



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF BROOKINGS

FALL 2026 NEWSLETTER

August - December 2026

Open the door to Great Futures



Welcome to Fall 2026 at the Club!

When youth walk through our doors, they're not just arriving at an afterschool program; they're entering a space full of opportunity. At Boys & Girls Club of Brookings, we open the door to connection, support, and discovery. Here, youth feel safe, valued and encouraged to grow into who they're meant to be.

This fall, our programs are designed to help members explore new interests, build confidence, and stay on track in school, all with the guidance of mentors who show up every day and truly care.

Because **Great Futures Start Here.**

Fall Membership Options:

To keep Club access affordable and flexible for families, Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Plains offers seasonal Elementary memberships. Every member will enjoy the same high-quality programs, caring staff, and safe environment—families simply select the rate that fits their budget.

Membership Levels

- Fall: \$50 • \$100 • \$150

Enrollment Information

- Enrollment OPENS July 20, 2026, on the Caregiver Portal (MyClubHub)
- Family Cap: No family pays membership fees for more than three (3) Club members. Membership for the 4th, 5th, and any additional youth is covered at no cost. This applies to all members enrolled in any of our Traditional Club programs, Junior Kindergarten through 12th grade.
- Teen Program (6th–12th Grade): Membership \$100 annual membership. If your members was enrolled in spring or summer 2026 they will not need a new membership for the fall season.



Family Orientation

Orientation is required for **ALL Club families** before starting at the Club this fall. Orientation for the Elementary site is offered every 4th Monday at 5:15 PM. To schedule a teen orientation please reach out to Teen Director, Jayde O'Daniel at Jodaniel@greatfuturesd.org.

Additional Fall Orientation Offerings:

Elementary:

Thursday, August 20 | Noon
Thursday, August 20 | 5:15 PM (Virtual see link on our website)
Monday, August 24 | Noon (Virtual see link on our website)
Monday, August 24 | 5:15 PM

Teens

Monday, August 24 | Noon
Tuesday, August 25 | 5:15 PM

Sign up is not required for orientation

Financial Support

Scholarships ranging from 20%–100% off and payment plans are available to ensure every child who wants to attend the Club can do so.

Need Help?

- At the Boys & Girls Club of Brookings, no child will be refused membership or paid program services due to inability to pay. For questions or scholarship assistance, please contact:
- ✉ scholarships@greatfuturesd.org
- ☎ 605-692-3333 ext. 151.

Activity Fees Reminder

Please pay all field trip or activity fees in advance. An **active Fall 2026 membership** is required before signing up for or attending any field trips. Payment must be received **before** the activity date to participate. Refunds are not available for missed events.

JK/Kindergarten Enrollment is Now Open!

Calling all incoming Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten, it's time to join the Club! Enrollment is officially open, and we're excited to welcome our newest members. All new youth must attend a **Parent & New Member Orientation**. Orientation is held every 4th Monday of the month at 5:15 PM at the Elementary Club.

 **17** First day for JK/Kindergarten Members: Wednesday, August 26.

Have questions? Contact Kate Mathiesen at kmathiesen@greatfuturesd.org.

✨ **Ready to enroll?** Visit greatfuturesd.org to get started!



Food & Snacks

As summer wraps up and we head into the school year, the Club is here to keep members fueled and ready to succeed!

All meals and snacks are **FREE** for members — whether it's a busy weekday after-school or a full day off, kids can count on nutritious options to keep them energized, focused, and ready for Great Futures.

School Day Schedule

Members have the option to eat a light snack AND warm supper every day after school.

Full-Day Schedule

Members have the option to eat breakfast, hot lunch, and an afternoon snack. Members who choose not to eat each hot lunch at the Club can bring their own nut-free sack lunch from home. No fridge or microwave is available for these lunches.

Teens will be served snack on site and walk to the Elementary site to eat all meals.

