents get involved as well. “Many hands make light work!”

“But if my kid only plays one sport, can I earmark my contributions to his sport?”

A. Yes! Each sport has its own account within the Booster Club. These accounts are separate from the Athletic Department's sport budgets, and are available for use by each sport's coach. Money you donate or earn through fundraising can be earmarked for any sport you designate.

“What are my options for working at concessions? Can I work other games or meets besides my son's or daughter's sport?”

A. Yes, you can work other sport's events and many parents find that easier. Your time will still be credited to the sport you choose. Most parents find working at concessions is fun, and they enjoy the chance to talk to other parents.

“How do I go about signing up for working an evening at concessions?”

A. You can contact your team representative or any board member. You will be put in touch with someone who is filling the schedule for a portion of that season's concessions.

“Why doesn't the athletic department upgrade its facilities? Football and track facilities are great but those for my child's sport are lacking.”

A. Facility improvements are unquestionably a high priority of the principal and ADs. They are not controlled by North administrators, however. Funding for facility improvements comes from capital improvements appropriations which are separate from North's operational budget. Facility improvements are made possible by MCCSC after approval from the school board. It is not a simple process and is limited by the amount of capital improvement funds available to the school corporation.

Some facility improvements have become viable due to efforts on the part of parents. For example, the football field and track project involved a major fundraising campaign by parents to supplement what the school corporation appropriated for the project. It would not have been possible without the generous support from many individuals in the community.

If I go to a board meeting, will I get to vote on issues?

A. Strictly speaking, only Booster Club board members are eligible to vote. However, if you attend one of our meetings, you will see that we have an open process, and most of the time a general consensus is reached. We have a lot of input from non-board members into our decision-making process. And by the way, any parent or North supporter is eligible to run for a board position, and these positions are voted on in the spring of each year.

“Somewhere behind the athlete you've become and the hours of practice and the coaches who have pushed you is a little girl who fell in love with the game and never looked back... play for her.” Mia Hamm

“Love is playing every game as if it's your last.” Michael Jordan

“Winning means you're willing to go longer, work harder, and give more than anyone else.” Vince Lombardi

“The key is not the “will to win” - everybody has that. It is the will to prepare to win that is important.” Bobby Knight

“The difference between the old ballplayer and the new ballplayer is the jersey. The old ballplayer cared about the name on the front. The new ballplayer cares about the name on the back.” Steve Garvey