



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE PLATEAU**

Summer Camp Orientation Guide

Please read over this summer camp orientation packet carefully with your child.

Programming Hours:

Monday – Friday

7:30 am - 6:00 pm

Important Dates:

Summer Camp Begins: Tuesday, June 10th

Club Closed: Thursday, July 3rd - Friday, July 4th

Summer Camp Ends: Friday, August 8th

Our Program

We strive to make our Club a fun and exciting environment for all our members to ensure they have the best summer ever! Club members are placed in groups based on their grade level with trained counselors. During the day, members will participate in a variety of activities including:

- **Triple Play** (*BGCA's health and wellness program to promote active lifestyles*)
- **Healthy Habits** (*emphasizes good nutrition, regular physical activity and improved overall well-being*)
- **High-Yield Activities** (*fun with a purpose, typically group games designed to promote healthy social relationships*)
- **STEM & Art** (*educational activities aimed at foster inquiring minds, logical reasoning, collaboration skills, & creative expression of thoughts and feelings*)
- **Imaginative Play** (*structured free play to let the imagination run wild*)
- **Reading Siesta** (*quiet time to relax with a book or just have some down time*)

Much of our time will be spent outdoors, so it is imperative that campers arrive prepared for the day! Please refer to the FAQ section for a suggested day packing list.

Our Staff

BGCP staff specialize in youth development. Club staff participate in frequent training sessions that enable us to provide a safe and fun atmosphere for kids. Most of our daily program counselors are university students pursuing a wide variety of degree areas that directly align with BGCP's mission (including education, parks and recreation, recreational therapy, environmental health, and psychology). For more information about our leadership team, please visit our website.

Our Sites

Cashiers Club, 558 Frank Allen Road, Cashiers, NC 28717
Rising 1st graders - rising 6th graders

Abell Teen Club, 558 Frank Allen Road, Cashiers, NC 28717
Rising 7th graders - rising 12th graders

Highlands Club, 171 Hospital Drive, Highlands, NC 28741
Rising 1st graders - Rising 6th graders

Field Trips

We will be going on many field trips throughout the summer! While most of our field trips will involve all members from a grade to go on a field trip, campers may have certain field trips they sign themselves up for. You will be notified about all the field trips BGCP will run every week through email and signage in the lobby.

We also ask that you communicate with your child if they will be unable to attend certain trips so that they do not attempt to sign up if you have a scheduling conflict. Common field trips

include local area hikes such as Gorges State Park, Whiteside Mountain, art activities at the Bascom, nature programs with Highlands/Cashiers Land Trust. We also take advantage of the wonderful summer library programs offered for youth.

Water Days

BGCP hosts water days either outside at our pavilion or by going on an off-campus field trip to a pool or lake. On water days it is important for your child to bring a swimsuit, towel, and closed toe water shoes. We strongly encourage children's swimwear to be something that they feel comfortable wearing and recommend packing a cover up and extra pair of clothes as well. If your child does not have a swimsuit on water days, they will not be able to participate in the water activities. If your child does not have a swimsuit on pool or lake days, they may still come on the trip, but will not be allowed to get in the water. Alternatively, they may be asked to stay at Club with another grade level. **If a child does not have closed toe water shoes they will have to wear the closed toe shoes that they came to Club in.** Members who refuse to wear their closed toe shoes during water activities will not be allowed to participate or will be sent home.

Movie Days

We show movies and visit the library for movie days during the summer. Members in 1st - 6th grade will watch movies that are PG rated. If you are not comfortable with your child watching PG rated movies (such as Sing or How to Train Your Dragon), please notify the office so we can make other arrangements. Members who are in our Teen program (7th - 12th grade) will watch movies that are PG and PG-13 rated. If you are not comfortable with your child watching PG-13 rated movies please notify the office so we can make other arrangements.

Meals

BGCP provides two snacks per day - one in the morning and one in the afternoon. You are responsible for packing lunches for your child. If possible, please refrain from packing food items that contain nut products. Please keep in mind that BGCP does not have a way to warm up food for your child's lunch. Everyone will have lunch around noon each day. Members are not allowed to share food with other members.

Injury & Illnesses

If a camper is injured during Camp or receives any type of first aid, staff fill out an Injury Report for parents/guardians to sign at pick-up time. Many of our staff are certified in First Aid and CPR. We will attempt to notify parents immediately of any major injuries or illnesses. Sick members will not be allowed to participate in camp activities and must be picked up from the Club to prevent spread of contagious illnesses.

*** Any members with a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea may not return to camp until 24 hours after the fever has broken and/or symptoms are no longer present. ***

Safety Drills

Over the course of the summer, BGCP will conduct a safety drill at least once every month. We conduct these drills so that members and staff know what to do in case of an emergency at Club. You will be notified about when these safety drills will occur through the weekly emails that will be sent out. If you would like for your child to not participate in these drills please refrain from bringing them to Club.

