

## 2009 INFORMATION AND CAMP POLICIES

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<u>SCHEDULE</u>	Check-IN	Check-OUT
Session 1	June 27 (Saturday) 2 PM to 4 PM	July 11 (Saturday) 9 AM to 11 AM
Session 2	July 11 (Saturday) 2 PM to 4 PM	July 25 (Saturday) 9 AM to 11 AM
Session 3	July 26 ( <b>SUNDAY</b> ) 9 AM to 11 AM	August 8 (Saturday) 9 AM to 11 AM
Session 4	August 8 (Saturday) 2 PM to 4 PM	August 22 (Saturday) 9 AM to 11 AM
Specialty Camp	August 24 ( <b>MONDAY</b> ) 3 PM to 4 PM	August 29 (Saturday) 3 PM to 4 PM

All campers must leave the premises at the mid-season change (July 25 - July 26); between the end of Session 4 and start of Specialty Camp (August 22 - August 24); and, at the end of Specialty Camp (August 29), as the camp is closed. WE MAKE NO EXCEPTIONS.

**TUITION** - Tuition for REGULAR CAMP is a minimum of one 2-week session and is based on the camper's year-round residence. Tuition for NH CAMPERS is \$1050/session prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> and **\$1075/session after May 1<sup>st</sup>**. Tuition for NON-NH CAMPERS is \$1090/session prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> and **\$1115/session after May 1<sup>st</sup>**. Tuition for SPECIALTY CAMP (1 week session) is \$635/session, regardless of camper's residence, and includes a \$20 non-refundable application fee, \$610 board/tuition and \$5 activity fee.

**OTHER CHARGES FOR REGULAR CAMP ONLY (\*mandatory fee)** - \*Health Insurance \$30/session; \*birthday cake/ice cream \$8/camper; \*activity fee \$24/session; \*laundry \$20/session; \*Masqua yearbook \$13 (one per family); \*Mountain Day (Sessions 2 & 4 only); waterskiing & tubing \$6/period; church bus fare \$10/session; camper spending \$50 (discretionary).

**ATTENDANCE** We accept campers 9-16 years old. Campers 9 years of age and older are eligible for all sessions of Regular Camp and Specialty Camp. 8 year old campers can apply if an older brother is a CURRENT camper and 8 year olds come the same session as the older brother. 16 year old campers must have attended Belknap the previous year. Campers staying 4 weeks may apply for **Sessions 1 and 2 OR Sessions 3 and 4. Sessions 2 and 3 are not an option for a 4-week stay.** WE MAKE NO EXCEPTIONS.

**RULES FOR ACCEPTANCE** Rules for acceptance and participation in the program are the same for everyone without regard to race, religion, color, or national origin.

**REGULAR CAMP DIVISION ORGANIZATION** Campers are divided into 5 divisions: Cadets, Juniors, Middlers, Besserers and Seniors. Each division consists of 6 cabins with 10 campers and 1 to 2 Leaders. *Campers are placed into divisions according to AGE and not SCHOOL GRADE. Movement from one division to the next is based upon the age of ALL CAMPERS registered for that session and does not constitute a promotion.* A camper will frequently remain in the same division up to 3 summers. For example, an 11 year-old camper may be in the Juniors Division in Session 1 or in the Cadets Division in Session 2.

**BUNK LOTTERY** All campers receive bunk assignments from their cabin leaders upon arrival. This policy is intended to eliminate the need for early arrivals in order to "get a good bunk" and is meant to be fair to all campers.

**DIVISION REQUESTS** Our daily schedule permits campers to participate in activities with their friends. We DO NOT accept CABIN MATE REQUESTS, as we separate siblings and friends within cabins in order to be fair to all campers, to avoid cliques, and to give all campers an opportunity to make new friends. **Campers may request to be in the same division with one friend. The older camper will always be placed in the division of the younger camper.** A parent/guardian of each camper must submit a division request IN WRITING no later than MAY 1ST, as division requests are not guaranteed after that date

**SPECIAL HEALTH CONCERNS** BEFORE YOUR SON'S ARRIVAL, please tell us about any special medical or emotional needs that your son has by simply attaching a detailed letter to his PERMISSION TO TREAT/HEALTH HISTORY form.

