

CHECKLISTS FOR CAMPS

Risk Management Checklists for Christian Camps



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information in this publication is intended to help ministry leaders better understand issues of risk management and assist them in developing a risk management program for their camps and related ministries.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

•	Camp Risk Management	4	
	Camp Risk Management Checklist	5	

Buildings and Property

Buildings and Grounds 6
Playground Safety7
Fire Safety
Camp Kitchen9
Swimming Pool10

Emergency Preparedness

Disaster Planning	11
First Aid & Health	12
Setting up an AED Program	13
First Aid Kit Contents	14

Activities

Youth Activities	
Sample Activity Participati	ion Agreement 16

Vehicle and Driver

Driver Screening 18	
Driver Pre-Trip/Post-Trip Inspection19	
Sample Auto Accident Form	

General Risk Management Forms

Sample Reference Response Form	21
Sample Notice of Injury Form	22
Sample Photo Use Agreement	23



INTRODUCTION Camp Risk Management

The checklists in this book are designed to help you take the first steps toward improving your risk management strategies by assessing risk in key areas of your camp. You can complete the checklists individually or all at once. Either way, here's how to use them:

- If you answer "yes" to all of the questions on a checklist, that means your camp is already following some generally accepted best practices in that area of risk management.
- If you answer "no" to some of the questions, you can use the checklist to note issues that need more attention and create a follow-up plan for improvement.

Each list contains space at the bottom to make notes for specific needs that are discovered while completing the checklist. These notes will become the building blocks of your risk management plan.

You may want to create a binder that you can file the completed checklists in, along with relevant notes, estimates, receipts, and other paperwork. Use this material as part of your ongoing risk management procedures.

Evaluating risk throughout your camp is not a one-time procedure. Rather, it will become an ongoing process that you continually evaluate and improve upon.

We've also included some sample forms with common language that will help you develop forms for your camp.

For additional risk management guidance, please visit the *Brotherhood Mutual website*.



Camp Risk Management Checklist

	Yes	Needs Attention
1. Is leadership committed to risk management?		
2. Are safety responsibilities assigned and audited?		
3. Is there a written safety and health program?		
4. Do you provide information about the camp's health		
management practices to parents of campers with special medical needs, and do you provide enough staff to meet those needs?		
5. Do you have effective safety rules and policies?		D
6. Are safety rules and policies enforced?		
7. Do you have a safety coordinator?		D
8. Do you have a health and safety committee?		D
9. Do you have emergency response procedures, including notification of authorities and parents?		
10. Do you have written, job-specific safety training guides?		D
11. Do you conduct systematic and objective safety inspections?		
12. Do you investigate accidents to prevent repeats?		O
13. Do you have effective claim management procedures?		D
14. Do you offer an early return-to-work program?		
15. Do you keep detailed records and analyze accident data?		
16. Do you have a positive incentive program for safety promotion and awareness?		
17. Are your accident rates good or improving?		D
18. Are the frequency and seriousness of workers' compensation claims good or improving?		
Notes:		
Completed by: Date	::	



Buildings and Grounds Checklist

Creating a safe camp environment starts with the basics: providing adequate food, shelter, and safety. Examine your facilities as if you were a newcomer. You might spy several areas that could benefit from safety improvements.

		Yes	Needs Attention
1.	Are all buildings, structures, and activity areas in good repair?		
2.	Are clean and sanitary conditions maintained throughout the campsite?		D
3.	Do all buildings used for sleeping have working smoke detectors, recently serviced fire extinguishers, and at least two emergency exits?		D
4.	Do all buildings used for sleeping that contain fuel-burning equipment also have functioning carbon monoxide detectors?		D
5.	Do all permanent sleeping buildings have ventilation, temperature control, space for movement, and space between beds?		D
6.	Do upper bunks have guardrails (if used for children under 16)?		
7.	Do you repair roof leaks as soon as possible?		
8.	Do you repair or replace broken windows as soon as possible?		
9.	Do you avoid using extension cords in place of permanent electrical wiring and outlets?		D
10.	Are all electrical outlets near water (restrooms, pool areas) equipped with ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) outlets?		D
11.	Do you have an adequate number of sinks near the restroom area?		
12.	Do you regulate hot water temperature to prevent scalding?		
13.	Do you inspect camp paths, trails, and sidewalks regularly for potential tripping hazards?		
14.	Is outdoor lighting adequate for safety and nighttime activities?		
15.	Is the property fenced and equipped with "No Trespassing" signs?		
16.	Is the entry closed or locked at night?		
No	tes:		
Соі	npleted by: Date:		



Playground Safety Checklist

Playgrounds can be the scene of serious injuries if they're not properly built and maintained. Although you can't prevent every accident that occurs, you can help reduce the risk of more serious falls and other injuries through proper playground design, equipment maintenance, and child supervision.

