



LOMBARD FALCONS

2026 FOOTBALL HANDBOOK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Program Offerings
- 3 Team Contract & Expectations
- 4 Financials
- 5 Yearly Events
- 6 Volunteer Opportunities
- 7 Program Leadership

WELCOME



ABOUT US

The Lombard Falcons Youth Football program provides a fun, competitive, and supportive environment for players of all skill levels —from first-time players to seasoned athletes.

Rooted in tradition and guided by strong core values, we focus on teaching sportsmanship, discipline, teamwork, and leadership. Our program is built on a sense of community that embraces the character-building experience of youth football and supports player development both on and off the field.

As proud members of the Bill George Youth Football League, Lombard Falcons athletes compete at a high level while enjoying a positive, age-appropriate experience. No matter where a player is in their football journey, we offer opportunities to learn, grow, and love the game.

PROGRAM OFFERINGS



Flag Football (K-7): Our Flag Football program for ages 5-7 is a fun, age-appropriate introduction to the game. Players learn fundamental skills while building confidence, teamwork, and sportsmanship in a safe and supportive environment.

Girls Flag Football (3rd - 8th Grade): Girls Flag Football offers a competitive and inclusive opportunity for 5th-8th grade athletes to develop football fundamentals, teamwork, and leadership. Open to all experience levels, the program emphasizes skill development, confidence, and fun.

Tackle Football (8U - Varsity): Our Tackle Football program for athletes from 8U through Varsity (8th grade) provides a structured, competitive environment focused on safety, discipline, teamwork, and skill development as players grow their football IQ and physical abilities.

*Teams are generally formed based on a **player's age as of August 1** to ensure placement in the appropriate age group. Depending on registration numbers, multiple teams may be formed within an age level.*

For 9U and above, teams may be further balanced using criteria such as weight, skill level, and overall ability to promote fair competition. Our goal is to place every player in an environment where they are challenged, supported, and able to enjoy a positive football experience.

TEAM CONTRACT & EXPECTATIONS

Attendance

Consistent attendance at practices and games is essential to player development and team success. Unexcused absences may result in reduced playing time.

Players who are injured or addressing disciplinary matters are still expected to attend practices and games unless otherwise directed by a coach or medical professional. Remaining present helps players stay engaged and connected to their team.

Families are asked to communicate any absences in advance, whether due to illness or other reasons, to support effective planning and player development.

Practice & Game Schedule

Flag Football: Players will practice two times per week

Tackle Football: Players will practice three times per week

Games are held every weekend, either Saturday or Sunday, with the season running from August through early November.

FINANCIALS

Registration Fees

Flag \$400

Tackle \$550

*an incremental \$50 fee applies for registration after June 30

**\$200 of registration fees are a prepayment of 20 \$10 raffle tickets, once sold profits are yours to keep

Registration Fees include the following:

- Home and away uniform and practice jersey (yours to keep)
- Player Equipment rental: helmet, shoulder pads
 - Equipment reconditioning & safety inspections
- Field Maintenance, lighting and utilities
- Training and practice equipment
- BGYFL registration, Park District fees, and League insurance
- Administrative & Program support (registration & email platforms, coach resources, camera/film, etc.)

Additional items not covered by registration but required:

- Cleats
- Mouth Guard
- Athletic supporter
- Padded shirt
- Practice pants
- Girdle (tackle only)
- Knee pads
- Other items as determined by the team (homecoming fund, team socks, etc.)

YEARLY EVENTS

FALCONS FEST

This is an evening event (usually the Thursday before regular season games begin), following a shortened practice to kick off the season. Football teams are introduced, the cheer and dance teams perform for the crowd. The raffle ticket winners are announced and a few other announcements/ events take place.

LILAC BOWL

Lilac Bowl, hosted by the Lombard Falcons, kickstarts the season with jamboree style scrimmage games between many of the BGYFL teams, set up by level. Teams play scrimmages on a $\frac{1}{2}$ field rotating between offense and defense.

HOMECOMING

This is a special weekend (may be different weekends by team) determined near the start of the season. Participation may include toilet papering of another team's houses, parade, and/or a dinner celebration.

SALUTE TO OUR HEROES

Each year the Lombard Falcons host a Salute to our Heroes day including a short service honoring our military and first responders in-between Varsity games. We fundraise and donate to a worthy cause, and invite local first responders and veterans to be honored for their service and dedication.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Parents

The Lombard Junior Football League thrives because of the dedication and hard work of our volunteers. From our executive and league boards to coaches and team moms, our season simply would not be possible without your support.

We rely on volunteers to make events such as Lilac Bowl and home games enjoyable and organized for everyone involved.

Each home game requires 4-5 volunteers to help in the following roles:

- Referee (flag only)
- 3 parents on chains
- 1 parent to run the clock
- 1 parent to announce/play music (if we're so lucky! – it makes the games so much more fun)
- FalconsFit Trailer (the game before your child plays is a great time to volunteer!)

Keep an eye out for other opportunities to help - we encourage you to get involved and be part of the amazing experience for our athletes, coaches, and families. Together, we can make this season unforgettable!

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

Coaches

Prior to any individual being selected for a position as a Head or Assistant Coach they must submit a completed application, agree to a background check, and be interviewed by the Coaches Committee.

ALL Football Coaches are required to complete USA Football Certification and are encouraged to attend training and camps to broaden their knowledge.

Your coach will be your first point of contact for the entire season.

Executive Board

Inquiries may be directed to LombardFalcons.Info@gmail.com