

Why charge admission only at home football games when most other sports events are free?

As a general practice, Bedford High School does not charge admission for sporting events. Sporting events are always free for students, and most games are free of charge for families and the general public.

However, home varsity football games are an exception due to their larger attendance, which makes them an effective way to raise funds for specific capital projects. The \$5 admission fee is consistent with neighboring high schools. Charging for football alone strikes a balance between maintaining free access to most sports while still addressing funding needs.

Where do the funds live?

The collected funds are deposited into a building fund established with the Bedford Bulldog Athletic Booster Club (BBABC) and this fund is designated for future field expansion projects.

How did this come about?

In 2016, [the school board approved](#) Bedford Friends of Recreation to assist at home football games to collect a nominal admission fee in support of the funds being allocated for a capital improvement project. They have graciously volunteered at every home game since, and we are incredibly grateful.

Seven years ago, with the administration's support and the BBABC's assistance, the funds were redirected toward constructing a fieldhouse near the field instead of expanding the bleachers. The fieldhouse with team rooms will be utilized daily by BHS teams as well as opponents using the stadium turf field. Expanded bleachers would not bring the same value and may only be needed a few times per year in comparison.

What about playoff games?

We are fortunate to host playoff games as BHS. We do not collect any fees for these events. The NHIAA collects all the admission fees and absorbs all costs associated with playoff games, The BHS is the host of the game/s only.

How much money has been raised through gate fees and the BBABC to date?

To date, the building fund has accumulated \$223,000, largely through gate fees collected at varsity football games and contributions from the Bedford Boosters Athletic Booster Club (BBABC). The goal is to surpass \$300,000 before approaching the school board to explore the possibility of securing the remaining funds needed to construct the building. A couple of years ago, the estimated cost for the building was around \$700,000. However, with fluctuating construction costs, it is too early to obtain firm financial quotes or detailed architectural drawings at this time.

Should you wish to make inquiries around the field expansion feel free to reach out to the athletics department at BHS.

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