		Yes	Needs Attention
1.	Was your playground equipment designed and installed by professionals?		
2.	Does playground equipment sit on at least 9 to 12 inches of shock- absorbing surface material, and is it firmly anchored to the ground?		٥
3.	Are elevated play areas on your playground protected with continuous guardrails (20 inches above the ground for preschoolers, 30 inches above the ground for school aged children)?		
4.	Is the space between handrails and ladder rungs no larger than 3.5 x 9 inches to prevent head entrapment?		D
5.	Are your playground swings spaced at least 2 feet apart and 30 inches from the side poles to help prevent crashes?		
6.	Is your playground separated from roadways with a fence, wall, or other secure barrier?		D
7.	Is your playground cleaned regularly and inspected for broken glass or sharp metal objects?		
8.	Is your playground equipment regularly inspected for worn or missing parts, loose bolts, sharp edges or points, damaged "S" hooks, and exposed components that could trip, pinch, or crush someone?		
9.	Are moving parts on your playground properly lubricated?		
10.	Is splintered or cracked wood repaired as soon as possible?		
11.	Are children actively supervised by an adult when using your playground equipment?		D
12.	Do children know how to use the equipment correctly and understand the rules and expectations for playground safety?		
Nc	otes:		

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Completed by: _____

Date:_____

Fire Safety Checklist

Fires are one of the leading causes of property losses—and one of the most preventable. A little awareness and preparedness can go a long way in protecting your camp from a catastrophic loss. Heating, electrical and sprinkler systems should be maintained and tested on a regular basis and evacuation plans should be updated and practiced as well. Here are some things to think about as you look at fire safety.

		Yes	Attention
1.	Does your camp have a well-designed, comprehensive, and practiced evacuation plan for fires or other emergencies?		
2.	Are furnaces professionally cleaned and inspected annually?		
3.	Do you annually analyze the electrical system for adequacy, replace equipment like frayed, worn, or dried-out extension cords, and check the fuse box to make sure all fuses are the proper size for each circuit?	e 🗆	D
4.	Do you ensure that combustibles, like paint supplies and other flammable liquids, are stored away from heat sources, such as campfires, furnaces, or boilers?		
5.	Are all exits clearly marked and easily accessible?		
6.	Do you annually inspect smoke detectors and fire extinguishers to ensure they are functioning?		
7.	Is each building used for sleeping equipped with functioning smoke detectors?		
8.	Does each building used for sleeping have at least two exit options?		Ο
9.	Do any of your buildings have sprinkler systems installed to automatically extinguish fires as soon as they're detected?		
10.	Has your ministry worked with a professional to develop a lightning and surge protection system?		
11.	Do your staff and volunteers know that they should turn off electrical items when they are not in use?		
Notes:			
		ate:	



BROTHERHOOD MUTUAL.

Organization Name

Camp Kitchen Checklist

When preparing food for a large group of people, there's an increased risk for contaminated food to make everyone sick. To control that risk, camps must take a number of safety precautions in the food service area. Most items on the following checklist were adapted from the American Camping Association's accreditation standards.

		Yes	Needs Attention	
1.	Does the food service supervisor have documented training and/ or experience in food service management?			
2.	Does the staff follow procedures for cleaning and sanitizing utensils and food contact surfaces?		D	
3.	Are workers trained in proper hand washing techniques, and do they know when to wash their hands?			
4.	Do you check daily to ensure that perishable food is kept below 40° F?			
5.	Is all food cooked and held at safe temperatures?		D	
6.	ls your food service area clean and protected from rodents and insects?		D	
7.	Are all walkways, floors, and appliances kept free from grease accumulation?		D	
8.	Are garbage cans in the dining and kitchen areas covered when not in use?		D	
9.	Are all dishes and utensils cleaned and sanitized?		D	
10.	Are all dishes washed and rinsed at, or above 100° F, or allowed to air dry, and covered when not in use?			
11.	Do you have written verification that your camp's water is safe to drink?		D	
12.	When outside groups rent your camp, do you advise them about proper food handling and dishwashing procedures?		D	
Notes:				
Co	mpleted by:	Date:		



