



JUNIOR TIMES
June 28, 2023



Greetings from the shores of Junior Winona! It is fantastic to be back here at camp. The Junior staff was happy to meet you on Opening Day. Luckily the rain held off and the sun was shining so every camper was able to complete their swim test and canoe safety tip test. Even with the clouds in the sky and the humid air, it was perfect for jumping into the lake for the first time this season.

After a fantastic lunch in the unit (prepared by kitchen staff), some campers enjoyed an exciting game of kickball, while others played board games, drew pictures, and worked on their first gimp (plastic thread weaving) project of the summer. The boys had a great first day.

The next day had threats of rain but the summer camp powers were on our side once again, allowing us to dive right into our famous Junior activity rotations. Every camper gets to experience each activity Junior has to offer; including canoe trip grilled cheese, gimp keychains, basketball, archery, and so much more.



As we began regular activities, the boys were able to sign up for an array of the same activities that had just been introduced that very morning. Despite a misty afternoon, the boys had an amazing time swimming, and canoeing on Moose Pond, playing basketball, shooting bows and arrows, or building their first campfires.

Squadron and Color teams were announced on Tuesday. The boys' excitement was hardly containable as the returning campers welcomed their new teammates. At Winona Night they learned who their Squadron Pilots and Co-Pilots will be for the first session of 2023:

The Mountain Hawks: Pilot **Jack Gagan** and Co-Pilot **Kurt Mueller**

The Ocean Ospreys: Pilot **William Kirkham** and Co-Pilot **Henry Garrels**

The Swift Falcons: Pilot **Audoen McGinn** and Co-Pilot **Griffin Haley**

The Dirigo Ravens: Pilot **Henry Thompson** and Co-Pilot **William McGovern**

Color team captains and Lieutenants were also announced at Winona Night.

Reds: Captain **Oliver Jin** and Lieutenant **Finn Stevenson**

Grays: Captain **Gus Ebmeyer** and Lieutenant **Kelly Mbonyinshuti**



Campers and their teams will compete all summer long to determine who will win the 2023 banner in Junior Winona for the 116th season.

Even though we have only been at camp for a few days our trip season is starting up Wednesday, and our sports schedule begins Friday.

Uncles Josef, Ryan, and Cooper will be heading to Moose Pond's northern basin to Newt's Isle. The canoers paddle past the length of camp, beyond Treasure and Caruso Islands and beneath the 302 Causeway before entering the north basin where Newt's is located. They will be treated to fantastic food, campfire stories and a great night camping on the lake.

(over for more news!)

Uncles Lime and Ben will depart Thursday morning for a quick mountain trip to the Lost Ledge and Needles Eye on nearby Pleasant Mountain. The mountain which towers over us from across the lake is a fantastic hike for new and experienced Junior hikers. For this first trip the campers travel over the 302 Causeway and past the ski area to hike to the Needle's Eye. They will be treated to fantastic trails, and of course great trail food, along the way.

Those that are not leaving on trips will compete in our third annual Squadron Games, hosted by the CITs. The squadrons in all three units compete in their first competitions of the summer. It is incredible to watch the Junior campers connect with older boys on their teams in different units, a truly special moment for our camp community bridging the gap between Junior, Inty and Senior. The CITs do a fantastic job and a great time is had by all!

Friday, our Soccer team will be traveling for one of our first intercamp competitions in several years. We are excited to hear about the results which will, of course, be included in next week's Newsletter as well as much more.



Despite our first three misty days and rainy nights, the campers and staff are having a wonderful time here on the shores of Moose Pond. Our staff passed on their positive energy to the campers, creating engaging activities inside when the rain keeps us indoors, but always ready to jump to our fantastic outdoor activities, which luckily we have been able to run each day so far. I look forward to keeping you up-to-date with all the happenings here in Junior Winona.

Until next week, Brix Brax!

Uncle Zach Clayton (2001-2012, 2015, 2016, 2021-2023)

The BAT 2022

Junior Unit Director

Editors Note: Your son's unit's weekly Newsletter may also be accessed online: <http://winonacamps.com/welcome-parents/unit-newsletters>. Please note that in the weekly unit Newsletters, we focus primarily on out-of-camp trips and sporting competitions which are just a small part of the entire program here at Winona.

You can find current photos of Winona by visiting us on our Facebook page (Winona Camps - Maine), Instagram ([winonacampsmaine](https://www.instagram.com/winonacampsmaine)) or our Bunk1 site.

Find us on  