

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **What are the qualifications of the counselors? What are their certifications? Have they had background checks and been fingerprinted?**

Staff is certified in CPR and First Aid. Most of the IGFA Educational Staff have or are attaining a Bachelors or Masters degree in Environmental Science; others are teachers or full time employees of IGFA. Background checks and fingerprinting have been assessed for all counselors, instructors and staff.

## **What is the ratio of students to chaperones?**

IGFA practices the same standards as the Broward County School District of 1 chaperone to 10 children (1:10). We also have volunteers to aid the instructors each week.

## **Where is summer camp being held?**

Camp will be conducted at the IGFA Headquarters.  
300 Gulf Stream Way  
Dania Beach, FL 33004

## **Does the camp take children offsite? If offsite, where?**

The camp takes campers offsite Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday each week with the exception of Advanced Angling (Week 9). We will go offsite Tuesday-Friday that week. Every Friday [with the exception of "The Science to Fishing" (week 4) and "Advanced Marine Biology" (week 8)], campers get to experience a charter boat fishing trip on the Atlantic Ocean.

## **What is the cost of camp? Are there any discounts?**

Summer camp will be a flat rate of \$350 for individual weeks. If multiple weeks are purchased at the same time, each week will cost \$325 (with the exception of the pro-rated week of July 4<sup>th</sup>, which is \$300). Advanced weeks 8 and 9 are \$500 per week. An early registration discount of \$25 (off your total) is available for parents/guardians who register by June 3, 2018. We also offer a multiple child discount for siblings of \$25 per family.

## **Is there a deposit required?**

A deposit is not required. However, you must pay in full for your camp at the time of registration. Your child's space will not be saved unless payment has been received in full. Aftercare can be paid daily.

## **Are there scholarships available?**

Yes, a limited number of one-week, full-tuition scholarships are available to families thanks to the Michael J. Levitt Summer Camp Scholarship Fund. Please check the summer camp page: <https://www.igfa.org/Educate/IGFA-Fishing-Camp.aspx> to download the application, which is due May 24, 2018. Scholarships can only be used for weeks 1-7. They cannot be used for Advanced weeks.

## **What are the camp hours?**

Camp hours are 9:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Thursday (unless otherwise noted on field trip schedule). On Friday, campers are required to arrive by 7:30am. Before care is available Monday – Thursday from 8:00am to 9:00am free of charge. Aftercare is offered from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at a rate of \$20 per hour, per child.

## **Is this camp program co-ed? What are the ages for camp?**

Yes, girls and boys ages 7-12 for weeks 1-7 and ages 9-14 for the Advanced weeks 8 and 9. Campers are divided into two groups. Children ages 7-9 are in one group; children ages 10-12 are in another group. However, we reserve the right to combine group ages if needed. For field trips and Advanced weeks, campers will be grouped together.

**What activities will the campers participate in and what will they learn? Are campers required to have prior knowledge and/or experience with fishing?**

Each week will have a different theme but all regular weeks will include the basics of fishing. Camp weeks also include: arts and crafts and take home projects, interactive games, hands-on activities, guest speakers, field trips, and fishing! Participants learn about fish biology, aquatic ecosystems, knot tying, tackle, tying flies & jigs, and fishing. Field trips take campers to lakes, estuaries, the Everglades, the Intracoastal Waterway, and to the ocean by shore and by boat. Campers **do not** need to attend Week 1 before attending any other week. You choose the weeks your child will attend camp in any order you prefer.

**Does IGFA guarantee my child will catch fish?**

No, the IGFA counselors and volunteers will try our hardest to help each camper catch fish each day, but we can't control whether fish will bite.

**Is transportation provided to and from camp?**

No, each child must be dropped off (and signed in) and picked up (and signed out) by their parent/guardian from camp each day.

**What is the procedure for parking, drop off, and pick up?**

Please park in the IGFA parking lot on the west side of the building, adjacent to the Marriott Hotel and come in through the courtyard. Follow the signs for the camp entrance. **THE SOUTH ENTRANCE BY THE FOUNTAIN IN FRONT OF THE BUILDING WILL NOT BE OPEN. You must come in to sign your child IN and OUT daily. PLEASE DO NOT** drop off children without signing them in.