 **Menus coming soon!**

See updates on our website:
www.greatfuturesd.org

Fueling young minds and bodies is one more way we help kids build **Great Futures!**



Transportation

Elementary & Camelot Transportation

The Club partners with the Brookings School District to ensure members are safely transported from school to the Club each day. To use this service, families must:

- Have an active Club membership in good standing
- Sign up for busing in the Caregiver Portal (MyClubHub) — required for all Elementary & Camelot members
- Notify both the school and your child's teacher that they will be riding the bus to the Club

 **Please note:** Only current Club members with an active Fall membership are eligible for transportation

Mickelson Middle School

Middle school members walk to the Teen Center after dismissal.

- Please remind your teen to use designated crosswalks, especially the new crosswalk at Southland Lane and 12th Street South.

Brookings High School

High school members are picked up by Club transportation after dismissal.

No signup is required



Club Reminders

Stay Connected

We want to keep you informed throughout the year!

- Email: Important Club updates are sent to the Head of Household email listed in MyClubHub. Please check your inbox regularly and be sure to mark our emails as safe so they don't end up in your junk or spam folder.
- Facebook: Follow Boys & Girls Club of Brookings for program updates, announcements, special events, and more.



Cell Phone & Smartwatch Policy (Elementary)

To minimize distractions and help members stay engaged, 4th and 5th grade members may use personal devices only during designated times:

- School Days: 3:45–4:15 PM
- Full Days/No School Days: 9:00–9:30 AM and 4:00–4:30 PM

Facebook, Snapchat, and all camera use are strictly prohibited while at the Club.

If you need to reach your child during the day, please call the Club at (605) 692-3333. Members may use the phone only with staff supervision.



Drop-Off & Pick-Up

For the safety of all members:

- Parents/guardians must come inside the Club to drop off and pick up their child.
- During after-school arrival, please wait outside until members have been scanned into the Club. If you are unable to wait, please consider picking your child up directly from school instead.



Personal Items

Please leave personal toys and other valuables at home. The Club provides plenty of engaging activities each day, and we cannot be responsible for items that are lost, stolen, or damaged.



Activity Fees

Payment for fee-based activities, field trips, camps, and special events is due before your child attends. Please note that the Club does not offer refunds for missed events or activities. If your member is no longer able to attend a registered activity, field trip, camp, or special event, you must notify the Club's front desk by 8:00 a.m. on the first day of the activity or camp to be eligible for a refund. Refund requests made after that time cannot be accommodated.

Activity fees help cover transportation, staffing, supplies, admissions, and other costs that allow us to provide these opportunities for our members.



Mark Your Calendar!

August 18

Back to School Bash – 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

August 18

Last Day of Summer Programming

August 18

End of Summer Party & Water Wars – 1:00 – 3:00 PM

August 19 - 25

Club Closed - Fall Prep

August, 26

First Day of School – 3:30 – 7:00 PM

September 7

Club Closed – Labor Day

September 23

Club Closing Early - at 6:00 PM for Staff Training

September 25

Club Closed – Staff Training

October 9

Club Open – 7:30 – 6:00 PM

October 12

Club Open – 7:30 – 6:00 PM

October 21

Club Closing Early - at 6:00 PM for Staff Training

October 23

Club Closed – Staff Training

November 18

Club Closing Early - at 6:00 PM for Staff Training

November 20

Club Closed – Staff Training

November 25

Club Open – 7:30 – 6:00 PM

November 26

Club Closed – Thanksgiving

November 27

Club Open – 7:30 – 6:00 PM

December 18

Club Open – 12:00 – 6:00 PM

December 22

Club Open – 12:00 – 6:00 PM

December 23

Club Open – 7:30 – 6:00 PM

December 24 – 25

Club Closed – Christmas Eve & Day

December 28 – 31

Club Open – 7:30 – 6:00 PM

January 1

Club Closed – New Years Day

January 4

Club Open – 7:30 – 6:00 PM

Fall Impact Programs

JOIN US this fall for fun, hands-on programs that spark curiosity, build new skills, and support learning, all in a safe and supportive environment.

