

# Troop 78 Covid-19 Policy and Procedures

Troop 78 is dedicated to keeping our Scouts and their families safe and healthy both during the current Covid-19 pandemic and beyond. Youth Protection and Covid-19 mitigation procedures are top priorities and engrained in Troop 78's culture. The following Covid-19 mitigation procedures will be modified to reflect the latest guidance from both State and County officials. We will continue to keep our Scouting families updated as these policies change. Any questions regarding these policies and procedures should be directed to the Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster.

Whether or not to participate in in-person Scouting activities is an important family decision. Boy Scouts of America (BSA) recommends that **NO ONE** in the **High Risk Category** participate in any in-person activities. Each family should evaluate whether their Scout(s) or a member of their immediate family are at higher risk of complications from COVID when deciding to participate in Troop activities.

If a Troop 78 family chooses to not participate in in-person meetings or activities, families can work with their Scout's patrol leader and the Scout Master to complete merit badges and rank advancements at home. Scouts will not be penalized in any way for not attending meetings during the Covid-19 pandemic.

## In Person Meetings Rules

1. All Scouts and Adult Leaders MUST sign the ***Chester Council BSA standard waiver***.
2. **DO NOT** carpool to meetings or other Troop events with anyone outside your immediate family.
3. Everyone should use the restroom at home just before arriving at the cabin for a meeting or event to minimize the need for using the indoor restrooms at the cabin.
4. Hands must be sanitized upon arrival and frequently throughout the meeting/event. The Troop will provide plenty of hand sanitizer, which you will be encouraged to use often. In addition, avoid touching your face. Avoid touching objects and surfaces, especially those touched by others.
5. Everyone must follow social distancing by maintaining a minimum of 6 feet of separation even when outside and wearing a mask.
6. Activities will be planned so a minimum 6' social distancing can be maintained.
7. Everyone must wear a proper mask to cover their mouth and nose at all times. The Troop will not provide masks. Everyone must come with their own mask. If you do not have a mask, you will not be permitted to stay.
8. For the foreseeable future, every attempt will be made to conduct meetings and events outside. Access to the cabin will be limited to emergencies and special situations such as small group use that has been approved and conducted by the adult leadership team.
9. Activities will be designed to minimize the use of shared tools and supplies. If unavoidable they will be properly cleaned and disinfected between uses.
10. All meetings and/or activities that take place away from the Troop 78 Cabin will follow the same procedures. Additional requirements will be followed for overnight events and/or events that require meal preparations (see below).

### **Pre-Event/Meeting AT-HOME Self Screening**

It is of the utmost importance that all of us be cautious and mindful of each other during this time.

**BEFORE ATTENDING ANY TROOP MEETING OR EVENT**, each attendee must evaluate their current state of health using the current CDC guidance below.

#### **STAY HOME IF YOU:**

- Have one (1) or more symptoms in Group A **OR**
- Have two (2) or more symptoms in Group B **OR**
- Are in a **High Risk Category** as defined by CDC guidelines **OR**
- Are taking fever reducing medication (Tylenol or Motrin/Advil/Ibuprofen)

<b>Group A 1 or more Symptoms</b>	<b>Group B 2 or more Symptoms</b>
• Lack of Smell or Taste (w/o congestion)	• Fever (Oral > 100°F, Temporal > 99.5°F)
• Cough	• Sore Throat
• Shortness of Breath	• Headache
• Difficulty Breathing	• Chills
	• Muscle Pain
	• Fatigue
	• Congestion or Runny Nose
	• Nausea or Vomiting
	• Diarrhea

#### **STAY HOME, QUARENTINE AND PARTICIPATE VIRTUALLY IF YOU:**

- Have been exposed to anyone who has Covid-19 symptoms, tested positive for Covid-19 in the past 14 days, traveled to a high risk state or traveled internationally.

### **Pre-Event/Meeting ON-SITE TROOP Screening**

In addition to your **At-Home Self Screening**, because safety is Troop 78 top priority, upon arrival at any meeting or event, the following pre-meeting screening procedures **MUST** be followed. If you have not been pre-screened by an Adult Leader at the Covid-19 Screening Table, you may not participate or stay for the meeting/event.

1. Proceed directly to the Covid-19 screening table located on the right side of the cabin.
2. Please maintain a 6' social distance if the Screening Table is occupied by another attendee.
3. Sanitize your hands prior to being screened or touching anything else on the screening table.
4. The designated Covid-19 Screening Adults will document your name for attendance.
5. Your temperature will be taken with a no-touch thermometer. Any attendee with a temperature of greater than 100°F will not be permitted to attend the meeting or event and will be asked to leave immediately.
6. You be asked a few questions to reconfirm your lack of Covid-19 symptoms and/or contact. These questions adhere to current CDC Covid-19 guidance and are update periodically.

If an attendee answers with a positive response or "YES" to any Pre-Event Screening Questions, they may not participate in the meeting or event and must leave immediately. Rest up, get well, and join back as soon as you are recovered.

### **Camping and Other Offsite Trips/Events**

Camping, third party locations and other outdoor activities present unique risks and challenges to proper COVID-19 protocols. All camping or other outdoor activities will be conducted following these procedures and practices. These policies may be modified depending on the specific details of the activity or event. Additional policies specific to the event will be documented on the event's sign-up paperwork. The policies listed below will be considered our baseline camping/trip protocols.

Travel to and from Events- Families must provide transportation to and from events and trips. The Troop bus will not be used during the Covid-19 pandemic. Every attempt will be made to keep camping and other activities as local as possible.

Sleeping Arrangements- As always, all BSA Youth Protection Policies will be strictly followed and enforced. During the pandemic, Scouts must sleep one person to a tent. Tent separation will be maximized to the greatest extent possible.

Meal Preparations- Cooking, meal preparations and distribution will be designed to minimize food contact and limit close gatherings of Scouts and adults. Those tasked with cooking will follow proper food preparation procedures (hand washing, surface cleaning, etc.) and will properly wear a mask and surgical type gloves at all times. All plates, bowls and utensils will be single use and disposable. All meals will be individually plated (no buffet style) and all condiments will be in single serving packets.

Meal Clean-Up Procedures - Once a meal has been completed, all paper-based plates and bowls will be placed in the designated trash bags for proper disposal. Cooking equipment and utensils will be cleaned and sanitized with a water and bleach solution.

Campfires and Other Activities- Campfires are often a key element to many outdoor activities. For a campfire, all Scouts and adults will arrange themselves so that a minimum of 6 feet of distance is maintained at all times while wearing a properly worn mask.