

# DISCOVER YOUR BEST SELF



## YMCA CAMP WINNEBAGO 2022 PARENT HANDBOOK & CAMPER GUIDE

[ROCKRIVERYMCA.ORG](http://ROCKRIVERYMCA.ORG)

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# WELCOME!

## DEAR CAMPERS & FAMILIES,

YMCA Camp Winnebago gives kids their best summer ever at all three of our locations through a day camp experience full of activities that help campers gain a sense of achievement, make friends, and feel welcome.

We are looking forward to a fun and exciting summer camp experience with your child. This handbook is provided to help answer questions regarding our policies and procedures. Your child's safety, well-being and program enjoyment are our primary concerns. If you have any questions, please give us a call at 815.489.3374.

Each of our YMCA Camp Winnebago sites offer campers the chance to explore, learn through play, and experience their environment through a variety of hands-on activities and adventures. Our programs center on three areas proven to impact the development of your child: Achievement, Friendship, and Belonging.

Through the YMCA's day camp program, kids participate in fun and educational activities that help them:

- Learn and master skills that help them realize their passions, talents and potential
- Build friendships with peers and staff role models; aiding in their well-being
- Feel safe and free to express their true individuality in a welcoming environment

Our Camp Staff pride themselves in being excellent role models of our core values; Caring, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, and Faith, all which help your child develop the confidence, character, and teamwork they need to be successful in life. The summer camp experience also contributes to healthy social and emotional development in children. We put focus on these areas to help each child reach their full potential.

In the Spirit of Camp,

Rachel Latham  
Executive Director  
Camp Winnebago  
rlatham@rockriverymca.org

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Our Mission

To put Christian principles into practice through programs, services, and relationships that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

## Our Vision

The YMCA of Rock River Valley and YMCA Camp Winnebago are dedicated to building healthy, confident, connected, and secure children, adults, families, and communities. The Y is committed to empowering young people - from childhood to young adulthood - with the support they need to reach their potential and create a better future for all.

## Our Values

At the center of our programs and services live out Y values: Caring, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, and Faith. We challenge our campers, members, staff and volunteers to demonstrate these values in all they do. Our camp delivers to every camper the opportunity and environment to experience Achievement, Friendship, and Belonging.

## Areas of Focus

### YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Nurturing the potential of every child and teen

### HEALTHY LIVING

Improving the health and well-being of our community

### SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Giving back and providing support to our neighbors



## Camp Objectives

- To learn the Y-values: Caring, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, and Faith
- To grow personally
- To improve personal and family relationships
- To appreciate diversity
- To become better leaders and supporters
- To develop skills and encourage learning
- TO HAVE FUN!

## Camp Hours

Our Y Camp sites open at 6:45am and close at 5:30pm. Extended care is included for all camp programs at no additional cost.

### Camp Program Hours

**8:30am - 3:30pm** Camp Activities and Programming

**6:45am - 8:30am** FREE AM Extended Care

**3:30pm - 5:30pm** FREE PM Extended Care



## Accreditations & License Status

Our Camp Winnebago location is a member of and accredited by the American Camping Association (ACA). The ACA is an organization of camp professionals who have joined together to share knowledge and experiences and to ensure the quality of camp programs.

The choice to become an ACA Accredited camp is voluntary, and shows that we are committed to the health, safety, and quality program as defined by as many as 300 ACA standards. In most cases, standards that camps must meet exceed local and state requirements.

Camp Winnebago is also honored to have earned accreditation from the National Inclusion Project for intentionally and successfully including children with or without disabilities in our summer camp program.

The Department of Children and Family Services does not license nor regulate the YMCA of Rock River Valley summer camp programs; we operate with a license-exempt status.

## Volunteer at Camp!

As a cause-driven organization, YMCA Camp Winnebago relies heavily on the support of volunteers to help camp reach its goals.

Example Volunteer Opportunities:

- Serve on the Advisory Council
- Support special events
- Fundraise for the Annual Campaign
- Assist with camp grounds and buildings projects

For more information about volunteering at Camp, contact [campwinnebago@rockriverymca.org](mailto:campwinnebago@rockriverymca.org)

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Financial Assistance

At the Y, we believe every child should be able to experience the magic of camp, regardless of their family's financial situation. Whether you need assistance through the IDHS Child Care Assistance Program, or through Camperships (donor-funded scholarships), we are here to help navigate the process with you!

