

YMCA CAMP BELKNAP 2022 INFORMATION AND CAMP POLICIES

Camp Belknep is a non-profit traditional overnight summer camp for boys age 8-16 near Wolfeboro, New Hampshire on Lake Winnepesaukee established in 1903.

SCHEDULE

		<u>CHECK - IN</u>			<u>CHECK - OUT</u>	
Session 1	June 26	Sunday	Time TBD	July 9	Saturday	9-11 am
Session 2	July 10	Sunday	Time TBD	July 23	Saturday	9-11am
Session 3	July 24	Sunday	Time TBD	August 6	Saturday	9-11am
Session 4	August 7	Sunday	Time TBD	August 20	Saturday	9-11am
Session 5	August 22	MONDAY	Time TBD	August 27	Saturday	9-10am

Campers interested in staying for 4 weeks may do so during sessions 1 & 2, OR 3 & 4 ONLY. Unfortunately we can not offer any alternate combinations. Campers interested in staying 6 or 8 weeks must contact the camp office prior to registration and have attended previous summers.

All families must formally check the camper in and out on the dates listed above. Arrival and departure times will be determined and communicated ahead of time. Like last summer, **all campers staying more than one session must stay on the premises during the change days.**

TUITION & FEES

Belknep's non-profit mission is to be affordable to any family who wishes to enroll in Camp. Camp uses a tuition option program in an effort to maintain our mission and to minimize our rate increases. Please select the level that is most appropriate for your family. Your family's choice is strictly confidential and will not influence your camper's experience or placement.

Tuition Option A covers a camper's full share of the cost of operating and maintaining Camp. This price helps to ensure that Belknep will continue to thrive for future generations.

Tuition Option B does not cover the camper's full share of the operating costs of Camp. However, thanks to generous donations we are able to continue to offer this pricing.

	2-WEEK SESSION (1, 2, 3, & 4)		1-WEEK SESSION (5)	
	Option A	Option B	Option A	Option B
Registration Fee (Non-Refundable)	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$175.00
Board & Tuition	\$2325.00	\$1825.00	\$1150.00	\$890.00
Camper Store/Spending Deposit	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
COVID Operational Fee*	See below	See below	See below	See below
Total	\$2550.00	\$2050.00	\$1350.00	\$1090.00

Campers staying for 4, 6, and 8 weeks will be charged the two-week board & tuition, and camper store/spending deposit for each session they attend. The camper store/spending deposit is the money that can be used at the store while at Camp and/or for supplies required for stay at camp. Please see the section in this document that outlines what activities and items may be applied to this camper store/spending account.

Payment is due in full by April 15, 2022. If full payment is not received by April 15 you will be responsible for a \$150 late fee and we cannot guarantee a spot. No refunds will be issued after April 15, including if your camper leaves for any reason (voluntary or not) during a session. There is a \$32.50 fee for any checks returned due to insufficient funds. If you choose to pay the tuition balance with a credit card, a processing fee will be added to the tuition balance due. There is no credit card processing fee when using credit card to pay registration deposit only.

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Financial assistance is available for those unable to afford the full cost of camp and may be requested by emailing adminCB@campbelknap.org.

COVID Operational Fee/Additional Payment Related to the ongoing COVID Pandemic. Depending on the status of the pandemic, Belknap will incur additional expenses and make safety recommendations or updates to operations and facilities. Therefore, **Belknap may need to request an additional COVID Operational Fee** above the current tuition. The fee amount will range based on the safety measures required to operate. As always, we will provide financial assistance for any family who cannot afford the additional fee. This fee will be determined and communicated **by April 1, 2022** so we can provide the most accurate assessment and hopefully keep costs as low as possible.

ATTENDANCE & AGE

Session	Age
1, 2, 3, 4 (2-weeks)	9-16*
Session 5 (1-week)	8-12

*Eight-year-old campers can apply to sessions 1-4 only if an older brother is a CURRENT camper and attends the same session as the brother. Eight-year-olds must be age 8 before June 1st to attend camp. Sixteen-year-olds must be 16 for the entire length of the summer. (*This means the camper must be 16 until August 31st*). Sixteen-year-old campers must have attended Belknap the previous year.

RULES FOR ACCEPTANCE

Rules for acceptance and participation in the program are the same for everyone without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, social group or national origin/geography.

INCLUSION

Camp Belknap is an overnight camp serving boys. For over a century, Belknap has invested in the benefits of a single gender environment to serve our mission of creating good leaders and citizens. As such, we welcome children who identify as boys, and who are emotionally ready for Camp Belknap. Camp Belknap welcomes, supports and celebrates all boys no matter their economic, ethnic, geographic, racial, religious, sexual or social group. We foster inclusivity, compassion, and selflessness and envision a camp where all identities, differences and experiences are valued.

