

GOLDEN LAKE CAMP Policies & Important Info

[Please read this sheet carefully and keep it handy]



LOOKING FORWARD TO CAMP 2023: Golden Lake Camp is situated in the beautiful hill and forest region southeast of Algonquin Park. Our regular mainsite camps have full shower and washroom facilities and offer most camp sports and activities (swimming, crafts, archery, canoeing, music, drama, wide-field games, volleyball, etc.). We will be sleeping indoors except for (possibly) one on-site overnight; and there are adequate indoor facilities for our program should it rain. You may be off-site on a hike or a canoe trip.

If you've been before and know what to expect, welcome back! If not, we will help you get acquainted with each other and the camp during and after registration on the first day. If you have any questions, please feel free to email goldenlakecamp@gmail.com, or call 1-888-659-CAMP.

On registration day, parents please bring the attached medical form/behaviour agreement with you. Please also tell us who will be picking up your child, if it is not you. Registration is between 2 and 4 pm Sunday, and check-out is between 10 and 11 am Saturday.

What to Pack ...

The following is a suggested list of "camping-appropriate" items to pack:

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|-------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ● T-shirts | ● shorts | ● long-sleeved shirts |
| ● sweater | ● pants | ● underwear & socks |
| ● pyjamas | ● bathing suit | ● beach towel |
| ● jacket | ● sun hat | ● closed-toe running shoes |
| ● rain wear | ● sleeping bag | ● pillow |
| ● blanket | ● flashlight | ● insect repellent |
| ● sunscreen | ● personal hygiene products. | |

Optional items include pen, paper, stamps, a Bible, a musical instrument for the talent show.

You must also bring: the completed Health/Permission Form.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING...

Any electronic equipment including iPods, cell phones, knives, snacks and junk food, matches, lighters, fireworks, video games, hand-held devices, money. These will be confiscated by camp staff and returned to parents only on request.

SOME IDEAS:

Label everything – to prevent lost articles – and check the lost & found table before departing on the last day of camp. Items left behind will not be sent to campers. When packing, involve your child so they know what was brought to camp, and hopefully remember bring to it all home.

FINALLY, please go over the following Camp Rules with your child, explain their importance, and sign the behavior agreement together:

- [1] Campers cannot leave the camp property except on trips with camp staff.
- [2] No one is allowed to damage camp property including trees or wildlife.
- [3] No one is allowed to engage in harassment of any sort (verbal, physical or sexual) towards other campers, counsellors or staff members.
- [4] Practical jokes and pranks between campers and/or staff are not tolerated.
- [5] Campers should always follow the directions of counsellors and staff.
- [6] Counsellors and staff are there to help campers with their problems. If a camper ever has a problem that their counsellor can't help them with, they should speak to an adult or one of the adult directors. The adult or adult director will always help!
- [7] We will be reminding campers of these expectations (and a few others) at the beginning of each week of camp. We appreciate your support – and look forward to spending an incredible week with your child this summer!

IMPORTANT CAMP POLICIES:

- 1) **HEAD LICE:** Please check carefully for head lice/nits 2 weeks before camp and treat if needed. To avoid problems during camp, we also do our own checks when you arrive. If we discover a problem, we do our best to find a solution *but no guarantees can be given.*
- 2) **CAMP PICTURES AND PRIVACY OF PERSONAL INFORMATION:** Each camper gets a picture of their camp, and photos are also sometimes taken for use in publicity. *We never identify the persons in pictures, or when pictures were taken.* However, if you do not want your child to appear in any pictures taken by the camp, note this on the bottom of the Health Form and also inform a director during registration. To further ensure your wishes will be followed, please provide us with a head-and-shoulders picture of your child (to check against our pictures), or email the picture to goldenlakecamp@gmail.com. Golden Lake Camp also has a detailed Privacy of Personal Information policy, which we ask you to agree to; you may request a copy by mail or by email, or read it on our website (www.goldenlakecamp.ca).
- 3) **CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS:** A refund (minus a \$50 processing fee) is provided, on request, up to two weeks before camp, or, last-minute, in the case of proven medical or family emergency. Refunds are not available for any other reason, including withdrawal because of homesickness.
- 4) **RECEIPTS:** The camp welcomes donations in support of what we do, and charitable tax receipts are issued at the end of each calendar year. Receipts are also issued for other reasons, at your request.
- 5) **HOMESICKNESS:** Some children may feel mild homesickness at the beginning of camp. Camp staff members help them through this initial time, and by the second day of camp they are usually fine. Those very few children who are still missing home are supported by staff members for the next 24 hours. Then, if your child still feels significantly homesick, we confidentially call home for recommendations and do as you request.
- 6) **SENDING A CHILD HOME:** While camp staff do their best to encourage appropriate behavior by all campers, the camp reserves the right to immediately send home any camper who insists on breaking any camp rule, or who behaves in a manner that is dangerous to themselves or others.
- 7) **ARRIVAL AND CHECK OUT:** Please arrive on the SUNDAY between 3 pm and 4 pm, and bring your health form. Check-out is the following SATURDAY, between 10 and 11 am. Other arrangements are possible, but please check with us first. Please do not arrive early on either day, since we will not yet be set up to receive you. *You must go through the check-out line* to sign out, and to pick up your child's prescription drugs (if any), the camp picture, and a survey we'd like you to complete. You will also have an opportunity to purchase camp merchandise or snack items from our Tuck Shop. All such sales are cash or credit card only.
- 8) **THROUGH THE WEEK OF CAMP:** You can call the camp during the week at 613-625-2494. *We usually discourage parents calling to talk with their children* (and vice-versa) as this almost always creates homesickness. We are happy for you to talk with a staff member who can tell you how your child is doing. *Please do not visit during the week*, for security reasons. If you must visit for unexpected reasons, please call ahead.
You are encouraged to write or email your child. Write to: Golden Lake Camp, 54 McNee Drive, Golden Lake, ON K0J 1X0. (Mail the letter before the child leaves home, or use an "Xpress Post" envelope.) To email: send to campersatgoldenlake@gmail.com, and put your child's name and cabin # or "Outdoor Camp" in the subject line. (NOTE: for all other camp communications, write to goldenlakecamp@gmail.com.)
Please *do not* send email attachments or website cards (hard for us to print). Emails with obvious inappropriate content will not be delivered. Emails sent later than 9 am Friday may not get delivered.