



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT™
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

BEST SUMMER EVER

YMCA CAMP LEIF ERICSON

2020 Summer Camp Parent Handbook



WELCOME!

BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS

Dear Summer Guardians/Parents,

On behalf of the Summer Camp Staff, I would like to thank you for allowing YMCA Leif Ericson Day Camp to be part of your child's summer.

We are proud that 98% of campers reported having made at least one new friend while at camp. In fact, the vast majority of these new friendships were made with children from other towns and schools.

If you ask a camper what they like about camp, most of them will say something about being allowed to "be themselves" This is not by happy accident; this is the result of a carefully crafted culture that is accepting of all, diverse in nature, and built on the values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.

Please take a few moments to read through this guide with your child. It will help familiarize you and your child with our policies and procedures as well as explain details about payments, transportations, and more.

Sincerely,

Mike Murphy

Executive Director



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MISSION & OBJECTIVES

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to put Christian Principles into Practice Through Camping Programs That Build Healthy Spirit, Mind And Body For All.

Our Values

Our core values unite us as a movement. They are the shared beliefs and essential principles that guide our behavior, interactions with each other and decision-making. The four values of the Y are:

Caring: Show a sincere concern for others

Honesty: Be truthful in what you say and do

Respect: Follow the “golden rule”

Responsibility: Be accountable for your promises and actions

Our Goals

Our cause is for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Our camp programs, as part of YMCA, reflect these values and designed to help our campers grow physically, mentally, and spiritually within a fun camp environment. Well-trained camp staff act as a catalyst for the development in your child as they lead the camper in challenging activities

CONTACT & OPERATING HOURS

Camp Operating Days & Hours

Location– Our camp is located at:

2301 East 26th Street, Sioux falls SD 57103

Camp Operating Days & Hours

Monday-Friday

Camp opens Monday, July 6th, 2020 and closes August 14th, 2020

Pre-Camp Hours: 8:15-8:40am

Camp Hours: 8:40am-4:15pm

Post-Camp Hours: 4:15pm-5:00pm

Contact Information

Camp Office

(605)336-2267 or camp@siouxfallsymca.org

Transportation

(605)336-2267 or camp@siouxfallsymca.org

Payment

(605)336-2267 or camp@siouxfallsymca.org

All Directors can be reached at

(605)336-2267

PAYMENT & LATE FEES

Day Camp Fees & Payment

Day Camp Fees and Payment Days

- \$100 Deposit per child (non-refundable)

Payments & Late Fees

- Payments are DUE in full one week before session begins.
- Payments can be made automatically withdrawal, credit card, check, or cash.
- Payments will not be pro-rated due to absences, holidays, or inclement weather.

Refund Policy

All withdrawals from a camp session and/or refund request must be done in writing through Camp Leif Ericson

Refunds/credits will be issued as follows:

If you paid by check/cash or camp payments were made through EFT draft from a checking or savings account, it takes 2 weeks from the date requested to receive a refund. If you paid by credit card, it takes 2 weeks from the date requested to receive a refund on your credit card statement. All payments may be a system credit if cancellation is made at the anytime during camper session.

There is a \$100 non-refundable deposit associated with your registration. The remainder of your registration fee is also non-refundable, but will be converted to a YMCA System Credit which can be utilized for any future YMCA program registrations. This policy applies to any cancellation on the behalf of the registrant or if YMCA Camp Leif Ericson is forced to cancel a portion of a session or a session in its entirety for any reason.

Expulsion Policy

The YMCA reserves the right to end your child's enrollment with or without refund if the staff deems in the best interest and/or safety of the camper, other campers, or staff. If a child's enrollment termination is deemed necessary by staff, parents will be informed of reasons for termination.

CHECK IN/CHECK OUT

Check In

The YMCA requires that all children are to be properly signed in by an adult and turned over to a YMCA staff person. The YMCA does not and will not assume responsibility for children that arrive before the start time at any location. All campers will be screened at their time of arrival. Please do NOT leave camp property until your camper has been signed in AND screened.

