



SCOUTING MEETING GUIDE FOR COVID-19

**Tips and information to keep your pack, troop, crew,
post, or ship running safely and effectively.**

Updated July 2, 2021

These Guidelines are written to give unit leaders opportunities to operate a unit program during this pandemic based on the state requirements at the time of the update. Each unit must determine their comfort level and act accordingly. It must also be stated that we still must meet all the requirements in the Guide to Safe Scouting.

Have questions about COVID-19 related safety protocols?

Visit cpcbsa.org/covid, or contact us at info@cpcbsa.org





In-Person Meetings Can Happen

The Cascade Pacific Council, BSA has updated the guidelines on July 1, 2021.

Please note that the pandemic is not over until significant portion of the population is not susceptible to the illness and less likely to pass it on. Currently most of our youth are not eligible for vaccinations. Every effort must be made to protect our youth and leaders.

The States of Oregon and Washington can change these guidelines at any time. We will update this guide as needed when requirements change.

Meeting and outing guidelines are broken into tiers of risk. Units should evaluate which tier matches their comfort level for participation in Scouting activities:

On June 30th 2021, Oregon Governor Kate Brown rescinded most of the executive orders regarding COVID. However, new orders have been updated for youth sports, child care, youth programs and summer camps. Though you will see below that there are significant lightening of restrictions we still need to be vigilant until this pandemic is under control

It is important for all units to consider the following.

1. Meeting Plan and Approval
2. Cohort Size
3. Sanitization Requirements
4. Social Distancing Guidelines
5. Infection Response and Communication
6. Screening Strategy
7. Attendance Gathering
8. Participation Agreements
9. Meeting Space Constraints

If you have any questions, email Todd.McDonald@Scouting.org for guidance. Todd is the Director of Program and Staff Advisor to the COVID Taskforce.

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Cohorts:

Although stable group restrictions have been lifted, it is important to remember that if a COVID-19 positive case occurs, everyone that had exposure should quarantine in accordance with state and local public health authority guidelines. This is why it is so important to minimize contact with people from other groups as much as possible. REF: OHA2351P_R06252021: Youth programs.

- Cohorting is a containment measure. It does not protect those within the Cohort.
- Units may choose not to act in Cohorts. However, If one person contracts COVID The larger Group will need to contract trace and quarantine.

If you choose to do cohorts, (recommended)

- Program Cohorts should stay the same for at least a week.
- Program Cohort sizes is up to the unit. It is recommended to be around 10 youth.
- One person at a time in restrooms.
- Report all exposures or potential exposures to the council office and your county health department.
 - These rules apply to day hikes or other outdoor outings. Units must follow carpool guidelines.

Masking:

- Masks must be worn indoors when unvaccinated youth are present. (Required)
- Masks are not required outdoors.
- Masks are recommended to be worn when cohorts are used and mixing of cohorts is likely, even outdoors.



Social Distancing:

- Social distancing of 3 feet is required between individuals indoors when unvaccinated youth are present.
- Youth are not required to social distance outside.
- Inside program cohorts, social distancing is not required but encouraged.
- It is recommended that Scouting Groups Social Distance 6ft or more from other groups they come in contact. (ie while hiking, camping etc).

Sleeping

Sharing of sleeping facilities will be considered close contact.

- Sleeping tent/adirondak mates must be from the same cohort, (if used).
- Must sleep to ensure that heads are separated by 6 feet while sleeping.
- When possible, extra efforts to ventilate tents and adirondaks should be done.
- Those concerned with close contact with others should supply and pitch their own tent.
- Cub Scout parents may tent with their child.

Feeding/Dining

- Recommended: dining must be done by cohort.
- Recommended: food must be served, plated. No self-service allowed. (Exception is Coffee pots.)
- Recommended: every effort will be made to prevent the mixing of cohorts while eating.
- Recommended: cohorts will be separated within the dining area by at least 6 feet
- Required: Hand washing .



Screening/Testing

- Screening at meetings and outings is still required.
- You must keep records of attendance, and those who have unmask contact for more than 15 minutes within 24 hours while at a Scouting Activity. This includes carpools, and outings.
- Records must be kept for 5 weeks.

Sanitization

- Scout meeting and camping areas should be sanitized prior to arrival.
- Hands should be sanitized between activities.
- Handwashing guidelines above are still required

Response

What happens if someone has COVID like symptoms?

- Youth should be isolated and sent home.
- A covid test should be administered. (Rapid Antigen Test acceptable)

What happens if someone tests positive for COVID?

- Contact your Council leadership and Health Department.
- Inform your families and those who came in contact.
- Recommended to hold off meetings for 14 days to monitor symptoms.
- Infected individual should seek medical care.



