

Camp Hollymont for Girls

April 2023

# Answers to 101 Questions

"There's a mountain I love..."

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# Important Information

Camp E-mail: 4info@hollymont.com

Summer Office: (828) 252-2123

Summer Address: (June 1—July 21)

339 Nacoochee Drive Rabun Gap, GA 30568 You've registered for camp, recruited your friends, and now your camper is Hollymont bound!

Use this newsletter to prepare yourself and your camper for life at Camp Hollymont.



# **Preparing for Summer**

**Paperwork Made Easier** 

**Camp Hollymont uses the Circuitree registration software.** 

Go to our website- www.hollymont.com—and click at the top of the homepage to access the Circuitree portal.

Sign in with your email address and password.

Click on your Circled Initials in the upper right corner of the screen.

Select <u>My Dashboard</u> and then <u>Registrations</u> to access the summer prep modules. You will be able to complete, edit, and review applicable modules.

Trip Waivers and the Health Exam Form (first time campers) may be downloaded, completed, and uploaded.

Other important documents (immunization record, insurance card, and airline itinerary) may be uploaded.

Please complete modules by April 20.

May 1st: Remaining Balance is Due

## I. Camper Communication and Contact ~ Living Life Unplugged

Camp provides a unique opportunity for girls to disconnect from electronics and social media to enjoy simplicity and community. Therefore, we ask that telephone communication to or from home be limited to emergencies only. Otherwise, important lessons of independence and self-reliance beyond the home situation can be short-circuited by a quick call to or from home and the opportunity to escape from social pressures is lost.

We request that your camper leave at home her cell phone, smart watches that act as phones, and all other means of accessing social media. You are always welcome to call with a question, a concern, or a suggestion. Since camp days are action-packed and staff members are often leading camper activities, the office staff will take a detailed message and have the appropriate staff return your call when the camp schedule permits (generally rest hour or when the campers are in bed.)

If your camper is traveling alone and has a communication device, please instruct her to give the device to her counselor when she arrives at camp. It will be returned when your camper leaves camp. If your camper does not turn in her communication device on opening day and we have reason to believe she is in possession of such a device, we reserve the right to search and retrieve the item. If found, the communication device will be returned at the end of camp. We ask for your cooperation in maintaining this vital aspect of the camping experience.

**Incoming Mail:** Campers and staff pick up their mail at the Hub. (Location of camp store and canteen). Items that do not fit in the individual's mail cubby will receive a package slip and campers may pick up their items at the package counter during canteen.

Beginning in June, you may access the Bunk1 website to purchase and send e-mails to your camper. These e-mails are downloaded each morning and distributed with the regular afternoon mail. (We will send an email when the Circuitree activates the Bunk1 links.)

Send cards and letters of encouragement 7-10 days prior to your camper's arrival to ensure that she has mail during her first week of camp. Campers enjoy getting mail, so please write happy letters of encouragement and interest.

#### Camper's Name, Camp Hollymont 339 Nacoochee Drive, Rabun Gap, GA 30568

**Care Packages:** We encourage packages of books, games, and clothing. NO FOOD OR GUM, PLEASE! While some camps no longer allow packages, we have elected to ask campers to open their packages at the mail counter. Restricted items are held and returned in the closing day goodbye bag. We take the well-being and safety of your camper and her fellow campers very seriously. The problems created by food packages (allergic reactions, sanitation, hurt feelings, poor eating habits, upset tummies, etc.) far outweigh the joys of receiving them.

**Outgoing Mail:** Please sit down with your young camper before camp to address and stamp the envelopes for letters to parents, family, and friends. This will encourage her to write letters and ensure they arrive at the proper address. It also makes it easier for staff to encourage your campers to write home. We do not have the facilities and/or manpower for campers to send e-mails.

Remember, campers enjoy receiving cards and letters everyday!

#### Visiting:

To preserve the health of our campers and staff in the "bubble" and to allow campers to focus solely on their camp experience, we request that there be no visitors during the session.

**Opening day:** Families may briefly come into their campers' houses to get them settled. Camp tours will be given at 10 and 11 a.m. Meet at the Hub in the center of camp (location of camp store, canteen, and mail/package pick up.)

Once the camp session has begun, please allow us to maintain the bubble by refraining from visiting. In addition to protecting the health of our campers and staff, this allows campers to settle into the Hollymont community and thrive. Outside visitors can cause homesickness (both in the child being visited and her fellow campers) undoing hours of hard work from both the campers and the staff. Please provide advance notice to the office if you need to be on campus before closing day.

We ask that anyone coming on campus be mindful of their health. <u>If you are not feeling well, please contact our office before coming to campus.</u>

Given the variability of communicable diseases, we reserve the right to ask that masks be worn indoors.

We check IDs on closing day. If persons other than parents/guardians will be picking up your camper, we request advance notice/written permission from a parent or legal guardian before allowing your camper to leave camp with them. You may do so by completing the Pick Up Authorization module accessible in Circuitree begin May 1st.

### II. Camp Store and Camper Spending Account

**Camp Store:** The camp store is open on opening day and daily during canteen time. Stamps, stationary, toothbrushes, and clothing items are sold in the camp store.

Prior to the May 1 (when remaining balance is due), we will add a charge for spending money to your camper's account.

