



UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON
CAMPUS RECREATION

Cougar Cub Camp Parent's Guide Summer 2022

UH Cougar Cub Summer Camp 2022 Parent's Guide

Cougar Cub Camp Administration

Steven Knecht – Assistant Director, Recreational Sports and Family Programs – Camp Director
Office Phone: (713) 743-3932 Email: spknecht@uh.edu

Shaneisha Weir – Coordinator, Recreational Sports and Family Programs
Office Phone: (713) 743-9519 Email: sweir@uh.edu

Kim Clark – Executive Director, Campus Recreation
Office Phone: (713) 743-5478 Email: kdclark@uh.edu

Campus Recreation Contact Information

Main Campus Recreation Sports Office	(713) 743-5576
Campus Recreation Welcome Desk	(713) 743-7529
Campus Recreation Admin Office	(713) 743-9500
Campus Recreation Fax	(713) 743-9517
Website	uh.edu/recreation

Campus Recreation Mission Statement

Campus Recreation provides inclusive recreational experiences that inspire student success and lifelong well-being.

Campus Recreation Vision Statement

UH Campus Recreation aspires to create a culture of:

- **Engagement**, by providing opportunities for involvement through the utilization of extraordinary facilities, programs, and services
- **Connection**, by uniting individuals through recreational activities and programs to foster a sense of belonging
- **Learning**, by creating experiential learning opportunities that meet the needs of the diverse UH community

Campus Recreation Values

SERVICE – We are committed to providing quality service to the UH community through intentional patron interactions, safe and reliable equipment, well-maintained facility spaces, effective communication, and knowledgeable staff.

INTEGRITY – We are driven by our mission, vision and values in all decisions. Through our actions, we will demonstrate knowledgeable and consistent decision-making that results in beneficial outcomes for all stakeholders.

EMPOWERMENT – We foster the personal growth of our stakeholders through opportunities for self-discovery, teambuilding, and engagement in experiential leadership and learning.

FUN - We strive to provide an enjoyable and challenging environment for participants and employees, in an attempt to improve personal success and strengthen the connection to UH.

SAFETY – We are dedicated to providing an environment free from physical, mental, and emotional harm. We will utilize risk management training and techniques to prepare all staff members to recognize and correct any potential hazards, as well as respond to accidents and emergencies.

INCLUSION – We demonstrate our commitment to inclusion by providing intentional programming and services for all. We embrace a full spectrum of opportunities that challenge the UH community to grow and think differently.

Cougar Cub Summer Camp Overview

UH Cougar Cub Summer Camp's intent is to make summer a fun, happy and safe experience for your child. Our services extend throughout the community reaching children of varied ethnic, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Our *purpose* is to provide a quality camper experience to support parents in their desire for their children to grow to their fullest potential. Each child has talents and skills to develop, energy to put to use, and huge reservoirs of creativity that need to be encouraged. Our program provides 6-11 year-olds with chances to unwind, explore and experiment, discover new ideas, work cooperatively in small groups and enjoy large group activities.

Our Mission Statement:

Through quality programs, UH Cougar Cub Summer Camp develops youth, strengthens and supports families, and creates health and wellness for all.

Hours of Operation:

- Normal Day 8:30am-4:30pm

Weeks of Summer Camp Programming:

Individual Sessions	
Summer Session 1: June 6 th – June 10 th	Summer Session 5: July 11 th – July 15 th
Summer Session 2: June 13 th – June 17 th	Summer Session 6: July 18 th – July 22 nd
Summer Session 3: June 20 th – June 24 th	Summer Session 7: July 25 th – July 29 th
Summer Session 4: June 27 th – July 1 st	Summer Session 8: August 1 st – August 5 th

Summer Camp Meet and Greet

Mark your calendar for *Friday June 3rd*. Campers and parents will have the opportunity to meet counselors and learn all about what the 2022 camp season will have to offer. This is a drop in event; there is not a program or activities planned. Our staff will give a tours, provide information, we will verify paperwork and payments have been completed, and answer any questions you or your child may have.

