



2026 Family Handbook

Winter Harry & Rose Samson Family JCC · 6255 N. Santa Monica Blvd. · Milwaukee, WI 53217 · 414-967-8240 · Fax 414-377-3339
Summer 7050 Old Highway 70 · Eagle River, WI 54521 · 715-479-8030 · Fax 715-479-8527 · info@campinterlaken.org · www.campinterlaken.org
Executive Director Toni Davison Levenberg · **Chair** Dr. CJ Wagner · **President & CEO** Mark Shapiro



Dear Camp Interlaken Family,

Welcome to the 2026 season at the Steve & Shari Sadek Family Camp Interlaken JCC! Whether your camper is brand new to our community or has been counting down the days since last summer, we are thrilled to be part of their journey. This handbook is your guide to everything you need to feel confident and excited about the upcoming summer.

At Camp Interlaken, we believe in creating ***Kehillah B'Yar*** — a sacred and joyful “community in the woods.” Each summer, campers and staff build friendships that last a lifetime, grow into confident leaders, and experience the magic of living Jewish values every day. Through song sessions, Shabbat celebrations, cabin time, and even during nikayon (daily cleanup!), we nurture a culture rooted in **respect, kindness, inclusion, and belonging.**

As you read through this handbook, you'll find important logistics, packing lists, and policies — but more than that, we hope you feel the love and intentionality we bring to camp. We are your partners in preparing your camper for an incredible experience, and we're here to support you every step of the way.

Let's make 2026 a summer full of laughter, growth, and lifelong memories. Thank you for trusting us with your camper.

B'Shalom, Toni Davison Levenberg (Executive Director and proud Camp Interlaken parent!)

Toni

MISSION & VISION

Mission

Camp Interlaken JCC offers an incomparable Jewish summer experience for campers and staff located in Wisconsin's north woods. Camp fosters enduring relationships, a love of Jewish community and a connection to Israel while promoting individual growth, learning and fun.

Vision

Camp Interlaken shines with *ruach* everywhere as campers and staff enjoy a broad range of activities steeped in tradition. The camp has well-maintained buildings and new energy-efficient structures surrounded by the natural beauty of the Wisconsin north woods. Campers from diverse backgrounds and geographic regions fill the camp to capacity.

Camp Interlaken is known for providing a nurturing environment where special attention is given to individual needs, building self-confidence and modeling Jewish community leadership through solid programming. Active alumni stay connected to camp and rally with the community to financially support camp enabling scholarships for Jewish children who are in need and allowing for recruitment, training and retention of high quality staff.

IMPORTANT DATES

All Forms Due	Fri. May 15
Session 1	Tues., June 16 – Sun., July 12
Mini Session 1	Tues., June 16 – Tues., June 30
Session 2	Wed., July 15 – Mon., Aug 10
Mini Session 2	Wed., July 15 – Wed., July 29
Ozrim	Tues., June 16– Mon., Aug 10
Family Camp	Tue., Aug 11– Sun., Aug 16

Payment in full is due by April 1. If you have applied for a payment plan option, full payment is due by June 1. Payment arrangements can be made by calling Michelle Wexler, Accounting Staff at (414) 967-8107 or mwexler@jccmilwaukee.org



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OUR PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Toni Davison Levenberg **Executive Director**



Toni joined the Interlaken team in January 2006. Originally from Philadelphia, PA, she has actively been involved in camping and informal Jewish education since she was a camper at JCC Camp Arthur-Reeta. Toni has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Florida and a Master of Arts in Jewish Professional Studies from the the Spertus Institute of Jewish Learning and Leadership. Prior to working at Camp Interlaken, Toni was the Assistant Director of House in the Wood Camp serving inner-city Chicago children, the Sales & Operations Manager of Camp CHI's Perlstein Resort & Conference Center, and a Software Engineer with two technology consulting firms. Toni lives in Milwaukee, with her husband Jonah and her children Jaron and Nava. Toni is looking forward to her 21st summer at Camp Interlaken.

Ari Domnitz **Director**



Ari brings a lifelong love of Jewish community and camp to his role as Director of Camp Interlaken. Originally from Milwaukee, Ari has deep roots in the Milwaukee Jewish community. Ari spent 10 summers at Camp Interlaken as a camper and OZO, where Camp became a meaningful part of his Jewish journey and helped shape his leadership style, lifelong friendships, and love of community. Prior to working at Camp Interlaken, Ari built a successful career in the hospitality industry, with experience in marketing, event planning, catering, multi-unit management, brand development, team building, and leadership development. Ari has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Emerson College. Ari lives in Milwaukee with his wife, Angela (Angie), and is the proud father of Jakob, a student at the University of Nebraska and returning Camp Interlaken counselor, and Lucy, a sophomore at Nicolet High School. Ari is looking forward to his first summer as Director of Camp Interlaken.

Tova Blasberg **Assistant Director**



This is Tova's 8th summer as a part of the year round team and her 23rd summer at Camp. Tova spent 16 summers at Camp Interlaken as a camper, counselor, ozo, unit leader for almost every unit in Camp, and Mama Ozo in the summer of 2015. Tova received a Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism with minors in Leadership and Non-Profit Management from the University of Florida (Go Gators). Before that, Tova spent a year in Israel and worked for Disney as a Disney College Program participant for one year full-time and two more years seasonally. Before moving back to Milwaukee, Tova spent 3 years as the Summer Camp and After School Director at Sun Country Sports Center in Gainesville, Florida.

Holly White **Administrative Director**



Holly joined the Interlaken team in October 2021 as the Camping Services Coordinator. Holly attended Camp as a camper and part of the ozrim program, and has worked at Interlaken as a counselor and leadership team member for many years. After graduating from the University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire with degrees in Organizational Communication and Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Holly moved to Maryland where she worked in the international residential life program at Sandy Spring Friends School for three academic years. She is the first person you talk to about all things transportation and office administration throughout the year. You can expect to see Holly around the Milwaukee JCC, bus and flight arrivals, as well as around the machaneh during the summer months.

Michelle Lafferty **Social Worker**



Michelle has been a part of the Interlaken family since 2004 and has been involved in Jewish camping since she was a camper at an overnight camp in Dingmans Ferry, PA. Michelle received her MSW from California State University- Long Beach and is a licensed clinical social worker. Michelle has practiced clinical social work in various positions from LA County Probation to Director of a residential facility in Miami, FL. Michelle has been involved with the JCC since she moved to Milwaukee in 2000. First, as a mom with a 3 year old looking for a place to connect with other moms and their children, then as a JCC room parent/volunteer, to working as Interfaith Outreach Coordinator, Family and Children Administrator and Camp Social Worker. Michelle currently provides training and technical assistance to the Gan Ami Preschool on promoting social and emotional competence in young children.



How To CONTACT US

Winter – until June 1st

Harry & Rose Samson Family
Jewish Community Center
6255 N. Santa Monica Blvd.
Milwaukee, WI 53217
(414) 967-8240
(414) 377-3339 fax

Summer – Starting June 1st

Steve & Shari Sadek Family
Camp Interlaken JCC
7050 Old Highway 70
Eagle River, WI 54521
(414) 967-8240
(414) 377-3339 fax

Executive Director

Toni Davison Levenberg

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Director

Ari Domnitz

adomnitz@jccmilwaukee.org

Assistant Director

Tova Blasberg

tblasberg@jccmilwaukee.org

Administrative Director

Holly White

hwhite@jccmilwaukee.org

Social Worker

Michelle Lafferty

mlafferty@jccmilwaukee.org



AMERICAN CAMP ASSOCIATION ACCREDITED

ACA Accreditation means that Camp Interlaken JCC cares enough to undergo a thorough (up to 500 standards) review of its operation — from staff qualifications and training to emergency management. American Camp Association collaborates with experts from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Red Cross, and other youth-serving agencies to ensure that current practices at your child's camp reflect the most up-to-date, research-based standards in camp operation. Camps and ACA form a partnership that promotes growth and fun in an environment committed to safety.

