

Towns County Sports

Towns County's Leader In Sports

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Big things in store for 2016 as Towns County Youth Football opens

By Todd Forrest
Towns County Herald
Staff Writer

The Towns County Youth Football League (TCYFL) opened the 2016 season with its annual football camp over the weekend at the Towns County High School practice field. Official practice begins on Monday as four different age groups will represent Towns County when the season opens next month.

Towns County Youth Football Director Jimmy Smith said that interest in youth football has been high this summer despite having a few no shows at the camp on Saturday.

"We've had a lot of kids sign up but some aren't here today," Director Smith said. "I'm expecting a big turnout on Monday, but you never know. The weather might have kept some of the kids away today and some could have just forgot."

Each team will practice three days-a-week for the remainder of the month and into early-August when Towns County will take part in a Jamboree in Murphy, NC on Aug. 6th.

The Jamboree will take place at Murphy High School with the Indians beginning at 11 a.m. All four TCYFL teams will participate in scrimmage



Coach Joseph Goble (far left) works with the Mites (9-10 year olds) at Saturday's youth football camp. The camp was conducted by the league's coaches and allows them more 1-on-1 and teaching-time with the players, prior to the start of official practices. Photo/Todd Forrest

contests with Murphy, NC and Andrews, NC.

The regular season will open on Aug. 13th when Towns County hosts Andrews, NC. However, this season the Indians won't be playing at Towns County High School, but at it's new home at the Towns County

Rec Center.

"We want to thank (Towns County) Commissioner (Bill) Kendall for everything that he does for us," Director Smith said. "He has always played a big part in helping our program and we can't give him enough thanks."

"We're hoping that having a new field will be a big deal for us. In 20 years as director, this is the first time I can actually say that we have a home that we can call our own."

Youth football will be playing every Saturday morning with the Pee Wees (5-6 year

olds) beginning at 11 a.m. The Termites (7-8 year olds) will kick off at noon, the Mites (9-10 year olds) start at 1:30 p.m., and the Midgets (11-12 year olds) get underway at 3 p.m.

Following its home opener on Aug. 13th, Towns County will be at Franklin, NC

on Aug. 20th, before returning home to host Copper Basin, TN on Aug. 27th.

"One of things I like about (playing in) the Smokey Mountain Conference is all four teams will play in one place," Director Smith said. "When we played in the Georgia league we might have one team in Jefferson, another in Gainesville, one at home, and another somewhere else. This way, all of the teams, cheerleaders, and parents can all go to one place and support everyone."

Practices will be held at the TCHS practice field on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursdays at 6 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. and according to Director Smith, those times and dates will remain unchanged when school begins.

Towns County will host four games on Sept. 17th and Oct. 1st before the playoffs begin on Oct. 22nd. Any rain-out games will be made up on Oct. 13th. The first and second place Termite teams will host the playoff games for all four age groups.

The Cracker Bowl Championship to determine the league champion will be held on Oct. 29th.

More youth football camp pictures will be included in next week's edition of the Towns County Herald.

Towns County Youth Football Cheerleading registration

Towns County Youth Football Cheerleading registration Saturday, July 16th from 12 noon - 2 PM Towns County Recreation Department. The program is for grades K - 6th, cost is \$80. Please bring child to be fitted for uniform. TC Recreation Department, 150 Foster Park, Young Harris. For more information contact: Jessica 706-970-9851 or Megan 706-897-8041.

Chatuge Shores Ladies Golfers ask Did you Know?

Did you know? The chances of making two holes-in-one in a round of golf are one in 67 million?

Or that there are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball?

Or, more importantly for the CSLGA golfers, that the word golf does not mean "Gentleman Only, Ladies Forbidden." This is an internet myth. It is thought that the word golf comes from the Dutch word "kolf" or "kolve", meaning "club." Historians believe that this was passed on to the Scottish, whose own dialect changed this to "golfe", "gowl", or "gouf." By the sixteenth century, this had evolved to the word we know today. (20 Interesting Golf Statistics)

On Tuesday, the golfers had their rounds cut short by threatening weather. Thus, none of the five foursomes finished the complete round; however, everyone was able to finish the front nine. So the game was a nine-hole event - two best balls, net.

