



## Summer 2020 Parent Manual

*The countdown to Summer 2020 has begun!*

Welcome to the URJ Camp Newman community – for friendships, adventure and the joy of Judaism, there is no better camp! Your child will choose from many enriching activities, have an unforgettable Shabbat experience, and make Jewish friends that could last a lifetime.

Since 1947, our camp has impacted the lives of over 100,000 children, teens, and adults. Our campers call Camp Newman their “second home,” and year after year, they return to renew the strong bonds of friendship they build here. We can’t wait for your child to experience all this and more this summer!

[CAMPNEWMAN.ORG](http://CAMPNEWMAN.ORG) | 415-392-7080

**Summer Camp Mailing Address:** *Camper's Name*, Camp Newman – *Session Name*, 1 Morrow Cove, Vallejo, CA 94590

**Summer Camp Office:** 200 Maritime Academy Drive, Vallejo, CA94590

**Year-Round Office:** 711 Grand Avenue, Suite 280, San Rafael, CA94901





# Summer 2019 Parent Manual TABLE OF CONTENTS

*Click below to jump to that section!*

A Letter from Our Director.....	3	How to Contact Your Camper & Our Staff .....	10
Creating a Partnership .....	4	<i>Calling camp, sending email &amp; mail,</i>	
<i>Preparing for Camp, Moments of Sadness,</i>		<i>*new* Package Policy, etc.</i>	
<i>While Your Child Is at Camp</i>			
General Info & Policies.....	5	How to Follow Our Adventures .....	12
Birthdays .....	5	<i>Camp Photos, Facebook, Instagram, etc.</i>	
B’nai Mitzvah Tutoring.....	5		
Camp Merchandise .....	5	How to Get to Camp:	
Camp Security .....	5	By Car .....	13
Camp Visitors .....	6	By Airplane .....	14
Laundry .....	6	By Congregation Bus .....	15
Lice .....	6		
Lost & Found .....	6	Packing List.....	16
Sundry & Forgotten Items .....	7	Welcoming All Campers and Staff.....	17
What to / What Not to Bring .....	7		
Electronics Policy .....	8		
<i>Cell phones, MP3 players, Kindles, etc.</i>			

For our First-Time Parent & Camper Guide, visit: [CampNewman.org/summer-camp/first-time-guide](http://CampNewman.org/summer-camp/first-time-guide)

# A LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Dear Camper Families,

We want to thank you in advance for giving your camper the blessings of a Camp Newman summer. Camp gives us an amazing opportunity to live our Jewish values through a philosophy of CARE:

**C – Community.** We create a holy community, a *kehilla kedosha*, through...

**A – Acceptance.** We accept each person for who they are, living the value of *v'ahavta l'reyacha kamocho*, loving your neighbor as yourself.

**R – Role Modeling.** Staff and campers alike role model what it means to live these values, and we encourage each person to “Make for yourself a teacher, and find yourself a friend.” (*Pirkei Avot*)

**E – Each and Every One.** We care about each and every person in our community. We strive to get to know the uniqueness of every camper, and see each as made *betzelem Elohim*, in the image of God.

These values drive everything we do: the way we train our staff, the way we welcome everyone, the way we build our summer home, and the way we embrace your child into the Camp Newman family.

**Becoming Your Most Authentic Self:** One of my favorite things about camp is how our campers become their most authentic selves through the magic of community, friendship, fun, and Judaism. Sometimes it's apparent only years later when alumni realize, for example, that their love of public speaking began after telling a story at Shabbat services, or that they're late night conversations with camp friends inspired them to be a social worker. Time and again, alumni tell us that they are who they are because of Camp Newman.

**A Second Home:** Since the 2017 fires, we've learned that buildings, though they matter, are secondary to the feeling of home we create together each summer. Camp's walls are constructed out of love, acceptance, and kindness. Camp builds a safe space each summer for kids to be their true selves. This is why campers call camp their “second home,” their camp friends “family,” and count the days until they can return. It's why our campers feel comfortable sharing their stories with each other about their joys, sorrows, dreams, successes, yearnings, and aspirations. It's why the friendships made here are unlike any other. We can't wait to welcome your child into their Camp Newman home and community!

**L'dor V'dor, From Generation to Generation:** At Camp, the notion of *L'dor V'dor* is ubiquitous. Children grow up at camp, inevitably passing on camp traditions to younger campers. Many become staff or return as faculty with their own families just so they can share these traditions and their love of camp with the next generation. Talmud teaches that “*by the breath of children, God sustains the world.*” Camp allows for the child in each of us to blossom, grow, and flourish within a distinctly Jewish, loving and accepting community. It's why our campers often cheer, “I love to be Jewish,” and why that feeling stays with them years after they attend their last camp session.



