



DES PLAINES PARK DISTRICT 2019 Summer Sports Camp Parent Guide

Welcome to the Des Plaines Park District Summer Sports Camp Program!

We have designed this program to include a variety of activities in a safe, supervised environment. Our camp helps children get active, have fun, and be healthy! Our dedicated and well-trained Summer Sports Camp staff members encourage and promote physical activities that will help boost self-image and self-confidence. We provide an environment for youth to socialize and create new friendships. This booklet provides important general camp information. If you are looking for information about a specific camp, you'll find it in the Summer Camp Guide and the Spectrum Program Guide. Both are available in our facilities, and on our website: www.DPParks.org. We also invite you to visit us at our Parent Orientation/Counselor Meet & Greet on Thursday, May 30 from 6:00–7:30pm at the Leisure Center, 2222 Birch Street. [Map and directions](#).

Participant Information Medical Form

It is imperative that you turn in our Participant Medical Contact Form. This form, along with all other pertinent information can be found on the Park District website: www.DPParks.org and is also attached with this guide. This form needs to be completed and returned to Prairie Lakes Community Center (515 E. Thacker) by Friday, May 31st, or, at the latest, the first day of camp. This information is held in the strictest confidence. **Please note: If we do not have this information on file, your child will NOT be able to attend camp.** *Please remember to attach a recent photo.*

Pick Up & Drop Off Policies

Before Care doors open at 6:50am and After Care ends at 6:00pm.

Sports Camp doors open at 8:45am (no earlier) and camp ends at 3:00pm.

It is your responsibility to pick your child up on time. For example, if camp ends at 3:00pm, you will need to pick up your child by 3:00pm. Please indicate on the Participant Information Medical form who is authorized to pick up your child from camp. If someone else is coming to pick up your child, and is not listed as an authorized adult, parents must submit in writing who will be picking up the child. Children will not be permitted to leave the program during the day or at the end of the program to walk home, unless we have written permission from the parent.

Late Pick up Policy

It is imperative that your child is picked up on time, as our staff needs this time to prepare for the next day. There will be a 5-minute grace period at the end of camp. Once the 5-minute period has elapsed, there will be an additional \$5.00 charge for every 5 minutes you are late in picking up your child. (Example: Camp ends at 3:00pm and your child is picked up at 3:21pm. You will be expected to pay a \$15.00 late fee). This fee must be paid at camp by cash or check before your child comes back to camp the next day. The policy also applies to before and after care.

Registration Deadline

In order for us to have an adequate number of trained staff available, for the safety of your camper, registration will be taken until the Thursday prior to the first day of camp. Week-of registrations are not accepted.

Camp Cancellations

Rain or shine camp is held! The Park District may cancel a camp session if that program has not reached the minimum enrollment.

What campers should wear and bring to Sports Camps

Campers should wear comfortable, old, durable play clothing appropriate for weather conditions. Labeling of clothing is highly recommended. We are not responsible for clothing or items brought to camp. Campers will need a labeled, non-refrigerated snack and lunch with them daily. A water bottle and sunscreen are required (please label). A small day-pack will keep belongings organized. Swim wear and towels will need to be brought on designated water activity days.

To foster values and appropriateness, the Park District reserves the right to ask campers to change their clothes if they are deemed inappropriate. This includes, but is not limited to, short shorts, baggy pants worn below the hip, shirts with vulgar or rude messages, and clothing that is too revealing.

Campers are to wear sneakers or closed-back footwear. NO open backed sandals, flip-flops or clogs. Sandals may be brought to camp to be worn at the pool or water parks.

Cell Phones

Campers may have cell phones with them at camp, but we ask that they stay in backpacks or in a secure place. We are not responsible for lost or stolen cell phones. Phone calls and text messages cannot be made without staff permission. If a phone is used without permission, it will be taken and held by staff until the end of the camp day.

Lost and Found

If your child should lose something at camp, please send a note describing the item and we will do our best to locate it. Unclaimed lost and found items are donated to charity at the end of each season.

Health & Safety

Your child's health & safety is our number one concern. While we focus on prevention, First Aid and CPR certified staff is always on site. Our buildings have basic first aid kits; in the event of a more serious injury or accident we always call for paramedics. It is required that all campers have the required immunization shots, including tetanus. Staff appreciate being notified in advance of any allergies, e.g., peanuts, bee stings. The Park District DOES NOT provide health, medical, or accident insurance for its participants.

Medication

If Park District staff will be required to administer medication to a participant during program hours, the parent/guardian must complete these forms* and return them to the Recreation Supervisor or Day Camp Director: 1) Permission To Dispense Medication/Waiver and Release of All Claims form; 2) Medication Dispensing Information form; and, if applicable, 3) the Waiver & Release of All Claims for Use of Inhaler or Auto-Injector.

