

YMCA Ragers Program

Rags (Age 12 and older)

The YMCA Ragger Program is one of the most effective tools available to the camp counselor. It is designed to help campers take a closer look at themselves in relation to their own strengths and weaknesses, their religious beliefs, and to those around them. It can be a major factor in creating an atmosphere in which positive change can take place.

Jr. Rags (Age 9 and older)

Campers who are not at the age where they are able to get their blue rag tied may participate in the Jr. Ragger Program, where they will have the opportunity to get their Green, Orange, or Tan rag tied as an introduction to the Ragers Program.

Rags are outward symbols of the acceptance of an inner challenge for Christian growth. Each Rag has a specific challenge and is accompanied by a personal challenge for growth developed by the camper. The following tools are used to work with each camper: One on One counseling, Study cards, and a rag tying Ceremony. Below are the rags, their meanings and the order in which they are tied.

Rag	Challenge	Minimum Age
Green	To grow in Spirit, Mind and Body	9
Orange	To keep good friends	10
Tan	To become close to God through appreciation, love, and concern for the earth he has created	11
Blue	Loyalty to God, country, and one's best self	12
Silver	Acceptance of re-dedication to a Christian way of life or Christian growth	13
Brown	Christian service	14
Gold	Understandings, concern, and acceptance of others	15
Red	Sacrifice of time, talent, and personal will	16
Purple	A dedication to excellence and noble living in all Christian service opportunities	18
White	Full time Christian Service	21