**We can't thank you enough for trusting us, supporting us, engaging with us, and inviting us into your children's lives.** We promise to do our very best to instill in your child everything good and beautiful about our rich Jewish heritage and tradition, and to treat your child as though they are created *b'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of God. Thank you for choosing URJ Camp Newman. **Welcome home!**

**Rabbi Allie Fischman**  
**Camp Director, URJ Camp Newman**

# CREATING A PARTNERSHIP

Dear Camper Families,

We're counting the days until 2020 summer begins! We're excitedly making final preparations to welcome your children into our enriching Jewish community. As we do so, we ask our staff to carry this thought with them, 24 hours a day: ***Imagine that every child's parents are watching over your shoulder as you care for, nurture, and inspire their most precious gift in life.***

The most important covenant we possess at camp is with you, the parents. ***This manual is designed to help you foster a partnership with us so that together, we can create a healthy, secure, successful, and joyful experience for your child.***

## **Prepare for Camp in Partnership with Your Child**

Prepare for camp with your child. Pack together. Chat about their hopes, anxieties, and expectations. Re-watch our [Camp Video](#). The more your child knows what to expect, the better they'll adjust to camp life. Express how proud you are of them embarking on their camp journey. Rather than tell your child that they can "come home" or "call home" if they're having a hard time (which we've found makes it more difficult for them to adjust), reassure them that they'll be surrounded by amazing counselors and camper care professionals who they can call on 24/7 for support. Just as you are preparing your child for success, we are doing the very same for them!

## **Coping with Moments of Sadness at Camp**

The only "cure" for homesickness is time, coupled with our counselors' support. Our counselors are there to comfort your child; they're sensitive, well trained and, in most cases, were former campers themselves and draw on their experiences. They also know where to turn for help. Each session, we have rabbis, cantors, Jewish educators, counselors and camper care professionals (our Nefesh team), as well as senior staff who are readily available to help guide campers to success. When campers have challenging situations (like homesickness or social issues), we help foster their independence by encouraging them to reach out to the resources at hand: counselors, fellow campers, and camper care professionals. With our help, moments of sadness pass quickly and before they know it, they're excitedly on to the next activity with their new friends!

## **When Your Child Is at Camp**

Feel free to call camp any time to speak with your child's *rosh eidah* (unit head), to check on your child, hear \_\_\_\_\_ what activities they're in, and voice any concerns. We also recommend sending many positive letters ("we are so proud of you" and "can't wait to hear about camp!"), instead of "we miss you terribly" or "here's what you're missing at home." Have letters waiting for them when they arrive. If they're not letter writers themselves, send them self-addressed stamped letters that are easy to fill out ("your favorite activity at camp is: \_\_\_\_\_," "your new friend's name is: \_\_\_\_\_", etc).

***And don't forget, it often takes a couple of days for younger campers to adjust to camp life; in our experience, a homesick kid on day two is often a lifetime camper by day three!***

*L'shalom,*

The Camp Newman Family

# GENERAL INFORMATION & CAMP POLICIES

## BIRTHDAYS

*Camp celebrates birthdays in a special way!* Campers who celebrate their birthday at camp can look forward to a special treat for their cabin and being honored at a meal with our special camp birthday song. They'll also receive a special gift from Camp Newman! **Please do not send food of any kind for your child's birthday!**

## B'NAI MITZVAH TUTORING

**B'nai mitzvah tutoring is only available to campers with a bar or bat mitzvah within 6 months of their camp session.** To those who request it, here are some things to note:

- **How often & with whom?** We provide tutoring at no extra fee for 2-3 times a week for ~30 minutes, depending on the session schedule, with one of our faculty rabbis, educators, or cantors.
- **What happens?** The purpose of b'nai mitzvah tutoring at camp is to maintain your camper's progress. It is your camper's responsibility to study materials during their free time at camp.
- **What doesn't happen?** We are unable to help campers learn new pieces of their Torah or haftorah, or prayers for their simcha.
- **What should my camper bring?** Make sure your child packs all the paper materials they need to study such as Torah portions, trope symbols/worksheets, and prayers. If your child requires audio to study, you must send an MP3 or personal CD player to camp. Camp does not assume any responsibility for items that are lost, stolen, or broken while at camp. Affordable MP3 players and personal CD players can be purchased online for less than \$30. Please do not send iPods or MP3 players with Wi-Fi.

## CAMP MERCHANDISE & MISCELLANEOUS

The camp fee includes a camp t-shirt (distributed on the last day of the session), a shirt that your camper will tie dye, and daily snacks. **You can buy Camp Newman merchandise prior to camp at our online pop-up stores in spring and fall.** Follow our eblasts & Facebook page for info! Select camp and sundry items will also be available at the Cal Maritime bookstore on opening day of each session for parents to purchase.

