

WARREN COUNTY YMCA Spring 2023 PreK-1st Grade Biddy Soccer Parent's Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to 2023 Spring Soccer at the Warren County YMCA. Thank you so much for signing your youth up for our program! I am excited to return to the pitch this spring and teaching your youth the "fun"damentals of the most popular sport in the world, soccer! We will be teaching the basics to the kids including proper kicking/shooting skills, how to dribble the ball, where and when to use hands, throw-ins, etc, and will combine these skills into fun games and activities to help make the learning process fun and engaging.

New this season for the K-1st Grade group, after the first several weeks, we will put your player onto a team to work on team skills and eventually play short games with their teammates against other teams (similar to some of our other sports). We will run short 20-25 minute games for this group in the last 4 weeks of the program.

Program Dates/Starting Times — This program will meet at the following times and dates:

Mondays - 3/27, 4/3, 4,10, 4/17*, 4/24, 5/1 & 5/8 - PreK Group @4:30pm & K-1st Grade Group @5:30pm

Picture Day* - The asterisk on Monday, April 17th means that it is Picture Day! We will hand out picture forms on April 10th as a reminder. Shyvel's Photography is returning again this year to take our team and individual pictures. Thank you, Shyvel!

Make-Up Dates – I will have at least 1 planned make-up date available if needed. I will always try to have soccer no matter what, if the weather is cooperating. It is Spring in Illinois, which means 1 week, it could be 30 degrees and windy, then the following week it's 80 degrees and very humid. I will only cancel if the weather is deemed dangerous (looming thunderstorms/severe weather, heavy rains, severe cold, etc.). Plan on there being soccer, unless you hear from me!

Communication – I (Coach Ben) will send messages out as needed during the program. These messages could be reminders, changes to the program, cancellations, etc. I currently use a free texting program, however, we are currently transitioning to a new program called Daxko Engage (Daxko is our computer system we use for the Y). Engage has the ability for me to send out mass text messages to program participants. Eventually, it will be the main program we use for multiple programs at the Y. The main difference with this new program is that, in order to receive messages/notifications from me, you will have to "opt in". To "opt in", text WCYMCA to 54539. There is no charge to do this. If you choose not to, that is fine, but if I send out a cancellation message for example, and you did not opt in to get messages, you will not see it. This will be important for quick communication for our programs and more moving forward at the Y!

Finally, if you are interested in sponsoring your child's team/group, the cost for the soccer season is \$200. This helps offset t-shirt, equipment, and staff/referee costs for the youth sports department. Your logo/business or family name will be added to the back of your child's team shirts as well as on any game schedules. If interested, I will need a confirmation and will need your logo artwork by Monday, April 3, prior to when I order shirts. As a thank you, I will also have a 2x2 banner made for you that will hang outside on the baseball field fence during all Spring, Summer and Fall sports in 2023.

Thank you so much for reading this letter. I hope you and your child enjoy our program! If you have any questions, call me at the Y at 309-734-3183, or email me at ben@warrencountyymca.org.

Thank You,
Ben Davis
Youth Development Director

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The Y: We're for Youth Development, Healthy Living, and Social Responsibility