

Agreement Between Our Camp; 8th, 9th, and 10th Graders; and Their Parents

Being a teen at camp is an exciting adventure and a challenging experience in group living. Older campers have more privileges and take more trips out of camp, including at least one overnight. These opportunities require maturity and self-awareness and a willingness to abide by mandatory rules and guidelines.

Rules

- Cell phones are prohibited. There are appropriate and inappropriate times to make phone calls home. Access to phones will be provided when it does not interfere with camp activities.
- Be in your cabin at curfew. Do not leave during the night without a counselor. It is essential that we know where you are at all times so that we can keep you out of harm's way.
- Campers may not be in a cabin without a staff member present. Again, we need to know where you are.
- Campers may not visit cabins of the opposite sex. You will have plenty of time to hang out with your friends in a coed setting; because of your age, maturity, and developmental social needs, we have scheduled additional coed time for your age group.
- Campers must attend scheduled activities and be on time, unless the entire group is excused by a division leader. Camp is not a place to just sit around and talk to your friends; you are here to participate in activities and to learn new skills and improve old ones. When you don't show up to an activity (or are late), you are being disrespectful of the staff member who is waiting for you there (they have spent time and effort to create a period that you will enjoy).
- Campers must be respectful toward staff members and fellow campers; we have a no-bullying culture at camp. Bystander behavior must also show respect for all.
- Campers must be respectful of others' property. Ask for permission before sitting on another person's bed or borrowing items—and wait until you receive it.
- Stealing is prohibited.
- Vandalism of any sort is prohibited.
- Gambling of any sort is prohibited.
- Abusive or offensive language is not permitted.
- Campers may not possess lighters or matches or other dangerous items.
- Electric fans, hot pots, or other electrical appliances—with the exception of blow dryers and other hairstyling devices—are not permitted; our breakers just can't handle it.
- Piercings, tattoos, hair-dying, or extreme haircuts may not be done during off-campus trips. Do nothing that alters your appearance; we want to send you home the same way you came to camp.

Consequences

Consequences for any of the previously outlined behaviors will be handled according to the following system:

1. A letter or call to the camper's parent will inform parent of their child's behavior, and the camper will be placed on probation.
2. Dismissal, or—if the last night of camp—not invited back the next summer.

Both probation and dismissal remain at the complete discretion of the division leader and the director. Other consequences may be added to these as is necessary.

Misconduct out of camp will have consequences enforced at the discretion of the camp director.

Zero Tolerance

Camp has zero tolerance for any of the following activities:

- Possession/use of alcohol
- Possession/use of cigarettes

- Possession/use of marijuana or other illegal drugs
- Possession/misuse of any prescription drugs
- Unsupervised swimming or boating in the lake or pools
- Leaving camp unsupervised for any reason
- Inappropriate sexual behavior
- Possession of knives, firearms, or other weapons
- Stealing

Violation of any of these rules will result in immediate dismissal from camp.

Guidelines

- Take responsibility for your actions, and be a helpful member of the group.
- Be aware of and abide by all camp rules and procedures. If you are not sure of something, then ask. Don't risk getting into trouble.
- Respect the authority of staff. Remember that counselors and division leaders are responsible for you while you are away from home, and they will do what is needed to make camp as safe and enjoyable as possible for everyone.
- Respect the rights and privacy of other campers and of staff members. If someone wants you to know something about them, they will tell you. Gossiping and talking behind people's backs is unacceptable. Treat others kindly, and expect the same from them. If you have a problem, let your counselor or division leader know.
- Respect the personal dignity, opinions, and possessions of others. Understand that everyone is different. Your ideas might be different, but that doesn't make you right or them wrong. If someone chooses not to share possessions with you, that is their decision. Don't play jokes on others. Take care not to hurt, upset, or embarrass anyone. Name-calling is not tolerated here.
- Treat the employees—of places we visit, eat, or stay—with respect and use good manners. Do everything you can to make their job easier.
- Help to keep all areas clean.
- Treat equipment as though it were your own. Understand that your parents will be charged for any damages that you cause. You may not write on anything that does not belong to you—including walls, beds, cabins, and so on.
- Be willing to share information in matters relating to the health, safety, and welfare of the group. Talking about something that you think we should know is not squealing; it's helping make camp better for everyone.
- Be aware of the daily schedule, and take responsibility to be on time.
- Dress and groom yourself in a decent manner appropriate for the place and activity. Limit jewelry; it is a safety issue. Bring and wear appropriate clothing. Do not wear shirts or other apparel with curse words, put-downs, inappropriate pictures, innuendo, and so forth. Make sure you have enough camp shirts for trips.
- During camp transportation, stay seated with your seat belt fastened snugly around your hips, use your inside voice, and treat the bus driver respectfully.

Your signature and your parent's signature on this document indicate your willingness to comply with these rules and guidelines, to conduct yourself as a young adult, and to be willing to listen to and cooperate with your campmates as well as the staff. We remind parents that camp reserves the right to dismiss, without refund, any camper whose influence is not good for the camp organization or for other campers; as partners in parenting, we thank you for your willingness to contribute to our positive community. We look forward to a successful, fun, and safe summer.

Camper's signature

Date

Print camper's name

Parent's signature

Date

Print parent's name

Please return this signed agreement to camp. You might want to keep a copy for your records.