Camp Communication

Camp will utilize a software called Class Dojo to help facilitate communication between Camp Administration and parents. All parents are encouraged to download their free app to a personal handheld device. An email will be sent via Class Dojo for parents to join to access their camper's profile. Only email addresses listed within the contact section within the registration packet will initially be sent a notification email.

Class Dojo will be utilized for minor injury reporting, assisting with internal camp roster management, and assisting in emergency notifications.

Age Groups

Weekly camper limit: 60 campers

Age limit: 6 – 11 year olds

Siblings of the same age or with in age range from the same household will remain in the same group for the entirety of the weeklong session.

Group Modifications

- Depending on registration numbers, this will be the base format for our group structures. We do reserve the right to combine groups or split groups if needed, but we will do so with discretion.
 - Age Cohort: 6-7 year olds (20 campers and 2 counselors total)
 - Group A: 10 campers plus 1 counselor
 - Group B: 10 campers plus 1 counselor
 - Age Cohort: 8-9 year olds (20 campers and 2 counselors total)
 - Group A: 10 campers plus 2 counselor
 - Group B: 10 campers plus 2 counselor
 - Age Cohort: 10-11 year olds (20 campers and 2 counselors total)
 - Group A: 10 campers plus 1 counselor
 - Group B: 10 campers plus 1 counselor
- Each Cohort will have a maximum of 20 campers per group. Camper to counselor ratio is 10:1.

Registration, Payments, Discounts, Refunds

Admission Policies

UH Cougar Cub Camp admits children ages 6-11 years of age. UH Cougar Cub Camp will address physically challenged and special needs children on a per request basis with the hope that we can serve all children who come to us. UH Cougar Cub Camp does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national or ethnic origin in administration of its personnel and admissions policies.

Limited Enrollment

Enrollment space in all of our sessions is limited. Group sizes range from ten (10) to a maximum of twenty (20) per age group. This allows for a low child-to-instructor/group leader ratio, typically 10-1 ratio. We will typically have two counselors with each group at all times. The Assistant Director, Coordinator, Graduate Assistant and Camp Intern for Recreational Sports and Family Programs will be floating amongst the groups as well.

Registration Information

Camp Fees

- **Regular Registration – March 23rd**
 - UH CRWC Member - \$162
 - UH Non-CRWC Member - \$200

**Extended care allows you to pick-up your child no later than 5:00pm.*

Membership Discount: To receive the camp discount the membership needs to extend through the entire camp season. What that means is, you must have a current membership when you submit the registration for payment, as well as have a current membership through the 8 weeks of camps too. We have two options for membership: pre-pay and payroll deduction. With pre-pay you can purchase an annual membership for \$348. If you cancel the pre-pay annual membership before the 12 months are up, you will not receive a refund. With payroll deduction, if you cancel the payroll deduction membership before the 12 months are up, you will be charged a \$100 cancellation fee.

Refund Policy:

COVID-19 Refund:

In the event that a camper contracts COVID or is not able to continue with camp for any other reason the following refund policy will be enforced:

General Refund Policy:

All refund requests must be submitted in writing and received by UH Camp Administration by the dates below.

Refund Amount	Request must be received
100%	May 1st by 5pm
75%	Between May 1st – May 15th by 5pm
50%	After May 15th and no later than 15 business days before purchased session begins
25%	Within 15 business days of purchased session
0%	No refund after the first Monday of session or week

Camps Fees paid by credit card will be credited immediately upon approval by UH Camp Administration. Purchases made by check or cash will be refunded by direct deposit within four to six weeks after approval by UH Camp Administration. Refunds will be made only to original payee or credit card holder.

Absences: Refunds are not available for vacations, special events, short-term illnesses, or other personal commitments that prevent attendance. Refunds for long term illnesses or family emergency of one full camp week will be handled on a case by case basis.

