

Trackside

Become a Member Today!

Introducing Trackside's New Membership and Program based Service Model!

In the Fall of 2020, Trackside is implementing a new Club and Program based service model along with a Membership Model for participation in programs, clubs and afternoon events located at or facilitated by Trackside Teen Center of Wilton. The purpose and timing of the introduction of these new programs are 3-fold.

1 - During the current CoVid-19 Pandemic, Trackside has needed to revise our operating model to ensure we are able to serve youth and families in a safe way and in compliance with state and local executive orders and guidelines. The transition to a membership model helps facilitate servicing Wilton's youth in safe, small, separate and consistent groups and with all of the necessary contact tracing information that may be needed should a positive case arise amongst any participant or staff.

2 - By introducing a new Club and Program based model we will be able to ensure that we are servicing youths of different ages, interests and needs in meaningful and diverse ways that are specific and effective for them. Our programs will help continue to afford youth of all ages to develop socially and emotionally ensuring opportunities to gain independence, explore interests and importantly, to socialize with their friends outside of the school setting.

3 - This new membership and funding model will help Trackside continue down the path to greater self-sufficiency. The funds raised from programs and memberships will help use reduce the size of the gap created by the decreases in funding from the Town of Wilton.

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

Trackside is offering different membership programs for our students as well as community members who may be searching for more ways to support and benefit from our unique center.

Student Memberships

All high school and middle school students who wish to participate in Trackside's afterschool programs and clubs must become a Member. Students may participate exclusively in our evening events without becoming a Member, though will pay higher event rates. Basic memberships are \$25/ school year and provide access to afterschool programs and members only events. Premium memberships are also available and offer additional benefits as well as savings for most students. Details on the different membership opportunities are available on our membership page of our website.

Community Members

Many community members know that Trackside is not just for the kids! With an award-winning rental and entertainment facility, we have much to offer anyone who is planning or looking for a great place to host an event and those who look forward to our many community building fundraisers! Trackside's new Community Membership opportunities are designed specifically for you! More information coming this Fall...

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Student Membership FAQs

Can I/ my child still come to Trackside after school and for special events?

Trackside will continue to be open to Middle School and High School aged students enrolled in the Wilton public or private schools or who are residents of the Town of Wilton. ALL of Trackside's afterschool programs and special events will require pre-registration and be limited in size.

At this time, Trackside will no longer offer no-charge, free play drop-in hours. Children/Teens must be preregistered for a program or event to come to Trackside.

Parents will be contacted for anyone who arrives at Trackside on a day/time that they are not registered to attend. During the CoVid-19 pandemic, the child will be segregated from all others on site while awaiting pick-up.

What types of afterschool programs will Trackside offer?

Trackside will be offering a range of programs and clubs for Middle School, High School, and/or mixed ages of children. Excitingly, many programs will be run by High School mentors and others by Adult instructors. While on occasion, we will offer programs that only include a single or few session, most programs will last 6-8 weeks and are designed appeal to a diverse range of interests. Examples may include: Arts/Crafts, Video Games, Book Clubs, Improv Comedy, Role Playing Games, Sports, Hiking, and a variety of Academic challenge clubs.

Offerings will be revised as Teens make new requests and as interests change. Anyone who has an idea for a program may contact our Program Director at john@trackside.org to share your ideas. We are especially interested and supportive of programs that are of interest to, run by and/or mentored by High School students as we love to afford them leadership and growth opportunities.

How do I register for programs and sign-up for a membership?

Membership, program, and special event registration will be through our website. Links will be provided when registration opens.

I/my child will only be participating in virtual/online activities. Should I/he/she/ze become a member?

Yes, Trackside's virtual/online after school programs and clubs still require a membership.

I/my child typically only attends the Friday night and/or special events. Should I/he/she become a member?

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While membership is not required for children/teens who only attend evening events, it is recommended and is the only way to participate in after school clubs and programs. Most families (parents and teens alike!) will discover the benefits that come with membership more than pay for themselves during the year.

All evening events will require pre-registration during the CoVid-19 pandemic as we must ensure we manage the number of people on-site and have all contact information for everyone in attendance.

What are Trackside's new hours?

Trackside will open at 3:30pm each afternoon and close at 5:30pm. Most clubs will run from 3:45pm to 5:15pm though some exceptions will apply. All children participating in in-person programs must be picked-up or have permission to leave by 5:30pm.

