



SCOUTING MEETING GUIDE FOR COVID-19

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

Updated March 10, 2022 (Changes Highlighted)

These guidelines are meant to give unit leaders the opportunity to operate a program during the pandemic while following state requirements at the time of the update. Each unit must determine its comfort level and act accordingly. Remember to continue meeting 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



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
CASCADE PACIFIC COUNCIL



In-Person Meetings Can Happen

The Cascade Pacific Council, BSA updated these guidelines on March 10, 2022.

We are pleased that the state of the COVID pandemic has proceeded to a level where fewer mitigation measures are required. It is essential to recognize that the virus is not gone. We are better able to make the best decisions for ourselves and our community to keep us safe.

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

The Cascade Pacific Council recognizes the change in the state masking mandate allowing for indoor masking to be optional in public places.

As of March 12th, we will no longer require masking indoors.

We should continue to recognize people are infectious with COVID 48 hours prior to first symptoms. This means asymptomatic infectious individuals could be present at any activity. Screening and contact tracing requirements continue until the Youth Program guidelines change.

We encourage all those who are able to be vaccinated do so. This is a sure way to a normal program. However, we respect the rights of all our members to choose this for themselves. Every effort is to be made to provide equal inclusion and acceptance to all regardless of vaccinated status.

Those who are living with or are Immunocompromised should do their best to follow their doctors recommendation in all social gatherings.

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.



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.

The mitigation steps below are no longer required however, are prudent steps to prevent exposure.

- **Individuals who wear a Face Covering indoors at all times are more protected than those who don't**
- **Outdoor Settings: In crowded areas or large gatherings, individuals who are unvaccinated, immunocompromised, who are at risk for severe COVID-19 disease, or live with someone in one of these categories should consider wearing a mask or face covering and maintain physical distancing of at least six (6) feet from other individuals.**
 - **Use good judgement outdoors. If people are going to spend long periods inside 6ft, mask may still be worn. Especially if mixing with other groups**

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.

We also must "**Choose Kindness**" as we recognize that many facilities and individuals will continue to wear masks, social distance, and restrict interaction. We need to **create an atmosphere of acceptance** and inclusion amongst our members and families.



Cohorts: Not required.

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 important to minimize contact with people from other groups as much as possible.

- 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/unit will need to contract trace and quarantine. (See Contact Tracing)

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.
- Report all exposures or potential exposures to the council office and your county health department..

Face Covering: Optional

- Face Coverings are **optional** indoors.
- Face Coverings are not required outdoors. It is recommended that in crowded areas or large gatherings, individuals who are unvaccinated, immunocompromised, who are at risk for severe COVID-19 disease, or live with someone in one of these categories continue to wear a mask or face covering and maintain physical distancing of at least six (6) feet from other individuals
 - Use good judgement outdoors. If people are going to spend long periods inside 6ft, masks may still be worn, especially if mixing with other groups or the public.



Social Distancing:

- Social distancing is not required for unit activities but recommended. (See Contact Tracing). The larger the group the harder to contact trace.

Sleeping (Still Required)

Sharing of sleeping facilities will be considered close contact.

- Must sleep head-to-toe to ensure heads are separated by 6 feet while sleeping.
- Those concerned with close contact with others should supply and pitch their own tent.

Feeding/Dining

- Required: handwashing or sanitization
- Recommended: Eliminate the practice of youth serving themselves from communal platters in the manner of family-style meals. Have one staff member serve everyone from communal dishes
- Recommended: every effort will be made to prevent the mixing of cohorts while eating.

Screening/Testing: (Still Required)

- Screening at meetings and outings is still required.
- Every attendee must be aware that they could come in contact with an asymptomatic infected individual.
- You must keep records of attendance, and those who have 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.



Response

What happens if someone has COVID like symptoms?

- Symptomatic individuals should be isolated and sent home.
- A COVID test should be administered. (Rapid Antigen Test is acceptable)

What happens if someone tests positive for COVID?

Many units will experience situations where reports of a potential COVID exposure in their unit. The information below is required when a report of an illness or COVID infection is detected after a unit activity.

- **Contact Tracing:** First determine if the individual has COVID. If so, you will need to work with the individual to contact trace, which is to identify all those who have had close contact with the infected individual 48 hours prior to their first symptoms.
- **Close Contact** is defined as those persons who were within six (6) feet of a confirmed case of COVID-19 for a cumulative 15 minutes over a 24-hour period. (Masked or unmasked, vaccinated or unvaccinated)
- **Communication:** Inform those identified as having close contact that they have been exposed and to follow post exposure guidelines.
 - Inform the rest of the unit that an exposure happened and to watch for symptoms
 - Report to your district executive and you county epartment of environmental health.
- **Post exposure requirements for unvaccinated individuals:** A minimum of 14-day quarantine is recommended for all unvaccinated people exposed to COVID-19 that do not have any symptoms. There is a small but significant chance in transmission of COVID-19 from days 11-14 so it is important to continue to monitor for symptoms for a full 14 days.
- Post exposure requirements for vaccinated individuals: Monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 during the 14 days after exposure, and if symptoms develop, you should isolate and seek testing. It is recommended that you get tested after 5 days.
- NOTE: Your doctor or county environmental health may have other requirements as well.



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



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.

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.



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.



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.



USE BREAKOUT ROOMS

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



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.



GIVE SCOUTS SHARING OPPORTUNITIES

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



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.

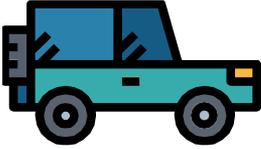


FOCUS ON BADGES AND CHALLENGES THAT CAN BE DONE FROM HOME

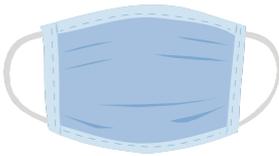
There are almost 50 merit badges and tons of good turns that can all still be done without needing to leave home.



HOW TO CARPOOL



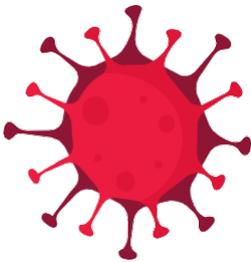
RECOMMENDED NOT REQUIRED
VENTILATE THE CAR.



WEAR A Face Covering,
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.



FIND HELP

Check here for continuous updates on COVID-19 response in CPC:
<https://cpcbasa.org/covid>

For at home fun and learning for Scouting Families, and non-Scouting families go to <https://scouting.org/scoutingathome>

[Oregon State Youth Programs Descriptions.](#)

(Note: This is provided as a reference. The COVID task force ensured that all policies meet these requirements.) https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le2351p_R.pdf

Oregon State Masking Guidelines: https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le2288k_r.pdf

Washington State Masking Guidelines: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/ClothFaceCoveringsandMasks>

State COVID sites: [Washington](#) [Oregon](#)

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>

