

New youth football league gears up in Stokesdale

BY ADRIA HAIRSTON
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The Stokesdale Revolution, a new youth football league, is scheduled to start play this fall in Rockingham County.

The team will hold their practices at Stokesdale Elementary at the start of the upcoming school year.

The Revolution's gears got into motion when David Homol, president of the Stokesdale

Youth Football Association, received support of town officials to launch the league during the March monthly meeting.

The idea of the league is to create a program that will not only teach kids skills needed on the field, but instill lessons that will follow them through life.

"We are playing in the Rockingham County Youth Football League the first season, holding our first season's games at Rockingham County High School. Next year, we'll

evaluate our travel options," Homol said.

Homol and co-founders Clay Walker (vice president) and Alan Welch (treasurer) had no idea how fast the program would catch on in until they held the team's first registration April 23. More than 30 boys signed up to participate.

"The turnout at the first registration was the initial indicator that there was a huge interest, and that was definitely exciting for us. It far exceeded my expectations," said Homol, who

is holding a second registration session May 19 at Fidelity Bank of Stokesdale.

"Fidelity Bank is our top sponsor. They donated \$1,000 to the league. The second registration will be held there from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.," Homol said.

Homol said they still need donations and sponsors to make the league a success. "We do need more financial support. Without the sponsors, this (league) would not be possible. Like any new business, we have

put a lot of our own finances into the league, but we are more than pleased with the response thus far," Homol said.

This year, SYFA will consist of three teams of ages 5 and 6 for flag football, ages 7 to 9 and 10 to 12 for tackle football. More teams may be added in 2008.

Information: www.syfnet.net/syfa_nc

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