For more information, contact [campwinnebago@rockriverymca.org](mailto:campwinnebago@rockriverymca.org)

## Group Assignments

Campers are grouped according to age and grade-level for each week of attendance. In past years, groups changed week-to-week to allow campers to make even more new friends. In 2022, group changes may be limited as needed in order to maintain consistent cohorts. Consideration will be given to requests for specific groups or counselors, though we cannot guarantee any request.

## Meals & Snacks

We are blessed to be able to offer both lunch and an afternoon snack to all of our campers through the Summer Food Service Program. This partnership allows our families the opportunity to have these meals provided at no additional cost. Meal menus will be sent to families each month. Campers may opt to bring their own lunch and snacks for dietary needs or for preference.

**\*\* No meal service is available during the following dates, and campers will need to pack a lunch to bring to camp:**

**July 4th**

**August 22nd until end of camp season**

Lunch boxes and containers should be labeled with your camper's name. Insulated lunch boxes/coolers are highly recommended to prevent food spoilage. Consider frozen juice boxes that double as an ice pack and become a cool slushy drink. Fruits and Veggies provide great nutrition and a cool hydrating, summer snack. Camp does not provide microwaves or refrigeration.



*While we are not a peanut-free facility, we do ask you are mindful of common allergies when packing your camper's lunch.*

## Camper Dress Code

Campers should wear clothing appropriate for an active day at camp. Our camps use discovery and play as a major part of our programs, so clothing that is light, cool, and OK to get dirty is best! Campers should wear closed-toed and closed-back shoes. Flip flops or sandals are permitted for water activities.

Not permitted: Clothing with foul language or images, halter/crop tops, or dangly jewelry. Campers without the proper attire will not be accepted into camp as they cannot participate safely in camp programs.

## What To Leave At Home

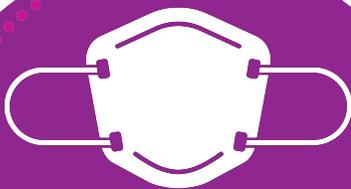
Campers should not bring any item to camp that would hurt their feelings if it were lost, broken, or stolen. Prohibited items that are brought to camp will be stored in the camp office until end of the day.

Discouraged Items:

- Toys
- Games
- Electronics of any kind (cell phones, iPads/tablets, gaming devices, etc.)
- Money

Prohibited Items:

- Dangly jewelry (not safe for camp activities)
- Fireworks
- Weapons or anything that looks like a weapon
- Alcohol, drugs, or related paraphernalia



Remember your mask each day! A disposable mask will be provided to those who forget. A \$2 fee will be charged for each mask.

*Please label your child's belongings with their first and last name. The YMCA of Rock River Valley and Camp Winnebago are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.*

## What To Bring To Camp

It is best to send your child to camp with a backpack each day to keep all of their belongings together. Our days are full of outdoor adventure - some items may get dirty!

- Backpack
- Mask or cloth face covering
- Swim gear and towel
- Change of clothes
- Reusable water bottle
  - **IMPORTANT - water fountains are closed for drinking this summer - water bottles are critical!**
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray

## Preparing for Weather

Outdoor play is the heart of summer camp! Please check the weather daily and have your camper dress appropriately. A light sweater or jacket on cool mornings, or a poncho for rainy days! During periods of extreme heat, camp staff will scale down activities. Camp will utilize all of our water activities as well as our air-conditioned facilities during periods of high heat. All precautions will be taken to prevent heat-related injuries during these times. Please provide your camper with a refillable water bottle, sunscreen, hat, and light clothing to be best equipped for hot days.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## General Camp Activities

Campers will participate in fun-filled activities each day that are geared towards developing:

- **Creativity** - through arts and crafts, and imagination play
- **Confidence** - through challenge activities like climbing and team building
- **Love of Learning** - through science-based activities and exploration
- **Skills** - through activities like archery and team games
- **Literacy** - through storytelling and camp songs

Activities are designed to fit the theme of each week and may include (varies by site): Crafts, Team building, Water activities, Archery, Climbing, Crate stacking, Teams courses, canoeing, songs, skits, and specialties.