Swimming Pool Safety Checklist

		Yes	Needs Attention
1.	Are safety rules posted and enforced?		
2.	Are emergency telephone numbers posted?		
3.	Is rescue equipment readily accessible?	D	
4.	Is a trained attendant with CPR/AED certification on duty at all times when the pool is open?		
5.	Is the children's area roped off?		
6.	Is the pool surrounded by a security fence and securely locked when not in use?	D	
7.	Is diving strictly prohibited?		
8.	Is the pool area inspected regularly for sharp edges?		
9.	Are pool ladders, steps, and treads in good repair?		
10.	Are walkways and deck in good repair and coated in a non-slip material?		
11.	Is the pool depth marked conspicuously?		
12.	Is water tested in accordance with applicable regulations?		
13.	Is the water clear and the bottom clearly visible?		
14.	Are screens secure over all water intakes?		
15.	If hot-water pipes are present, are they located where people cannot come in contact with them?	D	
16.	If night swimming is permitted, is illumination adequate?		
17.	Are underwater lights GFCI equipped and periodically tested by an electrician?		
No	otes:		
Cc	mpleted by:	Date:	



Needs

Organization Name

Disaster Planning Checklist

		Yes	Attention
1.	Do you have a team that can take charge during any emergency situation? Do members of the team fill the roles of communication, evacuation, first aid, and emergency supplies?		
2.	Do you maintain equipment needed for emergency fire protection, first aid, communication, transportation, and backup power?		D
3.	Have you consulted area experts like police, fire, or emergency personnel about special considerations for your plan?		D
4.	Does your disaster plan identify a safe place to gather in the event of an exterior threat like a tornado?		
5.	Does your disaster plan include an evacuation plan for interior threats, such as fires or bomb threats? Does it include a well- defined escape route? Are the locations of all doors, windows, and stairways clearly mapped out?		
6.	Does the evacuation plan designate outdoor gathering areas that are at least 150 feet away from the buildings?		
7.	Does your disaster plan specify which employees and/or volunteers are in charge of leading groups from different areas of the campground?		
8.	Are all evacuation routes and procedures outlined in the disaster plan posted in highly visible areas throughout your facility?		D
9.	Do you inform all campers, staff, and groups of your emergency procedures?		D
10.	Do you practice evacuation drills on a regular basis?		
11.	Do you maintain and distribute copies of the disaster plan to all people who would respond to an emergency? (The plan should include each person's responsibilities and 24-hour phone numbers.)		
12.	Do you maintain and distribute an updated list of important information and phone numbers? (Police and fire departments, hospitals, your camp's insurance agent and policy number, telephone, gas, and electric companies, building maintenance and security.)		

Completed by: _

Notes:

Date:



First Aid & Health Checklist

		Yes	Needs Attention
1.	Do you have a staff member with training in the appropriate level of first aid and CPR/AED on duty at all times in camp and on camp trips?		
2.	If you're a resident camp, do you have a licensed physician or registered nurse on site daily?		D
3.	Do you gather health history information on campers and seasonal staff that includes current health conditions, past medical treatment, immunizations, and allergies?		
4.	Do you gather information on campers and seasonal staff that includes name, birth date/age, name/address/phone of adult responsible for each minor, phone of emergency contact, and name/phone of individual's physician?		
5.	Do you have parents of minors sign a form giving you permission to provide routine health care, administer prescribed medications, and seek emergency medical treatment?		
6.	Do you have written health care policies that include the scope and limits of services, authority/responsibilities of camp staff, etc.?		
7.	Do you keep a health log and reports of all incidents requiring medication, first aid, or professional medical treatment?		
8.	Do you store all drugs under lock and dispense prescription drugs only under the directions of a physician?		
9.	Do you train staff in their health care roles and responsibilities?		
10.	Do you inform appropriate staff of any special needs of campers for whom they're responsible?		
11.	Does your emergency response team know to look for an emergency medical identification card on the injured or ill person to alert you to any known medical problems or allergies?		
12.	Do you have gloves available to protect emergency response team members from blood and other potentially harmful bodily fluids?		D
13.	Do you use a special medical needs agreement?		
Nc	tes:		
Со	mpleted by: Date	2:	



