



## Camp Policy - Participants and Counsellors

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure all participants and counsellors adhere to the policies set out below to ensure the objectives of camp are met and ensure camp is a fun, safe and creative environment that fosters individual and family growth.

### Inappropriate Behaviour

There is zero tolerance on behaviour that is deemed inappropriate and unacceptable by the camp team. This includes any form of bullying and harassment, any physical fighting as well as any form of drinking alcohol, smoking, drugs and gambling.

### Bullying

Bullying is when one or more people exclude, tease, taunt, gossip, hit, kick, or put down another person with the intent to hurt another. Bullying happens when a person or group of people want to have power over another and use their power to get their way at the expense of someone else. Bullying can also happen through cyberspace; through the use of emails, text messaging, instant messaging, weblogs, websites and other less direct methods. This type of bullying can also lead to persons being hurt during or between the camp seasons and be especially hurtful when persons are targeted with meanness and exclusion. Bullying is inexcusable at camp. Everyone is expected to treat their peers with respect and to help each other achieve the best possible experience. We work together as a team to ensure that participants gain self-confidence, make new friends, and go home with great camp memories. Unfortunately, people who are bullied may not have the same potential to get the most out of their camp experience. We aim to address all incidents of bullying seriously and train counsellors to promote communication with their participants so both counsellors/staff and participants will be comfortable to alert us to any problems during their camp experience. Every person has the right to expect to have the best possible experience at camp, and by working together as a team to identify and manage bullying, we can help ensure that all participants and staff have a great time at camp.

## **Fighting**

Camp does not tolerate participants who harm other participants; whether it is physical or verbal fighting, including degrading, demeaning, threatening other participants or staff, or making fun of others. Any participant involved in a fight will be held accountable by discussion with the project managers which may lead to expulsion from camp. In all instances, the participant or counsellors' parents/guardians will be informed.

## **Drinking/Drugs and Smoking**

Camp does not accept any possession or use of alcohol and other substances including tobacco, cigarettes and other drugs during camp. Positively no alcohol, drugs or controlled substances are to be carried onto the camp property; this includes cigarettes or any other tobacco product. Any participant in possession of alcohol, drugs, or a controlled substance will have their parent/guardian informed and may lead to expulsion from camp immediately. In the event alcohol, drugs or a controlled substance is found, it is confiscated and the participant's parent/guardian is contacted by the Project Managers or a member of the Youth & Sports team. Other dangerous weapons: items designated to cause bodily harm (i.e. knives) will be confiscated. Parents of participants possessing these items will be contacted and informed. Bringing these items may result in campers being sent home early from camp. Gambling: playing cards for money or exchange of personal items, dice playing or any other form of gambling is not allowed at camp. Intimidation: any participant found to be harassing, making fun of or intimidating another participant is subject to disciplinary action. Obscenity: obscene, profane or vulgar language have no place at camp whether written, oral or expressed through symbols. The viewing or possession of pornography or other adult-oriented material in all forms is not permitted at camp. Stealing: stealing is a violation of law and a participant who becomes involved in theft of camp is subject to disciplinary action. Vandalism: participants involved in vandalism or malicious mischief either against the camp property or other campers are disciplined immediately. This includes any kind of graffiti on camp walls, beds, bathrooms stalls etc. Payment to repair any damages accrued as a result of the vandalism is the responsibility of the participants parent/guardian.

## **Phones and other Electronic Devices**

In order to maintain the camp atmosphere and ensure participants get the most out of the camp, participants will not be allowed to keep a phone or any electronic devices with them at camp. These will be collected prior to camp for safekeeping and will be returned back to participants once camp is over and will be communicated to the participants. In the event of any emergency at camp, there will be an emergency phone available for participants to use. Parents can also contact the numbers provided in the Welcome Letter if they need to speak with participants whilst at camp.

### **Prayer Time**

Every camp family member will attend all morning and evening prayers.

### **Food/Snacks**

As there are participants and staff members with allergies, we request that all participants and counsellors do not bring food from outside. This especially includes foods with nuts and sugar. The camp site will provide all food for participants and counsellors including evening supper. The camp team reserve the right to check participants' bags to ensure that no outside food is brought to the camp. This is purely to ensure that fellow participants and staff are safe.

### **Dress Attire**

Attire must allow for easy, comfortable movement for camp activities, including hiking and sports. There must be no visibility of any undergarments with shorts shorter than 3 inches above the knees. There should not be any spaghetti strap tank tops worn throughout camp. During hiking and any outdoor recreational activities, flip flops should not be worn and instead, sneakers/enclosed shoes is a must. As there will most likely be swimming at camp, *for men*: swim trunks/shorts only (no speedos); *for women*; one-piece suits are recommended however two-piece suits are allowed as long as they are modestly cut, no string/thong or crochet suits will be allowed.