

# SOCCER



# NEWS

Ridgeview High School Lady Panthers

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*"To be the ultimate team, you must use your body and your mind. Draw up on the resources of your teammates. Choose your steps wisely and you will win. Remember, only teams succeed."*

Jose Mourinho, Soccer Manager

## Coach's Corner

Welcome to the start of the 2023 – 2024 season. After three days of try-outs 34 out of the 40 plus young ladies who tried out were selected for the Lady Panthers Soccer Program. Twenty players from last year's squad have returned: **Emily Barry, Alexandria Benavidez, Rikki Blaylock, Chloe Bois, McKenna Donlan, Tori Hoffman, Kadence Howard, Caitlyn Jenkins, Madison Johnson, Morgan McDonald, Niurka Ortiz, Addison Peacock, Kenley Prestridge, Brook Propes, Aubrey Reedy, Rylee Romero, Eleanor Smith, Olivia Vara, Mackenzie Vinson, and Graci Weibelt.** We welcome fourteen new players: **Macy Adams, Kailey Baker, Amaya Brown, Evany Flores Solis, Keyrin Irias, Zaria Jamison, Arianys Jiminez, Lola Kraft, Naviah Mincy, Amelia Parmelee, Peaceful Price, Rachel Streicher, Juni Weibelt and Kera Williams.** The players and coaches are excited about the start of the new season.

Panther Stadium is closed for the winter season while the track is being refurbished. Consequently, all of this season's home games have had to be rescheduled as away games. For away games, the teams wear their white jersey, royal blue shorts and white socks.

The school provides transport for the vast majority of away games. All players must be ready and changed, and meet at the bus loop outside of the gym ten minutes prior to the bus boarding time to assist with the loading of equipment. Players who remain in school for the bus journey should use the coach's classroom, portable 88, for study hall. Players should ride the bus to all away games that has a bus provided. The bus ride is important to team bonding and is a very important high school ritual that will have life long memories for the players. Players who are riding home with their parents from a game should let a coach know prior to leaving.

We have two away games scheduled for next week. On Tuesday, we are at Oakleaf High School. The kick-off times are 5:30 pm and 7:20 pm. The team bus is scheduled to leave the gym parking lot at 4.15 pm and should return around 9.30 pm.

On Thursday, we are at Middleburg High School for 5.30 pm and 7:20 pm games. There is **no team bus** for this game. JV players need to report to the Middleburg stadium at 4:30 pm. Varsity players need to report there at 6:15 pm. Any player who has a transport issue should see Coach Clark to see if we can resolve the problem.

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> November, is Veterans' Day holiday. We would like to take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to all of you who serve, or have served, in the armed forces. School is closed on Friday and there will be no practice that day.

## Schedule

### REGULAR SEASON GAMES

- Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November  
RHS @ Oakleaf, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> November  
RHS @ Middleburg, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> November  
RHS @ Paxon, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> November  
RHS @ Clay, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> November  
RHS @ St Augustine, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> November  
RHS @ SJCA (V), 5.30 pm
- Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> December  
RHS @ Keystone, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> December  
RHS @ Orange Park, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> December  
RHS @ Middleburg, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December  
RHS @ Clay, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> January  
RHS @ Oakleaf, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> January  
RHS @ Yulee, 6:00 pm
- Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> January  
RHS @ Sandalwood, 5.30/7.20 pm
- Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> January  
RHS @ West Nassau (V), 6:00 pm

### DISTRICT TOURNAMENT GAMES

- Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> January  
Quarters @ Higher Seed (V), 7.00 pm
- Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> January  
Semis @ Higher Seed (V), 7.00 pm
- Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> January  
Final @ Higher Seed (V), 7.00 pm

(V) denotes varsity only game  
(S) denotes Senior Night (tbd)

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## 2023 - 2024 Player Fee

Fundraising has become a necessity and a norm in high school athletics. Previous Lady Panther Soccer fundraisers have included car washes, rummage sales, donation letters, cookie dough sale, concession stand, etc. However, we are acutely aware that, whatever fundraiser we operate, the fundraiser falls directly on the shoulders of the parents. Therefore, in lieu of operating any fundraisers throughout the season we are asking parents for a \$40 player fee. The \$40 player fee will include soccer socks, a Lady Panthers Soccer quarter zip top, and uniform rental for the season. The fee will facilitate regular replacement of worn uniforms and equipment after several years of wear. Please send the player fee to practice in the next two weeks. Any checks should be made payable to 'Ridgeview High School'.

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## Tickets to attend games

Clay County Schools do not accept cash for entry to school sporting events. Parents will need to buy their tickets online in advance of the games. Clay County High Schools, and the majority of the neighboring counties, are using <https://gofan.co> for entry tickets for their sporting events.

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## Playing time

By the time players reach the high school level of competition, match results are important. To that end, it behooves the coaching staff to put the best possible team on the field for a match. As a result, all players will not play in all matches. At the varsity level, there are no guarantees of playing time for any player. At the JV level outcome is still important, but we do make more of an effort to allow each player to play in each match. However, playing time will generally not be equitably distributed. Players who earn starting positions can expect to receive the bulk of the available minutes.

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## Thank You

We'd like to thank **Ms. Natasha Blaylock**, mother of **Rikki Blaylock**, who has again volunteered to take action photographs during this season's games. Her photographs will be made available to all players and parents.

If there is any parent who has the equipment and would be willing to take video of the games then please make contact with one of the coaches.

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## Uniforms

Players were issued with uniforms, a bag, a ball, and socks, on Friday last week. The uniforms, bags, and balls, are on loan from Ridgeview High School Lady Panthers Soccer Program. Players should bring their ball to practice and to all games. It is expected that uniforms will be returned clean and in good condition at the end of the season. Players will be charged for any items that are lost or damaged. An item damaged in competition or through normal wear and tear will not incur a charge. Socks are for the players to keep and should not be returned at the end of the season.

## Go Panthers!

