



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# **BEST SUMMER EVER**

**Fulton County YMCA  
CAMP AGAMING & CAMP IROQUOIS**

# **2018 Parent Handbook**

Fulton County YMCA  
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## Welcome Parents and Campers!

Our camp staff has been busy planning and preparing for a great camp season and we are delighted that you will be a part of it. Our camp staff is committed to helping your child have an experience that will last a lifetime and to help them build a healthy spirit, mind, and body through our camp programs.

Please take a moment to read through this handbook so you and your child are aware of our camp policies, procedures and practices. If you have any questions about camp please feel free to ask. Thank you for choosing The Fulton County YMCA Day Camp Programs this summer. We look forward to serving you & your family.

Sincerely,  
Michael DeMagistris  
Camp Director for Camp Agaming and Camp Iroquois  
(518) 848-3447 ext. 119

### 2018 CAMP SPECIAL EVENTS

Please see parent board for details on these fun camp events & register early!

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL-Friday July 20<sup>th</sup> 12pm – 1pm  
CAMP AGAMING TALENT SHOW-Friday August 24<sup>th</sup> 1pm  
CAMP AGAMING SLEEPOVER at the YMCA-Friday August 3<sup>rd</sup> 7pm – 7am  
CAMP FAMILY PICNIC/ CLOSING PROGRAM-Thursday August 30<sup>th</sup> 12pm-1:30pm

\*\*Others to be scheduled

# PLANNING FOR EACH DAY...

What to Bring Each Day - Make sure to label EVERYTHING!!!

- ⌘ Nut free, non-Perishable, 'ready to eat' Lunch
- ⌘ Nut free, Morning & Afternoon Snack
- ⌘ Water Bottle
- ⌘ WEAR Tennis Shoes/Sneakers
- ⌘ Camp T-shirt on Field Trip Days
- ⌘ Dress appropriately for weather forecast
- ⌘ Field trip items may vary –CHECK THE BOARD–
- ⌘ Swimsuit and towel
- ⌘ Extra change of clothes
- ⌘ White clothing for Tie Dye: T-shirts, socks, tanks, etc. (Tuesdays)

We will do our best to ensure the safety of your child's belongings; however, we do ask that you please not send unnecessary items with them. The Y will not take responsibility or be held liable for lost, stolen or damaged items. **Please DO NOT send any electronics or items of value from home with your child.**

Weapons, tobacco, illegal substances, and alcohol of any kind are not allowed in the Y summer programs. If a child is found to have any of these things, they will be removed from the program immediately.

The Y provides the majority of supplies your child will need while in our care. Depending on your camp, parents are responsible for providing supplemental items for their child. Examples of this would be change of clothes, appropriate outdoor apparel, medical accessories, etc.

## **Outdoor Play**

Outdoor play is an important part of your child's day. We believe it is vital for the total health of a child. Camp is an outdoor event every day, rain or shine, with the exception of lightning. Many field trips are also primarily outside activities. Please apply sunscreen to your child each morning before sign-in. **Camp counselors will give regularly scheduled reminders for campers to "hydrate" & "sunscreen" but cannot be held responsible for your child's compliance.** Please reinforce with your child the importance of completing these instructions when given.

**All children who are well enough to be at the program are expected to participate in outdoor activities.**

### **Dress Appropriately**

Please consider the weather before your child leaves home every morning and remember that the weather can change quickly. Appropriate footwear and clothing will help your child enjoy a more comfortable day. Clothing should be identified with the child's first and last name on it. **A lost and found box will be kept near the Parent Communication Center and should be checked each week for your child's belongings.**

**\*\*EVERY TUESDAY IS 'TYE-DYE' TUESDAY!! PLEASE SEND YOUR CHILD WITH SOMETHING WHITE TO DYE! (T-SHIRT, TANKS, SOCKS, SWEATSHIRTS)**

### **CAMP SESSION DATES & THEMES**

Session 1: June 25-June 29-Aloha Best Summer Kickoff

Session 2: July 2-July 6-Dr. Seuss Week

Session 3: July 9 -July 13-Best Community Ever

Session 4: July 16-July 20-Worldwide Week

Session 5: July 23-July 27-Sports Best of the Best Extravaganza

Session 6: July 30-August 3- Under the Sea

Session 7: August 6-August 10- Comical Carnival Craze

Session 8: August 13-August 17- Splish Splash Spectacular

Session 9: August 20- August 24-"Camp's Best Talent!"

Session 10: August 27-August 31- Earth Week

### **Camp Extended Care:**

AM Extended Care – 7:00am – 9:00am

PM Extended Care – 4:00pm-5:30pm

### **CAMP PAYMENTS**

All camp sessions must be paid in full by the first day of each session.

