



CAMP LA JUNTA CAMP-LIFE POLICIES

Over our 90 years, we have continually changed and refined a system of rules and parental policies, each one adopted to enhance the quality of the camp experience, camper safety and overall security. Please read and familiarize yourself and your family and friends with the following policies in order that embarrassing situations are avoided for your son and that he is safe and happy at camp. And, as always, please call us with any questions.

Camp life “unplugged”: we do not allow any electronics at camp!

Why? We have long felt that summer campers need to escape the constant barrage of electronic communication, internet overstimulation, and gaming and get back to the roots of the outdoor summer camp experience. And as electronic devices evolve, there is little way that we can continue to safely monitor their use or have them on the grounds. While no devices are bad on their own accord, none really have a place at camp where healthy social living and security play such a big role.

What will we do to help? Our program staff will continue to refine ideas for building unity while promoting healthy down-time activities in the cabin. We will be teaching electronic-free gaming during staff training (as counselors need to learn to be unplugged as well) and will be hosting tournaments, puzzles, card games and “micro” versions of things such as bowling and ping pong and organized cabin events during rest periods throughout the term. We’re programming our successful KCLJ radio station so that kid friendly, popular, silly and desirable music is playing on the airwaves at all cabin times, replacing the need for personal players. We want to make sure our campers and your sons don’t even miss their electronics.

What can you do to help? We encourage you to “test drive” a few electronic free evenings or days in the weeks remaining before camp. Go “Old School!” Send your guy to camp with plenty of books to read, Sudoku, word search, cards, and other puzzle books or games. Talk to him about getting involved, interacting and trying new things. Offer an incentive for books read or crossword puzzles completed. Help him with a plan to stay busy with replacements for electronics.

These items are strictly prohibited and confiscated (held for pick-up at the end of the camp session):

- Electronics, including but not limited to, cell phones, game systems, e-readers, mp3 or video players, and digital cameras
- Knives of any kind or other weaponry other than those used for scheduled classes (i.e. archery, riflery)
- Airsoft or paintball guns
- Lacrosse sticks and balls
- Baseballs and other hard balls (tennis balls are OK)
- Water-balloon launchers and balloons
- Water guns
- Fireworks or other incendiary devices - including aerosol products, like sunscreen
- Bicycles, scooters, skateboards, or any other recreational equipment with wheels
Large, floor-standing fans or box fans
- Food, sunflower seeds, candy, gum or drinks or drink powders of any kind

He MAY bring books and stationery, activity equipment such as tennis racket or fishing gear, tennis balls or footballs, baseball gloves (no baseballs), yo-yos, Frisbees, playing cards, puzzles and manually-operated games. If your son has a specific need - perhaps required by his school - please call our office to discuss it.

Staff will be visiting with all campers on opening night to assure compliance.

POLICIES CONTINUED . . .

LETTERS FROM HOME: Pony Express is very important to all the boys, so please write often to let your son know you are thinking of him. Everything mailed through the US Postal Service should be addressed to:

Camper Name, Cabin X
Camp La Junta
P.O. Box 139
Hunt, TX 78024

His cabin number will be furnished on Opening Day. You may also send EMAIL through your CampInTouch account. CampInTouch will need a credit card number when you set up to do so. All messages arriving before noon will be delivered the same day by Pony Express.

PACKAGES: For UPS or FedEx, which will not take our PO Box, please use our delivery address:

Camper Name, Cabin X
Camp La Junta
1661 Hwy. 39
Hunt, TX 78024

To encourage healthy living and prevent insect infestations in our cabins, we strictly prohibit CANDY, FOOD and DRINKS outside of what the camp provides (campers are given three balanced meals, a morning cookie break, and a mid-afternoon snack each day and a bedtime snack every other night plus special snacks on campouts and special trips. This makes plenty of goodies for everyone)! Any packages sent with food will be thrown away (even Grandma's homemade brownies – sorry!).

Advanced Campers: Contrary to popular legends and rumors, AC's are not allowed to keep food in their cabin. Special snacks for outings, trips and cook-outs will be provided by Camp. PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY FOOD OR DRINKS!

As indicated on the previous page, other disruptive or destructive, prohibited items will be confiscated or disposed of.

LA JUNTA STORE ORDERS: If you want to send your son something from the Camp Store, please check our Camp Store website for our inventory of La Junta gear. These orders will not be considered a “Care Package.” Please note that all items are also available for your son to purchase on site, with his charge account. His purchases may be viewed in your CampInTouch account.

VISITORS: The camp schedule does not allow for visitors. It is our experience that it is much better, emotionally, for all the boys if parents or other relatives do not visit until the end of the term. It is also a safety precaution for your child, as is our policy that campers are not allowed to leave camp with parents or friends for any reason. Camp tours for prospective families should call the office in advance.

PHONE CALLS: The boys are not permitted to make outgoing phone calls but are occasionally permitted to receive them - for special and important circumstances. They are very busy for the entire day and a phone call would require interrupting an activity. Because of this and the possibility of prompting some homesickness, in yours or another child, we ask that you not call to speak to him unless it is imperative that you do so because of family crisis, birthday, etc. In these cases, we are happy to get him to the **phone during meals — 8:40 a.m., 1:15 p.m. or 6:45 p.m.** - although rest assured, we will get him to the Office as needed for an emergency. In addition, campers are only permitted calls from parents.

You may call us anytime to discuss your camper, and we will do our best to help you!

CAMP LA JUNTA * P.O. BOX 139 HUNT, TX 78024 * (830) 238-4621