Check Out

Those picking up children should be prepared to show identification to the camp staff member upon request. No child will be released to anyone who is not authorized to pick up that child unless camp office was aware.

Early Check Out

When picking up your child during camp hours (before 4:00pm), the camp office must know 24 hours in advance. Email or call camp office with camper name, age, check out time, and if camper will be returning that day.

Early check outs are only ALLOWED at:

- 10:30 am
- 11:30am
- 12:30pm
- 2:30pm

Notifying the camp office after 1:00pm that day will NOT be allowed and the camper must remain at camp until camp hours are over. All early check outs will happen through the camp office located at camp. Early check out happening at 4:05pm will be located at the "Big Top". All busses must be out of camp before 4:15pm pickups can happen. Parking is very tight at 4:00pm please get out of the way of buses and park in the far left parking lot.

Late Check In

If camper arrives to camp after 8:40am, parent/guardian must sign in camper with a valid photo ID. If camper is going to be late, call camp office with a 24 hour notice. Camp office needs to know camper name, age, when camper will be dropped off at camp. Camper will be dropped off at the camp office located at Camp.

Parking

Please remember to drive slowly and carefully. During early morning/afternoon pickup, please note parking is limited, so plan accordingly.

TRANSPORTATION

Bus

Camper are able to take a bus to and from camp for free. At registration you picked a bus stop location to use everyday for that camp session. Bus Stop Location is not allowed to be changed throughout the session. Bus Stop Locations do fill up. If a campers bus stop location needs to be changed, your request needs to be submitted 1 week prior to the camp session starting. **Campers are not allowed to use bus stop location and before and after care.**

- Please go to <https://www.siouxfallsymca.org/transportation-information> and fill out the Bus Stop Permission Form.
- The Bus Stop Location time schedule will be sent out via E-mail 2-3 weeks before session starting or found on www.siouxfallsymca.org website.
- Arrive to bus stop location 5 minutes early.
- If you miss your pick-up in the morning, you may elect to drop off your camper at the Camp Office.
- Campers are not allowed to walk home if transportation form does not indicate that as your preference.

Parent drop off and pickup

If you chose to provide transportation for your camper, they may be dropped off at the Big Top shelter at camp (2301 E. 26th St.), **between 8:15am and 8:40am**. Afternoon pickup is also at the Big Top **4:15pm-5:00pm**. Please note that all campers will be screened when they are dropped off each morning. Parents will remain in the vehicle **AT ALL TIMES**. Campers will be screened by a staff member, and directed to their group. If the camper does not pass the screening process they will not be permitted to join their group for the day and will be taken home by the parent immediately. Please be patient with this process, and drive **CAREFULLY** on the camp road. Please **DO NOT** enter camp **BEFORE 4:15pm** for pickup. Our route buses need to exit camp before you are allowed in.

HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

Covid19 Precautions

Every child that attends YMCA Camp Leif Ericson will need to have a Covid19 waiver completed and on file. This Waiver is included in the Registration Process.

YMCA Camp Leif Ericson will be utilizing the Covid19 precautions found in the American Camping Association/Y-USA 2020 Field Guide for Camps and CDC Childcare Guidelines . As part of these precautions, we will be taking actions which include, but are not limited to the following:

- Daily signs and symptoms checks for Staff and Children.
- Staff will wear cloth masks. Children are not required, but you may have your child wear a mask if you so choose.
- Frequent hand washing and sanitizing of surfaces, equipment, etc.
- Utilizing social distancing when possible.
- Campers will be assigned to a group of 10 Campers with 1 Counselor and will remain with the other campers assigned to their group throughout the day, but will not be closely interacting with the children from the camper groups in order to limit exposure to other campers.
- Field trips will be limited to other YMCA Facilities which include our Downtown Branch and our leased facility at the Wall Lake County Park. Transportation to the locations will also utilize CDC recommendations.