ACA helps Camp Interlaken JCC provide:

- Healthy, developmentally-appropriate activities and learning experiences
- Discovery through experiential education
- Caring, competent role models
- Service to the community and the environment
- Opportunities for leadership and personal growth



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CAMP FORMS



We are happy to offer forms online and on the Campanian App. To access your camper's forms, please log in to your camper's secure account here: <https://interlaken.campintouch.com>. This brings you to your campers' dashboard. Please call Holly White with questions at 414-967-8240. The data you provide gives us necessary information to best serve your child. Each form is reviewed by the appropriate staff with concerns for that area of your child's care. All information is kept confidential and is seen only on a need to know basis. **Most forms are due May 1st. All forms are due on May 15th! Late form submissions will result in a \$100 processing fee.**

Follow these simple steps to use the Campanian App:

- Download the Campanian App here: [Android](#) or [Apple](#)
- Use your CampInTouch Account email address and password to log in (if you need help getting into your account please respond to this message)
- Opt-in to facial recognition software by uploading a training photo of your child. This enables the app to send you photos of your camper over the summer – the app will walk you through it! Even if you used facial recognition last year you will need to upload a new photo.
- Ensure you have push notifications enabled within your phone settings so you can receive important updates from camp all year long!

VISITING CAMP

Visitors are limited and are only permitted per director's approval. Family is not permitted to visit their campers during camper sessions.

A TYPICAL DAY AT CAMP INTERLAKEN

7:00am	Rise & Shine
7:30am	Boker Tov! (Good Morning!)
7:50am	Toranim (Table Setters)
8:00am	Hanafat Hadege! (Flag Raising)
8:10am	Aruchat Boker (Breakfast)
9:00am	Nikayon (Cleanup)
9:30am	Chug Aleph (1 st Activity)
10:30am	Chug Bet (2 nd Activity)
11:30am	Chug Gimmel (3 rd Activity)
12:30pm	Aruchat Tzohoryim (Lunch)

1:30pm	Menucha (Rest Hour)
2:30pm	Chug Daled (4 th Activity)
3:30pm	Chug Hay (5 th Activity)
4:30pm	Nosh & Chofesh
5:30pm	Personal Nikayon (Showers)
6:00pm	Horadat Hadege! (Flag Lowering)
6:30pm	Aruchat Erev (Dinner)
7:30pm	Peulat Erev (Evening Program)
9:00pm	Rod Hayom
9:30pm	Laila Tov (Good night)

This schedule is an example of Camp Interlaken's daily schedule. Friday's schedule is different as we prepare for Shabbat. All activities take place in the morning, and Shabbat preparation (cabin, camp, and personal *nikayon*) is in the afternoon. Saturday (Shabbat) has a more open and relaxed activity schedule that includes *Tefillah* (Services), *Sichot* (discussion groups), and open activities. Shabbat ends Saturday evening with *Havdalah* services.

The following pages cover Camp's policies regarding several topics; Internet, Code of Conduct, Inclusion, Bullying, and Physical Relationships.



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Please review these policies with your camper as failure to comply may result in dismissal from Camp per the discretion of the Camp Director team.

SOCIAL MEDIA & DIGITAL CONDUCT

Campers are expected to uphold our values before, during, and after camp — including online. Campers may not use social media or digital platforms to:

- Exclude, mock, or bully others
- Share inappropriate content
- Damage the reputation or safety of others or the camp community

Behavior online may lead to in-camp consequences at the discretion of the Camp Director

CODE OF CONDUCT

All standards of behavior at Camp Interlaken are grounded in Jewish values designed to create an “envelope of safety” within which children and teens can grow and have fun in a relaxed, non-threatening environment. Our goal is to create a *kehillah b'yar*, a Community in the Woods. We want campers to be part of a *chevra*, a group of friends who live in a vibrant community that operates according to Jewish values. Campers who do not follow the rules set in the Code of Conduct may be sent home early from Camp per the camp director's discretion. No refund shall be given if a camper is asked to leave Camp early due to behavior at their family's expense.

B'TZELEM ELOHIM

צלם אלוהים

We are all created *B'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of G-d. We, therefore, deserve to be cared for as a precious and holy beings. We are all fundamentally equal in value and rights. We each have a responsibility to conduct our lives in a manner that reflects well on our Creator. Therefore at Camp:

- No member of the camp community is permitted to possess or use cigarettes, e-cigarettes, tobacco, vapes of any type, alcohol, or illicit/illegal drugs on camp property in any situation. Campers will be sent home from Camp for smoking, vaping, drinking, or possession.
- We take care of our physical selves, including showering regularly and practicing good personal hygiene.
- Before acting, we check to make sure that we respect the feelings, safety, and personal integrity of others and ourselves.
- We don't participate in unsupervised raiding or late-night pranks out of the cabin without a counselor.
- We dress and behave with modesty and decorum, avoiding clothing that is revealing or exhibits slogans promoting drug use or other inappropriate behavior.
- We do not engage in either ear or body piercing or tattooing. We do not shave heads or otherwise alter the appearance of ourselves, other campers, or staff.

TIKKUN OLAM

תקון עולם

Repair of the world is central to Jewish teaching. We are in this world as partners with G-d. Our responsibility in the partnership is to take care of the world and fix those things that we find in disrepair. Therefore at Camp:

- We recognize our obligation to do *tzedakah*, to do the righteous thing.
- We protect and enhance the environment by being *shomrei adamah*, guardians of the earth, and observing the principle of *bal taschit*, a prohibition against waste or destruction. We recognize that everyone is responsible for taking care of the physical facilities and the natural environment at Camp.

KEHILLAH

קהילה

Creating a Jewish community is the way in which Judaism is lived. Therefore, it is central to Camp. Our theme is *Kehillah B'yar*, Community in the Woods. Not even Moses Rabbenu could bear the weight of all communal responsibilities, and so we recognize that we all have to do our part to make the Camp community work. Therefore, we follow the Talmudic principle, *Al Tifrosh Min Hatzibur*: You shall not separate yourself from the community. As a community we:

- Respect the Bullying Policy set forth by Camp (see page 10)
- Abide by the parameters set forth in the acronym “CHAKWACO” (see page 11)
- Include others in our group.
- Respect other people's property.
- Respect Camp's daily schedule and arrive on time for all programs, activities, and meals.
- Avoid pranks that might be harmful to any individual's feelings or property.



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- Observe the Jewish value of *lashon hara*, the principle that says we are not to gossip or spread malicious slander about each other.
- Avoid engaging in physical violence of any kind with campers or staff.

ALL ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ONE ANOTHER

כל ישראל אחראים זה לזה

We have a special relationship with *Eretz Yisrael*, the land of Israel, and with *Am Yisrael*, the people of Israel, Jewish people everywhere. Jewish law, tradition, lore, and behavior throughout the ages and across the continents have emphasized the centrality of the Land of Israel and the Covenant between G-d and the people of Israel, as well as the responsibility of the House of Israel for each other's welfare, *Kol Yisrael Aravim Zeh L'zeh*. Therefore:

- We observe the laws of *kashrut* so that all members of our community will be comfortable. No food can come into the Camp other than under the supervision of our *mashgiach*.
- We participate in the celebration of Shabbat.
- We let Jewish laws and values guide our actions.

ONE BIG CIRCLE: EVERYBODY IN IT

Camp Interlaken is proud of our open, supportive, and inclusive environment. We are committed to building a vibrant community rooted in Jewish values and bringing the transformative power of Jewish summer camp to every child and family that comes through our gates.

We are firmly committed to promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, racial justice, anti-racism, and belonging. We take a firm stance against racism, sexism, and all acts of discrimination. We know the importance of speaking out and not standing by when we see injustice. We say "Never Again" so that we never forget the horror that the Jewish people have faced; we extend that same promise to all who struggle to gain respect, empathy, and understanding. Our Jewish values inspire us to stand up against persecution in all forms, and we are moved to act in support of our entire camp community - campers, their families, and camp staff - to ensure Camp is a safe space. At Camp, all campers, staff, and families have the right to feel a sense of belonging, safety, and love.

