Boys’ and Girls’ Club 2021

The excitement on the south end of the grounds was evident as Chautauqua children arrived last Monday for the first day of Club in two years. Smiling faces, fist-bumps, and screams of delight were witnessed across the campus as Clubbers met their counselors and groupers they had not seen in an unusually long time. With perfect camp weather for much of the week, Club 2021 was off to a great and long-awaited start.

Did You Know?

A commonly asked question is “What is SAC?” SAC is an acronym for Senior Athletic Club. It began in 1945, as a group to train future counselors. Over time it has evolved to become the group for our oldest groupers. It is currently the group for 9th and 10th graders. When the enrollment allows, the 9th and 10th graders are in the same group. When enrollment is high they may be split into SAC 1 and SAC 2, as they are at this time.

Counseling Staff

Club counselors come to CHQ from across the country. This year, counselors hail from New York, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina, as well as the District of Columbia and Trinidad.

Staff Orientation

All Club employees, from thirty-year veterans to first-year Youth Leaders, participated in a two-day orientation designed to acquaint them with the most recent guidance from the CDC, the NYS Department of Health, and Chautauqua Institution regarding Covid-19 protocols. Former Clubber, counselor, and current parent Erin Cornelius joined us for an informative session on the social and emotional health of the children we are serving. Veteran employees partnered with younger staff to discuss safety, explain games/activities, review expectations of counselors and campers when in the water, etc. The leadership team, composed of certified educators with over 150 years of teaching experience, shared tips they used in the classroom or as Club counselors to form cohesive groups, keep kids attention, and provide a quality Club experience for all.

Daily Prescreening

Parents/grandparents/guardians are reminded to complete the five questions regarding the children under their care before 8:00 a.m. each morning.

We are looking forward to another great week. Thank you for sharing your children with us during your Chautauqua Summer!
Changes at Club

In order to protect participants at Club, a number of changes have been instituted on our campus for the 2021 season:

1. Hand sanitizer stations have been placed at nearly every entrance to Club buildings.
2. Groups are being treated as “pods,” and their schedule has been built to not only give children a variety of activities throughout the day, but to also see that “pods” remain physically distanced from each other.
3. While outside, masks are optional for children and vaccinated staff; when indoors, all staff and children are required to wear a mask.
4. Groups have been “capped” at significantly lower numbers. This allows us to accommodate children in the safest manner, even when on rain schedule.
5. The cleaning of crafts rooms, bathrooms, and common areas is taking place more frequently.

All of these procedures have been put in place to better ensure the safety of Club participants.

Safety

- Sports sandals or sneakers should be worn to Club.
- Swimming activities take place in the lake. It is highly recommended that water shoes are worn during water activities.
- Parents should consult with the Club Nurse regarding any special health needs.
- NYS law requires children under the age of 14 to wear a helmet while riding a bike.

Reminders

- **Checking In:** Club starts at 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. each day. Groupers should arrive between 8:50 and 9:00 in the morning and between 1:50 and 2:00 in the afternoon.
- **Lost and Found:** Items left behind at Club are collected at the end of the day and put in a blue bin in the Beeson Youth Center. At the end of each week items are taken to the Main Gate Lost and Found.
- **Towels/Swimsuits:** Groups 1-8 participate in swimming each day. Please send your child to Club with a swimsuit, towel, and water shoes.

Club Song

Onward Boys’ Club, Onward Girls’ Club
Full of life and pep and vigor
Cheers forever, solemn never
That’s our Boys’ (Girls’) Club rap
Rah! Rah! Rah!

Onward Boys’ Club, Onward Girls’ Club
If you’re red or blue
We’ll win our CBCs (CGCs)
As we hail to you...Hey!