



CONGRATULATIONS!!!

We are proud to offer your student athlete an opportunity to play in the **Carolina Bowl's Youth Showcase!** The Carolina Bowl, which was established in 2015, is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization that supports the **St. Jude Children's Research Hospital** through its "**Kids Helping Kids**" fund raising initiative. It is our desire to give your child the best experience possible.

The **Carolina Bowl's Youth Showcase** has selected some the "best players" from all over the Carolinas. During this event, the student athletes will be exposed to top level mentors, speakers, and some of the best coaching in the Carolina's. In addition to football, players will participate in other activities throughout the week which include motivational speakers, a media & movie night, and a Thursday evening Banquet (with a special guest speaker). In addition to showcasing their athletic ability, it is our goal to help build and develop the moral character of these youth men by giving them an experience that they can take with them throughout their lives. We have top notch coaches and directors who want nothing more than to help your player grow, both in football and in character. Through this football experience, we hope to grow your child's character, sportsmanship, self-confidence and team spirit. These youth men are tomorrow's husbands, fathers, and leaders...and part of our mission is to build quality men.

Event Overview.

This year's Youth Showcase will take place **December 27-30 (5th-7th Grades)** and **December 27-31 (8th Grade)**. Players will practice during the week in Spartanburg, SC (5th-7th) or Gaffney, SC (8th Grades) with Championship Games being played at the CaroMont Health Park (Fuse Stadium) in Gastonia, NC.

Event Check-In.

Check-in will be at the **Marriott Hotel, 299 N Church St, Spartanburg, SC 29306** on Tuesday, **December 27, 2022, from 1:00-5:00pm**. Hotel check-in should be completed prior to registration for 5th-7th athletes as Parents/Guardians will need to submit the specific hotel and room number of the athlete either during the check-in process. Parents/Guardians of 8th Grade Athletes should submit their Hotel room number to their respective Team Coordinator at some point on Tuesday evening/night (since their hotel is located in Gaffney, SC and may check into their hotel after the Welcome Ceremony).

Welcome Ceremony.

A **Welcome Ceremony** will begin at 7:00pm in the Marriott Hotel Ballroom. It will be during this ceremony that players will first meet their coaches and staff for the week.

Lodging/Hotels.

All athletes are expected to stay in the team designated hotels. Rooms have been blocked for the event and every effort should be made to reserve your room asap as room types are limited and will be reserved on a "*first come first served*" basis...so don't delay. The following hotel links are provided for your convenience:

5th-7th Grade Hotel (both NC & SC Teams) – Marriott Hotel, 299 N Church Street, Spartanburg, SC 29306

Reservation Phone Number: (864) 596-1211

Reservation Link: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1670277403484&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

NC 8th Grade Hotel – Holiday Inn Express, 1031 Hyatt Street, Gaffney, SC 29341

Reservation Phone Number: (864) 487-8999

Reservation Link: <https://www.hiexpress.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=EX&localeCode=en®ionCode=1&hotelCode=gfnsc&PMID=99801505&GPC=cbp&cn=no&viewfullsite=true>

SC 8th Grade Hotel – Sleep Inn, 834 Windslow Avenue, Gaffney, SC 29341

Reservation Phone Number: (864) 487-5337

Reservation Link: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/MQ14E7>

*****Rooms must be reserved by December 20** to guarantee the ***Carolina Bowl*** negotiated rate. After December 20, rooms will be released back into the respective hotel's inventory and special pricing will no longer be guaranteed. Accordingly, please register early to ensure you are able to secure a room at the best possible price.

Event Overview.

- December 27th – Check-In (1:00-5:00pm); Welcome Ceremony (7:00pm)
- December 28th – Practices (morning & afternoon); Movie/Media Night (6:30pm)
- December 29th – Practice (morning) & “7 vs 7” Competitions (afternoon); Banquet (6:00pm)
- December 30th – Game Day: 5th Grade (10:00am); 6th Grade (1:00pm); 7th Grade (4:00pm)
 - 8th Grade – Family Dinner Night
- December 31th – Game Day: 8th Grade (10:00am); 12th Grade Senior Showcase (1:00pm)

Player Transportation.

Players will be transported via commercial buses to/from the various practices and events. It is the Parent's responsibility to travel via personal vehicle to the various events if you choose to watch your athlete practice.

Meals.

Meals during the week (Wed-Fri, and Sat if in 8th Grade) are provided for the players. Breakfast will be served at each hotel. Parents/guardians will be responsible for their own lunch and dinner meals with exception only if you purchased and banquet ticket.