Camp Interlaken promises to spend our summers helping children grow, make memories, and build lifelong friendships. We believe that change begins through education, being a part of a community where these values are passed down from generation to generation, *l'dor v'dor*, with an everlasting goal of creating a more just and equitable community and society.

Camp is a place of wonder, exploring, newfound friendships, and gaining independence and confidence. We are a community of kindness and inclusion; we want everyone to feel safe and know that they belong at Camp. This includes campers and staff from groups who have historically faced oppression and trauma: Black people, Indigenous people, LGBTQIA+ individuals, people with neurodiversity, and all others.

Children are our future, and Camp has a part in shaping the lives of our future leaders. We believe that committing to a stance of anti-racism, anti-discrimination, and acceptance will send a ripple effect from each camper back to their homes where they will help their communities develop a greater sense of purpose, identity, and human responsibility.

We welcome children and adults to engage in the process of learning. As a community, we remain committed to educating ourselves, empathizing with people whose circumstances and identities are different from our own, and doing better to improve the lives of all. We hope to help facilitate courageous conversations that raise up the values of our community and denounce all forms of discrimination at Camp and beyond. Camp Interlaken is a uniquely transformative opportunity for young people to take risks and grow, and our job at Camp Interlaken is to nurture that growth.

Any camper or staff member who engages in bullying, harassment, racism, or exclusion based on identity may be sent home at the discretion of the Camp Director. We partner with families to foster learning and uphold our core values of *b'tzelem elohim* and *kehillah*.





GENDER INCLUSION PRACTICES & POLICIES

The Steve & Shari Sadek Family Camp Interlaken JCC is firmly committed to promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. Our Jewish values of *Kehillah* (community), *B'tselem Elohim* (we are all created in God's image), and *Tikkun Olam* (repairing the world) inspire us to act in support of our entire community - campers, families, alumni, and staff - to ensure Camp is always a safe place.

We are proud of the open, supportive, and inclusive environment we have built together. We are collectively committed to building a vibrant community rooted in Jewish values and bringing the transformative power of Jewish summer camp to every person that comes through our gates. Camp Interlaken welcomes all members of the community; we support gender-diverse, gender-fluid, transgender, and non-binary campers and staff at Camp.

In support of our commitment to transparency and respect, we are affirming our practices and policies regarding gender inclusion. We recognize that gender exists along a spectrum and may change at any point in an individual's development. To support our transgender and gender expansive community, Camp Interlaken acknowledges that each participant's needs are unique and should be treated individually, in consultation with the participant.

We understand these policies may be new to some families, and we encourage everyone to have a conversation with their camper(s) prior to Camp. Included in this policy are resources available to use in support of family dialogue. During the summer, our camper care team will be available to answer questions campers or staff may have and will communicate with families when necessary. We are grateful for the partnership with our Camp Interlaken families in helping our Camp be a safe and inclusive place for our entire *kehillah*.

Registration & Intake

The CampMinder registration system allows for many gender options in the registration form. There will be another opportunity later in the forms process to share more about a campers' gender and request a conversation with Camp. A detailed intake meeting will be scheduled for any participant that indicates that their gender identity differs from their sex assigned at birth as noted in the forms filled out by parents and campers.

Confidentiality

Camp Interlaken ensures the confidential status of a camper, participant, or staff member's gender status in accordance with applicable state, local, and federal privacy laws.

All campers and staff have the right to discuss and express their gender identity and expression openly and to decide when, with whom, and how much to share private information. The fact that a camper or staff chooses to use a different name, to transition at Camp, or to disclose their gender status to staff or other campers does not authorize Camp Interlaken to disclose this information with their parent or guardian. When contacting the parent or guardian of a camper, Camp Interlaken will use the camper's legal name and the pronoun corresponding to the camper's sex assigned at birth unless the camper, parent, or guardian has specified otherwise.

Camp Interlaken will not disclose any information that may reveal a camper or staff member's gender status to others, including other campers, families, and staff, unless legally required to do so or the camper or staff has given permission. In any scenario where Camp Interlaken is legally required to disclose a camper or staff member's gender status, Camp Interlaken will provide the camper or staff an opportunity to make that disclosure themselves first.



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Housing

Our cabins are separated by gender and grade level. In focusing on supporting each participant's overall development and well-being, cabin assignments may be made by gender identity instead of sex assigned at birth. For campers to request housing by gender identity, this request must be made by the camper and a parent or guardian before staff orientation begins at the beginning of June. Housing changes cannot be made once Camp is in session. We will work with gender fluid and non-binary participants and their families before Camp to help them identify and agree to the appropriate housing assignment.

Facilities

Each cabin has a movable private changing area that campers can choose to use.

Camp Interlaken's washhouses are assigned by gender. Campers are welcome to use the washhouse of the gender they identify. Washhouses have private, locking bathroom stalls and private, individual showers that close with a curtain. New, in the summer of 2022, we constructed 4 private, centrally located, all-gender bathrooms (each with a toilet, sink and shower). These bathrooms can be used by anyone who would like additional privacy.

Additionally, private, all-gender bathrooms are available in the office, pool, *K'far Noar* (Teen Village), and health center.

Pronouns & Names

Every camper and staff member has the right to be addressed by a name and pronouns that correspond to their gender identity. Regardless of whether a camper or staff member has legally changed their name or gender (or undergone any surgical or hormonal transitions), Camp Interlaken will allow such campers and staff members to use a chosen name and gender pronouns that reflect their identity. Camp Interlaken will ask in the camp forms how the camper prefers to be addressed, and Camp staff will ask campers privately how they would like to be addressed. Staff are asked for their pronouns and are provided an opportunity to include them on staff identification (name tags, etc.).

Some campers may feel most comfortable being addressed by gender-neutral pronouns such as "they" or just referred to by their name (without pronouns). We recognize that our returning campers may come to camp with a different name, pronouns, or gender than the summer prior. In that case, Camp will direct all staff to use the person's chosen name and appropriate pronouns. Camp Interlaken will act to the best of our ability to educate campers and staff members to avoid "dead naming" (call someone by their birth name when they have changed their name as part of their gender transition).

De-Gendering Places & Traditions

Leading up to the summer of 2021, the T.O.V. (Tikkun Olam Volunteer) Committee addressed inclusion initiatives at Camp. These discoveries included removing gendered language from places in Camp. We continue to explore how gender might show up in camp programs and traditions and might unintentionally create a feeling of exclusion. With that lens, we have made programmatic revisions over the last few years to reflect our commitment to being an inclusive camp. Camp will continue to monitor and adjust programmatic areas to assure maximum inclusion.

Resources

[American Camp Association](#) * [Valdes Conflation Triangle](#) * [My Pronouns](#) * [Gender Spectrum](#) * [Keshet Resources](#)
[Schools in Transition](#)



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BULLYING

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated or has the potential to be repeated over time. Both people who are bullied and who bully others may have serious, lasting problems.

In order to be considered bullying, the behavior must be aggressive and include:

- An Imbalance of Power: People who bully use their power to control or harm others, such as physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity. Power imbalances can change over time and in different situations, even if they involve the same people.
- Repetition: Bullying behaviors happen more than once or have the potential to happen more than once.

There are three types of bullying: verbal, physical, and social. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose. Bullying can also occur online: through emails, text messages, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, instant messaging, and more. This type of bullying can also lead to people being hurt between the camp seasons.

At Camp Interlaken, bullying and harassment are inexcusable, and we stand firmly against all types of bullying. Our Camp philosophy is to ensure that every camper learns the value of cooperative living, gains a sense of Jewish identity, spirit, and pride, experiences the thrill of mastering new skills, and finds the fulfillment of attaining individual goals. We work together as a team to help campers enhance their social skills, gain self-confidence, make new friends, feel safe, and go home with great memories.

