

# WISDOM & PHILOSOPHY

## Mission Statement

The mission of Camp Highlander is to:

- Provide a healthy and safe lifestyle using sports, activities, games and educational instruction.
- Develop interdisciplinary skills (soft skills) in our youth through active positive engagement, learning and social interaction.
- Promote diversity, inclusion and build community enriching the world around us.
- Increase access to the outdoors and instill an appreciation for the outdoor lifestyle.
- Teach well sourced nutritional information to encourage healthy life choices.
- Have fun!!

## Goals and Objectives

The following are the goals and objectives of the program:

- Serve youth between the ages of 5-14 years. We will group the participants by age – 5-6 years, 7-8 years, 9-11 years and 12-14 years, since activities will differ based on a child's age.
- Provide a healthy start and encourage positive life choices through good nutrition and physical fitness.
- Teach youth-centered activities and educational sessions in a safe and positive college/university environment.
- Provide youth-centered activities through education and sports that nurture the dreams and aspirations of youth to attend college.
- Provide quality service and reward excellent performance and sportspersonship.

## Guiding Philosophy

Camp Highlander is a new program that intends to target the kids in the partner schools around UCR and also the youth residing in Riverside. A Summer Youth Advisory Committee was established and the report presented indicates the need for youth camps that align with the universities mission and strategic goals that is, 'The University of California Riverside, serves the needs and enhances the quality of life of the diverse people of California, nation and world through knowledge, communication, discovery, translation, application, and preservation'. This mission also aligns with the UCR 2020: The Path to Preeminence. The UCR 2020 was published in 2010 to provide vision and guidance for UCR's future. The UCR 2020 states, 'By upholding

the standard of excellence for which the University of California is the world's model in higher education, UCR helps students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community to realize their potential...bettering our community and the world around us.' Strategic goal #4 of the UCR 2020 is Engagement-Shaping our World. As the only public research university in Inland Southern California, UCR has a social imperative to contribute to the well-being of its communities.

Camp Highlander will target the following specific needs – educate the youth about healthy lifestyle through active participation in sports and proper nutrition. Today's youth are more than too preoccupied within the electronics world and are often seen playing on various electronic games and media. This Program will give our youth an opportunity to be physically and socially active and support the development of a healthy life style. We also offer an educational component to the program with each participant receiving instruction in nutrition, math, and science.

Another need that will be addressed is safety. By keeping the youth involved in the camp, we will keep them away from negative influences and provide them the opportunity to be on campus and share the facilities that our students have access to. The long term hope is that the camp experience will motivate the youth to attend UCR or another college to further their academic development.

We hope to accomplish the following aspects through the program: educate the youth about the advantages of a healthy life style, educate the kids about the importance of staying in school whilst reinforcing active career choices and how to accomplish them.

## **GENERAL**

### **Appropriate Camp Environment**

#### **What to Bring to Camp**

Campers need to arrive in athletic attire and bring an appropriate swimsuit, flip flops, sun screen, and towel every day. Campers will need to bring water bottles and have the option to bring a snack. Lunch boxes must be clearly labelled with the camper's name. Highlander Youth Camp does not provide any fridge or heating options. Campers are NOT permitted to use vending machines during camp hours. Vending Machines are available for use before and after sign in/out.

Campers can carry their Cell phones, but will not be able to use it during camp hours, unless there is an emergency.

#### **What to Leave at Home**

We recommend that participants do not bring toys/personal items to the program. The individual participant is responsible for any personal belongings they may bring to camp, including money. We require extensive labeling of all their belongings (swimsuit, towel, sunscreen, snack, lunch box etc.) as a preventive measure for tracking all personal items. We ask that they keep everything in a labeled bag or backpack. Campers are NOT to bring CD Players, IPod, MP3 players, personal cell phones, radios, or any other form of technology to the camp unless it is left in their backpacks.

Highlander Youth Camp will not be held responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged items. In addition, staff will not be liable for participant money lost during the program.

### **Dress Code**

This is a sports and activities camp, so please dress your child in athletic summer attire: shorts, light weighted shirts, socks, sneakers, and/or specified clothing appropriate to the camp's activities. Please provide sun block for your child.

### **Camp Registration**

CampDoc.com..... One application per child is required.

### **Refund Policies**

Refunds, in full or in part, will only be given to individuals who have met both of the following conditions: (1) have paid with a credit card, and (2) have provided documentation of a medical circumstance that hinders participation. Full refunds will only be given if the Director has received notification 48 hours prior to the beginning of the session. Partial refunds will be given if certain circumstance (medical etc.) occur during the session and will be based on the number of days missed.

## **PARENT INFORMATION**

### **Information Night for Parents**

On the Sunday before camp begins, from 6pm to 7pm. In the Student Recreation Center, there will be a 'get to know the counselors and camp staff' night. Parents and campers from all sessions are encouraged to attend. This is a great opportunity to get to know the directors and the counselors that your child will be working with. Parents and campers will also have the opportunity to see what a day in the life of a camper will look like.

