

UPDATED JULY 13, 2020

The following is a list of program updates for the BRDC summer of 2020. It is possible that some restrictions may be lightened as the summer progresses and we will keep you up to date on any changes. Overall our goal this summer will be to keep the kids outside, keep facilities and equipment as clean as possible, and limit close contact. And of course we are going to have fun!

Dates of Camp

Camp will run June 22nd – August 21st. We are currently accepting only 50% as many campers as in other summers. Due to this fact, we expect many or all weeks to be full.

Transportation

The bussing guidelines that were released are unfortunately not what we expected. Due to this fact we have no choice but to cancel all bussing for entire summer. Drop off and pick up times will be staggered. We will be asking parents if they need to be scheduled for a certain time slot due to work schedules. We will also provide more comprehensive pick up and drop off procedures closer to the start of camp.

Screening Procedures

Every camper will be required to undergo screening procedures upon arrival at camp. The parent will be required to take each camper's temperature inside the vehicle before the camper gets out. The parent will then tell the temperature to the staff member at drop off. Parents should bring their own thermometer if possible. Each parent/camper will also be asked a series of questions including if they have been recently exposed to someone with Covid 19 and if the camper or any immediate family members are experiencing a high fever, cough or respiratory distress. Campers who answer yes to these questions or who have a fever of 100 or higher will not be allowed in the program that day. Parents will only be allowed to exit their vehicle at drop off/pick up if they need to do so in order to release/fasten the buckles on a young child's safety seat. See Sick Policy below for more info on what to do if your camper is sick or registers a fever.

Social Distancing

Campers within the same group and their counselor are not required to maintain full social distance from each other. We will certainly encourage that they maintain the most possible distance at any given time depending on the activity. One way paths, stairs and doors will be instituted to ensure that groups do not cross paths with other groups. When outside, including eating, a minimum of 6' of space will be maintained between each group and other nearby groups. Other program staff will generally maintain a 6' distance from all other staff and campers. Brief close contact is not considered to be high risk by the Department of Public Health and may occasionally occur as needed for safety. An example would be a member of the tower staff checking a harness.

Handwashing & Personal Hygiene

Campers and staff will be required to sanitize or wash their hands before entering the camp program each morning, upon arrival at every activity area, when leaving each activity, before entering the bathroom and after using the bathroom, before & after eating, and after coughing or sneezing. CDC recommendations regarding covering coughs and sneezes will be followed.

Masks

Staff will be required to wear masks unless they are outside and maintaining a six foot distance from all other employees and campers. Generally speaking, campers will not have to wear masks. There may be some activities that require the camper to wear a disposable mask for a short time, for example, while

climbing the tower. If you prefer for your camper to wear a mask more frequently you may certainly send one, please don't forget to put their name on it.

Cleaning & Sanitizing

High touch surfaces will be cleaned continuously throughout the day. This includes railings, door knobs, bathrooms, etc... We will limit the use of shared equipment to the extent possible based on the activity. For example, markers will likely be necessary for art projects and will be sanitized after each use. However, community costumes & props in performing arts will be very limited or not used at all. In some activities, sanitizing "low touch" items like a climbing harness is not possible between users. In this case, the camper will be required to sanitize their hands immediately before putting on the harness and again before entering the ropes course. They will then sanitize again before removing the harness. Harnesses will be washed daily. Specific policies regarding every piece of equipment at every activity are being developed and will be implemented. These examples are meant to give you an idea of the various methods we will be using to prevent the spread of germs.

Groups

Campers will be placed in a group of no more than 14 campers. Camper groups will mostly consist of all campers in the same grade, however, some groups may combine 2 grade levels (for example 2nd & 3rd grade might have a combined group). Campers will stay with their assigned group for the entire week. No switching of groups mid-week will be allowed. Please make sure you let us know in advance of any group requests.

Activities

We will be focusing on outdoor activities this summer. Arts and crafts will be moved to an outdoor location. We have decided that workshop, robotics and cooking cannot be run safely under the current guidelines on a regular basis. We may utilize Legos and robotics on rainy days when the corresponding supplies and equipment can be used by only one group and then sanitized and placed out of service for 72 hours. We are excited to expand our outdoor education program this summer and will also be adding a card making activity. During card making, campers will choose a design, be given a set of supplies previously packaged by a staff member, and create a card to be sent to first responders or nursing home residents. All other activities will be run with new guidelines in place for reducing touch points, limited use of shared equipment, and additional cleaning and sanitation.

Lunch

A lunch menu will be published for each week including the main meal and one alternate option. In addition, pre-prepared salads, yogurt and fruit will be available. Each morning, the camper will select their lunch choice for the day and will receive their lunch individually bagged from the kitchen. Allergy friendly and vegetarian options will be available daily. If your camper does not like either the main meal or the alternate for that day, parents can send a bagged lunch from home which will be refrigerated (nut free please). We will have fresh fruit and sandwiches available for seconds. There will be no buffet or salad bar. Water and sports drinks will be served. Weather permitting, campers will eat lunch picnic style on one of our fields in order to provide additional social distancing while eating!