Power Hour

Mondays at 4:30 PM | Wednesdays at 3:30 PM

Members will achieve academic success through homework help and tutoring. Staff will encourage youth to become self-directed learners and provide additional academic enrichment.

Small Group Mentoring

Dates & Times TBD. Please reach out to Ms. Kate if your member is interested in participating in a group.

Small Group Mentoring provides members with the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with a trusted adult while participating in fun, engaging activities. Through games, discussions, and hands-on experiences, members develop new skills, work toward personal goals, build confidence, and receive encouragement in a supportive small-group setting.

Emily's Hope

Tuesdays | 4:30 PM

The Emily's Hope Substance Use Prevention program helps elementary-aged members build the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy choices. Through engaging, age-appropriate lessons, interactive activities, and real-life scenarios, members learn about brain health, the risks of substance use, emotional regulation, coping strategies, and positive decision-making. The program encourages confidence, resilience, and lifelong healthy habits in a fun and supportive environment.



Seasonal Reminder



No matter the forecast, the Club is here to support your family. On snow days, we'll be open from **7:30 AM to 6:00 PM**. A hot lunch option and supper will be served on snow days; members may also bring a nut-free sack lunch.

If school lets out early due to weather, the Club will open after school and remain open until **6:00 PM**, unless otherwise noted.

For the latest weather-related updates, follow us on Facebook or check your email. We'll keep you informed every step of the way.

Special Programs & Events

JOIN US this fall for exciting school-year events and celebrations that connect youth, build community, and make every season special in a fun and supportive space! 🎉

JK - 5th Grade

Club Halloween Party

October 16 | 7:00 - 9:00 PM | \$10

Non-members Welcome!

(Sign-up opens October 9 in MyClubHub: Caregiver Portal)

Friday Fun Nights

September 4 | 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM | \$10

October 2 | 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM | \$10

November 6 | 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM | \$10

(Sign-up opens 1 week prior in MyClubHub: Caregiver Portal)

Evening Programs

Every night from **6:00 – 7:00 PM**, members can participate in a special program designed to build skills, explore interests, and have fun!

- Monday: Board Game Night
- Tuesday: Tech Night
- Wednesday: Night Games
- Thursday: Youth Choice
- Friday: Open Gym



Full Day Field Trips & Activities

(No School Days):

 Space is limited — All fees must be paid before the start of the activity.

Berndt Family Farms Pumpkin Patch

October 9 | Time TBD | \$10

(Sign-up opens October 2 in MyClubHub: Caregiver Portal)

Wildfire Children's Activity Center

October 12 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM | \$15

(Sign-up opens October 5 in MyClubHub: Caregiver Portal)

Cocoa & Canvas

November 25 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM | \$10

(Sign-up opens November 18 in MyClubHub: Caregiver Portal)



3 VS. 3 Basketball Tournament

December 23 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM | **FREE**

(No Registration Needed)

Holiday Cookie Decorating

December 23 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM | \$10

(Sign-up opens December 16 in MyClubHub: Caregiver Portal)

Movie & Hot Chocolate

December 28 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM | **FREE**

(No Registration Needed)

Gingerbread Houses

December 29 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM | \$10

(Sign-up opens December 22 in MyClubHub: Caregiver Portal)

Cinema 8 Field Trip

December 30 | Time TBD | \$15

(Sign-up opens December 23 in MyClubHub: Caregiver Portal)

New Year's Eve Party

December 31 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM | **FREE**

(No Registration Needed)

The Lanes Field Trip

January 4 | 1:00 - 3:00 PM | \$15

(Sign-up opens December 28 in MyClubHub: Caregiver Portal)





Teen Center Reminders

A few helpful reminders to keep the Teen Center safe, fun, and welcoming for everyone!

Monday Carpet Meetings

Every Monday, members participate in a Carpet Meeting where they receive important Club updates, learn about upcoming events, and review Club expectations. These meetings help create a positive, respectful environment for everyone.