**BEDWETTING AND RESTRICTED DIETS** *Please be advised that we strongly discourage campers with even occasional bedwetting issues or restricted diets, as our staff is not trained for these types of specific concerns.* For referral to accredited camps that accommodate these specific concerns, please contact the American Camp Association for the New England area at (800) 446-4494 or on the Internet [www.acane-camps.org](http://www.acane-camps.org).

**DISMISSAL** We reserve the right to dismiss any camper whose behavior is unacceptable and contradictory to the Belknap Spirit. Behavior such as fighting, bullying, stealing, use or possession of alcohol, tobacco or drugs, and use or possession of firearms or weapons of any sort are not tolerated and will result in immediate dismissal from camp.

**UPDATED HEALTH INFORMATION IS MANDATORY** By law, every camper must have a physical dated within 24 months prior to the date he is registered to attend camp. Please use the following guidelines to determine whether an updated physical will be necessary:

- For campers attending Session 1, physicals dated prior to June 27, 2007 will not be accepted.
- For campers attending Session 2, physicals dated prior to July 11, 2007 will not be accepted.
- For campers attending Session 3, physicals dated prior to July 26, 2007 will not be accepted.
- For campers attending Session 4, physicals dated prior to August 8, 2007 will not be accepted.
- For campers attending Specialty Camp, physicals dated prior to August 24, 2007 will not be accepted.

**HEALTH & ACCIDENT INSURANCE IS MANDATORY** We have a blanket coverage policy to protect campers for accident/sickness while attending camp. The cost per session is noted under OTHER CHARGES FOR REGULAR CAMP ONLY and is a separate fee. This is a limited policy that covers most common illnesses and injuries sustained while at camp. Please note that this policy does not provide dental coverage. YMCA Camp Belknap is not responsible for any costs above the policy limits.

**LAUNDRY SERVICE IS MANDATORY** Every camper's dirty clothing is washed, dried, and folded once each week at our laundry at the cost per session under OTHER CHARGES FOR REGULAR CAMP ONLY. Our laundry service makes a one-week supply of clothing adequate for most campers. Your son should change his clothes, especially underwear, everyday. Please note that laundry service is not provided for Specialty Camp.

**ACTIVITY FEE IS MANDATORY** The activity fee per session noted above is for movies, candy, riflery, archery, etc., and is charged to each camper on the itemized Camper Invoice that you will receive when your son is accepted to camp. Fees for extras such as crafts, water skiing, tubing, hiking trips and field trips are deducted from the funds deposited into the camper's spending account when applicable. (See OTHER CHARGES FOR REGULAR CAMP ONLY).

**MASQUA** The Masqua is the camp's annual pictorial yearbook of campers, staff and events held throughout the summer. Also included are select chapel talks and vespers. The Masqua is sent one per family at the cost noted under OTHER CHARGES FOR REGULAR CAMP ONLY.

**BIRTHDAYS** We provide cake/ice cream to everyone in your son's cabin on his birthday at the cost noted under OTHER CHARGES FOR REGULAR CAMP ONLY. This is mandatory, unless we are notified otherwise.

**CAMP LIBRARY** We have a wonderful library with a variety of reading materials for all age groups. Donations of age-appropriate books are graciously accepted.

**CAMPER SPENDING MONEY** Prior to arriving at camp, your son will have camper spending money already on account. Please refer to your itemized Camper Invoice. Fees for items such as camp store purchases, crafts, water skiing, tubing, field trips, hiking trips, and birthday cake/ice cream are deducted from these funds. **CAMPERS ARE PROHIBITED FROM HAVING CASH OR CHECKS WHILE AT CAMP. PLEASE DO NOT MAIL CASH OR CHECKS TO CAMPERS.** Campers are not prohibited from activities, unless stated otherwise in writing. Please note that camper spending accounts are occasionally overdrawn and will be settled when you check out. Refunds of camper spending accounts are rounded to the nearest dollar. **REFUNDS OF CAMPER SPENDING ACCOUNTS NOT CLAIMED AT CHECK-OUT ARE FORFEITED.**

**CAMP STORE** We sell all sorts of souvenirs, such as hats, t-shirts, shorts, sweatshirts, stationery, water bottles, rain ponchos, disposable cameras, and travel-size toiletries. A Belknap t-shirt is not mandatory but is nice for group pictures and sports teams. Items purchased at the camp store are deducted from the camper's spending money. **WE DO NOT SELL FOOD, CANDY, DRINKS, POSTAGE STAMPS, OR FILM IN THE CAMP STORE.** Items priced higher than \$20 in

the camp store, such as the camp history, Centennial prints, fleece vests, etc., will be sold at check in and check out only. If you wish to purchase these types of items, please do so on change days.

