

## Winter Camp 2008 Parent Information Letter

Please look at the following information to help you prepare for this year's Winter Camp.

### **What to Bring (Packing List)**

All of the cabins at Camp Sky-Y do have heaters, but make sure you bring plenty of warm clothes. It can get rather chilly up here in the mountains.

- Flashlight
- Sleeping Bag
- Pillow
- Closed Toe Shoes (such as hiking boots)
- Gloves
- A Warm Jacket
- Hat
- Toiletries (bath towel, soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.)
- Enough clothing for 4 days: Long Pants, long sleeved shirts, underwear, t-shirts, socks, sweatshirt or 2, extra clothing (for wet weather), extra close toe shoes.

### **Appropriate Dress**

Our dress code mirrors the policies of most schools. No spaghetti straps, tube tops, strapless attire, short shorts, blouses that reveal the midriff or flip-flops. Also included is clothing that portray inappropriate behavior, language that could be offensive.

### **What NOT to Bring to Camp**

Please **DO NOT BRING**: Pocket Knives, Cell Phones, Radios/"Boombboxes", electronic items (such as PSPs, C.D. Players, Ipods, etc.) And any item which has significant personal or monetary value. Remember that YMCA Camping Services will **NOT** be held responsible for damaged, lost or stolen articles.

### **Check In/Check Out Information**

Check in will begin at camp at 1:00PM through 2:00PM on Sunday, December 28, 2008.

Please bring with you the following forms:

1. Health Form
2. Behavior Agreement
3. Waiver
4. 2007 Winter Camper Registration Form
5. Camper Confidential
6. Over the Counter Medication Permission Form

Check out will begin at 10:30AM through 11:30AM on Thursday, January 1, 2009.

In order to check out your child you will need to have a photo ID with you to present to the camp staff upon signing out your child.

### **Directions to Camp**

To find Camp Sky-Y, simply take I-17 north until you reach the HWY 69 turn off to Prescott. Follow HWY 69 approximately 33 miles until Gurley. veer left onto Gurley and follow this road approximately 3 miles. Then turn left onto Mt. Vernon and follow it for seven miles. Camp Sky-Y will be on your right just before the road turns to dirt.

### **Bus Transportation**

For campers planning to take the bus, check in will begin 12noon at the Chris-Town YMCA located at 5517 N. 17 Ave. The bus to camp will leave promptly at 1pm on Sunday, December 28, 2008 so don't be late! The bus from camp will arrive back at the Chris-Town YMCA between 12:30-1:00PM on Thursday, January 1, 2009.

### **Payment Options**

1. If you register online you were required to pay the fee in full.
2. Via check by mail made payable to "YMCA Camping Services"
3. Via credit card over the phone at 1-800-660-1385.

*We accept American Express, Master Card, Visa and Discover*

### **Initial Deposit**

A \$100 non-refundable, non-transferable deposit is required to hold the campers spot. The deposit must be sent to the camp office with the 2008/09 Winter Camper Registration form completed in full.

### **Final Payment**

Must be received by the Camp Office no later than 14 days prior to the start of Winter Camp.

Make checks payable to **YMCA Camping Services** and mail to:

**YMCA Camping Services**  
**5725 South Senator Highway**  
**Prescott, AZ 86303**

*NOTE: We accept American Express, Master Card, Visa and Discover.*

### **Refund Policy**

Deposits are not refundable under any circumstances. In case of homesickness, dismissal or voluntary withdrawal after the camp has started, there is no refund of any fees. Any cancellation less than two weeks prior to the start of the registered session will result in a refund of 75% of the camp fees less the deposit. Cancellation with less than one week's notice will result in a refund of 50% of the camp fees less the deposit.

**Medical Refund:** A written physician-authorized medical excuse is required to be considered for a full refund (less the deposit). Requests for refunds with special circumstances must be submitted in writing for consideration. If a camper does not show for a registered session without notice, no refund will be issued.

