



# ATHLETICS



## Job Description

### Program Area Counselor

Of the three basic types of counseling staff at Hawkeye the Program Area Counselor is the one with the most contact with the widest range of campers. This counselor remains at their assigned Program Area most periods of every day and conceives of, plans, organizes, leads, and follows up on activities within that Area. These activities are non-gender specific and need to be directed at the entire range of age groups within camp, 8-16 year olds, because each cabin spends approximately two periods each week at each Program Area. These individuals do not split their time between a Cabin Group, with which they may live, and the Program Area. However, most Program Area counselors do live in cabins with the campers and must assist in getting the campers started in the morning and settled at night as necessary. Some time each week may be spent outside of their Program Area; this may include covering a cabin or accompanying a cabin group to various activities, on an out-of-camp trip, or organizing a special activity.

Each Program Area has a staff member who is primarily responsible for its oversight and a number of other staff members who assist them; these are the Program Area Counselor and General Counselors respectively. As the Program Area Counselor you will meet with the Assistant Program Director, your immediate supervisor, each week. Each Program Area Counselor has weekly paperwork responsibilities that include a self-evaluation as well as cabin and activity reports assessing the success of each at the Area each week. These are presented to the Assistant Program Director before weekly supervision and used during the session. S/he, in turn, evaluates and reports on the workings of the Program Area and your progress and success, on a weekly basis, to the Program Director and Camp Director. S/he also provides guidance, feedback, and support to you as a Program Area Counselor.

Each Area has one or two General Counselors and/or Counselors in Training, CiT's, assigned to it that provide additional leadership, organizational assistance, oversight, and group management. These individuals may help to plan, organize and carry out activities but do this on an as needed basis. These individuals are primarily available to assist the Program Area Counselor and take direction from this Counselor on a daily and weekly basis as pertains to the Program Area.

In addition to daily activity planning Program Area Counselors are responsible for creating larger projects, including inter-area ventures, that last weeks or even the entire summer. These plans may take in to account weekly out-of-camp trips, Tribal Considerations, Special Activities, Evening Activities, or other events throughout the session.

Program Area Counselors must also take part in planning, setting-up, organizing, and carrying out Special Activities with special attention paid to elements of these events which are related to activities or skills primarily applicable to their specific Area. For example, songs written for Tribal Games by each Tribe must be assisted by the Drama Counselor regardless of tribe affiliation.

Program Area Counselors need to be the most organized group of staff members within the camp structure. These individuals must plan and organize activities prior to each period in a way that can be re-created at a later date. They must contribute to the construction of a foundation of ideas and information that will endure year after year (Program Area Binders).



## **Athletics Outline**

At Camp Hawkeye most traditional team sports are eschewed in favor of “all play” games, individual sporting activities where campers get to compete against a standard as well as their own past performances, and less traditional sports activities. Athletics includes a fair emphasis on only one traditional American sport for campers, soccer. As a result of the high number of international campers and staff, soccer is maintained as a mainstay of the athletics program. This is so they can feel more comfortable and share their expertise with their American counterparts. Soccer allows a large number of campers to be involved at one time and includes many individual skills that can be practiced alone or with one or two friends. In addition to soccer athletics offers cricket, ultimate frisbee, and various “all play” games such as capture the flag, and mission impossible.

## **Responsibilities**

- Organize and facilitate athletic activities for campers.
- Evaluate individual campers’ skills and ability level for instruction and participation
- Provide individualized participation plans for those campers not inured to the program or less able to play or participate in specific activities
- Ensure the fair and sportsmanlike participation of each camper each day
- Organize tournaments, games and Olympics for entire camp.
- Instruct campers about the safety, rules and regulations of soccer, as well as other sports that will be played.
- Begin to fill the athletics binder with activity plans before the campers arrive.
- Continually evaluate and provide feedback in the athletics binder for upcoming years. This feedback would include the success of the activities, camper enthusiasm, and thoughts/suggestions that would assist with future improvement.
- Maintain the athletics area and ensure that equipment surfaces are kept in order and clean.
- Provide rules and regulations for your program area.

## **Required Certification**

- None

## **Recommended Skills/Abilities**

- Experience working with children in an athletic setting.
- Broad background with many different sports, especially soccer.
- Flexible, adaptable and have ideas of games for campers.
- Ability to make the activity area FUN for all campers!