



Pulaski County Parks and Recreation

2020 Jr. Cougar Day Camp

Weekly Sessions: June 1st through August 14th

Boys and Girls

Current 6th and 7th graders

IMPORTANT CHANGES DUE TO CURRENT STATE OF EMERGENCY: We are planning to open camp as usual, however, this will be affected by the Country and State level states of emergency. **If we are still under any kind of social distancing or quarantine due to the spread of coronavirus, we cannot run camp.** If the states of emergency run past June 1, we will open camp as soon as we are cleared to do so. **Due to this uncertainty, we will not be requiring registration fees for camp this year.**

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible for entry, campers must have been enrolled in **6th and 7th grade during the current school year (2019 - 2020)**; entering 7th or 8th grade in the fall.

CAMP DURATION: Junior Cougar Camp will begin Monday June 1st and occur Monday through Friday for a total of 11 weekly sessions ending on Friday, August 14th. There will be no camp session June 29th through July 3rd. Structured camp time runs from 8:45am to 4:00pm; however, unstructured early drop off and late pick-up runs from 7:30 am until 5:30pm.

CAMP COST: Full-time attendance is \$100 weekly regardless of attendance; this cost includes all fieldtrips. **There is no partial or part-time Junior Cougar Camp rate.**

REGISTRATION TIME FRAME: Camp registration runs on a first come first serve basis and runs through May 15th. Jr. Cougar camp is limited to 20 participants per weekly session. **Your application holds your spot for only the weeks that you sign up for.** Once enrollment is full for any week, applicants will be placed on a wait-list at the discretion of the Camp Director until openings are identified.

REGISTRATION METHODS: Parents may register online or via the paper registration. When you email for the registration, you will be sent the application packet as well as a link for the online registration. Either registration method will be accepted. Please note, if you have a balance from a previous summer, your registration will not be processed until your account is brought current.

DEPOSIT FEE: Due to the current health crisis, we are waiving the registration fee for all applications.

REGISTRATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY: The application and forms included in this packet of camp information must be thoroughly read and completed by the parents/guardians prior to camp entry. Proper documentation and paperwork concerning youth enrolled in camp will be accessible to each staff member but will be kept confidential.

Jr. Cougar Camp General Information *(Keep for your records)*

Camp registration is limited and is on a first come first served basis.

Deadline for returning forms is May 15th.

Jr. Cougar camp is limited to 20 campers per session.

Any forms returned after May 15th will be wait-listed until openings are confirmed by the Camp Director.

Pulaski County does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, disability, national or ethnic origin.

- 1) **Camp times:** Structured camp time runs from 8:45am to 4:00pm; however, unstructured early drop off and late pick-up runs from 7:30 am until 5:30pm. Drop-off and pick-up will take place at the Randolph Park large shelter. Due to transportation leaving for daily activities, campers must be checked in prior to 9am; however, kids may not be dropped off before 7:30am; sorry, no exceptions!

- 2) **Drop off and pick up:** To ensure child safety, **parents must physically come to sign in and out for their child each day (NO EXCEPTIONS)**. Parents may not drop off kids without signing in. Staff members are very mindful that camp activities occur outdoors and they diligently watch other park patrons and notify proper personnel of any suspicious individuals or activity. Parents must be aware that we do not allow anyone checking kids out of camp that have not been authorized in writing or verbally by the proper parent in charge.
 - Parents and other adults picking children up are required to present picture identification until camp staff become familiar with adults. Please note that this is a requirement for the safety of all campers, **we encourage all adults to bring picture identification every day during pick-up.**
 - Any children checked in after transportation has left will remain back with the lower camp (group 6). If a pattern of this behavior is established, the child will be removed from the Jr Cougar camp.
 - There will be a \$1.00 per minute additional fee charged for children picked up after 5:35pm (a five minute grace is given).

- 3) **Fee Structure:** Junior Cougar Camp costs are \$100 per week. Due to limited space, we ask for two week notice of cancellation of any session registered for; if notice is not given, you may be charged for attendance at the discretion of the Summer Camp Director.
 - **There is no pro-rated tuition for Junior Cougar Camp if you choose to attend on a part-time basis, nor are there scholarships for Junior Cougar Camp**
All checks are made payable to **“COUNTY OF PULASKI”**.