The first place team members were Pat Seeley, Judy Schmitt, Arlene Sheplak, and Cathy Clement.

Second place went to team members Carol Baxter, Barb Boswell, Pat Mosteller, and Desna Jarrett.

Following play, a gen-



Barbara Boswell sets up for a great drive.

eral meeting was held for all members, including a delicious lunch prepared by Claudia Rinaldo.

At the meeting the Aces of the Month were announced. Loretta Hughes took honors with low gross and Nancy Outlaw won low net.

The Association now has 39 members and more are always welcome. Recognition was given to Cathy Clement for her work on the 2016 Yearbook which contains the constitution and bylaws, local rules, rules of consideration, and the membership listing through June 1, 2016.

As always, CSLGA welcomes new members.

VFW Golf League

Last week's event at Chatuge Shores Golf Course was won with a score of 10 under par. The winning team consisted of Ray Ide, J.C. Berrong, Myron Grizio and Bill Hinnant. Congratulations guys. T0U13.G1SH

Mountain High Hikers Hiking Club

Mountain High Hikers schedule two hikes every Tuesday, one long and one shorter, as well as occasional specialty hikes. Weekly trail maintenance trips are scheduled every Thursday.

Come enjoy the beautiful mountains and waterfalls we have here. Check the website www.mountainhighhikers.org for schedule and contact numbers.

MUSA registration underway

Fall soccer registration is open for age groups U6-U16

Register online at www.mountainsoccer.org

Registration forms are also available to print from the website. Forms can be mailed to P. O. Box 1862, Blairsville, GA 30514.

Deadline to register is July 17, 2016.

For additional information please check out



our website at www.mountainsoccer.org or email us at musa.soccer@gmail.com.

NASCAR 2016

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

Keselowski Gets Fourth Win

SPARTA, KY.--Brad Keselowski won Saturday night's Sprint Cup Series race at Kentucky Speedway for his fourth win of the season. But it was a close one for the Penske Racing driver, as he ran out of fuel just after crossing the start-finish line.

Being able to conserve fuel was the key to his win. Keselowski made only four pit stops during the 267-lap race. Every other car that was running at the end of the race made at least five. He spent 33 seconds less in the pits than runner-up driver Carl Edwards did.

"Well, rolling right into them last few laps, gosh, that was something," said Keselowski. "We weren't the best car tonight. That's for sure. We seemed to kind of hover right in that fifth-to-eighth-place range, and we came down pit road fifth with 72 to go, and left pit road fifth. I thought, well, you know, who knows how these things are going to go. Then the 78 (Martin Truex Jr.) got the penalty, moved us into the outside line on the restart, which I think we saw all night was the preferred line. I was able to clear the two inside cars, and get into Turn 3 behind Kevin (Harvick) and I was about half a car width back, which, I had a pretty good ideal that if I could stay within half a car length of him that I could create an aero wake behind his car and loosen him up a little bit without touching him, and sure enough, we went down in the corner and it looked like he got really loose and I was able to make the move and get by him."

Carl Edwards did not lead any laps but had worked his way up to second near the end of the race.

"I thought he was out of fuel, and he wasn't. He played it perfectly," said Edwards. "He basically shut the car off and went right off of (Turn) four and matched it perfectly to where I couldn't get by him down the front straightaway. We ran like heck through one and two, and I thought maybe he'll run out down the back straight. I dove it down there trying to catch him in three but I couldn't even get to him. I couldn't. He was fast."

Ryan Newman, the third place driver had his best finish of

the season.

"We did have a good car," said Newman. "We just never seemed to be able to get good track position and played the fuel game there at the end, did what I thought I had to do, and with no fuel gauge or any kind of telemetry was able to make it to the end. Was hoping that we were going to be the first guy that could pull that one off, not the third guy, but just proud to get our first top-5 of the season."

Kurt Busch, Tony Stewart, Greg Biffle, Jamie McMurray, Matt Kenseth, Kevin Harvick, and Martin Truex were the remaining top-10 finishers.

