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Getting a Ticket to the Game

By Robin Schoettler Fox



Photo Tod Fierner

Need a ticket to an SMC game? Ask neighbors who've tried to buy one at the ticket office on game day - that doesn't work this season. Here's what does:

(1) Don't be picky. Click on [SMCGaels.com](#), call (925)631-4392, or stop by the on-campus ticket office. Buy what's available now. Options are limited. Move quickly.

(2) Clear February 21st on your calendar. If any time on February 21st works for you, buy a Bracket Buster ticket now while they're easier to get. Once game time is announced in the next few weeks, tickets will sell quickly. Just know - the 7pm game time currently on the "Buy Ticket Now" [SMCGaels.com](#) link is a placeholder. The school had to enter a time in to make the program accept purchases. Print the Bracket Buster ticket that says 7pm and Neal McSherry, SMC's Director of Ticket Sales, says it's valid entry - just check back to see what the real tip-off time will be.

(3) Keep checking back. Ticket availability, according to McSherry, is fluid.

Closer to game date, seats can open up. Student tickets left unclaimed, for example. Or tickets initially sent to competing schools to sell on consignment to their fans might be returned unsold. Expect General Admission tickets.

(4) Tap the secondary market. We're not talking ticket scalpers here. Price is the face value on the ticket. SMC wants to fill all the seats, not just sell season tickets. So it's encouraging season ticket holders to resell individual game tickets that would go unused. Click on the SMCgaels.com ticket link. Anything priced above \$15 is coming from those season ticket holders.

(5) Ask a neighbor. According to McSherry, many season ticket holders live in Lamorinda. Buy. Beg. Trade for dog walking. Whatever.

Already got a ticket? You still have to get to tip-off. Just-in-time delivery doesn't work for that anymore either.

"Get there about an hour or an hour and a half before a game," says McSherry, particularly if you hold General Admission tickets.

Good seats - and parking -- go quickly.

Reach the reporter at: sportsdesk@lamorindaweekly.com

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