Dismissal: On occasion, dismissal may be necessary for disciplinary reasons. This action will take effect only after conversation among the parents, camp (if appropriate) and the camp Director. If camper is dismissed for disciplinary reason, there will be NO REFUND for the unused days. Campers may be dismissed immediately if deemed a harm to themselves or others by the Campus Recreation full time staff.

Camp Fees paid by credit card will be credited immediately upon approval by UH Camp Administration. Purchases made by check or cash will be refunded by direct deposit within four to six weeks after approval by UH Camp Administration. Refunds will be made only to original payee or credit card holder. For cash or check payments, a [Vendor Setup Form](#) must be completed

Additional Fees Policy:

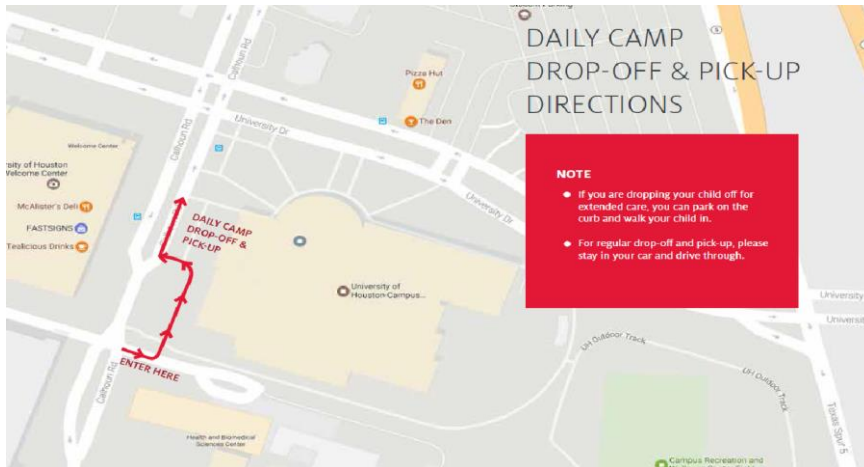
If your check or draft is returned for any reason, a RETURNED CHECK FEE will be assessed. If more than two checks are returned, UH Cougar Cub Camp will be unable to accept your personal checks. At that time, all future payments must be paid in cash or money order.

Daily Camp Procedures for Parents and Campers

Arrival and Dismissal

UH Cougar Cub Camp begins at 8:30am and ends at 4:30pm, unless registered for the Extended Day Program. Campers should not be dropped off before 8:00 am. Campers will be met by camp staff at the meter parking lot located on the side of the building on Calhoun Street. If you arrive at camp after 8:30am, you will have to walk your child into the Campus Recreation Center main entrance and sign in. A UH Cougar Cub Camp staff member will escort your child to the scheduled activity. Please try and make every effort to make sure campers arrive on time. Dismissal will begin at 4:30pm. Campers will be

dismissed from the area where they were dropped off. Parents have the option of using the carpool line or coming into the Campus Recreation Center and picking their child up. All parents or authorized pick-ups will need to sign their child out of the camp program daily. All campers should be picked up at 4:30pm. Children who are not picked up by 4:30 PM will be brought to the Rec Sports Office. Parents will be required to come into the Campus Recreation Center and sign their child out of the program and must adhere to late Pick-up Policy.



Everyone will be provided with two (2) name plates for pick up. Anyone who is coming to pick up a camper must have a name plate with the appropriate campers name listed on the plate. The name plate should be displayed on the front dash of the vehicle so campers can be called ahead of time and the pick-up process can run smoothly and efficiently.

Sign-In/Sign-Out:

Camp Staff will note the time that your camper was dropped off and sign them in. Parents sign their camper out before leaving in the afternoon. There is a sign-in/sign-out pre-printed sheet available as you go through carpool or enter the building. Please get into the habit of this DAILY REQUIRED step. There must be an exchange of responsibility from one adult to another, not from child to staff. All persons signing children in/out must be at least 18 years of age and show a government issued photo ID. We cannot release minors to minors.

Drop off time will remain the same 8:00am-8:30 am. Parents must remain in the car and wear a face covering when interacting with staff during drop off and pick up.