Incentive Bay

The Teen Center Incentive Bay is open every Tuesday and Thursday! Members can redeem their incentive tokens for dirty sodas and other fun prizes.

Full Day Schedule

On Full Days, the Teen Center will close at 3:00 p.m. Members will be transported to the Elementary Site, where they may remain until 6:00 p.m. for parent pick-up.

Respect Our Neighbors

Please remind your teen not to cut through the StoneyBrook Assisted Living property when walking to or from the Club. We appreciate everyone's help in being respectful neighbors and staying on designated public walkways.

Cell Phone Camera Policy

To protect the privacy of members and staff, the use of the camera function on cell phones or other personal devices is not permitted while at the Teen Center.

Tobacco- and Vape-Free Campus

The Teen Center is a tobacco- and vape-free environment. Tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, and vaping devices are prohibited on Club property. Prohibited items will be confiscated, and violations may result in disciplinary action, including suspension.

Special Programs & Events

Ceramics Camp

Dates & Times | 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM | \$20

Ceramics Camp gives teens the opportunity to explore their creativity through hands-on clay projects while learning basic sculpting and pottery techniques. Members will build artistic skills, express themselves, and create unique pieces in a fun and supportive environment.

(Sign-up opens August 17th in MyClubHub: Caregiver Portal)

Sewing Club

Dates & Times TBD | **FREE** | **No Registration Required**

Members will explore creativity and sustainability by learning sewing skills and upcycling clothing into new, unique designs. Teens will gain confidence, practice problem-solving, and develop hands-on skills while creating pieces that showcase their personal style and creativity.

OJJDP Mentoring Program

Dates & Times TBD | **FREE** | **No Registration Required**

The OJJDP Mentoring Program helps teens build confidence, develop life skills, and form positive relationships through fun, engaging group activities.

Each mentoring group will have its own meeting day and time, which will be assigned after the application and parent/guardian consent form have been completed.

If you are interested in enrolling your child, please contact Jayde O'Daniel at jodaniel@greatfuturesd.org for more information.

Indigenous Day Celebration

October 12 | 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM | **Free** | **No Registration Required**

Members will learn about the importance of Indigenous Peoples' Day and explore the teachings of the Medicine Wheel, focusing on balance, connection, and the importance of overall well-being.

Halloween Party

October 30 | 3:30 PM-6:00 PM | **FREE** | **No Registration Required**

Get ready for a spooktacular time at the Teen Center! Members can enjoy Just Dance, a Halloween Costume Contest with surprise gift cards for each winner, Jumpy UNO, musical chairs, and more fun activities.

The Snack Shack will also be open, so be sure to bring extra cash for snacks and drinks while you celebrate with friends!

Fall Festival

November 19 | 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM | **FREE** | **No Registration Required**

Members will celebrate the fall season through fun activities that highlight creativity, community, and appreciation for the harvest. Youth will enjoy seasonal games, crafts, and activities while learning about the importance of gratitude, connection, and traditions that celebrate this special time of year.

First Day of Winter Family Event

December 21 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM | **FREE** | **No Registration Required**

Members and their families will enjoy a cozy holiday movie experience featuring The Christmas Chronicles, homemade popcorn, and hot cocoa. Youth will have the opportunity to relax, connect with friends and family, and celebrate the holiday season together in a fun and festive environment.

New Year New Me Party!

January 29 | 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM | **FREE** | **No Registration Required**

Members will ring in the new year with a fun and meaningful celebration featuring mocktails, time capsules, and vision boards. Youth will have the opportunity to reflect on the past year, set goals for the future, and express their creativity while celebrating new beginnings with friends. Don't forget to bring money to purchase mocktails and treats while you celebrate the New Year!

Teen Fall Impact Programs

This Fall, join us for hands-on, youth-driven programs that build confidence, creativity, leadership and community. These programs are **FREE** to all Teens. **No Registration required!**

Nothing But Net Basketball Tournaments

Mondays | 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Nothing But Net Basketball Tournaments provide youth with an engaging and enriching opportunity to develop teamwork, communication, leadership, and sportsmanship in a fun, structured environment. Through friendly competition, members build confidence, strengthen decision-making and problem-solving skills, and learn the importance of perseverance, accountability, and respect for others.

