



Camp Shalom 2017 Parent Handbook

Rabbi Yehoshua Gold
Director, Camp Shalom NJ

Adina Pfeiffer - Office Manager
Nechama Konigsberg - Office Manager
Rachel Aron - Nurse
Avital Moss - EMT (July)
Esther Fleischman - Nurse (August)

Sara Ringer - Rishon Unit Head
Ilissa Green - Sheini Girls Unit Head
Alyssa Needle - Assistant Sheini Girls Unit Head
Azi Steiner - Sheini Boys Unit Head
Logan Singman - Machane Sport Unit Head
Margo Kahn - Oh! Manuyot Unit Head

Carolyn Stein - Head of Aquatics
Rabbi Dov Hochbaum - Head of Chinuch, CIT Program
Leah Gold - Head of Specialists, Co-Programming Director
Elana Katz - Co-Programming Director
Yael Pittinsky - Hot Lunch Coordinator
Debbie Golubtchik - Sports Coordinator

Camp Shalom NJ
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Camp Philosophy

Camp Shalom provides *frum* children the opportunity to create lasting memories in a safe, fun-filled, Torah environment. Supervised by qualified professionals, our trained and dedicated staff will guide campers through new and exciting experiences. The wide variety of activities gives each camper the opportunity to learn new skills and to reinforce old ones. With daily tefillah, chinuch classes and tremendous ruach, Camp Shalom is committed to promoting strong Torah values in a friendly camp atmosphere. This combination promises to deliver your child an outstanding camping experience. We look forward, *Im Yirtza Hashem*, to having a wonderful summer.

Programs

There are many varied and exciting activities for all campers. The children will be introduced to our camp routines during the first few days of camp and we will continue to reinforce them as the season progresses. Camp Shalom is designed to offer a variety of activities, so that we can reach a wide range of interests. Our objectives are:

- o To have lots of fun!!!!
- o To provide new learning opportunities
- o To teach new skills and reinforce old ones
- o To encourage appropriate socialization

Staff

Staff members are hand-picked and selected on the basis of their experiences, being outstanding Torah role models, the skills they possess, and their ability to relate to the children and other staff. All staff participates in an extensive pre-camp training program and receives ongoing supervision and training throughout the summer.

Medical Forms

In accordance with the New York Department of Health regulations, no child will be permitted to attend camp unless a signed statement of examination and immunizations record is on file prior to the first day of camp. This is for the protection of your camper and family. Medical forms were due by May 1, 2017. Campers without medical forms will not be picked up by bus and will not be allowed to attend camp.



Illness & Medication

There is a registered nurse on duty at all times at the camp. In cases where we feel the child should not stay at the camp, we will ask that parents come to camp to pick up their child. If your child is not feeling well in the morning, please keep your child home in an effort to prevent the spread of illness.

The camp nurse will administer medication with a signed medical form from your child's doctor. Medication must be in its original packaging. It should be clearly labeled with the type of medication, the camper's name, dosage and the time it needs to be given. Medications can be refrigerated. In order to assure the proper dosage with liquid medications, please send along a plastic medication-measuring spoon or cup. Medication is NOT to be brought to camp by your child. It can be handed directly to a camp supervisor, given in at the main office or given directly to the bus counselor.

Camp Insurance Coverage

All campers are covered by our Accident Insurance Policy. This is a secondary policy. If an accident occurs at camp, please contact the camp office for procedures to be followed. This insurance policy has an automatic \$25 deductible fee.

Allergy Information

If your child has a food allergy, it is **IMPERATIVE** that you advise the Camp Director and Camp Nurse. **Camp Shalom is a nut and seed-free camp.** Please make sure that the food you send in does not contain nuts or seeds or have traces of nuts or seeds. **This includes snacks sent for the bus!**

Food & Snacks

An optional hot lunch program is being offered this summer. The food is being provided by Five Star Caterer. If you would still like to sign up, please call the camp office. All orders must be in at least 5 days prior to the start of the requested week.