DIVISION ORGANIZATION/HOUSING

For all five sessions, boys live in divisions that include a lodge, bathrooms and six cabins. Each cabin of 8-10 campers is supervised by one or two experienced leaders, all of whom were once Belknap campers. Divisional placement is made **by age**. We take all the boys registered for a given session, order them by their birthday, and divide them into five equal groups (Divisions).

Please note that campers may remain in the same division for several years or occasionally skip a division depending on the age of the campers. Additionally campers staying for more than one session (months) may be moved to an older division if the average age of the campers in the new session is younger. This movement highlights the opportunity to live with boys of similar maturity.

DIVISION/CABIN 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 among 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.** Requests that involve more than one year in age difference of campers will only be considered at the discretion of the directors. A parent/guardian of each camper must submit a division request **IN WRITING** no later than April 15th, as division requests are not guaranteed after that date.

BUNK ASSIGNMENTS/LOTTERY

All campers receive bunk assignments by lottery (picking out of a hat) 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.

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SPECIAL HEALTH CONCERNS & HEALTH HISTORY COMPLETION

Before your camper's arrival, please share any medical or emotional needs that your camper has by accurately filling out the medical information electronically. Having this information allows us to set your camper up for success at Camp. Please contact Camp via phone with any special requests or concerns. For example, if your camper has a **restricted diet/food allergies**, is **restricted from activities**, routinely **bedwetting**, **mental health concerns** or currently has a **one-on-one-support in school**, we request you contact Camp at the main line before final registration/payment on April 15th. **For all health and behavior related topics, by calling us prior to registration and before summer starts, together** we can discuss whether Camp Belknep is the right place for your camper to be successful at this time. Please be aware that we are not equipped or trained to handle all specific concerns. For referral to camps that accommodate a variety of specific needs, please contact the American Camp Association.

HEALTH INFORMATION IS MANDATORY

Every camper must have an annual physical exam dated within 1 year (12 months) prior to the end date of the session he is registered to attend. A record of immunizations is also required.

HEALTH & ACCIDENT COVERAGE

Campers are covered by Camp Belknep for any accident or sickness that originates at Camp Belknep up to a maximum limit outlined on the application. Parent/Guardian is responsible for all costs above the maximum limits. Please note that Camp Belknep does not provide dental coverage.

HEALTH DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

At the time of this policy the 2022 safety plan is being developed. Camp continues to take the COVID-19 pandemic very seriously. There may be health and safety requirements for families and also adjustment to facilities and operations to promote health and safety. Belknep will communicate timely and routinely on key changes leading up to the start of camp.

DISMISSAL

Camp Directors reserve the right to dismiss a camper for undesirable behavior or behavior contradictory to the Belknep Spirit. Behavior such as non-compliance with safety rules (such as mask wearing or hand washing), fighting, bullying, stealing, racist language or behavior, use of unapproved technology, 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.

VALUES AND COMMUNITY

Campers engage in a variety of important **community activities** including eating in the dining hall, sitting quietly and/or participating in large group gatherings, and doing their share of the work during camp duties. Belknep community emphasizes the interpersonal **values** of kindness, helpfulness, courage, and leadership by example.

SAFETY

The safety of our campers is our top priority. Campers must be able to independently perceive and understand safety and emergency instructions/directions. Some examples of safety instruction that they will encounter includes but are not limited to:

- Staying within camp boundaries
- Handling program equipment such as a rifle, bow, or hockey stick
- Entering the dock only with the permission of the waterfront supervisor
- Wearing a helmet and using commands during climbing
- Handwashing, mask wearing, or social distancing during particular times and activities
- Observing instructions related to allergies and food in the dining hall

MEALS/FOOD

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served in the dining hall with the entire camp together and campers eat at a table family-style together with their cabin-mates and leader. There are no snacks served between meals. Even though we attempt to not serve any cooked meals containing nuts, we are NOT a nut-free facility. Peanut butter is served in our dining hall. If your camper has a **restricted diet** or an allergy that requires attention, please make sure to contact the camp prior to registration. Please be aware that we are not equipped or trained to handle all specific concerns. **We will do our best to help out campers with food allergies, but we can't guarantee anything as we serve a single meal family style to 400 persons at one time and your child need to be able to manage it for himself.** Additionally from year to year our kitchen protocols are updated and we ask that even if you are a returning camper family you check in if your camper has an allergy or restricted diet.