**\*\*All payments made after the first day of the session will be charged a \$15 late fee. No one will be allowed in camp on Monday morning without at least the deposit made.**

### **Absences:**

No make-up days, credits or refunds will be given for missed days. **No Exceptions.**

### **Birthdays**

If your child is celebrating a birthday during camp please be sure & share that information with us. We would like to help celebrate that day. If you are planning on bringing in a special treat to celebrate your child's birthday, please check with the Director to verify the number of campers in the group and whether or not there are any food allergies to be aware of. **Absolutely no nut products allowed due to allergies.**

### **Camp Counselors**

Our camp staff are carefully screened and selected based on experience, education, skills, certifications, character (caring, honesty, respect and responsibility), enthusiasm and love of working with children. All our camp staff meet both YMCA and NYS Department of Health requirements and guidelines.

### **Camper Code of Conduct**

Our goal at the YMCA is to provide a healthy, safe, & secure environment at camp for all campers. We focus on four core values: Caring, Honesty, Respect & Responsibility. Children attending camp are expected to follow our Code of Conduct and interact appropriately in a group setting. Campers will:

1. Follow directions & camp rules
2. Respect self, respect others and respect property
3. Use appropriate verbal and body language
4. Keep your hands and feet to yourself
5. Stay with the group

The overall safety of all children in camp is our highest priority. Please encourage your child to speak to a camp staff member if they are having any concerns with other campers, camp staff or other safety issues. **The YMCA reserves the right to send home or suspend a camper from camp for disruptive, unsafe, or persistent behavior issues. Campers with multiple warnings and/or written behavior reports may also be excluded from weekly field trips**

### **Camp T-Shirts**

For their safety, all campers are required to wear their camp shirts on ALL FIELD TRIPS. The cost of the t-shirt is included in the camp fee and will be given out on the first field trip day. Extra camp shirts are available for purchase. Each camper will receive one free shirt per year. Campers unprepared for field trips will be supplied an additional camp t-shirt at parent expense.

### Character Development

The Fulton County YMCA has four core values that we strive to model and develop in our campers on daily basis. They are CARING, HONESTY, RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY. We incorporate them into all aspects of our camp program.

### Cubbies

Cubbies will be available for campers use each day. Campers must keep all their belongings in assigned cubbies provided for them. Each CAMPER is responsible for keeping his/her cubby clean & organized while at camp & keeping track of his/her personal items.

### Daily Activities

Campers will be grouped into different units depending on age & other variables. All children are encouraged to participate in many different camp activities such as arts & crafts, games, sports, singing, dancing, swimming & much more. An example of camp activities and a typical camp day is available & posted in our unit areas.

### Discipline Policy

The YMCA cannot serve campers who display unacceptable behavior. If campers exhibit any type of behavior which is thought to be unacceptable by a counselor and/or the camp director, they will be warned to correct their behavior and their parent will be contacted by phone and/or writing. Examples of unacceptable behavior includes, but are not limited to: foul language, disrespect for another camper or staff, fighting, bullying, not taking part in activities, ignoring or disobeying rules of safety, public displays of affection, defacing property/vandalism, stealing, and contributing to a hostile camp environment

### Early Pick Up

If your camper is going to be picked up early we must have a written note from the parent or guardian stating the date & time and who will be picking them up. Please complete an "EARLY RELEASE FORM" to submit at your child's sign-in. This will inform the Camp Director, Assistant Director, and camp staff so that they may be prepared for your early arrival and significantly reduce your wait time. **The YMCA reserves the right to refuse pick-up to anyone not listed on the Pick-Up authorization list or that is unable to show photo ID.**

### Extended Care & Late Pick-Up

Camp hours are 9am - 4pm. Optional Extended Care hours are 7:00-9:00am & 4-5:30pm. If a child is picked up later than 5:30pm there will be a \$15 late fee payable at pick up. After 15 minutes (5:45pm) there will be an additional \$5 late fee charged for each 5 minutes thereafter.

### Camp Aqaming Field Trips

Field Trips are a fun and rewarding experience for our 6-14 year old campers. Field trips are generally scheduled on Fridays, weather permitting. Occasionally, Camp Iroquois will participate in a field trip. Please check the parent board at sign-in for updates.

**CAMPERS MUST WEAR THEIR DESIGNATED CAMPER T-SHIRTS ON ALL FIELD TRIPS!**  
**If your child does not bring their camp shirt on Field Trip Day, they will be provided with another camp shirt at parent expense. Payment of \$6 will be due at camper pick-up that day.**

### FIELD TRIPS THAT ARE PLANNED FOR SUMMER

HIGH ROLLERS – (All Camp) \*additional optional fees

SPAC BALLET (LIMITED PARTICIPANTS) – (ages 6+)

JOHNSTOWN MOVIE PLEX - (All Camp)

TRI-CITY VALLEYCATS BASEBALL GAME -(All Camp) \*additional optional fees

JOHNSON HALL- (All Camp)

VIA AQUARIUM – (All Camp)

OTHERS TO BE SCHEDULED\*

All campers must attend field trips when your camp goes. No counselors will be at the YMCA that day.

