



Boy Scouts of America

Mount Baker Council

Serving Snohomish, Whatcom, Skagit, Island and San Juan Counties

Dear Scouter-

As you likely know, as of June 30, 2021 Governor Inslee has lifted “most” COVID-19 restrictions across the State. Notably, COVID Guidelines remain in effect for the Childcare industry – including Day Camps – and for overnight group summer camps.

Because Scouting serves Youth as its primary purpose, the Mount Baker Council recommends the following practices be implemented within your unit meetings and activities during Summer 2021. As always, it is ultimately up to your Charter Organization to approve your operational plans.

**Guidance applicable to ALL scouting activities at ALL risk levels**

- Scouts, parents, leaders, and any other volunteers should be required to stay home if they feel unwell, show any signs of COVID-19, or are a close contact of a confirmed case.
- All Scouts and leaders should be screened for signs/symptoms of COVID-19 prior to a meeting or activity using the “Mount Baker Council COVID-19 Screening Worksheet.”
- Any person with symptoms of COVID-19 or who is a close contact of someone with confirmed COVID-19 should not be allowed to participate and should contact an appropriate health-care professional.
- Those who are excluded from participating due to COVID-19 symptoms or because they are close contacts must follow DOH and local public health isolation and quarantine guidance before returning to Scouting activities.

**Masking**

Masking in Washington is currently governed by the Health Secretary’s order 20-03.2, with more specific guidance being offered in the Childcare and Overnight Group Summer Camp Guidelines. Our recommendation is that during unit activities you follow the guidance given for masking at our Day Camps and Summer Camps. Review the chart below after asking a few simple questions:

1. Are you fully vaccinated? *Defined as being at least 2 weeks past the final dose of your particular vaccine.*
2. Are you indoors or outdoors? *Washington guidelines are very open when in a well-ventilated outdoor area.*
3. Are you able to remain socially distanced from people outside of your group/cohort/household? *If your unit is hiking at a state park, can your group remain physically distanced from other hikers throughout the trip?*

	Vaccinated	Unvaccinated
Indoors	Masks required unless eating or sleeping.	Masks required unless eating or sleeping.
Outdoors	Masks not required	<b>Inside of Group/Cohort:</b> Masks not required. <b>Outside of Group/Cohort:</b> Masks should be worn

## **Physical Distancing**

At our Day Camps and Overnight Camps, we are implementing “cohorts” as a way of maintaining consistent day- and nighttime-groups that remove the opportunity for potential disease to spread between groups. Our recommendation is that during a unit activity, you treat the Scouts and Leaders of your unit as a single cohort. Do your best to isolate members from those outside of the cohort, and wear masks when that is not possible.

If you have a larger unit (more than 30 total, including adults), you may want to consider further establishing each patrol/den as its own cohort and maintaining at least 6 feet of distance between each cohort throughout the activity. Each cohort should have adults assigned as members, and adults should observe physical distancing as well.

## **Handwashing**

Public health experts continue to tell us that frequent and effective handwashing is the most important practice in stopping the transmission of disease. Handwashing before meals, after bathroom use, and any other time that feels appropriate is a hugely important practice to encourage among your Scouts.

If you will be going into a wilderness area without easy access to handwashing stations, be sure to include methods for handwashing and similar hygiene in your activity planning.

Remember that hand sanitizer works in a pinch – but it is not a replacement for soap, water, and friction!

## **Cleaning and Sanitizing**

Research has shown that there is a very low probability of COVID-19 transmission across surfaces. Regular cleaning of surfaces should be sufficient to address this concern. If Scouts will be sharing personal equipment frequently during an activity, a quick cleaning with a sanitizing wipe or similar product between users may be a good idea.

## **Transportation**

When planning activities, account for transportation to the event as a part of the activity. If you will be using cohorts within your unit (i.e. troop/den cohorts), then transportation should be arranged to include carpooling between cohort members – or Scouts can travel with their own families.

## **Record Keeping**

It remains a best practice to keep a roster of every Scout, Leader, parent, and volunteer involved with your activities. It is recommended to verify vaccination status of all participants in an activity, and to verify that they have had no signs or symptoms of COVID prior to participation. You should keep these records for at least 28 days after your activity.

*If you have any questions about this document and the guidance offered within, please feel free to contact the Mount Baker Council Program Director, Eric Buher. Eric can be reached by email at: [eric.buher@scouting.org](mailto:eric.buher@scouting.org) and by phone at: 425-341-0307.*

Scout On!

Screener Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Unit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Mount Baker Council COVID-19 Screening Worksheet

*Prior to the start of your meeting or activity, use the questions below to screen all participants – youth and adult – for any possible vector for COVID-19 transmission.*

Please respond YES or NO to each statement:	Symptoms (Symp):
<p><b>1. Are you fully vaccinated? (more than 2 weeks since final dose of vaccine course)</b></p> <p><b>2. Have you experienced any symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 48 hours? (Read symptoms list)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cough</li><li>• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li><li>• Fever (100.4°F or higher)</li><li>• Chills</li><li>• Fatigue</li><li>• Headache</li><li>• Muscle or Body Aches</li><li>• Sore throat</li><li>• New loss of taste or smell</li><li>• Congestion/Runny Nose</li><li>• Nausea or Vomiting</li><li>• Diarrhea</li></ul>
<p>If individual IS fully vaccinated and IS NOT currently experiencing any symptoms, they are screened and may participate. Otherwise, continue:</p>	
<p><b>3. Has anyone in your household been sick with any symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?</b></p> <p><b>4. Have you been in close physical contact in the last 14 days with anyone who is known to have COVID-19 or anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19?</b></p> <p><b>5. Have you had a positive COVID-19 test in the past 10 days, or are you awaiting results of a COVID-19 test?</b></p>	
<p>If individual IS NOT fully vaccinated and has answered NO to questions 2-5, they are screened and may participate. Otherwise, they should not participate in the meeting or activity.</p>	

*Please keep a record of each participant in your meeting/activity and their screening. Records should be maintained for at least 28 days after the event/activity.*

