

Everything You Need To Know For Opening Day (2021)

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Section 1: Opening Day

Opening Days occur on Sundays. Opening for Senior Campers (finishing 9th grade or higher) is at 11am and Opening for all other campers occurs in waves between 2-3pm. You will receive an email the week before camp with your arrival wave. Younger siblings may be dropped off during the Senior Camper arrival window.

You can find the exact date of your Opening Day below:

Triple A: June 13

Triple B: July 4

Double 1: May 30

Double 2: June 13

Double 3: June 27

Double 4: July 11

Double 5: July 25

Single 1: May 30

Single 2: June 6

Single 3: July 25

Single 4: August 1

Combo 4A: May 30
Combo 5A: May 30
Combo 4B: July 11
Combo 5B: July 4

You can help make the drop off smooth by reading the following section and being prepared.

Paperwork

- All forms and payment must be completed prior to drop off. Click this link to double-check your forms: <https://champions.campintouch.com/MyAccount.aspx>
- All medication brought to camp (prescription and non-prescription) must be entered in your CampInTouch before arriving - nurses will not dispense medication not entered in the camper's account. Please refer to the email with the subject "General Health Guidelines" for more detailed information.

Before the trip to Camp

1. Place all medications in a clear zip-lock bag ready to hand to camp staff.
2. Pack and CLEARLY LABEL all of your child's belongings securely in these three items:
 - a. A trunk
 - b. A duffle bag
 - c. A backpack that your camper will carry - with a water bottle and sunscreen.
Camp activities will start right after drop off and before the luggage is delivered to the cabin.
3. Please remember that Camp Champions is tech-free—campers must leave all cell phones, tablets, and digital cameras at home! Make sure your camper's phone is in your possession before they exit the car.
4. A reminder: we are unable to responsibly offer horseback this summer. Please do not pack any horseback gear to save yourself some extra room (we will not be charging your account for horseback this summer).
5. Remember to use the bathroom before arriving at camp. Parents will not be allowed to get out of cars during drop off.

Arrival at Camp

Drop off for Senior Campers will be at 11:00am on your Opening Sunday. Younger siblings can either be dropped off at this time or can return for their official drop off between 2-3pm.

Drop off for campers who just finished 8th grade and below will begin at 2:00pm. Drop off occurs in waves to limit traffic buildup and reduce wait times. The exact wave times are different for

each session so this is the one piece of information that we will have to send to you the week before Opening. All wave times will be between 2:00pm and 3:00pm.

When you arrive, you will be directed into one of our arrival stalls. A leadership team member will greet you and guide you through the drop off process. The first thing they will do is check that you are **Good To Go**. This means that all forms and payments are complete.

If you are not **Good To Go**, you will be directed into an auxiliary parking lot to resolve any outstanding issues before drop off.

Families who are **Good To Go** will:

- Hand in medications (in one clear ziploc bag) and any mail
- Luggage will be unloaded and delivered to the cabin
- Say a quick goodbye and camper will be delivered to their cabin group

Our entire staff for this summer will be fully vaccinated against COVID and Opening Day occurs outside, so we will not be wearing masks during the drop off process. If you would like for a staff member to wear a mask during your interaction, please make that request when you arrive and we will be happy to oblige.

Section 2: Camp Forms

To Access Camp Forms:

1. Go to <https://champions.campintouch.com>
2. Under the “Log In” section, enter your e-mail address and your password – the same one that was used when filling out the camper application.
3. Once you are logged in, click on the link that says “Forms and Documents.”
4. Campminder only accepts PDFs. We recommend an app called GeniusScan that automatically turns an image into a PDF.

Tips and tricks to make forms easier:

- **We accept cabinmate requests only through our online form.** This form is deactivated 4 weeks before your camper's term and cannot be submitted or modified after that time. (For campers attending multiple sessions, submit all requests at the same time on the same form.)
- **Download the Physician's Health Form and take it to the doctor's office.** They will be able to fill it out and fax it to us. Each camper has a different barcode on their particular form, so please download each form rather than multiple copies of the same one.

- **Campers arriving or departing by plane must complete a Transportation Form.** This form is due at least 30 days prior to your camper's session. This timeline is very important so we can arrange for a member of our camp staff to pick your child up or drop off at the airport. (Susie note – doesn't it already say on the forms page it's due 30 days prior?)
- **Don't forget the signature! Remember to sign at the bottom of the medical release form.** We need your permission to seek medical care for your child if necessary.
- **Campers get new counselors every year.** Please thoroughly fill out the Parent Questionnaire to help your camper's counselor give them the best experience. Previous year's comments will carry forward each year, please update as appropriate.

These are the BIG 4 mistakes that are most common for returning families. Triple check the following:

- Phone numbers and current address
- Camper T-shirt size
- Current school grade (the grade COMPLETED before camp)
- School name

Other useful information can be found in the [2021 Parent Guide](#).