Campers who are not participating in the hot lunch program must bring in a lunch from home daily. Lunches should be dairy, and can be items that need refrigeration. In the event that a camper forgets his/her lunch, we will provide jelly sandwiches. Please make sure that your camper's lunch is clearly marked with his/her name and bunk number and is in a brown paper bag. Please do NOT send



non- disposable lunch boxes to camp. **Campers will not be allowed to share lunches.**

Snack will be provided daily to all Rishon campers. All other campers should bring snack from home and will have a set snack time in their daily schedules. Additionally, ices will be provided to all campers prior to dismissal.

Behavioral Expectations in Camp

By signing the camp application, all parents certify that their child will abide by all camp rules and parents will comply with all camp decisions. All campers must dress according to the dress code, respect other people's bodies and property, and act in a way that is in accordance with tznius, proper middos, and in compliance with camp counselors and administrators.

We encourage administration to keep communication lines open with families. In the event that there are consistent behavioral problems, a parent conference will be required. If injury or damage to a body or property is caused by a camper, the family will be liable for all damages incurred.

If the camp decides that a child requires a shadow, the child will not be allowed back in camp until an appropriate shadow is in place at the expense of the parents.

Swimming Program

All campers are expected to change for swim and be in the pool. The pool is supervised by a team of Water Safety Instructors and lifeguards. In the event that a camper cannot go swimming for a medical reason, a doctor's note must be submitted. Campers will have two swim periods daily. A morning swim will be an instructional swim, where all campers will receive group instruction. In the afternoon, campers will participate in recreational swim.

As per Halachik guidance, during the nine days, Rishon will continue to have both swims. Sheini will have two instructional. All other divisions will only have instructional swim. Parents who do not wish to have their children swim at all during this period should notify the Camp Director in writing.

Bus Transportation

Nechama Konigsberg and Adina Pfeiffer are in charge of transportation. They can be reached at bus@campshalomnj.org for transportation specific questions. **Remember, you must wait at your child's bus stop in the morning and meet your child at his/her bus stop in the afternoon.** No changes will be





accepted without a written note from home or an email to Bus@campshalomnj.org. Campers can only ride the Camp Shalom bus assigned to them.

If your child is ill in the morning and will not be coming to camp by bus, please call us at (201) 624-2331 between 7:00 and 7:30 a.m. so we may inform the bus counselor. Please inform us if your child will be missing camp for a number of days so that we can inform the appropriate staff.

Parents will receive pick-up and drop-off information the week before the start of camp. In the event there are any questions, please contact the camp so that there will be minimal delays during the first few days of camp.

Bus counselors and drivers will be advised that they must wait at the stop until the scheduled drop-off time. If, at that time, no adult is there, your child will remain on the bus as it continues its route. In that event, please call the camp office to find out the best stop to meet the bus. If the route is finished before a parent or guardian can meet the bus, the camper will be brought back to the camp to remain in the care of a camp administrator. A fee, to be determined, will be charged to the parent. All campers receive door-to-door transportation as long as they sign up before May 1, 2017 unless the bus company determines that the bus cannot go down a street (i.e. dead end or cul-de-sac). After May 1, providing there is room on the bus, you will only be added to current stops. **No exceptions!** All bus counselors will have phones so we may contact them to find out a location. If the route is finished, children will be brought back to the camp.

Carpool

ARRIVAL:

Campers are not to be brought to the camp prior to 8:50 a.m. Parents may pull up at the gate into the carpool line (observing all parking lot regulations) and drop the camper off. The carpool drop-off line is run by camp staff, who escort children from their cars to their appropriate locations. On rainy days, please pay close attention the administrators' directions in the lot. They will direct you where to go to drop off your child(ren).

DISMISSAL:

We begin dismissing carpool at 3:45 PM. All carpool children will be dismissed from the side gate. Cars will line up by the bottom of the parking lot. As your car approaches the front row, a staff member will take your carpool number. A staff member will escort your child(ren) to the car. Your patience and cooperation with dismissal procedures will allow us to dismiss all of our campers in a



timely fashion.

Should you be late in picking up your camper, there is a late fee charge of \$10 for every 15 minutes past dismissal time of 4:15. Children who are not picked up on time will be brought to the Extended P.M. late-stay area and will be billed the late fee.

Please be patient with both bus transportation and carpool procedures during the first few days of camp. Do not panic if our buses are several minutes late - we will get into a regular routine as soon as possible.

