DELTA ALPHA DELTA SIGMA

ΔΑΔΣ



The Founding Charter

of Camp Dads

ALPHA CHAPTER · Hendersonville, Tennessee

FOUNDERS · Allen, Dominic, Ted

APPROVED · October 21, 2026 · **LAST REVISED** · November 18, 2026

THECAMPDADS.ORG

This charter sets out what Camp Dads (Delta Alpha Delta Sigma) is, how it runs, and what the three founders agree to. It is a working agreement between friends, not a legal document.

---

1. Name, Purpose and Mission

Name. The name of this fraternity is **Delta Alpha Delta Sigma (ΔΑΔΣ)**, known as **Camp Dads**. Camp Dads is the everyday name; Delta Alpha Delta Sigma is the formal name, used on the charter, the crest, and chapter names. Delta Alpha Delta Sigma is a fraternity for dads, not a college fraternity: no campus, no pledging, and no hazing.

Chapters. Each chapter takes the next Greek letter in the order it starts. The founding chapter in Hendersonville, Tennessee is the **Alpha Chapter**; the next is Beta, then Gamma, and so on.

Mission. Camp Dads is a brotherhood of men who refuse to coast through fatherhood. Forged through real adventure and real brotherhood, we're committed to becoming better fathers, better partners, and better leaders.

What we're about. Brotherhood and fun, with a purpose.

How it started. As we were all sitting around the fire during a Scouting campout, Ted said, "This is a great group of guys. We should get together without the kids, so we can talk about adult things."

A few months later, Dominic said, "This is fun, but we can do more."

Allen thought for a moment and said, "Let's start a movement that changes the world!"

Ted and Dominic rolled their eyes, but by the next morning, everyone had agreed to the mission statement.

Why it exists. Dads carry a lot and rarely get a place of their own. Camp Dads gives them a brotherhood with other dads and help with the job many of us chose Scouting for: giving our kids artificial adversity and a safe place to fail. We push our kids, and we catch them.

How it helps. Everything Camp Dads does stands on three legs:

LEG	FOR OUR DADS	FOR OUR KIDS
Knowledge	Honest talk about fatherhood, marriage, and leading, plus practical skills carried home and into kids' activities	Dads who are more patient, more present, and more willing to lead
Network	Real friendships across units and professions, so no dad carries the load alone	Introductions to mentors, internships, and jobs through the dads' connections
Resources	Shared tools, time, skills, and trips, so no chapter starts from scratch	Later, a fund for scholarships and opportunities, once a legal entity exists to hold it

The test for every idea: does it make a dad better at home, or open a door for a kid? If it does neither, it can wait.

2. Principles

1. **Faith welcome, never required.** We respect every man's faith, or lack of it, and we leave room at the fire for all of it.
2. **Character.** We show up, tell the truth, and lead at home first.
3. **Service.** We leave people and places better than we found them.
4. **Adventure.** We do hard things on purpose, together, and help our kids do the same.
5. **No coasting.** Everybody is welcome. Coasting isn't allowed.

3. Membership

- **Who can join:** mainly current, past, and future dads in Scouting, plus any dad or father figure (stepdad, grandfather, uncle, mentor) they sponsor who fits the group, of any faith or none, from any walk of life.
- **Adults and kids.** Monthly Campfires are for adults, 21 and up wherever alcohol is served. The big adventures and Skills Days are for dads. Members' kids are welcome at family get-togethers (section 4).
- **How to join:** any member can invite and sponsor anyone, as long as he is a dad or father figure and fits the group. The member who invites him is his sponsor.
- **Getting to know you:** each new member fills out the one-page Getting to Know You form. Only his chapter's Senior Patrol Leader keeps it, and it is shredded or deleted if he leaves.
- **No dues.** Members split the real cost of what they attend. Nothing else is required.
- **Leaving:** anyone can step away at any time, no explanation needed.

4. How Chapters Work

A chapter is run like a troop: a regional group of dads drawn from several packs, troops, teams, and schools. It splits into patrols of 5 to 8 dads. A patrol can cross units, or it can be a single pack plus a friend from outside Scouting who just wants to help or hang out.

- **Rhythm:** one adults-only Campfire a month, a Skills Day every quarter, family get-togethers whenever a member hosts one, at least one big dads-only adventure a year, and a private GroupMe that every member should join. Talk throughout the week to build friendships beyond meeting reminders. A patrol can meet on its own between Campfires.

- **Starting a chapter:** three dads, one fire, and the Chapter Starter Kit. A new chapter does not need the founders' permission. It lists its city, meeting day, start time, time zone, and organizer contact route at thecampdads.org/chapters, and the founders confirm the listing. Meeting addresses and GroupMe invites stay private.
- **Meeting places stay private.** The public map shows a chapter's town, never its address. The address goes only to dads who are invited.
- **Staying connected:** the founders check in with each chapter's Senior Patrol Leader once a quarter.
- **Using the name:** a chapter uses the Camp Dads and Delta Alpha Delta Sigma names, the ΔΑΔΣ crest, and the Brand Kit as long as it follows this charter. The founders assign each new chapter its Greek letter when they confirm its listing.