## **Drop Off and Pick Up Policies**

Each parent/guardian must provide transportation for his/her child to and from the Student Recreation Center. A written authorization will be required for someone other than the parent/guardian to pick up the child. Children cannot be brought to the Student Rec Center prior to 7:45am if they are attending pre-camp, and 8:30am if they are attending Sports Camp. No child may be left unattended to wait for the program staff to arrive. The University of California Riverside and the sports camp staff will not assume responsibility for a child who has not been left in the custody of authorized program staff and/or properly signed in upon arrival for the day. Parents/guardians arriving after 5:45pm will be charged a \$15 dollar fee for the first 15 minutes and a \$20.00 fee for every 15 minutes thereafter.

Parents/guardians must sign-in the child when dropping him/her off and also sign-out in the afternoon. Camp staff will only release a child to the people listed on the child's release form. A picture ID will be required to pick up the child. Parents/guardians may add to the list as needed.

Please note: Please allocate at least 15-20 minutes for the early pick up process.



**Camp Highlander Code of Conduct  
Camper Agreement**

*Camp Highlander Camp Staff will enforce these rules during camp to ensure the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each camper. Please go over these rules with your camper so they are aware before the start of camps.*

1. Campers are not allowed to leave the Camp area for any reason without being escorted by camp staff.
2. All restroom and water break trips will be taken with at least 2 campers and 1 assistant. Assistants are not allowed in restrooms while occupied by campers.
3. Always listen to the Camp Counselors/Instructors rules during camp. They are in place for your safety and enjoyment of camp.
4. We have a **zero-tolerance bullying/abuse policy**. No name calling or inappropriate language will be allowed. No inappropriate physical contact is permitted. No hitting, kicking, spitting, etc.
5. Possession of any type of weapon will not be permitted. Weapons include knives, guns, pellet guns, BB guns, sling shots, water pistols, or any other kind of device that could inflict injuries to yourself or others.
6. Do not use equipment for anything other than its intended purpose during camp. Equipment may not be used to hit or touch another camper. Equipment must be shared by all campers.
7. Participants who abuse or damage University property will be billed for the cost of the damage.
8. Tell a camp staff member if there is any problem/issue during camp that is making you unhappy.
9. Use the 'Golden Rule'. Treat other campers and camp staff how you would want to be treated!

I, \_\_\_\_\_, understand that any violation to this code of  
(Please print camper name)  
Conduct may result in expulsion from Camp Highlander.

Participant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Discipline**

The following are examples of unacceptable behavior that will not be tolerated and will cause for disciplinary action to be taken:

- Hitting/fighting/causing physical harm or verbal assault.
- Profanity/disrespect to staff or other campers and refusal to cooperate.
- Bullying, stealing.
- Temper tantrums.
- Leaving facility grounds.
- Biting/spitting.
- Possessing weapons/drugs/tobacco.
- Sexual misconduct.
- Violation of sport camp rules and policies.

Our goal is to provide each child with the skills necessary to solve conflicts in a manner that is appropriate and with regard to others' feelings. We seek cooperative and effective solutions by using techniques listed below.

- Physical force or abusive language is never used.
- Teach ground rules.
- Use time out effectively.
- Establish mutual respect.
- Offer realistic choices.
- Redirect child's attention.
- Provide encouragement.
- Clarify expectations.
- Be consistent.
- Offer positive role modelling.
- Encourage problem solving.
- Offer assistance.
- Be willing to start over.
- Establish eye contact.

-Negotiate and avoid threats.

- Build camp community that promotes camaraderie and growth.

Disciplinary action, when required, will be documented. Depending on the severity of the offense, staff will take the following steps:

- 1) Discuss what the appropriate behavior with the child is.
- 2) Time-out, where the child will be set aside, in a safe place, away from the group.
- 3) Talking with the parent or guardian. Dismissal may be considered.

Campers dismissed from camp for disciplinary reasons will not be allowed to return for the remainder of the summer.

## **Customer Service**

### **Feedback**

After each camp we request feedback from the parents to gauge the general experience that they had with us. Camp Highlander family's feedback is a resource for improving the camper experience and adjusting our actions to their needs. Customer feedback helps us improve our products and services, measure customer satisfaction and shows that we value our customer's opinions.

### **Obligations to Customers**

- Children must participate in all aspects of the program.
- Counselors are required to motivate children and support the development of inter-disciplinary skills.
- A fun and loving team.
- Children are fully supervised during program activities.
- First aid trained staff.
- Counselor (including camp director) to camper ratio must be adhered to:

<b>Camper Age</b>	<b>Number of Staff</b>	<b>Overnight Campers</b>	<b>Day-only Campers</b>
5 years and younger	1	5	6
6-8 years	1	6	10
9-14 years	1	8	10
15-18 years	1	10	12

## **Gender Inclusion Policy**

Camp Highlander is an inclusive and affirming environment for all our campers, staff and visitors. Camp Highlander strives to be a space for 'safe socialization' that is free of fear of stigma while promoting self-expression.