

Dear Mendham Magic Track and Field Families,

The 2016 Mendham Magic Track & Field season is now upon us!

The 9 and up age groups will begin practice this week, beginning Monday, March 21st. We ask that you make special note that the first several weeks of practice in March and early April are different than the remainder of the season - this gives us the opportunity to practice before we are permitted to use the track at the high school. Our first meet will be **April 10** at Long Valley.

9 and ups will be at Mendham Township Elementary School on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30-6:30 and 11 and ups will be at Mendham Township Middle School Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 6-7pm. Please note the different start times to help those families with runners split between the age groups. On, or about, April 4th, we will begin to integrate our high school practices. You will be hearing from your coaches before the start of practice with any changes, if needed.

The 8 and under age group (also referred to as the "Clinic") - birth years 2008 and later - (MUST BE AT LEAST IN KINDERGARTEN) will begin practice the week of **April 4th**. Scott Cirillo will be reaching out to our clinic runners as we get closer to the start date with additional details.

We are in the process of updating our website, www.mendhammagic.com, with the following information:

- (1) The 2016 practice schedule
- (2) The 2016 meet schedule - please note the dates for photo day and the end-of-season banquet!
- (3) Line-up of 2016 coaches
- (4) Team apparel order form - **not required**, but FUN to have!

Please note your child's age group is determined based on their age as of **12/31/2016**. For example, your son/daughter may be 10 now and turning 11 later this year - your child will be assigned to the 11-12 age group per league rule, **NOT** the 9-10 age group.

All weather related cancelations will be posted on the website at least 1 hour prior to the start of an event - emails are often hard to send out as many of our coaches work and cannot access their personal emails - please consult the website www.mendhammagic.com

Directions to all event venues are posted on the website.

Runners should have appropriate running shoes. Runners Haven in Randolph sells youth running shoes. Mention you are a member of the Lakeland League and you should receive a 10% discount.

Don't forget to bring water bottles and dress in layers during cool weather periods. Please remember to bring water bottles and clothing home with you after practice! Please label all apparel and water bottles. We suggest athletes go to the restroom before practice as facilities are not always accessible and we are not staffed to monitor bathroom breaks. Siblings and parents are welcome to attend practices and meets. However, they must remain off the

fields/track and not interfere with the activities of the day. Also, other sports equipment (balls, sticks, mitts) are not welcome before, during, or after practices or at meets. Thank you for your cooperation.

For all meets, athletes must wear either their black Mendham Magic Track & Field t-shirt (free as part of your registration) or Mendham Magic white or black singlet - any color shorts. Singlets (sleeveless running t-shirt) may be ordered on the extra apparel order form or online store – through **March 21th ONLY**. The black dri-fit t-shirts will be distributed before the first meet.

Your coaches do not need to know if you are unable to make a practice, except if you plan to be away for an extended period of time. However, they do need to know if you will not be available for a **meet** - more information about this will be coming directly from your age group coach.

For our experienced throwers and new athletes interested in **shot put**, the early season training schedule will be as follows (**9 and older only**):

We will do the 3/22 and 3/25 practices indoor and then start Tues and Fri as HS the week after that. For more information you can contact Dave Wisotsky at dwisotsky@bohlereng.com.

Mendham Magic singlet (sleeveless white or black running t-shirt) and shorts are available to order via the website by clicking the INFORMATION tab and then APPAREL ORDERS – nice to have but not required. Sample singlets for sizing are available by calling Patty Marold at 973-534-5425.**Extra apparel is optional but always fun to have – all Mendham Magic participants will receive a black dri-fit t-shirt with their registration fee. Thank you to the many families that have volunteered their time to Mendham Magic - without your support and commitment we could not do the things we do!

We are looking forward to another wonderful season,

The Mendham Magic Coaches

PS: Please always remember *safety first*, parking lots to and from practices may be very busy. Thank you for using extreme caution when entering and exiting. Always remember to park in a legal parking spot.