Counselors will meet campers outside and escort them into their designated area.

Once one camper is in the CRWC, one counselor per cohort will remain in the CRWC and one counselor will go back and forth to escort campers.

For Parents:

- Parents must assess their children's health prior to coming to campus by doing the following:
 - Take their temperature on the day that they come to camp prior to arrival.
 - Conduct a self-assessment of your child's health/infection exposure on the day of any visit to campus and assess if you child is exhibiting any new symptoms (see below) related to COVID-19 that are not due to a pre-existing medical condition or a diagnosis of a medical condition unrelated to COVID-19.

- Symptoms include:
 - Fever (temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees) or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- If the camper exhibits any of these symptoms they will be asked not to attend camp that day.
- You may return to camp:
 - If your symptoms are a result of a pre-existing medical condition;
 - If your health care provider has advised that you have an alternative medical diagnosis that is unrelated to COVID-19 and are no longer contagious; or
 - If at least 24 hours has passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in symptoms, and at least 10 days has passed since symptoms first appeared.
- In the event that siblings are signed up for camp, if one person in the family is exhibiting symptoms or has been exposed to someone who has been lab confirmed with COVID-19, then the entire family has been exposed and cannot come to camp.

No parents or guardians will be permitted to visit the camp during or between camp sessions, except to drop-off and pick-up campers.

Late Pick Up Policy

UH Cougar Cub Summer Camp understands that a late pick up may occur on a rare occasion. However, please understand that we open at 8:00am sharp and close at 4:30 PM sharp. If your child is not picked up by the end of the Camp Program, a late fee will be charged and collected at that time.

The late fee is \$35. The fee is used to pay the two counselors (that are required by the State) who remain with your child. If you know you are going to be late, call us at 713-743-8041. We do understand that things come up and traffic can be challenging even at the best of times. If we have not heard from you by 5:00pm and we cannot reach you by phone, your emergency numbers will be called and one of those contacts will be asked to come and get your child. After that time, the police will be contacted to see if there has been an accident and/or to drive by your home to see if there is a problem.

Absences

If your child needs to miss a day of camp due to illness or other reasons, please notify us by emailing camp administration or calling the Camp Director at 713-743-5576 as soon as possible. There will be no refunds for camper absences or non-participation.

Everyday Campers must remember

- Lunch/2 snacks and a drink – labeled with child’s name
- Extra change of clothes
- Water bottle – labeled with child’s name
- Close-toed shoes

- A smile and an attitude ready to have fun

Clothing Policy

Children should wear comfortable and appropriate clothing for indoor and outdoor activities. We use washable paints and crayons, however, clothing can still get stained so please do not send your child in their best clothing. We do not reimburse for clothing rips, stains or normal wear and tear. Open-toed shoes can be a safety hazard to your child. Therefore, closed toed shoes are required for all children to participate in the Summer Camp. Sandals, flip-flops, crocs, boots, etc. are not allowed to be worn during camp activities (besides swim time). Campers need to have on appropriate footwear for a camp setting.

Please put the camper's first and last name on every item of clothing, towels and shoes with permanent marker. Remember... The nature of camp is to be very active and have fun, which often means getting dirty. Please do not send your child wearing anything they will be afraid to get dirty.

Food and Beverage

Campers must bring their own lunch each day. Lunches will not be refrigerated, so please consider this when packing lunches. Campers will remain separated in their cohorts during lunch and sit 6ft apart. Lunchtime will be staggered into three time blocks from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm.

We may provide some special event food/snacks please ensure you provide any food allergies on the registration form so we are aware.

Lost and Found

There will be a table located in the special event hallways that campers will have the opportunity to claim items at the end of each day before they are taken to Member Services. Any found items at the end of the day will be taken to the Member Service Desk where the items will be logged as either valuables or non-valuables. All found items will be logged and kept for a week. Valuable items will be transferred to the University of Houston Police Department. The department will only log and keep dry, non-perishable items. Campers need to be reminded to leave valuables at home and take what belongs from them from the cubbies area

Personal Property Policy

We have plenty of equipment and activities to keep your child busy all day long. Please do not allow any toys, games, sports equipment, cell phones, Nintendo DSs, or iPod type devices to accompany your child. Electronic devices are prohibited from camp and will be confiscated if discovered and returned at the end of the day to the parent. We will not be responsible for lost or stolen items.

