Camp Fact Sheet – COVID-19 Guidelines

Will you open for summer 2020?
Yes! After careful review and consideration of the Minimum Health and Safety guidelines issued by the Commonwealth, our team feels confident that we can provide a safe and meaningful experience for our families this summer.

When will the first day of camp be?
In conjunction with Governor Baker’s announcement this past weekend that camps could open as part of the initial portion of Phase 2, our first day of Camp Stoneham will be Monday, June 22nd and the first day of Camp Wakefield will be Monday, June 29th.

Can you dive into the enhancements you have made regarding the safety of the campers and staff?
To start, the guidelines issued by the Commonwealth are strict and all-encompassing; the times we are living in call for that level of diligence and we plan to match them with our efforts. Some of our enhanced measures include:

- Sanitation, disinfection, and cleanliness
  - This one is so important; it gets its own question below!
- Camper groups
  - Groups will be consistent by age each week, led by the same counselors.
  - Campers will stay with the same group throughout the camp day; we will not be mixing groups for activities, lunch or during extended day.
- Program spaces
  - Our groups will be given their own program spaces, exclusive to that group. They will be the only group to occupy those indoor and outdoors designated areas for the duration of their day, leading to less cross-contamination from other groups.
  - Group schedules will be staggered, leading to groups transitioning at different times throughout the day and reducing traffic of multiple groups passing through the same area simultaneously.
  - Groups will be given their own equipment for the week,
- Social distancing
  - We’ll be practicing keeping a safe distance throughout camp. When traveling, eating lunch or meeting within our groups, campers and staff will keep space between each other.
Our Leadership Team has worked tirelessly to design activities that are not only fun for groups but adhere to safe distancing standards.

- **Hand hygiene**
  - We will be doing group hand washing with soap and water between each activity. Signage from the CDC is posted at each handwashing station to remind our campers about best handwashing practices.
  - Each counselor will have a bottle of hand sanitizer for group usage when a quick sanitizing is needed. Staff will monitor this use directly to make sure safe application for all.

- **Wear cloth face coverings**
  - Per guidance issued by the Commonwealth, we are asking all campers and staff to wear face coverings when social distancing is not possible. Staff will be extra vigilant about camper health and activities will be designed to not cause campers or staff to overexert themselves.
  - Campers should come prepared with a face covering on each day from home. Campers will not be permitted to attend if they arrive without a face covering.
    - Campers will be excused from mask wearing with physician’s note indicating that the camper has a condition that could be impacted by facial covering.

- **Daily health screenings at drop-off**
  - Today or in the past 24 hours, have you had any of the following symptoms?
    - Fever (temperature of 100.0F or above), felt feverish, or had chills?
    - New cough?
    - Sore throat?
    - Difficulty breathing?
    - Gastrointestinal symptoms (diarrhea, nausea, vomiting)?
    - New nasal congestion or new runny nose?
    - New loss of smell/taste?
    - New muscle aches?
    - Unidentified rash
    - Any other signs of illness?
  - In the past 14 days, have you had close contact with a person known to be infected with the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)?

**Who have you worked with to put these policies in place?**
We are lucky to be able to work with two outstanding Boards of Health in Stoneham and Wakefield, not only as our licensing providers but as community partners. Our friends at Wakefield Pediatrics work as our health care consultants and were able to give us excellent insight and suggestions ahead of the guidelines issued by the Commonwealth. We are currently working with each Board to finalize these plans and move into the summer in unison with each town’s efforts to keep families safe.

In addition, the MA Department of Early Education and Care have put together many frameworks for their emergency child care operations that have proven to staples of guidelines issued by the
Commonwealth, giving us good lead time to put our plans in motion. And as always, the American Camp Association has been helpful with activity curriculums and social/emotional training pieces for our staff teams.

**How do you plan to keep the facility sanitized throughout the summer?**
This is an area that we plan to devout whatever resources are necessary to ensure a clean, sanitary environment for our campers and staff. These enhanced measures include:

- Staff member on duty at each location whose sole responsibility is to sanitize and disinfect program spaces, equipment, bathrooms, and other high traffic areas throughout the day.
- Cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting entire facility each night after campers have left for the day, so they return to a clean space the next morning.
- Our facilities will remain closed to the public; each space will be only utilized throughout the summer for our camps.
- Only staff working in our camps will be on premises, with our non-program staff working remotely throughout the summer.
- As stated above, camper groups will be provided their own equipment (balls, art supplies, etc.) to limit contact spread of germs.

**Will you be limiting the size of camp and number of campers that can attend weekly?**
Yes, we project to be operating at under 50% capacity at our sites this summer. Though operationally challenging, we want to be available to families who depend on us for their childcare needs.

**Will you be able to take field trips?**
Unfortunately, the guidelines issued by the Commonwealth do not allow for field trips this summer. Fear not, our Leadership Team has designed a curriculum that will allow our campers to express their individual creativity and build a strong team within each group.

If your camper was signed up for Golf Camp or Fishing Camp in Stoneham or Teen Travel Camp, you will receive a message from our Leadership Team with alternative options for those weeks.

**How will this impact trips to the Hall Memorial Pool on Tuesdays and swim lessons throughout the week?**
We are bummed by this, but we won’t be able to have Camp Stoneham or Camp Wakefield at the pool this summer, as the guidelines consider these visits to be prohibited off-camp field trips. If your camper is signed up for swim lessons, you will not be charged for them; if you paid for them at time of registration, you will be refunded.

**Will I need to provide any paperwork for my camper to be able to attend?**
Luckily, much of the information we need from you is captured during your registration. Once that is completed, we’ll just need:
- An up to date copy of your camper’s immunization records.
- A signed participation waiver (which will be emailed by our Leadership Team).
- Any physician’s orders for medication that your camper will need us to administer during the camp day.

**I have more questions. Who should I reach out to?**
We’re always here to help! Please feel free to input your questions into this friendly form: [https://forms.gle/UifEzWNkigCH51dd6](https://forms.gle/UifEzWNkigCH51dd6)

Once submitted, a member of our Leadership Team will get in touch with you ASAP. We are also planning a virtual Q&A session with Adam Rodgers, our Chief Executive Officer and John Brinkman, our Chief Operating Officer (two camp veterans in their own right). Stay tuned for more details on that and our staff-led tutorial videos for pick up and drop off procedures.

**At this point, we’re going to elect to keep our campers home this summer. What is your refund policy?**
We understand that parents are being forced to make difficult decisions when it comes to plans for this summer. With that in mind, we have suspended our refund policy for the summer of 2020 and are offering full refunds for all cancellations for requests submitted ten days prior to the camp session. *This includes previously non-refundable deposits and registration fees.* Due to COVID-19 related shifts in the refund procedures by our registration software vendor, all refunds will be via mailed check to the address on file. Please allow up to fifteen (15) business days for receipt of check payment at your residence.

As we are limiting access this summer, timeliness in cancellation will allow families to be accepted from our waitlist. We appreciate our families letting us know as soon as possible if they are electing to cancel their registration. To cancel, email John Brinkman at [john@bgcstoneham.org](mailto:john@bgcstoneham.org) and he’ll make sure your request is processed.