



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Training & Elections I

We are finalizing our preparations for the upcoming Training & Elections I conference (now dubbed "Larry"). The response from our delegations has been very positive with some concerns being expressed about the housing/camping situation. We take your concerns very seriously and have been working to address them and provide accommodations that are as comfortable as we can make them. To that end we have made the following changes to our plans:

1. We will be enclosing the entire covered camping area with vinyl sides much like the Forum tent at Camp Roberts.
2. We will be adding forced air heaters to the covered camping area. These heaters are again similar to those used in the Forum tent. The forced air heaters have the heating elements outside of the tented area and blow only the warmed air into the sleeping area.
3. In addition to removing and replacing all dirt from the covered camping area and spraying a bleach-based solution to disinfect the area prior to the delegate's arrival, we will also be covering all dirt areas with tarps and cloth.
4. We have significantly increased our security presence to include additional Deans and local police.
5. We will be holding all delegates at the training site until 11pm on Saturday night. This will allow us to avoid interacting with the concert being held at the fairgrounds.
6. We are adding additional restroom and sink facilities to both sites to handle our needs.
7. We will be temporarily suspending the "Sacramento Dress Code" requirement for officer candidates at T&E I.

In addition to these changes there are a few misconceptions that I would like to clarify:

1. The all dirt areas being used for camping have been utilized as camping sites by the Tulare County fairgrounds prior to our event. They worked quite well and the precautions being taken to protect our delegates are in accordance with the venue's recommendations.
2. The areas being used for our events are entirely enclosed by fencing that isolates our attendees from passersby. We will also have a large contingent of volunteers providing 24-hour security at both sites.

So, what does this mean to my delegation?

We have been in regular consultation with YMCA leaders across the state and feel that our current plans will create a very safe and fun atmosphere for our students. As you prepare for this event please be aware of the following:

Unless you have requested uncovered tent camping as your housing preference, tents are not required. You may bring them, but they are not necessary, as you will be allotted covered, heated accommodations.

We are still working on trying to secure cots from the American Red Cross, but hurricane Sandy has made that a bit more challenging. As dirt and concrete are very poor insulators, Y&G strongly advises all attendees

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to bring some sort of pad to put between themselves and the ground in order to help keep warm. Though the space will be heated, we still recommend outdoor type sleeping bags for all. If camping is not viable for your delegation, please let us now ASAP so that we can work to make alternate arrangements.

The covered camping areas will be one VERY LARGE space. Please prepare your delegates to be good neighbors to all. While we will be providing 24-hour security on the housing site, it is important that your delegates NOT bring valuables.

With these plans and guidelines in place we are excited for this unique event, the first ever "Larry II!"

Rolf Davidson
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