Alcohol, Drugs & Weapons

Alcohol, drugs and weapons (includes replicas) are not permitted at the camp. If there is just cause to suspect improper items have been brought to camp the staff may conduct an administrative search and seize all contraband. The camper's parents/legal guardian will be notified immediately. All suspected illegal activity shall be brought to the attention of the University of Houston Police Department.

Camper Medical Procedures

What is Illness

Protecting all staff and children from illness is important. If any of the following conditions occurs while a child is in attendance, the child will be kept comfortable and isolated in a supervised location until a parent or guardian can pick them up. The Camp Administrator will contact the parent/guardian to let them know the symptoms and that they are required to pick their child up.

- Fever (forehead temperature above 100 degrees)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Head Lice
- Symptoms of an infectious disorder such as ringworm, pink eye, etc.
- Communicable disease
- Any other condition deemed necessary by the Camp Administrator for the well-being of the child and other children enrolled.
- The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in activities.
- The illness results in a greater need for care than the staff can provide without compromising the health, safety and supervision of the other children.

Return to Care

In the event that a child is sent home due to illness, they are not allowed to be admitted to camp the next day. Campus Recreation Cougar Cub Summer Camp follows the “24 Hour Rule” which means children must be symptom free for 24 hours prior to returning to care.

Medication Policy

Summer Camp staff are not able to administer medications. In the event a child needs medication, the parent/guardian is responsible for administering it. No medications can be stored or held for children, including over the counter medication.

Emergency Communication

If a child has a minor accident, staff will administer appropriate first aid to the child and then provide communication to the parent no later than at pick up. If a child has a more serious injury, Camp Administration will notify the parent/guardian. In the event that the parent/guardian does not answer, emergency contacts will be notified.

If there is an emergency requiring immediate medical attention, Camp Administration will notify the parent/guardian. In the event that the parent/guardian does not answer, emergency contacts will be notified. A Camp Administrator and/or a Campus Recreation full-time staff member will accompany a child in the event they need to be transported. It is important to note that anytime EMS is called for a child they must be transported. Only a parent or guardian on site (not on the phone) can decline transport for a child.

Class Dojo will be utilized for minor injury reporting and assisting in emergency notifications.

All parents are encouraged to sign up to receive notifications from UH ALERT. For information on how the general public can sign up for UH ALERT notifications, please visit <http://alerts.uh.edu/update-contact-information/general-public/>.

Accessibility

The UH Cougar Cup Camp will provide accommodations for participants with disability, as long as we receive two weeks advance notice in order to allow us to adequately prepare those accommodations. We will discuss accommodations with the parents/guardians. Requests for accommodations can be emailed to Steven Knecht spknecht@uh.edu or by phone at 713-743-3932.

Animals

Personal pets and/or animals/pets are not permitted at camp unless prior approval has been given by the Camp Administration. Exception: service animals.

COVID-19 COHORT EXPOSURE PLAN

From the moment the camper is dropped off at camp, the Cougar Cub Summer Camp staff will continue to monitor for possible sickness including any potential symptoms including:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea
- Feeling feverish or measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Known close contact with person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19

The following steps will be taken for any camper or staff member who demonstrates any of these symptoms related to COVID-19

- If the camper or staff member does not require immediate clinical evaluation, the camper will be isolated in the Rec Sports Office until appropriate transportation can be arranged. This will be reported through the UH Potential Exposure Protocol.
- If the camper's parent is called, the parent must immediately come pick up their child or make arrangements for their child to be removed from camp.
- Arrangements will be made with camp administration and counselors to have the person's belongings moved.

It is crucial to carry out "contact tracing" immediately to determine the potential or confirmed case's contacts with other campers or staff members over the previous two or more days.

