

Pack 301

COVID-19 Live Meeting

Risk Mitigation and Response Plan

Introduction

The scope of this plan covers any in person meetings, defined as den or pack meetings, for Pack 301; . In addition to the in person meetings that are in scope for this document, Pack 301 has provided on-line meetings for scouts. The plan embodied by this document has been field-tested over the past year of the COVID-19 pandemic by our dens, by BSA Troop 27, Troop 4027 and Venture Crew 27, and refined to reflect real world experience and also to comply with the latest COVID-19 guidance from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), State of California, County of San Mateo, Scouts BSA and Pacific Skyline Council. All activities carry risk and our goal is to provide a meaningful and enriching in person scouting experience for our youth and adult volunteers while effectively managing the risks. All participation is voluntary. Participants agree to abide by the rules in this document and accept and assume the risks involved in such activity. While it is impossible to eliminate the risk of infection, the goals of this plan are to do the following while permitting in person scout meetings:

1. Prevent infections from arriving at our meetings
2. Limit the spread of infection if cases do occur; and
3. Respond appropriately if cases do occur

Using the den method to keep meetings organized into small consistent groups, limiting the use of shared equipment, limiting attendance to those living in San Mateo County, and focusing on outdoor activities only is consistent with the CDC guidance for lowest overall risk. Universal precautions of requiring face masks to the greatest extent during a meeting and attempting to maintain 6' social distancing where possible will be observed .

Additionally, we are taking precautions in each of the following categories to reduce the risk of SARS-CoV2 transmission at pack meetings:

1. Promoting behaviors that prevent spread
2. Maintaining healthy environments
3. Maintaining healthy operations
4. Being prepared for when someone gets sick

Finally, to ensure compliance with the policies and procedures in this plan, we will be implementing the following safeguards:

1. We appointed Safety Officers for all dens who assist den leaders with compliance and enforcement with scouts
2. We will require all participants (both adults and youth) to agree to and e-sign a behavioral expectations form agreeing before meetings to follow the policies and procedures in this plan
3. We will require all participants (both adults and youth) to answer health screening questions prior to coming to in person pack or den meetings
4. Any participant who does not comply with the policies and procedures in this plan will be provided one warning. Any additional noncompliance will result in the participant being asked to leave the meeting immediately.

The following sections detail specifics of how we implement the relevant guidance from state, county, BSA and other authorities for meetings.

Meeting Plan

Pre-Meeting Planning and Post-Meeting Reflection:

Building in our youth and adult leaders the ability to recognize risks, successes and opportunities for improvement before, during, and after in person meetings is an important skill not just for mitigating COVID-19 risk but also for a healthy scouting program. As part of Pack 301's monthly Leadership meetings pack and den meeting plans and outings are proposed, discussed and evaluated for our ability to conform to the requirements laid out in this plan. It is our philosophy that just about any normal scout activity can be done safely with modifications. Creativity is required by pack adult leaders to enable meaningful scout experiences while adhering to the guidelines from multiple authorities.

Meetings are debriefed monthly at our leadership meetings to discuss both the successes and challenges of the activities as well as our adherence to this plan.

Pre-Meeting Health Screen and Behavioral Agreement:

Within 48hrs before each meeting, all participants are required to fill out a health screening form and agree to our behavioral expectations. Participants who arrive without having filled out the form are asked at the beginning of the meeting to do so or leave. Our screening may be updated at any time with additional questions as additional guidance or restrictions are announced, such as a county-wide quarantine for out of county travel. The following questions are currently asked of all participants via Google form (example form: <https://forms.gle/TUTsb4AbG5NCBKcg9>):

- Full Name
- Have you been vaccinated for COVID-19? Yes/No/Decline to answer

- Has it been greater than 14 days since you received either the second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech, the second dose of the Moderna, or the single-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine? Yes/No/Decline to answer
- In the past 14 days, have you had any of these symptoms, which is new or not explained by a pre-existing condition? Yes/No
 - Fever (>37.8°C/100F), chills or shivering/shakes
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- In the past 14 days, have you or someone you live with, been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19? (Close contact = within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer) Yes/No
- In the past 14 days, have you or someone you live with, participated in direct care of patients diagnosed with COVID-19? Yes/No
- Are there high risk individuals in your household? (>65, preexisting lung problems, diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, severe obesity, weakened immune system, chronic liver disease or kidney disease)? Yes/No
- In the past 14 days, have you or anyone in your family had testing for COVID or antibody test? What was the reason for the test? What was the result?
- Have you traveled outside the Bay Area Counties within the last 10 days? Yes/No

Pack 301 Leadership designed a Health Screening that collects information that will inform our pre-clearance decision and aid in contact tracing but will limit our collection of private medical information. Regardless, Pack 301 Leadership will keep any and all information collected through this screening private and confidential.

