

Spring 2008 Standards Visitor Newsletter

From the Southeastern Office

Hello one and all from the ACA, SE office! During my 4 months on the job, I have immersed myself in the Standards process, learning camp names, director's names, visitor's names...phew! And, I have had the opportunity to meet and spend time with many of you. Thank you to everyone for your patience and support as I have learned new systems and worked to help get the Accreditation Program ready for another summer. Special thanks, too, to Gayle Taylor and A.L. Ferreira, our Standards Co-Chairs. Both of them have been very helpful – they are a great team and great leaders for our Accreditation Program!

But let's face it – YOU as volunteer visitors are integral to this whole process. Did you know as a Standards Visitor, you do ALL of the following things...in addition to your own job??!!

- Volunteer a day (or for some of you, several days) during the busy summer season to visit another camp.
- Volunteer more of your time to help a camp review their written documentation before the visit.
- Commit your time to stay current as a visitor by completing update courses and reading newsletters such as this.
- Exhibit a willingness to learn as the standards and our training opportunities evolve (revised standards, online learning)
- Serve as resource and even a mentor for the camps you are visiting.
- Help to educate others about the value of ACA and the Accreditation Program.

Thank you for your time, your efforts, and your energies! I hope that you all have a great summer and never hesitate to call the Southeastern Section Office if you need anything!

- Katie



Spring/Summer 2008 Timeline

April 15 th	Visitor assignment letters/packets mailed out. Please call the office immediately if you have not received this yet!
May 1 st	Camp visits scheduled for summer 2008.
May 5 th	Visit dates due to the ACA Southeastern Section Office. Send to Katie at katie@acasoutheastern.org or call 919-402-4336.
May	Coordinate the WDP if requested by the camp.
Summer	Conduct camp visit and immediately mail in score form!

Don't forget – all camp visits should be scheduled and reported to the ACA Southeastern Section Office by May 5th. *If you are having trouble contacting the camp or the 2nd/3rd visitor to schedule the date, please contact the section office ASAP for assistance.*

Written Documentation Previews

(formerly known as "Pre-Visits")

If the camp you are visiting has requested a written documentation preview, please begin that process NOW! This is to help them be better prepared for the on-site visit and to make your job a little easier. If you are unable to accommodate the camp with a WDP, please let the office know immediately so we can help set up an alternative plan.

A Note About Evaluations

In an effort to be more "green", we are eliminating paper evaluations this summer, with the exception of written evaluations for new Associate Visitors. At the end of the summer, all visitors will sent an online link to provide us feedback about their visit(s), fellow visitors, and the Accreditation Process. *However, if you have immediate concerns, please contact the Standards Chair(s) or Section Office immediately.*

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Looking for Directions to the Camp?

Most camps no longer send us directions – but instead, refer us to their website. Please check with the camp’s website or talk with the camp director to ensure that you have the best directions possible to where you are going. We do not encourage you to solely rely on Mapquest, unless recommended by the camp director, as this may sometimes take you to the wrong location when it comes to finding our camps!



Important Contacts for Summer 2008

Please contact one of our Standards Chairs or the Section Office if you have any questions or need clarification. If you are unable to reach anyone at the section level, please contact a member of the National Standards Team.

- Gayle Taylor 336-369-7425, gtaylor@tarheeltriad.org
- AL Ferreira 850-926-3361, alferreira@campindiansprings.org
- Katie Johnson 919-402-4336 or 706-372-4748 (cell), katie@acasoutheastern.org
- Erica Rohrbacher 919-402-4336, erica@acasoutheastern.org

Or, if you unable to reach any of the local team (listed above), please contact a member of the National Staff with your questions: 765-342-8456 – ask for Rhonda Mickelson, Kim Brosnan, or Cindy Andrews.

Have You Downloaded the Updates Yet?

If not, please go to the below listed link and download them ASAP. As a visitor, you are expected to score based on these updates. http://www.acacamps.org/accreditation/interpretations_may07_jan08.pdf



Score Form Update!

All visitors and associate visitors recently received an email from the National Office concerning some VERY IMPORTANT information about the score form we will use this year. PLEASE take the time to go to following link to the online course that will walk you through this update! Though the general format of the score form will remain the same from last year, you will notice the following key changes:

- YOU NEED TO FILL OUT THE FORM IN BLACK OR BLUE INK. Yes, you read that correctly. NO more pencils. The new form requires that you use BLUE or BLACK INK for scoring the “x” in the score columns AND for all signatures and comments made on the form.
- ONLY use the score form that has the printed PINK ink on it (this is a new feature this year) – do not use a leftover form that you may have from last year.
- There is a now a space at the bottom of each page for the camp name AND camp number – please fill both in.
- Any standard scored a “no” should have a comment from the visitor. The camp director should also have the opportunity to make a comment.
- Remember NOT to use personal initials, but instead use “VIS” or “CD” to indicate who made which comment.
- Note any activities scored, but not seen on the day of the visit on the score form.
- Research questions are back! These will be located at the end of the score form.

Go to this website

<http://rpts.tamu.acrobat.com/t36v22g.n56vxf/> to connect to the online update and to learn more about changes to the score form this year. Thank you!

Have a great summer!