

WELCOME TO OAKLAND YARD ATHLETICS SUMMER CAMPS

Parent Guide

Please take a moment to read through the following camp information:

- **PASSPORTS:** Please make sure all the information is correct; attach a current photo of your child in the space provided. Let us know of any corrections to be made. Camper Passports are designed as a security measure for checking campers in and out daily; it will also serve as a fun way for your children to keep track of all of the camps they attend at Oakland Yard each summer. Your campers will need to bring their passport everyday. If you have only received the stickers and have no book to put them in please contact us. Your child's counselor will collect the passport as a quick way to take attendance each day. Our counselors will hold onto the passport until day's end, when you will need to check in with the counselor to retrieve your child and their passport. Please note: this requires you to park your car and come into our facility to drop your child off and pick them up. I understand people are in a hurry but this is for the safety of your child! Your cooperation is greatly appreciated in this matter. You or your authorized drivers may be asked to provide identification until the camp staff gets to know you. Hang onto these passports; they can be used year after year! Replacement of a lost passport is \$10. Handmade passports will not be accepted.
- **Returning Campers:** If you have your passport from last year, enclosed is a "sticker"; again please check the information and let us know if it is incorrect. Simply remove the adhesive strip and insert the tip-in onto the matching page already inside the passport. Please be sure to check your child's information and update a new photograph on the inside of the front cover.
- **Campership Package:** If you have registered for a membership, this will include an Oakland Yard Summer Camp bag, a member camp shirt, 4 free visits to our golf dome, ice cream & candy credits for each day of camp your child will attend camp, a pass for up to 8 free meals at any of OYA's Dinner and a Playground Friday night events, and your camper passport or "sticker". Don't forget that the other benefit of our Campership membership is discounts on all of the camps your children attend.
- **Slip-N-Slide and Sunscreen:** Your child will have the opportunity daily to use our gigantic slip-n-slide while at Summer Camp, so please be sure to pack a swim suit, sunscreen and a towel all clearly marked with your child's name. It is best to pack this all in a bag or backpack. We also ask that you apply sunscreen to your child before dropping them off in the morning. We will reapply sunscreen to all children whose parents have given permission.
- **Peanut Free Zone:** We are a nut and peanut free zone. Camp lunches, ice cream, all candies and snacks are peanut free. Please do not send any kind of nut butters (this includes soy, peanut, almond, cashew, ect.) with your camper to camp.
- **Ice Cream and Candy Credits:** There is an option to pre-purchase ice cream and candy credits. This can be done through our front desk any day of the week. In the camper passport, we will activate one box for every dollar you wish to pre-purchase. After camp (12:00 when they are leaving or for Lunch Club- when we meet at 2:30 on the hill), they can use these pre-purchased boxes to buy candy and ice cream or new this year we will be offering healthy alternatives again this year. This will ensure they have an opportunity to have these items and reassure you that they won't lose their money. Nothing cost more then \$1.50.
- **Mail Call:** Here is your chance to surprise your child with a letter from home while they are here at camp. This is specifically designed for those children involved in lunch club. Every Wednesday, at the start of lunch club, our camp counselors will have "mail call" for all those that have mail in our mailbag. If not involved in our lunch club, mail will be delivered to your child at the beginning of camp on Thursday. You may either mail a letter, postcard, pictures, or care package, or simply drop in our green camp mailbox located by our front door. Please address the envelope as follows: Oakland Yard Summer Camps, C/O Camper John Doe. (In the bottom left hand corner of the envelope, please print "MAIL CALL")
- **Lost & Found:** Please put your child's name/telephone on anything your child brings to camp. That will allow us to call you if we find something. Lost & found is located inside. We'll donate the lost and found items to a local charity the following week of your child's camp.
- **Friday Shows:** Each week on Friday, our different performance camps produce fun and entertaining shows for all to watch. Please take a look at our 'Show Time' notice board outside our front door for weekly times.
- **Electronics:** We do not allow campers to bring electronic games, ipods and phones to camp or lunch club. With today's texting, twittering and videos, they are disturbing to the camp counselors and other campers. If your camper needs to bring a phone to keep in touch with you, please explain to him or her that we will keep it in the office, you'll need to let the Front Desk or the Camp Director know that your child will be calling you. We prefer all

electronics left at the front desk so they do not are not lost or disrupt camp. Parents/Campers can retrieve them at the end of the day from the desk/office. Oakland Yard is not responsible for any lost or damaged electronics. We believe that you would want your child to experience camp without the electronic world to interrupt them. Even our staff is asked not to carry their phones unless otherwise instructed by me.