Unfortunately, victims of bullying may not have the same potential to get the most out of their camp experience. Our leadership addresses all incidents of bullying and trains staff to promote communication with campers so both staff and campers will be comfortable alerting us to any problems during their camp experience and between summers. Every person (campers, staff, and *ozrim*) has the right to have the best possible experience at Camp. By working together as a team to identify and manage bullying, we can help ensure that all campers, staff, and *ozrim* have a great summer at Camp Interlaken.

Camp Interlaken uses this chart to help define unwanted camper behavior:

QUALIFIERS	CONFLICT	RUDE	MEAN	BULLYING
Frequency	Occasional	Occasional	Once or Twice	Frequent; repeated
Intent	Not planned; in the heat of the moment	Spontaneous; unintentional	Intentional	Planned; intentional
Who is hurt?	All parties are upset	Can cause hurt feelings; upset	Can hurt others deeply	The target of the bullying is upset
Cause	All parties want to work things out	Based in thoughtlessness, poor manners or narcissism	Based in anger; impulsive cruelty	The bully is trying to gain control over the target
Taking Responsibility	All parties will accept responsibility	Rude person accepts responsibility	Behavior is often regretted	The bully blames the target
Who wants resolution?	An effort is made by all parties to resolve the problem	--	--	The target wants to stop the bully's behavior, but the bully does not
Resolution	Can be resolved through mediation	Building social skills could be of benefit	Needs to be addressed; should NOT be ignored	CANNOT be resolved through mediation

We expect campers to commit to treating each other with respect (*kavod* - דבּוּכ) and eliminate bullying in our community. Failure to do so may result in discipline and/or being sent home from Camp at the discretion of the Camp Director. In the event that a camper is sent home, no refund will be given.



HOW CAMP INTERLAKEN HANDLES PHYSICAL RELATIONSHIPS

Our Philosophy

Camp Interlaken is a place for campers to grow, learn, explore their own capabilities, and create relationships with others. However, Camp Interlaken is not a place to be sexually active, regardless of what is done outside of Camp. We want campers to have a break from the sexual pressures they are exposed to through movies, school, TV, music, the internet, and advertisements. We give them a chance to be kids and teens in a way that is responsible but not prematurely adult. Most kids are relieved to be given this clear and enforceable limit. Teen campers (7th - 11th grades) will be told that the limit on their behavior is “consensual hugging and kissing outside with all clothes on,” which we call “CHAKOWACO.” Campers will understand that behaving in a way outside of “CHAKOWACO” may result in discipline and/or being sent home.

Relationships between campers

We teach all campers to respect each other in the way they talk to each other and how they talk about each other. In 7th grade, *Sha’ar* (8th & 9th grades) & *K’far Noar* (10th & 11th grades), campers are taught the “CHAKOWACO” limitation of behavior as explained above. We do not tolerate children harassing each other with sexual innuendo, put-downs, or unwanted come-ons. We want to promote caring and nurturing between individual campers while focusing on building the group.

We expect campers to commit to the boundaries set by the “CHAKOWACO” acronym. Failure to do so may result in discipline and/or being sent home from Camp at the discretion of the Camp Director. In the event that a camper is sent home, no refund will be given.

SECURITY AT CAMP INTERLAKEN

At Camp Interlaken, the safety and security of every camper and staff member is our highest priority. For the safety of our community, we do not publicly share the details of our security protocols. However, families can be assured that Camp Interlaken maintains a comprehensive security plan, which includes 24-hour on-site security presence.

Our security procedures are reviewed regularly, and our staff receive training in partnership with the Wisconsin Jewish Security Network and the Senior Director of Security at the JCC. We also maintain strong relationships with trusted security partners and local law enforcement, including Secure Community Network (SCN) and the Vilas County Sheriff’s Department. These partnerships help ensure that our policies, procedures, and trainings remain current, thoughtful, and aligned with best practices in the field.



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SUPPORT OF CAMP INTERLAKEN

Honoring Staff

It is a long-established policy of Camp Interlaken JCC and the American Camp Association to discourage tipping or gift-giving to individual staff members. If you wish to show your appreciation, we will accept donations to the Camp Scholarship Fund made in honor of a particular staff member. Additionally, you can donate to the Staff Recreation fund that helps plan fun social programs for the staff during their off time. All donations are greatly appreciated and benefit the total camp program. You can make a donation in the online forms that you're returning to Camp via the CampMinder registration database. The contribution to the Staff Recreation Fund will show on your statement as Staff Appreciation Fund.

Support of Camp and Camp Programs

Camp Interlaken JCC depends upon the generosity of families like yours. Please volunteer to help with camp projects during the year. We invite you to open your home and invite others to hear about Camp at an in-home info session with the Camp Staff. Do you have professional expertise you can bring to Camp as a doctor, nurse, psychologist, or social worker? Would you like to be an artist-in-residence at Camp? Could you provide funding for a special facility or program at Camp? All these forms of assistance are needed and greatly appreciated. Contact the Camp Director for more information.

We thank the generous families who support Camp and the future of Judaism with the following endowment funds:

*Elaine & William Appel • Camp Interlaken Music Program • Neiland & Amelia Vish Cohen • Ateret Cohn Scholar-in-Residence
Harry Dizack JCC Camp Interlaken Scholarship • Dorf Family Camp Interlaken Avodah • Karen Edelstein Memorial
Alan I. and Sanford J. Ettinger • Brenda Friedman Ulam and Theater Building • Friends of Camp Interlaken
Brittney Gigl Camper Assistance • Mildred Roth Goldberg • Linda Hay CIL Family Camp • Betty & Paul Jacobs K'far Noar
Eli & Helen Keller • Kennedy Barnett Family Camp Interlaken • Kids 4 Kids @ Camp JCC Scholarship
David Jonathon Kohl Camp Interlaken Scholarship • Steven Kupferman Camp Interlaken Scholarship
MacKenzie Wagan CIL Staff Scholarship • Alan & Rita Marcuvitz Family Camp Interlaken
Dr. Ronald & Fran Meyers Family Camp Interlaken Facility • Lorraine & Morry Mitz Family Interlaken Chadar Ochel
Cheryl & Mitch Moser Camp Interlaken • Phi Delta Epsilon • Plavnick Family Camp Interlaken • Anne Primakow
Horace J. & Idabelle Rosen Children's Camp Scholarship • Rubin Family Camp Interlaken Scholarship
"Bubbe" Jean Rubin Camp Interlaken Canteen • Steve & Shari Sadek Family Camp Interlaken JCC
Schuminsky Family Camp Interlaken JCC Scholarship • Jeffrey Sehler • Faye Greenberg Sigman Family Camp Interlaken Scholarship
Adam (AJ) Sobel Camp Interlaken Scholarship • Tracy Sweet Camp Interlaken JCC Scholarship • Wagan Family CIL Camper Scholarship
Dr. Alan z'I & Roz Wagner Family Camp Interlaken Medical Needs • Aaron & Gertrude Weiss Scholarship
Bob & Jean Zarne • James & Eve Joan Zucker*

To add your family name to this list and make a lasting gift to Camp Interlaken, please contact
Elyse Cohn, Chief Development Officer at (414) 967-8188 or ecohn@jccmilwaukee.org



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MEDICAL INFORMATION

Necessity of Medical Exam

The American Camp Association requires that all campers must be examined by a physician prior to attending Camp. **A complete physical is not needed if your child has had a medical exam within the past 24 months. However, your doctor will still need to complete the appropriate information (i.e., dates of immunizations), and both you and your doctor MUST sign the form.** The Medical Examination form requires a doctor's signature. Accuracy and completeness are essential for the health and safety of your child, as well as for others in Camp. You must return the form to your CampMinder account or the camp office in Milwaukee by May 1st or 10 days after registration if you sign up after May 1st. To properly prepare for the care and well-being of our campers, our medical staff must have time to review each camper's health record. It is imperative that we receive health forms from every camper. No camper will be allowed in Camp before our medical staff has reviewed their completed health form. *****It is not acceptable to send medical forms on the bus.*****

Camp Interlaken requires campers and staff to be vaccinated, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Please click here to view the immunization policy in full: <https://campinterlaken.org/immunization-policy/>

Because we want to ensure a positive experience for each camper, we ask you to document any information regarding your child's current treatment by a psychologist, psychiatrist, or caseworker on the parent questionnaire. The information should also be included in the online medical form. This information will be handled confidentially and shared only on a "need to know" basis.