Each camp will offer a variety of choices each week to promote autonomy and to optimize the camper's experience.

## Swimming and Water Days

There will be ample opportunity for water play at all 3 camp locations!

**Camp Winnebago** - Creek Study, Splash Fountain, Slip Slides, Sprinklers and more!

**Adventure Camps at Northeast and SwedishAmerican Ys** - Campers will have swim time in the indoor pool at least once per week, plus outdoor play in sprinklers and slip slides!

While you will receive advanced notice of your camper's scheduled water days each week, it is recommended that campers bring a swim suit/water clothes and towel every day for spontaneous water play!

## Communications From Camp

### Email Communications

Camp's primary means of communication is through the email address provided on your YMCA account. Please be sure to check your email on a regular basis and add [campwinnebago@rockriverymca.org](mailto:campwinnebago@rockriverymca.org) to your preferred email list to prevent our messages from landing in your spam folder.

### Weekly Newsletter

Each week, you will receive a newsletter for the upcoming week's which will include the weekly theme, special activities, water day schedules, and special event announcements.

### Social Media

Find fun updates and pictures on Camp Winnebago's Facebook and Instagram! Like and follow:

[Facebook.com/campwinnebago](https://www.facebook.com/campwinnebago)

[Instagram.com/campwinnebago](https://www.instagram.com/campwinnebago)

## 2022 Camp Sessions

Pre-Camp	June 6 - June 10 (Harlem- Camp W. Only)
Week 1	June 13 - June 17
Week 2	June 20 - June 24
Week 3	June 27 - July 1
Week 4	July 4 - July 8
Week 5	July 11 - July 15
Week 6	July 18 - July 22
Week 7	July 25 - July 29
Week 8	Aug 1 - Aug 5
Week 9	Aug 8 - Aug 12
Week 10	Aug 15 - Aug 19 (Camp W. Only)
Extended I	Aug 22 - Aug 26 (RPS - Camp W. Only)
Extended II	Aug 29 - Sept 2 (RPS - Camp W. Only)

### Camp Contact Information

#### Email for All Sites:

campwinnebago@rockriverymca.org

#### Camp Winnebago

Serving grades K-12

5804 N. Main St., Rockford

**Main Office :** 815.489.3374

**Mobile:** 779.200.5195

#### Adventure Camp - Northeast

Serving grades 1-7

8451 Orth Road, Loves Park

**Mobile:** 779.970.8665

#### Adventure Camp - SwedishAmerican

Serving grades 1-7

200 Y Blvd., Rockford

**Mobile:** 779.970.8664

### Camp Leadership Contacts

**Rachel Latham** - Executive Director

815.489.3374

rlatham@rockriverymca.org

**Hannah Long** - Program Director

815.489.3374

hlong@rockriverymca.org

**Josefina Bryant** - Branch Administrator

815.489.3374

jbryant@rockriverymca.org

**Dawn Foss** - Adventure Camp Northeast

779.970.8665

dfoss@rockriverymca.org

**Coco Badaluco** - Adventure Camp SwedishAmerican

779.970.8664

abadaluco@rockriverymca.org

# HIGHLY-TRAINED LEADERS

## Our Team

The YMCA of Rock River Valley has hundreds of trained team members and volunteers working with children and youth in the many programs we provide. The protection and safety of children is our first priority. We closely follow updates and training opportunities offered through a variety of child care partners including YWCA, IDHS, DCFS, and INCCRRA to ensure a thoroughly trained team.

## Our Screening

We have a multi-layered approach to reviewing, interviewing, and screening all camp positions. During the hiring process, all candidates undergo a background check through the Department of Children, and Family Services, a local and national background check, a review through the National Sex Offender's registry and security watch list, and fingerprinting.

## Our Training

We are strongly committed to providing a quality camp program for all. The Y offers staff the opportunity to grow both personally and professionally through ongoing development and training. Camp staff participate in 50+ hours of training prior to summer! Trainings include child abuse prevention and identification, First Aid, CPR, YMCA Character Development training, and more. Supervisors and Camp Directors complete additional trainings to promote a child-safe environment.