***NOTE:** The County of Pulaski does not provide year-end report forms to parents regarding camp payments for tax purposes. It is the responsibility of the parents to keep weekly receipts given by camp staff for tax credit. However, a tax identification number will be given by staff during the last week of camp.*

- 4) **Invoices will be sent out weekly on Fridays and payment is expected in full on the following Monday or the next day of attendance.** If payment is not received by the following Friday, the child will be suspended from camp until the account is brought current.

- 5) **STAFF:** All summer camp staff are properly screened, trained, and approved for work with children. Junior Cougar staff members are trained in CPR, first aid, and lifeguard procedures. Staff members work under the direct supervision of the Summer Camp Director.

- 6) **What to bring to camp:** All activities take place outside so please dress campers appropriately. Come dressed for mess and outdoor activity!
- **Appropriate attire includes:** shorts, t-shirt, tennis shoes, and hat or any other articles of clothing deemed necessary for activities taking place during field trips. Parents will be advised of special clothing needs on the activity calendar; if a child is not dressed appropriately for the planned field trip, they may be required to remain back with the lower camp (group 6). A swimsuit and towel will be needed on days planned for water-based activities.
 - **All campers should also bring:** sunscreen and a refillable water bottle for use while on activity trips. Note: Sunburn is a major concern. Our staff will remind campers to reapply sunscreen throughout the course of the day. **It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to provide sunscreen** and help monitor skin irritations or potential burning. Parents must sign “sunscreen application permission form” for staff to apply sunscreen.
 - Campers may bring a cell phone to communicate with parents, however, these will be stowed in a camp backpack during activities in order to prevent damage or loss.
- 7) **What NOT to bring to camp:** valuables, I-pods or pads, CD players, radios, or any electronic hand-held games. Other items not listed that are determined by staff to be a nuisance will be required to be left at home.
- 8) **Lunches and Snacks:** Jr. Cougar campers will be traveling away from Randolph Park on a day-to-day basis for camp; therefore **campers will be required to bring their own lunches**. Campers may bring a cooler with ice pack for drinks and lunch. We do not refrigerate nor heat foods. Morning and afternoon snacks will be provided prior to leaving and after returning from activities. **We ask that campers bring a refillable water bottle with their name clearly printed on it in order to keep fluids with them during activities.**
- 9) **Camp format:** Jr. Cougar campers will travel as one group of 20 campers with 2 staff counselors and will be supervised by the Summer Camp Director. A typical camp day will consist of free-play activities during check-in from 7:30 – 8:30am; morning snack/meeting and then leaving for activities by 9am. Campers will return to Randolph Park by 4pm and will receive afternoon snack prior to participating in free-play activities during check-out. All activities will be supervised by designated supervisor and staff.
- 10) **Jr. Cougar Camp Activities:** Activities may include but are not limited to:
- Hiking, Canoeing, Kayaking, Fishing, and Tubing
 - *(Claytor Lake, New River, Gatewood, New River Trail, Cascades, etc.)*
 - Campers will also participate in at least one activity that directly benefits the local community.
 - Educational activities such as visiting local historic places, colleges, places of business
 - Periodic volunteer assistance with the Randolph Park summer day camp

An activity calendar will be provided to registered campers and parents prior to the first day of camp.

