



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF BROOKINGS**

SPRING NEWSLETTER



January - May 2026

Open the door to Great Futures



Welcome to Spring 2026 at the Club!

When a young person walks through our doors, they're not just joining an afterschool program — they're entering a comprehensive Out-of-School Time (OST) experience designed for growth, discovery, and belonging. At the Boys & Girls Club of Brookings, we create space for connection, support, and exploration beyond the classroom. Here, youth feel safe, valued, and encouraged to grow into who they are meant to be.

This spring, our OST programs are intentionally crafted to spark curiosity, build confidence, and help members stay on track academically — all supported by trusted mentors who show up every day and genuinely care. Because at Boys & Girls Club, Great Futures Start Here.

Brookings Needs Club Kids!

Strong kids build strong communities, and the future depends on how we invest in our youth today. In Brookings, Club members are gaining the skills, resilience, and leadership they need to thrive. When Club kids succeed, our whole community grows stronger. Brookings doesn't just benefit from Club kids — **Brookings needs them!**





MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Club Closed Dates

Thursday, January 1

- New Years Day

Friday, January 23

- Staff Development

Friday, February 27

- Staff Development

Friday, March 27

- Staff Development

Friday, April 24

- Staff Development

Monday, May 18 - Friday, May 22

- Summer Prep

Monday, May 25

- Memorial Day

Club Full Days

Open 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Traditional & Teen Center (JK-12th Grade)

Friday, January 2

- Winter Break

Monday, January 5

- Winter Break

Monday, January 19

- MLK Day

Friday, February 13

- No School for ECE - 5th Only

Monday, February 16

- President's Day

Thursday, March 12 & Friday, March 13

- Spring Break

Thursday, April 2 - Monday, April 6

- Spring Break

Friday, May 15

- Last Day of School-Year Programming

Tuesday, May 26

- First Day of Summer Programming

Club Closing Early At 6:00 PM

Traditional & Teen Center (JK-12th Grade)

Wednesday, January 28 - Staff Training

Wednesday, February 25 - Staff Training

Wednesday, March 25 - Staff Training

Wednesday, April 29 - Staff Training



The Give Back Drive

Hosted by the Teen Center Teen Council

We're collecting items to support our members, strengthen our professional closet, and assist local nonprofit partners. Your donations make a direct impact in our Club and throughout the community!

Donation Dates: January 1 – February 1

Drop-Off Time: 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM at the Teen Center

All items are welcome — just please keep them under 20 pounds.

Examples of needed items:

- Canned goods
- Clothing
- Household essentials
- Kitchen items

Before donating, please ensure all items are clean, working, and free of damage or stains.

Thank you for supporting our mission and our teens as they give back to those around them!

NEW MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS FOR 2026

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

Seasonal Membership Levels

Spring: \$50 • \$100 • \$150

Summer: \$150 • \$200 • \$250

Fall: \$50 • \$100 • \$150

Enrollment Information

- Enrollment **OPENS** January 5, 2026, on the Caregiver Portal (MyClubHub)
- Spring enrollment deadline:** February 2, 2026
- Enrollment will remain open after February 2 as space and scholarship funding allow.

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 remains \$100 per year and is not affected by this change.

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.

Obligation-Free January!

Enjoy the Club all January, FREE and with no commitment. It's the perfect chance to try us out before choosing a membership.

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@greatfuturessd.org

☎️ 605-692-3333 ext. 151.

Learn More at:
greatfuturessd.org/2026TraditionalClubMembership

Enroll or Renew Your Membership

Registration Opens January 5

**SCAN
ME!**



How to Renew or Enroll

Scan the QR code or visit greatfuturessd.org and log in to the **Caregiver Portal (MyClubHub)** to complete your membership registration.

Enroll in Obligation-Free January!

Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/bUGxs4rmqT>
or scan the QR Code below!

Questions About Enrollment?

We're happy to help!

Kaylie Hemish, Unit Director

✉️ khemish@greatfuturessd.org

☎️ 605-692-3333 ext. 200



MORNING PROGRAM (JK-5TH GRADE)

Boys & Girls Club of Brookings Morning Program offers JK-5th grade members a supportive and engaging start to their day. The Morning Program is **FREE** with an active membership. In the Morning Program, youth will build friendships, develop new skills, and head into school ready to learn and succeed.