Three positions, no more. Each rotates every 6 to 12 months, and nobody serves more than two terms in a row.

POSITION	JOB
Senior Patrol Leader	Runs the Campfire, keeps the date locked, and is the chapter's contact with the founders
Patrol Leader	One per patrol. Keeps his dads connected between Campfires and checks on anyone who goes quiet
Scribe	Runs the GroupMe, sends reminders, and keeps a short record of dates, attendance, and next steps. Nothing personal

Each big adventure gets a volunteer trip lead for that trip only. No standing role is needed.

Where we meet

Anywhere works: a backyard, a church hall, a park, a restaurant, or a bar.

Quarterly Skills Day

Once a quarter, each chapter runs a few hours of hands-on outdoor training for dads new to the outdoors: pitching a tent, tying knots, fishing, building a fire, and cooking on it. No experience needed. Dads who know a skill teach it, and every dad leaves able to teach it to his kids. Anything that can hurt someone (first aid, firearms, boating) gets a qualified instructor.

Family get-togethers

Camp Dads also gets together with our kids for things youth programs don't allow or don't get to: boating, waterskiing and tubing, shooting, campouts, and whatever else a member wants to host.

- **Say it out loud.** Every invite and every gathering opens with: "This is a Camp Dads get-together, not a Scouting event."
- **Parents watch their own kids.**
- **Everyone signs the hold harmless agreement** first: each adult for himself, and a parent for each child.

---

5. Founders

Allen, Dominic, and Ted founded Camp Dads and act as its stewards until a formal board exists. Each owns one area.

FOUNDER	OWNS
Allen	Website (thecampdads.org), the Chapter Starter Kit, and the Brand Kit
Dominic	Funding and the business side, including the future legal entity
Ted	The social and leadership side: recruiting chapter leads, Campfire culture, and leader development

The founders hold the Camp Dads name, domains, and brand in trust for the group. None of them uses it for personal or business gain. Camp Moms is a sister effort under the same principles, with thecampmoms.org held the same way.

6. Decisions and Changes

The founders agree to these rules:

- **Day to day:** each founder decides within his own area and keeps the other two informed.
- **Big decisions need all three founders.** That covers the mission, the principles, this charter, the name and brand, forming a legal entity, taking in or spending pooled money, and removing a chapter.
- **Chapters run themselves.** Chapters make their own calls on dates, places, topics, and trips, as long as they follow this charter.
- **Changing this charter:** any founder can propose a change in writing. It takes effect once all three agree.
- **Adding stewards:** once three chapters have run for a year, the founders invite chapter leaders to help steward Camp Dads, and revisit this section.

7. Money, Legal, and Risk

- **Independence.** Camp Dads is independent. It is not part of, sponsored by, or speaking for any youth organization, church, or other group. Public materials describe it on its own terms.
- **No legal entity yet.** We revisit this once three chapters have run for a year, pooled money outgrows a spreadsheet, or someone wants to fund scholarships. At that point we sit down with an attorney and a CPA.
- **No pooled money.** Each chapter splits its own costs. Trip deposits are tracked in a shared sheet that every trip member can see.

- **Each chapter is independently organized by its members.** The founders provide a free toolkit and do not organize or supervise chapter events or trips.
- **Hold harmless agreement.** Everyone signs it before a family get-together or trip activity: each adult for himself, and a parent for each child.
- **Drivers don't drink.** Whoever is driving the car or the boat stays dry. Everyone else is on his own judgment.

---

8. Code of Conduct

1. **What is said at the fire stays at the fire.** The one exception: if someone is in danger, we get help.
2. **No selling.** No recruiting for businesses, causes, or campaigns. Politics and religion are welcome as conversation, never as a fight or a pitch.
3. **Nobody is pressured to drink.** Club soda gets the same toast.
4. **Treat staff and hosts like your kids are watching.** Tip well, clean up, leave it better.
5. **Commitments are optional.** Goals and projects are welcome, never required, and never penalized.
6. **When it goes wrong:** if someone is hurt, call 911 first, then the Senior Patrol Leader. A member who breaks this code gets one private conversation with his Senior Patrol Leader. If it happens again, the chapter's leaders ask him to step away.

Signatures

Signers 1 to 10 of 20. Sign in ink, print your name, and date it.

FOUNDER 1

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME: Allen

DATE

FOUNDER 2

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME: Dominic

DATE

FOUNDER 3

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME: Ted

DATE

SIGNER 4

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

DATE

SIGNER 5

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

DATE

SIGNER 6

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

DATE

SIGNER 7

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

DATE

SIGNER 8

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

DATE

SIGNER 9

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

DATE

SIGNER 10

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME

DATE

Signatures, continued

Signers 11 to 20 of 20. Sign in ink, print your name, and date it.

SIGNER 11

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME | DATE

SIGNER 12

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME | DATE

SIGNER 13

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME | DATE

SIGNER 14

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME | DATE

SIGNER 15

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME | DATE

SIGNER 16

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME | DATE

SIGNER 17

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME | DATE

SIGNER 18

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME | DATE

SIGNER 19

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME | DATE

SIGNER 20

SIGNATURE

PRINTED NAME | DATE

Keep your stick on the ice.