## Child Abuse Prevention

All Y team members receive training on the prevention and identification of child abuse. It is mandatory for child care providers to report any suspected cases of child abuse and/or neglect to the Department of Children and Family Services. All Y and camp team members are mandated to report any suspected child abuse.

## Policy on Associates Working with Campers Outside of Y Time

We know how amazing our staff is, and that's why we understand that sometimes families will seek out camp staff to provide child care (babysitting) and other services on their own time.

**The YMCA of Rock River Valley does NOT permit employees to provide babysitting or other services to families or children they meet through Y programs.**

In addition, Y team members should not provide transportation in a personal vehicle or be in personal contact with your camper outside of Y programs. This includes personal communications through email, texting, phone calls, letters, or contact over the Internet/social media. Such policies are designed to protect children and staff from child abuse and/or false allegations. Parents/guardians are asked to report any violation of this policy to camp leadership.



# HEALTH & SAFETY

## ePACT Health & Emergency Profiles

ePACT is an electronic health record system for camps that consolidates and integrates camper health information into a centralized and secure location. The ePACT system gives our leadership staff instant access to camper info, a key component in providing quality care. The security, confidentiality, and privacy of your camper's info will always be protected. ePACT is secure, encrypted, and password protected.

Profiles include important information such as:

- Allergies
- Medications
- Authorized Pick-ups
- Emergency Contacts
- Photo releases

**For the safety and well-being of campers, those with incomplete ePACT profiles will be excluded from program until their profile has been submitted.**

## Allergies

It is a parent's/guardian's responsibility to inform the YMCA of any allergies your child may have. Please list all allergies in your camper's ePACT profile. Should any changes need to be made, update your child's profile AND notify your Camp Director of the change.

## Immunizations

Parents/guardians must attest that their camper's immunizations are up-to-date as is required by their school district and other governing agencies.



## Medications at Camp

YMCA's are required to receive parent/guardian authorization to dispense prescribed and/or over-the-counter medicines to campers. Authorization may be given by completing by completing the 'Authorization to Administer Medication' section of the camper's ePACT profile.

Prescription medications must be in original container and :

- Be labeled with the child's full name
- Include directions, dosage, date, and name of medication
- Be labeled with Dr's name and phone number
- Be listed as authorized on the child's ePACT profile

Medications should be handed to a Camp Leader when dropping off your camper on the first day of their session.

**Campers are not allowed to carry medications on their person or in backpacks unless we have written permission from doctor AND parent to self-carry.**

Over-the-counter medications provided by camp must be authorized as 'Yes' on the camper's ePACT profile in order for staff to administer.

All medications will be secured in a locked location and a record of medications administered will be maintained by camp leadership.

## First Aid & Emergencies

All YMCA staff are trained in First Aid and CPR. Camp staff will treat routine cuts, scraps, and bumps. First Aid administered will be noted on a camper's ePACT profile. If the injury is more serious, we will take immediate steps to secure medical treatment while making every effort to contact you and/or emergency contacts. Please ensure you regularly update your camper's ePACT profile when there are any changes to authorized contacts.

### Camp Emergencies

Each camp location has site-specific training on emergency plans including; assembly areas, facility evacuation plans, notification/alarm systems, separated camper procedures, fire extinguisher and first aid kit locations, etc.

## Sunscreen & Insect Repellent

YMCA camps do NOT provide sunscreen or insect repellents. Parents/guardians should apply these items prior to arriving for camp each morning. Campers will have the opportunity to reapply sunscreen or bug spray to themselves under staff supervision periodically throughout the day. Aerosol/spray sun and bug protections are recommended for easiest application.



## Illness/Sick Camper Policy

For the well-being of all campers and staff, please do not send your child to camp if they are displaying any symptoms of illness. Camp is able to keep your camper comfortable should they suddenly become ill at camp, but we are not equipped to care for an ongoing illness.

