

Howell's Mill - Wedding, Reunion, & Party Policies

We are glad and honored you are choosing our camp grounds to host your wedding or wedding reception. HMCA is a beautiful place for weddings, outside pictures, and making lifelong memories. We want to communicate our wedding policy clearly to all rental groups so there are no misunderstandings.

Even for our supporting church members, weddings are big work and not FREE. All camp and retreat groups pay per person to cover these expenses. Weddings and reunions pay the event charges and building fees help pay for cleaning buildings before and after, mowing around the building, trash removal, and utility usage (water, electric, natural gas, heating or A/C). The costs do not include any setup or tear down from HMCA's staff, any wedding committee, or wedding planner before, during, or after the wedding.

Our mission statement and 1st purpose is to bring people closer to Christ through our summer camp programs and weekend retreats. We welcome reunions, weddings, and parties as rental groups, but they are not what we are set up to do. **Some policies that are in place and need to be known in advance by all rental groups.**

1. Summer camp programming always comes 1st. Due to summer camp programs our board has voted that no wedding events at camp in June or July. Any weddings or receptions scheduled near camp sponsored events may not be able to decorate or get into the gym until after the camp program is completed and the building is cleaned, mopped, and floors dry. Depending on the season and camp schedule, our gym may not be available until after 6:00 p.m. Friday evenings for rehearsals or to decorate.
2. Charges are set up for a 24 hour period or one user day. Groups using more time than one day for rehearsals, decorating, and/or cleaning may be required to pay for additional time used and/or requested. As stated on the contract and on our **HOUSE RULES** sheet, all facilities must be left as they were found before your group leaves after your event. All rentals, etc. must be out of the gym by the evening of the reception 24 hours after you arrived to decorate or another day will be charged to your group.
3. We **DO NOT HAVE** a wedding committee or paid staff members on duty during your event to run sound, video projectors, or any other requests. Special requests made in advance may be granted, but special charges may incur depending on the request.
4. The basketball goals **CANNOT** be moved out of the gym. They may be moved to the back of the room or covered with sheets or our partitions. Any additional chairs and tables from the Dining Hall must be moved by your group and returned when you are finished to their original location.
5. Decorations **CANNOT** be taped, nailed, thumb-tacked, screwed, pinned, or fastened to sheetrock walls, doors, or metal. Hang items on walls only with paperclips and wire, but no permanent damage to walls. No duct tape, paint, or other adhesives on the floor that would cause permanent residue or damage to the floor. Only gaffer's tape (used for sound cords) may be used on the floor which is made to not leave a residue which can be purchased at music stores or online.
6. **NO RICE** is to be used after the wedding to throw, only birdseed, bubbles, or flower petals to protect our birds and animals.
7. Be very careful with candles. Our insurance requests that **all CANDLES be drip-less** to prevent wax from getting on the floors or being a fire hazard.
8. **NO ALCOHOL, SMOKING, or FIREWORKS** in the buildings or anywhere on the grounds.
9. Modest **DANCING** is permitted, but Christian music and appropriate lyrics are required by all groups.
10. **SNOW REMOVAL** for winter weddings will require an additional \$75 charge for time, diesel, and salt.