

Little Giants Sport Camp 2017

Hello and welcome to the Vernon Hills Park District's Little Giants Sport Camp! Your child(ren) should look forward to a fun-filled and adventurous experience at Peterson Park. Group games, water play, sports, swim lessons and recreational swimming await your camper(s) along with some fantastic field trips. All of the camp staff will strive to make this an enjoyable experience for all! Now for a little more information about Little Giants Sport Camp.

Camp Days:

Camp will be held at Peterson Park, across from the Hawthorn Middle School North, from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday Bus service is offered to all resident campers. **(Please note: you will receive an e-mail from us with your bus stop/route info. approx. 1 week before camp begins.)** If you registered for a 2 week session you will be dropping your child off at Peterson Park, across from the Hawthorn Middle North School. If you registered for a 4 week session and live in Vernon Hills your child will be placed on a bus route-unless you let us know that they never will ride the bus. Please call Gail Herrmann at 847-996-6808 to be taken off the bus route. Staff will greet the campers each day at 9:00 a.m. Campers can not be dropped off before 8:50 a.m. and can not be picked up after 3:00 p.m. Please make arrangements for your camper to be dropped off and picked up in a timely manner...

Lunch Time:

We can not forget everyone's favorite activity, Lunch Time! Your camper(s) will need to bring a labeled sack lunch and drink. **Insulated lunch bags are a great idea.** Please do not send perishable lunch items, due to lack of refrigeration. It is always a good idea to send a little extra snack to hold them until lunch. Also, please provide your camper with a reusable cup, container, or water bottle to use every day at our self-serving water cooler.

Swim days Lunch Program:

If you registered and paid \$24 for the camp lunch program; (see our Summer Planner brochure) on swim days our camp director will ask pre-registered lunch participants their menu choice and will inform the concession staff of our orders. **This is a pre-registered only lunch option.** Campers not enrolled will bring their sack lunches to the pool as usual. It is not too late to add the lunch program option for your camper. Bo-Bo's of Vernon Hills is the provider at our concession stand this summer. Contact the front desk at 847-996-6800 for more information. If the weather does not cooperate on swim days and we don't go to the pool, lunches will be delivered to our camp site.

Proper Attire:

Proper attire is of great importance. We strongly recommend sending your camper in comfortable, weather appropriate clothing and tennis shoes (No sandals, flip-flops, cleats, etc.). Please remember your camper will be participating in water play most days, especially when the weather is hot. **We strongly recommend sending sunscreen and a hat with your camper everyday!!** It is a good idea to send your camper(s) with a towel and also a swimsuit on under their clothes. Please mark all of your child(ren)'s belongings (water bottle, backpack, lunch bags, clothes, etc.) with their name.

*Coast guard approved life jackets are allowed at the Family Aquatic Center. If you would like to send one to camp with your child, you may send it on swim days. Please be sure to mark the jacket with your child's name. We will send your child home with their jacket at the end of each swim day.

There is a lost and found available at camp.

Sunscreen:

We strongly suggest that you apply sunscreen to your child each day before they come to camp. On pool days, counselors will encourage campers to apply sunscreen when changing for swimming and again at lunch time. Counselors will help to apply sunscreen to face and back, otherwise campers are responsible for applying their own sunscreen. There are several brands that now allow for spray application, we recommend purchasing this for your child.

Field Trips:

Every Wednesday, your camper will travel to exciting places. Little Giants T-shirts, which your child(ren) will receive on the first or second day of camp, **must be worn on field trip days!!** It is very important that all of our counselors are able to identify ALL CAMPERS, whether the camper is in their group or not. On field trip days especially, we urge that campers DO NOT bring possessions of any type of value. Too many times things have been lost, making the experience upsetting to the camper rather than fun. It is a situation we hope to completely avoid.

Should your child(ren) bring money, he/she, must be responsible for it. Counselors will not hold money for campers.

On field trip days, campers still need to bring a sack lunch and drink. (Insulated lunch bags work great!) Most places have concession stands to purchase lunches and snacks, if desired. We have on occasion, run into situations where the concession stands do not open up until a certain time. Your child may have to wait to purchase their lunch. For this reason we recommend you send a sack lunch. This way your child will be able to eat at the same time as their fellow campers.

