



**SACANDAGA**

## **Camp's Internet Use Policy for Campers**

### **Preamble**

At Camp Sacandaga, we share a year-round commitment to our campers' healthy development. We strive to create a culture of care, respect, and kindness through the principle of leadership-by-example. We uphold the highest standards of behavior for ourselves, our staff, and our campers. To be a member of the Camp community means to share this commitment. Our Internet Use Policy for Campers is an extension of that commitment. We ask that all new and returning campers and their families read this policy carefully and we encourage you to call or write if you have questions or suggestions.

### **Safety**

First and foremost, we are concerned with the safety of our campers. This means:

- Parents should monitor their children's use of the Internet. We encourage parents to use content filters, but recognize that there is no substitute for joining your son or daughter at the computer, having candid discussions about their online behavior, and educating them about safe use of the Internet.
- We encourage parents to visit any of the many Internet sites devoted to safe Internet use, such as:
  - <http://www.fbi.gov/publications/pguide/pguide.htm>
  - <http://safely.yahoo.com/>
  - <http://www.netsmartz.org/>
  - <http://www.protectkids.com/>
  - [http://www.google.com/Top/Computers/Internet/Child\\_Safety/](http://www.google.com/Top/Computers/Internet/Child_Safety/)
- Camp Sacandaga's staff policy states that the only type of relationship that is permitted between a camper and a Camp staff member is a professional leadership relationship.
- Socializing between staff and campers in the off-season is permitted only at official, supervised camp functions, such as our Winter Weekends, Family Weekends, Community Service Days, or our Official Facebook Page. Other off-season socializing between campers and staff **is not permitted**. Staff is not permitted to "friend" campers on Facebook or other social media websites.
- If you become aware of any in-person or cyber-bullying, inappropriate relationships, or unwholesome Internet postings from anyone in the Camp Sacandaga community, please contact the camp director immediately.
- Our expectation is that all communication and content related to Camp Sacandaga be accurate and kind.
- We reserve the right to dismiss or prohibit the return of any camper or staff in violation of these policies.

### **Community**

Forming and nurturing a healthy community is of utmost importance. Therefore, we provide:

- An official camp Facebook page, accessible on the Camp's website. We discourage the formation of informal Camp Sacandaga websites because they may not represent the camp accurately.
- We encourage campers to write traditional letters or postcards to staff and we permit staff to write traditional letters or postcards back. We do not permit staff to have electronic communication with campers. And while we know that campers will exchange e-mail addresses and screen names, staff do not provide campers with such information.