

ACCVI Summer Camp Information Guide - 2017

Purpose and Intent of the Summer Camps

The purpose and intent of the ACC-VI fly-in summer camps is to provide a variety of remote mountain experiences and opportunities to club members. Activities may include mountaineering, glacier travel, rock climbing, hiking, and scrambling, within a social, supportive, team-oriented environment.

Predominantly, the ACC-VI looks for a combination of good hiking and mountaineering opportunities in choosing a camp location; however, no particular activity is certain to be available given the remote location and uncertainty of actual conditions on the ground.

The fly-in summer camps are more than a 'helicopter ticket into a remote spot'. They require considerable planning, budgeting and preparation ahead of time, and represent a collective effort to bring together a team for each week's camp. In this respect, interested members are expected to understand and respect all Summer Camp Policies as set by the Summer Camp Committee and the Camp Manager.

Basic Camp format

- The fly-in summer camps allow for 15 people to fly into a remote area for one week (Sunday to Sunday), to be replaced by another 15 members, for up to three consecutive weeks depending on registration. Members are expected to get themselves to a designated staging area, ready to fly by early Sunday morning, which usually means being close to or at the staging area by the Saturday evening.
- A camp manager (and possibly assistant camp manager) is assigned to oversee each week's camp and will meet with participants beforehand to go over gear, travel, food, and a host of other details.
- Members bring their own personal gear, food (see below), tent and sleeping bag. **A strict weight allowance will be provided for each participant. No exceptions.**
- The ACC-VI provides two large dome tents: one as a shelter and social tent; the other as a mess tent. All kitchen prep, cooking, eating and washing up utensils, stove, fuel, tables and seating are provided.
- The first week members set up base camp with the dome tents, dig waste-water holes and biffies, and set up a shower stall. This takes several hours on the first day. The last week members take down the camp and pack it up for return. This takes several hours on the last evening and last morning.
- Each day, groups assemble for different trips based on recreational interest. Each group signs out in a log book, and takes an FRS radio. Each evening "the team" comes together to share stories, relax and eat before retiring to individual tents.

Food and eating considerations

- Participants bring their own breakfasts, lunches, snacks, and drinks, and pair with another member to bring **the makings of one dinner for all 15 people.**
- Participants should NOT count on refrigeration at camp, although we make every attempt to use the snow pack or a cold creek where possible. Bear canisters will be provided for non-perishables.
- The camp does NOT provide water treatment or filtration – bring your own treatment or filter if you deem this necessary.
- Camp policy is that **two people each night cook a dinner for all** (three people on the last night, when some packing up is required). **No exceptions** (not least because any deviation from this policy throws the whole week out, and requires more fuel and line-ups for cooking).
- Cooking for the group provides flexibility for all members to make the most of every day, with the exception of a single cooking evening, and provides the opportunity for all members to creatively consider and

contribute to others' pleasure and dietary needs. This is part of the social interaction and team effort of these camps.

- People with extreme allergies or food sensitivities may bring supplemental food of their own while participating in the communal meals to the degree possible (most allergies and sensitivities will be addressed in the camp planning process).

Safety considerations

All participants are expected to sign the waiver form. The SCC believes that adequate personal safety considerations have been incorporated into the guidance and materials for the camps, available through the Camp Manager:

- Camp members (as members of the ACC) already understand what is required in terms of physical fitness and ability.
- Everyone is expected to carry their own personal first aid kit and medications.
- A satellite phone is rented for each week of the camp, for emergency use.
- Please note: The Sat phone is NOT for members to call out. This is a wilderness camp and constant contact is not expected or desired. If you feel that your family may need to contact *you* in the case of emergency, then provide them with contact information for the helicopter company, in the event you need to be picked up and flown out, at your own expense. (Flying time includes the helicopter coming to and from base, and is approximately \$2800 per hour).
- Camp batteries/ battery chargers/solar chargers are NOT for personal use: they are required for the radios and Sat phone. Bring your own supplies.
- SPOT devices are NOT provided – bring your own if desired.
- The Camp Managers' Manual includes emergency numbers and procedures.
- It is likely that each camp week will include some members who have first aid training.
- If you are coming from another Province or country, please check your medical coverage. Emergency evacuation by Search and Rescue is free of charge.
- The backcountry is 'home' to backpackers and hikers as well as technical climbers. Summer camps often include some mentoring within the bounds of safety, and members are encouraged to sign up for trips within their comfort level.
- Each trip leader carries an FRS radio or several if the hiking group is larger, and check-ins are every two hours.
- Camp members are a team which, in the case of sickness or emergency, is expected to pull together to ensure the safety of all. **"We come back alive; we come back friends"**.

Camp Registration and Fees

- Registration is on a 'first-come, first served' basis. All fees are due in full at the time of registration. Cheques should be made out to 'Alpine Club of Canada – Vancouver Island Section'. In the event you have to withdraw, the ACC-VI will assist in advertising your place, however, a refund will only be provided if a replacement is found.
- The camp fee is based on estimated helicopter costs plus materials and is the same for all participants whether or not they feel they can hike into the area. (Helicopter estimates and bookings are based on full occupancy plus the need to fly in all communal gear and private weight allowances). *If costs prove to be less once the camp is over and all accounts are finalized, a refund will be given to participants equally.*
- Participants under 19 years of age will need an accompanying parent or guardian.

A Call for Camp Managers and Assistant Camp Managers

Each week of the summer camp requires a Camp Manager and possibly an Assistant Camp Manager. If you have an interest in building your leadership skills and working with the Camp participants to ensure a successful experience for all, please read the Camp Managers' Duties document, and contact Liz Williams at seahorse@pacificcoast.net if interested.

We also need a volunteer (for both the first and last weeks) who has a truck with a trailer hitch to transport Cedric's trailer with the communal camp gear to and from the staging area. **Your gas costs will be reimbursed by the Club!** *We do hope some of you will step up, as the summer camp does not happen without the help of those who volunteer to be Camp Managers, Assistant Managers and trailer haulers!*

Contact

Once you've registered for the summer camp, and Camp Managers have been designated, you will be on your Camp Manager's contact list. Camp Managers will contact you, provide all relevant materials, and will hold a planning meeting in late spring.

Please direct all questions to your Camp Manager.

The ACCVI Summer Camp Committee