Hours: 6:00 AM - 7:15 AM

Members must be dropped off at the ECE entrance (Yellow Doors) no later than 7:15 AM to ride their bus to school.

Transportation: Members will walk to Mickelson Middle School with staff at 7:15 AM to ride their designated bus to their schools.

Breakfast: Members are dropped off at school in time for school breakfast.

Contact

Kate Mathiesen, Elementary Director
605-692-3333 Ext. 205
kmathiesen@greatfuturessd.org.

How to Enroll

Enroll through the Caregiver Portal (MyClubHub).

Space is limited.



ELEMENTARY SITE (JK-5TH GRADE)

Our Elementary Site provides a safe, fun, and engaging environment for youth in **Junior Kindergarten-2nd grade and 3rd-5th grade**. Members participate in a wide variety of enriching programs, including:

- STEM activities
- Tutoring and mentoring groups
- Art projects
- Organized gym games
- And more

School Year Meals: All members receive a **FREE** snack after school and a warm supper served daily.



TEEN CENTER (MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL)

Middle and high school members have the space and support to explore their interests, connect with peers, and build leadership skills through:

- Art programs
- Team games
- E-Sports
- Tutoring
- Tech time
- Workforce readiness programs
- Mentoring groups
- And more

School Year Meals: Teens enjoy a **FREE** after-school snack and a warm supper served daily.



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. Breakfast, a hot lunch option, and supper will be served; members may bring a nut-free sack lunch if they prefer.

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

The Morning Program will be CLOSED in the event of a school closure or a late start.

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



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 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.



MEALS & SNACKS

All meals and snacks are **FREE** for members — helping kids stay energized, focused, and ready for Great Futures!

School Days

Members receive a snack immediately after school and a warm supper.

Full Days

Members receive breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack, and a warm supper.

Families may send a **nut-free** sack lunch if preferred.

Please note: Refrigerator and microwave access are not available.

Menus

View the full monthly menu at:

greatfuturessd.org/brookings



SPRING IMPACT PROGRAMS

JOIN US for **FREE** Impact Programs that inspire curiosity, encourage healthy habits, build leadership skills, and prepare members for great futures, all in a safe and supportive Club environment.

No registration required.

Power Hour (JK - 5th Grade)

Mondays at 4:15 PM & Wednesdays at 3:15 PM

Power Hour supports academic success through homework help, tutoring, and enrichment activities. Staff encourage youth to become self-directed learners while building confidence in reading, writing, and math.

No registration required.



Little Foodies (3rd - 5th Grade)

Thursdays at 4:00 PM

Led by SDSU Nutrition & Dietetics, Little Foodies teaches healthy habits through hands-on games, crafts, and nutritious snack-making. Members learn how to make smart food choices in a fun, interactive way.

No registration required.



Smart Swings (K - 5th Grade)

Tuesdays & Thursdays at 4:15 PM

Smart Swings combines academic support and healthy lifestyles through homework help followed by golf instruction. Club staff and First Tee South Dakota coaches work with youth on reading and math skills, then use golf games, VR technology, and a golf simulator to teach the values of the sport.

More details on dates, times, and registration coming soon.



Reading Buddies (3rd - 5th Grade)

Wednesdays at 3:30 PM

Members in grades 3–5 visit our youngest friends in the ECE Clubhouse for 30 minutes of shared reading, conversation, and connection. This program fosters a love of reading while helping older members grow as leaders and role models.

Full Day Field Trips & Activities (JK-5th Grade)

Sign-up required. Register using [Caregiver Portal \(MyClubHub\)](#). All activities open one week before the event. Please note: Activity fees help us cover staffing, transportation, supplies, and admission costs needed to make activities possible.

Sock Snowman Craft

Friday, January 2 | 1:00–3:00 PM | \$10

[Registration opens December 26](#)

Youth will get the chance to create their very own snowman craft to bring home and display.

The Lanes Field Trip

Monday, January 5 | 1:00–3:00 PM | \$15

[Registration opens December 29](#)

Join us at The Lanes for bowling, games, and an afternoon of fun with friends.

