

## **CLUB CHAIRPERSON PACKET**

Thank you for supporting Camp Neidig by volunteering to be the club chairperson. Our committee and camp staff are available to answer questions and help you through the process for registering your club, the students individually and arranging transportation to and from camp. We highly suggest you attend the "Neidig Night Chicken BBQ" and attend the closing ceremony. This will give you a greater appreciation for what the students experience over the 4 day leadership camp.

See the **IMPORTANT DEADLINES** file so you are aware of the deadlines for 2024.

Your primary responsibilities are updating the club registration form, ensuring the participants register individually, and mailing payment along with the confirmation form to Joyce Farmer by Friday, May 17. Indicate the total # of students your club plans to send to camp and send the checks as soon as possible. The reservation fee of \$325 per camper must accompany each club reservation. This fee is NON-refundable after June 1<sup>st</sup>, \$50 cancellation fee before June 1. ALL CAMPERS MUST BE REGISTERED BY FRIDAY, MAY 31.

If you don't already have a contact to recruit students with your local high school, reach out to the Principal or Director of Guidance at your high school(s) as soon as possible. Ask him/her to recommend students completing the 11<sup>th</sup> grade who have exhibited leadership potential and who would benefit from advanced leadership training. You can also canvas the members of your club. Rotarians' children or grandchildren often make great campers. We only accept campers who are currently juniors and finishing their 11th grade year of high school. If you'd like assistance finding a contact within the high school, please email Jonathan Hostermwho is one of our camp staff members and has volunteered to assist making connections with our Rotary Clubs and the high schools. jihoster@syr.edu

Please note that **no campers are allowed to leave camp for any reason except for a family emergency.** (If they do have to leave for an emergency, they can only leave with their parent or guardian.) This policy is **strictly enforced**, so make sure your student will be able to attend the entire camp.

Make sure your name, club name, and phone numbers are on all student information packets. Individual clubs have various methods of camper selection. Some leave the selection process entirely in the hands of school personnel, and some very hands-on clubs meet with and interview potential campers before making a selection. However you handle the selection process, it is important that students and their parents know who you are and how to contact you.

Confirm the parent/guardian has completed the online Individual Registration Form by Friday, May 17. The students also need to make sure all information is completed on the health information form as well prior to attending camp. This deadline is extremely important for the District Committee to plan for a successful operation.

**Contact your campers and their parents.** Make sure they have reviewed and understand all the information in their packets. Encourage them to visit the website for new information and announcements. Answer any questions or concerns.

Make sure your campers are aware of the <u>Camper Health Examination Form</u>! A licensed physician MUST complete this form <u>within one month of camp</u>, and it <u>MUST accompany the student to camp</u>. Please note that **this form has 4 pages.** No students can be admitted to camp without this completed form!

It's YOUR responsibility to see that students arrive at camp on Friday between 1 and 2:30 PM and have a ride home Monday night. The Camp program begins promptly at 3:00 PM! If your club transports the student(s),

make sure all arrangements have been made. (NOTE: in keeping with the District's safety policy, there should be at least three people in any car where a Rotarian is transporting a student to or from camp. No one-on-one interaction is permitted). Campers are not permitted to have their own vehicles at camp. If parents are transporting the student, make sure every student has a ride. Please do not arrive before 1 PM of Friday. The first meal the students will get is dinner on Friday evening, so ensure all campers have lunch before arriving at camp on Friday afternoon.

It's YOUR responsibility to see that each camper has a ride home after camp. If the camper's parents are unable to bring him/her home, make sure the camper gets a ride with another camper or a Rotarian. It is extremely embarrassing to find a camper left without a ride home at the conclusion of camp. We strongly encourage all parents to attend the closing ceremonies and chicken BBQ.

**Encourage other Rotarians to attend Neidig Night.** Monday night is the culmination of camp. "Neidig Night" is held not only for the students, but also for the benefit of parents and Rotarians. Encourage your club president to designate this as your regular meeting for the week and get your members out for a great evening! Encourage spouses to come along and **invite the parents of the campers** to attend. This is a great way of exposing Rotary's activities to the public! Join the fellowship and family dinner and see a great program in action. Information on this dinner is enclosed with this packet. (*Neidig Night also often qualifies as a make-up meeting for Rotary.*)

**Invite your campers to your Rotary club meeting.** After camp is over in June, invite your campers to return to your club with a report of their activities and to share some photographs. Most clubs find this a very rewarding program, as it is a way to see tangible results for their dollars and learn how this camp impacts our youth in 4 days. Schedule the date early with your camper(s) as they typically have busy schedules of their own.

If this is your first year as a chairperson for your club for D7430 Rotary Youth Leadership Camp Neidig or you are a returning chairperson, we thank you and also want to offer support. Reach out to one of our committee members for advice and best practices. If you are really curious, we can arrange a call with one of our staff members who dedicate 4 days annually to make this camp a success. The majority of our staff serve many years continuously because they believe in the program. They would be happy to share additional stories to help your club have a successful student experience.

Please attend the **club chairperson information session on February 12, 2024 at 7:30 pm online**. A virtual link will be sent closer to the meeting to all the contact people submitted on the club registration google form.

DG Diane is allowing the Camp Neidig Committee a few moments during the February 5th Presidents meeting. A brief overview of Camp Neidig and the 2024 registration process will be covered for the presidents and a reminder to have the club chairperson attend the online information session on February 11, 2024.

2024 Camp Director: Dr. Stephen Burnham <a href="mailto:s\_burnham@conradweiser.org"><u>s\_burnham@conradweiser.org</u></a>
2024 Co-Camp Committee Chairs: Dr. Charlie Incalcaterra <a href="mailto:cjidmd@ptd.net">cjidmd@ptd.net</a>
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