

# GCC CAMPOREE REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES

*Directors, please share this information  
with all of your staff and Pathfinder family members.*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**CAMPOREE DATES:** April 24-27, 2025

**LOCATION:** Cohutta Springs Youth Camp

**HELP US PROTECT EVERYONE'S HEALTH AND SAFETY:** Please **DO NOT BRING ANYONE WHO IS SICK**. Please do not come to Camporee if you are feeling ill. All we want to bring home from Camporee is happy memories (and maybe a pin or two 😊).

### **FEES, PRE-APPROVAL, AND REGISTRATION:**

- To help defray expenses of the Camporee, fees are charged for each person attending (with the exception of Staff Dependents ages 3 and under).
- All Camporee participants must be pre-registered on [pathfinders.gccsda.com](http://pathfinders.gccsda.com) by the registration deadline. This includes all staff dependents, including babies.
- All adults age 18 and over (including Pathfinders 18 and over) must be pre-approved through Sterling Volunteers.
- Every club must register at least one staff member for every 5 Pathfinders of the same gender registered (for example, one female staff member for every 5 female Pathfinders registered).
- There are no refunds for registered individuals who do not attend.
- All registration fees are due by the registration deadline.

### **DAY PASSES:**

- **THERE ARE NO DAY PASSES FOR THIS EVENT.**
- All registered weekend participants must plan to stay with their clubs in the camping area throughout the weekend. Please make sure your Pathfinder families know that they may not come to visit for the day.

## ARRIVAL

### **TRANSPORTATION TO CAMPOREE:**

- Each club is responsible for transportation to and from the Camporee site.
- Drivers must be responsible, mature individuals, at least 25 years of age and approved to drive through the Sterling Volunteers Program.
- Vehicles must be in good condition with ADEQUATE INSURANCE.
- The number of passengers must not exceed the number of seat belts available and all passengers must remain in seat belts.
- **NO 15-PASSENGER VANS.**

- **If there are individuals in your club who must arrive after the gate is closed to vehicle traffic, please make sure those individuals send their gear with the club ahead of time.** Golf cart assistance is **NOT** guaranteed and attendees arriving after the gate is closed must be prepared to carry their own gear into camp.

### **ARRIVAL TIME:**

- Check in begins at 12:00 noon on Thursday of Camporee. Clubs may not occupy their assigned sites any time before noon. No exceptions for earlier set-up will be made as the camp will not be ready before that time. Plan to arrive and set up before the evening program. You will receive program information prior to the event.
- **PLEASE PLAN YOUR ARRIVAL TIME CAREFULLY.** If you arrive after the gates close on Thursday at 10:30 pm, expect to remain outside the gate until check-in resumes on Friday morning at 8:30 am.
- **FRIDAY ARRIVAL:** If you find it necessary for your club to arrive on Friday due to conflicts, please let us know the approximate time so that our personnel will be prepared for your arrival. All Friday arrivals **MUST** arrive before 10:00 p.m. Check in closes on Friday evening at 10:00 p.m. No attendees will be admitted after this time.
- **No vehicles will be allowed to drive into camp after the gates close on Thursday at 10:30 p.m.** If your club arrives on Friday, all vehicles will need to stay outside the gate. Golf cart assistance will be limited– be prepared to wait for availability. Please also bring wagons to carry items into camp.

**ARRIVAL DURING EVENING PROGRAMMING:** Clubs and registered individuals are **STRONGLY DISCOURAGED** from arriving during the Friday evening programming time. **Golf cart/vehicle transportation from the horse barn will not be available during this time.** If any attendees arrive during the Friday evening programming time, they are responsible for carrying their own gear from the horse barn into camp.

**THERE WILL BE NO CHECK-IN ON SABBATH.** Please do not plan for your club or individual club members to arrive on Sabbath.

### **ARRIVAL INFORMATION:**

- **CAMPOREE “CHECK IN”:** All Camporee participants must be pre-registered and must stop at “Check in” by the Horse Barn in their vehicles before proceeding through Security. At “Check in”, each person in the vehicle will be checked off the registration list and given the appropriate armband. **Expect to experience some waiting at check-in. Please be patient as we process the arrivals.** Wristbands must be worn throughout the duration of Camporee.
- **PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANYONE WHO IS NOT REGISTERED.** It can be a long, lonely ride home. ☹ This includes individuals who would like to “take the place” of a registered attendee who is no longer coming. Check in is **NOT** the time for making registration changes.