Yoga at Synergy Strength Studio

Monday, January 19 | 1:00–3:00 PM | \$10

[Registration opens January 12](#)

A relaxing, beginner-friendly yoga session designed to help kids stretch, breathe, and recharge.

Homemade Heart Pizzas & a Movie

Friday, February 13 | 1:00–3:00 PM | \$10

[Registration opens February 6](#)

Make your own heart-shaped pizza and enjoy a movie with friends.

Wildfire Field Trip

Monday, February 16 | 1:00–3:00 PM | \$15

[Registration opens February 9](#)

A fun adventure at Wildfire featuring games, activities, and snacks.

Bird Houses

Thursday, March 12 | 1:00–3:00 PM | \$10

[Registration opens March 5](#)

Build and paint your own birdhouse just in time for spring.

The Lanes Field Trip

Friday, March 13 | 1:00–3:00 PM | \$15

[Registration opens March 6](#)

Join us at The Lanes for bowling, games, and an afternoon of fun with friends.

Cloud Dough

Thursday, April 2 | 1:00–3:00 PM | \$10

[Registration opens March 26](#)

In this hands-on activity, members will create their own soft, moldable cloud dough and take it home to enjoy!

Easter Egg Dyeing

Friday, April 3 | 1:00–3:00 PM | \$12

[Registration opens March 27](#)

Get creative bright spring colors while dyeing and decorating your own Easter eggs.

Laser Tag

Monday, April 6 | 1:00–3:00 PM | \$10

[Registration opens March 30](#)

Gear up for action! Enjoy high-energy laser tag battles in a fun, friendly environment.



SPECIAL PROGRAMS & EVENTS (JK-5TH GRADE)

Friday Fun Nights

Members are invited to fun themed evenings at the Club featuring games, hands-on activities, and time with friends.

Time: 7:00–8:30 PM

Cost: \$10 per night

Registration: Opens one week prior in the Caregiver Portal (MCH)

Dates:

- February 6
- March 6
- May 1

Club Party — Community Event

Outdoor Movie & Picnic

Friday, April 17 | 7:00 – 9:00 PM | Cost TBD

Join us for an evening under the stars! Families and members are invited to enjoy an outdoor movie and picnic at the Club.



REMINDERS

Items from Home

Leave personal toys and items at home — our Clubs provide plenty of fun activities! The Club is not responsible for lost, stolen, or broken items.

Activity Fees

- Fee-based activities, trips, or camps must be paid before attending.
- Please note: Activity fees help us cover staffing, transportation, supplies, and admission costs needed to make activities possible.

Stay Connected

- Email: Updates go to the Head of Household email listed in MCH. Please check regularly and mark us safe from junk/spam.
- Facebook: Follow Boys & Girls Club of Brookings for updates, announcements & more.

Phone & Smartwatch Policy (Elementary)

- 4th–5th graders may use phones only during designated times:
 - School days: 3:45–4:15 PM
 - Full days: 9:00–9:30 AM & 4:00–4:30 PM
- **🚫** Facebook, Snapchat & camera use are not allowed.
- To reach your child at the Club, please call the front desk at 605-692-3333 (staff will supervise calls).

Drop-Off & Pick-Up

- Parents/guardians must come inside for drop-off and pick-up.
- If arriving during after-school drop-off, please wait outside until youth are scanned in. If you cannot wait, consider school pick-up instead.



Please note: We do our best to stick to all planned schedules. Occasionally, dates or activities may shift to better serve the needs of our kids and families. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility!



SPRING IMPACT PROGRAMS TEENS (GRADES 6–12)

JOIN US for **FREE** Impact Programs that inspire curiosity, encourage healthy habits, build leadership skills, and prepare members for great futures, all in a safe and supportive Club environment.

ALL STARS — Mondays | 4:00–5:00 PM

Teens build strength, coordination, and confidence through organized basketball activities. ALL STARS promotes teamwork, skill development, and healthy movement on and off the court.

Teen Court — Tuesdays | 4:00–5:00 PM

Teens will explore how the court system works, including roles, responsibilities, and courtroom etiquette. Through mock trials, teens practice serving as attorneys and jury members, developing communication, critical thinking, and fairness.

