



## **Freehold Camp Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What are the Ages of Campers?**

- The ages are dependent on the camp. Camp Zehnder's campers are aged from 6-15, Old Bridge campers are 6-12, and Freehold campers are from ages 3-12. At age 3-5 (not yet kindergarten) register for the My Y Camp in Freehold Child Care.
- We base our groups on the grade your child will complete in June (not by age)

### **Are your Groups Coed?**

- Yes, all our groups are coed
- We hire male and female camp counselors and lifeguards

### **Do you accept payment from a Third Party Vendor?**

- We don't accept Child Care Resources or Children's Home Society at this time
- We do accept direct payment from DCP&P

### **Do you offer any Financial Assistance?**

- Yes, applications are available on our website and are reviewed in the order they are received. Assistance is available based on qualifications and availability of funding. You will need to submit the application, applicable documents and worksheet by May 1, 2021

### **Do you offer a Sibling Discount?**

- Not at this time. There is no membership or registration fee to attend this YMCA camp.

### **Can You Extend the Camp Hours? Not for the 2021 Season**

- Not for the 2021 season. The camp day has been extended to 8am to 5pm; reducing the need for pre and post care (extended care)

### **Do you provide a half day program?**

- No, we do not

### **Can I pick up my child early?**

- Yes, in most cases. We ask that you come into the office with your ID no later than 3:15pm to pick up. If you call your child's camp office prior, we can have the camper ready for you.

### **Can You Enroll Anytime?**

- Yes, however the earlier you register the earlier you can start making payments. Camp enrollment is on a first come first serve basis. If we have an opening we will accept enrollment throughout the camp season. Groups fill up quickly!

- Registration is available online and must complete all paperwork by the Thursday prior of the week you want your child to attend.

### **Do you Provide Lunch?**

- Campers will need to bring their own lunch each day. Lunch boxes will be kept by group in an air conditioned space.
- Lunch areas will be spaced out to provide for social distancing between groups
- Trading posts and snack bars will **not** be open this season. Please pack additional snacks and ice packs for your camper, and a water bottle.

### **Is camp peanut free?**

- Freehold camp is Peanut Free. We do not allow campers to bring foods that contain peanuts for lunch.

### **Can Campers Buy Snacks?**

- Not for the 2021 Season

### **Can I send my child with birthday treats for their group?**

- We ask to please refrain from sending children with treats for their groups. With allergies and parental dietary preferences, we suggest popsicles.

### **About Ticks?**

- We have an aggressive, professional spraying program, done off-hours on a regular basis.
- We teach campers to ID ticks and do tick checks each day.
- We use cleared and treated trails.

### **Is There Trained Medical Personnel on Site?**

- Yes, we have a Health Director and/or an Aquatics on duty during regular camp hours.
- All staff are CPR and First Aid certified.
- Medication is administered by and stored with Health Director
- First aid supplies are with all groups and throughout camp

### **What Do the Campers do if it's Raining or Excessively Hot?**

- Our camps have indoor and covered space to accommodate campers on rainy days. If there is NO thunder and lightning, they can still swim.
- In excessive heat we modify the schedule to give more time with water activities and shade, and we limit high exertion activities.

### **What about Refunds or Credits?**

- A refund may be issued for an illness resulting in 3 consecutive days' absence from camp. A doctor's note is required, however the deposit is non-refundable.
- There are no refunds or credits for vacations. Please choose your weeks carefully. We will make every effort to switch your camper to a different week if necessary.
- In the rare instance a child is expelled from camp, there will be no refund or credit issued.

### **What is the Swim Program Like?**

- Campers will participate in two recreational swims sessions each day in small groups (weather permitting). Water safety activities will be taught. Our instructors are trained to encourage your child to participate in both swim periods
- All campers are swim tested and marked with a colored band
- All lifeguards are certified in life guarding, first aid and CPR. Swim instructors are trained in YMCA swim instruction, first aid and CPR.

### **What are the Ages and Experience of your Staff?**

- Many of the staff are teachers and/or individuals who work with children year round.
- Our camp counselors are a minimum of 18 years old while our Junior camp counselors are a minimum of 16 years old before the summer starts. Each group is supervised by a unit leader or camp coordinator trained in behavior management supervision and has experience with children.
- All staff complete a background check, drug screen, national sex offender registry check and attend extensive training prior to start of camp

### **What is the Staff/Camper Ratio?**

- Ratios are 1 staff to 8 campers for Pre-K (3-5 yrs. old); Grade K-2 are 1 to 10 and Grades 3 to 9 are 1 to 12.
- Each specialty activity has an additional staff person who is involved with each group during those activities, along with the group's regular counselors.

### **Is there Bus Service?**

- No bus for Freehold and Old Bridge camp. There is a limited bus service this season. The bus travels from The Red Bank Y to Camp Zehnder.
- It is a \$70 additional fee each week for each camper.
- All the drivers are specially licensed and complete a background check, drug screen and national sex offender registry check.

### **Are There Any Special Events over the summer?**

- Throughout the summer we have special programming such as Theme Days, Carnival, Open Swim, and Family Nights (to be determined for the 2021 season)

### **Do You Have A Special Program for Teens?**

- This year our Travel Camp will transition to a Teen Leader Adventure Camp – trip fees will be used to fund higher level activities and supplies, community service hours will still be earned for summer projects
- Teen campers may acquire volunteer hours by assisting with our younger camp groups. please speak to the director regarding this opportunity.

### **Do You Have a Camp Counselor training program?**

- The Role Model in Training (RMIT) & CIT programs will not be offered this summer. Campers are welcome to join our teen camper program.

### **Are Special Needs campers allowed at camp?**

- The YMCA believes that all children should have the opportunity to attend camp. We work to include all campers in our programs. Please speak with the Director of Camp to see if we can meet your camper's needs.

### **How do I stay connected to what's going on at camp?**

- You will receive weekly email/newsletter
- Download the Remind App and join the class Slstel for Freehold Camp; OBYCamp (Old Bridge camp)
- Website- [www.ymcanj.org](http://www.ymcanj.org)
- Freehold's My Y Class Dojo invite will be sent to each registered preschool family individually.
- Like and Follow us on Facebook @YMCA CampZehnder, @Freehold Family YMCA and @Old Bridge Family YMCA

### **How do I get a receipt for tax purposes?**

- Click on the link below and scroll down to the Registration area
- LOG IN to your account
- Click MY ACCOUNT
- Click VIEW ACCOUNT
- Scroll down to TAX STATEMENT and click the link next to it for the current Tax Form
- <https://ymcanj.org/manageaccount/program-registration/>