



July 29, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are informing you that the South Dakota Department of Health (SD-DOH) has identified a case of pertussis (whooping cough) at the Club for Boys. We were not informed of the member's name. The following information was provided to us by the SD Department of Health along with the attached pertussis fact sheet:

Pertussis is a contagious bacterial infection that is spread through the air by respiratory droplets when a person coughs. It can be a serious disease, especially for infants, children, and the elderly. Symptoms usually start like a common cold (e.g., sneezing and runny nose) followed by a cough that gets worse over one to two weeks. People with pertussis may have coughing fits followed by a loud gasp or "whooping" sound while inhaling after the fit ends. The cough can last for several weeks.

Staying up to date with pertussis vaccine is an effective way to reduce risk of illness. The vaccination series is usually given to children under 7 years of age with a booster dose administered after age 10. Immunity to pertussis does wane over time, so even people who were fully vaccinated can still get pertussis.

If your child is experiencing symptoms of pertussis, please contact your health care provider for evaluation and testing. If your child has been seen by a provider and diagnosed with pertussis, please keep them home until completing the 5 days of the prescribed antibiotic treatment or until 21 days after symptoms began. For any questions regarding these recommendations, please contact SD-DOH at (605) 394-2290.

The Club for Boys highly recommends you follow the above SD DOH recommendations and review the fact sheet. Any questions please direct them to SD Department of Health at 605-773-3737.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Douglas Herrmann".

Douglas Herrmann,  
Executive Director  
The Club for Boys

**Safe, Caring & Fun!**