

YOUTH IN MOTION (YIM): WHY *RESPONDEZ S'IL VOUS PLAIT* (RSVP)?

Repondez S'il Vous Plait (RSVP) is a French term meaning “please reply.” It is traditionally requested in a written invitation, but can be verbal. The intent is to let the sender know whether or not you are coming to said event. A “reply to attend” allows the sender to plan accordingly. So, “Why RSVP to YIM events?”

YIM is a non-for-profit organization designed to afford kids/participants an opportunity to attend events (***AT NO COST TO PARTICIPANTS***) they otherwise may not have the privilege to attend. YIM relies on grants, sponsorships, and donations to support activities. Activities are restricted in the number of kids/participants allowed to attend. Once the number of attendees equals sponsored spots; all follow-on responses are “denied!” So, if you reply you are coming (RSVP) and don’t show; you restrict someone else’s opportunity to attend, the slot is not filled, and money for the slot is lost. Additionally (at the least), you may have adversely effected transportation, food, and adult volunteer support.

Due to a recurring issue with participants RSVPing and cancelling short notice (e.g. well within 24 hours) or failing to attend; YIM executive board is implementing the following policy henceforth: 1) Participants will continue to RSVP for events; 2) A change in status (e.g. no longer attending) requires at least a 24 hour notice to the YIM contact. A failure to provide adequate notice (at least 24 hours) “may” have the following consequences:

1) FIRST OFFENSE:

Parent/guardian will receive a letter notifying them of non-attendance/late cancellation and remind them of the policy. Participant(s) will not be allowed to participate at the next event.

2) **SECOND OFFENSE:** Parent/guardian will receive a letter notifying them of non-attendance/late cancellation and remind them of the policy. Participant(s) will not be allowed to participate at the next three events.

3) **THIRD OFFENSE:** Parent/guardian will receive a letter notifying them of non-attendance/late cancellation and remind them of the policy. Participant(s) will not be allowed to participate for one year.

Youth-In-Motion is a community service organization. Our goal is to expose as many kids as possible to fun and life changing/enhancing experiences. To do that, we require parents/guardians RSVP to events. To “reserve a spot” and not attend has many adverse effects, but none more importantly than denying a child an opportunity. The desire of this aforementioned policy is to protect this opportunity/privilege for all children.....especially yours. Thanks for your time!