Top-10 leaders after 18 of 36: 1. Harvick-599, 2. Keselowski-595, 3. Kurt Busch-583, 4. Edwards-566, 5. Logano-533, 6. Kyle Busch-521, 7. Truex-514, 8. Elliott-492, 9. Johnson-484, 10. Kenseth-477.

"ROWDY" KYLE TAKES XFINITY RACE

Kyle Busch, a Sprint Cup regular put on a driving show for all the regular Xfinity Series drivers, as he led 185 laps of the 201 lap race, on the way to victory lane.

Austin Dillon was second, followed by series leader Daniel Suarez, Erik Jones, Darrell Wallace Jr., Elliott Sadler, Ty Dillon, Ryan Blaney, Brennan Poole, and Brad Keselowski.

Top-10 leaders after 16 of 33: 1. Suarez-499, 2. Sadler-493, 3. T. Dillon-483, 4. Allgaier-462, 5. Gaughan-449, 6. E. Jones-442, 7. B. Jones-429, 8. Poole-422, 9. Wallace Jr.-394, 10. Reed-366.

FAN EXCESS ON PIT ROAD

Last week at Daytona, the Sprint Cup Drivers Council met to discuss the ever growing number of fans on pit road. In NASCAR's earlier years, there were less fans and the situation was manageable. But in the last few years with speedways selling more and more pit passes to fans, sometimes the



Brad Keselowski gets fourth win (furnished by NASCAR)

teams are overwhelmed by their numbers.

It's pretty much common knowledge that NASCAR fans have more access to their favorite sport and its athletes more than other fans of other sports, but is there too much access? Where should the line be drawn, and has that line already been crossed? Maybe it has. Fan access is well and good, but it can go too far. Sometimes there really is such a thing as too much of a good thing and, maybe, NASCAR fans are getting too much of a good thing.

Amanda Vincent of *Auto Racing Today* talked with Denny Hamlin and Dale Earnhardt Jr. about their meeting.

"I thought that the security on pit road last week (at Sonoma) was pretty bad during pre-race," Earnhardt said. "So we'll talk about that a little bit. Some of the drivers are concerned with how messy that's getting considering what we have going on. We're trying to get in the cars and it was crazy down there." Hamlin agreed.

"I agree last week that it was really hard to even walk to your car, and it's a very small pit road," Hamlin said. "Things could definitely get done. I feel like each team should have a 10-foot-square space around their car that is just designated for the driver and team."

"Honestly, they're monitoring the crew guys from touching the car before the race, but the casual fan can do just about anything they want to the side of the car. It's really crazy how much. For exam-

ple, I've seen guys just fall over the hood of the car and put a dent in it."

"That's more than any adjustment any crew guys could make. It's something that could be addressed and will be addressed."

Is the answer cutting back on the number of fans allowed on pit road and in the area around the driver intro. stage just before the race? Maybe the answer isn't decreasing the number of fans with access. Instead, maybe the answer is limited the areas to which they have access.

Unfortunately, I think the need for these questions and answers in response to those questions is a matter of a few ruining things for the many. A lot of the fans with this great access are respectable of drivers and crews trying to do their jobs. That's right; these guys are at the track to do their jobs, and quite frankly, some disrespectful and self-absorbed fans with access are hindering these guys and gals from doing their jobs. And it's that few that may end up ruining things for everyone else.

I'm not sure what the answer is, but Earnhardt and Hamlin are right. Something needs to be done. If you're in the infield, specifically on pit road and around the stage for driver intros., keep this in mind - drivers and crew members are trying to do their jobs. How would you like it if a group of folks showed up at your job on Monday morning and spent a few hours in your face? I'm guessing you wouldn't like it, either.

Weekend Racing: The Cup and Xfinity teams are at the 1.058-mile New Hampshire Speedway. The trucks have and off week.

Sat., July 16, Xfinity Series race 17 of 33; Starting time: 4 p.m. ET; TV: NBCSN.

Sun., July 17, Sprint Cup series race 19 of 36; Starting time: 1:30 p.m. ET; TV: NBCSN.


Racing Trivia Question: When was the first NASCAR race held at New Hampshire?

Last Week's Question? Who has the most wins at Daytona International Speedway? Answer: Richard Petty.


You may contact the Racing Reporter by e-mail at: hodges@race500.com.

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