

2009 Young Birder's Conference

June 21 - 27, 2009



American Birding®
ASSOCIATION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Please read the following policies and procedures carefully. These rules are for the safety of the group and to ensure that we can continue to offer these experiences in the future. Therefore, it is important that you adhere to these guidelines throughout the entire Young Birders' Conference (YBC). Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

CONDUCT

All participants must conduct themselves in a responsible manner that shows consideration and respect for their instructors, peers, and the environment. Fighting and/or aggressive physical contact, smoking, alcohol or illicit drugs will not be tolerated. **If at any time a young birder violates these considerations, the individual will be asked to leave the conference at the discretion of the instructors. Travel arrangements and costs will be the responsibility of their parent/guardian.**

PERSONAL ITEMS

Participants are responsible for their own personal items and we expect you to respect the belongings of others. Because we will be spending most of our time outside and in close groups, we ask you to **leave** electronic games and other electronic devices at home or in your room. iPods and other audio devices may be carried for bird sound reference, but should not be used in the field without the consent of the instructors at the time. Cell phones and pagers should be set on vibrate. We encourage you to bring cameras to help record your experience, but you are responsible for caring for your own equipment. **The ABA is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.**

CONTACTS

It is critical for us to know where parents/guardians are during the YBC in case of an emergency. If at any time parents/guardians will be unreachable at the phone number listed in the registration materials, please let us know by contacting and/or leaving a message for ABA staff at 724-263-9426.

In case of an emergency that requires you to contact your child, please leave a detailed message at 724-263-9426. Other non-pressing questions may be directed to the ABA office in Colorado Springs, Colorado at 1-800-850-2473.

FORMS

All YBC participants will be required to complete, sign, and return the Participant Information form, Travel Itinerary, and the Parental Waiver and Release form before being allowed to participate.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The YBC staff will carry first aid kits with them at all times. In the event of an accident we will transport the individual to the nearest hospital. Cost of treatment arising from an accident or injury is the responsibility of the parent or guardian. YBC participants must have health and

accident insurance coverage and should **carry a photocopy of their insurance card on their person at all times** during the event.

- ◆ **Van Safety:** Participants are required to wear seatbelts at all times. No one except staff is to drive the vehicles.
- ◆ **Sun:** Always use sunscreen and reapply it often throughout the day.
- ◆ **Dehydration:** Remind each other to drink! Bring a water bottle and we will stop often to refill them.
- ◆ **First Aid in general:** Staff will have basic first aid kits. Let us know immediately if you are not feeling well.

CANCELLATION/REFUNDS

All cancellations must be made in WRITING. Full refund less a \$50 administration fee will be made for cancellations received prior to June 5, 2009. After June 5, refunds may be made less the administration fee and any non-refundable amounts for which the ABA is already obligated. Please note that we may not be able to refund any amount for late cancellations regardless of the circumstances.

If you have any questions concerning these policies, please contact us at 800-850-2473 x 237 or edcon@aba.org.