Typical Camp Day

9:15- 9:30 Meet & Greet- counselors will be out in front of the volleyball courts for the morning greet. After they have all the kids in their group they will go to the designated area for that camp.

9:30- 11:30 Camp Activities- all campers will be in their own camp except for "Joke & Story" time on Tuesday and Thursday where the whole camp meets for a short 10 minute skit performed by the counselors & Cit's- be sure to ask your camper about it.

11:00-11:30 Activities continue, during this time young campers, that eat lunch at 11:30, will be on the slip n slide, older campers are finishing up their camps and also getting ready for the slip n slide at which they are allowed before 11am or after 11:30. All campers have an opportunity to participate so be sure to send a towel and suit each day (or send your campers in their bathing suits- sometimes it saves the time of changing).

11:30-12:00 Younger campers will leave the slip n slide area, gather their things and bring them to the hill and meet at the green & white tent for a buffet lunch and at that time the older campers are dropping their belongings at the hill and hitting the slip n slide.

Lunch Club

Your camper will love the afternoons as much as camps. We offer a range of activities for ages 4-14 years of age. We have revised our Lunch Club this summer to give campers scheduled programming. If they liked the traditional relaxed Lunch Club structure, we haven't changed it. We are just going to offer and encourage a more structured program. You may check out the camp menu located above the kitchen window. We will post menus weekly. Lunch Club starts after our morning camp session concludes. Lunch Club is 12:00pm to 3:00pm Monday through Friday roughly half of the morning camp population stays each week to participate in afternoon activities. Directly after morning camp we serve a healthy unlimited lunch buffet on the patio. Kids enjoy a well-rounded lunch with cold drinks; their morning camp staff member attends to their own group of kids during lunch. Our daily menu rotates. After all kids are full, campers have a mandatory afternoon meeting on the hill to explain the activities for the afternoon and to slather on the sunscreen. This meeting usually takes 10 minutes. The first hour of Lunch Club is now called "Free Hour." After a structured morning, campers love the freedom to choose to kick around a ball, play a board game, ride the gigantic slip-n-slide or just hang out with their friends. During Free Hour the following stations will be open: golf driving range, Lego's, slip-n-slide and sand castle contest. Campers can also choose to chill under the tent with games and books. After Free Hour we open 6 stations that are rotated every half-hour at the sound of the bell. Campers can sign up for at least three of the six stations. Look at the Activities Board each morning for the days' station offerings. Our slip-n-slide will be open and attended by a staff member throughout the afternoon for cool-down rides anytime. Young or new campers will have their own Counselors to watch out for them, show them the ropes and assist them in any way needed.

Station #/Name Sample Activities

- 1 - **Sports:** Basketball, soccer, mini sticks, kickball, lacrosse, dodge ball, skateboarding.
- 2 - **The Yard:** Nuke-em, tetherball, horseshoes, 4-square, capture the flag, sandcastle contests.
- 3 - **Confidence Builder:** Ropes challenges, field day games, developing problem-solving skills.
- 4 - **Creation Station:** Structured art project daily then open studio - friendships bracelets, lanyards, painting, etc.
- 5 - **Games & Activities:** Board game showdowns, scavenger hunts, puzzles.
- 6 - **Wet & Wild:** Slip-n-slide, water dodge ball and balloon toss.

Dinner & A Playground

Friday nights throughout the summer (May 11-August 24) This summer, we will be open every Friday (5:30pm to 10pm) and would like to invite you to stop in for "Dinner & A Playground" - no admission fee. At each of these events, there will be a full menu (hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, drinks, etc.) available for purchase. Remember that if you purchased a campership, your camper will eat free on any 8 Fridays throughout the summer! All of our Friday night activities are open to the public and will begin at 5:30pm. Seating is available on a first come, first served basis. Adult beverages are available at our patio bar.

On behalf of the Oakland Yard Athletics Summer Camp Staff, I would like to welcome you all to a summer full of fun. We are looking forward to having you with us this season. Please feel free to call us at 248.673.0100 or email me at: dawn@oaklandyard.com if you have any questions. We are always happy to help!

Sincerest Regards,

Dawn Hull
Camp Director
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