

Becoming a Member at the Club

THE CLUB FOR BOYS is a large, loud, and thrilling building. There are many program areas, each full of strategic, fun, and engaging activities. For a new member, this makes for an exciting time.

Each new member signs up with an application, but before they can enter the Club for the first time as an official member, they must attend a new members meeting. In this meeting, the new member and a family member have the opportunity to meet the staff, get a tour, and learn all about the different areas at the Club.

This tour is fun to watch. Parents ask questions, observe the areas, and usually ask why they can't become members. It is normal for every tour to go through the Games Room, Education Center, age specific program areas, and cafeteria. They then start to make their way to the gymnasiums and frequently say – "it keeps going??"

If you were to watch the new members coming through, their eyes are wide open as if they are experiencing Disney World for the first time. They lock in on different games being played in each room and want to join in on the fun. Many of them can find a couple of members that they already know. Staff in each program area introduce themselves to the group so the boys can recognize a friendly face when they return.





At the end of the tour, boys receive their official Club member cards. Parents are always in awe that we only charge \$12 a year. As they get ready to leave, they are pleasantly surprised when their boy asks if he can stay that same day.

Because of the tours, staff can easily identify new members when they return. When they see those members, they go up and welcome them with a smile and ask about where they would like to go or what they would like to do.

Our staff are a key part of helping these new members thrive at the Club. One of our recent experiences was watching a boy in our Games Room looking around trying to figure out how to play air hockey. In the span of five minutes, three different staff walked up to him to say hello, reintroduce themselves, and tell him how to get the paddle. While that was all happening, they introduced him to four different Club members that he could play air hockey with.

The Club for Boys has remarkable staff. They are what keeps the Club special because they go above and beyond to be role models to our members, offer engaging programming, and truly care about each member that walks through our doors.

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Summer Excitement

THE CLUB FOR BOYS is once again ready for our 2025 Summer Program. Club staff are enthusiastic to see all our summer members return, are busy preparing for their themed weeks, and planning their daily activities.

At the end of April, The Club for Boys held our annual family night that gives our current members the opportunity to enroll early. There were over 120 members that re-enrolled that evening. We are anticipating over 300 boys attending daily throughout the summer.

Summer program is full of energy. Boys love being outside in the garden, playing tag or tennis baseball, and going on field trips. We are continuing our bike club, walk club, and weekly fishing trips to Memorial Pond. Our Older Boys will be starting Brothers of BBQ again where they learn to be grill masters. A new group of members will be joining Cave Cubs, Lakota Language will continue, and our tweens will keep exploring unique STEM activities.

Each summer, our staff rally together to plan weekly themed activities for all ages. This summer, some of these activities include the Under the Big Top carnival, building and racing wooden cars, Summer Olympics, Mini Golf, and a Block Party.

Our Block Party and Under the Big Top events were the highest attended events last summer and are now in stiff competition to take the honor this year. Under the Big Top is a summer carnival where we have bounce houses, carnival games, prizes, cotton candy, and snow cones. Our Block Party is our water day mixed with a giant grill out. We will have water inflatables, water balloons, a slip-andslide, dunk tank, and grilled burgers and hot dogs to end the day.

Old School Games!

games including spike ball, tug of war, freeze tag, Simon Says, and much more. Old School Game week will bring back many games including marbles, pick up sticks, and foursquare, that members at the Club have been playing since we first opened our doors. Staff and volunteers at the Club look forward to summer for

We are excited to launch two new themed weeks this year: Field Day and Old School Games. Field Day will have outdoor

many reasons. We love the amount of organized chaos and different activities that are run during the summer months. The number of boys that attend daily gives us a reason to show up every day. We look forward to seeing our members that we only get to see during the summer, especially those that come from Sturgis, Box Elder, and Piedmont who cannot attend during the school year due to travel. We are excited to see how much these boys have changed and grown since last summer. Lastly, we are proud to see the excitement on our boys' faces when they get to go fishing, ride a bike, travel to Mount Rushmore, go to the movies, and do a rocket egg-launch. Many of these activities our members experience for the first time at the Club.

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THE CLUB FOR BOYS announced Merrik Foster as our 2024 Boy of the Year.

Merrik has been coming to the Club since 2019. He has grown from being a member, to being a boy helper, to now a junior staff member. Merrik is a kind young man that every staff adores seeing daily.

When we asked staff what they think of Merrik all they could say is "umm." There is a running joke between Merrik and the staff behind this. He wears a shirt that says "Umm" on it frequently to the Club and it brings much laughter to all. In addition to "umm," staff think Merrik is upbeat, genuine, hardworking, dedicated, respectful, and fun – to name a few.

Merrik is a great mentor to our younger members. Each time he interacts with them, he is patient and always has them leaving with a smile. You can tell that the Club means the world to Merrik by how he treats others when he is here. He is very responsible and cares about where he is and what he does. He is passionate about his positions in the cafeteria, the Games Room, in our community, and at his part-time job.