Setting Up an AED Program Checklist

Is your camp prepared to handle cardiac emergencies? You may consider purchasing or renting an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). As you establish an AED program, consider the following questions:

		Yes	Needs Attention
1.	Based on your facility's size, do you know how many AED units you would need and where they should be located?		D
2.	Do you know who within your organization will be responsible for AED use?		D
3.	Is AED training part of your response team's onboarding process?		
4.	Do you know whether you have enough people on your response team to cover most situations/locations within your camp?		D
5.	Do you know how much money will be needed to rent or purchase the equipment, train employees or volunteers, and provide program maintenance?		
6.	Do you know current AED-use laws in your state? While there are AED Good Samaritan provisions in most states that provide certain legal protections to laypersons, it's good to know the legal climate in your state regarding this equipment.		
7.	Do you consult with your local American Red Cross chapter, hospital, or another organization for input regarding your AED such as renting vs. purchasing, maintenance, and training for staff and volunteers?		

	_
	~
	-
	_

NESS

Notes:

Completed by: _____ Date: _____



First Aid Kit Contents Checklist

Do the first aid kits at your ministry include the following items? You should also check to make sure items are not expired.

		Yes	Needs Attention
1. S	terile gloves (non-latex, at least two pairs)		O
2. S	terile compresses, gauze, and dressings		Ο
	leansing agents (soap, antiseptic wipes and/or hydrogen peroxic lcohol wipes and/or ethyl alcohol)	de, 🗆	
4. A	ntibiotic ointment, burn ointment, and hydrocortisone ointmen	t D	
5. A	dhesive bandages in several sizes		
6. A	dhesive cloth tape		D
7. E	lastic cloth bandages		D
8. N	ledical tape on a roll		D
9. Ir	nstant cold compresses		D
10. A	breathing barrier with one-way valve for administering CPR		D
11. E	ye wash solution		
12. A	thermometer (oral, non-mercury/non-glass)		D
13. S	cissors		D
14. T	weezers		D
15. P	etroleum jelly or other lubricant		
16. A	spirin and non-aspirin pain relievers		
17. A	nti-diarrhea medication		
18. A	ntacid		
19. B	lanket		D
20. F	lashlight and extra batteries		D
Notes	5:		
Comp	bleted by:	Date:	



Needs

Organization Name

Youth Activities Checklist

		Yes	Attention
1.	Do you require that parents or guardians sign an <i>Activity Participation Agreement</i> prior to allowing young people to participate in activities at camp?		
2.	If you offer high-risk activities (such as a ropes course, rappelling whitewater rafting, etc.), do you use trained supervisors or enlist the services of a professional who specializes in the activity?		
3.	Do you give campers a safety orientation before they participate in specialized activities?	D	
4.	Do you have adequate supervision for all programs and activities especially those involving high risk?	5, 🗆	
5.	Do you avoid games that might result in headfirst collisions with objects or other people?	D	
6.	Do you have experienced, certified lifeguards on duty at any event involving swimming?		
7.	Do you document whether campers are covered by family medical or health insurance?		
8.	Do camp staff and volunteers complete a Notice of Injury form whenever a camper gets hurt, no matter how minor the injury may seem?		
9.	Are camp vehicles inspected regularly and kept in excellent mechanical condition?		
10.	Are camp vehicles operated by experienced, responsible drivers?		
11.	Do camp staff and volunteers know and regularly practice emergency response procedures?	D	
12.	Do camp staff and volunteers have up-to-date first aid and AED training and access to first-aid and AED supplies?		
No	tes:		
Соі	npleted by:	Date:	

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ACTIVITIES



Sample Activity Participation Agreement

Activity Information (To be completed by the activity sponsor)

Name of sponsoring organization:	
Address:	Phone:
Name of sponsor's coordinator:	Phone:
Description of activity:	
Date(s) and location of activity:	

Participant Information (To be completed by participant or authorized guardian)

Name of participant:	
Name of parents/guardians:	
Address:	Phone:
Name of emergency contact:	
Phone (daytime):	Phone (evening):
List allergies or medical conditions:	
Is sponsor authorized to approve medical treatment?	□Yes □No
Is participant covered by personal/family medical insurance?	□Yes □No
If yes, name of insurer:	
Policy or group number:	

Participation Agreement

I acknowledge that participation in the activity described above involves risk to the participant (and to the participant's parents or guardians, if the participant is a minor), and may result in various types of injury including, but not limited to, the following: sickness, bodily injury, death, emotional injury, personal injury, property damage, and financial damage.