*** **8th Grade Only.** Friday afternoon (after practice & lunch) all 8th Grade Athletes should be signed out by a parent/guardian upon return to their respective Hotel at approximately 1:30pm. Parents are encouraged to take their 8th Grade Athlete to the CaroMont Health Park (Fuse Stadium) to watch the 7th Grade Championship, but this is NOT required. Players should wear their Game Jersey to warrant free admission to the Stadium on Friday. Parents are encouraged to purchase a “weekend pass” to save admission costs for both days. Friday dinner will NOT be provided to 8th Grade Athletes through the Carolina Bowl as Friday afternoon/evening will be considered a **Family Day/Dinner Night Out.** Families should be prepared to spend the afternoon/evening with their 8th Grade athlete and take them out to dinner that evening. ***

Awards Banquet.

The Awards Banquet will be held on Thursday, December 29th. Doors will open at 6:00pm and dinner will be served at 6:30pm. **Tickets for the Thursday Night Awards Banquet are available through the Carolina Bowl website (www.carolinabowl.com).** Players do NOT need a ticket. Join us Thursday evening as we celebrate the various Carolina Bowl Athletes and their individual accomplishments. Location details will be provided on the Carolina Bowl website. Players should bring khaki pants and a nice shirt for the banquet.

Tickets/Game Day(s).

This year's games will be held at the CaroMont Health Park (Fuse Stadium) in Gastonia, NC. This is a brand new and beautiful turf style stadium. The following details are provided:

a. Paid parking will be available.

b. Admission Tickets are available in advance through the Carolina Bowl website or the CaroMont Health Park/Fuse Stadium Ticketing System. Daily tickets, as well as weekend passes, are available.

<https://www.ticketreturn.com/prod2new/team.asp?sponsorid=16453>

or

<http://www.carolinabowl.com>

c. Children under age 2 are admitted at no cost.

d. Players should be signed out by a parent/guardian immediately upon conclusion of their respective game. Players must be signed out through each respective Team's assigned Staff Coordinator.

SWAG/Apparel.

In addition to uniforms and other cool event apparel, players with the most fundraising dollars will be awarded prizes based on total amount raised. We will give the top (3) players from each state prizes based on the total dollar raised.

Registration.

Athletes should be registered IMMEDIATELY upon Selection Confirmation for this year's Carolina Bowl.

Registration can be completed at www.carolinabowl.com. The passcode for registration in the Youth Showcase is "Youthshowcase" (case sensitive).

Cost/Fundraising.

All athletes are expected to fundraise a **minimum** of \$1,250. Special prizes will be given to athletes who have excelled in fundraising, raising the most funds to support the "**Kids Helping Kids**" initiative. The minimum fundraising amount (\$1,250) should be paid in full prior to December 20th. Please note, if you do not meet your minimum fundraising requirement, you will be subject to a \$50 Late Fee and will need to pay with a credit card or certified check (difference to reach \$1,250 funding requirement) to become eligible for participation in the Carolina Bowl event. All credit card payments will be subject to a 4% convenience fee. We are striving to make every financial tool available to allow student athletes to participate. This event is a special, but costly, event, and all student athletes and their parents have the tools to be successful. This takes hard work and dedication, which is exactly what we are trying to teach these young athletes to make sure they are successful in life. All players will get a raffle ticket for meeting the fundraising goals to have a chance to win prizes. This process was implemented to reward the active effort of selflessness which will help build moral character and help them think of, and remember, those less fortunate than themselves. The benefit of this "**Kids Helping Kids**" initiative and its support of the **St. Jude Children's Research Hospital** is vital for families with children who are literally fighting for their lives every day.

Gear Requirements.

Players should bring their helmets, shoulder pads, cleats, and knee pads. Girdles will be provided, but they will NOT include knee pads. Knee pads are required to play in the Championship Game.

"REMIND" Application (smart phone is required).

To improve real-time communication for this year's Carolina Bowl, we will communicate via the Remind App. Although we try to adhere to the published itinerary, there may be some updates or changes from time to time. This will be our way primary method of keeping everyone informed.

Team NC Youth Showcase

NC 5th-7th Grades

Enter this number: **81010**
Text this message: **@22cb-nc567**

NC 8th Grade

Enter this number: **81010**
Text this message: **@22cb-nc8**

Team SC Youth Showcase

SC 5th-7th Grades

Enter this number: **81010**
Text this message: **@22cb-sc567**

SC 8th Grade

Enter this number: **81010**
Text this message: **@22cb-sc8**

Again, we are extremely proud of your student athlete and we look forward to getting to know him better as we share in this experience. I KNOW he will be a better student-athlete at the end of this week...and we look forward to him having the opportunity to showcase his athletic ability on Friday/Saturday to family, friends and coaches that will be in attendance. We know this experience, and additional exposure, will help them achieve their dreams, whether it be college athletics, academia, military, or whatever their heart so desires.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (864) 513-2695 (BOWL).

Jimmy Staton, Chairman
Todd Helms
Dave Walters

