

## Summer Camp FAQ: Camp Amahami

### **Can my girl be placed in the same unit with her friend?**

Absolutely, as long as they're both in the same Girl Scout level in the fall! When you complete your girl's CampDoc profile, you'll be asked for a bunkmate request. Please make sure the bunkmate lists your girl, too! Please note: campers may not request more than one bunkmate. Camp is a time to enjoy old friends, but also a time to make new ones!

### **What if my girl's friend is not in the same level (Junior vs. Cadette)?**

At resident camp, campers are bunked by age group. If you want to know if two girls who are in different levels can attend the same session and bunk together, [please contact Camp Director Katie Falank](#) for guidance.

### **Who are the staff?**

Our camp staff are enthusiastic, talented and caring adults who are selected on the basis of their experience, ability to serve as positive role models and genuine desire to work with children. Staff have a variety of talents to help your girl learn and grow at camp, ranging from the performing arts to outdoor living skills! Background checks and extensive interviews are completed for all staff. Staff working directly with campers at resident camp are at least 18 years old.

### **What are Sessionals?**

We are starting a new program this year called Sessionals. Sessionals are part of our camp staff and are Girl Scouts volunteers! They will be camp counselors that do it all-play silly games, sing songs, put band-aids on boo boos, and start fires and put them out, all while taking great care of our campers. A Sessional can be a parent, past staff member, leader, Service Unit Manager or any adult who understands the value in Girl Scout camp and wants to help share the magic. By volunteering their time, Sessionals become a sponsor for a camper, allowing a girl to attend week of resident camp for free (Trips and Add-Ons not included). Those interested in becoming Sessionals will go through an application and interview process just like paid staff.

### **How can I contact my girl during camp?**

In your camp confirmation packet, you'll receive the mailing address and information needed to contact your girl during her stay. We encourage you to write her, but remember it is often necessary to post-mark mail prior to her departure to ensure she receives it in a timely manner. When you complete your health forms using CampDoc this year, you'll see that you can send emails to your girl via the CampGrams service for a small fee.

### **Where will my girl sleep?**

Campers are assigned sleeping units/areas based upon camper age and sometimes the program they registered for, such as a primitive program or trips. We try to assign the youngest campers units closest to the main program areas at camp, such as the Dining Hall and other frequently used areas. At Amahami, a camper may sleep in a bunkhouse, cabin or platform tent depending upon her program and age level. We encourage you and your girl to attend an Open House so that you are familiar with all sleeping units at camp.

### **What will my girl eat?**

Food Service at Amahami prepares a variety of pleasing and nutritious meals appropriate for children. Camp

food isn't what it used to be! Our camps serve plenty of fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, eggs and breads. Healthy snacks are provided in the afternoons to fuel the fun!

### **Can special diets be accommodated?**

We offer a vegetarian alternative at each meal. If you have allergies or special dietary needs, please [contact Camp Director Katie Falank](#) prior to camp to discuss your requirements. We may be able to provide everything your girl needs at camp, but if not, we'll work to find a solution!

### **What if my girl needs medical attention?**

Amahami is staffed with a Health Supervisor whose certification and training level is in compliance with NYS Department of Health requirements. The Health Supervisor is on site 24/7 throughout each camp and oversees the routine health care and administration of medications for all campers and staff. The Health Supervisor oversees the health check-in process on the first day of camp, which includes a lice check of all campers. The Health Supervisor is trained to identify health issues that require more advanced medical attention. Parents will be notified in the event of such an emergency.

### **Do campers get to choose their own activities?**

At Amahami, your camper will sign up for a theme week. Different themes are listed by Girl Scout level in the 2020 Summer Camp Guide. This summer, girls will spend most of their week participating in activities with the girls in their unit. Thursday afternoon campers will sign up for Camper Choice, where they get to choose their own individual activities separate from their unit. Amahami also offers a riflery add-on for girls age 12+ (must be 12 at time of camp session) and off-camp trips for campers entering grades 6 and up who ready to head out on an adventure.

### **What activities are available?**

At Amahami we have a little bit of everything! On the first evening at camp, girls will sit down with their counselors and discuss what they would like to do while at camp (in addition to their weekly theme activities). Our waterfront features canoes, kayaks, corcls and rowboats with a separate swimming area. Our archery range has re-curve bows for Brownies and up, and for Cadettes and up we have Tomahawk throwing! A new add-on this year for girls age 12+ is riflery. Arts & Crafts may include boondoggle, painting or even sewing...it's time to get creative! Getting outside and on the trail can include hiking, orienteering and fire building. Gaga ball is always a favorite along with other field games! Each Unit will do at least two cookouts and learn to use outdoor cooking skills during their week at camp.

### **What does riflery entail?**

The riflery add-on covers all safety rules, basics of aiming (sight picture) and how firearms function. Our goal is to teach girls key skills of patience, determination and persistence—which can be translated into many other activities in which they may participate. On the range we have .22 caliber bolt action rifles and shooting benches with a pavilion overhead. The instructor is a Range Safety Officer and a certified Rifle Instructor.

**Important note: per GSUSA National Safety Activity Checkpoint Guidelines, this activity is ONLY open to girls ages 12+ AT TIME of program. Not all Cadettes will be old enough to participate. NO exceptions will be made.**

### **Can I send my girl to camp with food to share with her tent/unit mates?**

No, thanks! Our camps are home to much more than campers and staff including raccoons, skunks, squirrels and other animals that love snacks just as much as your girl does! To keep animal visits to a minimum, please don't send food of any kind.

**Can I mail a care package with food in it?**

Care packages are encouraged, but please NO FOOD. It attracts those unwanted animals to explore the tent units. Any food sent in camper packages will be held in the camp office (and will probably be eaten by the Camp Director).

**Will the Trading Post be open?**

Trading Posts at all camps will be open on drop-off and pick-up day. Some items available for purchase may include camp specific t-shirts, patches, compass, fleece blankets, water bottles and much more!

**Can I visit camp?**

Come join us for one of our two Open Houses on Saturday, May 9 or Wednesday, July 1. Families are welcome to see and tour the camp and meet the Camp Director and staff. Visit [Doubleknot](#) to register for these opportunities. Parents may not visit their camper while camp is in session.

**Where is Amahami located?**

434 Page Pond Rd., Deposit, NY 13754

**How do I contact staff while camp is in session?**

Camp Director Katie Falank can always be reached via email at [Kfalank@gsnypenn.org](mailto:Kfalank@gsnypenn.org). The camp phone number during the summer is 607-467-3026. If summer camp is not currently in session, you can reach us at 1.855.213.8555 for assistance.