Parents will be contacted and asked to have their camper picked-up within 2 hours if any of these symptoms present:

- Temperature of 100°F or higher
- Diarrhea
- Consistent Cough
- Sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- Vomiting
- Untreated, infected skin patches
- Pink or runny eyes
- Severe stomach or head pain
- Evidence of scabies or other parasitic infection

Camp Winnebago reserves the right to exclude any child from programming who exhibit any signs of illness, including but not limited to those above. There is no fee reduction for absences related to illness. Ill campers will only be released to authorized adults listed on their ePACT profile.

Campers may return to camp programs only after they have been **symptom-free for 72 hours.**

### Daily COVID Screening

By bringing your camper to camp each day, you will be attesting that:

- Your child has NOT had a fever of 100\* or higher in last 48 hours
- Your child does NOT have a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19
- Your child has NOT been identified as a close contact to a COVID case and is not subject to quarantine.

Campers will also have their temperature checked during sign-in. Campers with a temperature of 100°F or higher, or that do not pass the screening questions, will not be able to participate in camp programs.

# PARENT & CAMPER RESPONSIBILITIES

## Camp Registration

### Standard Waivers

During registration and ePACT profile completion, you will sign waivers giving your camper permission to participate in all camp activities including swimming/water activities, ropes and climbing courses, canoeing, and archery. These forms also include photo-release and liability waivers. Please read all sections before signing.

### Emergency Contacts and Authorized Pick-ups

When completing your camper's ePACT profile, you will list adults authorized to pick-up your child from camp. Your child may be released at any time to any adult on this list. You **MUST** list a minimum of 2 separate emergency contacts with daytime numbers.

## Sign-in & Sign-out Policy

For the safety of our campers, parents (or other authorized individual) must accompany their camper(s) during sign-in and out times. Campers should **NEVER** be dropped at camp where staff is not there to accept them. Campers will only be released to adults listed as authorized on the camper's ePACT profile.

## IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED

The safety of your camper is of utmost importance, therefore your child will not be released to any individual, including a parent/guardian, without proper photo identification each and every day. There are no exceptions.

## Children At-Risk

A person who arrives at the YMCA in an incapacitated condition (i.e., alcohol, drugs) presents a risk to their child. The staff in charge will advise the parent of their options regarding the transportation of the child(ren) to their home. If a reasonable conclusion cannot be reached, the person will be advised that either Child Protective Services or the Police will be called.

## Custody Arrangements & Changes

If necessary, it is imperative that official, current court documents be uploaded to your camper's ePACT profile when custody or visitation is a concern. Hard copies may be submitted to the camp director. If there are names of people who are never authorized to pick up your camper, please ensure they are listed on your camper's profile. Without a court order, we cannot withhold a parent from their camper. The parent who registers for enrollment is responsible for all camp fees. We cannot subdivide fees nor establish multiple accounts.

## Parent Visitation

Any custodial parent/guardian of a child enrolled in our program shall be permitted access to the camp during its hours of operation for the purposes of contacting their children, evaluating the care provided by camp, or evaluating the camp site. Upon entering the premises, parent/guardian shall notify the camp director of their presence. All visitors are required to sign into a visitor log at the camp office or membership desk and **MUST** be accompanied by a staff member while on Camp property and program areas.

## Late Pick-up Fees and Policy

All campers must be picked up by the close of the camp day, 5:30pm. Any parent arriving after closing time will be charged a late fee of \$5.00 per camper for every 15 minute increment or fraction thereof. Late fees will be added to your account and are due immediately.



## Camp Fees and Membership

Camp participants must either be YMCA facility members, or a program member. Benefits of facility membership include reduced camp and other youth program fees. Program memberships must be renewed annually.

**Program Membership fee** - \$15 for 1 child  
 \$25 for 2 or more

### Weekly Camp Fees

Y-members - \$160 per week per camper  
 Program Members - \$175 per week per camper  
 Phoenix Enrichment Camp - Additional \$10 per week, all member types  
 Apprentice Counselors - no fee

### Deposits

A deposit of \$5 per week, per camper is due at time of registration. Deposits are NOT additional fees and are applied to your total camp fee. Families unable to provide a deposit, or that plan on utilizing financial assistance should contact Camp Winnebago for further registration assistance. Deposits are non-refundable.

