

CONival Junior High Con 2013 Post-Con Meeting Minutes

Meeting start: 11:00 a.m. November 17th

❖ **Registration**

- If someone registers online and then cannot attend, especially if they sign up for jobs, they must tell someone.
- Something about this could be added to registration and/or in a sponsor confirmation email.

❖ **DJ-** We must decide who will be the con DJ for the remainder of the year

❖ **Opening Circle**

- It was long and dragged on, and having all four co-chairs causes more horsing around.
- Some things could be cut out (like naming all the positions), however, at junior high con, we're introducing the entire con world, not just a single con.
- Leadership training announcements would be better suited for spirit circle.

❖ **Touch Groups**

- The second meeting went on too long, so leaders should be able to disperse groups on their own, and end the meeting if people are getting too antsy.
- There should be a better Touch Group leader meeting, and there was some misinformation about touch groups.
- However, touch groups are difficult to monitor because some go well, and some don't, it just depends.
- Take down is a lot more work than set up, so, we could have one group both set up and take down chairs and tables, and another group clean and do dishes.
- Additionally, everyone must do the dishes, not just one person for three hours.

❖ **Meals**

- Though organizing food was sprung on Jack Decker and Paul Lawson very late, but it went alright, and it's nice that we did it ourselves. That should be made more normal, but without Jack doing everything, and during mandatory programming.
- There should definitely be a FUUD Dude, and with helpers to assist.
- The food itself was excellent and pulled off seamlessly, but Jack doing it all should not have had to happen-must always bring the host congregation in. The co-chairs shouldn't be distracted from programming by food concerns.
- One idea is have a dinner and/or lunch workshop with a maximum number of participants.
- There could be a food helper sign up sheet (like for Night Angels), which increases active youth engagement, and brings in both new cooking talent and adult volunteers.
- Create a checklist of things to do for booking churches.

❖ **Offsite Activity**

- The weather was beautiful, and it was a lot of fun, and it was a different activity but good exercise and for the younger, hyper youth.
- In the future, make sure to bring water, good, good walking shoes, First Aid equipment, and make sure the sponsors have each other's phone numbers.

- Create an offsite checklist with:
 - List of things to bring
 - Sponsor contact information
 - Names of all the youth participating
 - First Aid
 - Co-chair phone numbers
- We could obtain sponsor contact information through registration.
- Sponsors must be sure to leave with the same youth they took to the site.
- It could be considered as a normal junior high con activity, as everything went more smoothly after it, however, there would be no TRA.
- Over 90% of the youth had forms and went on the offsite.
- Communication regarding the offsite wasn't good: the form did not say it was mandatory, the what and why of it was unclear, not everyone knew about it, etc
- Take more care in communication-emails to everyone and the DRE(s), and posts on the Facebook page.
- ❖ **Worship**
 - It went well, and the second one was better due to lots of great help at the Saturday workshop.
- ❖ **Afternoon workshops**
 - The games went well.
 - Mirrormask was very crowded.
 - The impromptu square dancing workshop with David Strickler was amazing and also fun to watch.
 - There was talk of bringing back 'jam sessions', which could still work despite the smaller number of musical people.
- ❖ **Surprise clean up**
 - Morning clean up, not surprise clean up, should be structured and delegated.
 - Some of the tasks assigned were very uneven, i.e., bathrooms vs. rooms
 - Make it clear that in surprise clean up you should:
 - Clean up your own stuff.
 - Then, clean up other stuff.
- ❖ **Talent Show**
 - It went well, but did get a little redundant.
 - There was a lot of new, fantastic talent represented, and it was great that some of the shyer kids performed.
 - Joe Schmittgen was again a great, very positive MC who recognized everyone and stepped back.
- ❖ **Dance**
 - It ended around 2:00 a.m.
 - The dancing got a little out of hand, it was a little too explicit and there was an excess of twerking.
 - There were some uncomfortable moments, which could be toned down by co-chairs and chaplains.
 - Blurred Lines is NEVER an acceptable song to be played at cons or other OMD YAC events.
 - DJ needs to be a much more organized job with more guidelines.

- Explicit music should only be played after a certain, pre-set time.
- There should be a junior high playlist, with a formal process for its approval, likely by the co-chairs.
- We should try to get the 7th graders moving, maybe everyone could add in one favorite song to get everyone moving.
- The junior high dance could be more interactive and structured (like the dancing while waiting for dinner), with doing the limbo, etc
- D & D during the dance was not well-announced and too short.
- ❖ **Morning Wake Up**
 - Adults felt pressured to do a lot more than they should have.
 - Co-chairs must always wake up an hour earlier than everyone else, and they must be louder and more energized, to start p fast and set the standard for clean up.
 - There needs to be a clearer wake up call, and clearer cleanup instructions.
 - Reduce the amount of standing around, everyone must look for jobs/things to do, and be proactive-possibly have assigned rooms.
 - There could be a space for people standing around, and then call youth to completely tasks as needed.
 - It would be a good idea to have a hand vacuum (which could be called the YAC VAC)
 - Still, cleanup ended well and it was all in all, a nice, relaxed Sunday morning.
- ❖ **Rules and sleeping arrangements**
 - We must be stricter about enforcing coupling off rules
 - The head chaplain must always sleep in the co-chair/chaplain room (reduce hypocrisy concerning that, and also with gay couples)
 - Possible stricter sleeping arrangements for junior high rooms.
 - There should be a night angel meeting-we could bring in the night angels after the adult night angels have been decided, to meet with them.
 - Night angels should have flashlights (which disappeared at the last con), and maybe white wings and halos, though that could be overdoing it.
 - Sleeping arrangements and night angels can be discussing more at the next YAC meeting.

Meeting end: 12:11 p.m. November 17th