All medication must be delivered to the Camp Director on-site at camp in the original prescription bottle or in clearly marked containers which include the person's name, medication, dosage, and time of day medication is to be given. Park District Camp Staff are not allowed to administer any diabetic medications, injections, or check a child's blood sugar level.

*All required forms are available on our website www.DPParks.org. Copies are available at the Leisure Center and at Prairie Lakes. Please call 847-391-5700 or 847-391-5711 if you have questions.

Illness

If your child becomes ill while at camp, a parent/guardian will be notified. If a parent is unavailable, the emergency contacts will be called. If your child is ill or has a fever, we discourage their participation at camp. Your child should not return to camp until they have been fever-free for 24 hours. If you learn that your child has contracted a contagious disease, please notify the Camp Director, the Assistant Director, or the Park District office as soon as possible.

Sun Policy

Due to certain activities that take place outside, campers are vulnerable to sun exposure. We try to have the campers in the shade or in the gym whenever the sun, or heat, is at its peak. We also remind campers to reapply and use the sunscreen you send. To minimize sun exposure without compromising program goals, we request the following help in preparing your child for camp:

- Wear sun protective clothing, including a hat.
- Wear a pair of durable sunglasses.
- Use sunscreen that protects against UVA and UVB rays, is waterproof, and is SPF 15 or higher.
- For extra protection, apply zinc or titanium block to ears, nose, and cheeks.



Communication with Camp Staff

We appreciate open communication with parents to avoid any misunderstanding about the goals of our camp program. Each camp will have a parent communication log that we encourage families to use when providing important information to our staff. We do our best to address your concerns and to resolve them in a fair and prompt manner. Your cooperation and support are greatly appreciated in regard to maintaining open and responsive communications.

****Please fill out our Day Camp Evaluation at the end of each session or at the end of the summer. Your feedback is important to us!***

If you have ANY difficulty communicating with the Park District Summer Sports Camp Staff, we encourage you to contact Joshua Cantres, Athletic Supervisor at 847-391-5711 or jc@dpparks.org.

Detailed camp packets will be available in May, and those will include more information on how best to stay in contact with your child's camp directors.

Sports Camp Field Trip Schedules

At the beginning of each week, parents can pick up a hard copy of the trip schedule, along with special reminders about what children should bring to camp. Bowling trips include lunch. Trips to MVAC do not include lunch, but concessions can be pre-ordered.

Rand Bowl Bowling (Thursdays)

Week 1: June 13

Week 3: June 27

Week 4: July 3

Week 7: July 25

Week 9: August 8

Chicago Dogs Baseball Game!

Week 5: Tuesday, July 9

Mountain View Adventure Center, Mini-Golf & Batting Cages (Fridays)

Week 2: June 21

Week 6: July 19

Week 8: August 2

Week 10: August 16

Code of Conduct and Camper Guidelines

Campers are expected to behave appropriately while participating in any Park District program, and while in any Park District facility. The following guidelines have been developed to make Des Plaines Park District programs safe and enjoyable for all. Additional rules, policies, and guidelines may be developed as deemed necessary by staff. A firm, *positive* approach is used regarding discipline. Staff will periodically review rules with participants. If inappropriate behavior occurs, a prompt resolution will be sought that is specific to each individual's situation. The Des Plaines Park District reserves the right to dismiss a participant or facility user whose behavior endangers their own safety or the safety of others.

Please review the following camp policies with your child

- Talk in a pleasant manner: no foul language or put-downs. Topics of conversation are to be appropriate for a public setting.
- RESPECT other campers, staff members, their belongings, our facilities, and the natural environment.
- Refrain from disparaging remarks, including comments against an individual's race, ethnic background, religion, physical appearance, gender, gender orientation or disabling condition.
- Treat all equipment and supplies with proper care and respect.
- Remain with your group and a Park District staff member at all times, unless directed to do otherwise.
- Protect your feet by always wearing closed shoes; gym shoes are required at camp.
- Do not display any aggressive behavior, including hitting, punching, slapping, kicking, and biting.
- Refrain from threatening or causing bodily harm to yourself, other participants, or Park District staff.
- Hazing and bullying is strictly prohibited.
- BE SAFE. Follow camp rules at all times.

Equal Access

No participant shall, on the basis of race, creed, sexual orientation, gender, gender orientation, national origin, or disability be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage or opportunity. It is the objective of the Des Plaines Park District to provide a positive leisure experience for all participants, thus requiring certain rules to ensure safety and enjoyment.