#### Classic session -\$150 Starter session—\$100

Campers do not use cash at camp. Charges from the camp store, canteen, personal items, medical expenses, and small group activities are recorded on each camper's spending sheet. New campers must purchase a tribe shirt. First time campers receive their tribe shirts after Monday night council ring. The tribe shirt will be deducted from the spending account if it has not been pre-ordered.

The cost for rapid antigen tests given at camp will be deducted from spending accounts.

After the camper's account balance is cleared, leftover spending money (\$12 or more) will be refunded. We will contact you regarding disposition options for lesser amounts (credit toward next summer, refund check, or donation).

### **III. Personal Property**

#### Prohibited Items: Please no animals, valuables, vehicles, or harmful items

We ask that cash be turned in to the business office on opening day. We will credit your camper's spending account.

Animals, expensive jewelry (watches, rings, necklaces, etc.), and electronics (cell phones, digital cameras, GoPros, smart watches, iPods/iPads, MP3 players, hand-held gaming devices, laptop computers, etc.) should be left at home. While items of value are brought to camp to enhance the experience (tennis racquets, musical instruments, riding gear, etc.), we reserve the right to collect any possession for the purpose of monitoring or restricting its use during camp (athletic equipment, electronics, etc.) Such items will be returned for supervised use and/or prior to the camper's departure from Hollymont.

# WE CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE OR SIMILAR ITEMS kept on the hall. (camper's or counselor's room)

Possession and/or use of tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, improperly obtained prescription medications, and weapons (knives, firearms, explosives, etc.) are prohibited. Use of substances for the purposes of inhalant abuse is prohibited.

Campers and staff (under age 18) are prohibited from bringing motorized vehicles (cars, scooters, etc.), skates, skateboards, and bicycles to camp.

We reserve the right to search camper possessions when there is a reasonable suspicion that the Hollymont personal property policy has been violated. We reserve the right to seize animals, valuables, vehicles, or harmful items that have been brought to camp.

**Costumes and Musical Instruments:** Please feel free to bring your costumes, musical instrument, and accompaniment music/CDs to camp. Talent show, skills show, and Wacky Wednesday are just a few of many opportunities to use these items. Don't forget to bring a hat to the Sunday tea party. You can be creative or classy with your choice!

If your camper would like to use music from an iPod for the talent show, she may bring the iPod to camp; however it will be kept safely in a locked storage unit until the appropriate time. Please check with camp directors before bringing large props to camp.

**Trips:** Horseback Trail Rides, Whitewater Rafting, and Ziplining Adventures. There are limitations on the number and size of these off campus trips. Campers must pre-register. **Signed waivers and appropriate gear are required.** 

#### Note for Horseback Trail Ride

- The vendor provides the riding helmets.
- Jeans or riding pants are required.
- Riders are encouraged to wear boot type shoes with heels and smooth surfaces soles. Tennis shoes may be used.

### Note for Whitewater Rafting

Swim shoes or closed toe shoes that can get wet..

Zipline Adventure: Read the Zipline Info sheet: http://linktr.ee/camphollymont

#### IV. Amenities

**Camper Rooms:** In addition to beds, camper rooms have a chest of drawers and very limited space for hanging items. Space within the room must be shared by all your camper's roommates. Expect 2-3 campers per room.

Pack wisely! Suitcases, duffel bags, and/or trunks must be easily transported. **Feel free to bring your own collapsible utility wagon.** It may be stored in your camper's room along with her suitcases, duffels, or trunk. All houses have first floor living (no stairs).

**You will need to provide all your own linens.** The beds are standard <u>Twin Extra Long.</u> Remember that the buildings are air conditioned.

If your camper has a hall placement request after you have submitted her application, Log into your Circuitree account and complete/edit the Hall Request module. DEADLINE: APRIL 20, 2023

Please be aware that specific requests may not always be possible. We will always do our best to accommodate you but must also consider what is best for the hall/house as a whole.

**Laundry Service:** We have limited laundry facilities available. No laundry service is provided for 6 and 13-day campers. We will monitor each hall and wash a load of wet towels and/or tribe shirts as needed. Laundry for campers who stay two consecutive sessions will be done between sessions.

Please remind your camper that if she runs out of clothes, she needs to tell her counselor so an extra load of laundry can be washed.

#### V. Special Events

**Sunday Services:** Sundays at Hollymont are carefully planned to be inspirational for all age groups. We encourage campers and staff to wear dresses for Sunday morning worship in the Chapel.

Please, no spaghetti straps or strapless dresses.

**Camper Birthdays:** If your camper's birthday occurs while she is at camp, she will receive a birthday cake after lunch or dinner and everyone in the dining hall will sing "Happy Birthday" to her. Her counselor and hall mates will decorate her door. If you wish to give her counselor special birthday decorations/treats, you may do so. If you wish to send flowers and/or balloons, you may do so. Florist near camp that delivers: Apple Blossom Flower Shoppe (706) 782-6315 (Cheryl)

**Bed Time:** Bedtime can be a challenging and rewarding hurdle for first time and returning campers alike as they learn to adjust to the camp schedule and environment. To help us best serve your camper, please share her bedtime routine and any coping strategies you have found to work at home (read a story, drink a glass of milk, sing a song or prayer, etc.).

Log on to your Circuitree Account and review the Camper Information module—specifically the questions about family circumstances, challenges, coping strategies, bedtime routines, and personal insights.