Covid19 Exposure/Symptoms/Positive Test Policy

If your Camper is exhibiting signs or symptoms, has been exposed to an individual who has been exhibiting signs, symptoms, or has obtained a Covid Positive Test, or your camper has obtained a Covid Positive Test result, they will be required to sit out of Camp for an amount of time deemed appropriate in correlation with the most recent CDC, Dept of Health, ACA/Y-USA recommendations. Any time missed from camp at that point will be compensated with a refund of a pro-rated amount minus the \$100 non-refundable deposit.

MEDICAL/EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Medication

- All prescription medication must be kept in the actual container in which it was received from the pharmacy. The container should include the prescribing doctor's name, name of medication, procedure for use, and the child's name.
- Any medications or treatments to be given during Camp must come with complete, detailed instructions.
- Camp staff will NOT dispense medication that is not labeled appropriately.

Illness and Emergency Procedures

- Please notify the Camper Health staff if your camper is diagnosed with COVID19 or any other communicable disease. A physician's written permission to return to camp may be required.
- If a camper becomes ill during the camp day and is unable to participate in activities, the parent/guardian will be contacted.
- If a camper is injured, Camp Staff will administer immediate first aid.
- If the situation should require immediate medical attention, the Camp Staff will contact and inform the parent/guardian as soon as circumstances permit. In the event they cannot be reached, the emergency contact will be notified. If necessary, a Program Director will call the designated physician and/or local Emergency Responders for treatment and/or transport to the nearest hospital. A staff member will accompany the camper to the hospital and stay until the parent/guardian arrives.

Weather Emergency

Camp Staff continually monitor weather conditions and in the event of Severe Weather, campers will be moved under shelter and evacuated from the Camp Facility if necessary via the Camp Busses.

Other Emergency

Camp Staff have been trained to handle other types of Emergencies in conjunction with local Emergency Responders. Parents/guardians will be contacted if necessary following any such emergency and given pertinent information for being re-united with their campers.

BEHAVIORAL GUIDELINES/POLICIES

“Golden Rule”

We ask that all of our Campers and Staff follow the “Golden Rule” by “treating others as they wish to be treated.” This ensures that everyone has the opportunity to enjoy a positive, safe, and fun-filled Camp experience.

Camp Guidelines

- Campers **MUST** treat all staff with respect and follow their instructions
- Campers **MUST** stay with their group
- Campers **MUST** use appropriate language at all times
- Campers **MUST** respect the natural environment and all its inhabitants

Managing Inappropriate Behavior

Most inappropriate behavior can be dealt with quickly by counselors who are trained in a scaled approach to dealing with misbehavior. However, additional Camp Staff may become involved if necessary. Our typical response plan includes:

- Verbal Reminder/Redirection
- Removal from activity for a brief period (3-5 minutes)
- Removal from remainder of activity/loss of privilege
- Call to parent/guardian
- Temporary Removal/Expulsion from Camp

Admission as a camper at YMCA Camp Leif Ericson carries many privileges and responsibilities. Camper found with tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, or weapons will immediately be dismissed without a refund. In addition, should a behavior or discipline problem affect our work with other campers or their enjoyment of YMCA Camp Leif Ericson, **we reserve the right to dismiss those camper's responsible without a refund.**

WHAT TO BRING/NOT TO BRING

What To Wear (LBELED)

- Comfortable outdoor clothes that may get dirty.
- Dress appropriately for rain/cold/warm weather.
- Camper should wear CLOSED toe athletic shoes.
- NO sandals, opened toe shoes, or flip flops.
- LABEL all items that are brought to camp.

What To Bring Everyday (LBELED)

- Backpack
- Face mask (campers are not required to wear them at all times, but may need them)
- Water Bottle
- Swim Suit
- Towel
- Bugs Spray and Sunscreen (staff members will have on hand for camper)

What NOT To Bring

- Cell Phones
- iPods
- MP3 Players
- Wireless Speakers
- Toys
- Any electronics
- Money

These items often create unnecessary distractions and take away from the camp experience. If a camper is found to have one of these items they will be asked to place them in their backpack or another location for safe keeping. If your child needs to have a cell phone due to special circumstances please notify the Camp Staff and we will do our best to work out an agreement.

We are not responsible for any lost or damaged items.