Camp Staff

- If at work, go home immediately and avoid coming into close contact with anyone
- Contact your supervisor as soon as possible to notify them
- Complete the form [Reporting COVID-19 Diagnosis](#) to report your positive test result or diagnosis
- Consult your health care provider
- Follow [CDC guidance](#) on what to do if you are sick
- Stay home (except to seek medical care)

- Follow the [Self-Quarantine/Isolation](#) protocols
- Do not return to campus until written approval is received. See [Completion of Self-Quarantine/Isolation](#).
- Cooperate with contact tracers to provide information regarding others with whom you have had close contact

In the case of a camper or staff member who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to work/camp when they have been cleared by a healthcare provider and/or completed and received written approval after completing the [Request to Return to Campus](#) form and the [Self-Quarantine/Isolation](#) protocol form.

In the case of a camper or staff member who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and does not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, the individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to camp until the individual has completed the same three-step criteria listed below; or

- If your symptoms are a result of a pre-existing medical condition; or
- Your health care provider has advised that you have an alternative medical diagnosis that is unrelated to COVID-19 and are no longer contagious; or
- If at least 24 hours has passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in symptoms; and, at least 10 days has passed since symptoms first appeared

If the camper or staff member has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to camp before completing the above self-isolation period, the individual must obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on a negative nucleic-acid COVID-19 test and an alternative diagnosis.

In the event that there is a confirmed cohort exposure we will notify staff and parents/guardians of the following:

Camp Staff

- Complete the form [Reporting Potential COVID-19 Exposure](#)
- If advised to Self-Quarantine follow the [Self-Quarantine/Isolation](#) protocols and do not return to campus until your Request to Return to Campus is approved.

Campers

- Follow the [Self-Quarantine/Isolation](#) protocols
- If the camper wants to return to camp before completing the above self-isolation period, the individual must obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on a negative nucleic-acid COVID-19 test and an alternative diagnosis.

Activity Overview

UH Cougar Cub Camp Activities include:

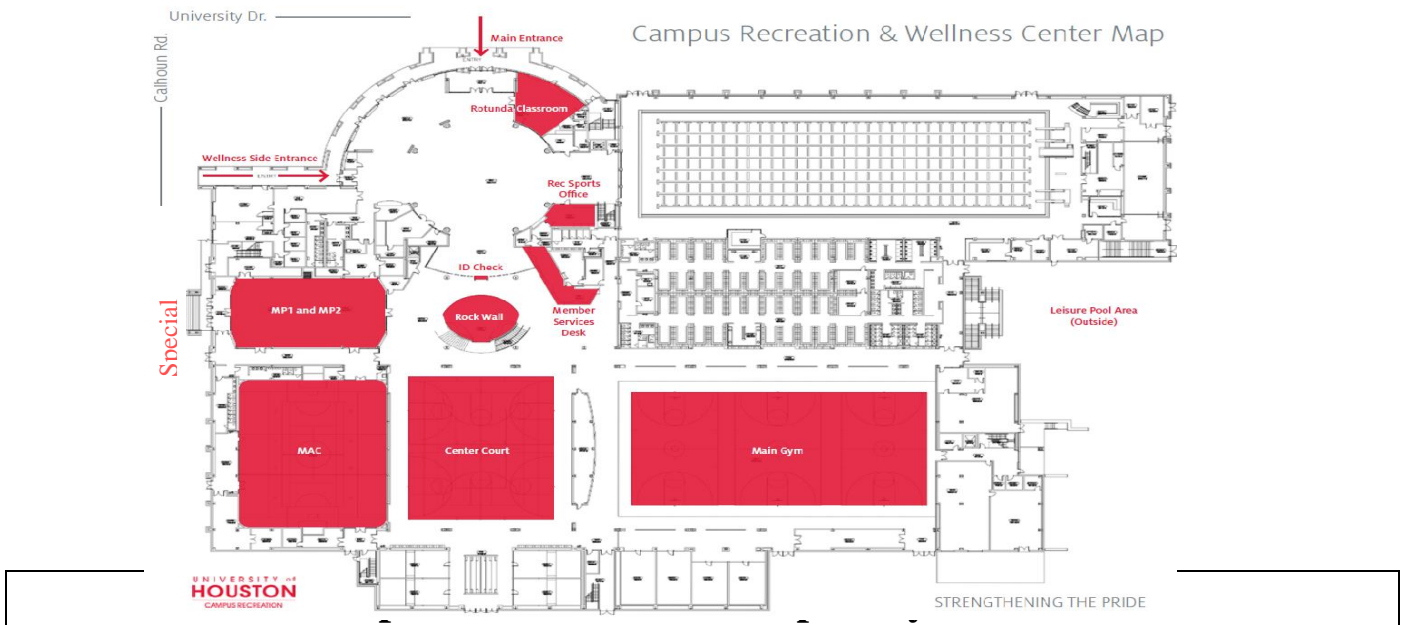
- Special Events
- Indoor/Outdoor Games
- Arts and Crafts
- Brain Breaks
- Team/ Individual Sports
- Group games
- Fitness Activities