**FOOTLOCKERS & TRUNKS** Footlockers and trunks are required for REGULAR CAMP only. A footlocker or trunk approximately 32" x 18" x 13" is a great size and should be constructed of materials that will not collapse when someone stands or sits on it. Footlockers and trunks do not need to fit underneath the bunks. If you wish to ship a footlocker or trunk to camp prior to your son's arrival, or home at the end of your son's stay at camp, please make pre-paid arrangements directly with the shipping company of your choice.

**LOST & FOUND** Please label all clothing (including socks and underwear), towels, sleeping bag, pillow, footwear and other gear, from camera bag, baseball mitt and swimming goggles to toiletries. Remind campers of their responsibility to keep track of their belongings while at camp. We are not responsible for lost, stolen or forgotten items. Please note that all lost and found items are immediately donated to charity at the close of camp.

**TELEPHONE & MAIL** We are a busy community at all times. **Campers are never brought to the telephone except in the event of a real emergency.** Please use letters to keep in touch. **E-mails and faxes to campers will not be delivered as this type of communication is reserved for camp business only.** Parents should also understand that initial letters home may involve strong homesick feelings, especially from first-time campers and that such feelings are completely normal. Letters from home should be newsy, upbeat, and encouraging. **Please, never tell your son that he can come home after a few days if he wishes. These "pick-up deals" encourage homesickness and defeat the purpose of what a resident camp such as YMCA Camp Belknap teaches.**

**VISITING DAYS** Visitation rules are extremely important to the whole of camp life. Unscheduled visits disrupt activity time and cause additional homesickness. **Visiting hours are limited to the two Saturday change days (end of Session 1/start of Session 2 AND end of Session 3/start of Session 4) from 9 AM to 5 PM.** Children who are invited to leave camp by adults other than their parent(s)/guardian(s) may do so only with written permission from a parent/guardian. Visitors are not permitted to swim or boat in camp. We ask for your continued support and cooperation in this area.

**TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM AIRPORTS & BUS STATIONS** Please note that we do not provide transportation to and from airports and bus stations. You should make prepaid arrangements directly with the limousine or car service of your choice. **WE MAKE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**TECHNOLOGY AT BELKNAP** The leaders and staff and Board of Directors at Camp Belknap feel strongly that a *true* camp experience is possible only if it does not include the technological devices which have become so much a part of young people's lives (i.e. hand-held video games, MP3 players, cell phones, or any device which permits access to the internet, including those supposedly brought only as a personal source of music). ***We ask that they not be brought to camp.*** Not only are they expensive and run the risk of being damaged, lost, or stolen in our camp environment, but they tend to isolate campers from one another rather than fostering the community group experience and growth in independence we hope each camper wants at Belknap. Our intention at camp is to create an environment where music is a communal experience rather than one which alienates campers through the use of headphones. Although we discourage campers from bringing their ipods to camp, if they feel strongly that they need their own music at bedtime, ipods and cd players with headphones may be used only in the cabin after lights are out at night or at other quiet times determined by the leader and may *not* be used for any other purpose (e.g. for movies, as cell phones, or as connections to the internet). Uses other than for music at the prescribed times will result in the devices being confiscated for the duration of a camper's stay.

**SPECIALTY CAMP** Campers participate in concentrated programs of basketball, sailing, or tennis, without regard to ability. The uniqueness of Specialty Camp allows campers to enjoy their favorite activity and achieve a full overnight camp experience. Please note that activities such as archery, riflery, swimming lessons, and arts and crafts are not offered during Specialty Camp. Campers are placed into two divisions. **We do not accept division OR cabin mate requests for Specialty Camp.** WE MAKE NO EXCEPTIONS.

**ITEMS NOT PERMITTED** The following items are ABSOLUTELY NOT PERMITTED: guns, rifles, knives, hatchets, fireworks of any kind, skateboards, in-line skates, food, candy, gum, soda, and electronic devices such as hand-held video game players, pagers, cell phones, computers of any kind (laptop, hand-held, etc.). **This is a STRICT CAMP POLICY** meant to be fair to all. We hope that everyone will cooperate when sending camper care packages. Cabin leaders will confiscate any items noted above. A good camper care package may contain reading materials, small board games, etc.