Health Center

Camp Interlaken has a full-time Health Center staffed by licensed nurses and medical professionals who care for campers 24/7. Whether your camper needs a band-aid, help with a headache, or daily medication support, our team is here with care, compassion, and calm. We also partner with local medical facilities for emergencies or specialized treatment.

Parents will be notified if

1. Your camper visits a doctor or requires off-site care
2. Your camper stays overnight in the Health Center
3. Your camper needs a new prescription medication while at camp

Mental Health

Your camper's mental and emotional wellness is just as important as their physical health. Camp Interlaken has a dedicated **Camp Care Team**, including social workers and inclusion specialists, who help campers navigate homesickness, social dynamics, emotional regulation, and self-confidence.

We encourage families to share any important information on their **Confidential Camper Info form** so we can provide proactive support. If your camper is in therapy or takes medication for mental health, please include that in their forms. We approach all information with empathy, confidentiality, and care. We know how invaluable such information can be in assisting us to help make your child's adjustment to Camp as smooth as possible – something we all want. Knowing about a learning difficulty, ADHD, bedwetting problem, a recent loss or significant change in the family or child's life, etc., makes a tremendous difference in helping us to be sensitive to your child's needs. The form called the CCI form (Confidential Camper Information) allows you the space to share this information with us. You can also request a call with the Camp social worker to create a Camper Success Plan (CSP) for your camper. If campers would like to set up Zoom appointments with their therapist, contact Michelle Lafferty at mlafferty@jccmilwaukee.org to set up those meetings.

MEDICAL INFORMATION CONTINUED

Medications

Many campers take medications while they are at Camp. We've had families ask us if their campers who take medications for ADHD or focus during the school year should continue with these meds during the summer. Our recommendation is to keep the campers on the medications they are successful taking during the school year as a summer at Camp is also filled with the need to be controlled and structured. Campers succeed most at Camp when they stick with their school year routine. Our policy and procedure for dispensing and administering medication **requires** camp families to have all their child's medication issued, prepackaged and sent to Camp prior to arrival. This includes all pills taken daily, prescription and non-prescription) and vitamins. To assist in making this accessible to families Camp has taken on the cost of medication packaging. **If you send medications or vitamins that could be provided by Hayat Pharmacy, there will be a \$150 handling and distribution fee assessed by Camp Interlaken.**



Hayat Pharmacy provides a convenient service that dispenses, packages, and ships medications directly to us. This prepackaging program complies with state regulations regarding medication packaging for summer camps. [Click here for more information about how to order your medication from Hayat Pharmacy.](#)

Important Notes

All prescription and daily OTC meds must be sent to Hayat. Camp cannot accept medications at drop-off or the bus stop unless previously arranged with Holly.

Exceptions (do NOT go through Hayat)

The following medications should not be submitted through Hayat Pharmacy:

- Accutane
- Birth control pills
- Growth hormones
- Insulin and injections
- "As-needed" Lactaid
- Melatonin
- Nose Sprays
- Inhalers
- Epi-Pens

Over-the-Counter OTC Medications

- Camp stocks common OTC medications for as needed use (Tylenol, Zyrtec, etc.)
- If your camper takes ONLY a daily OTC medication, please contact us to talk about how to best manage their meds.
- Camp stocks 1mg, 3 mg, and 5 mg melatonin. Melatonin does not need to go through Hayat Pharmacy.

Emergency Medications

- Items like inhalers or EpiPens should be sent with your camper. These do not need to go through Hayat Pharmacy.

To Use Hayat:

1. Complete the Hayat Medication Form in CampMinder/Campanion.
2. Submit your camper's Health History form and ensure both match exactly.
3. Have your doctor send prescriptions to Hayat Pharmacy.

Deadlines:

- **Session 1:** May 25
- **Session 2:** June 22
(After these dates, Hayat will charge a rush fee of \$150.)
-

If your camper does not take daily medications, you do not need to register with Hayat.



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Glasses, Braces, Inhalers, etc...

If your camper wears glasses, we advise you to send a spare pair and a copy of the lens prescription. It is also advisable that a dental examination and any needed dental work be completed before Camp begins. If necessary, minor dental repair (i.e., loose wire on a brace) will be taken care of by a local health professional and charged to the parents. Additionally, if your child uses an inhaler, we recommend that you send two: one for your camper to keep and another for the health center.

What are the camp health and safety regulations?

We comply with all state sanitary codes and Vilas County Department of Health regulations governing a children's camp. In addition, Camp Interlaken is fully accredited by the American Camp Association. Fire Exting Safety Plans for buildings are on file with the county, and fire and storm drills are held at least once per session. All waterfront staff have American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor and/or Life Guard Training and Lifesaving Certifications. Most other camp staff also hold American Red Cross CPR and First Aid certifications. In compliance with American Camp Association guidelines, Camp Interlaken also has a safety manual detailing safety procedures for program areas.

LUGGAGE & LABELS

Packing for Camp

Each camper may bring two luggage items. This may consist of one cargo bag, one duffel bag, or two duffel bags. Please do not over-pack since space to unpack and store luggage in each cabin is limited. Weather can be extremely variable at Camp. Typical summer weather at Camp will be in the 80s during the day and in the high 40s/low 50s at night. Warm clothing and rainwear are essential.

Labeling

All clothing, personal items, and camping equipment **must be clearly marked with the camper's full name**. If using name tapes, sew/iron them securely where they may be seen. If stamping or marking with indelible laundry ink, make sure it's legible. Many campers bring similar items. Unmarked items that are lost are less likely to find their way back to their owner. **Campers must assume responsibility for the proper care of personal belongings. Camp bears no responsibility for lost items.** Camp maintains a lost and found and will make every effort to return labeled items to campers during the summer sessions. After the session end, Camp will donate or use unclaimed items in the future. **PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING!** Camp Interlaken is proud to partner with [LabelDaddy](#) for clothing labels. Parents using this link will receive a 10% discount on their orders. Sharpies also are effective for labeling as well.

How Much To Pack

Campers do not need to pack enough changes of clothing for their entire camp stay. Camp provides laundry services included in the camp fee. 2-week campers will receive laundry service once, and 4-week campers will receive laundry service three times. **Laundry bags should be clearly labeled in large letters on the outside of the bag.** A local laundry service will do laundry. Please realize that this service is a quantity laundry service doing thousands of pounds of clothing. It is not a delicate service. Camp takes no responsibility for clothing that shrinks, discolors, or is lost in the process.

What to Leave At Home

Please DO NOT bring to Camp:

- Technology (See page 16)
- Items of high value, such as watches, jewelry, and expensive cameras.
- Clothing that is delicate, new, or valuable. Please do not pack revealing clothing or clothing with slogans or pictures advocating the use of cigarettes, nicotine, alcohol, or drugs.
- Matches, lighters, fireworks of any kind.
- Tobacco products, vapes, alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or over-the-counter medications.
- Guns, knives, and weapons of any kind are not allowed in Camp.
- Animals are not permitted on camp property unless approved by the director.
- Hammocks
- Money
- Food



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TECHNOLOGY AT CAMP

Camp Interlaken is proud to be Screen-Free! This transition to Camp may be difficult for campers whose lives are dominated by personal technology and information overload. Below are some reasons that Camp Interlaken is a Screen-Free environment:

- Encourages our campers to spend more time enjoying the outdoors
- Promotes socialization between campers and teaches important communication skills
- Removes the divide between “the haves, and the have-nots” in each cabin
- Reduces the stress associated with the damage to and theft of electronics
- Gives campers a much-needed break from the world of technology
- Allows campers to fully embrace the connections they make with other campers
- Assures that our campers are not exposed to age-inappropriate material

After spending time trying to define what electronics devices were and were not affected by this type of change, we are happy to clarify how this is defined at Camp Interlaken specifically.

iPod/MP3 Players

No music players with interactive screens or that play movies or television shows will be allowed. This includes but is not limited to iPod Nano, iPod Touch, iPod Classic, iPhone, etc. As we recognize that campers like to have their music with them and like to be able to identify and find their songs, we recommend bringing an iPod Shuffle, a [Sansa Clip](#), an MP3 player, or a similar music device.

