



**Big Cove YMCA Camp Office**  
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## Big Cove YMCA Camp - Policy Updates 2017

### **Technology Policy**

At Big Cove YMCA Camp we operate an unplugged site. This means that we recognize the enormous value in spending time apart from cell phones, personal video game devices and other similar “screens”. We ask that all of our participants leave their personal devices at home. Our staff commit to refraining from using these types of technology during Big Cove YMCA Camp’s programs. If campers are found to have personal technology at camp, staff will safely store the item until the campers time to return home.

### **Friend Request Policy**

We hope to make camper groups where participants are able to grow, thrive, lead and belong. To help with this, we avoid setting up groups where half (4) of the campers know each other prior to camp as the resulting dynamics can prove challenging. You may request for your camper to be grouped with one friend. Both must be registered in the same camp option. If your camper knows three other campers in the same camp, please request groupings of two and two.

### **Care Package Policy**

Time spent away from home, at camp, can be both challenging and very rewarding. Some parents choose to send their campers mail, which can be a highlight for campers and help them through their new experiences. “Care packages”(mail that may contain items such as books/comics, letter writing materials, pre-addressed and stamped envelopes, toys etc.) can be thrilling to receive. They can prove challenging however. Campers in the group may become jealous or homesick if they do not receive a package.

In addition, food in care packages poses several challenges. As a nut-safe facility, anything which contains nuts can pose a threat to the health and safety of our campers and staff. Food cannot be stored in cabins as they attract critters like squirrels.

At Big Cove YMCA Camp, we do not encourage care packages. However, if you do choose to send your camper a care package, **food is strictly prohibited and will be confiscated.**