

Watkins Mill Athletic Department News and Updates

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year. My name is Lisa Magness and I am the new Athletic Specialist (AD) for the Wolverine Family. I am very humbled and excited for this new journey. I cannot wait to meet all our amazing student-athletes, wonderful parents/guardians and the fantastic community members that make about the Watkins Mill family in person when it is safe. I would also like to introduce Mr. Matthew Quinn as our new Assistant Athletic Director. Mr. Quinn is a current social studies teacher at Watkins Mill.

As you may or may not know, in early April of 2020, we were given a cease and desist of our previous wolverine logo. The logo was copyrighted by a college, Utah Valley State, and we were told we no longer had the rights to use it, even after reaching out to the college to ask permission to use it. Therefore, we had to go through a complete rebranding process of our mascot and logo. You can find the total re-brand and all our official approved logos on our athletics website (www.watkinsmillathletics.com) as well as letter from principal, Carol Goddard introducing the new logo.

We have also partnered with BSN sports to open a sideline store that is open 24/7 and a way that you can purchase gear at any time. The items get delivered straight to you and for the most part has about a 2-3 week turnaround, sometimes shorter. This is a great way to show off our new logo. The athletic department will get a small percentage of the sales back to us two times per year which will help with some improvements we would like to make to our program. The link to the store is: <https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/maryland/gaithersburg/watkins-mill-high-school>

Over the past several months we have busy hiring a few new varsity and junior varsity head coaches to join our Watkins Mill family. Please join me in welcoming them our Wolverine family.

- Varsity Girls Volleyball: Ms. Jessica Salomon
- Varsity Girls Soccer: Mr. Masoud Montazeri-Jouybari
- Junior Varsity Girls Soccer: Mr. Diego Valenzuela
- Varsity Cheerleading: Ms. Sarah Garner

We are still looking at hiring for the following positions. If you know someone who may be interested or may be a good fit for our athletic family, please reach out to me via email, Lisa_Magness@mcpsmd.org.

- Varsity Girls Lacrosse
- JV Baseball
- JV Girls Basketball

With schools being moved to completely virtual until January 29, 2021; that means that athletics will be virtual as well. MCPS Athletics will be conducting 3 virtual seasons that consist of 5 weeks for each season. Below are some important pieces of information regarding the virtual sports for the first semester. All of this can be found on our athletics website as well.

- All sports will be offered in a virtual format during the first semester
 - Fall (September 14-October 16)
 - Winter (October 26-December 4)
 - Spring (December 14-January 22)
- During this time there will be NO tryouts for the sports. ALL students will be allowed to participate in the virtual engagement of the sports they choose for each season.
- ALL sports will operate in the confines of their traditional seasons except for Cheerleading and Pom Poms. Cheerleading will be FALL only and Pom Poms will be WINTER only.
- Each season will have a systemwide approach, sport-specific, team and schoolwide engagement opportunities.

Please be sure to follow all our social media accounts for the most up to date information through the entire year regarding all things athletics.

- Twitter: @WMRinesSports
- Facebook: Watkins Mill Athletics
- Instagram: wmrinesports
- Website: www.watkinsmillathletics.com

Our coaching staffs will be in touch about their virtual engagement opportunities within the coming weeks, but do not hesitate to reach out to the athletic department at any time when you have questions.

When we do return to in person athletics it will be an exciting time for many reasons, not just because our student-athletes and coaches will be showing their 'Rine pride through sport, but because you will notice improvements and changes to our athletic facilities.

- Tennis courts will be crack, divot and gap free
- The fencing at the main stadium on the home side bleachers will be fixed
- The fencing around the tennis courts will be fixed
- The baseball and softball fields will be completely renovated and maintained by an outside vendor
- The scoreboards at the baseball and softball fields will be functioning
- Field Hockey will be playing their games on the stadium field

As you can see, the athletic department is working hard to make our athletic department one of the best in the county and state even during these unprecedented times. I look forward to serving as your Athletic Specialist and please be sure to say "Hi" when we are back in person. I want to assure you that the athletic department and myself are committed to sportsmanship, school pride and professionalism in everything we do. If we can be of any assistance, you need something or you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are all ears. Continue to stay safe and positive and as always.....GO 'RINES!