Electives & Quest

Since campers will have to remain with the same group of campers all day, electives will work differently than in the past. All campers will be asked to tell us their two favorite activities. We will then schedule the group's elective periods, making sure that each camper's group goes to at least one of their 2 favorite activities at least once per week. The kids will not vote or collectively choose, we will make sure

every camper gets equal opportunity to choose for the group. We will likely send out a form in advance for you to complete with your camper's elective choices.

Rainy Days

In addition to our pavilion we will be installing a large tent for the summer. Each group will have a specified area either on the pavilion or under the tent where they will be based if there is a lot of rain. In light rain, activities will proceed as usual as we have done in previous years. In the event of thunderstorms, older children will take shelter on our pavilion and younger children will take shelter in an assigned area of our banquet hall building.

Swimming

Campers will be allowed to swim in the pool or pond with their group. A modified version of swim lessons will be held for campers entering PreK thru 2nd grade. This will likely involve a lifeguard instructing from the side of the pool while the campers group counselor assists them in the water. We feel strongly that teaching water safety is essential. Campers in grades 3 and up will have a free swim daily. At the pool and pond, high touch surfaces and lifejackets will be sanitized between groups. Towels will be provided.

Water bottles

Reusable water bottles will not be allowed at camp this summer. Staff will dispense water into single use cups from our water coolers.

First Aid & the Nurse

In order to reduce the number of campers visiting the nurse, we will be training all group counselors in First Aid. Group counselors will provide basic first aid to their campers for minor cuts and scrapes, etc... They will also be trained to administer an inhaler if a camper in their group needs one. Illnesses and more severe injuries will be treated by the camp nurse. The nurse's office will be located outside on one of our pavilions and campers will be pre-screened before entering.

Sick Policy

Campers who are experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, fever of 100 or more, chills, diarrhea, vomiting, sore throat, unexplained muscle pains or a new loss of taste or smell cannot attend camp. The camper's physician should be contacted for further guidance and advice. If symptoms remain mild and Covid19 is not suspected, the camper can return to camp 24 hours after the last symptom resolves without the use of medication. If Covid 19 is suspected the pediatrician will provide you will further details about how to proceed. If your pediatrician indicates that there is a strong suspicion that your camper has Covid 19, you must contact camp immediately.

If a camper becomes ill and misses more than 3 days of camp a credit will be applied to your account starting with the fourth day. Credits can be applied to a future week in 2020 or 2021. Please see the refund policy below for more information.

What if a camper or staff member becomes infected with Covid 19?

In February 2020, COVID-19 was added to the List of Reportable Diseases. We must report cases of COVID-19 infection immediately to the Connecticut Department of Public Health and to the local department of health in the town of residence of the case-patient by telephone on the day of recognition or strong suspicion of the disease. At that time we would work directly with the Department of Public Health to determine if any other campers or staff meet the guidelines for having been in close contact with the infected person in the 48 hours prior to symptom onset or the test being

taken. Many precautions being taken are to minimize the amount of close contact between campers and staff. Anyone determined to have been in close contact with an infected person during that time frame will be required to stay home from camp for 14 days. In that case, a credit for days missed will be applied to your account and can be used later this summer or in 2021. In the event that a camper or staff member tests positive, all parents will be notified including whether or not that camper or staff member was in close contact with your child.

Change of Weeks, Cancellations, Refunds and Payments

If you wish to change, remove or add weeks, but still plan on attending, please contact us ASAP.

In order to give parents adequate time to make an informed decision about their camper's summer, while also allowing us enough time for planning, the payment and cancellation policy will be as follows:

Our original cancellation policy contained a cancellation fee that ranged from 50% to the entire amount of tuition, depending on when you cancelled. We have developed a new policy given the current situation:

If you have paid the required deposit and give us at least 3 weeks notice of cancellation, the full amount of payments made* will be credited to 2021 and you will receive the 2020 rates next year. If you do not end up attending in 2021 we will be happy to issue you a refund at that time. You may choose to cancel one session at a time if you would like to "wait and see" how things progress throughout the summer.

If you do not give us 3 weeks notice of cancellation, the deposit will be forfeited. If you made any payments above the deposit amount, those will be credited towards 2021 and you will receive the 2020 rates next year. If you do not end up attending in 2021 we will be happy to issue you a refund at that time.

Refund Option: If you do not wish to have your payments credited towards 2021, you can request a refund. Due to the significant financial impact of Covid 19 on our small business, we are unable to give an exact timeline as to when refunds will be issued but it will be as soon as we possibly can. We are pursuing all available funding options and hope to begin issuing refunds at the end of the summer. We will give priority of refunds to families who have had a significant financial loss. The length of time it will take us to issue all refunds will be determined by the number of refunds requested. We sincerely appreciate the support we have been receiving from our camp families as we all struggle through these hard times.