Special programs and events will occasionally be offered at different times and be published on our website.

Trackside must have written permission from a parent/guardian for a child under the age of 13 to walk into town or go to another location after the program ends.

How should I/ my child get to Trackside after school?

Due to the CoVid-19 pandemic, there will not be bus service from the Wilton Public Schools to Trackside until further notice.

Children may be dropped off, walk, run, bike, skate or scooter to Trackside.

Trackside is investigating the possibility of having a WHS High School Staff member meet children at Middlebrook who would like to walk down each day to provide an added level of supervision. We will notify parents and attendees if we are able to offer this service.

All children should arrive between 3:30 and 3:45pm. Anyone arriving before 3:30pm will be asked to remain in their cars or in a designated space outside until the facility and premises are ready each day.

Can I/ my child leave during the program?

Children under the age of 13 may only leave Trackside's premises with written permission from a parent/guardian or if picked-up by a parent/guardian (or designee). If a parent/guardian wishes to not allow a teen to leave the premises, we should be notified in writing.

Please note, that per Trackside's participation policy, if a child leaves the premises at any point during a program, unless picked-up by a parent/guardian, they may not return that day.

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Can I/my child walk into town or to another location at the completion of the program day?

Parent/Guardian must provide written permission for a child under the age of 13 to be permitted to leave Trackside with any person other than a parent/guardian, including if they are permitted leave the premises without being picked-up (for example to walk, ride or skate into town or elsewhere) If a parent/guardian wishes to not allow a teen to only be picked up by a parent/guardian/designee, we should be notified in writing.

Please note, that per Trackside's participation policy, if a child leaves the premises at any point during a program, unless picked-up by a parent/guardian, they may not return that day.

Will Trackside's (awesome) café still be open?

Yes! Our Café will still be open for program and event participants to enjoy our fantastic array of teen favorite foods! Attendees will be encouraged to order snacks upon arrival and during their program's planned break time. During the CoVid-19 pandemic, our café will abide by the active Restaurant Reopening requirements.

My family is currently in a tough situation financially, can I/my child still come to Trackside?

Absolutely, we do not want to turn any child/teen away for financial reasons. Please contact us to discuss your specific situation and how we will be able to help.

What protocols does Trackside have in place to help protect my/ my child and staff during the CoVid-19 pandemic?

Trackside abides by the applicable CT and local reopening requirements during the CoVid-19 pandemic. As a Social Club, Trackside must abide by the CT Reopen guidelines and rules that apply to the specific activity. This means that some rules and requirements will change event to event. At a minimum, the following will apply to all Trackside facilitated programs and events:

- Trackside's staff, mentors and instructors will be wearing masks whenever children on on-site, regardless of physical distances. (Mask requirements for participants may vary by program/event)
- Program groups will be segregated from each other. Each group will have an assigned outdoor and indoor space designated for their use and staggered break times to minimize any potential interaction.
- Health (and quarantine/contact) checks will be conducted daily for staff and participants.
- Hand sanitizer and disinfection stations will be available throughout the premises. Staff and attendees will sanitize in and sanitize out of their activities and ensure only clean and disinfected equipment is used.

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- Trackside's facility is cleaned and disinfected between user groups, using the Wilton Public School's cleaning and disinfection protocols and chemicals – this includes a complete cleaning and disinfection between Genesis and Trackside each day as well as between afterschool events and evening or weekend events should one be scheduled.
- Isolation protocols are on file and approved by the Wilton Health Department should anyone on-site start to feel ill or exhibit CoVid-19 symptoms while here.

This is fantastic, how to do we become members?

Registration is open on our website at www.trackside.org Click on the ***Become a Member Today*** Link to learn more about the membership options and to complete the registration forms! Remember to load your child's Snackside Card while you are there!

What is Trackside's Mission and History?

Trackside Teen Center of Wilton is a private 501(c)3 Non-Profit organization. After extensive renovations and additions to the facility, we opened to Wilton's teens in the Fall of 2004 with the mission of promoting health age-appropriate development for teens and pre-teens in Wilton. Trackside Teen Center prides itself in being the place for Wilton's teens, outside of the home and school, where they can be involved in healthy socialization while gaining experiences and independence during their most vulnerable years. Trackside Teen Center accomplishes this by offering a diverse array of programs and special events designed by, developed for and often run by our teens and preteens.