



WARREN COUNTY YMCA Fall 2026 PreK-Kindergarten Rookies Flag Football

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to 2026 Fall Rookies Flag Football at the Warren County YMCA. Thank you so much for signing your youth up for our program! I am excited to return to the field this Fall and help teach your youth the “fun”damentals of football. We will be teaching the basics to the kids including proper throwing skills/technique, how to pull flags, hand/eye coordination, running with the ball, etc., and will combine these skills into fun games and activities to help make the learning process fun and engaging. I am joined this year by my Monmouth College Intern, Brock Card, who will help me work with the kids. Any parents who are willing to help out at stations when needed are welcome to do so.

This program is a Learn How To Play Program meaning the basics of the sport will be taught. This is NOT a league. League flag football starts at 1st grade. This group is for kids in PreK-Kindergarten or ages 3-6. In this program over the next 7 weeks, my goal is that your player, beginner or not, has fun, learns new skills, makes some friends, and develops excitement for football and will want to play again in our leagues in a year or two when they hit 1st Grade.

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

Dates - Wednesday Afternoons – September 16, 23, 30, October 7*, 14, 21 & 28

Time – 4:30-5:30pm

Make-Up Dates: I will have 1 planned make-up date available if needed. That date is currently TBD. I have done the following Wednesday after the season in the past and have also moved to another night during the week. I will always try to have Rookies Football no matter what. However, it is Fall in Illinois, which means 1 week, it could be 40 degrees and windy and/or rainy, then the following week it is 80 degrees and sunny. I will only cancel if I deem the weather dangerous (looming thunderstorms/ severe weather/thunder/lightning or weather warnings, extreme heavy rains, severe cold, freezing rain/snow mix, blustery wind etc.). Plan on there being Rookies Football unless you hear from me. If I don't message you, consider football ON! Please don't bombard the YMCA with calls as I will let you know.

Picture Day: The asterisk (*) above on Wednesday, October 7th (Week 4) means that it is Picture Day! We will hand out picture forms the prior week (September 30th) as a reminder. Shyvel's Photography is returning again this year to take our team and individual pictures. Thank you, Shyvel!

Communication: I am asking that you PLEASE “opt in” to receive messages from the YMCA via Daxko Engage. To do so, simply text WCYMCA to 54539. If you choose not to do so, that’s fine, however it is on you if you do not receive all/any communication throughout the season. You can stop receiving messages from the Y at any time. Please consider opting in with Daxko Engage to confirm that you get all updates during the clinic season. I sent out a message via Engage the day before the clinic. If you did not get that message, you are not opted in. Also, please save your child’s coach’s phone number once you receive it for communication purposes.

Finally, if you are interested in sponsoring your child’s team/group/sport, the cost for the football season is \$200. This significantly helps offset t-shirt, equipment, and staff/referee costs. Your logo/business or family name will be added to the back of your child’s team/program shirt. If interested, I will need confirmation and will need your artwork logo sent to me prior to Friday, September 18th when I order shirts. As an extra thank you, I will also have a 2x2 banner made for you that will hang outside on the baseball field fence during the remainder of Fall & Winter Sports in 2026 and early 2027. We would love the support! Please let me know if you are interested!

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

Thank You,
Ben Davis
Youth Development Director

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