

New Youth Director Tips: By Eric Chavez

The International Camporee is an event like none other I have attended. Not being raised SDA, the reality and span of reach Pathfinders has is, in my opinion, only seen at this event. As a Conference official I see the reach that it has on the local level, but when you arrive and are greeted by 50k plus others from around the world, you then realize what this ministry is. 2019 Chosen Camporee was my first ever International Camporee and being in my own backyard of Wisconsin, it was truly amazing to see all these young people gather in my area of ministry to worship a God who is even bigger than the reach of this event. So many individuals young and old sold out to bring young people to an event that celebrates what God has done, is doing, and will do in their lives is the greatest and most successful evangelistic series our church has ever had! I will attend the International Camporee as long as the Lord provides the way and am sold out to the ministry that it is! If you are in doubt about going, all I can say is GO! Don't allow cost, location, or any other reason hinder your opportunity to gather with thousands of other young people to worship a God who has already called you to serve! Just GO!

Tips for before the Camporee

1. Plan well. This one is obvious, but vital. Plan 2-3 years ahead. Save, gather, store all you will need. Money, camping gear, travel documents...Plan well!
2. Buy your tickets asap! I had so many people calling me asking for tickets because it was in my state. However, I even had to hustle to get my own clubs enough tickets because they didn't plan ahead soon enough. I say buy your tickets and sell them later if you have too many. (Don't buy too many though if you don't need them.)
3. Order Your Pins ahead of time for pin trading! This is a big deal and a way for other young people to connect. It was honestly one of my favorite things to do! Sit and trade with other young people. I had nothing to gain except making good memories, laughing, and joking with other young people!
4. Plan for rain and heat! Poncho's, rain boots, and lots of water.

Tips for when you are at the International Camporee

1. Be wise with campsite layout. Space is very limited.
2. Learn the map and plan ahead for walking times.
3. Get your cars out of the Campsite asap. Many people were stuck in and had to call for other rides to and from stores.
4. Attend the Nighttime Evening programs!!! Get there early! They are one of a kind!!!
5. Spend time in prayer every morning for your club to experience God in a way that solidifies their Christian walk! This may be their last attended Camporee with you.
6. Have fun!!!

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Tips for post International Camporee

1. Keep having your club renew the commitments they made at camporee! Don't forget the influence you have over them of asking to renew their relationship with Jesus!
2. Keep praying that they never lose that connection they made at camporee!
3. Have your clubs make shadow boxes of the pins they collected. Those pins carry memory and emotions.
4. Print actual photos of your time at camporee and make each of your members a photo album to remember.
5. Plan for next camporee! Yes, start as soon as you can. Begin fundraisers, make a yearly calendar of things you're going to do to raise funds...Remember, Plan well!