First Tee

Tuesdays & Thursdays | 4:15 PM - 5:30 PM

Starting October 21st, First Tee combines academic support with recreation by giving youth dedicated time to complete homework and the opportunity to participate in activities on the golf simulator. This program promotes responsibility, time management, and goal setting while providing a fun and engaging way for members to develop golf skills, build confidence, and practice focus, perseverance, and sportsmanship.

Teen Council

Bi-Weekly Tuesdays | 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Starting September 1st Teens will identify needs in their community and take action through volunteerism, becoming leaders and changemakers in their Club and beyond.

Life & Workforce Readiness

Mondays | 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Life & Workforce Readiness prepares youth for future success by exposing them to a variety of career pathways through guest speakers, field trips, and hands-on learning experiences. Members build essential workplace skills by participating in mock interviews, receiving assistance with résumé writing and job applications, and developing communication, professionalism, and confidence as they prepare for future education and employment opportunities.

E-Sports

Wednesdays | 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

E-sports helps teens build teamwork, communication, and strategic thinking as they work together toward shared goals. Players practice problem-solving and quick decision-making, while gaining a strong sense of community and belonging, especially for those not involved in traditional sports.

Teen Clubs

Dungeons & Dragons Club

Wednesdays | 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Create your own character, go on epic adventures, solve puzzles, and battle monsters in this fun tabletop roleplaying game. No experience needed —just bring your imagination!

Teen Court Club

Mondays | 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Learn about the justice system while building leadership, teamwork, and public speaking skills. Members take on roles like attorneys, jurors, and bailiffs in a fun, hands-on environment.

NextGen Voice

Wednesdays | 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Make a positive impact through leadership, service projects, and community initiatives. Members work together to promote kindness, mental health awareness, and inclusion while making a difference in their community.

Prevention Campaign Initiatives

(Registration is not required for any of the campaign activities)

September – National R U OK? Day

September 10 | R U OK? day is a day for encouraging people to check-in with others and support mental health through meaningful conversations. Teens will be creating positive affirmation notes and hanging them around the Club! | 4:00 – 5:00 PM

October – Red Ribbon Week

Spirit Week Dress-Up Days + games and prizes = immeasurable fun! This years theme is **"Make a Difference. Be a Hero. Stay Drug Free!"** | 3:45 PM – 5:30 PM

- October 26 – **REDy to Be Drug-Free!** (Wear red)
 - Drug Free Pledge Wall
- October 27 – **Be a Hero!** (Wear your favorite hero)
 - "Super" Scavenger Hunt
- October 28 – **Team Up Against Drugs!** (Wear your favorite sports jersey)
 - Minute-to-win-it Tournament
- October 29 – **Too Bright for Drugs!** (Wear pink for Breast Cancer Awareness)
 - Jeopardy
- October 30 – **Put a Cap on Drugs** (Wear a hat)
 - Bingo

November - Great American Smokeout

November 19 | In dedication to quitting substance use "cold turkey", the Teen Center plans to serve turkey sandwiches for snack time.

December - Holiday Mindfulness

December 21 | 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM | Hot cocoa-themed mindfulness, and a Holiday Scavenger hunt!

Full Day Field Activities (No School Days)

When school is out, the Teen Center is the place to be! Guided by our **Youth Voice & Choice** philosophy, members voted on the activities they'd most like to see during full-day programming. No School Days may include:

- Gaming time
- VR headset access
- Open Gym
- Sip & Paint
- Mystery snacks at the Snack Shack
- Staff vs. Youth challenges
- Mario Kart tournaments
- Homework assistance
- Job application and résumé assistance

By incorporating member feedback into our programming, we create No School Days that are engaging, enjoyable, and centered around the interests of our teens.



GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.**