## CAMP SECURITY

We view the health, safety, and security of our community as our utmost priority. To provide your children with a safe, enriching and enjoyable Jewish summer camp experience, be informed that:

- A security survey of all URJ Camps has been conducted by a respected Israeli safety and security firm engaged by the Union for Reform Judaism.
- California State University Maritime Academy (Cal Maritime) has campus police that guard the property, and provide on-site security 24/7. Camp has worked extensively with them to meet our specific needs.

## CAMP VISITORS

**Other than specialty session events, we strongly urge parents/visitors NOT to visit their camper during Shabbatot**, even if you are visiting the area. We do not allow on-site visitors during the week. Parents can request a tour of camp on arrival and departure days of each session (only). In our experience, we've seen first-hand how parents/visitors can exacerbate homesickness not just for your camper, but for others who see parents at camp, becoming a disruption to camper activities in process. During specific Shabbatot, when we welcome special visitors by invitation only, visitors are never allowed in camper housing and are not allowed to bring outside food or beverages onto campus due to allergies, cleanliness, and fairness to other campers. We appreciate your help and partnership to create a safe and holy community for your child!

## LAUNDRY

- Laundry service **IS NOT PROVIDED** for sessions that are 3 to 15 days long. These campers should pack enough clothing to last the length of their entire session.
- Laundry service **IS PROVIDED every 2 weeks for sessions that are 22 days or longer ONLY.**
- Please send a non-mesh, cotton or nylon laundry bag with your camper, clearly labeled with your camper's name.

## LICE – OUR HEAD LICE POLICY

Because of the continued prevalence of head lice in schools, URJ Camp Newman implements the following policy to avoid head lice infestations at camp.

1. **All campers** and staff will be checked for head lice when they arrive at camp.
2. Anyone found with head lice will be isolated until a parent or guardian is contacted. Out of respect for our entire camp family, **check your children before they leave for camp** for head lice and any other potential health problems!

## LOST & FOUND

- **Label all items with camper's first *and* last name to increase the chance that lost items will be reunited with you!** All found items are brought to the camp Lost & Found, displayed daily, and stored for several weeks. Items unclaimed within 14 days after camper's session ends will be donated.
- **PLEASE NOTE: Camp does not assume any responsibility for items that are lost, stolen, or broken while at camp.** You may purchase additional insurance through your home owner's policy or other insurance vendor to cover your child's belongings while at camp.

## SUNDRY AND FORGOTTEN ITEMS

To ensure that your child has everything they need while at camp:

- **Any forgotten items** such as soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc., will be supplied by camp. If your child runs out of one of these items, we'll give them enough to last their session.
- **If your child loses an item or something breaks**, such as a hairdryer or a bathing suit, we will get in touch with you directly so you can send a replacement to camp.
- **If your child forgot or needs an essential item** such as a security blanket, shoes, jacket, or a retainer, **please email [newmanpackages@gmail.com](mailto:newmanpackages@gmail.com) BEFORE sending any package to camp and await a reply before sending the package.** Note that this will be done on an exception-only basis. Unless we know a package is coming, we will refuse to accept it at camp.
- **Full-summer campers (Avodah & CIT)** will have specific guidelines sent to them separately.

*For our complete Package Policy, see page 10.*

## WHAT TO BRING

Please consult the **2020 Packing List** and adapt the list to fit your camper's needs. More helpful tips:

1. **"Soft" Luggage:** Pack your camper's things in soft luggage, preferably with wheels – they're lighter and easier to carry. **DO NOT BRING TRUNKS** (too heavy, hard to transport, takes up too much space).
2. **Zip-lock bags:** Handy (especially for young campers) for organizing toiletries and other items.
3. **Do not tie bags together.** Label each bag clearly.
4. **Loose items:** Like pillows, stuffed animals, etc., must be in a labeled bag – or they get lost!
5. **Footwear:** For your child's safety, all shoes **must** have a closed toe or closed back. Flip-flops are only allowed for shower-use, and high heel shoes **are not permitted**.
6. **Name-labeled musical instruments & disposable cameras:** We encourage you to bring both – just nothing expensive, please. Your camper is responsible for the safe keeping of their items, so if you're concerned, we recommend purchasing insurance to cover any item you wish to protect.

## WHAT NOT TO BRING!

Follow this rule – *if you don't want to lose it, don't pack it!* **DO NOT** bring the following items:

- Cash
- Mobile/cell phones\*\*
- iPods/mp3 players\*\*
- Kindles/Nooks\*\*
- iPads/tablets\*\*
- Laptops\*\* (except Avodah & CIT for homework)
- Hand-held Games\*\*
- Sports Equipment
- Scooters or skateboards
- Grills or cooking appliances
- Mini refrigerators
- Electronic Devices
- Jewelry
- New/expensive items!

\*\*For our complete Electronics Policy at camp, please see next section.