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ACTIVITIES AND ELIGIBILITY

The daily schedule has three program periods from which a camper chooses from a list of at least five age-appropriate program options. Most program periods do not require the camper to sign-up, such as soccer, arts and crafts, and nature. A handful of the activity options require a sign-up because of limited spots/equipment, such as sailing, archery, and riflery. Sign-ups occur right after mealtime. Priority is given to those campers who have not had the chance to do the activity. For a list of activities/program periods visit the website. Occasionally new games and creative activities are designed and implemented by the leadership and will not be listed.

Please note, the campers can choose to go to the program he likes and he does NOT travel with his cabin. The camper must be able to safely get from one place in camp to another without being with or requiring another camper/staff person. Additionally, campers maneuver rugged and varied terrain as part of daily camp life, and program activities. Because we are living and playing in the outdoors, during many activities the camper will be **exposed to weather and nature** such as but not limited to being in a canoe on a windy lake while it is raining and overnight camping on an island without a shelter.

SWIMMING

All campers are required to participate in a swim check at the beginning of the session. The swim check determines the camper's swim group. The swim group dictates where each camper may swim (Cadet Beach, Main Dock Shallow or Main Dock Deep). All swim group levels may use the non-motorized boats. Campers are encouraged (but NOT required) to attend swim lessons where they have the opportunity to improve skills and advance to the next swim group. Campers who are not in the highest swimming groups may take a waterski swim test to be permitted to participate in waterski/tubing activities.

MOUNTAIN DAY

We plan for Mountain Day to return in 2022! Depending on the status of the COVID pandemic mountain day may occur in all two-week sessions. All campers leave for the day to hike a mountain in New Hampshire with their divisional age group. Senior campers go to an ocean beach. If weather permits, this activity is mandatory for all campers and has an additional fee for transportation, which is automatically deducted from the camper store/spending account.

SPENDING MONEY

Prior to arriving at camp, your camper will have spending money already on his account (\$50 per 2-week session, \$25 per 1-week session). Items that may be charged to the camper spending account include:

- craft and woodworking supplies (average \$7 per item)
- water skiing, tubing, field trips/hiking trips (limited in 2021) (\$10 per activity)
- safety-related items such as face masks and water bottles.
- golf off-site (\$20 per activity) – activity for campers in the oldest division only

Campers are prohibited from having cash or checks while at camp. Please do not mail cash or checks to your camper while at camp. Please note that camper spending accounts are occasionally overdrawn. However, campers are not prohibited from continuing to participate in activities, unless a parent states otherwise in writing. Overdrawn accounts will be settled when you check out. If your camper balance is not paid in full by August 31, 2022 your camper will be unable to register for camp next year. Refunds of camper spending accounts are rounded to the nearest dollar and returned when you check out on departure day. **REFUNDS OF CAMPER SPENDING ACCOUNTS NOT CLAIMED AT CHECKOUT ARE FORFEITED.**

CAMP STORE

The Camp Store is scheduled to reopen in 2022. Items may be pre-purchased prior to camp through our online store. Or in the store at camp, we sell all sorts of useful items, such as hats,t-shirts, shorts, sweatshirts, stationary, water bottles, rain ponchos, disposable cameras and travel size toiletries. Items purchased at the camp store are deducted from the camper's spending account.

BIRTHDAYS

We provide cake/ice cream to everyone in your camper's cabin on his birthday at an added charge. This is mandatory unless we are notified otherwise. This \$10 fee will be deducted from the camper store/spending money.

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PACKING FOR CAMP/TRUNKS

Please refer to the packing list online at www.campbelknep.org for a full list of equipment needed for camp. Footlockers or trunks are required. 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. Additionally it is ideal if it has a handle on each end. 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 camper's arrival, or home at the end of his stay at camp, please make pre-paid arrangements directly with the shipping company of your choice. If you are unable to afford or access an item on the equipment list please contact Camp to provide for use during your stay. Or if you have items to donate for others to use – Please bring your old lightly used clean Camp Belknep-logo ONLY clothing and soccer cleats in a plastic bag to drop for donation at check-in.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

There is no laundry service for two-week and one-week sessions. There is laundry for all campers staying for 4-weeks. Clothes for mothers will be washed and dried between sessions. Laundry is combined with other cabins; therefore, labeling is essential.

