

Guidelines for Scouting Unit Activity and Meetings 2.0
Adapted from State Guidelines Governing Youth Sports
(Effective June 15, 2020)

Unit activity and meetings will be allowed using participant capacity limitation and the use of cohorts. No direct contact activities will be allowed. **All units must follow BSA youth protection policies at all times and adult leaders must have an unexpired Youth Protection Certificate in My.Scouting. It is recommended at least one registered adult leader be considered fully position trained. In all cases appropriate adult supervision is required for all activities, for example Scout BSA Patrols cannot meet without adult leadership being present.**

If offered, District and Council wide activities will adhere to these policies.

Unit camping activities are not included in this guidance and will be addressed under separate guidance in the future.

Eagle Scout Project workdays will adhere to these policies.

General Guidance to Protect All Youth, Adult Leaders Volunteers and Extended Family:

1. Review and follow the [Universal Guidelines](#) for All New Hampshire Employers and Employees.
2. Review and follow CDC [guidance for cleaning and disinfection](#).
3. Review and follow [swimming pool guidance](#).
4. All adult leaders, volunteers and youth are required to bring and wear a disposable/reusable/washable cloth face coverings over their nose and mouth when around others and not actively engaged in group related activities and when social distancing is not possible. If for medical reasons the wearing of a disposable/reusable/washable cloth face covering is not possible, then the use of a face shield is permissible.
 - a. Provide training on cloth face coverings based on CDC guidance for [Use of Cloth Face Coverings](#).
 - b. Review the NH DHHS information about [using cloth face coverings](#).
 - c. People wearing face coverings should not touch their eyes, nose, mouth, or face, or adjust their face covering without first sanitizing hands. After touching face or adjusting face covering, hands must be sanitized.
 - d. Parents/guardians of minors attending an activity/meeting should be asked to wear cloth face coverings while around other attendees, volunteers and youth when social distancing is not possible.
5. Use of face shield:
 - a. Wearing a mask may not be feasible in every situation for some people for example, people who are deaf or hard of hearing—or those who care for or interact with a person who is hearing impaired. Here are some considerations for individuals who must wear a face shield instead of a mask:
 - i. Although evidence on face shields is limited, the available data suggest that the following face shields may provide better source control than others:
 1. Face shields that wrap around the sides of the wearer’s face and extend below the chin.
 2. Hooded face shields.
 - ii. Face shield wearers should wash their hands before and after removing the face shield and avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth when removing it.
 - iii. Disposable face shields should only be worn for a single use and disposed of according to manufacturer instructions.
 - iv. Reusable face shields should be cleaned and disinfected after each use according to manufacturer instructions or by following CDC face shield cleaning instructions .
6. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol must always be readily available to all present at the meeting or event and kept with unit gear. Frequent hand hygiene should occur including, but not limited to, [hand hygiene](#) upon arrival, before and after meals or snacks, before and after going to the bathroom, before and after touching a person’s face or face covering, and prior to leaving the event.
7. Commonly touched surfaces and areas should be frequently cleaned and disinfected according to CDC guidance at the end of each event. Shared equipment must be cleaned and disinfected between use. (examples of items

in a typical troop meeting place & equipment to be disinfected & specific documentation of [CDC guidance](#) and approved cleaning agents)

8. Adult leaders, volunteers youth and other attendees should be reminded to maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from others, with the exception of individuals who reside in the same household.
9. Designate a dedicated individual (i.e., a safety officer) to monitor social distancing and compliance with protective actions, and to prompt reminders about social distancing, hand hygiene, and use of cloth face coverings.
10. Temperature Checks should be performed in accordance with [BSA Medical Screening Guidelines if not previously performed](#). Temperature logs do not need to be maintained.
11. Those 60 years and older or in a high-risk group should consider not participating or participate understanding the risk to health/life.

Volunteer, and Youth Protection:

1. Adult leaders must provide education and training around safe practices as it relates to hygiene, sanitation (cleaning and disinfection policies), and illness policies outlined in the [Universal Guidelines](#) and in this document.
2. Youth, adult leaders and volunteers must maintain at least 6 feet apart from others at all times.
3. Require all adult leaders, volunteers and youth to report any symptoms of COVID-19 or close contact to a person with COVID-19 to an adult leader. Adult leaders, volunteers and youth should not attend events if they feel sick.
4. Person(s) who report a travel-related risk factor (see the screening questions below) must self-quarantine for 14 days from their return from travel but do not need COVID-19 testing unless they develop symptoms or i. Traveled for essential reasons. Essential travel includes personal safety, medical care, care of others, parental shared custody, for food, beverage or medication or for work. Person(s) who travel outside of the New England states for personal or leisure reasons cannot rely on this exemption.
5. Asymptomatic employees or volunteers who travel to any New England state (NH, VT, ME, MA, CT, RI), either daily or with overnight stays, are not required to self-quarantine when they return to New Hampshire.
6. Adult leaders, volunteers and youth should be screened on arrival to each Scouting Activity by asking if the individual:
 - a. Has any symptoms of COVID-19 (see [Universal Guidelines](#) for list of potential symptoms) or fever of 100.4 degrees F or higher.
 - b. Has had any close contact with someone who is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
 - c. Traveled in the past 14 days either:
 - i. Internationally (outside the U.S.),
 - ii. By cruise ship, or
 - iii. Non-essential travel outside of New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, or Rhode Island (any domestic travel, within the US, outside of NH, VT, RI, CT, MA or ME, regardless of the mode of transportation)?
7. Person(s) with any COVID-19 symptoms, those who report close contact with someone suspected or confirmed with COVID-19, or those reporting travel risk factors should not be allowed into the Scouting Activity:
 - a. Symptomatic persons should be instructed to contact their health care provider to be tested for COVID-19 and [self-isolate](#) at home following the instructions below.
 - b. Asymptomatic persons reporting close contact with someone suspected or confirmed with COVID-19, or who report one of the traveled-related risk factors should [self-quarantine](#) for 14 days from their last exposure or return from travel.
8. Person(s) with suspect or confirmed COVID-19 must stay out of any activity/meeting until
 - a. Symptom-based criteria are met for [discontinuation of isolation](#):
 - i. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
AND
 - ii. At least 24 hours have passed since last fever (off any fever reducing medications),
AND
 - iii. Symptoms have improved; or