### Past Due Accounts

Any parent/guardian owing a past due balance may not continue to register their child for additional weeks of day camp or other YMCA programs until their account balance has been paid in full. The YMCA reserves the right to suspend camp or other services for accounts 2 or more weeks in arrears. Returned payments will be assessed a minimum fee of \$25.

## Payments

Members must have an updated billing method on file. All payments will be scheduled to automatically draft from the account on file, designated at the time of registration. Drafts are scheduled for the Friday before (3 days prior to) the beginning of each camp session.

### 2022 Payment Draft Schedule

Week Attending	Draft Date
6/6 - 6/10	Friday, June 3
6/13 - 6/17	Friday, June 10
6/20 - 6/24	Friday, June 17
6/27 - 7/1	Friday, June 24
7/4 - 7/8	Friday, July 1
7/11 - 7/15	Friday, July 8
7/18 - 7/22	Friday, July 15
7/25 - 7/29	Friday, July 22
8/1 - 8/5	Friday, July 29
8/8 - 8/12	Friday, Aug 5
8/15 - 8/19	Friday, Aug 12
8/22 - 8/26	Friday, Aug 19

# PARENT & CAMPER RESPONSIBILITIES

## Financial Agreement

It is your responsibility to keep your account and payment information up to date. All payments will be processed automatically on the scheduled dates listed on the previous page. You can change your credit card/EFT information at any time by logging into your account to update that. You can make additional payments ahead of draft dates, as well.

Families utilizing the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) are responsible for paying their assigned monthly co-pays as agreed with camp staff. It is important to note that any fees remaining after child care assistance has been applied are your responsibility.

## Cancellations

Sometimes plans change, and we understand that! All cancellation requests must be submitted in writing to Camp Winnebago via email at [campwinnebago@rockriverymca.org](mailto:campwinnebago@rockriverymca.org).

### Refund amounts:

14+ days notice - full refund of fees, less deposit

7 -13 day notice - 50% refund of fees, less deposit

Less than 7 day notice - no refund of fees or deposit

While most refunds are processed within 5-7 business days, please allow up to 2-3 weeks to see funds returned to your account.

## Family and Parent Involvement

Each summer, Camp hosts special events and Family Nights for parents and families to attend, and to enjoy some good-old fashioned camp fun together!

In 2022, these traditional gatherings may look different due to pandemic guidelines. Please see your weekly email newsletters for more specifics on dates and times!



## Absences, Credits, & Refunds

When you enroll for a week of camp, you are reserving the time, space, staff, and provisions (which are purchased in advance) for your child, whether they attend or not.

**Absent and/or Sick Camper** - no reduction of fees if a child is absent from camp, In the event of a serious illness or family emergency, please contact the camp director.

**Weather-related Closing**- No credit/refund will be issued should weather cause camp closings, including closings of program specific activities, ex., swimming, canoeing, etc.

**Behavioral Issues and Suspension** - If a camper is suspended from camp, a refund for that week will not be issued. Campers may be dismissed from from program without notice if their behavior is consistently disruptive or threatens the health and safety of other campers or staff. Behavior guidelines apply to parents/guardians, too, and a camper may be dismissed due to their actions. Please refer to the Parent Code of Conduct for more info.

## Building a Community

Every child has an important part in building our camp community. You are here to make new friends, play with old friends, learn new games, try something new, build on an old skill and just have fun. We build a stonger community by;

- Respecting Y staff, Y members, counselors and other campers.
- Properly using equipment, supplies, locker rooms, etc. is the responsibility of all.
- Caring for and respecting our camp environment by cleaning up our messes, picking up litter, and treating fellow campers and their belongings kindly.
- Being responsible for our words and actions, being honest with ourselves when we make mistakes, and having faith in ourselves to make better choices each day.



## Camper Expectations & Values

All campers are entitled to a pleasant and safe environment while participating in the Y Day Camp program. We know that everyone is not always going to get along or agree on things, especially when competition is involved. However, we expect that these disagreements will be handled in a non-violent and nonthreatening manner. We want everyone at camp to feel that they are in a safe environment where they are valued. All campers should use their number one resource when an unexpected altercation happens, that is to self-report to the counselor in charge right away. On the first day of each session, all camp expectations and guidelines will be covered and explained by Camp Leaders and counselors.