Digital Cameras

We encourage campers to bring a digital camera to capture their own memories.

Tablets, Netbooks, DVD Players, Laptops, or personal game systems

Leave them at home. If your child is flying to/from Camp and traveling with a game system or tablet, it will be kept in the office safe when they arrive at Camp and returned at the session's end.

Cell Phones and Smart Watches

Campers are not permitted to have a cell phone or smartwatch while at Camp. If your child is flying to/from Camp traveling with a phone or smartwatch, it will be kept in the office safe when they arrive at Camp and returned at the end of the session. We will charge the phone or smartwatch if you send a charger with it. We recommend sending a labeled Ziploc bag to hold the cell phone and charger in the safe.

eReaders

Please do not bring Kindles or other eReaders. Campers can bring books, and we also have a large variety of books in our *sifria* library.

We view the opportunity to disconnect as a gift for your children while at Camp. Thank you for supporting this effort to simplify the camp experience and encourage building additional interpersonal skills. Your support of everything we do at Camp Interlaken is appreciated.



CAMP LIFE

Cabin Life

Each camper is assigned to a cabin according to their age and/or grade in school in September. We make every effort to place your child in a cabin group that will ensure their having a positive group experience. We try to achieve a balance of new and returning campers in each cabin. Whenever possible, we will place a child in the same cabin with one friend of the same grade. A space is provided for you to inform us of campers that your child wants to bunk with on the “Letter to My Counselor” form on CampMinder’s online database. We guarantee mutual requests. Please let us know any additional information in writing on the forms provided or in a separate online space.

Canteen

Campers visit the canteen 2-3 times per week. A canteen credit of \$60 is available to four-week campers, \$30 for two-week campers and *Ozrim*, and \$120 for eight-week campers. This amount is included in the camp fee. A variety of items such as sweatshirts, T-shirts, shorts, postcards, sundries, and other incidentals are available. A limited amount of candy and snacks will also be sold in the canteen. You may deposit additional money in your child’s canteen account by logging into your camp account in CampMinder. Any charges above the credit amount need prior approval by parents. Any remaining canteen balance is donated to the camp scholarship fund for the following year.



An Experience in “Living Judaism”

Living as part of a Jewish *Kehillah* (community) is one element that makes Camp Interlaken special. The rules and daily routines of camp life are based on Jewish values and practices. Programs are designed to be both fun and educational. From “Hebrew Word of the Day” to experiential and interactive programs concerning Jewish history and Israel, campers learn about Jewish heritage through “hands-on” activities that help them develop a positive Jewish identity.

Counselors are hired not only for their skills and personalities but also for their ability to be good Jewish role models. Using the Hebrew language, saying *motzi* and *birkat hamazon* before and after meals, celebrating Shabbat, getting to know Israel through the eyes of our Israeli *schlichim* — all these, and more, contribute to a camper’s total Jewish experience at Camp Interlaken JCC.

Communal Living

Camp is a communal living experience. The success of this system is dependent on the cooperation and involvement of all of the participants. Every effort is made to establish a positive atmosphere and to motivate constructive behavior. Children will be sent home from Camp if they behave in a way that is detrimental to the camp community. Acceptable and non-acceptable behavior is outlined in the Camper Code of Conduct. Acting as a responsible member of the camp community is necessary for the well-being of all. Campers are expected to contribute to the overall cleanliness and physical care of the Camp. For example, they will participate in camp-wide *nikayon* (clean-up).



Camp requires children to be responsible for their belongings, the cleanliness of both their person and their personal space, and to be responsible for their actions. Camp helps children develop a greater sense of independence and competence.

There are no parents at Camp! Your child will learn to solve problems by working with his or her cabin group and counseling staff. Of course, there are many responsible, older adults in Camp. But Camp is an opportunity for children to learn to use their own resourcefulness and to problem-solve independently in a supportive and safe environment.

CHUGIM (ACTIVITIES) INFORMATION

While at Camp, campers will participate in 5 *chugim* (hoo-geem) daily Sunday–Friday. Three of the *chugim* are selected by the campers, a 4th *chugim* is attended by the entire cabin, and the last is a mandatory swimming period that consists of both instructional and free swim. Most *chugim* run for 2 weeks; the four-week campers will get a new schedule for the second two-weeks of their session. That means that 4-week campers could take as many as 6 different personally selected *chugim* over the course of the session and try many more!

*****Campers will be selecting their *Chugim* after our Homecoming program on the first night of Camp!**

SWIM INSTRUCTION

Swimming is a fun and important part of Camp. Camp strongly believes that it is essential that every child learns to swim and feels comfortable in the water. Every camper (except K'far Noar) is assigned swimming as one of their *chugim* if they are in Red Cross levels 2-5. Once a child passes to level 5, they will remain in swimming until they select new *chugim*. Once they complete level 5, they will not be required to take swimming. Some activities have minimum swim level requirements to be eligible to participate. Campers are required to be in level 3 or higher to participate in sailing and water-skiing. However, a swim assessment will be given to level 2 swimmers to test their swimming strength as opposed to their skill to determine if they are eligible to participate in water-skiing. Windsurfing requires campers to be entering 6th grade or above. All campers, regardless of their abilities and levels at home, will have their swimming abilities evaluated the second day of Camp to place them in a level. One piece bathing suits are required for waterfront activities and preferred for other Camp activities.

The American Red Cross Learn-to-Swim program offers a unique six-level instructional approach that has successfully been teaching people how to swim since 1914. Camp Interlaken begins at Level 2. Our instructors are trained and certified by the American Red Cross in their Water Safety Instructor (WSI) program or Lifeguard Training (LGT) courses, so swimmers of all ages and abilities are in good and capable hands. These are the requirements for each swim level.

LEVEL 2: FUNDAMENTAL AQUATIC SKILLS

- Demonstrate competency in all required skills and activities, including in-water skills
- Successfully complete the following exit skills assessment:
 - Step from side into chest-deep water, move into a front float for 5 seconds, roll to back, float for 5 seconds then return to a vertical position.
 - Move into a back float for 5 seconds, roll to front then recover to a vertical position.
 - Push off and swim using combined arm and leg actions on front for 5 body lengths, roll to back, float for 15 seconds, roll to the front then continue swimming for 5 body lengths.

LEVEL 3: STROKE DEVELOPMENT

- Demonstrate competency in all required skills and activities, including in-water skills
- Successfully complete the following exit skills assessment:
 - Jump into deep water from the side, swim front crawl for 15 yards, maintain position by treading or floating for 30 seconds and swim elementary backstroke for 15 yards.

LEVEL 4: STROKE IMPROVEMENT

- Demonstrate competency in all required skills and activities, including in-water skills
- Successfully complete the following exit skills assessment:
 - Perform a feet-first entry into deep water, swim front crawl for 25 yards, change direction and position as necessary and swim elementary backstroke for 25 yards.
 - Swim breaststroke for 15 yards, change direction and position as necessary and swim back crawl for 15 yards

LEVEL 5: STROKE REFINEMENT

- Demonstrate competency in all required skills and activities, including in-water skills
- Successfully complete the following exit skills assessment:
 - Perform a shallow-angle dive into deep water, swim front crawl for 50 yards, change direction and position of travel as necessary and swim elementary backstroke for 50 yards.
 - Swim breaststroke for 25 yards, change direction and position of travel as necessary and swim back crawl for 25 yards.



FOOD PHILOSOPHY

Camp Interlaken JCC partners with [WOLFoods](#) to provide kosher, nutritious, and well-balanced meals throughout the summer. Our menus are developed collaboratively by the Camp Interlaken and WOLFoods teams, including a nutritionist, and WOLFoods chefs live on-site at camp all summer.