# ELECTRONICS POLICY AT CAMP

## The (Jewish) Values of an Electronics Policy

---

### HELP OUR CAMPERS “UNPLUG” - PLEASE LEAVE ALL ELECTRONICS AT HOME!

When campers “unplug,” it gives them the opportunity to truly let go and fully integrate into the camp experience. When we’ve surveyed campers, they tell us that they appreciate the break from electronics! They develop autonomy, independence, and a stronger sense of self. They make new friends, take responsibility for themselves and their bunkmates, and problem solve. These things cannot be achieved when parents are only a call away.

### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU BREAK THE RULES...

Although electronics have been strictly prohibited at camp for years, some families choose to ignore this policy. However, electronics interfere with important aspects of camp.

- Electronics remove campers from the camp experience, cause conflicts in cabins, and leads campers to focus on friends at home instead of those at camp.
- Phones enable campers to call parents when they need advice instead of encouraging them to problem solve or turn to their peers or counselors.
- Electronics are prone to getting lost, broken, or even stolen at camp – and Camp Newman cannot take responsibility for the loss or damage of any item, nor does our insurance policy cover replacement of camper items.
- Lastly, please consider that **when you allow your child to break the rules and take electronics to camp, you’re teaching your child that the rules do not apply to you and your family.**

### In partnership with our Advisory Board, we created an Electronics Policy to:

- Create an environment that encourages community building, bonding, and “unplugging”
- Encourage campers to spend more time outdoors
- Promote socialization between campers
- Remove the divide between “the haves and the have-nots” in each cabin
- Reduce the stress associated with the damage to and theft of electronics
- Give campers a much-needed break from the world of technology
- Allow campers to fully embrace the connections they make with other campers
- Ensure that our campers are not exposed to age inappropriate material

## Electronics Policy

---

### CELL PHONES

- Campers are **NOT PERMITTED** to have a cell phone at camp. **If your child brings a phone to camp**, they can check it in on the first day. It will be confiscated if discovered later. Please do not allow your camper to go to camp with two cell phones so they can “check one in and keep the secondphone.”
- **Avodah and CIT campers ARE PERMITTED** to have cell phones at camp for use during very specific times each day. If this privilege is abused, the camper’s phone will be confiscated and returned on the final day of camp.
- **Campers who arrive by airplane may have their cell phones ONLY** in the airport gate area. Once a camper lands, they’ll be permitted to call home to let their family know that they have landed safely and are with our camp staff. Immediately following that call, phones are checked-in by our camp staff and returned at the airport on the closing day of the session.

### **MP3 Players**

If your child needs to listen to music at camp, please send an inexpensive mp3 player, NOT a phone. We STRONGLY recommend that your child leave expensive music players at home. If you allow your child to bring an mp3 player, please discuss proper handling in a camp setting (never taking it outside the cabin, not leaving it on the floor or in the bathroom, etc.). Please check your child's music player before they come to camp to be sure the device adheres to the following guidelines:

- **Remove all movies, TV shows and games.** This way we will not have to monitor the age appropriateness of every movie and show our campers may have on their devices. Any iPod/mp3 player containing these will be confiscated and returned on Closing Day.
- **PLEASE make sure all music is age appropriate.**
- **It should not be able to access the Internet or have phone capabilities.** *Please do not send your child with an iPod or Wi-Fi capable device.*

### **DIGITAL CAMERAS**

Name-labeled disposable cameras are preferred (no expensive cameras, please!). If your camper does bring an inexpensive camera, make sure to pack enough memory cards and batteries. Please discuss proper handling of the camera and that pictures should be taken of others only with their permission, and that Camp cannot be held responsible should an expensive camera be lost or damaged.

### **HELD-HAND GAME DEVICES**

Game devices are not allowed in camp. Playing board and card games (which are readily available) is encouraged during *menucha* (rest hour) so that campers can socialize, interact, and build community within the cabin. Any hand-held devices we discover will be confiscated and returned on Closing Day.

### **LAPTOPS, NETBOOKS, IPADS, KINDLES, NOOKS**

None of these or similar electronic devices are permitted in camp. (Exception: Avodah/CIT campers may bring laptops for homework use only; please consider additional insurance for these items.)

### **ONE LAST WORD ON ELECTRONICS...**

We recommend that your child powers down, unplugs, and takes what we're certain is a well-needed break from the world of electronics. We recommend bringing other "interactive" things, like playing cards, chess, scrabble, word games, etc. Of course, books are always welcome! Please be respectful of the usage and content limitations we have in place. If you have any further clarification, please contact one of our Camp Directors at 415-392-7080.