**What type of vehicle is used when traveling on field trips? Does it have seat belts? Is it air-conditioned? Who drives the vehicle?**

An air-conditioned coach bus is used for travel to and from field trips, depending on the number of campers. A licensed bus driver is in charge of the bus. The Florida Statutes do not require buses to have seat belts (section 316.614, 3a1 and 2).

**Is lunch provided or do the campers need to bring lunch daily?**

No, campers need to bring a bagged lunch that does not need to be heated or refrigerated. We suggest packing **EXTRA** snacks and a re-usable water bottle. IGFA and its staff will not provide campers with lunch or snacks. We will provide iced water every day that the campers are welcome to use to refill their water bottles.

**What do the campers need to wear daily?**

Each camper will receive an IGFA T-shirt on the first day of their camp session. **Campers must wear an IGFA camp T- shirt DAILY.** Additional shirts are available for \$8.00 each. Campers can wear casual dress: IGFA T- shirt, shorts, tennis shoes, and a hat. Sunscreen, a light jacket and poncho are suggested every day. It is also a good idea to pack an extra pair of clothes, shoes, or sandals as we **WILL** still fish in the rain as long as the weather conditions remain safe.

**What do campers need to bring?**

Parents/guardians will be emailed a "WHAT TO BRING" sheet for each week of camp informing them of what campers will need to bring each day of the week. Extra items needed may include a towel, bathing suit, change of clothes, snorkel gear, poncho, hat, and sunscreen. Campers may bring a small backpack with their belongings, but they are responsible for carrying their own gear. Please be sure to **label all belongings** with complete camper's name. On Fridays campers may need motion sickness pills: We suggest giving your child **Bonine** vs. Dramamine, since Dramamine tends to make the campers sleepy.

**Do the campers need to bring their own fishing equipment?**

**No**, campers are **not permitted** to bring in **any** of their own fishing equipment. IGFA will provide what they need.

**What else should campers not bring?**

Campers are not permitted to bring radios, cell phones, money, toys, video games, Ipods, I pads, or anything else that would be disruptive to the camp. IGFA reserves the right to take away any of these items that become disruptive. *IGFA is not responsible for lost or stolen items.*

**Are parents allowed to participate in our camp programs? Can they join the campers on field trips? Is there an additional charge for this?**

Yes, parents are ONLY allowed to participate during the charter boat fishing excursion during weeks 1 and 7. Parents who want to attend the charter boat excursion will be charged an additional \$30 fee to be paid to Reward Fishing Fleet upon arrival. Parents will be responsible for providing their own transportation to and from the boat docks. Please note there is metered parking (credit cards and cash accepted) at the marina, carpooling is encouraged. Parents will not be allowed to join during the Advanced Marine Biology (week 8) or Advanced Angling (week 9) boat trips.

**Is there a nurse on-site?**

No, the IGFA camp does not have a nurse on-site, but all of the instructors are CPR and First Aid certified. If an injury occurs during camp, an "Ouch Report" will be filled out for the incident and a copy will be given to the parents/guardian. If the incident is major and requires hospital care, a parent/guardian will be contacted immediately. All parents are required to complete a Hold Harmless Agreement Form while registering their child to complete their reservation, which includes the health care information and emergency contact information.

**What if I don't have health insurance?**

If health care is needed, the parent's health care insurance policy would be primary and IGFA's health insurance policy would be secondary. If a child were not covered by insurance, IGFA's health insurance would then be primary.

**What is our safety and regulations policy? What precautions do we practice to ensure safety? What is the protocol for safety when participating in water activities?**

Camp counselors carry a binder with them at all times which contains all camper emergency information and contact phone numbers. There is at least 1 chaperone for every 10 children, all instructors are CPR and First Aid certified. All boats on field trips have personal floatation devices (PFDs) available, and when swimming at beaches lifeguards are present.

**What if a child becomes ill?**

If your child is ill and cannot attend, please call the education camp cell phone at (954) 850-2820 and notify the staff so that we do not hold the bus or wait unnecessarily for your child. If the child should become sick while in camp and participating in activities, a staff member would make the child as comfortable as possible and contact a parent/guardian for an early pickup.

**What if I need to contact my child or IGFA camp staff during camp?**

The camp counselors will have the education camp cell phone (954) 850-2820 on them during camp hours. This phone is only active during camp hours 8:00am-6:00pm Monday – Thursday and 7:00am-6:00pm Fridays.