Our Kosher Kitchen – All food served at camp is certified kosher and carries an approved hechsher (kosher certification symbol).

Camp operates:

- A separate meat kitchen
- A separate dairy kitchen
- A pareve bakery

Meals at Camp

- Campers eat three family-style meals daily to encourage community within cabin groups in our *Chadar Ochel* (dining hall).
- Once each week, campers enjoy a camp-wide cookout with freshly grilled hamburgers and hot dogs.
- Occasional buffet-style meals may be offered depending on camp programming.

Healthy Choices & Alternatives

Fresh fruit and a full salad bar are available daily, along with vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options. We regularly stock:

- Gluten-free bread, pasta, pancake mix, and treats
- Soy milk, rice milk, and Lactaid milk as needed
- Lactaid tablets for meals and snacks
- Soy nut butter as a protein alternative

Food Allergies & Dietary Needs – Campers with dietary needs can expect thoughtful alternatives that closely mirror the regular camp menu whenever possible. Camp Interlaken is a **Peanut and Tree Nut Free Camp**. No peanut or tree nut products may be brought to camp or served during the summer. Our Food Service Manager oversees special dietary accommodations and helps ensure proper food handling and prevention of cross-contamination.

We work closely with families to support campers with:

- Food allergies
- Lactose intolerance
- Other medically necessary dietary needs
- Gluten sensitivities
- Vegetarian or vegan diets

Safety Procedures

- EpiPens are available in the Health Center, Dining Hall, and additional locations around camp.
- All staff receive EpiPen training as part of First Aid training.

Supporting Campers at Mealtime

We understand that some campers are selective eaters. Alternatives are available at every meal, and counselors help connect campers with the Food Service Manager if additional options are needed. In addition to the main meal, campers can typically access:

- Salad bar options
- Composed salads like tuna salad, pasta salad or egg salad
- Plain pasta
- Fruit
- Soy nut butter sandwiches
- Soup

Communication with Families

Families will share dietary restrictions and food allergies on camper forms so we can prepare appropriately before the summer begins. Please do not send food to camp. If you have questions or would like to discuss your camper's dietary needs in advance, please contact the camp office. Once the WOLFoods team arrives at camp, our Food Service Manager will also be available to speak with families directly.



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B'NAI MITZVAH PREP

If your simcha is before January 1, 2027, your camper will have access to two weekly opportunities:

- A private 1:1 session for review and practice. You choose how to use this time: either a Zoom session with your camper's tutor, cantor, or clergy from home, or a session with our Judaic Coordinator at camp. (Please note: sessions with our Judaic Coordinator are for review and reinforcement, not for learning new material.)
- A B'nai Mitzvah study hall with other campers preparing for their upcoming simcha

If your simcha is on or after January 1, 2027, your camper is welcome to join the weekly B'nai Mitzvah study hall. The private 1:1 session is not available for this group.

None of this is required. It is entirely up to your family whether continuing B'nai Mitzvah preparation at camp is a priority.

If this applies to your camper, please complete the B'nai Mitzvah Form in your Forms Dashboard to share your preference and any relevant information. Campers should bring their preparation materials to camp, including Torah and Haftarah portions, blessings, and any notes or recordings

COMMUNICATION

Incoming Mail

Please write your child often! It means so much to campers to hear from home frequently. Especially for first time campers, send mail before they even leave for Camp so it's waiting for them. Mail is distributed every day at Camp except Shabbat. Letters detailing how much you miss your child or what a good time you are having in his or her absence are not helpful. If you have bad or upsetting news that needs to be conveyed to your child, please call the camp office and consult with the camp staff. Letters from home should only be positive in tone. Please send mail to your child at:

Your Child's Name
Camp Interlaken JCC, Cabin Name OR Grade (if you don't know their cabin name, don't worry – we do!)
7050 Old Highway 70
Eagle River, WI 54521

Packages

Camp Interlaken does not accept packages for campers. This does not apply to luggage being shipped to Camp prior to arrival. Please share this policy with your campers and other family/friends (including grandparents) to help manage their expectations.

Birthdays at Camp

- One birthday package without food will be permitted.
- Label the package: "Birthday Package" so that we can make sure it gets to your child on their birthday.

Forgotten Items

- Call Camp to talk to your child's unit leader if they've forgotten or lost a necessary item.
- If the item is not something that Camp can provide for your child, you will be asked to send the item to the Unit Leader's attention with your camper's name on it also.
- Send only the discussed items.

What can you do instead?

Above all else, your child wants to hear from you. Write letters and send emails through CampMinder. There are cute apps like Touchnote that allow you to send postcards that you can create on your phone. If you believe your child will be sad that they can't receive a package, wrap a few cute items and hide them in their luggage with notes about when to open them.



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COMMUNICATION CONTINUED

Outgoing Mail

Please keep in mind that at Camp, the old saying, “No news is good news” holds true. We will do our best to see that your child writes regularly. Campers are required to send a letter (or postcard) twice a week. Many parents find it helpful to send along pre-addressed (and stamped) envelopes or postcards with their child (even for the older campers). Please keep in mind that mail takes several days to travel from Eagle River to your home. If you do not hear from your child or have other concerns, please feel free to contact Camp.

Talking to Your Campers

Campers are not allowed to use the telephone while at Camp. The only exception is receiving a pre-arranged birthday call from their parents. We have found that phone calls do not help children who are adjusting to the daily life at Camp. If you require information or wish to relay an important message to your child, please call the camp office and speak with the camp staff.

Camp Communication with Parents

We know that parents are anxious to find out how their children are doing at Camp. Pictures from Camp will be posted in the CampMinder photo gallery. If you have any concerns about your child, you should contact Camp before, during, or after your child’s stay at Camp. Parents are often an excellent resource for identifying and solving problems that children are having at Camp. If your child is experiencing or causing any unusual difficulties at Camp, you will hear from the Camp Director, unit leader, or Social Worker by telephone. It is essential that we know your whereabouts when your child is in Camp.

Cell Phones

If your child is arriving by plane, they may bring a cell phone for travel and turn it in to the camp office when they arrive at Camp. We recommend that cell phones be sent in a labeled Ziploc bag with a charger for easy storage in our safe. All other campers are not allowed to bring or use cell phones while at Camp. **Please do not send a cell phone with your child.** If a camper is found to have a cell phone, it will be confiscated immediately and sent to you cash on delivery. Any cell phones that are stored in the safe will be returned to your child as they exit the bus upon arrival at home or at the airport. Please refer to our technology policy.

Birthday Celebrations

Every camper celebrating a birthday while at Camp receives cupcakes for their entire cabin. No one is forgotten. Please do not send special birthday food. You may talk on the phone with your child on his or her birthday. Birthday calls are typically during Chofesh, around 5pm CST, and they will be confirmed with parents in advance by your camper’s unit leader.

CampStamps One-Way Email

From our website at www.campinterlaken.org OR on the Companion App, we are pleased to offer web services that include email capabilities, camp newsletters, and a photo gallery from our technology partner, CampMinder. These features are password protected so that only Interlaken families may view them. You will be able to send emails to your child and enjoy all of CampMinder’s other features. Here are instructions for how to use CampMinder’s Online System: Visit www.campinterlaken.org. Click [Login To Your Camp Account](#). This will prompt you to enter your email address and password. This process is designed to be safe and secure by limiting access of “our” children’s pictures online and your credit card information. If you cannot remember your password please, click the link to “Retrieve/Set Password”.

COMMUNICATION CONTINUED

Online Community: Once you are logged in, you will see our Online Community section where you can view and purchase photos, send your child one-way emails, read newsletters, and create guest accounts.

Photos: The Photo pages allow you to mark favorites, view, buy and share photos, as well as view slideshows. *Click the icons* below each photo to perform these actions. All of the photos you view online are available for purchase as prints, digital downloads, or gift items such as t-shirts, calendars, or mouse pads.