# HOW TO CONTACT YOUR CAMPER & OUR STAFF



## TO CALL OUR STAFF OR CAMP: 415-392-7080

- While campers cannot use the phone or receive calls, if you have any questions or concerns about your child, feel free to call 415-392-7080 to speak with your child's *rosh eidah* (unit head), who will return your message within 24 hours.
- During Shabbat (Friday evening to Saturday evening), the office is closed. All voicemails will be checked often and returned as soon as possible.
- ***Please know that if any concern arises, we will be in touch immediately.***



## TO VIEW PHOTOS –OR–



## TO SEND ONE-WAY EMAIL TO YOUR CAMPER:

- [Log in to your CampInTouch account](#) using the same login you used to register for camp. **CampInTouch** is the same system you used to register for camp. Once logged in, on your family dashboard page, click the "email" link. Their secure, easy to use website service lets you send one-way e-mails to your camper, as well as view and purchase session photos.
- Emails you send through CampInTouch are printed daily at 10am and handed out at the following lunch time (except for during Shabbat on Saturday).
- ***Please note: CampInTouch is an outside service; Camp Newman does not profit from any photos/emails your purchase. CampInTouch F.A.Q.s: [urjnewman.campintouch.com/Help2007](http://urjnewman.campintouch.com/Help2007)***



## TO SEND A LETTER TO/FROM YOUR CAMPER

There's nothing more exciting than mail time at camp! We strongly encourage both you and your camper to write each other regularly. Your camper wants to hear from you!

- **For campers to send a letter to friends & family:** You must pack stamps, envelopes, paper, and pens (these are NOT sold at camp). For younger children, try giving them pre-addressed and pre-stamped envelopes or postcards.
- **For parents, friends & family to send a letter to campers:** Address mail to:

***Camper's Name***

Camp Newman – ***Session Name***

1 Morrow Cove

Vallejo, CA 94590

And don't forget to include your return address!



## PACKAGE POLICY

***As of summer 2019, camp no longer accepts packages sent to campers.*** Please communicate this policy with anyone else who may be sending mail to your campers.

- What's NOT allowed:
  - **No** boxes or large mailing envelopes of any size
  - **No** bubble or padded envelopes
- What's allowed:
  - Standard #10 size business envelope (4-1/8" x 9-1/2")
  - Standard greeting card (e.g., 4-1/4" x 5.5" or 5" x 7")
  - 8-1/2" X 11" (or 9" x 12") flat envelopes

**Of course, we understand that sometimes sending items to camp will be necessary.** To ensure that your child has everything they need while at camp:

- **Any forgotten items** such as soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc., will be supplied by camp. If your child runs out of any of these items while at camp, we will make sure they have enough for the entirety of their session.

- **If your child loses an item or something breaks**, such as a hairdryer or a bathing suit, we will get in touch with you directly so you can send a replacement to camp.
- **If your child has forgotten or needs an essential item** such as a security blanket, shoes, jacket, or a retainer, **please email [newmanpackages@gmail.com](mailto:newmanpackages@gmail.com) BEFORE sending any package to camp and await a reply before sending the package.** Note that this will be done on an exception-only basis. Unless we know a package is coming, we will refuse to accept it at camp.
- **Full-summer campers (Avodah and CIT)** will have specific guidelines sent to them separately.

Our experience through the years has shown us that our current system of accepting packages from families is not sustainable or desirable. **We believe this decision is truly in the best interest of our campers.** Here's why:

- The volume of packages that arrives at camp each day creates a community of "have and have-nots" and undermines our efforts to create a Jewish community in which each camper feels that he or she is valued and treated equally.
- Some campers don't receive any packages, which leads to feelings of sadness and jealousy; others receive so many packages they literally cannot manage all of the "stuff" in their cabins and cannot fit it in their luggage on the way home.
- Our staff spends hours organizing and sorting hundreds of packages daily, giving them less time to spend with campers.
- Empty packages produce a tremendous amount of waste, only a small percentage of which is recyclable. As stewards of the earth, practicing the Jewish value of *shmirat ha'adamah*, guardians of the planet, we must do better.
- Campers sacrifice much of their free time in the afternoon standing in line to retrieve packages from the mailroom.
- With the current load of packages, UPS and Fed Ex trucks drive in and out of camp several times a day, forcing campers from the roads.
- Sadly, many parents do not respect our no-food policy, and others forget to share that policy with extended family members. The food, candy and gum that arrives in these packages (hidden or otherwise) must be taken away, disappointing the camper.
- Parents have told us that it is expensive and burdensome to fill and mail packages, and that they often feel pressure to do so.
- Many Jewish overnight camps which have instituted similar no-package policies report that the burden it lifted from parents, campers, and camp staff has been positively received.

This new policy puts us in line with the policies of many other camps. We hope you agree that this is a positive change, and we are grateful for your cooperation. Thank you in advance for doing your part to ensure that Camp Newman lives according to our values and principles.

