

ST. STEPHEN'S SUMMER CAMP RULES

Purpose

The rules at Summer Camp are intended to create an environment that maximizes safety and hygiene and minimizes distractions.

Contraband

Contraband items are strictly forbidden. Campers possessing them will be sent home at their families' expense. These include illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, fireworks, weapons, vape sticks, electronic cigarettes and any other item whose possession is forbidden by law.

Items that Will Be Confiscated

CELL PHONES. electronic entertainment devices, and prank paraphernalia will be confiscated on site. Prank paraphernalia will be destroyed by the staff. Cell phones and electronic devices will be returned at the end of camp, but the staff assumes no responsibility for lost or damaged items.

Camper Behavior

All members of the St. Stephen's Summer Camp Community are expected to behave appropriately at all times. If inappropriate behavior, bad language, violations of policy or procedure, or use of threats/fights are noted, campers may be dismissed and asked not to return to St. Stephen's Summer Camp in the future.

Campers may be dismissed for disciplinary reasons and not allowed back in the camp for the remainder of the camp session/season, as well as being disallowed to return in future years.

Examples of actions that may result in expulsion from camp:

1. Acts of violence (or threats of violence) toward any camper, clergy, or staff member.
2. Lewd conduct or language such as (but not limited to) any sexual contact, exhibitionism, or swearing.
3. Physical, verbal, or psychological abuse of any camper, clergy, or staff member
4. Bullying
5. Endangerment of any camper, clergy, staff member, or any person at St. Stephen's Camp.
6. Destruction of property belonging to another camper, staff member, or the Diakonia Retreat Center.
7. Possession of any of the aforementioned prohibited items.
8. Violation of any of the Youth Protection policies and procedures.
9. Violation of any of the rules and regulations which will be introduced to the campers during camp orientation.
10. Violation of any of the policies and procedures pertaining to water activities (as defined in the "Swimming" section of this document).
11. Sneaking out of cabins, sneaking off into the woods or any other place that is not public. Going anywhere in pairs instead of groups of threes.

Personal Hygiene

Campers are expected to shower, brush their teeth, and change their clothes at least once daily. Hands should be washed regularly, particularly prior to eating and after using the toilet.

Toilets

The camp is on a septic system and uses low volume toilets. Septic systems work best when lots of water passes through them, and low volume toilets demand lots of flushes. The best way to use the facilities is to use intermediate flushes while cleaning oneself. This keeps the septic system working well and minimizes the chance of clogging a toilet. Should a toilet become plugged, contact a staff member as soon as possible.

Safety

Safety is a matter of common sense. If something seems dangerous or risky, it probably is. These specific instructions will help to minimize the risk of injury.

- *Do not go near the lake if a lifeguard is not present*
- *Do not run, unless participating in an athletic event.*
- *Shake out shoes and clothes prior to putting them on (spider and snake avoidance).*
- *Exercise caution when near the underside of dark areas which are home to spiders and snakes.*
- *Do not touch plants with three leaves.*

Respect

- Do not talk while others are talking.
- Do not respond to staff and clergy with “yeah”, “uh-huh”, or in other ways that could be regarded as flippant or overly casual.
- Exchange greetings with the people whom you pass or encounter--particularly the clergy.
- Pick up after yourself.
- Pick up litter when encountered, regardless of how it got there.
- Put stuff away when you're done using it.
- Take care of the Diakonia Center as if it belonged to you—it does!

Cabin Rules

- No boys may visit girls' cabins, no girls may visit boys' cabins. (With certain exceptions, boys may be allowed in the common area of a girl's cabin and vice versa, so long as staff is present at all times)
- Campers are to be fully dressed when outside of their cabin, unless they are participating in a waterfront activity.
- “Lights out” means go to sleep. Camp days are long and everyone needs to get as much sleep as possible.
- Stay in cabins after lights out.
- No campers are to be in the cabins unless a counselor is present.
- No leaving camp.
- Keep cabins clean.
- Campers are to attend every event as a cabin. If one or two campers are straggling, their cabin mates must wait for them.

Pranks

- There is zero tolerance for pranks. They are not part of the program.
- Specifically, with regard to toilet pranks: *The guilty party will clean up. If no one confesses, the entire camp will use only port-a-potties for an entire day.*
- Specifically, with regard to food fights: *The participants will clean up and then have toilet clean-up duty in all cabins the entire next day.*

Foul Language

Foul language is not to be used. Public use of foul language will result in punishment and loss of privileges.

Attire

- Lower garments should be of an adequate length to assure modesty while seated and while participating in camp activities.
- No obscene or vulgar slogans or slogans that promote an alcohol or tobacco product.
- No sagging and bagging.
- No tight or form fitting clothes.
- No cleavage.
- No exposed midriffs.
- No bare back or stomach

- No spaghetti straps.
- No strapless garments
- No slits or see through garments.
- No exposed undergarments.
- No oversize, baggy or tight fitting shorts, pants or leggings. Shorts should have a minimum inseam of 6", or no shorter than the tips of your fingers, and be of an appropriate length to actively participate in all camp activities. (Ladies-if you are constantly tugging on your shorts to pull them down, they are too short!)
- Girls: **One piece bathing suits**. No Tankinis, no suits that expose entire back.
- Boys: No Speedos.
- No mesh or see-through without appropriate clothes underneath.
- Boys: No tank tops in church.
- No pajamas or swim suits in church.
- Boys: no hats in chapel.

If an item of clothing seems as if it might be inappropriate for a Christian camp, it probably is.

Camp Staff will be responsible for determining dress code violations, and the Camp Director reserves the right to amend any provisions that he/she deems to be in the best interest of the campers/staff or camp program.

Photography and Videography

Photos and videos are a valuable part of St. Stephen's Summer Camp. Campers are permitted to bring cameras to camp and are welcome to document their experience. However, because of several recent incidents involving the improper use of cameras, cameras will now be collected during times when the campers are in their cabins.

There will be a basket inside the door of the cabin where campers will drop their cameras upon entering the cabin. The cabin counselors will be responsible for the cameras during those times and campers will be given their cameras each time they leave the cabins.

Should the staff of St. Stephen's Camp or the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta gain knowledge of inappropriate pictures or comments being posted on any website, blog, social networking site, circulating by email, or in any other way shared publicly, this policy may be changed at the discretion of the Executive Board so as to prohibit the use of cameras to prevent such from occurring and the offending camper(s) may be expelled from the St. Stephen's Camp program and asked not to return in subsequent years.

Flirting, Public Displays of Affection

No handholding, sitting on one another's lap, walking or sitting with one's arm around another, or kissing.

Sexual Contact

There is to be absolutely no sexual contact whatsoever. It is strictly prohibited. Should the laws pertaining to sexual contact with an underage person be violated, St. Stephen's Camp WILL notify the authorities, as is mandated by law. Sexual contact of any sort will result in immediate expulsion from St. Stephen's Camp, prohibition from returning to St. Stephen's Camp or any other Metropolis of Atlanta Ministries in subsequent years, and any legal ramifications as determined by the proper state authorities. There are no exceptions to this policy.

A statement on if you have a problem with a counselor, tell the camp director. This is not a problem like "my counselor won't let me sleep in," but my counselor is causing me harm or is allowing unsafe things to go on in the cabin, something to this effect.