

New Member Manual



YMCA

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.

Wapakoneta Family YMCA

YMEMBERSHIP™

We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

Dear New YMCA Member,

Welcome to the family of the Wapakoneta YMCA! We believe that each member contributes directly to our organization's growth and success, and we hope that you will take pride in being a member of our YMCA family.

The YMCA is something different and special. We are the largest not-for-profit community service organization in the United States, providing services to millions of people each year through thousands of staff and volunteers.

What makes a YMCA different? Our Mission, Vision, and Values. Our Mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all. Our Vision is to build strong kids, strong families, and strong communities. We welcome and support children and families and help build the values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. *We are for everyone.*

I'm glad you have decided to join us and hope that your experiences will be challenging, enjoyable, and rewarding.

This packet is designed to introduce you to the YMCA, and the work that we do. We hope that you will take full advantage of everything the Y has to offer, and become involved as a committed member of a meaningful organization.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to call me anytime.

Yours in health,

Ruth Knous

Ruth Knous
CEO

YMCA's at a Glance.....

- Collectively, YMCA's are the largest not-for-profit community service organization in the United States.
- Work towards meeting the health and social service needs of 20.2 million men, women, and children.
- Over 1000 YMCA associations that operate over 2,500 facilities, camps, and program centers in America.
- YMCA's are run by over 60,000 policy volunteers, 40,000 staff, and over 600,000 program volunteers.
- Each YMCA is an independent, charitable 501(c)3 organization required to pay annual dues to the YMCA of the USA.
- YMCA's are at work in more than 120 countries around the world.
- The YMCA invented basketball, volleyball, and racquetball. The Y pioneered camping, physical fitness and swimming lessons. We founded the USO, Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls.
- The YMCA was founded in London, England in 1844, and came to the United States in 1851.

Wapakoneta YMCA at a Glance.....

- Founded as a Program Center in 1997.
- Facility opened in January 2000, Phase II expansion completed in August 2008.
- 40,000 square foot facility.
- Facilities include: six lane pool, whirlpool, gymnasium, 6,400 square foot Wellness Center, aerobic room, conference room, Community Room, AOA/Youth Center, nursery, two family and two adult locker rooms, and St. Rita's Rehab Center.
- Variety of programming for pre-schoolers through Older Adults including: Fitness, Aquatics, Youth Sports, Adult Sports, Day Camp, After-School Child Care, Gymnastics, Swim Team, Arts & Humanities, Birthday Parties, and After-Hour Rentals.
- Six Leadership Team members: Ruth Knous, CEO; Lisa Adkins, Business Director; Penny Wuebbenhorst, Office Manager; Sarah Finkelmeier, Program Director; Melanie Schnippel, Program Director; and Marc Dyrness, Property Manager.

Getting the Most Benefit from your YMCA Membership

The staff at the Wapakoneta Family YMCA wants you to enjoy your membership as much as you do. At this point, you are involved in a casual relationship with the YMCA. There are many things you can do to become more connected to your new YMCA family, and activities are available to help you become a committed member.

- Ask questions! Being an informed member means being a happy member. Ask questions about anything you're unsure of, and any staff member should be able to help you find the answers.
- Use your membership as much as you can during the first month – members that become involved early on will more likely continue an exercise routine. Don't wait for the "right time" to use the Y. Do it today!
- Read the information in your New Member Packet. The brochures and flyers in the packet are designed to help a new member navigate their way through the large amounts of information about your new membership. Policies, procedures, schedules, and program information are important to knowing all that is available to you. Review all the information in the Member Handbook & Program Brochure.
- Sign up for a Fitlinxx ® Orientation during your first week. The Wellness Center equipment can be very intimidating if you are not familiar with it. Taking a Fitlinxx ® orientation as soon as you can will help relieve some of the anxiety you may feel when starting out. Even if you have used fitness equipment before, take an orientation anyway! Different brands of equipment have different guidelines and instructions, and we'll be happy to help you.
- Take a class! Our program brochure lists all the classes and programs available to you. Most adult fitness classes are free for members, and all other programs are offered at a very low price. Becoming a part of a small community within the Y is often motivational.
- Introduce yourself to other members – you never know who you may have something in common with! Making friends with others that have similar interests as you may keep you motivated and involved. You may find a new best friend at the Y!
- Volunteer!!! The YMCA has many opportunities to give back to the community. We are always looking for people with special talents, or simply time, that can help us in a variety of ways. Complete the volunteer application in your new member packet and turn it in at the Courtesy Counter.
- Donate!!! There are several ways to donate to your YMCA including capital, scholarship assistance, and Endowment Giving. All contributions are 100% tax-deductible.