E-Sports — Wednesdays | 2:30–4:00 PM

E-Sports helps teens build teamwork, communication, and strategic thinking as they compete in a structured gaming environment. Members gain problem-solving skills, quick decision-making abilities, and a strong sense of belonging.

Healthy Habits — Wednesdays | 4:00–5:00 PM

Teens learn about nutrition, healthy choices, and delicious alternatives to everyday snacks. This program encourages lifelong habits that support overall wellbeing.

Keepin' It Real — Thursdays | 4:00–5:00 PM

A prevention-focused program that promotes mental health and positive decision-making. Teens learn skills to confidently resist drug, alcohol, and tobacco use while practicing communication and healthy coping strategies.

Youth Arts — Fridays | 4:00–5:00 PM

Teens explore creative expression through visual arts, performing arts, music, dance, and more. Youth Arts helps members discover new interests while building confidence and cultural awareness.



SPECIAL EVENTS

[SIGN UP →](#)



Sign-up is required for all field trips and fee-based activities unless otherwise noted. Register through the Caregiver Portal (MCH) or by scanning the provided QR code.

Volleyball Tournament

January 14 | 4:00–5:00 PM | \$2

Registration opens January 7

A friendly, all-skill-level volleyball competition to build teamwork and confidence.

Nerf at Night

January 29 | 7:00–8:30 PM | \$5

Registration opens January 22

An action-packed after-hours Nerf battle filled with fast-paced fun.

Basketball Tournament

February 11 | 4:00–5:00 PM | \$2

Registration opens February 4

Show your skills and compete in a high-energy basketball showdown.

Teens Just Want to Have Fun Party

February 27 | 4:00–5:00 PM | \$2

Registration opens February 20

Join us for snacks, drinks, karaoke, Just Dance competitions, and an hour of pure fun.

Dodgeball Tournament

March 4 | 4:00–5:00 PM | \$2

Registration opens February 25

Dodge, dip, and dive your way through an exciting dodgeball tournament.

Spring Break Party

March 10 | 4:00–5:00 PM | \$2

Registration opens March 3

Celebrate Spring Break with face painting, temporary tattoos, snacks, drinks, and more.

Egg Hunt

April 1 | 4:00–5:00 PM | \$2

Registration opens March 25

Hunt for eggs, collect prizes, and enjoy a fun springtime tradition.

Spring Hike to Oakwood

April 16 | 4:00–7:00 PM | \$10

Registration opens April 9

Take a scenic hike at Oakwood and enjoy pizza with friends afterward.

Together We Grow

April 28 | 4:00–7:00 PM | FREE

No registration required

Help prepare the Teen Center garden for summer by painting garden beds and planting produce.



Full Day Activities (No School Days)

[SIGN UP →](#)



Sign-up is required for all field trips and fee-based activities unless otherwise noted. Register through the Caregiver Portal (MCH) or by scanning the provided QR code.

Pancakes & Pajamas

January 19 | 9:30–10:30 AM | \$5

Registration opens January 5

Start the day cozy with warm pancakes while hanging out in your favorite pajamas.

Kickball Tournament

January 19 | 1:00–2:00 PM | \$2

Registration opens January 5

Join a friendly kickball tournament—active, fun, and great for all skill levels.

Vision Boards

February 16 | 9:30–10:30 AM | FREE

No registration required

Create a vision board to set goals and spark creativity for the year ahead.

Homemade Mini Pizzas

February 16 | 1:00–2:00 PM | \$10

Registration opens February 9

Make your own mini pizza with customizable toppings.

Bagels & Bouquets

March 12 | 9:30–10:30 AM | \$10

Registration opens March 5

Enjoy a bagel breakfast, then craft a mini floral bouquet to take home.

Pickleball Tournament

March 12 | 1:00–2:00 PM | \$2

No registration required

A friendly pickleball tournament perfect for beginners or experienced players.

Bake Your Own Mini Cake

March 13 | 9:30–10:30 AM | \$10

Decorate your own mini cake with frosting and toppings.

Laser Tag

March 13 | 1:00–2:00 PM | \$2

No registration required

Gear up for an action-packed hour of laser tag with friends.