# HOW TO FOLLOW OUR ADVENTURES!

Here's how we'll share live updates & all the amazing things we're doing at camp!



CampInTouch: [urjnewman.campintouch.com/v2/login](http://urjnewman.campintouch.com/v2/login)

During the summer, we upload photos regularly to CampInTouch – the same secure website you used to register (log in using the same username/password).



Facebook: [facebook.com/urjcampnewman](https://facebook.com/urjcampnewman)

Connect with other camp fans like you on our Facebook page! All summer, we'll post lots of pictures plus news you can use, videos, announcements, and more!



Vimeo: [vimeo.com/urjcampnewman](https://vimeo.com/urjcampnewman)

Visit Vimeo for all our camp videos – that capture the best moments from summer.



Instagram: [instagram.com/urjcampnewman](https://instagram.com/urjcampnewman)

Prefer pictures to words? Visit here for photos of favorite camp moments and connect with other camp fans. You do not need your own personal Instagram account needed to view pics.



Shabbat-o-Gram: [campnewman.org/connect/subscribe-to-emails](https://campnewman.org/connect/subscribe-to-emails)

Every Friday, check your inbox for our eblast with camp news, videos, pics, updates & links to blog posts. If you only read one thing from camp, read this! *Please note: All enrolled Summer 2019 families will be automatically subscribed.*



Twitter: [twitter.com/URJCampNewman](https://twitter.com/URJCampNewman)

For live updates on camp happenings, follow us on Twitter. You don't need your own personal Twitter account to read our posts.



Camp Newman Blog: [campnewman.org/blog](https://campnewman.org/blog)

All summer, we keep our blog chock full of wonderful articles, stories and features written by our staff, campers, and faculty. For more in-depth spotlights, read the blog!

# HOW TO GET TO CAMP

Transporting your child to and from Camp Newman in a safe and fun way is our first priority. But first, some rules:

- **The Transportation Form must be completed online no later than APRIL 17, 2020.**
- **All changes must be in writing to [kpress@urj.org](mailto:kpress@urj.org).**
- **No changes for transportation will be accepted once you are 16 days before the first day of your child's session.**

**There are 3 ways to get your child to and from Camp Newman:**

- **Car** (this page)
- **Designated Northern California Congregation Bus** (page 12)
- **Airplane** (page 13)

We need your support and partnership. Please read carefully the following information about your transportation options and procedures. Once you've read the following, please contact Kim Press at [kpress@urj.org](mailto:kpress@urj.org) if you have any questions.



## CAR

**If you are driving your child to and from camp:**



**ARRIVAL DAY:** Bring your child to Camp between **1:30pm and 2:30pm**.

**DEPARTURE DAY:** Pick up your child from Camp between **10:30am and 11:30am**.

**CAMP LOCATION:** California Maritime Academy (Cal Maritime) at 200 Maritime Academy Dr., Vallejo, CA 94590

- Photo ID will be required to pick up your camper.
- Under **no** circumstance may any camper drive himself or herself to or from camp.
- Be sure all medications are clearly labeled in their original packaging and include instructions. These should be packed in a zip-close bag labeled with camper's name and be **easily accessible** so they can be given to the **nurse** upon arrival.

**#NEWMAN  
BYTHEBAY**



# AIRPLANE



If your child is flying to and from camp:

Flights are to be scheduled in and out of the **Oakland International Airport**

**Arrival** at the airport should be **between 10:00am and 12:00pm**.

**Departure** from the airport should be **between 2:00pm and 4:00pm**.

Unaccompanied minor requirements vary by airline. Please make all necessary arrangements with your airline for unaccompanied minor & baggage fees **for travel both to and from camp before your child departs. You must send a receipt to the camp office for any fees paid for your child's return trip.**

Send a copy of the flight itinerary and your child's birth certificate or passport to Kim Press at [kpress@urj.org](mailto:kpress@urj.org). **We cannot meet your child at the airport without a copy of the itinerary. This is mandated by airport security.**

Possible ESCORTED FLIGHTS <i>(updated 2/12/2020)</i>		
Camp Newman will send an adult to escort campers on select flights if there are 3 or more unaccompanied minors on the flight. Please join us on one of our selected SOUTHWEST AIRLINE flights to and from BURBANK (BUR) or SANTA ANA (SNA) / Orange County.		
<b>NOTE: There must be at least 3 campers age 11 or younger on a flight for an escort to be sent.</b>		
DATE	BURBANK (BUR)	SANTA ANA (SNA)
June 14	Flight #5205 departing BURBANK at 10:00 am	Flight #4886 departing SANTA ANA at 9:05 am
June 28	Flight #3956 departing OAKLAND at 2:35 pm	Flight #4276 departing OAKLAND at 2:25 pm
June 30	Flight #1123 departing BURBANK at 10:05 am	Flight #6140 departing SANTA ANA at 9:35 am
July 12	Flight #3956 departing OAKLAND at 2:35 pm	Flight #4376 departing OAKLAND at 2:25 pm
July 15	Flight #1123 departing BURBANK at 10:05 am	Flight #6140 departing SANTA ANA at 9:35 am
July 29	Flight #6020 departing OAKLAND at 2:05 pm	Flight #6292 departing OAKLAND at 2:50 pm
July 30	Flight #1123 departing BURBANK at 10:05 am	Flight #6140 departing SANTA ANA at 9:35 am
August 5	Flight #6020 departing OAKLAND at 2:05 pm	Flight #6292 departing OAKLAND at 2:50 pm