### **Medical Insurance**

In the event your child needs medical treatment and/or prescriptions the family's insurance will be billed. Parents will be notified of any serious accident or illness.

### **Infirmary**

Medical Staff will be at camp 24 hours a day and our camp is equipped with an Infirmary.

### **Health and Lice Check**

All campers will be checked for lice and athlete's foot and any other medical condition that may affect camp community on the first day of camp and will be turned away if lice are present. We strongly recommend that your child be checked for lice before coming to camp. Also please provide the date of the last physical examination.

### **Safety At Camp**

**Camper Safety:** We take every safety precaution into consideration when planning and conducting our activities and have extensive staff training so that we can avoid accidents, injuries or dangerous situations. All of our staff has been trained in first aid and CPR. In addition we have a full time Nurse on site. Emergency services are only minutes from each camp should the need arise. All of our policies, procedures and rules are developed with the safety of your camper in mind.

**Site Safety:** Camp staff is identified with a photo name badge and/or staff shirt. Parents are encouraged to bring campers on the first day to meet the camp staff and become comfortable with the campsite. Any visitor must check in at the camp office or be escorted by a camp staff member. We receive regular visits from the Yavapai County Sheriff's deputies who regularly patrol the area. The Sheriff's Department is also the coordinating agency in the event of an area wide evacuation or other emergency. Each camp practices fire drills and other emergency procedures weekly with campers. Parents are notified any time a camper must visit the doctor or is held in the Health Center overnight.

### **Camp Store**

We have a small store at camp that carries a variety of soda and candy and an assortment of t-shirts, stamps and Chap Stick. All campers will have the opportunity to visit the camp store any time during the week. The store will also be open on the first and last day of camp for parents. We do not allow campers to keep their cash in their cabins, so we ask each camper to deposit their store money on opening day. It has been our experience that a camper will find ways to spend as much money as you give them. **\$25-\$35** is the recommended amount.

Accounts with closing balances of less than \$5.00 and/or any money not picked up on checkout day will be applied to the scholarship fund.

### **Homesickness**

Is a very real part of the adjustment that many children make in being away from their home and family. At Camp Sky-Y and Chauncey Ranch we are sensitive to homesick campers and parents who are missing their children. We work hard to support families through the adjustment. Letters to home early in the session may reflect homesickness, so don't be alarmed.

### **Packages from home**

Send toys, books, magazines, stickers and things that your child can share with their cabin. It is a good idea to send packages a few days prior to the start of Winter Camp.

### **Camper mail**

Receiving mail is a highlight for many campers, please plan ahead and mail letters early so your child will be included.

**Camp Sky-Y**  
Camper Name  
Winter Camp Cabin#  
5725 South Senator Highway  
Prescott, AZ 86303

### **Parent Notification**

The Program Director will call the parent in the following instances:

1. If the camper must go to the doctor or hospital.
2. If the camper spends the night in the infirmary.
3. If we are dealing with a behavior issue and need assistance to correct the behavior.

### **Phone Policy**

The camp phones are for business and emergencies only. Because of the number of campers at each of our sites, it is impossible to make the phones available for calls home from the campers. Of course, in an emergency or to help with the campers' social adjustment, the camp staff will be in contact with you. In general, we find that calls from mom or dad can actually make the "homesickness" worse. In case of emergency and you must call the camp: Camp Sky-Y 800-660-1385

### **Visitors**

Parents are encouraged to visit camp during the first or last day and meet the staff and see the camp. Mid week visits can be very distracting and *are not recommended* for the campers since Winter Camp is only 4 days long. **Any visitor that comes during the week MUST stop at the camp office.**

**LOST & FOUND:** Call us right away. We will try our best to locate it! Please remember that Camp Sky-Y cannot be held responsible for missing or damaged items. Please mark all items with the camper's name.

**Any items left behind after the end of the session will be donated to charity  
2 weeks after that session.**