



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

**Update as of July 15, 2020**

July 15, 2020

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Effective July 16, 2020, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County will require all members, staff, volunteers, vendors and guests to wear a facemask while in one of our Clubhouses. To comply with this new safety directive, individuals can wear any:

*fabric, paper, or disposable face covering that covers the nose and mouth and which does not have an exhalation valve.*

I understand there will be an adjustment period for our members, many of whom have not previously worn a mask. However, this step is necessary and I ask for your support and assistance with helping your child understand the importance of this new safety precaution and their role in keeping themselves and their friends safe.

Finally, we will not be able to allow any individual, five (5) or older, who is unwilling to wear a mask to enter or remain in one of our Clubhouses.

I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation as we continue to adapt so we can continue safely serving those who need us most. As always, if you have questions or just need to talk with me, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 406-245-4457.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian H. Dennis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Brian Dennis  
President & CEO

**Update as of June 5, 2020**



Dear Club Parents & Guardians,

### **Castle Rock Clubhouse**

We are pleased to announce that in partnership with Billings Public Schools and following safety guidance from the Yellowstone County Health Officer, we will re-open the Castle Rock Clubhouse on Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> to serve up to 100 members. Summer participation will continue to be invitation only and these new spots will be for school-year members from the Castle Rock and Medicine Crow Clubhouses including those currently attending the Bair Family Clubhouse.

### **More Members at Bair Family**

With the Castle Rock and Medicine Crow members leaving the Bair Family Clubhouse, we will invite more school-year members from the Bair Family, Lockwood and McKinley Clubhouses to fill the vacant spots.

### **Lockwood Clubhouse**

The conversation with Lockwood School on opportunities to provide in person programming this summer continues but we do not have new information to share.

While we are pleased to open the Castle Rock Clubhouse, we know more kids need the Club and we remain focused on finding opportunities to provide service to more young people. Please monitor our Facebook page and website for the latest information and if you have questions or need to talk to someone, call me at 406-245-4457.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Dennis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brian Dennis  
President & CEO

Update as of June 01, 2020



Dear Parents,

At this point, we have made nearly all the calls for the Summer Program spots currently available at the Bair Family Clubhouse. We continue to have conversations with Billings and Lockwood Schools about opportunities to serve members at our school-based sites. As information becomes available, we will share it with you.

Please stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for new information and as always, if you have questions please give me a call at 406-245-4457.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian H. Dennis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brian Dennis  
President & CEO

Update as of May 22, 2020



Dear Club Families,

As we head into the Memorial Day weekend, I want to share the latest information we have on efforts to re-open our Clubs so we can safely serve more of *those who need us most*.

### **Bair Family Clubhouse Summer Program**

In consultation with the Yellowstone County Health Officer, we will re-open the Bair Family Clubhouse on June 1, 2020 and eventually serve up to 100 members per day. However, to comply with safety guidelines and provide the best possible experience, we must do something we have not done before – ***register Club Members by invitation only***

In the coming days, our Clubhouse Teams will review the current list of school-year members and build an invitation list from each of our five Clubhouses. It is my expectation that the invitation list will be complete next week and the parent/guardian calls will be wrapped up the week of June 1st.

### **School-Based Summer Programs**

We are in conversation with both Billings and Lockwood Public Schools to determine options to re-open one or more of our school-based Clubhouses and as we develop more information, I will share that with you. However, for now, we will not re-open any of the four school sites.

### **Remote Service Possibilities**

In an effort to expand our reach, our professionals are exploring a number of options to provide “remote services” for members to engage with our Club professionals and receive some level of support and engagement this summer. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for more information about these opportunities.

While we are limited in the number of members we can serve in-person this summer, we remain committed to exploring every reasonable option to do more for *those who need us most*. As we develop new information, I will keep you informed and as always, if you have questions or need to speak with someone please give me a call at 406-245-4457.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Dennis", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Dennis  
President & CEO

Update as of May 8, 2020



Good afternoon,

Earlier today, we spoke with the Yellowstone County Health Officer and while we see positive signs, we are not in a position to change our current operations or announce any plans for the 2020 Summer Program. There is simply too much uncertainty about the impact of the re-opening of local businesses and until additional time has passed, no decisions can be made. We will meet with the Yellowstone County Health Officer on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and it is my hope sufficient information will be available so we can announce plans for the summer program.

As always, please keep your families safe and if you have questions or need someone to talk to please feel free to call me at 406-245-4457.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian H. Dennis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brian Dennis  
President & CEO

Update as of April 24, 2020



Dear Club Parents,

I hope this note finds you and your family safe and healthy. Our entire team miss your kids and we are working to resume operations as quickly as it is safe to do so. However, it is with great regret that I tell you, based on the best information available; we have decided not to re-open any Clubhouses prior to June.

To determine what options are available for the Club's 2020 Summer Program, we met with the Yellowstone County Health Officer earlier today. While the Governor has laid out his plan to begin reopening Montana, it is just too early to know when Montana will move to Phase 2 of the plan, which is when we expect to be able move beyond our current emergency service program and begin to finalize our summer plans.

We will meet again with the Health Officer on Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> and after that meeting I will share with you what we learn and any information I can regarding our plans for Summer.

Thank you for your patience and if you have questions or need to speak with someone, please feel free to call me here at the office at 406-245-4457.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian H. Dennis", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Brian Dennis  
President & CEO

Update as of April 18, 2020



## **BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF YELLOWSTONE COUNTY TO PROVIDE SERVICES DURING SCHOOL SHUTDOWN**

[Billings, MT], [March 19, 2020] – Beginning, Monday, March 23, 2020 The Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County will open the Bair Family Clubhouse at 505 Orchard Lane, to provide a full day experience for a limited number of current members. The Bair Family Clubhouse will be open from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm for current Club members, who are homeless, have a parent working for one of the hospitals or who are first responders. The current members who are eligible to attend next week have already received a call from local Club professionals.

According to Brian Dennis, President & CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County; “for nearly 50 years, our local Club has maintained a singular focus on serving *those who need us most*, and today more than ever we must make every effort to safely serve as many members as we can during these challenging times.”

### **Details on the Daily Experience:**

Current members who attend this full day experience will find it very similar to the normal full-day Club experience, which includes:

- three meals per day,
- math, science and reading enrichment,
- daily fitness and recreation opportunities, and
- healthy lifestyle programming.

### **Additional Safety Procedures:**

The Boys & Girls Club will implement additional safety and sanitation procedures to take all reasonable precautions to keep our members and staff professionals safe. Those extra steps include:

- taking temperatures of all members and staff when they enter the building and at lunch,
- limiting group sizes and reducing the interaction between groups during the day,
- aggressively cleaning each Club space multiple times each day,
- a “quarantine” room for members who exhibit symptoms to wait until they are picked up, and
- restricting parent/guardian access to the building.

### **General Club Information:**

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County has been serving kids since 1971 and regularly operates five Clubhouses in many of our community’s toughest neighborhoods. The Club’s trained professional staff delivers high quality programs to children & Teens age 6 to 18 years old, which emphasize education and career development, the arts, character development, life skills and sports and recreation. For more information about the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County, please call 406-245-4457.

**Update as of March 15, 2020**



The Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County makes the safety and well-being of our members, staff and volunteers a top priority so we will close all five Clubhouse from March 16 through March 20, 2020. During this closure the Boys & Girls Club will identify additional safety protocols and service schedules we can implement to serve those who need us most while protecting our members, staff and community. We appreciate your understanding during this difficult time and if you have questions please contact the Program Support Center at 406-245-4457 or visit our Facebook page