Des Plaines Park District Anti-Harassment Policy Prohibited Conduct

Racial, ethnic, or religious slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to the following areas is prohibited: race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, gender, gender orientation, physical appearance, socioeconomic status, or disability. Sexual harassment, such as unwelcome sexual advance, request for favors, or conduct of sexual nature is also prohibited. Harassment by fellow participants, staff, or outsiders coming into contact with participants will not be accepted. Conduct that is not acceptable includes: creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive program environment; interfering with a participant's program experience, or adversely affecting the program experience. Some examples of prohibited contact include: epithets, slurs, negative stereotyping, threats, intimidation, hostile or violent acts, posting or distribution of hostile written or graphic material, verbal or physical conduct toward an individual because of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, gender, gender orientation, physical appearance, socioeconomic status, or disability. Sexually harassing conduct such as offensive jokes, language, graphic or verbal commentary, and obscene comments or gestures are also prohibited.

Disciplinary Procedures

For minor offenses, campers will receive a verbal warning, and may be issued a brief timeout from an activity. For repeated problems and those of a more serious nature, the camper will be reported to the Recreation Supervisor and the parent will be notified. All incidents will be documented in a Des Plaines Park District Conduct Report and kept on file. Depending on the severity of the offense, expulsion without refund may result.

The *Des Plaines Park District Behavioral Policy (A-24)* is on our website: www.DPparks.org.

If participant engages in the harassment of another participant:

- He or she will be subject to a one to three-day suspension for a first offense, at the discretion of the Park District, based on the severity of the circumstances.
- The Park District reserves the right to take other action to address and prevent harassment, including expelling a participant for either a first-time offense or repeated acts of harassment.
- If an investigation results in a finding that an individual has made false or frivolous accusations of harassment, the accuser will be subject to the same disciplinary action as noted above.
- The District will not be under any obligation to refund any funds when a participant is suspended or expelled.



If your child requires assistance from the Maine-Niles Special Recreation Association (M-NASR), you must notify the Recreation Supervisor a minimum of one week in advance. If we do not receive at least one-two weeks' notice, please understand that we, and M-NASR, may not be able to provide accommodations for your child.

Special Needs / ADA Accommodations

It is the parent/legal guardian's responsibility to notify the Park District of any physical, mental or emotional condition(s) that might require special attention by our staff. If your child needs special accommodations to participate in our camp program, notify the Recreation Supervisor in a timely manner. Please understand that failure to provide timely and appropriate notice of a special need and/or request for reasonable accommodation may result in a delay in registration. When feasible and appropriate, the Park District asks that requests for reasonable accommodation be made at least two weeks in advance of any activity or program. Your confidentiality will be respected. With proper notification we can work with the parent, child, and staff to be prepared to assure for the best possible conditions for a positive camp experience.

The Des Plaines Park District welcomes participation in all programs and activities by individuals with disabilities and special needs. The Park District is committed to inclusion and providing public recreation services in the most integrated setting in which interaction between people with and without disabilities is provided to the maximum extent feasible. The Park District works cooperatively with the Maine-Niles Special Recreation Association to facilitate successful participation for participants who register for inclusive programming.

Kindly understand that the Park District does not provide certain personal services, such as toileting services, rectal administration of medication, or traditional syringe injections.

Summer Camp EFT Payment Plans

You must register by **April 30, 2019** to take advantage of the 4-installment payment plan option. Your first installment payment includes a \$35 processing fee. The balance is due in 3 equal payments: **May 15, June 17, and July 15.**

Important Payment Plan Information

- \$35 processing fee is added to all payment plans. No payment plans are accepted after **April 30.**
- Fill out registration form and bring it to the Leisure Center.
- An installment billing agreement will be filled out and reviewed by a Park District staff member.
- Installment payments can be done electronically from a debit or credit card.
- A copy of the installment billing agreement will be given to you, once it has been approved.

Summer Camp Refund Policy

- \$35.00 processing fee is non-refundable and non-transferable.
- Refund requests received and DATE STAMPED by 5/31/19 incur a \$15.00 retention fee per camp session.
- Refund requests received and DATE STAMPED between 6/1/19 and the Thursday before the start of the specific camp session incur a \$30.00 retention fee per camp session.
- All refund requests received and DATE STAMPED on or after the Friday before the start of the specific camp session will result in a \$60.00 retention fee per camp session.
- No refunds are granted after the first week of a program/class, unless the program/class is cancelled.
- Full refund requests will only be honored if the request is due to a medical condition or enrollment at the Iroquois Community School. A doctor's note or Iroquois School acceptance letter must accompany the request.

Transfer Fees

There is a **\$5.00 transfer fee** if you transfer your child from one camp to another. *The transfer fee is not charged if you have been placed on a waitlist.*

Summer Camps Contacts

Sports & Athletic Camps: Joshua Cantres

JC@DPParks.org, 847-391-5711

Golf & Sailing Camps: Tyler Fuchs

Tyler.Fuchs@DPParks.org, 847-803-4653

General Day Camps: Jeanette Berard

Jeanette.Berard@DPParks.org, 847-391-5700

Dance & Art Camps: Nancy Suwalski

NancyS@DPParks.org, 847-391-5711

Please visit the Summer Camp Section on the Park District website for additional camp information, and updates throughout the summer. www.DPParks.org.