THE MACHAL PROGRAM -
A DESCRIPTION/ CONTRACT FOR PARTICIPANTS & PARENTS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Machal is an intensive educational and fun program designed for campers who have finished a year of high school. Recognizing the maturity and developmental level of these campers, the Machal program attempts to:

- Build strong, cohesive group spirit and camaraderie.
- Instill important ideals of Torah Va’Avodah through textual learning and innovative activities and discussions.
- Build deeper commitment and understanding of daily religious observance and learning.
- Recognize the beauty and educational opportunities that our natural environment presents.
- Enjoy the athletics/ sports, creative arts, swimming and other activities at Camp Moshava.

To accomplish these goals, there is a special emphasis on the outdoors and appreciation of nature. Machal campers go on lengthy hikes and overnights. Orienteering skills, camp crafts, and initiative and trust activities are integral aspects of our approach. Trips to Niagara Falls, Toronto, Boston/Cape Cod and rafting are often included in the program.

REQUIRED ITEMS

1. Sturdy walking shoes  6. Warm Jacket
2. Hat    7. Flashlight
5. Rain coat/ Poncho

All those without proper equipment or those who lose equipment will be asked to purchase it from the Camp Canteen or in town near Camp.
DISCIPLINE & RESPONSIBILITIES

Certainly, proper conduct is a necessity for all age groups at Camp. However, the nature of the program requires additional emphasis in this area. Cooperation, participation, individual responsibility for personal and camp property and respect for authority are essential. Therefore:

- Discipline problems will not be tolerated
- Campers MUST attend all tefillot, meals and activities. All mandatory activities must be attended. There are optional activities scheduled during the day.
- If you are unable to hike, are unable to sleep out or unable to participate in strenuous outdoor activities, you may not attend the Machal Program!
- Boys are never allowed in girl’s cabins or porches and vice versa for any reason whatsoever.
- Curfew/ Camp Rules (see Parent’s Manual) are to be observed without question.
- Raids are absolutely forbidden.
- Campers are expected to act in a mature and respectful manner at all times.
- Unacceptable, vulgar language has no place in our religious atmosphere.
- The possession of potentially dangerous equipment, including knives, will not be tolerated.
- Clearly, NO smoking, alcohol or illegal drugs would ever be allowed and will result in immediate dismissal.
- Below, please find a description of our camp dress code. We respectfully request that you read it carefully and ONLY send clothes that meet these standards. It creates unnecessary tension between staff and campers if we have to request that campers change their clothing.

Violations of the above rules/guidelines constitute grounds for immediate dismissal.
DRESS CODE

In Moshava, we try to create a very special religious atmosphere. Part of this atmosphere involves the kinds of clothes our participants wear. We therefore enforce specific guidelines for both male & female dress codes.

FEMALE DRESS CODE

Tops
- Neckline - The neckline cannot extend more than an inch and a half below the collarbone and the neckline must not reveal cleavage when bending down.
- Sleeves must cover the armpit area when arm is raised.
- Sleeves that are very loose, even if long enough, are not appropriate if they reveal the armpit when raised.
- Off the shoulder shirts may not be worn.
- Any shirt with a very wide, loose neck that is prone to drifting off the shoulder should not be brought to camp.
- Shirts must cover the midriff area when arms are raised and when bending down.
- Very form-fitting and/or see-through shirts may not be worn.

Bottoms
- Skirts and pants must reach the knee when sitting AND standing.
- Yoga pants, jeggings, skinny jeans, and leggings may not be worn except under an article of clothing which independently reaches the knee.
- Bottoms with any form of writing across the back may not be worn.

Other
- Only full piece bathing suits or two-piece suits with a “tankini” top may be worn while swimming. Bikini tops may not be worn.
- No body piercings other than earrings are permissible.
- Underwear may not be showing at any time.
- Shabbat: White shirt and dark skirt must be worn on Friday night. No denim skirts, pants or sneakers are permitted on Shabbat.
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MALE DRESS CODE

√ Tzizit and Kippot must be worn at all times.

√ Shirts: No tank tops or undershirts (worn alone) are permissible. And a shirt must be worn at all times.

√ Shorts: All shorts must reach the top of the knees and cover the body modestly.

√ No earrings or body piercings of any type.

√ Underwear may not be showing at any time.

√ Shabbat: Solid white shirt and dark slacks. No jeans or sneakers are permitted on Shabbat.

We appreciate your complete cooperation in respecting these policies. Without your support, the potential for conflict between supervisory staff and our campers may arise creating discomfort for all involved. Please make sure that you only pack clothes that meet our dress requirements. We will ask you to change, purchase new clothes or if necessary, return home if you insist on wearing items that do not meet our standards.

Proper Tzniyut must be maintained at all times. Although we are proud of our status as a coeducational camp, it does engender additional halachik responsibilities for the camp and its participants. Physical contact of any kind between boys and girls is not permissible and WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

Cleanliness is a necessity. Machal campers are responsible to take care of their clothes and living quarters.
MACHAL CONTRACT SIGNATURE PAGE

NAME OF CAMPER: ________________________________
(Please print name legibly)

We have read the above Machal rules and guidelines and understand the nature of the program and all of the rules and responsibilities that the camper will be required to adhere to during the program. We realize that if a problem arises, we will be contacted and this contract/Understanding will certainly be referred to in the discussion. We also understand that campers who are unable to comply with the above guidelines during camp will quickly be dismissed from the program.

CAMPER’S SIGNATURE: ________________________________

PARENT’S SIGNATURE: ________________________________

PARENT’S SIGNATURE: ________________________________
(Where appropriate, both parents’ signatures are required)

DATE: ___________________________________________