Early Pick-up

If you will be picking up your child from camp prior to his/her normal pick-up time, please send an email to office@campshalomnj.org or call the camp at (201) 624-2331 **NO LATER THAN 2:30 PM (Friday by 1:30 PM)**. You must come to the camp office to sign your child out. We will only release a child by the front office. No exceptions. If it is not a pre-planned pick-up, please call the camp at (201) 624-2331 as soon as you know that you will be coming early so that we can advise the Unit Head.

Communication & Visitation

Parents are encouraged to contact our administrative staff in the event that questions or concerns arise. We, as a staff, will not hesitate to contact parents to discuss specific issues relating to your child. If there is an emergency then the unit heads will return your call as their earliest convenience. Otherwise they will be returning the call/email at the end of the camp day.

Children are not permitted to bring guests to camp under any circumstances. We request that parents call the camp director to arrange an appointment to visit camp.

Weekly newsletters will be sent home each Friday via Email and on paper. Please read it to learn about the week that passed, as well as any changes or announcements for the week to come. In addition, information will be sent home via Email whenever necessary.

First Day Procedures

Prior to camp, please make sure that all of your camper's belongings are clearly labeled with his/her name in order to avoid losing these items. All identifiable articles will be returned daily.





Campers will receive name tags and bunk assignments prior to the start of camp. These tags should be worn 2 days of camp.

Camp T-Shirts

Camp T-shirts will be distributed to all campers on the morning of their first trip. Subsequently, you will need to dress your child in the camp T-shirt.

Camp Pictures

All children will receive one group picture, which is included in camp tuition. There will be an option to order individual pictures of your camper.

Toys

Please do not send toys, cards, or games with your child to camp. Often, toys and games get lost at camp. Electronic hand-held games and personal stereo headphones will NOT be permitted in camp. If your child does have a game in camp, Camp Shalom will not be responsible if it is lost, misplaced or "borrowed".

Inclement Weather

On rainy days, we adjust the daily schedules to the indoor spaces available. Please have your child wear a raincoat/poncho. On cool mornings, please send your child in a sweatshirt or jacket.

Camp Dress Code

Camp Shalom has a dress code that is aligned with our camp hashkafah. Our dress code is:

Female campers entering first grade and older must wear skirts and shirts with sleeves.

Male campers are required to wear Kippos or a hat, and tzitzis.

All campers must wear sneakers or closed toed shoes to camp daily for their safety. A pair of pool shoes should be brought as well to be worn around the pool area and locker room during swim. Crocs are to be considered a water shoe.

All parents who enter the campgrounds are required to adhere to the same dress guidelines.



Do's and Don'ts For Parents

- **DO** see that your child gets to bed on time. If you are out late on Sunday night, we have a tired, listless camper on Monday morning!
- **DO** have your camper arise early enough so that he/she can dress and eat a good breakfast unhurriedly.
- **DO** check with your child's camp supervisor if you have any questions about a situation. Call (201) 624-2331 and leave a message.
- **DON'T** send your child to camp if he/she has a slight temperature, a slight sore throat, a cold, is overtired, etc. Quite often, one day of rest at home will keep a condition from worsening.
- **DO** let us know if your child has any special problems (emotional, medical, allergies, etc.).
- **DO** contact the Camp Director with any concerns.
- **DO** send your camper will to camp already lotioned.
- **DO** send your camper in with a water bottle to ensure proper hydration.
- **DO** have an enjoyable summer - your child will!

Counselor Appreciation

We recognize that parents wish to show their appreciation to their child's counselors for providing their child with a fun and exciting summer. The appreciation may take many forms: it can be a note, a gift or a tip. Listed below are the guidelines for an **eight week** summer experience. Please remember, these are guidelines, not requirements:

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| Senior Counselor | \$40 - \$50 |
| Junior Counselor | \$20 - \$30 |
| CIT | \$10 - \$20 |

Here are additional staff members who have also worked with your children during the day:

| | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| Lifeguard | \$8 - \$15 |
| Chinuch | \$15 - \$20 |
| Bus Counselor | \$20 - \$40 per family |

Thank you for sharing your child(ren) with us this summer!