Vaccinated Member Guidelines

The Oregon Health Authority and the CDC have recommended that everyone who may become vaccinated do so. The BSA has asked Scouting programs to not publicly identify those who are or are not vaccinated. (For example, wear a wrist band). Below are considerations for those who are vaccinated.

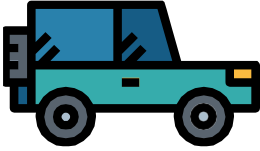
- Vaccinated individuals are not required to wear a mask or social distance indoors or outdoors. Exceptions
- Vaccinated adults may move freely between cohorts as long as they sanitize their hands between groups.
- Vaccinated youth are still asked to stay within their own cohorts at this time.
- Vaccinated members may freely share a sleeping space.
- Vaccinated members are still required to wash hands and sanitize.

Scouting Values and COVID

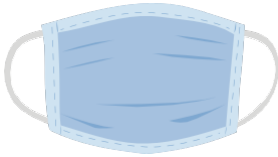
COVID has taken its toll on our world, nation, communities, and families. Each person has developed different risk tolerances and belief systems surrounding COVID mitigation and their own comfort in participation in activities. Scouts show **Courtesy** and **Kindness** to those whose tolerance to risk of exposure is different from their own. Scouts show a **Cheerful** and a **Friendly** demeanor to those who are struggling to be **Brave** during these crazy times. Scouts are **Trustworthy** in our **Obedience** to the rules of the land. Scouts **Loyally** work to maintain **Cleanliness** in all activities. Scouts show **Reverence** to all those who have lost someone to COVID.

Scouting is **Helpful** about making good choices through the lens of our values. Let's work together to be **Thrifty** as we slowly reclaim a new sense of normalcy in the coming months.

HOW TO CARPOOL



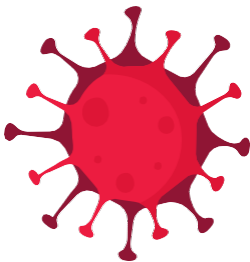
**RIDE WITHIN YOUR COHORT ONLY.
VENTILATE THE CAR.**



**WEAR A MASK, KEEP IT ON!
Cover coughs and sneezes.**



**REDUCE # OF PEOPLE IN VEHICLE,
EVERYONE SIT 3FT APART FROM
NON-HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS.
LIMIT STOPS.**



STAY HOME IF YOU HAVE SYMPTONS

Our guide shows how to significantly mitigate risks, but each family needs to evaluate their risk tolerance prior to participating in any activity outside their home.



STATE & LOCAL GUIDELINES

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FIND HELP

cpcbsa.org/covid

Check here for continuous updates on COVID-19 response in CPC

cpcbsa.org/adventures/patrol-cohort-camping/

Check here for detailed information on camping

scouting.org/scoutingathome

At home fun and learning for Scouting Families, and non-Scouting families!

<https://coronavirus.oregon.gov/Pages/living-with-covid-19.aspx#currentrisklevelbycountymap>

Oregon State Youth Programs Descriptions.

(Note: This is provided as a reference. The COVID task force ensured that all policies meet these requirements.)

Center for Disease Control links:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/going-out.html>

Small Gatherings: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays/small-gatherings.html>

How to Protect yourself and Others:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>



Tips for running a Scout meeting from home

REMEMBER TO FOLLOW YPT guidelines for digital communication while conducting online activities, and include registered adults in all meetings and breakout meetings

BE IN UNIFORM



USE THIS TIME TO GET EVERYONE UP TO DATE ON THEIR CYBERCHIP



CREATE INTERACTIVE AND FUN MEETINGS

Use apps like Kahoot! to create quizzes and trivia games within your meetings.



INVITE SPECIAL GUESTS

Whether down the street or across the country, digital meetings mean you can easily invite a special guest to join your meeting, no matter where they are from.



HAVE THE YOUTH MAKE CONTENT

Invite the youth leaders to make video content and to teach skills online as best they can with the EDGE method.



TAKE A MINUTE TO CHECK ON EACH SCOUT IN THE MEETING

Go around and check on all the scouts to see how they are doing. In a large troop, this can be done in the patrol breakouts.



HAVE AN OPENING AND CLOSING

A simple flag ceremony is a great way to start a meeting.

A good closing could be as simple as a review of the subjects covered in the meeting.



DO A VIRTUAL TOUR

Virtual tours are a good way to make a meeting interesting and engaging. If able, do one live or use a virtual tour that is already online.



USE BREAKOUT ROOMS

Use breakout rooms for patrol meetings and provide specific tasks for those meetings. Just like in a regular meeting.



GIVE SCOUTS SHARING OPPORTUNITIES

Having scouts share what they have been working on makes the meeting more interactive and engaging.



FOCUS ON BADGES AND CHALLENGES THAT CAN BE DONE FROM HOME

There are almost 50 merit badges and tons of good turns that can all still be done without needing to leave home.