Section 3: COVID Testing

The Testing Plan

- Campers will be required EITHER to (1) be fully vaccinated, OR (2) have a negative PCR test for COVID to be admitted to camp
- Campers who are not vaccinated should take the PCR test the Wednesday before their camp session
- Either completed vaccination cards OR Covid test results should be emailed to frank@campchampions.com
- Results must be emailed to camp by Saturday at 5pm. The test may be done earlier than Wednesday if that is necessary to ensure that results are received, but please try to do it as close to Wednesday as possible.
- In addition, all campers will be given a rapid test at camp on Opening Day (no cost to parents). This is a non-invasive test (not a "brain scratcher"). Our nurse manager has been in charge of Covid testing for 11 schools in her district and is very skilled at making kids comfortable with this testing process.

The Quarantine Plan

The pre-camp quarantine was our most effective tool last summer in creating a healthy camp bubble. Campers must have a strict quarantine 3-4 days before taking the PCR test to ensure an accurate test. Campers must also have a strict quarantine in the time between taking the test and arrival at camp (3-4 days) to ensure an accurate antigen test at camp. This means that campers must avoid any possible exposure to Covid for a full week before the start of camp.

COVID vaccines are effective but not perfect, so fully vaccinated campers should still do a “soft” quarantine before camp. This means staying home when possible, avoiding unvaccinated people when possible, and wearing a mask indoors in public.

If you are unable to quarantine the week before camp, please call us immediately to choose another camp term or to cancel your session. The health of our entire camp community depends upon your commitment to quarantining and ensuring accurate testing. Covid outbreaks can force a camp closure. Last summer, no one wanted to be the person who ruined camp for their child and other people’s children. We believe that our families will be just as dedicated this summer.

What if my camper tests positive?

If your camper tests positive in either the PCR (mail in) or rapid test (on-site), there are several options:

- Attempt to reschedule for a camp term later in the summer (for campers in the last session of the summer, we will make accommodations for the following year).
- Make arrangements for a late arrival (subject to current Covid regulations and a negative PCR test).
- Cancel and receive a 50% refund. Because of our shared responsibility in preventing Covid, we expect to share the financial burden with you if your camper cannot attend camp due to Covid.

If your camper arrives at camp Covid-free (negative PCR and negative antigen test) but contracts Covid while at camp and has to go home, we will fully refund the remaining camp term.

Please feel free to email or call us and we will find a solution that will work for you and your family. Our highest priority is making sure that our camp families feel prepared and excited for camp!

Section 4: Lice Checks

Lice Clinics of Texas (www.LiceClinicsofTexas.com) will administer a lice check for every child on Opening Day. This will happen outside and they will take the appropriate Covid precautions.

Campers who have already been checked at Lice Clinics of Texas within 2 weeks of their camp term can skip the head check. Campers must quarantine the week before camp to prevent Covid, so we request that lice checks take place between 14 and 7 days before camp.

The lice check at camp is free to parents. If a case of lice is detected, campers will be treated at camp and parents will be charged \$250 by LCT.

Camp Champions has a NO NITS policy. Campers must be lice and nit free before joining their cabin group. To avoid a potentially awkward start of camp, please have your child checked before camp. A pre-camp check can be done by anyone, but campers will only skip the Opening Day lice check if they have been checked by Lice Clinics of Texas.

Section 5: Companion App

What is Companion?

Since the fall of 2018, we have been working with the developers of CampMinder to design an exceptional parent communication platform called **Companion**.

During the pilot of 2019 and the official launch in 2020, over 85% of Champions parents used Companion and gave it rave reviews. Parents have come to love the photos and blogs at camp, and Companion delivers a mobile-friendly version with different notification options.

Companion also provides:

- Free photo downloads
- Sorting of your camper's photos via facial recognition
- 4-6 daily mini-updates to help you follow along with what is happening each day at camp
- Everything delivered to your phone or tablet based on your notification settings
- The cost is \$15 - \$25 per camper depending upon term length (automatically applied in your camp account)

Companion is an optional charge. Since the vast majority of our families choose to enroll, it is substantially easier (for our wonderful bookkeeper Eileen Ma'am) to automatically add the option for everyone and then reverse the charge for those who do not want Companion.

If you would like to opt out, please email info@campchampions.com and we will take you off the list. All of the photos and blogs are still available through Campminder, and photo downloads are still available for purchase on the desktop platform (this is not new).

If you do use Companion this summer and are not delighted with it, we will be happy to offer a full refund for this service.

For those using the app, you will want to go ahead and download it so that you can get it set up to recognize your campers' photos.

There is a short set up process that only takes 2-3 minutes, but you will need your camper(s) present so that you can take a photo of them to "train" the app (so this needs to be done before dropoff). This facial recognition element is purely optional, but many parents have enjoyed it in previous summers.

You can download the Companion App by searching "Companion" wherever you get your apps or by visiting <https://companionapp.com/>.

You will not be charged for downloading the app, and the log in information is the same that you use for CampMinder (the username will be the same email address where you are receiving this email).

We certainly hope that you choose to try it, because we know how much parents have enjoyed Companion the last two summers!