- We have an outstanding relationship with **Southwest Airlines** and recommend their use whenever possible. They no not charge for the first two pieces of luggage, and do not charge extra for children 12 and older flying alone.
- All **medications** should be clearly labeled in their original packaging, placed in a zip-close bag labeled with camper's name, and should include instructions. These should be packed separately and given to the camp staff upon arrival at the Oakland airport.
- Some snacks will be provided at the airport. Please send your child with a refillable water bottle and a **packed lunch** for them to eat in transit to camp. Campers will **NOT** have an opportunity to purchase food at the airport.



**Due to increasing costs of transportation and bus rentals, beginning summer 2020, there will be a \$50 one way or \$100 round-trip cost for bus transportation to and from camp. Any transportation changes must be made 16 days prior to the first day of your child's session. Bus fees will NOT be refundable after this time.**

If your child is taking a local Congregation Bus to and from camp:

Please have your child at the bus stop at least 30 minutes before the bus is scheduled to depart. An adult must stay with your child until they have boarded the bus. Campers do not have to be members of a congregation to ride the bus from that location. **We must have 10 riders to run a bus to or from a specific location.** Should there be less than 10 scheduled to take a bus, we will contact you at least three weeks before the first day of your child's session.

CONGREGATION BUS SCHEDULE		First day of session <i>Departing from bus stop at:</i>	Last day of Session <i>Arriving to bus stop at:</i>
<b>BUS #1</b>	<b>Peninsula Temple Sholom</b> 1655 Sebastian Drive Burlingame (650-697-2266)	12:45pm	11:15am
<b>BUS #2</b>	<b>Congregation Rodef Sholom</b> 170 N. San Pedro Road San Rafael (415-479-3441)	1:30pm	10:30am
	<b>Congregation Shomrei Torah</b> 2600 Bennet Valley Rd. Santa Rosa (707-578-5519)	12:15pm	11:45am
<b>BUS #3</b>	<b>Congregation Beth Am</b> 26790 Arastradero Road Los Altos Hills (650-493-4661)	12:30pm	11:15am
<b>BUS #4</b>	<b>Congregation B'nai Israel</b> 3600 Riverside Blvd Sacramento (916-446-4861)	1:00pm	10:30am
<b>BUS #5</b>	<b>Congregation Beth Emek</b> 3400 Nevada Court Pleasanton (925- 931-1055)	1:15 pm	11:30 am
	<b>Congregation B'nai Tikvah</b> 25 Hillcroft Way Walnut Creek (925-933-5397)	2:00 pm	10:45 am

**Please complete your transportation form early to help us determine bus ridership.**

- **Photo ID will be required when you pick up your camper at the bus stop.**
- All medications should be clearly labeled in their original packaging inside a zip-close bag labeled with camper's name, and should include instructions. Medications should be packed separately and given to camp staff when your child boards the bus.
- The Camp doesn't provide supervision at congregation bus stops. There will be a counselor on the bus.
- If a bus is late leaving one stop, it will be late at each of the following stops. Please arrive on time.

**CIT and AVODAH:** Congregation bus service is **NOT** available for CIT or Avodah campers on their way to camp. Congregation bus service **IS** available for CIT or Avodah campers on their way home from camp.

**FOOD ON THE BUS:** A small snack will be provided on all buses. Campers should bring their own water bottle on the bus.

# PACKING LIST

## SUGGESTED LIST FOR 2 WEEKS (modify for shorter sessions)

### CLOTHING

#### For Shabbat

White shirts/blouses or dresses/skirts .....	2
White or light khaki pants .....	1
Shirts.....	10-15
Pairs of shorts .....	5-10
Pairs of pants or jeans .....	3-5
Underwear .....	14
Pairs of socks.....	16
Pajamas .....	2 pair
Bathing suits.....	2
Baseball cap or other hat.....	1
Warm jacket or windbreaker (it is breezy at camp).....	1-2
Sweaters or sweatshirts .....	2
Sweatpants .....	1

### SHOES

Tennis shoes/sneakers .....	1 pair
Sturdy shoes.....	1 pair
Sandals with closed toe or closed back .....	1 pair
Extra laces.....	1 pair
Flip flops for shower use only (optional) .....	1 pair