LOST & FOUND

Please label all clothing (including socks and underwear), towels, sleeping bag, pillow, footwear and other gear, from baseball mitt 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 avoid sending any expensive items to camp. All lost and found items are placed in the lost and found bins in each division or Conlon Lodge. **All unclaimed items will be immediately donated to charity at the close of each session.**

TECHNOLOGY AT BELKNAP

Campers are **NOT permitted to bring any technology/electronics/music player devices to camp**. This means no hand-held video games, cell phones, music players, e-readers, GoPros, smartwatches or any device, which permits access to telephone, the Internet, or recording. The leaders, staff, and Board of Trustees at Camp Belknep feel strongly that a true camp experience is possible only if it does not include technological devices, which have become so much a part of young people's lives. Our intention at camp is to foster living as a community, thus music is used in a communal way. Music will only be played through the cabin music player or with musical instruments and voices. The only technological device that is permitted is a camera. However, the camera must not do any other functions including video recording. We encourage disposable cameras. Electronic devices will be confiscated if found. **The inability to follow this important camp policy may be a cause for dismissal.**

ITEMS NOT PERMITTED

The following items are ABSOLUTELY NOT PERMITTED: Alcohol, drugs, tobacco (including e-cigarettes or juuls), any illegal substances or items, guns, rifles, knives, hatchets, fireworks of any kind, skateboards, in-line skates, fidget spinners, food (including candy, gum, & soda), money and electronic devices (as outlined above). Campers may not keep a car/vehicle or animal/pet on camp property during camp. Belknep strictly enforces this policy for safety and the quality of the camper experiences. Items will be confiscated if found.

CAMP LIBRARY

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

MASQUA/YEARBOOK

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. Addresses for all campers and staff are listed in this publication. Each camper receives a copy in the winter.

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COMMUNICATION WHILE AT CAMP: TELEPHONE AND MAIL

You may use letters and postcards to keep in touch. Mail comes via the mailboat, which is a long standing tradition at Camp Belknap. Please note the following when communicating with your camper:

- Campers are never brought to the telephone except in the event of a real emergency.
- In efforts to keep technology out of camp, we do NOT accept E-mails and Faxes for campers. This type of communication is reserved for camp business only.
- Camp Belknap choose to discontinue packages, for many reasons. We have found that a thoughtful letter is much more impactful than receiving a box of stuff. As such, **Care packages are NOT accepted at camp.** Should a package, box or bag arrive for a camper at camp that was not anticipated by the director or the main office we will keep the package for pick-up during check-out at the end of the session or return it to sender upon its arrival. Camp will not be responsible for returned packages or any packages held until the end of session.
- **Did your camper forget something at home?** Please contact the main office (603-569-3475) for instructions on how to send the item. We will determine if we are able to provide the camper with the missing item (such as a toothbrush or a sleeping bag).
- Please be aware that initial letters sent home may reveal expressions of homesickness, especially from the first-time campers. Some homesickness is normal. You can help by sending letters from home that are newsy, upbeat and encouraging. Please avoid telling your camper he can come home or call after a few days if he wishes. These “pick-up deals” encourage homesickness and a feeling of “we don’t believe you can make it.” Belknap hopes to foster resilience and courage, however, please contact the Directors if you have any concerns about something that your child expresses in a letter.
- You are welcome to drop letters at a designated location on Check-in day so that your camper may receive a letter in the first days of camp.

Send camper mail to: Camper Name
 Division/Cabin #
 YMCA Camp Belknap
 P.O Box 1546
 Wolfeboro, NH 03894

NO VISITING

Parents/Guardians are NOT permitted to visit camp while camp is in session. Please understand that unscheduled visits, from land or by boat, disrupt activities, camp culture/community, cause additional homesickness, and disrupt our health and safety plan. This year, for those campers staying one-month, six-weeks or eight-weeks - there will be limited **visitation between sessions. Campers will stay on the premises and will have specific programming for staying longer than two weeks.**

CAMP ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

All families must formally check the camper in and out on the list dates and times posted for arrival and departure. Arriving late and departing early distracts from our mission in building independence and creating a working community and is difficult for both leaders and bunkmates. Late arrivals are NOT accepted in 2022. Any unforeseen exceptions to this will be reviewed by the directors and health team. As far as departure, it is our policy to avoid any early pick-ups or mid-session departures from camp during a session. If for some very important circumstances, your camper must leave/depart his session early please be aware of the following: Pick up will be during siesta time only. We do not allow for late pick-ups on Friday night or early Saturday morning, as our team is closing the session with the campers. Also please note if the camper needs to depart for a pre-planned event, they will be unable to return back to camp no matter what day it is within the session. Please plan your camp session when there are no other commitments. Departure information must be submitted in writing one week before accepted session check-in day and must receive written approval from Belknap. Camper families must sign their camper out at the designated location on check-out day. If the camper is not picked up by the parent/guardian(s) and an alternate person is picking up the camper, the guardian must provide written permission before the start of the camper’s attending session.

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.