

Junior High Con 2012 Post-Con YAC Meeting Minutes

Meeting start- 9:42am

❖ Registration

- The list of who all was coming arrived to the con a little late, but it didn't cause much of an issue, thankfully.
- The greetings at the doors were nice, especially with all the new attendants.
- YAC is going to try and update facebook with the sign up link and con schedules since that is where most people seem to check. The co-chairs also want to see about e-mailing parents so they are also aware of con times and sign up being put up.

❖ Opening Circle

- As always, it was a bit difficult to quiet folks down. That's typical of any gathering of people, but we really do need con goers to hush themselves for opening circle and pay attention.
- We've noted, not for the first time, the adult need to quiet down too, as their chatting acts as a distraction as well.
- The YAC is going to look into finding more polite ways to tell people to quiet down that are effective, but not rude.
- Opening circle lasted about 45 minutes. Not the best record, but certainly not the worst. Seeing as it was a Junior High con and rule had to be perused thoroughly, this is a pretty good time.
- Speeches from the youth in YAC leadership positions are relatively unnecessary and can be cut, though chaplains should still be brought up to introduce themselves and tell what they do.
- Forgot to tell everyone about the KUYODS rule in circle, but luckily it was covered by most touch groups and followed amazingly well throughout the con.

❖ Touch Groups

- It occurred to the attendant of the YAC meeting and was generally agreed upon that KUYODS could just be covered in touch groups in the future to get people split up and in their groups sooner.
- There was a bit of confusion this con about touch group meeting times and when they ended, so the YAC member who will be announcing them for that con will be more clear about that particular information from now on.

❖ Food

- The Saturday morning breakfast was delicious, but unfortunately, the church ran out of food. After a quick run for extras and snacks, the problem was averted.

- It was found that a fair amount of food got wasted due to con goers taking more than they could actually eat. The YAC or food staff will be sure to make clear in the future that it's better to take less and come back for seconds because there will be more. The other issue here were the extras being left on plates everywhere which is a big no. Pick up your food and throw it away if you're not going to eat it.
- For once in a long while, people were very respectful of the vegetarian dietary needs and only took the vegetarian food if they were vegetarian. This ensured that there was actually plenty of vegetarian food available and that it was the leftover option rather than meat products which are not suitable seconds for everyone.

❖ Worship

- The worships themselves were good, but some feel that the worship has lost the community feeling it once had and the YAC wants to bring that back. It should be made clear, on no uncertain terms, that worship is a serious part of con and needs to be treated as such. It is a sacred space and deserves respect. It was brought up that perhaps folks should be reminded at the very beginning of the con why exactly they are at cons.
- Another idea, to help enforce the gravity of the activity, is to just rename worship as VESPER, much like what is held at Summer Institute.

❖ Wake-up

- This went relatively well, though it was specifically noted that if you kick someone by accident, apologize, or just don't do it at all. People should realize that a lump in a sleeping bag is probably a person and avoid them.

❖ Spirit Circle

- No particular comments other than it went well.

❖ Workshops

- Again, everything went relatively well and it was specifically noted that worship was done and ready during actual workshop time this con, which was very nice for the coordinators. It was also positively noted that outdoor games got a good turnout despite the cold weather and the youth that chose to join that workshop stayed for the whole thing unlike usual where kids would come and go sporadically.
- Unfortunately, a few workshops had a very poor turnout, though that does tend to be the case sometimes, especially with late entries.

❖ TRA

- The TRA wound up getting cancelled this con. The planning fell through, once more. The co-chairs once again want to stress that if you sign up to do something, you need to do it. If you can't, tell someone ASAP.

❖ Talent Show

- Went amazingly well this con with plenty of good acts, no run over time-wise, and the event as a whole didn't drag on as it's been known to every so often.
- It was noted that the MCs might have been a little over the top, but it wasn't a problem.

❖ Surprise Cleanup

- Nothing to say other than it went well.
- ❖ Dance
 - Even though the volume was at the same setting it usually is at, the acoustics of the church weren't taken into consideration and ended up being too loud. In the future, the DJ will be sure to pay close attention to how the music reaches the other rooms of the church.
 - The DJs did very respectfully lower the volume when asked though and continued to do so over time.
 - It was noted that con youth should be reminded that the dance will happen and it will be loud. It's on them if they decide to sleep in the dance room or beside it, but it might be kind to at least alert sleepers that the music is about to start so they're not faced with that kind of awakening.
- ❖ Clean-up
 - The co-chairs have decided that they want to return to the system of assigning each touch group an area to clean in the future.
 - As usual, there were some stragglers, but that is to be expected.
 - It was found that it wasn't that people weren't trying to help, but they need to be specifically directed on what sort of clean-up to do, where, with what, etc. It's not a problem to clean, they just need some instruction.
- ❖ Closing Circle
 - No specific comments other than it went well.
- ❖ Other
 - It was brought up that the YAC don't have emergency plans. If they do, they haven't really ever been covered. These will be looked into thoroughly by the co-chairs and put together to be presented to the OMD UU youth at cons from now on, or at least noted in places so youth will be aware, just in case.
 - The custodian was quite happy with the church when he came in Sunday. He'd had his doubts Friday, but was overjoyed to see everything set out and clean on Sunday. Good job to the youth there

Meeting end- 10:33am