

Welcome to Aptos High School Mariner Football



Aptos High School

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FAMILY & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A Message from Coach Blankenship



Aptos Mariner Football is fast, fun, challenging, rewarding and a FAMILY affair. There is no experience necessary except for the desire to compete, learn and strive for excellence. The Aptos Mariner Football program has many fine coaches who will teach, challenge and help guide you in

football and throughout your high school career. Joining our Aptos football program will be a great way for you and your family to get connected to our great school. The seniors are tremendous role models for our freshmen and want them to succeed in school and football. Being a Mariner football player means you are one of us and we care for all of our teammates. I have seen many young boys grow into outstanding young men by their senior year and many go on to be successful people in their communities. Choosing to become an Aptos Mariner football player will be a great decision by you. We believe, four years of hard work equals forty years of great memories.

*Randy Blankenship, Head Football Coach,
Aptos Mariners Head Coach*

Randy Blankenship is one of the finest football coaches in California. In over twenty-five years as a head coach, he has won fourteen league championships, five section championships (and been in the section finals nine times), and was the California Coach-of-the-Year in 1998. In addition, he has been selected as the NFL High School Coach-of-the-Year (2000), the Northern California Coach-of-the-Year (1993), the Southern California Coach-of-the-Year (2000), the Valley Coach-of-the-Year (1992, 1993), the North-South All-Star Game Coach (1998, 2006), and many, many more.

He was also selected as the 1994 Teacher-of-the-Year in the Clovis West Unified School District for his work as a Physical Education teacher. Coach Blankenship is an outstanding mentor and role-model. His teams, though often undersized, are known for their tenacity, enthusiasm, and never-quit attitude. He preaches honesty, responsibility, respect, hard-work, perseverance and mental toughness.

Your Commitment to the Team

Pay-to-Play: Players' families are asked to contribute financially when they sign up for any sport as PVUSD high school athletic funding has been cut 100%! Mariner Football is 100% parent and community funded! The Pay-to-Play funds provide stipends for three head coaches and two assistant coaches. Over twenty more dedicated coaches and assistants donate countless hours, days and weeks to the Mariner Football program because they love football and feel honored to be part of making your child's high school football experience exceptional!



Volunteer Time: Fund raisers (such as the Mariner Snack Shack, BBQ and Mariner Wear sales) pay for player equipment, snacks, buses (JV/Varsity) and additional expenses. Freshman parent drivers are needed as well.

Please plan on contributing to the success of the team by donating your time and efforts in various ways! Email: MarinerMates@yahoo.com

Business Owners: You may wish to sponsor the team and have your company name advertised on a sign at AHS's Trevin Dilfer Memorial Field stadium. Email the Athletics Director: Mark_Dorfman@pvusd.net

Player Safety is a Mariner Priority!

Players receive:

- **Safety tested helmets** (players often purchase their own helmets and additional gear)
- **Summer training** (approx 6 week duration, occasional double practices) to build endurance, skills, team bonding and increased understanding of game tactics
- **Extensive weight training** (begins in the summer and continues in the "Football PE" elective at AHS) to increase neck strength and full body muscle development
- **Concussion awareness** (including base line cognitive testing through Dominican Hospital)
- **On-the-field medical care** by trained sports medics

WINNERS ON AND OFF THE FIELD

A Message From Our Athletic Director



— Trent Dilfer with the Baltimore Ravens, and Sam Kennedy with the SF 49er's.

The players do not just learn football, they learn life skills such as responsibility, how a good work ethic leads to success, how to be a good teammate, how to be a good leader, and many other skills necessary for success in adulthood. It builds bonds of friendship that will last through life and the program does a great job of uniting kids in all four grades for a common goal of football success. Along the way they get to experience the joy of winning, the heartache of losing but most importantly the pride of belonging to the Aptos Mariner family.

These past several years have been the most successful athletically in our school's history. We have won more SCCAL and CCS championships, and more CCS Scholastic Championships, than ever before. On the field and in the classroom, our student-athletes are champions. Most of this success can be attributed to our athletes' hard work, dedication and enthusiasm, but much of their success is also directly related to the incredible support that they receive from their families and friends. We have the greatest fans around. You are a key ingredient to the success of our student-athletes on and off the field. Thank you for your support.

Mark Dorfman, Athletic Director



Importance of High School Athletics

ARE HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS IMPORTANT?.....YOU BET!

MARINER FOOTBALL = Increased academic success and personal development

Please consider the following FACTS about high school students who participate in interscholastic athletics:

Did you know that athletes:

- Have significantly higher GPA's than non-athletes.
- Are 51% less likely to use drugs and 63% less likely to become teen parents.
- Have a higher rate of civic involvement.
- Have a higher sense of self-worth and better social skills than non-athletes.
- Sports programs promote positive health behaviors and deter negative health behaviors.
- Athletics promotes citizenship and school spirit.
- Athletes generally perform better in math, science, English, and social studies classes than non-athletes.
- Sports are one of the most effective intervention programs for disadvantaged students.
- Have better attendance and higher graduation rates than non-athletes, and they also have fewer disciplinary referrals and lower dropout rates than non-athletes.
- Experience the development and maintenance of healthy bones, muscles, and joints; weight control; and increased emotional well being.
- Take more AP classes than non-athletes.
- Athletes are absent 6-8 less days each school year than non-athletes.
- Score higher on college admissions tests.



Many Mariner graduates have continued on to play college football at top universities including Massachusetts Institute of Technology, U.C. Berkeley, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, U.S. Military Academy West Point, Columbia University, U.S. Naval Academy Annapolis, San Diego State University, Princeton University, and more.

WHAT POSITION WILL YOU PLAY?

Offensive Line:

Quarterback – The quarterback is usually the player in charge of running the offense on the field.

Tight End – Serves as a receiver and blocker

Offensive Tackle – There are two tackles on every play, and they line up on the outside of the defensive guards.

Guard – There are two guards on every play and they line up on with side of the offensive center.

Center – Offensive lineman who hikes the ball to the quarterback.

Wide Receiver – His primary job is to catch passes from the quarterback.

Fullback – Responsible for run-blocking for the halfback and pass-blocking for the quarterback.

Running Back – Responsible for carrying the ball on run plays, also used as a receiver at times.

Defensive Line:

Cornerback – Usually assigned to cover a wide receiver

Safety – Primary duties include helping cornerbacks in pass coverage. There are two safety positions; the free safety and the strong safety.

Defensive End – The job of the defensive end is to contain the running plays to the outside, and rush the quarterback on passing plays.

Defensive Tackle – The duties of a defensive tackle include stopping the running back, getting pressure on the middle passing plays, and occupying blockers.

Nose Tackle – Primary responsibilities are to stop the run and occupy the offensive lineman to keep them from blocking the linebackers.

Linebacker – The linebackers are a team's 2nd line of defense.

Family, Community & Coaches – Essential to the team's success! Volunteers, fans and coaches serve to bolster the players' confidence, athletic abilities and camaraderie.



For more information about the Aptos High Athletic Program, visit our website: aptosathletics.org or snap this QR code with your smartphone. Email MarinerMates@yahoo.com to connect with team parents.



Offensive Line



Defensive Line