### LINENS

Non-mesh Laundry bag (cotton or nylon) <b>MANDATORY</b> .....	1
Sleeping bag <b>OR</b> comforter <b>MANDATORY</b> .....	1
Pillow & Pillowcase.....	1
Twin XL sheet set (fitted & top sheet) <b>RECOMMENDED</b> .....	1
Bath / Beach towels.....	2-3
Wash cloth .....	1

### TOILETRIES

Bathroom/cosmetic bag.....	1
Toothbrush and toothpaste.....	1 each
Soap and soap dish.....	1 each
Comb and brush.....	1 each
Shampoo / conditioner.....	1
Deodorant.....	1

Other personal needs like prescription medications, eyeglasses/contacts, feminine hygiene products, etc.



- Our URJ Camps hold modest, discreet, and appropriate clothing as a core part of our Jewish culture.
- **Shoe Policy:** All shoes must have a closed toe or heel. No high heels. Flip-flops are for shower use only.
- **LABEL EVERYTHING** with your camper's full name or first initial & last name (e.g., R. Cohen). Use a Sharpie or find label vendors here: [campnewman.org/connect/shop](http://campnewman.org/connect/shop)
- **Laundry service** is ONLY for campers in sessions 22 days or longer.
- **Just in case:** Send a extra pairs of essential items.
- **PLEASE!** Do not bring new or expensive clothes or items! All lost, unlabeled items will be donated. Camp is not responsible for lost, stolen or broken items.

#### OTHER ITEMS – labeled with first initial and last name

- Water bottle **MANDATORY**
- Sunscreen **MANDATORY**
- Backpack **MANDATORY**
- Playing cards
- Blue tape (for hanging pics, signs, etc.)
- Mini fan and/or handheld water mister

- Flashlight & batteries
- Disposable camera
- Sunglasses
- Stationary with pre-addressed labels, envelopes and STAMPS
- Items for cabin time: books, notebook, word games, pens, games, magazines, comics, etc.

# WELCOMING ALL CAMPERS & STAFF

## URJ'S Camp Newman's Statement of Inclusion

---

Dear URJ Camp Newman Parents and Campers,

As you may know, at URJ Camp Newman we are committed to building a vibrant community rooted in Jewish values and bringing the transformative power of Jewish summer camp to every child and family who come through our gates. From our policies to our programs and camp norms, we strive to reflect the Union for Reform Judaism's (URJ) and our camp's core values:

### **Kehillah Kedoshah – A Holy Community**

We are a sacred community, responsible for one another.

### **V'ahavta L'reyecha – Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself**

We should behave towards one another with love and kindness.

### **Hachnasat Orchim – Welcome the Stranger**

Camp is a place of "audacious hospitality," where all who enter are celebrated.

### **Yichut Atsmo – Personal Growth**

Camp is a uniquely transformative opportunity for young people to take risks and grow, and our job at Camp is to nurture that growth.

Every summer at camp brings new opportunities to apply our values to day-to-day life at camp. **Each summer at Camp Newman, we welcome transgender campers and staff into the cabin with which they identify.**

These campers and their families have been engaged in a process of their social transition. Their decisions were made with the advice and support of their pediatricians in consultation with a wide range of medical professionals. They have been embraced by their schools and congregational communities. While this process can seem challenging, we recognize that these children and their families are committed to it because it's the right thing for them and for Camp Newman.

### **In-Cabin Staff**

Based on our dedication to inclusion, we house staff members according to the gender with which they identify. We have set up processes to ensure that both campers and staff understand one another and have the opportunity to ask questions. Our Nefesh (camper care) staff are always available and often take part in conversations at the beginning of a session to help set everyone up for success.

We want to assure you that this decision was based on a thoughtful, deliberate process that started when we began thinking about how to welcome our first transgender camper to camp.

This may be a new experience for some. We know there are conversations you'll want to have with your child and important questions of your own you'll want answered. If you have not done so already, we strongly encourage you to start those conversations now.

This summer, when your child arrives at camp, you'll find Camp Newman the same place you have come to love – a sacred community and your child's home away from home. We are grateful for your support,

understanding, and compassion as we live out our Jewish values with the warmth and joy that are the hallmarks of the Union for Reform Judaism and the URJ Camp Newman community.

Our Camp Director, Rabbi Allie Fischman, is happy to address any of your questions or concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact Rabbi Allie at [afischman@urj.org](mailto:afischman@urj.org) or 415-991-0326. We are so excited to welcome your camper to camp!

L'shalom,

Rabbi Allie Fischman  
Camp Director

Ari Vared  
Executive Director

Michelle Tandowsky  
Chair, Advisory Board

Rabbi Paul Kipnes  
Dean, Camp Newman Faculty