### Food Allergies

Many children have food allergies and we do our best to accommodate all situations. Fulton County YMCA reserves the right, when deemed necessary to make any area free of specific food allergens based upon the needs of the participants in that specific area. Please let the Director or Assistant Director know of any food allergy your child may have so we can take the necessary precautions. **Our camps are nut free zones – please do not send your child with lunch or snacks containing any nut products. If this happens you will be called to bring a different lunch for your child. If you cannot be reached, camp counselors will remove the allergen containing item from the facility and determine if your child has an adequate amount of food for their age & size. If the remaining food is not an adequately sized portion, your child will be provided with a nut free lunch/snack. The additional expense for this service is \$8 (payment due at camper pick-up). Thank you!**

### Health

All campers must have their health history (immunization forms) completed and on file by the first day of summer camp. **Per YMCA & NYS Department of Health code, no child may attend camp without this completed form on file at the YMCA.**

### **Lunch/Snack**

Campers must come to camp with a lunch, snacks, & several drinks daily. PLEASE NO GLASS & NO SODA. Lunches should be sent in an insulated lunchbox or cooler that your child can easily manage. Please write your child's name on all containers and be sure to include any utensils and/or napkins your child may require. These items are not available at camp nor can we accommodate lunches that require heating. A water bottle with screw on cap is required. We will be outside & hydration is very important during the summer. We are a nut free facility. **If your child's lunch is found to have a nut product in it, you will be called to replace the lunch. If we are not able to contact you it will be replaced by the YMCA at a cost of \$8 to you, due at pick-up.**

### **Medication**

**We can only accept campers who can self-administer their own medication.**

A "Permission to Facilitate Self Administration of Medication" form must be completed before medication can be accepted. This form is available from the camp staff at sign in or member service desk. No over the counter medications will be accepted without written doctor's instructions. Medication must be in the original container with its original label. Container can only contain dosages needed for that camp day. Containers, Epi-pens, inhalers, etc, must go home daily with parent/guardian.

### **Personal Property**

Fulton County YMCA is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items. Please make sure that all personal items are labeled with your child's name. Please do not bring personal items to camp such as game boys, iPods, cell phones, or electronic devices.

**No electronic devices are allowed in the camp.**

### **Phone Numbers**

Please make sure the Fulton County YMCA has a current phone number for you on file. If your number, cell number or work number changes please let the front desk and a staff member know.

### **Photos**

If you don't want your child be photographed for YMCA publicity purposes, you must submit a written do not photo request to the Y prior to your child's first day of camp.



### Ratios

We follow all the NYS Department of Health licensing regulations for staffing. Our ratio for Camp Agaming is a ratio of 1 counselor to 12 campers and Camp Iroquois a ratio of 1 counselor to every 10 campers.

### Sick Children

**Do not send your child to camp if they are sick or unable to participate in the active camp day schedule due to not feeling well.** We do not have extra camp staff

available to care for your child all day & we do not want other campers or staff to get sick. If your child gets sick after coming to camp or is unable to participate in camp activities due to illness, you will be called immediately to have someone come pick up your child since they cannot stay in camp for the remainder of the day. If your child is suspected of having a communicable disease they will be suitably isolated until they are picked up.

### Sign In/Sign Out

**All campers must be signed in & out daily – no exceptions.**

Allow extra time on the first day of each session. Only a parent, guardian or adult (over the age of 18) designated on the pick-up authorization list may sign out the child at pick up (PHOTO ID REQUIRED). **The YMCA reserves the right to refuse pick-up to anyone not listed on the Pick-Up authorization list or that is unable to show photo ID.**

\*\*\*\*Parents are asked to reference this schedule when determining where to bring their child for sign-in.

CAMPS AGAMING & IROQUOIS sign in/out will occur in the lobby by the front desk. For early departures please complete an early release form at time of sign in. Also, please allow extra time for pick-up. All vehicles must be parked in a parking space. Do not park by the curb in front of the Y. This is a designated bus pick up/drop off point and an emergency lane for fire trucks and ambulances only. All vehicles will be asked to be moved.

### Sunscreen

Sprayable sunscreen will be provided for your child to use each day. Each child will be reminded to use it each hour that they are outside. If you do not want your child to use the sunscreen provided, you will be responsible each day for providing your child with it. You will also be required to sign off on using camp provided sunscreen.

### **Swimming**

Children will be swimming every day. Campers will be safely watched by certified lifeguards as well as staff members located in or adjacent to the water with them. Children must bring a bathing suit and towel each day. Campers will be swim tested their first week at camp to check their ability whether they are a deep-end swimmer, shallow-end swimmer or non-swimmer.

### **Transfers**

There is a \$25 transfer fee per camp or camp session if you change your child's camp schedule. Please choose wisely when registering your child as we are reserving staffing, trips, and a spot in camp for your child.

### **DONATIONS:**

We're accepting donations of recycled household items for arts & crafts and games that can be used at Camp Agaming & Camp Iroquois this summer. (examples: toilet paper or paper towel tubes, cans, glass or plastic jars, tissue boxes, milk jugs or cartons, egg cartons, shoe boxes, ribbon, fabric, newspaper, etc.)

Puzzles, board & table games, gently used toys or books are also greatly appreciated. All donations can be submitted to any staff member at camper sign-in & sign-out.

Thank you!

The staff of Camp Agaming & Camp Iroquois