Emails: When you click on the email link, the system will guide you through the process of purchasing “CampStamps” to send emails to your child as often as you’d like throughout the session. Each email sent will use a certain number of CampStamps based on the selections you make. Standard emails without add-ons (e.g. Stationary, Smart Words & Sudoku) use 1 CampStamp. Upon purchasing CampStamps you will also be able to gift them to your guests; however they will be able to purchase their own upon logging in.

Guest Accounts: By clicking the “Guest Accounts” icon you will be able to create accounts for family members and friends to view photos and send emails. If you’d like your guest to be able to email your child make sure to check the appropriate boxes (these will be evident upon entering the guest’s information). After creating each account your guest will receive an email similar to the one you received when first creating a password and security questions. They will be guided through the same process in order to log in securely.

NOTE: You do not need to create guest accounts for parents/guardians of the child as that information is already stored in our system. If you’re unsure whether we have the correct information on file, please contact Holly at: hwhite@jccmilwaukee.org.

Parent Extended Travel during Camp

If you expect to be away from home during your child's stay at Camp, please complete the vacation section in your campers’ Confidential Camper Information Form that is included in your online forms dashboard. If you decide to go on vacation after your child has left for Camp, or if you need to report any changes on your vacation form, please call the camp office in Eagle River at (715) 479-8030. Should an emergency arise, we will need an address and phone number where you can be reached, plus the name and phone number of an emergency contact we can call if we cannot reach you.

Campanion

We are excited to share one of our favorite tools for camp. The Campanion app is a game changer leading up to and throughout the summer! You can click below to download from the Apple store for your Apple devices or the Google Play store for your Android devices. You will log in to the app the same way you log in to your CampMinder account on a desktop: with your email and your password. If you have questions about logging in or need assistance please reply to this email, call our office, or use the CampMinder helpline!

Before Summer Campanion Use

Before camp, Campanion makes it easy to complete forms and upload important documents directly from your phone. Many families find it especially helpful for quickly uploading items like immunization records or insurance cards, without needing to print or scan anything.

Helpful Hint: Enabling push notifications now means you will receive push notifications to your device when your camper is tagged in uploaded photos and when you have an e-letter response waiting for you to open!

During Summer Campanion Use

During the summer, Campanion becomes your window into camp life. You will be able to view daily photos, read updates from camp, and send emails to your camper. There is also an optional facial recognition feature that can notify you when your camper appears in photos.

Helpful Hint: If you are opting in to facial recognition you will need to upload a "training photo" of your camper. Campanion will prompt you to do so. The app refreshes each summer so even if you have uploaded in a previous summer you will need to upload a training photo this year.



INFORMATION FOR CAMPERS TRAVELING BY PLANE

Please contact the camp office for specific flight and chaperone information

Camp will pick up interested campers from out of town on June 18th at the Minneapolis (MSP) airport and bring them to camp.

Camp will provide transportation HOME from camp to RHI and to these airports on these dates:

June 30 – MKE & RHI | July 12 – MKE, MSP, & RHI | July 29 – MKE & RHI | August 10 – MKE, MSP, & RHI

Flying In For Camp First Session: Camp will be making arrangements for group flights.

Other Airport Options: Camp Interlaken is served by one airport close to camp: Rhinelander, WI (RHI), which is approximately 45 minutes from camp. Campers flying in to Rhinelander will be met by camp staff for the same cost as the bus fee. Staff will be wearing camp t-shirts and nametags and are easy for your child to recognize. We suggest that you make your camper's airline reservation earlier rather than later. This will guarantee the day and time you need. Planning early also allows for use of your frequent flyer miles. Please note: currently the only commercial airline to service Rhinelander is Delta Airlines through Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP). *There are no direct flights from Milwaukee to Rhinelander.*

LUGGAGE: We request that you send all luggage directly to camp ahead of your camper's arrival time. This year we will be partnering with Ship Camps for this purpose. You will arrange for your camper's luggage to be picked up from camp and returned to you on the last day of the session via Ship Camps. Working with them enables us to secure you the lowest pricing to ship your camper's luggage safely and conveniently. You can learn more by [clicking here](#) to view their website. The camp address is: Camp Interlaken JCC, 7050 Old Highway 70, Eagle River, WI 54521. If you have any questions regarding travel arrangements, luggage, please call or email Holly White in the camp office at hwhite@jccmilwaukee.org or 414-967-8240 (prior to June) or 715-479-8030 (After June 1).

Returning from Camp: Transportation will be available to Milwaukee (MKE) or Rhinelander (RHI) airports for campers flying home after camp will be arranged by Camp. Please contact camp to coordinate your travel plans. A Camp Interlaken staff member or volunteer will ensure that your camper gets checked into their flight. If flying home from Milwaukee please try to make a return flight reservation after 4:30 p.m. on the last day of camp. If the buses are late due to heavy traffic, etc., we don't want to risk having your camper miss their flight home.

PARENT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP AT CAMP

If interested, parents/guardians can elect to drop off their camper(s) at Camp and/or pick them up from Camp at the end of their session. For drop-off, please arrive at Camp between **11:00am and 12:00pm CST** on the first day of the camper's session. For pick-up, please arrive at Camp between **9:30am and 11:30am CST** on the last day of your camper's session. *Any transportation outside of those dates and times, including early pick-up, should be coordinated with Holly in the Camp office at hwhite@jccmilwaukee.org.*

A staff member will be at Camp's gate welcoming each camper and family into Camp and directing them towards our drop off or pick up areas.



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IMPORTANT TERMS AT CAMP INTERLAKEN

“Achshav”	“Now”	“Lilah Tov”	“Good night”
Aruchat Boker	Breakfast	Maccabiah	Olympics
Aruchat Tzoharayim	Lunch	Machaneh	Camp
Aruchat Erev	Dinner	Makom Ha Lev	Place of the heart (amphitheater)
Avodah	Work	Menucha	Rest hour
Bayit	House (in K’far Noar)	Mirpa’ah	Health Center
Beit Am	Art Building	Mirpesset	Porch
Birchat Hamazon	Blessing after meals	Moadon (Mo)	Clubhouse (for Ozrim)
“Boker Tov”	“Good morning”	Nikayon	Clean-up
Brachot	Blessings	Nosh	Snack
Canteen	Camp store	Omanut	Art
Chadar Ochel	Dining Hall	Ozrim	Helpers – Grade 12 (AKA Ozos)
Chofesh	Free time		Counselors-in-training
Chug	Activity	Port of Eilat	Small crafts dock
Chugim	Activities	Rom Kol	Loudspeaker
“Eizeh Yofi”	“How lovely”	Rosh	Head (Leader)
Floval	Flag Oval (where we raise and lower the flag)	Ruach	Spirit
		Sha’ar	Grades 8 & 9
Hachshivu	Attention	Shavua Tov	Wishing a Good Week
“Hachshivu,	“Attention, attention, all of camp...”	Schmutz	Trash/dirt (Yiddish)
Hachshivu-na,		“Shabbat Shalom”	Shabbat greeting
Kol Ha’Machaneh”		Shin Shin	Israeli emissary who spends a year in Milwaukee (culminates at Camp)
Hamotzi	Prayer over bread before meals		Israeli emissaries (counselors)
Hanafat Hadegeg	Flag raising	Shlichim	Night Watch
Havdalah	Separation (marking the end of Shabbat and beginning of a new week)	Shmirah	Grades 3,4,5
	Message	Shoresh	A skit
Hoda’ah	Messages	Shtick	Conversation
Hoda’ot	Flag lowering	Sicha	Collective talks (discussion groups)
Horadat Hadegeg	Respect	Sichot	Prayer book
Kavod	Teen Village (grade 10)	Siddur	Library
K’far Noar	From generation to generation	Sifria	Table setters
L’dor V’dor	Lake on the other side of camp	Toranim	Roof Ball
Lake Bragonier	Main Camp Lake	Tushball	Grades 6 & 7
Lake Finley	Evil Tounge (gossip)	Tzomayach	Theater/Social Hall
Lashon Hara		Ulam	Day of caring for the body
		Yom Shmirat Haguf	