Rain Days:

Should the weather turn into a great day for the ducks, our rainy day activities will be put into action. Campers will walk across the street to Hawthorn Elementary North or Middle North. Hawthorn will let us know on a day to day basis which school we can use. **CAMP WILL BE HELD RAIN OR SHINE**

Pool Trips:

We will be going to the Vernon Hills Aquatic Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays for swim lessons, lunch/break and then open swim. We will leave camp to go to the pool for an 11:00-11:30 a.m. lesson. Campers will then go over to the open, grassy area at the pool, for lunch and a break. Campers will get out of the pool at 1:45 p.m. to get ready to return to camp. While at the pool, all campers are required to wear a wristband, which we provide. This is a closely, supervised event, by our staff as well as the lifeguards. We ask that you send your camper(s) with a swimsuit, towel and sunscreen. *(Please refer to the Proper attire paragraph concerning Coast Guard approved life jackets). If you will be picking up your child at the pool, we will need you to see the camp director at the pool, so that you can sign your child out. If you are allowing someone else to pick up your child, be sure that you have called the camp director prior to the pick up, or that the person is listed on the Camper Data form.

New this year are our Camp Swim Tests.

The Vernon Hills Park District is offering two camp swim test days prior to camp. Parents are encouraged to attend one of them to get their camper tested before the first day of camp. Campers who do not attend the swim test days will be tested on their first camp pool day.

Friday, June 9th, 2017: 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Saturday, June 10th, 2017: 9:00am – 11:00am

New this year: CampDoc.com

This year the Vernon Hills Park District has partnered together with **CampDoc.com** to make it easier to fill out the Data Forms that contain important information about your child- such as contact information, emergency information and health information.

CampDoc.com is an electronic health record system for camps. It is an easy-to-use web-based solution that helps camps manage Data Forms and their information such as medications/allergies throughout the summer.

The security, confidentiality and privacy of your camper's personal health information will always be protected. Only your camp's Site Director has access to camper health information, and the CampDoc.com site is secure, encrypted and password protected.

You will receive a "Welcome E-mail" from CampDoc.com with information about how to complete your camper's health information.

- Click the link in this email to set a new password for your CampDoc.com account.
- Follow the instructions, and complete the health history for your camper. Alerts will appear for any missing required information.
- You may return to your CampDoc.com at any time to make changes/updates to your camper's health information before camp begins.

Please set register@campdoc.com as a 'safe sender,' to avoid accidental delivery to junk and spam folders.

Please note:

*Our camp staff must have a note from the camper's parent/guardian in order to allow them to get a ride home with a person not listed on the emergency/transportation form. If you are allowing your camper to ride home on a different bus/or get dropped off at a different bus stop, we must also have a note.

*There is absolutely no early drop-off or late pick-up allowed!

*Campers are responsible for any money or belongings at camp.

*Do not send electronic games, iPods, cell phones etc. to camp with your child.

*No water guns are allowed at camp

*Camp T-shirts will be handed out on the first or second day of camp.

Camp Groups/Friendship requests:

The director will do his best to honor friendship requests and gender and age groupings. There are approx. 45 campers in Session I, (5 groups), a small enough camp that all campers, staff and CIT's will be able to participate together for many activities. Camp is a great opportunity for making new friends!

Meet the Director:

My name is Grant Spathis and I am incredibly excited to be camp director at Little Giants Sport Camp this summer! I am a senior in college studying high school English education. During the school year, I work at Hawthorn Elementary School in their after school program HAP. I love the Cubs and the Bulls, and also really enjoy comic book movies and reading of all types. Last summer I was the director of Little Giants, and had a blast. Prior to that, I was a counselor and camper at an overnight camp in Wisconsin. My favorite memory of camp is learning how to play Frisbee, something I still enjoy doing to this day.

Important Phone Numbers:

Gail Herrmann (Camp Supervisor), my office is at the Sullivan Center. I can be reached at 847-996-6808 or gailh@vhparkdistrict.org

Sullivan Center Front Desk: 847-996-6800

You can reach Grant Spathis on his cell phone from 8:30-4:30 M-F. Please do not call him before 8:30 am. or after 4:30 pm., or on weekends. His cell number will be given out on the first day of camp.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me at the office at 847-996-6808. Thank you very much for your time. All of us at Little Giants Sport Camp are expecting a great summer!!

Sincerely,
Gail Herrmann
Early Childhood Supervisor

