

Clowns Needed for East-West Shrine Game January 23rd

Would you like to be clowning on the playing field for the East West Shrine Game, Saturday, January 23rd, at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg, Florida? This great event was started in 1925, and as we all know, it supports our Shriner's Hospitals for Children. To see more information about the game, go to www.shrinegame.com or sign into our Shriners Village website www.shrinersvillage.com where you can get information on lodging, and other events associated with the game.

This is "More Than Just a Game!"... it is the longest running College All Star Game. Seventy one former players are in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Currently there are about 260 former East West Shrine Game participants on NFL rosters. Some of the greatest names in football have graced this game, such as Don Shula, Bear Bryant, Dick Vermeil, Steve Spurrier, Tom Brady, Dick Butkus, Roger Staubach, Gale Sayers, Brett Favre, John Elway, Johnny Lujac, Alan Page, Bob Lilly, as well as a future President, Gerald Ford (Michigan center), to name just a few. "Strong Legs Run, So Weak Legs Can Walk!"

Florida weather is lovely this time of year. Local Shriners will put on a big pregame party starting around 11:30AM in the parking lot (free, but donations accepted). Preregistered clowns in costume do not require a game ticket. You will receive a complimentary field and grandstand pass at the check in gate 6 (2:00 to 3:00 PM), which allows you to go most everywhere, except the locker rooms and designated player's area. Parking at the stadium is \$15, (more for RVs). Arriving in costume may get you free parking. You are encouraged to car pool. If you stay at or near one of the group hotels, there are free shuttle buses to and from the game. Your spouse / significant other will need a "Shriners" game ticket (\$15), and will not be eligible to be on the field. Kickoff is at 4 PM.

As far as being on the field, we will part of the entrance ceremony when the Imperial Potentate and Divan are introduced. We were able to walk freely around the field, and behind the player's benches. We blew balloons for kids and young adults, as well as posed for lots of pictures. We are there to add class and color to the game as well as representing Shriners as only ISCA Clowns know how.

The game will be nationally televised on the NFL Network, and who knows...you might get a little TV time. Friday night is the Players / Hall of Fame Banquet (5:30 PM) at Tropicana Field, to honor the players, coaches, sponsors and Shriner dignitaries. The dress is smart casual, but most Shriners wear suits or coat and tie, and of course, your Fez! Cost is \$60, and there are free shuttle buses from the group hotels.

This is also a great opportunity to visit a Shriner's Hospitals for Children! The Hospital is very quiet on Saturday and the Friday before the game, but touring "our" Shriners Hospital any day is inspirational and very moving ...you'll be a very proud Shriner after your tour! Plan to have lunch at the Hospital, as the cafeteria is excellent, and very inexpensive!

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So...if you are interested in attending the game, email me with your name, clown name, address, email, phone numbers, and your Temple affiliation. Deadline for sign-ups is December 28th! I will email all participants the final details 2 weeks or so before the game. You must bring a photo ID to be admitted.

Don't miss out on this great Shriners event! Remember, for 91 years, it's been "More Than Just a Game!"

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