



## Wedding Policy

Camp Jacob, Inc. is a ministry of the Dickenson County, East Wise, and West Wise Conferences of Free Will Baptists. We are primarily a camp and retreat facility, not a wedding or catering facility.

However, as stewards of this property, we are happy to offer our facility for weddings as a part of our ministry to churches and local believers. We encourage the use of local churches for this ministry, as we believe every Christian needs the spiritual home and support that a successful marriage requires, and that can only be found in the local church. We are happy to be an extension of the local church's ministry.

### Policy:

1. All wedding rentals are booked under the following criteria:
  - a. All requests for weddings to be conducted on camp property must be approved in advance by the Executive Director.
  - b. Approval of any wedding requests will be based upon the availability of the facilities, the most cost effective and efficient use of the facilities and a consistent application of Free Will Baptist denominational statements and policies that relate to and define biblical marriage. (See addendum)
  - c. Wedding party and guests must understand that Camp Jacob is a tobacco, alcohol, and drug free campus. This includes all forms of tobacco (e-cigarettes, vaping, etc.).
  - d. Only music that is centered in the Christian Faith and traditional instrumental music are allowed unless the song list containing secular songs is approved at least one week prior to the wedding date.
2. Requirements for the wedding couple: Any couple who wishes to be considered for marriage at Camp Jacob must understand and agree that:
  - a. Marriage is God's idea (Genesis 2:18)
  - b. Marriage is a permanent and exclusive bond between one man and one woman (Genesis 2:22-24, Matthew 19:4-9)
  - c. Marriage is a reflection of Christ's relationship with His church (Ephesians 5:21-33)
  - d. Couples who wish to marry must not be unequally yoked, meaning one is a believer and the other is not. (2 Corinthians 6:14-16)
  - e. Couples who wish to marry must be living in agreement with God's design for sexual purity (Hebrews 13:4), i.e. morally pure, not living together.
  - f. A wedding is a joyous yet holy occasion; therefore, the couple will agree to plan their wedding and/or reception at Camp Jacob in such a way that it will be a Christ-honoring event (Philippians 4:8, Colossians 3:17)
3. Requirements for the officiating clergy:

Note—Document material adapted from "Policy Wedding Guidelines" provided by Cumberland Youth Camp, a sister camp in the Christian Camp and Conference Association.

- a. The officiating pastor must be in agreement with the wedding couple's requirements as indicated above.
  - b. The officiating pastor must be in agreement with the National Association of Free Will Baptists position regarding marriage. (See addendum)
4. Concerning the facility: All arrangements, dates and services will be prearranged and contracted according to our Camp Jacob Wedding Procedures.
  5. Liability: Camp Jacob is not liable for loss or damage to personal or rented property while at our facilities.
  6. Procedures: Camp Jacob will provide a copy of their wedding procedures to every couple. These procedures will clearly identify what is provided and permitted.
  7. Fees: All fees will be listed in the procedures document and will be clearly indicated in the contract. Fee's will be reviewed from time to time and adjusted accordingly. Terms and payment methods will also be listed.

**Addendum**—The National Association of Free Will Baptists Position Regarding Marriage (Adopted July, 2008)  
Both Scripture and nature as designed by God affirm the lifelong, covenantal union of one man, being male as created by God, and one woman, being female as created by God, in a one-flesh relationship. This one-flesh relationship is emblematic of the union of Christ and His church. It is the sole and beautiful context of the divine plan for the marital relationship of man and woman as image-bearers of God, as well as the foundation for the family as the basic, divinely ordained unit of human society. Violations of this one-flesh union, whether heterosexual or homosexual, premarital or extramarital, contravene the divine plan for the family and for the conception and rearing of children, bringing spiritual despair, guilt, and death to individuals and cultures. Genesis 1:26-28; 2:18, 20-25; Exodus 20:14; Deuteronomy 5:18; Matthew 19:4-6; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 7:1-5; Ephesians 5:21-33; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5; Hebrews 13:4.