



# HELPFUL HINTS FOR STAFF TRAINING

Welcome to one of the most unique experiences of your life, **Cali-Camp Staff Training!** We hope that you're looking forward to Staff Training and are excited about being a part of the "Cali-Camp Family". Here are a few HELPFUL HINTS to assist you during the upcoming Staff Training:

**"You never get a second chance to make a first impression"**

1. **IT'S O.K. TO SAY "HI" , BE FRIENDLY AND INTRODUCE YOURSELF** - Let the friendly, personable side of yourself be the first side the new people see. Please introduce yourself to the people you haven't met. Remember back when it was your first day at school or camp. There will be plenty of time for socializing with "old friends"... Spend more of your time **making new friends and sharing new experiences together**. Who knows, you may become someone's next best friend!
2. **IT'S O.K. TO BE ENTHUSIASTIC AND INVOLVED** - Please bring with you your best attitude and whole-hearted devotion to the Cali-Camp experience. The experience begins with what YOU GIVE at staff training. What you give is what you get.
3. **IT'S O.K. TO TAKE NOTES** - No one can recollect, from memory, everything that goes on during Staff Training, especially since there will be lots of new material introduced each year. Valuable information is shared and you will hopefully refer to your notes as summer progresses. Some seminars will have materials available either in your notebook or in the staff manual. Please be sure to READ all material in your staff notebook and review your staff manual before the first day of camp, even if you have read it before. Refreshing your memory is very important!
4. **IT'S O.K. TO LISTEN CAREFULLY AND ASK QUESTIONS** - All staff training days will be extremely informative. If you have any questions, please ask! There are no "silly questions" and partial knowledge can be a dangerous thing. We won't think less of you for not knowing; we will think more of you for being alert and thinking ahead! Take this job seriously, we do.
5. **IT'S O.K. (& DOWNRIGHT IMPORTANT) TO BE ON TIME** - Please arrive promptly as our schedule is rather tight; if we begin the program late, we may run later than expected. Tardiness reflects upon others their opinion of you. You will receive a ticket for a drawing upon arrival at each day of staff training. Those arriving past the cutoff time will not receive tickets. When we say we start at 9:00am we are going to start at 9:00am SHARP! Be there or Be square.
6. **IT'S O.K. (& DOWNRIGHT IMPORTANT) TO HAVE FUN** - Camp Staff Training can be Fun too (at times) and at other times it will be quite serious. Please follow our lead. Make every attempt to be mature enough to know when to be serious and be able to adapt to the difference.

(over)

7. **IT'S O.K. TO EAT THE FOOD AT STAFF TRAINING** - Cali-Camp will provide lunch and/or dinner on the 2 days of Staff Training (not all staff will be there for the dinner). Our Cali-Camp meals usually include sandwiches, pizza, salads, hamburgers and/or chicken hotdogs. If these entree items do not suit your taste or your dietary preference, please feel free to bring your own sack lunch. There will be plenty of salad and pasta for vegetarians.
8. **YOU MUST BRING:** - 1) **A swimsuit and a towel** (a **MUST** for 6/09 afternoon swim orientation & testing)! Yes, each year we repeat this. 2) Signed employment agreement, signed health form, assorted forms and payroll forms, (which you should bring with you if you have not mailed them in as previously requested. In other words, please mail your forms in early (when requested) rather than bringing them to staff training. PLEASE.....

**YOU** get out what **YOU** put in!!! Put everything YOU have into this time together. The new things YOU learn, retain and use from this Staff Training will lead to a more successful and satisfying camp experience for YOU and the campers YOU come into contact with this summer. We promise YOUR concern and careful preparation during staff training will come back to YOU in many meaningful ways. We understand that each of YOU have many individual concerns (finals, graduations, proms, grad nites, Sr. trips etc...) but we must gear ourselves up for June 18th because...

**THE CAMPERS ARE COMING !!!**