- b. Approved COVID-19 testing is negative, at least 24 hours have passed since their last fever (off any fever reducing medications) and symptoms have improved.
9. Adult leaders and volunteers should not transport any youth that are not immediate family members. In the event, that this becomes necessary, all parties must wear cloth face coverings and space out seating to maintain maximal distance from each other.
10. During activity/meetings, parents/guardians are encouraged to remain in their cars in a designated parking area. However, when/if watching from outside cars in the parking area, they should maintain safe social distance from others.
11. Adult leaders, volunteers and youth should arrive to the activity/meeting already dressed and prepared to participate.

Program Process Adaptations:

1. Activities/meetings will be limited to a small group; group size as defined in #3 below. No direct contact activities are allowed.
2. Skills or other directional lead activities can be done while maintaining physical distancing.
3. Up to 80 participants will be allowed at a meeting or activity and not to exceed 80, in all cases two deep leadership must be present and youth protection policies adhered to.

Meetings/activities should attempt to divide adult leaders, volunteers and youth into small groups of ideally no more than 10 people total (“Rule of 10”, including youth, adult leaders/volunteers. Small group sizes will help to limit COVID-19 transmission if someone is found to be infected. Social distancing is requested at all times. In no case can the maximum number of attendees exceed 80 participants from the sum of all groups gathered for a meeting or activity.

If the meeting or activity needs to be greater than 80 participants, a “Request for Participant Capacity Variance” may be requested, if needed. The form to be completed can be found at:

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/BSA4/RequestForParticipantCapacityVariance>

4. In the case of an Eagle Scout project workday, appropriate adult supervision and youth protection policies must be adhered to.
5. All activities/meetings must have appropriate adult supervision in accordance with [Scouting’s Barrier to Abuse](#).
6. All activity/meetings should be planned and implemented to maintain the minimum of 6 feet of distance between all youth and volunteers. In circumstances where closer contact for brief periods of time is necessary, volunteers and youth must wear cloth face coverings as discussed above.
7. It is recommended adult leaders, volunteers and youth remain in our home state. Units from Maine and Vermont are allowed to attend activities in NH.
8. Youth shall bring their own equipment and not share their personal equipment with other youth. Shared equipment provided by the unit must be cleaned and disinfected according to [CDC guidance](#) after every use between youth.
9. Shared equipment provided by the unit must be cleaned and disinfected according to CDC guidance after every use by youth, adults and volunteers.
10. Adult leaders will carry hand sanitizer with unit equipment. Youth should carry hand sanitizer in day pack.
11. During activities/meetings close contact should be avoided.
12. Adequate breaks for water and sanitization should be provided and are encouraged to occur between changes in activities.
13. Youth should bring their own water bottles. No sharing or common use water bottles or drinking stations.
14. Unit equipment and daypacks of youth should be placed 6-feet apart. Youth should not touch other scouts’ handbooks, youth bags, equipment, or water bottles.

15. Centralized areas for congregating should be avoided.
16. An isolation area shall be identified and communicated to all at the beginning of every activity/meeting for participants that develop symptoms during the activity/meeting.
17. All mouth-based activities that may result in airborne transmission should be limited.
18. Units shall bring trash bags to each activity/meeting and remove all garbage following each activity/meeting.
19. During activities/meetings parents/guardians may remain outside of activity/meeting and shall maintain physical distancing while watching unit activities/meetings. They should be at least 6-feet from anyone from another household.
20. Regular hand sanitization during the unit activity/meeting is encouraged.
21. Units shall require Scouts' parents/guardians to sign participation waivers outlining the additional risks due to COVID-19 associated with the activity. See waiver below. All waivers shall be retained by unit leadership for a period of one year.

Indoor Activity:

1. Common areas are closed, and no congregating.
2. Where possible, establish one-way flow thru the facility, with separately designated entrances and exits, to facilitate distancing. It is recommended that adult leaders or volunteers be positioned throughout the venue to address potential congestion points to address crowd control and adhere to social distance guidelines.
3. Enhanced cleaning and disinfection after every room/facility use
4. Sanitize door handles, faucet handles and all other customer touch-points in common areas, and other areas of hand contact every two hours, at a minimum.
5. General public group events and activities (e.g. open public skating) is closed.
6. New England state residents or members, and registered participants only.

These guidelines will be periodically reviewed, modified, or withdrawn depending upon changing circumstances.

I HAVE BEEN PROVIDED A COPY OF, HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE GUIDELINES FOR SCOUTING UNIT ACTIVITY AND MEETINGS. MULTIPLE NAMES MAY BE LISTED BELOW IF IN ONE FAMILY.

Child's Name, if applicable (Printed)

Printed Name of Adult Leader, volunteer or Parent/Legal Guardian of child

Date

Signature of Adult Leader, volunteer, or Participant Parent/Legal Guardian of child

COVID-19