

Contacts:
Jane Weber: 406-454-6814
Lindsay Smith: 406-788-0306



Wambach event now later in September; youth soccer camp added

The Get Fit Great Falls weekend filled with events with international soccer superstar Abby Wambach has been moved back two weeks.

The two-day event will be Sept. 20-21 and will feature a free Come Out and Play event for kids of all ages, an elite soccer camp for serious soccer players, a youth soccer camp for younger kids and a free team-building camp for high school teams of any sport.

Wambach was originally scheduled to be in Great Falls earlier in September, but due to a change in Wambach's training schedule with the U.S. National team, the dates had to be changed.

She is playing with the U.S. National team throughout September, heading into qualifiers for the World Cup in October.

"It's great that Abby can still find time to make it out to Montana," said Get Fit board member Lindsay Smith. "Abby will literally leave New York after playing with the national team to fly to Great Falls."

Wambach, a two-time Olympic gold medalist and the 2012 FIFA World Player of the Year, is the all-time leading scorer in international soccer for men and women with 167 goals. This will mark the third year Wambach has been to Great Falls.

"Moving the date back to the end of September helps us get the word out because the kids will be back in school for a few weeks," said Get Fit president Jane Weber.

In addition to the date change, a youth soccer camp for players 9 to 12 years old has been added to the lineup.

"It accommodates several requests for children we had who were under the age of 13," Weber added.

The camp will only be \$50 for the two-hour session to be held from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sept. 21.

"We felt like we were leaving out a large group of soccer kids in Montana," Smith added.

The Elite Soccer Clinic is set for Sept. 21 from 9 a.m. to noon for players 13-18 years old. The clinic is intended for serious soccer players who have aspirations of joining their high school team or are looking to be recruited for college-level play. She will follow the U.S Women National team's training format for ball-handling skills, shooting, one-on-one, and defensive and offensive maneuvers.

The \$200 elite clinic includes a ticket to the meet-and-greet barbecue with Wambach the night before. Additional tickets can be purchased for other family members for \$25.

Wambach also will be leading a team-building session, available for all sport teams, both male and female. The Team Strong session will be limited to 10 team spots. The session is Sept. 20, from 4-6 p.m.

To register for the soccer clinics or the team-building session, go to getfitgreatfalls.org. Register soon to reserve your child's spot.

The free Come Out and Play event, scheduled for Sept. 20, will feature Olympic-themed stations with activities that children can play again later in their own backyards without adult supervision or coaches needed.

Wambach will interact with kids as they work their way through stations, and will likely gather all the children to talk to them about healthy eating choices and staying active.

This event will be held in Elks Riverside Park (501 River Drive North). In the event of rain, it will move to Indian Family Health Clinic (1220 Central Avenue).

Get Fit Great Falls is a not-for-profit coalition of like-minded people who encourage neighbors, families and friends to get active and make healthy food choices.

Schedule of events

Free Come Out and Play event: Saturday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m. to noon. Free. No registration required.

Team Strong session: Saturday, Sept. 20, 4-6 p.m. Free. Register at <https://gfgf-teamstrong-2.eventbrite.com>

Meet and Greet with Abby Wambach: Saturday, Sept. 20, 7-8 p.m. Purchase \$25 tickets at <https://gfgf-meetandgreet.eventbrite.com> (one ticket included with elite camp registration).

Elite Soccer Clinic: Sunday, Sept. 21; 9 a.m.-noon. For players 13-18, \$200. Register at <https://gfgf-elitesoccerclinic.eventbrite.com>

Youth Soccer Camp: Sunday, Sept. 21, 1-3 p.m. For players 9-12, \$50. Register at <https://gfgf-youthsoccerclinic.eventbrite.com>