Apparel

Members must wear appropriate clothing and closed toe shoes at all times. The only exception to this policy is water days, where members may wear swim attire that they feel comfortable in. **For the safety of our members and staff, everyone must wear closed toe shoes at all times.** Members will be sent home if they are not wearing closed toe shoes or refuse to wear closed toed shoes.

Personal Belongings

All backpacks, lunchboxes, water bottles, and towels must be labeled with your child's first name and last initial. Parents are welcome to label their child's belongings with a luggage tag, permanent marker, or sticker.

If your child brings a personal item from home, BGCP is not responsible for the item if it becomes lost, stolen, or damaged. Unlabeled, unclaimed personal items will be placed in the Lost and Found. If items are not claimed from the lost and found, they will be donated or thrown away on a rolling basis. Personal items include but are not limited to:

- toys
- games/sport cards
- towels
- water bottles
- stuffed animals
- fidgets
- jewelry
- eyewear
- etc.

We strongly encourage that toys and other personal items be left at home.

Pick up and Drop off

Parents will be able to drop off members between 7:30 am - 9:00 am and pick them up between 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Parents will only be able to drop off and pick up their children at the location they have registered for. If you would like to pick up or drop off from another location or at a different time please contact the HR & Membership Coordinator.

Please be aware that if you try to drop off your child after 9:00 am your child may not be able to participate in programming with their group that day as we have many field trips happening over Summer Camp. If you want to pick up your child before 4:00 pm your child might be on a field trip and unable to leave.

Please help us keep our campers and staff healthy this summer!

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- **What should my child bring or pack in their backpack everyday?**
 - **Closed toe shoes!** If your child shows up to Club without closed toe shoes they **WILL** be sent home. This is not an encouragement but a **requirement** in order to attend BGCP's Summer Camp.
 - Lunch
 - Water bottle
 - Change of clothes
 - Tennis Shoes
 - Towel
 - Bathing Suit
 - Sunscreen

*If members are not adequately prepared, they may **not** be allowed to participate in certain activities. Members' names must be marked on all personal belongings.*

- **How does drop off and pick up work?**

For your child's safety, you must come into the office to drop off and pick up your child.

Members must be dropped off from 7:30 am - 9:00 am and picked up from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Members are only authorized to be picked up by individuals who are listed as your child's emergency contacts.

Adults other than parents/guardians may be authorized to pick up members; please be sure to verify your "authorized pick-up list" with our office.

- **My child is going home with a friend after camp today. Do I need to call?**

If your child is to be picked up by someone who is not on the pick-up list, we will need to verify by phone or in person with you. We will also request photo identification for anyone picking up a child.

- **There's a field trip for my child's group, but I am picking my child up before the trip returns. What do I need to do?**

If your child will be present at camp but cannot go on a scheduled trip, please remind your child not to sign up. Please also let us know at the front desk during drop-off or call (828) 743-2775.

- **Is there a dress code for campers?**

We recommend that campers wear comfortable clothing that is well-suited for the outdoors. We request that clothing does not reference weapons, drugs, alcohol, or violence, and that there is no offensive language or other graphics. All shirts should have sleeves; we spend a lot of time in the sun! If we deem a camper's clothing as inappropriate, he/she may be asked to change.

Campers must wear closed toe shoes.

- **Do campers have to participate in every activity?**

We do require members to participate in the regular daily activities with positive attitudes. Each program and activity has been designed with a purpose and our staff work hard to ensure the emotional and physical safety of your child. If your child is unable to participate due to medical reasons, please present a doctor's note so that our staff may take utmost care in the safety of your child.

- **Can I drop my child off earlier than 7:30am?**

No, our office does not open until 7:30 am, and this is the absolute earliest members can be dropped off during the summer. *Remember, you must come into the office when you drop your child off.* Please DO NOT drop off your child and leave them outside of the Club unattended before Club opens.

- **What happens if I am unable to pick up my child by 6:00pm?**

Please call our office at (828) 743-2775 as soon as you know you will be late. Local authorities may be contacted for assistance if a member is not picked up after program hours and we can't reach the parent, guardian, or emergency contacts.

- **How should I notify you of allergies and dietary restrictions of my child?**

All known allergies and/or dietary restrictions should be included in your child's application. If you become aware of any that were not included, please notify the front office.

If your child requires emergency rescue medications (albuterol or epinephrine), we must have those medications on hand with the appropriate form prior to your child attending camp.

- **How do I stay up to date with Club information?**

It is important that you check your emails and the front desk for updates and reminders.

Consent Form

I, _____ (Parent/Guardian Name Print) have thoroughly read the Summer Camp Orientation Guide and Family Handbook and have reviewed them with my child who is registered for summer camp. I understand the policies and rules for Summer Camp it outlines and will adhere to it while my child is a member of BGCP's Summer Camp 2025. I understand that my child/children:

_____ (Child Name Print)

_____ (Child Name Print)

_____ (Child Name Print)

_____ (Child Name Print)

_____ (Child Name Print)

Will be held to the policies and rules that are outlined and explained in the Summer Camp Orientation Guide and the Honor Policy.

Parent Signature: _____

Management Signature: _____

Date: _____