- Rock Climbing
- Outdoor Adventure Education

What activities will campers be playing on a weekly basis?

Each week, the activity schedule changes based on camper input, counselor input, space availability, and other factors. We try to incorporate as many different activities as possible throughout the summer to keep everything new and exciting.

Our daily activity schedule will be sent out no later than Mondays as parent’s drop off campers. This information is subject to change but we will try to stay as close to the schedule as possible. Activity times will last anywhere from 30 minutes to 45 minutes on regular activities. Below is a quick outline of what a normal day of camp will look like.



Each Monday morning of camp, we will start our week going over the basics of the camp and the behavioral expectations for the week. This section outlines our behavioral expectations and the processes for dealing with poor or unacceptable behavior.

Cougar Cub Summer Camp Rules:

- C** – Camper Safety is #1
- U** – Uphold and follow the rules
- B** – Be your best and encourage others (through good sportsmanship)
- S** – Stay Active

Discipline Policy

The purpose of the discipline policy is to help children understand and modify unacceptable behavior and/or attitudes. When it becomes necessary to discipline a child, all efforts will be taken to guide children to appropriate behavior.

- Discipline will be constructive or educational in nature and may include some measures as diversion, separation from the situation and discussion about the situation.

- Separation, when used as discipline, shall be brief and appropriate to the child's age and circumstances.
- Children shall not be subjected to fear, mental or physical abuse, or humiliation.
- No child shall be punished for toileting accidents.
- Verbal abuse or derogatory remarks about a child's person, his/her family, race, religion or cultural background will NOT be permitted.
- Lunch and snack time MAY NOT be denied as a disciplinary measure.
- Children shall at no time be allowed to punish or discipline another child.
- Praise and encouragement of positive behavior will be given whenever possible.

UH Cougar Cub Camper Behavior Policy:

I agree to follow the rules and behavior guidelines of UH Cougar Cub Summer Camp. Program rules include, but are not limited to the following:

- I will be respectful of my fellow camp participants and all program staff.** This means that I will speak to others in a respectful manner and tone of voice, I will follow directions and I will not cause or threaten physical harm towards others. I understand that disrespectful behaviors include, but are not limited to, hitting, punching, kicking, biting, spitting, swearing, lying and refusing to listen to the camp staff.
- I will be respectful of UH Cougar Cub Camp grounds and buildings, places we may visit and the belongings of others.** This means that I will not litter, vandalize, steal, or destroy items that do not belong to me. I will act in a behavior that will not give a negative image of UH Cougar Cub Summer Camp.
- I agree to follow all camp rules including those that are not listed on this behavior agreement.**

First Occurrence – The first time an incident happens will result in a phone call and/or email. Camp Administration will explain to parents what happened and discuss what has been done thus far. In the case where severe behavior occurs, the child may automatically be suspended or removed from camp without refund. We will discuss the issue(s) that occurred and strategies camp staff used to handle the situation and strategies suggested by the parents to deter future issues.