Continue to next page



In consideration for the opportunity to participate in the activity described above (the "activity"), the participant (or parent/guardian if the participant is a minor) acknowledges and accepts the risks of injury associated with participation in and transportation to and from the activity. The participant (or parent/guardian) accepts personal financial responsibility for any injury or other loss sustained during the activity or during transportation to and from the activity, as well as for any medical treatment rendered to the participant that is authorized by the sponsor or its agents, employees, volunteers, or any other representatives (collectively referred to as the "activity sponsor"). Further, the participant (or parent/guardian) releases and promises to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the activity sponsor for any injury arising directly or indirectly out of the negligence of the activity sponsor, the participant, or otherwise.

If a dispute over this agreement or any claim for damages arises, the participant (or parent/guardian) agrees to resolve the matter through a mutually acceptable alternative dispute resolution process. If the participant (or parent/guardian) and the activity sponsor cannot agree upon such a process, the dispute will be submitted to a three-member arbitration panel for resolution in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association.

Signature:		Date:
Signature:		Date:
0	(Participant and/or parent/guardian if participant is a minor)	Date:



Driver Screening Checklist

An important part of running a camp is providing safe transportation—be it shuttling campers to a nearby lake or retrieving them from a white-water rafting trip. Screening your drivers before they get behind the wheel is critical to ensuring that those in your care are in good hands.

Keep a list of all approved, trained drivers, and avoid situations where people not on the list are thrust into the driver's seat.

The following questions can help you screen driving candidates:

		Yes	Needs Attention		
1.	Does each driver hold a valid state driver's license?		D		
2.	Does each person who drives a bus or large van (16+ people) hold a valid commercial driver's license in accordance with applicable state laws?				
3.	Do you have written proof that drivers have received behind-the-wheel training and practice handling large vans or buses?				
4.	Do you avoid using drivers under age 21?		D		
5.	Do you train drivers to handle large vans or buses?				
6.	Do you obtain candidates' driving records and insurance coverage information?				
7.	Do you avoid using drivers who have reckless driving citations or multiple moving violations?				
8.	Do you have at least one primary qualified driver for each vehicle your camp owns?		D		
9.	Do you keep a list of all approved, trained drivers?				
10.	Do you avoid putting people who are not on your drivers' list behind the wheel?				
No	Notes:				
Coi	mpleted by:	_Date:			



Driver Pre-Trip/Post-Trip Inspection Checklist

Vehicle (Make/Model/Year):			
			DAM
Odometer Reading:	Date:	Time:	пРМ

Check any item that needs attention and include the details under "comments." Don't drive the vehicle until the defects you've discovered have been corrected.

Start the engine and test the following:

Mechanic's signature:

Noises (unusual)	ОК	Needs Attention	Leaks (look underneath)	ОК	Needs Attention
Noises			Oil Other		
Gauges	ОК	Needs Attention		_	Needs Attention
Fuel Temperature Dashboard warning lights			Safety equipment Fire extinguisher First aid kit Reflective triangles		
Lights	ОК	Needs Attention	Flares		
Headlights Brake lights Turn signals Hazard lights	Spare bulbs/fuses Map Emergency contact info O Phone/two-way radio				
Other	ОК	Needs Attention	(one for each passenger)		
Windshield wipers Fans and defroster Brakes (and parking brake) Mirrors Horn Exhaust system (muffler, tailpipe)			Comments:		
Tires	ОК	Needs Attention			
Proper inflation Adequate tread Spare inflated Vehicle Condition Follow	o o ving				
	hicle	e can be driven, but sho	inspection. uld be inspected by a mechanic in be driven until it has been inspec		
Driver's signature:			Date:		
Mechanic's Repair Repo	rt				
 Defects noted above had Defects noted above new 			operation of vehicle.		

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Date:_

BROTHERHOOD MUTUAL.

