**Dennen Week at Camp O-AT-KA**

**Important Dates**

July 1 Deadline for all forms

August 16th Campers arrive from 3:30 to 5:30

August 22nd Campers depart from 10:00 - noon

**Dennen Week Parents’ Handbook**

**OPENING DAY**

Upon arrival (between 3:30 – 5:30 pm), our staff will be waiting to greet you as you drive into camp. Here you will be instructed where to go to complete the check in procedures. To simplify this process, we will have different check in locations for each age group (unit) complete with a nurse’s station. You will receive more detailed instructions in July.

**Office Hours**

The O-AT-KA office is open from 9:00am to 11:00am and 2:00pm to 4:00pm every day. At other hours you will be connected to the camp answering machine, which will be checked periodically. Our fax machine (207 787-3930) is on 24 hours a day.

**For EMERGENCY calls use one of the numbers listed below.**

Main Office 207 787-3401

**Telephone Policy**

We encourage boys to write home. We do not normally permit them to use the telephone. If you have an urgent matter to discuss with your son, please let the camp know first, so that we can be of assistance.

**Food**

Please do not allow your son to bring chewing gum, candy, or other food to Camp. Please do not send food packages. Our food is very good and very plentiful. Food is not permitted in the cabins. Boys who have a birthday during camp will receive a birthday cake to share with their cabin mates. **We will need to know ahead of time if your son has any food allergies or dietary restrictions.**

**Forms**

All forms are due by July 1st. Each year your child will need to have the following forms.

Health History

Physical Form

Information Authorization Form

All forms are on the website. You can find them at http://www.campoatka.org/dennen-week/

**Mailing Address:**

Your Son’s Name

Camp O-AT-KA

1. O. Box 239

Sebago, ME 04029

**Visiting**

Since camp is only one week we do not have a parent visiting day. You son will be very busy at camp and the week will be over before you know it. Please resist the urge to hop in your car and have a surprise visit. Unplanned visits can be very disruptive to camp life.

**Homesickness**

Homesickness is not unusual, especially for new campers. Our counselors are very sensitive to homesickness and try to keep boys active and involved in the camp program. We refer prolonged cases to the Head Counselor, and/or our nurse. We ask that letters home suggesting some degree of homesickness be answered with short, supportive letters. Please feel free to share any concerns with the Dennen Week Director, Josh Plati.

**Traveling to O-AT-KA**

Note: If using a GPS enter Campoatka Rd Sebago Maine. Check route carefully as GPS directions are often unreliable.

**Heading North**

From the Maine Turnpike take Exit 42 Scarborough

Turn left at the light onto Payne Rd.—

At the second light turn left onto Rt 114

Travel North on Rt 114 for approximately 25 miles to Sebago

Travel 1.5 miles beyond Sebago Elementary School (north)

O-AT-KA sign on left-Camp entrance is beyond on right

**Heading South**

Take the Maine Turnpike to Exit 63, 115/Me4

At end of ramp turn left onto Rt 115 / US 202 towards Windham

In approximately 4 miles bear slightly right onto Rt 115

Travel approximately 3.5 miles to intersection of Rts 115 & 302

Pass straight through intersection. Here begins Rt 35

Travel 6+ miles to the intersection of Rt 35 & 114

Turn right onto Rt 114. Proceed 10.5 miles

O-AT-KA sign is on left-Camp entrance is beyond on right

**From the West**

Take Rt 302 to Naples, Maine from Bridgton, Maine –

Turn right onto Rt 114

Proceed 8 miles.

The main entrance will be on your left, beyond tennis courts

**Do Not Bring**

Please do not bring televisions, portable stereo systems, cell phones, beepers, computers, hand-held electronic games, or other electronic devices. Inexpensive battery-operated radios with headphones are all a boy might need.

**Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco, and Fireworks**

Camper use of illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or fireworks of any kind is forbidden, and constitutes grounds for immediate dismissal. We are serious about our commitment to keep OAT-KA a safe and healthy environment. Please make it clear to your son that casual experimentation or a “lapse in judgment” will not persuade our staff to call for anything less than dismissal from Camp.

**Knives and other weapons**

Absolutely no knives including pocketknives, jack knives, hunting knives etc. are to be brought to camp. The same policy holds true for any other type of weapons.

**Camp Store**

Available at the camp store are items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, postcards, stamps, insect repellent etc. Free candy and soda will be available at limited times. There is absolutely no need for campers to bring any money to camp!!

**Necessary Clothing**:

6 t-shirts or jerseys (any style) 6 pair socks

6 pair underpants 1 long-sleeve shirts

2 sweatshirts 1 pair sweatpants

2 jeans or trousers 1 pair pajamas (1 warm)

2 swimsuits 1 warm jacket

1 raincoat or poncho 3 pair shorts (any style)

1 laundry bag 1 hat

Footwear: 2 pair sneakers 1 pair sandals or flip-flops 1 pair cleats (optional)

**Bedding & Linens:**

2 warm blankets

Pillow and Pillowcase (O-AT-KA provides sheets)

2 towels & 1 wash cloth

**Miscellaneous Required Items:**

Trunk, duffle bag, or suitcase Flashlight w/batteries Toilet kit (toothbrush, soap, comb, etc.) Non-spray bug repellant

**Optional Athletic Equipment:**

Tennis racket & balls (we have extras available) Fishing rod & tackle Baseball glove & ball Water bottle

**Suggested Items:**

Pens, and addressed & stamped postcards to mail home Quiet games, summer reading books Please be sure all items are clearly marked with camper’s name. All unmarked lost and found items will be donated to the Salvation Army.

**Important Numbers:**

Main Office (207) 787-3401

Fax Machine (207) 787-3930