Second Occurrence – The second time an incident occurs, it will result in a second phone call home and email from Camp Administration. Again, in the case where severe behavior occurs, the child may be suspended or removed from camp without refund. We will again discuss the issue(s) that occurred and strategies camp staff used to handle the situation and strategies suggested by the parents to deter future issues. Communication with the parent that the continuance of the behavior could result in removal from camp will be discussed.

Third Occurrence – The third incident will result in immediate removal from camp without refund**. Camp Director will make final determination for removal. The removal from camp may be for the duration of the summer and include all other weeks that the child was enrolled in.

**Camp has Zero-Tolerance for bullying, physical violence, or stealing. Any occurrence of the following infractions could result in an immediate removal.

Cougar Cub Camp Staff and Staff Training

Cougar Cub Camp Staff

UH Cougar Cub Camp prides itself on providing children with highly motivated and enthusiastic staff who will mentor your child. Candidates must meet strict qualifications that meet and often exceed licensing guidelines. All staff must pass a Texas Department of Social Services Criminal Background Check; participate in several trainings such as child abuse prevention, CPR/First Aid Training, OSHA blood borne pathogens, and other staff licensing trainings. Staff also adheres to state licensing ratios to ensure that appropriate supervision is maintained throughout the duration of the program. While following state licensing practices, we are currently not a licensed camp.

Counselors

Most of our counselors are active participants in recreational programming, possibly education majors, current Campus Recreation employees, or students that just have a passion for summer camps and working with children. We try to hire a diverse group of student counselors to serve as leaders, role models, and mentors for your campers. The counselors will spend time with the same groups throughout the weeks to provide as much stability as possible during the days.

Child Abuse Prevention Policy:

The State of Texas requires any campus program for minors conducted on-campus to certify its staff with the Department of State Health Services. All UH Campus Recreation employees must complete Campus Program for Minors: Sexual Abuse and Child Molestation Training every two years. For summer camp staff, we complete this training annually. Our staff records are on file with the State Health Services office if needed. Any person involved with our camp for an extended period of time will also be required to complete this training.

UH Cougar Cub Camp advocates a positive guidance and discipline policy with an emphasis on positive reinforcement, redirection prevention, and the development of self-discipline. At no time will the following disciplinary techniques be tolerated: physical punishment, yelling, striking, biting, kicking, squeezing, shaming, withholding food or rest room privileges, confining children in small locked rooms, or verbal or emotional abuse.

Based upon its concern for children, parents, and UH Cougar Cub Camp staff; the following standards related to reporting procedures, staffing, standards, code of conduct, and resources for parents and children, have been developed.

****Note:** UH Cougar Cub Summer Camp, like many other public institutions, is mandated by law, to report suspected child abuse.

“CHILD ABUSE is mistreatment or neglect of a child by parent(s) or others resulting in injury or harm. Child abuse may be physical, verbal, emotional or sexual. Its effects may result in severe emotional and physical handicaps, anti-social behavior, even death.”

Suspected Child Abuse Procedures

1. At the first report or suspicion of child abuse, the staff or volunteer to whom it has been reported will immediately inform their supervisor.
2. UH Cougar Cub Camp will make a report to Child Protective Services and will request that the situation be investigated.

3. In the event the reported incident or suspicion involves a staff person or volunteer, the responsible director will suspend the person from all responsibilities, and if appropriate, without pay until the investigation is complete.
4. All staff members and volunteers must be sensitive to the need for confidentiality in the handling of information in this area and are therefore instructed to only discuss matters pertaining to abuse or suspected abuse with their supervisor.
5. UH Cougar Cub Camp staff and volunteers may not make contact with children or parents involved in a child abuse incident without permission of the Camp Director.
6. Whether the incident or alleged offense takes place on or off UH premises, it will be considered job related (because of the youth-involved nature of UH).
7. All incidents or alleged offenses will be documented the day of occurrence.