



# FAQ

<p><b>What is the West Point Parent Club of Indiana?</b></p>	<p>The West Point Parent Club of Indiana (WPPCI) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting West Point cadets from Indiana and their families.</p>
<p><b>What does the WPPCI support?</b></p>	<p>The experience our sons and daughters take on as cadets is a significantly different experience compared to a typical civilian college student. It requires a unique level of support and a deeper level of community for not just the cadets, but for the entire family. The club supports all cadets from Indiana and their families by providing support during the 47 month United States Military Academy journey through recognition, communication, and programming.</p>
<p><b>What are the activities of the club in a given year?</b></p>	<p><b>Club Meetings:</b> Quarterly parent gatherings to connect and collaborate in support of our cadets and each other.</p> <p><b>Hail and Farewell:</b> A BBQ gathering in June honoring each new class of cadet candidates and their families. The event is a send off for these new cadets as they head to basic training and provides the opportunity to meet the West Point community from across the state and learn about the West Point experience.</p> <p><b>Ice Cream Social:</b> A gathering for parents midway through basic training to help plebe parents prepare for/process the midway phone call and preparations for the academic year..</p> <p><b>Watch Parties:</b> USMA vs. other service academy football games TV viewing events. Hosting responsibilities rotate between the various service academy parent groups. We also monitor WP athletic teams for when they play in Indiana for additional spirit support opportunities.</p> <p><b>Beast Boodle:</b> Post basic training care package for Indiana Cadet Candidates of registered WPPCI members.</p> <p><b>Football Tailgate:</b> Annual event for a home football game in the fall including a BBQ for all Indiana Cadets and their friends.</p> <p><b>Duty, Honor, Trivia:</b> Virtual Trivia night to kick off a 30 day countdown to the Army Navy football game.</p> <p><b>All Academy Ball:</b> Formal military gala held each December to honor the Indiana young men and women currently attending any of the United States Service Academies. Army, Navy, and Air Force parent clubs rotate hosting responsibilities.</p> <p><b>Howitzer:</b> Recognition in the Howitzer, the West Point Yearbook, for the Indiana Cadets from that year's graduating class.</p> <p><b>Firstie Flags:</b> American flags flown over the United States Capitol on the date of each USMA graduation presented to each Indiana Cadet by the WPPCI to commemorate their graduation.</p>

<p><b>How do families residing in different parts of the state engage with club activities?</b></p>	<p>We have increased virtual options by having zoom attendance opportunities for every club meeting and introducing events like Duty, Honor, Trivia that take place completely online. While most in-person events are centrally located to minimize travel from any one point in the State, we do alternate locations when the event or concentration of people makes sense and have a strong community with social media and other communication platforms.</p>
<p><b>How can I support the WPPCI?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attending meetings and events</li> <li>● Volunteer, as you can see from the count on me form, there are lots of different opportunities for every level of engagement</li> <li>● <b>Become a WPPCI member</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>When can I start attending WPPCI meetings and events?</b></p>	<p>As soon as your son or daughter accepts their appointment to USMA! This community is valuable throughout your child's USMA attendance, but it is EXTREMELY valuable in the months between acceptance and reporting for Cadet Basic Training. Please refer to the 2025 Calendar of Events included in the Parent Welcome Packet and join us whenever your schedule allows.</p>
<p><b>Why should I become a WPPCI member and what are the benefits of membership?</b></p>	<p>The support you give the WPPCI now will come back to you and your cadet ten-fold over the 47+ month journey. While we support ALL Indiana Cadets and their families through the activities identified earlier in this FAQ, the following benefits are <b>ONLY</b> available to registered WPPCI members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● West Point Family car decal (upon joining)</li> <li>● Two name badges (upon joining)</li> <li>● Free couple registration for Duty Honor Trivia (year one of membership)</li> <li>● WPPCI Challenge Coin... you may not know what a challenge coin is yet, but trust us... you will (upon joining)</li> <li>● WPPCI Plebe Parent handbook... filled with information and resources, such as Beast letter templates, to help you navigate USMA as a parent (for plebe/USMAPS parents upon joining)</li> <li>● Beast Boodle... a box of Indiana goodies to congratulate your cadet after their return from Buckner their plebe year (for parents who join by the end of July of their cadets plebe year)</li> <li>● Special discounts on tickets for WPPCI sponsored events like the tailgate and Duty, Honor, Trivia (duration of your cadets tenure at USMA)</li> </ul>
<p><b>What does membership cost?</b></p>	<p>Membership is a <b>one-time fee</b> and covers the duration of your cadets tenure at USMA. There are no recurring annual dues. The one-time membership fee varies based on the point of your cadets journey at which you join:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$275 per couple/parents if joining during the USMAPS/Plebe year</li> <li>● \$200 per couple/parents if joining during the Yuk, Cow, or Firstie year</li> </ul>
<p><b>How do I become a member or make a donation?</b></p>	<p>Complete the Membership form included in the Parent Welcome Packet, or visit <a href="https://indianawpparents.org/index.php/parent-club/">https://indianawpparents.org/index.php/parent-club/</a></p>

**Is the information distributed by the WPPCI only specific to Indiana?**

The information we generate is specific to Indiana. However, we also serve as the conduit for information from USMA to families in our state. The USMA employed Parent Communications Liaison relays current information to the club presidents and we in turn share it out via email and Facebook.

**What are good WP information sources for Parents of cadets?**

- [www.westpoint.edu/parents](http://www.westpoint.edu/parents)
- [www.indianawpparents.org](http://www.indianawpparents.org)
- [www.flickr.com/photos/west\\_point/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/west_point/)
- [www.youtube.com/@WestPoint](http://www.youtube.com/@WestPoint)
- Facebook:
  - WestPointUSMA
  - West Point Parents Club of Indiana
  - West Point Class of 20XX Parents (class specific)
  - West Point Moms
  - West Point Dads

Many of these are private and will require security questions to join, make sure you complete those steps fully. There are a number of club and activity specific groups that can be easily found by searching. When looking for West Point groups, use caution if the group has low number of members despite recent activity, a lack of genuine engagement in the posts, a profile picture that looks generic or stock, a newly created group with very little information about its purpose, and posts that seem overly promotional or spammy, often with links to external websites that might be scams as there are known to be fake groups set up each year around admissions notifications.