Homemade Ice Cream

April 2 | 9:30–10:30 AM | \$10

Registration opens March 26

Mix, shake, and make your own ice cream with fun flavors and toppings.

Kickball Tournament

April 2 | 1:00–2:00 PM | \$2

No registration required

Another round of kickball fun—bring your energy and join the team.

Sip & Paint Friday

April 3 | 9:30–10:30 AM | \$10

Registration opens March 27

Enjoy guided painting while sipping your favorite juice.

Pickleball Tournament

April 3 | 1:00–2:00 PM | \$2

No registration required

Drop in for a relaxed and fun pickleball match with peers.

Teen Center Escape Room

April 6 | 9:30–10:30 AM | \$5

Registration opens March 30

Work together to solve clues, unlock puzzles, and beat the clock.

Paint Dart Competition

April 6 | 1:00–2:00 PM | \$10

Registration opens March 30

Compete in a colorful paint-dart challenge that's messy, creative, and tons of fun.

SPRING TEEN CENTER PREVENTION CAMPAIGNS

No registration required for any campaign activities.

January – Tobacco-Free Awareness

Teens will learn about the risks of tobacco and vaping while exploring healthy ways to cope with stress and stay tobacco-free.

February – American Heart Month

This month focuses on heart-healthy habits through fitness challenges, nutrition tips, and activities that support lifelong wellness.

March – Red Cross Month

Teens will build basic first-aid and emergency preparedness skills while learning how the Red Cross supports communities during emergencies.

April – World Health Day (April 7)

Activities highlight overall wellness with an emphasis on healthy habits, movement, and daily self-care.

May – Mental Health Awareness Month

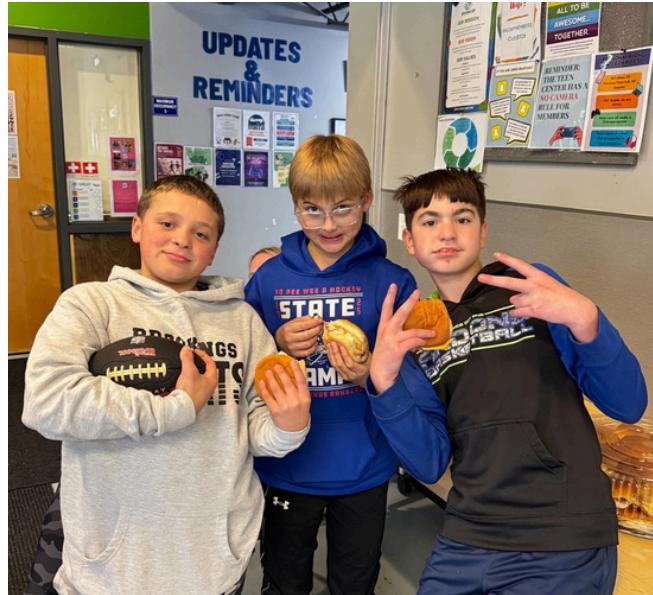
Teens will explore coping skills, stress management strategies, and the importance of caring for their mental and emotional wellbeing.

PICK-UP LOCATION ON NO-SCHOOL & SNOW DAYS

Starting in 2026, on scheduled no-school days and snow days, the Teen Center will **close at 3:00 PM**. After that time, all teen programming will continue in their designated space at the Elementary site.

If you are picking up your teen between 3:00 PM and 6:00 PM, please plan to pick up at the Elementary site.

Club hours remain 7:30 AM–6:00 PM.



Special Reminders

A few quick rules to keep the Teen Center safe, fun, and welcoming for everyone!

Respect Private Property

Please remind your teen to avoid cutting through StoneyBrook Assisted Living on the way to the Club. Let's be good neighbors and respectful of surrounding property.

No Camera Use Allowed

To protect everyone's privacy, teens are not allowed to use the camera function on their mobile devices while at the Teen Center.

Tobacco- and Vape-Free Zone

The Teen Center is a tobacco- and vape-free space. Prohibited items will be confiscated, and members may face suspension for violations.

Invite a Friend!

We know teens are more comfortable trying new spaces with someone they know. Teens are welcome to bring a friend to the Club at no cost for their first visit. Each referral will enter them into a prize drawing.