- **SECURITY:** Proceed to the SECURITY GATE from “check in”, where wristbands will be checked on all individuals and Directors will be given their camping location assignment. Proceed to your assigned camping location and set up your camp.
- **NOTE:** Unregistered drivers will be given a pass at security if they are club drivers who are only delivering their clubs/equipment and then leaving the camp. They must leave promptly after dropping off passengers and supplies and return the pass at the security gate. Clubs must let the Pathfinder office know before Camporee if they have unregistered drivers dropping off passengers or supplies for the club.
- **DIRECTOR REGISTRATION:** After “Camp set up”, beginning Thursday at 2 pm, Directors must proceed to the Camp Headquarters in the Life Center lobby to register and receive more information.
- **LATE ARRIVALS:** If you anticipate a late arrival, please inform the office personnel so we can be adequately prepared for your arrival and give you appropriate instructions.

## **SAFETY & LOGISTICS**

**VEHICLE PARKING:** Following camp set-up, please remember that vehicles take up valuable camping space and must remain in designated parking areas. Only authorized maintenance/administrative vehicles will be allowed to operate throughout the camp facility. For the safety of our Pathfinders, **all other vehicles must remain parked until the designated time on Sunday.** If you anticipate that you will need to leave during the camporee, you must park your vehicle outside the main gates in the designated parking area.

- All clubs are **HIGHLY ENCOURAGED** to have at least one car parked outside the gate in case the need for transportation arises.

**ITEMS THAT CLUBS ARE REQUIRED TO BRING:** Clubs are required to bring the following items; Camporee staff may request to see these items during camp inspections:

- Medical forms for Pathfinders and staff
- First aid kit
- Fire extinguisher
- Medicine in a locked area (lockbox, car, etc.)

**ACCIDENTS** must be reported immediately to the club director, then to the Camporee Medical Personnel. Appropriate forms must also be filled out by the Club Director and mailed to the Georgia-Cumberland Conference office, Attention: Pathfinders and/or GCC Insurance Dept., NOT TO RISK MANAGEMENT or to the MEDICAL FACILITY.

- **FIRST AID KITS:** Each club is expected to provide their own basic first aid kit to take care of minor medical issues for their members.

**SUPERVISION:** Camporee camping arrangements are by club. Each club is responsible for providing separate male and female camping accommodations (1-5 ratios). Each group of five Pathfinders must have one counselor (over 21 years of age) assigned to it. This counselor must be mature enough to assume full responsibility for the boys or girls in the unit and should be with them at all times! Adults (including Pathfinders) age 18 and over may not sleep in tents with Pathfinders under 18 years of age.

- Pathfinders and TLTs must be supervised by staff at all times, regardless of their age. They may not roam the camp without supervision.
- Staff dependents must be supervised at all times, regardless of their age.

### **CAMPFIRES:**

- **NO GROUND FIRES ARE PERMITTED.** You may bring above ground fire pits. The GCC Pathfinder department does not supply them.
- Clubs must bring wood if planning a unit campfire in their above ground pit. No local trees may be cut down.
- If you have a fire, you **MUST have a fire extinguisher and bucket of water at the campsite.**
- **Campfires MUST NEVER BE LEFT UNATTENDED!** *If left unattended, the fire equipment will be confiscated.*
- In the event of high winds, fires will not be permitted.
- Wood should be completely cool before being thrown into the clearly marked 55-gallon barrel "ASH" cans. No ashes or burnt wood are to be placed in the dumpsters. No ashes on the road... no ashes in the creek.

**ENTRYWAY CONTEST:** While we support and encourage creativity for the entryway contest, digging holes in the ground for your club's display is strictly prohibited. If anyone digs holes, they may be liable for repair costs.

### **To help avoid any unwanted forest "Guests":**

- Please keep all food items properly wrapped and locked in vehicles.
- Please do not allow PF to keep snack foods in their tents.
- Clean all dishes/pots, grills, etc. immediately after each meal.
- Double wrap all trash and put in dumpsters – DO NOT LEAVE in your campsite.