Auto Accident Sample Form and Checklist

When an Accident Happens:

- □ Stop immediately and turn off your ignition. Don't obstruct traffic. Ask a responsible person to warn oncoming traffic.
- Don't move your vehicle until instructed to do so by police.
- □ Stay calm, don't argue, don't admit fault, and don't accuse anyone of fault.
- Obtain first aid if needed and ask someone to call police.
- Record the make, model, and license plate number of all vehicles. Ask for the driver's license numbers of those involved.
- Secure the names and addresses of all parties, as well as any witnesses and/or injured parties.
- Make a diagram of the accident showing the position of the two vehicles during and after the crash.
- At the accident site, don't make any settlement offers or volunteer to pay damages.
- □ Make sure the attending officer files a police report.
- Report the accident to your insurance agent or company as soon as possible.
- □ File a financial responsibility report with the state or local police if required by law.

Accident Scene Diagram:

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Record of Events:

Date/	time of accident:
Road	conditions:
Weath	ner conditions:
Accid	ent location:
Other	driver's name and phone number:
	parties' vehicle description/driver's license number surance company:
	there any passengers in your vehicle?
	venicie? Names, ages, injuries:
	vehicle? Names, ages, injuries:
Did E <i>l</i>	ΛS respond? Injuries treated:
Did EN Did th If so, c	AS respond? Injuries treated:
Did EN Did th If so, c	AS respond? Injuries treated: e police respond? ifficer's name and badge number:

Agent's Name: _____

Telephone: ____

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20

BROTHERHOOD MUTUAL.

Sample Reference Response Information Form

То:	
	Name of Camp
From:	
	Address
Subject:	

Name of Worker Candidate

The individual named above has expressed an interest in working with children or youth in our camp. The candidate has listed you as a reference. In order for our organization to properly evaluate the qualifications of this worker candidate, we are asking you to complete this form with your honest opinions and impressions of the candidate.

Please return the completed form to our organization in the enclosed envelope. Thank you for your assistance.

1. How long have you known the worker candidate? _____

2. In what capacity have you come to know this individual? (e.g. coworker, neighbor, friend, etc.)

3. In your opinion, is the above worker candidate fully qualified to work with children and youth?

□ Yes □ No (If no, please explain) _____

4. What concerns, if any, would you have in allowing this individual to work with children or youth?

5. Are you aware of anything in the candidate's background, personality, or behavior that could in any way pose a threat to children or youth?

□ Yes □ No (If yes, please explain)____

Additional comments or explanations:

The above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: ____

Please return this form at your earliest convenience to: -

____ Date:_

Name of Camp



Sample Notice of Injury Form

Organization	Name:			
	Address:			
Time and Place of Injury	Date of Injury: Time: OAM OPM Where did the injury occur?			
Person	Name: Age:			
Injured	Address: Phone:			
	Name of parents/guardians (if a minor):			
	Employer:			
	Injuries sustained:			
	Where was injured taken? (hospital/doctor):			
	Relationship to organization:MemberVisitorVolunteerEmployeeStudent/CamperTenant/ResidentOther			
	If injury occurred on insured's premises, for what purpose was the injured on the premises?			
	Who was responsible for supervision at the time of injury?			
	If injury occurred elsewhere, what connection did it have with the insured's operations or activities?			
	Does the injured party have personal medical insurance that could apply? □Yes □No			
	Name of medical insurance company:			
Full Description of Incident				
Witnesses	Name: Phone:			
	Address:			
	Name: Phone:			
	Address:			
Signature:	Date of report:			



Sample Photo Use Agreement

This sample agreement should be reviewed and approved by your attorney prior to use.

l,	_ ("Licensor"), hereby grant, voluntarily and with full
understanding, to	("Camp"), a license to the following:

1. Use and storage of my name and image, by means of digital or film photography, video photography, audio recording or other documentation, with respect to the activity, namely

_____ ("Activity"), of Camp.

- 2. Use of any stored data including my name and image in printed publications of Camp.
- 3. Use of any stored data including my name and image in electronic publications of Camp.
- 4. Use of any stored data including my name and image in any Web site created by or for Camp for its sole benefit.
- 5. If I am signing this agreement on behalf of a minor child, I hereby warrant that I am the legal parent or guardian of the child and that I have the legal authority to sign this agreement on behalf of the child.
- 6. If a dispute over this agreement or any claim for damages arises, I agree to resolve the matter through a mutually acceptable alternative dispute resolution process. If I cannot agree with Camp upon such a process, the dispute will be submitted to a three-member arbitration panel for resolution in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association for final resolution.

Full name of person in photo (please print):

Address:			
City:	State:	ZIP:	
Signature:		Date:	
Parent's or guardian's signature:		Date:	
Parent's name (please print):			