- 11) Inclement Weather & Emergency Shelter Facility:** Typical inclement weather of concern during camp months consists of general or heavy rains, thunder, and lightning. During immediate emergency weather requiring indoor shelter, campers are moved to the inside of the pool house facility to wait out the storm. Lengthy or forecasted bad weather will require the camp to convene indoors at Central Youth Center located at 143 Third Street in Pulaski or Old Riverlawn Elementary School in Fairlawn. These are our only county owned facilities capable of housing our camp participants. Parents will be notified in advance or when campers are bused to this facility via Remind (mass text), email, and by Facebook post. Parents will be notified if a child needs to be picked up at Central or ORES or back at Randolph Park. We will provide bus transportation to Central Gym around 9:00am that day and return around 3:30 or kids can be picked up at the specified facility if weather does not permit returning to Randolph Park.
- 12) Medication, Illness and Injury:** It is our camp policy **not** to administer any medication unless it is considered necessary and vital to a child's health. If so, an authorization to give medication form will be signed by the parent stating such authority and type of medication. We are equipped with first aid kits to handle minor injuries. If there is any question that the injury is more serious (not life threatening), we will call parent to seek advice on how to proceed. Of course, serious injuries will prompt immediate Emergency Medical Response (911) and immediate notification of parent(s). Please be respectful of others and remember that camp is not a place for sick children. Keep sick children away from camp until symptoms are back to normal. If a child misses camp due to being sick, the parent must notify staff of illness. If sickness is deemed contagious, parents must tell staff so precautionary measures can be taken with other youth to avoid potential outbreak.
- 13) Contact Information:** Feel free to email us at RandolphParkSummerCamp@gmail.com. Parents may call the Pool Front Desk at 674-1513 and ask to speak with the Summer Camp Director. Parents can also text the Summer Camp Director using the Remind App once they have signed up. Parents may come to camp at any time but must notify staff of arrival.
- 14) Communication:** Summer camp staff will utilize multiple avenues of communication with camp parents and children this year. We will be actively using a mass text system for those who choose to sign up, a Facebook group page, and email in order to communicate camp updates and information. **Camp staff are advised not to communicate via Facebook Messenger or give out their personal cell phone number to parents for camp communication.**
- The Facebook group page can be found at facebook.com/groups/RPsummercamp or by searching Randolph Park Summer Camp.
 - You can sign up for text messages by texting @jrcougar20 to 81010. If you signed up for this last year, you do not have to sign-up again this year.
 - The Summer Camp Director can be reached via email at RandolphParkSummerCamp@gmail.com. Due to the invoicing system, all applications will be required to have a valid email address prior to completing camp registration. This email will be used to communicate important information, possible changes to the camp day, and weekly invoices.
- 15) Camp headquarters:** The camp headquarters will be at the large picnic shelter (with the stone fireplace) above the pool. Any changes to where pick up or drop off will be conducted will be communicated via email, text, and posted on the FaceBook group.

2020 Jr. Cougar Camp Discipline Policy (Turn In)

*If you have more than one child registering, you must fill out a separate form for each child
Parent(s) or Guardian(s) please read carefully and sign:*

The Pulaski County Recreation Department is devoted to helping youth develop positive character traits. We will convey to you some of the rules and give clear definitions of acceptable and unacceptable behavior listed below. Effective discipline permits a child to learn appropriate behavior through consequences that result from inappropriate action. Jr. Cougar Camp will have high expectations due to the extent of travel and activities within the community. If behavior becomes an issue, the child's parent will be contacted immediately to advise of the behaviors and situation; the staff and parent will meet with the camper to review behavioral expectations. **The Pulaski County Parks and Recreation Department staff reserves the right to suspend and/or dismiss a child from the summer camp program if they participate in repeated negative interactions after redirection, participate in behavior that could be distracting during transportation, or participate in any behavior that could risk injury to other campers or staff.**

Pulaski County Recreation does not condone:

- Using any sort of corporal punishment
- Making fun of, threatening or yelling at children, bullying , or using profanity or socially offensive language
- Leaving children unattended

Participants of Jr. Cougar Camp are not permitted to:

- Physical or verbal altercations or fighting or bullying
- Using profanity or socially offensive language
- Being rude or discourteous to staff
- Stealing or defacing property belonging to other camp members or Randolph Park
- Bringing any form of weapon or illegal substances to camp

I have discussed this policy with my child participating in the program.

My child understands, agrees and will abide by these rules and adhere to the authority of the staff in charge.

Medication Authorization

We do NOT administer prescription medication to any camp participant unless it is deemed absolutely necessary to the youth's health and has been pre-approved by the Director with parental permission.

If your child needs prescription medication to be administered while at camp, please contact the Camp Director for the Medication Authorization Form which must be completed and returned with the camp application.