**Please review with your child the types of behaviors that we expect and spend some time discussing their importance in order for your camper to have a successful time at camp.**

# Y Values



**CARING** is **RED** and symbolized by the **HEART**

Goal – to demonstrate a sincere concern for others, for their needs, and well-being.

- Use appropriate language to avoid offending others.
- Avoid loud or boisterous behavior that could offend or disturb other people or programs.
- Seek to help or get assistance for those in need.



**HONESTY** is **BLUE** and is symbolized by the **COMPASS** symbol referring to one's moral compass.

- Goal - to tell the truth, to demonstrate reliability and trustworthiness through actions that are in keeping with my beliefs.
- Do not take things that do not belong to you.
  - Report any inappropriate or illegal conduct to YMCA personnel immediately.
  - Return any lost or misplaced items to YMCA personnel. Refrain from passing or sharing your membership card with anyone else.



**FAITH** is **PURPLE**, and symbolized by **CLOSED EYES** suggesting prayer, or deeper thought

Goal – to have complete trust or confidence in someone or something

At the Y, we honor the faith and values of all people.

- When we talk about Faith at the Y, we're talking faith in yourself, others, the world around you, and whatever faith you believe in. When you close your eyes, whatever image of have in your mind, that's what we encourage you to believe.



**RESPECT** is **YELLOW**, like the "golden" rule, and is symbolized by the **SUN**

Goal – to treat others as I would want them to treat me, to value the worth of every person,

including myself.

- Respect other people's right to participate in the same area.
- Treat others the way you would like to be treated.
- Have fun, but not at the expense of others.
- The YMCA is a smoke-free environment.



**RESPONSIBILITY** is **GREEN**, and symbolized by a **YOUNG SAPPLING** to represent our responsibility to Earth and one another.

Goal – to do what is right—what I ought to do, to be accountable for my choices of behavior and actions and my promises

- Follow the safety rules and other guidelines posted in and around the YMCA
- Avoid foul language, arguing, fighting or any other form of harassment, bullying or intimidation.
- Members are responsible for their own behavior and that of their guests.
- The YMCA is a "neutral zone". Displaying gang jewelry, clothing, symbols, hand signs, etc., is prohibited.
- Promptly report any illegal, suspicious or inappropriate behavior to YMCA personnel.

# PARENT & CAMPER RESPONSIBILITIES

## Bullying Policy

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 e-mails, text messaging, instant messaging, and other less direct methods.

At Camp Winnebago, bullying is unacceptable and we have a firm policy against all types of bullying. To be successful with this aspect of our youth community, we will deliver age-appropriate activities that encourage and develop listening skills, build empathy, and encourage working together and understanding others. We are committed to incorporating this into our existing program to ensure our children have the opportunity to learn and explore in an emotionally safe environment designed to build self-confidence and teach responsibility.

We work together as a team to ensure children feel welcome, make new friends, and go home with great memories. Unfortunately, persons who are bullied may not have the same potential to get the most out of their program experience. Our leadership addresses all incidents of bullying and trains staff on appropriate responses. All staff and children should be comfortable reporting any bullying concerns. Every person has the right to have the best possible experience at summer camp, and by working together as a team to identify and manage bullying, we can help ensure all participants and staff have a great summer.

If a child cannot adjust to these rules and expectations, and interventions and support methods to reduce incidents of bullying are unsuccessful, the YMCA of Rock River Valley and Camp Winnebago reserve their right to not allow the child to return to program. We are committed to a safe and enriching experience for all children!

## Firearms Policy

Firearms are prohibited from the premises of all day camp facilities. Please be mindful that this policy also applies to individuals with a permit/license to carry. All program sites shall post a "no firearms" sign, as described in Section 65(d) of the Firearm Concealed Carry Act [430 ILCS 66/65(d)] in a visible location and at building entrances. Policy Continues: 1. Places Off-Limits Even With a Permit/License 430 ILCS 66/65 Prohibited Areas (a) A licensee under this Act shall not knowingly carry a firearm on or into: (2) Any building, real property, and parking area under the control of a pre-school or child care facility, including any room or portion of a building under the control of a pre-school or child care facility.



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