**EXTENSION CORDS** may NOT be used to connect your campsite to any building or electrical source.

**CAMPSITE BOUNDARIES:** Each club's camping area is calculated by the number of club members who are registered for this event. Tents and all equipment must be contained within the boundary lines that have been set for the club and nothing may be set up in the roadway. We recommend that you arrange tents to maximize the space so that you allow enough room for your gathering/eating area. Small RV's may be able to

be accommodated but they must fit within the camping area that has been assigned and must be completely self-contained. There will be no water or electrical hook ups.

**EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES:** Each club must be self-sustaining. This means that each club will have its own food, cooking equipment, bedding, tents, tables, and everything needed for the Camporee. You can choose for food preparation to be done by units or by club.

**ICE:** Ice will be available for purchase at the Life Center - \$5.00 for a 20 lb. bag. Clubs that need ice on Sabbath may take the ice they need and must sign the "IOU" list on the clipboard by the ice truck or in the office area of the Life Center. Payment will be due at checkout on Sunday morning.

### **WATER SOURCES AND WASTE DISPOSAL:**

- Water Sources may be a considerable distance from many campsites. Clubs must bring appropriate containers to provide for water needs.
- **NO WASHING DISHES AT WATER FILL STATIONS, BATHHOUSE OR CREEK.**
- **Gray water** is to be dumped only in designated "Gray Water" Barrels.
- **Trash:** There is no trash pick-up service so plan to transport your trash to the trash dumpsters. Please place all trash in trash bags. Do not leave your trash unattended in your campsite to attract unwanted forest "guests."
- **ASH BINS are ONLY for ashes**, not trash! Do not put trash in the ash bins. Make sure that ashes disposed of in the ash cans are fully extinguished and cooled.
- Transport method suggestions: Use wagons or a crew of Pathfinders. Come prepared!

### **DO NOT BRING:**

- Pets or animals of any kind .... ANY KIND!!
- All forms of music players or T.V.'s
- Fireworks
- Motorcycles, Scooters or Bicycles
- In-line skates, skateboards, roller blades, etc.
- Drones

**REGISTERED SERVICE DOGS:** Owners must pre-arrange with the GCC Pathfinder office and the owner must provide official service animal registration documentation. Service dogs must be kept on a leash at all times and wear official service animal gear when in public. Owner **must** clean up after the dog– do not leave waste on the ground.

**COURTESY:** Units and staff **MUST** sit together during programs. Please be on time to all appointments. Others will be sharing facilities during this weekend; please be courteous.

**QUIET TIME:** Please strictly observe quiet time hours as designated in the Camporee schedule. If used, generators must only be operated during designated times.

**DRUM CORPS:** Be respectful of others. No playing drums during quiet time. First offense – warning. Second offense – instruments will be taken. Third offense – Club will be banned from bringing instruments to future events.

**CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES/HONORS:** Each club should plan to provide at least two different honors/activities – one for Friday and one for Sabbath afternoon. Please plan for your activity/honor to operate throughout the hours that are designated on the program with appropriate personnel to operate them. PLEASE FILL OUT THE GOOGLE FORM sent to each director so that we can better meet your needs and so that we can have the correct information about your honor/activity to pass on to Camporee participants.

- Clubs with larger registered Camporee attendance (40 attendees and above) should plan to provide two honors on Friday and two honors on Sabbath.

**VOLUNTEERS:** The GCC Pathfinder department also needs adult and TLT volunteers for various Conference-sponsored activities and responsibilities. A survey of volunteers needed will be sent to directors.

**CLEAN UP DUTIES:** Hygienic activities are also part of Camporee. Each club is assigned clean up duties during Camporee to allow proper use of facilities throughout the event. Please make sure to Do Your Honest Part by adhering to the cleaning schedule and completing your club assignments throughout the Camporee weekend.

**CHECKOUT:** Director must complete the checkout process before leaving on Sunday in order to pick up patches, pins, Camporee flag ribbons, etc. Please have your club complete their Sunday clean up assignment before checkout and remember to return your club banner, as well as the plastic post and the metal rebar (in the ground).

**PLEASE WATCH YOUR EMAILS FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ACTIVITIES AND ANY CHANGES THAT MAY OCCUR IN THE PROGRAMMING AND/OR SCHEDULE.**

**PLEASE PASS ALL INFORMATION ON TO YOUR CLUB STAFF so there are no surprises for them.**

Questions? Please contact the GCC Pathfinder department by emailing [pathfinders@gccsda.com](mailto:pathfinders@gccsda.com) or calling 706-629-7951 ext. 344.