We are extremely proud of Merrik. He is one outstanding young man. We cannot wait to see what life has in store for him.

The Club for Boys Honor Boy Program is a staff favorite because it embodies The Club for Boys Code. Carri Redmond, Club Director stated, "This program doesn't require you to be the best in the classroom or the best on the court. Everybody has the choice to make good decisions and be a good, kind person. They are all things you can practice every day at the Club and outside the Club." These are key qualities that we look for in our Boy of the Year.

This program is important because when staff are nominating a Boy of the Area throughout the year, boys will come up and ask how they can become Boy of the Area. Staff will then ask these boys: are you being helpful in that area, are you being kind to fellow members, are you setting a good example?

Watching our members follow our code and try to be the best versions of themselves is one of the most rewarding experiences we encounter and is a true statement to our mission.



I will show my love for God in the way I treat my family, friends, and fellow members.

I will show respect for our flag and our country, which has given me my freedom.

I will show my gratitude for our Club by displaying fair play, honesty, sportsmanship, and respect for the staff, Club equipment, and my fellow members in all that I do.

I will show kindness to others and will expect them to show kindness to me.

I understand that my membership depends on my ability to live up to this code.

Thank you to the people, businesses, and organizations that gave gifts from January to March 2025 to The Club for Boys.

We would like to thank everyone who donated gifts of time, money, and in kind. The following people, businesses, and organizations gave cash gifts of \$250 or more. Those with a * gave \$1,000- \$9,999, + gave \$10,000- \$99,999, and ! were gifts of \$100,000 or more.

We would also like to thank our Santas. In December 2024, the following people and organizations made a Christmas celebration possible for 515 people in 81 families of 128 Club for Boys members. Thank you to all these Santas.

The Club for Boys Donors

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League Magic

THE CLUB FOR BOYS Athletic Program is one of the busiest program areas in the Club every day. Each spring, over 140 boys sign up to participate in our basketball leagues. The Club for Boys offers a Younger Boys League for boys ages 9-12 and now offers an Older Boys League for any boy 12 and up.

Many of our members are unable to participate in basketball leagues or camps outside of the Club, so this program means the world to them. Our leagues offer weekly practices, refereed games, concession stands, photographs, and memories. It also gives our members' families and friends the opportunity to come down and watch their member participate.

Our leagues are more than winning the championship and receiving the championship ring. To the staff, the highlight is being in the front office watching all the boys who participated leave with a smile, wondering who won the game. It is about a mom who was only able to come down for one game to watch her son play because she had to work during the others. That game was tied to the very end, and her son made the game winning three pointer. It is about the boy who never goes into the gym and only participated because he wanted to wear the jersey. That boy built a group of best friends and is now a regular in the gym. It is about the many boys that ask our staff to come into the gym on game nights to watch them play and cheer them on. Lastly, it is about alumni that come down to either watch their Club member play and connect with staff, or the alumni that miss the Club and come down to volunteer their time to make this league a success.





The championship game this season for our Older Boys League truly captured what this league means for our boys. We have a member at the Club that has been going through a rough year at home. He decided to join the basketball league this year for the first time. All season, he had not made a basket during a game. During the last game, his fellow teammates rallied together to help him make his first shot. After a couple of missed baskets, they still passed him the ball until he made it. This young man broke down in tears in the middle of the court while thanking his teammates. We don't know if these tears were of joy from making his first basket or from receiving support from his team. These games are more than winning and losing for our kids. It is about sportsmanship, love of the game, and creating long lasting memories and friendships.

The Club for Boys would like to congratulate our Older Boys League winner, the Bad Berries and the Younger Boys League winner, Purple Rain. We would like to thank each of our volunteer coaches, referees, and score keepers. Without their time and dedication, these leagues would not be a

These leagues take a lot of hard work and dedication from our staff. They continue to evolve and get bigger and better every year with new memories that are never forgotten. We are excited to see what next spring brings.



- Gatorade (Powder or Liquid)
- Bunch O Balloons
- Magna-Tiles
- Kinetic Sand and Playdoh



We are able to do more at The Club for Boys with the support of people like you!

In addition to your financial support of our work, which keeps our dues at just \$12 per year per boy, we would appreciate donations for some items for The Club!

Thank You for Your Support!

You may also scan this QR Code to view





Rapid City Club for Boys 320 North 4th Street Rapid City, SD 57701

Return Service Requested



TheClubForBoys.org



Facebook.com/TheClubForBoys



605-343-3500



THURSDAY, SEPT. 25Hart Ranch Golf Club

7:30 am : Golf Ball Drop 8:00 am: Shotgun SCAN TO SIGN UP



The Club for Boys is kicking off a new event this fall!

Mark your calendars for September 25, 2025, for our 1st Annual Golf Ball Tournament and Golf Ball Drop!

Join us by having a team play in the golf tournament or buy a golf ball for \$100.00 for cash prizes. There are only 200 golf balls available so purchase now before they are gone!