

Dear Parent,

Last Friday the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Camping Association issued updated guidance for the management of Covid-19 for overnight camps. We are happy to report that our Covid Management Plan is in alignment with the CDC and ACA recommendations. Reducing exposure to possible infection prior to attending camp, pre-camp testing prior to arrival, and post arrival testing in camp are all specific elements of the updated guidelines.

CAMP TRIPS

In the updated guidelines however, the CDC and ACA recommend that trips leaving the camp's virus-free bubble and traveling to destinations outside of camp seriously consider the Covid-19 Community Levels of the county visited. Unfortunately, our trip to Dorney Park is located in Lehigh County which is rated as having a **HIGH** COVID-19 Community Level. In view of the fact that campers would come in contact with many of Dorney Park's patrons and these patrons would be **untested** for Covid-19, we have decided that it is inadvisable at this time to move forward with our plans for the Dorney Park trip.

Wayne County, the county in which Camp Lohikan is located, is also rated as having a **HIGH** COVID-19 Community Level. Based upon this rating, we are also cancelling the Wayne County Fair Trip scheduled for senior campers in August. Again, the Wayne County Fair patrons will not be pre-tested for the Covid-19 virus and the virus level is rated as **HIGH** in the community.

While Wayne County has a high rating, we will still be participating in the Wayne County Camp Tournament Games. All of the camps participating in the intercamp games program have implemented screening tests similar to ours and are dedicated to creating the same virus-free camp environment as Lohikan. Consequently, we have determined that the risk is low and the benefits of participation in the intercamp games program are significant.

Other camp trips (e.g., Delaware Canoe Trips, Golf Trips, etc.) are conducted in such a way as to minimize the risk of contact between our campers and staff members and the other untested patrons. These programs will continue.

Refunds related to the cancellation of the Dorney Park Trip and the Wayne County Fair Trip will be credited to the camper's account in accordance with the charges assessed.

VISITING DAY

The only other change in the program for this summer pertains to Parents Visiting Day. Because of the high Covid-19 Community Level in Wayne County campers will not be permitted to leave camp with parents and then return to camp on Visiting Day as they have done on occasion in the past. The risk of infection is too high in Wayne county to allow unrestricted shopping, dining, or other off-camp activities. All Visiting Day events (e.g., barbecue lunch, horse show, circus show, activity events) will be conducted on campgrounds for the amusement of our campers and parents. Updated Visiting Day Protocols are available by [clicking here](#).

CDC RECOMMENDATIONS

As stated previously, the CDC highly recommends that all campers and staff members be fully vaccinated and up to date on their vaccinations. This includes the primary series and the booster shot if the individual is eligible. According to the CDC, vaccination helps prevent serious illness, reduces the risk of spreading the infection and also eliminates the need to quarantine in the event of close contact with an infected individual. This is significant in camp because it allows the vaccinated individual to fully participate in the camp's activity program even after close contact with an infected individual.

CURRENT COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Camp Lohikan's Covid-19 Protocols for this summer were released April 14, 2022. Our goal of creating a virus-free camp bubble starts with requiring campers to reduce their risk of contracting the Covid virus before arriving into camp. Examples of precamp activities that elucidate the concept of **risk reduction** are available by [clicking here](#).

Along with risk reduction we are also requiring the completion of the **Pre-Camp Health Screening Form** which will document the camper's risk reduction and confirm the absence of Covid-19 symptoms the week before arriving into camp. Lastly, everyone is required to obtain an antigen test at home within the 24 hours preceding arrival into camp. [Click here](#) for the testing protocols.

A second antigen test will be administered at camp 1 to 3 days later. Campers testing positive will be isolated and retested. Those with confirmed positive tests (via a second antigen test) will be required to return home. [Click here](#) for more information.

COVID-19 VACCINATION

Vaccination is not required to attend camp. Our goal of creating a virus-free camp bubble can be accomplished by risk reduction prior to arriving into camp, testing immediately before arrival, and then retesting a second time 1 to 3 days after arrival. [Click here](#) for Arrival Day Protocols.

While vaccination will protect an individual from serious illness, it won't prevent the transmission of the virus when an individual is infected. For this reason, once inside the camp's virus-free bubble, unvaccinated individuals will require more protection from the infection than the vaccinated because of their greater susceptibility to the virus and its complications. For this reason, only vaccinated individuals (individuals who received the primary series and booster, if eligible) will be permitted to travel off camp or attend off-camp events like: Inter-camp Games and Golf Trips.

Vaccinated staff members will be permitted off campgrounds to spend their nights and days off-duty, however they will be restricted to certain destinations and conditions (e.g., avoiding crowds). To prevent the introduction of contagions that could mimic Covid-19 symptoms and trigger into action a cascading set of protocols (e.g., isolation, testing, quarantining, contact tracing) staff members may be required to wear face masks and employ distancing protocols in certain situations. There may also be chaperoned off-site events for camp counselors that will have no direct interaction with the public.

Non-vaccinated summer staff members will be required to remain on the camp property, even during their times off. We have made special arrangements for staff activities, relaxation accommodations, social events, and program arrangements for staff time-off periods which will be open to all staff.

FACE MASKS

Generally speaking, face masks will not be required to be worn in camp this summer. There may however be situations that arise which will require the face mask to be worn by certain individuals. For instance, while individuals who are up to date on COVID-19 vaccines do not need to quarantine if they come into close contact with someone who has COVID-19, the CDC still recommends that these individuals wear a well-fitting mask and get tested. There may be other times in camp when a face mask will be required and for this reason this summer's clothing list guide requests that campers pack 5 well-fitting face masks for camp.

POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST

In the event of a positive case of Covid, the individual will be isolated under medical supervision, parents will be contacted, and arrangements will be made for the individual's return home. Contact tracing will be used to identify others who have been exposed and they will be quarantined in camp and tested in accordance with incubation guidelines. Parents will be notified.

If your camper tests positive while at camp, you will need to pick up your camper within 24 hours of notification. A pro-rata refund will be made if the 24-hour requirement is met. Please make sure that you or someone is available to do this while your camper is at camp.

In cases where it is not possible for the camper to return home, special accommodations will be made for isolation and medical supervision. [Click here](#) for more information.

COVID-19 MANAGEMENT PLAN POSTED

Your camper's safety is our number one priority. We will stay on top of the latest Covid-19 developments and keep you informed of all changes in our camp operations. Camp Lohikan's latest CMP update is available by clicking [here](#).

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us. We're here to help.

Best regards,

Mark Buynak
Camp Director