CAMP SCHEDULE

Daily Camp Schedule

Please understand that this schedule may vary due to weather, special activities or other unforeseen circumstances. Some activities may require an additional signed release form found in the registration.

Times

8:15am-8:40am

8:40am-9:00am

9:00am-9:40am

9:45am-10:35am

10:40am-11:30am

11:35am-12:35pm

12:40pm-1:30pm

1:35pm-2:25pm

2:30pm-2:40pm

2:45pm-3:35pm

3:40pm-4:15pm

4:15pm-5:00pm

Activities

Parent drop off

Camp Buses Arrive at Camp

Chapel

1st Activity Period

2nd Activity Period

Lunch

3rd Activity Period

4th Activity Period

Afternoon Snack

5th Activity Period

Buses Depart Camp

Parent Pickup

Activities

Archery

Arts & Crafts

BB Range Sports

Biking

Boating

Fishing

GaGa Ball

Sling Shots

Horseback Riding

Hammocks

Music

Nature

Water Slides

Playgrounds

Pedal Cars

Skits

Sports

Camp Stories

Zip Lines

For the safety of the campers, we do not publish the daily schedule.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost Items

PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS YOUR CAMPER BRINGS TO CAMP SO THAT ANY LOST ITEMS CAN RETURNED TO YOUR CAMPER.

- Every night, Camp Staff will sweep camp and buses for any lost items.
- Any unclaimed items will be displayed each day so that campers may have a chance to claim any lost items.
- Any unclaimed items will be kept at Camp Leif Ericson until the end of each Camp Session.
- Outside the camp office there will be rubber mats for parents/guardians to search for camper unclaimed items.
- All unclaimed items will be donated after this time frame.

****This does not apply to medications, high value items, etc.**

CAMP PHOTOS

SMILE!

- Our Camp Photographer Annie cant wait to capture the best photos of your camper!
- See some hilarious and memorable photos of your camper!
- You will even have the chance to download and purchase photos!

Follow the directions and you will have access to thousands of Sioux Falls YMCA Camp photos!

- Go to www.Bunk1.com
- RETURNING PARENTS will login using their email address and password.
- NEW PARENTS will click "Need an account or have an invitation code?" and complete the basic form.
- The Invitation Code for Sioux Falls Family YMCA is: B1SIOUXFALLS

All campers will go home with a Group Photo after the session is over. Each camper will receive one photo. We are unable to provide a new photo if photo is lost or damage. These are memorable photos that campers love to look back and remember the experience they received attending Leif Ericson Day Camp.

Follow Us on Facebook and Instagram!

FOOD PROGRAM & MENU

- Camp provides a meal at lunch and an afternoon snack to all Campers as part of their Registration Fee
- Camp is Peanut Free. However, our meals do include gluten, wheat, eggs, and barley. Menu items may include tree nuts, but not peanuts.
- Your camper may bring their own meal, but it cannot contain peanuts. If your camper's meal does contain peanuts, they will be asked to consume it in an isolated area away from the other campers.
- **Special Dietary Needs:** although we strive to accommodate all of our camper's needs, you may have to provide your own meals if our menu does not meet your camper's dietary guidelines
- PLEASE NOTE that the menu is subject to change. We will do our best to make notification concerning any changes in the menu.
- Refrigeration or coolers may not be available at all times for camper lunches.

CAMPER AWARD

Camper Award Information

Campers are presented with Attendance Awards during a ceremony on the overnight. The following Awards are presented to our Campers:

3 Years: Ole Horn

4 Years: Jr. Staff Shirt

5 Years: Short Paddle

6 Years: Long Paddle

7 Years: Teepee Rules T-Shirt

8 Years: Plaque

9 Years: Walking Stick

10 Years: Embroidered Tipi Canvas

- We do not count Little Vikes and 1 Week Programs towards years of attendance.
- Attending multiple sessions or adventure camps in one summer only counts as one year.
- We ask that you notify Staff as soon as possible if any corrections need to be made so that we can follow up in a timely manner.
- After the camp sessions are over, camper will not be able to pickup left award or fix any award. This needs to take place as soon as possible.