



WARREN COUNTY YMCA CO-ED Fall Soccer 2024 (2nd-3rd & 4th-5th Grades)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to 2024 Fall Soccer at the Warren County YMCA. Thank you so much for signing your child(ren) up for our program! I am excited to return to the field this Fall along with my fellow coaches: Ramon Godina Contreras, Oniza Royeen and Kylene Polhans-Vice!

Practices: We will practice today, August 23rd: 2nd-3rd Grade @4:30-5:30pm and 4th-5th Grade @5:30-6:45pm. We will also do the same times next Tuesday, August 27th. After that practice, I will make teams and get rosters to coaches. I (Ben) will message all parents once teams are made so you know which team your child is on for the Fall, where/when your child has practices, who is coaching, etc. After this, your coach will then follow up for future practices, as well as game info.

Games: 2nd-3rd Grade League – As of now, my goal is to continue to play here in Monmouth. We need more sign-ups to have enough for 4 teams. If we play in Monmouth, here at the Warren County Y, games would be on the following Saturdays: September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 12, & 19. October 26th would be used as a make-up date, if needed. Game times are currently TBD, and I won't have times available until early September, after I figure out what we are doing with the 4th-5th Grade group, as well as Flag Football. Games will likely be on Saturday afternoons starting between noon-2pm. IF we do not have enough sign ups for 4 teams, we may be looking at playing in Galesburg. If so, those games would start a week earlier, on September 7th. I will provide details AS SOON as I can.

The 4th-5th Grade league as of now, will return to play other area teams at the Knox County YMCA in Galesburg on the following Saturdays: September 7, 14, 21, 28, October 5 & 12. My ultimate goal would be to play this league here in Monmouth, but for now we will play in Galesburg. If things change, I will alert you all immediately. The Knox County YMCA Sports Coordinator is responsible for making game schedules so as of now, I do not know specific team/game times but know they could happen between 9am-2pm on the listed Saturdays. I will attempt to have our games in Galesburg go on earlier in the morning (9am or 10am) so our coaches can get back to Monmouth in time for the 2nd-3rd Grade leagues. I hope to get that information asap. Once I get it, I will immediately edit it for our needs and get it to you.

Picture Day: Shyvel's Photography will be returning to take team pictures this season for us! Pictures for the 2nd-3rd grade group are currently planned for Saturday, September 28th prior to games, and at practices for the 4th-5th grade group at one of the practices during the week of September 23rd. I will have coaches hand out picture forms during practices the week before as a reminder. More picture times/details to come.

Team Shirts: I will do my best to make sure team shirts arrive during the week prior to our first games. Worst case scenario, we hand them out at the first games.

Cancelations - I will always try to have soccer no matter what the weather is doing. It is Fall in Illinois, so weather can be extreme. Soccer can be played in all sorts of weather, if it is safe to do so. I will only cancel if I deem the weather dangerous (severe weather or weather warnings, extreme rain/cold, blustery wind etc.). Plan on there being soccer unless you hear from either me or your coach! Please don't bombard the YMCA with calls as I will let you know!

Communication - I (Coach Ben) will send messages out as needed during the program. These messages could be reminders, changes to the program schedule, cancellations, etc. These will either come from myself personally, or from Daxko Engage (our messaging system at the Y). Engage has the ability for me to send out mass text messages to program participants. I strongly ask that you "opt in" to receive messages from Daxko Engage as it helps me immensely get info to you much quicker than adding each person's phone number into my phone. 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! You can "opt out" at any time.

Finally, if you are interested in sponsoring your child's team, 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 ALL the teams shirts for the season. If interested, I will need confirmation and will need your logo artwork by Tuesday, August 27th. As a thank you, I will also have a 2x2 banner made for you that will hang outside on the baseball field fence for the remainder of 2024.

I hope you find this letter helpful, especially those of you new to the program! Again, thank you so much for allowing us to work with your children and teach them the fantastic sport of Soccer! Please email me with any questions/concerns via ben@warrencountyyymca.org . You can also call the YMCA at 734-3183 and I can talk to you when available! Enjoy the rest of your day and please enjoy the season!

**Thank You,
Ben Davis
Youth Development Director**

Thank you to our Youth Sports Sponsors so far in 2024:

**eCard Transactions - Jenks Family Farms - Shyvel's Photography - Dame Fine Coffee
Advanced Plumbing & Mechanical, LLC - Midwest Bank - Porter Hay Insurance Quality
Roofing Pro - Clark & Glasgow LLC - Smithfield Foods - HPOD Transport LLC
ADM (Archer Midland Daniels Company) - Designed to Restore Lenz/Doherty Families -
Jensen Farms - Freedom Roller Rink - IHC Heating & Cooling LLC
Environmental Road Solutions - Black Flag Tinting - Waymaker Travel**