

THE CHECK-IN PROCESS

Check-In: Each guest must report to the check-in area between 4–9pm upon arrival. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate early arrivals before 4pm.

If your group is not arriving all at once, especially after 9pm when check-in is closed, please have someone assist them when they arrive and let us know. Children will be advised of the rules and adults will be handed an information slip about supervisory expectations and emergency procedures. You will be advised of your camping area or cabin location at this point. Carpooling is encouraged and all vehicles must park in the main parking lot. Personal vehicles are NOT allowed on the beach or anywhere else on camp for ANY reason. There, each guest's name will be marked off and provided with a wristband for security purposes.

Supervision: Please ensure you are focused on supervising the children in the group, this is every parent and chaperones main responsibility while at camp. Campers need to be aware of vehicles in the parking lot and keep them away from the water while setting up campsites on the beach.

Quiet hours: Quiet hours are 9pm–8am each night. We ask that guests are being respectful to each other, staff who live onsite, and our neighbors. You are not required to be asleep but we shouldn't be able to hear your group past your immediate cabin or campsite. Please allow everyone to enjoy the quiet surroundings of camp.

Wetsuit Rentals: Spring suits are available to rent for the weekend for \$10 (cash/card). They will be available from the store during scheduled times over the weekend. Rentals can be paid via cash or credit card, and multiple wetsuits can be rented at one time.

Beach Shuttle: For beach campers, a camp vehicle can assist in carrying heavy items out to the beach if necessary. The shuttle is not intended to carry all of your belongings so please pack lightly. Camping is a learning experience and adventure.

Check-in dinner: We do not provide dinner on your first night. We have a listing of local restaurants that will be emailed to you to either visit, bring back to camp or even have it delivered. Please use as few disposables as possible to respect our environmental stewardship plan on camp and you are welcome to use our outdoor patio and tables.

DO NOT BRING:

Anything considered dangerous or illegal like weapons, alcohol, flares or fireworks should stay at home. Other items that must stay at home include pets, confetti, kayaks, skim boards, RV's, Large BBQ's, TV's, furniture and anything else unnecessary for a two day campout where food and activities are provided. **We are not responsible for damage or loss of any items and excessive trash is your responsibility.**

CHAPERONE GUIDE

Dear Chaperone,

Thank you for serving as an adult chaperone for your group! Your commitment to the children will help make their stay at camp a safe and memorable experience. This letter is designed to help you understand the expectations of the chaperones and group leaders while at camp.

Who We Are:

YMCA Camp Surf is a year-round facility located in Imperial Beach on 40 acres of beachfront property. Our programs include Group Retreats, Family Camp, Summer Camp, Outdoor Education, Leadership Development and Day Camp. Our four core values, Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility are emphasized throughout all programs and rules.

Cabins: Chaperones are required to stay in cabins with campers, provided they are the same gender as the children in that cabin. Each cabin should have at least one adult chaperone (18+years.)

Campsites: Tents should be arranged in a manner that allows for supervision of the children during the night. For everyone's safety, adult chaperones are encouraged to sleep in their own tents. Adults should never be alone or sleep in the same tent with only one camper, unless they are the parent/guardian of that camper. If adults are sleeping in a tent with campers, adult chaperones should always be the same gender as the campers occupying the tent. Smaller tents are better for supervision, maximizing your groups campsite space and withstanding coastal weather conditions.

What to Bring:

Please refer to the lists provided for what you might want to bring (and not bring) to camp. Keep in mind that our coastal weather can change a great deal throughout the day and there is not a lot of shade at camp. We encourage you to bring both summer clothing that keeps you cool, while protecting you from the sun, as well as cooler weather clothing that will keep you warm in the evenings. Wetsuits are always a good idea if you're planning on entering the water. Regardless of whether you're in cabins or beach camping, you are in the outdoors, bugs and critters are around.

It is OK for you to bring cell phones but please use them privately when you are not involved in direct supervision of children. Outlets for charging is limited and plugging chargers into bathroom outlets is unsafe and not allowed. If you need to bring medication, please make sure that it is locked and not accessible to the campers. Also, food in the cabin area must be sealed so it is critter-proof. We do not allow open food to be eaten or stored in the cabins and you will appreciate this rule being followed!

Keep in mind we are a YMCA facility, therefore we are drug, alcohol and tobacco free.

Sincerely,

YMCA Camp Surf Staff

YOUR ROLE AS CHAPERONE

Supervision: You will be providing supervision for all children in your group at all times. Campers (all minors under the age of 18) always need to have a buddy. This means they must be accompanied by another minor (or yourself) of the same gender and age range at meals, during activities and free time, during a midnight bathroom trip, in other words, NO CAMPER SHOULD EVER BE ALONE or in a one to one situation with an adult other than their parent. You must ensure that their behavior is appropriate during their stay.

To make everyone's stay as enjoyable as possible, the YMCA Camp Surf staff asks that group chaperones and parents follow these regulations;

The Ocean: NO-ONE is allowed in the water unless the YMCA Camp Surf Lifeguard Service is On-Duty and activities are running. During water activities, we request help from chaperones to keep campers inside the proper flag zones, follow lifeguard directions and assist with returning all equipment.

Meals: At least one adult should sit at each table and please assist children in the buffet line to make appropriate food choices. While tables may not be assigned, we ask that your group use as few tables as possible and clean up after yourselves. No swimsuits or wetsuits will be allowed in the dining area.

Activity Periods: We require at least one adult to be present to supervise each activity group. Please ensure all campers are supported and supervised at all times. Staff are in charge of instruction and are responsible for creating a positive and safe environment at activity areas, please respect this rule.

Evenings: Please observe the quiet hours. No sound should be heard on camp past 9pm with lights out at 10pm, especially on Friday night.

On Saturday evening we will conduct a whole camp skit night. Campers are welcome to perform but please ensure that skits and songs are short and appropriate for all ages. If you prefer, we have other areas on camp where you can run your own evening activities. For the enjoyment of all, please make expectations and boundaries clear for your campers BEFORE they get up on stage.

Free Time: Not a time for your campers to run free and unsupervised. This is when staff led activities are closed and the free time activities around camp remain accessible (volleyball, bouldering wall, beach hike, GaGa, carpet ball, basketball, etc.)

Shower Time: Please make your presence known in the bathrooms but always respect your campers' privacy. You must be present to make sure the campers are leaving the area clean while being safe and respectful of others. In order for everyone to have the chance to wash up, showers should take less than 5 minutes per person. Use the outdoor rinse showers and save more time for activities!

Have fun: If you want, have a go at the activities and make the most of your experience too.

Thank you again for your time, energy, and willingness to provide an outstanding experience for the children in your care. We look forward to meeting you.