All participants (youth and adults, members and visitors) are required to agree to the following behavioral expectation question to participate:

- Do you promise to abide by the following expectations during pack/den activities?
 - I will follow the Scout Law, Scout Oath, Motto, and Outdoor Code. I will remember that these are the basis for all the following rules and should be the basis for all of my actions.
 - I will wear a face covering at all times when I am closer than 6 feet from another person
 - I will abstain from physical contact and remain at least 6 feet apart from people

- whenever possible. When I am resting/sitting or eating I will remain at least 6 feet apart from people whenever possible.
- I will practice good hygiene by frequently washing my hands with soap and water for 20 seconds or longer.
 - I am expected to follow the posted or verbal schedule of activities and assignments specified by pack leadership.
 - I will do my best to be on time and wearing the appropriate uniform for all pack or den events.
 - I will take responsibility for any property owned by the pack or another individual that I damage.
 - I will use the buddy system on all pack/den activities.
 - By clicking submit, I understand that my behavior directly impacts my ability to participate in pack and den activities. I will honor this agreement so that I can have a high-quality scouting experience with Pack 301.

Meetings:

The basic outline of meetings are as follows:

- Location: Outdoors with enough space to accommodate all attendees with adequate social distancing. Beresford Park in San Mateo, Cipriani Park in Belmont, Twin Pines park in Belmont and the parking lot of the Peninsula Scout Shop have been identified as suitable areas for pack meetings, den meetings can be accommodated in any well sized park. In case of rain, meetings are held virtually.
- Check in and Sanitization: Upon arrival, scouts will check in with their den leader to ensure they have been Pre-Cleared for the meeting and sanitize their hands.
- Assembly: Pack/Den meetings start and/or end with a short assembly to organize the pack/den and make announcements. All awards have been pushed to the den level to keep pack assembly short and keep dens from intermingling. At pack meetings dens are organized into 6' socially distanced lines separated from each other by at least 6'.
- Activity: Dens participate in activities following face covering and 6' social distancing guidelines where practical, and intermingle with other dens as minimally as possible. At any meeting the sharing of items is minimized and where practical, items are sanitized between use.
- Active monitoring: During meetings, it is the responsibility of everyone including the designated Safety Officers, Cubmaster, Pack Leadership, adult volunteers, and youth to reinforce behaviors and adherence to masking and social distancing.

Promoting Behaviors that Prevent Spread:

Staying home as appropriate:

Pack 301 will require all participants (youth and adult volunteers) to stay home if any of the following are true within 48hrs of any meeting:

- They have tested positive or are showing symptoms of COVID-19 within the past 14 days
- They have been a close contact of someone diagnosed with COVID-19 within the past 14 days
- If they are feeling unwell regardless of whether they think they are showing COVID-19 symptoms
- If they have traveled outside the state of California in the past 10 days and have not received a negative COVID-19 test 3-7 days after returning.

We will encourage, but not require, participants to stay home if they are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Dens will do their best to make accommodations for scouts who cannot make in person meetings, so scouts continue in their achievements and feel included in the Cub Scout program.

Hand Hygiene:

Washing hands appropriately can be a challenge in an outdoor environment, but is an essential precaution for preventing the spread of illness. Washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds will be encouraged and where not practicable, hand sanitizer will be supplied. At the start of every meeting scouts and volunteers will be asked to wash or sanitize their hands upon arrival. Whenever food will be served, or participants will share any equipment such as rope, etc., the pack will provide for either a hand washing station or hand sanitizer.

Cloth Face Coverings

Combined with social distancing and hand hygiene, face coverings help reduce the spread of SARS-Cov2. The following policies and procedures will be in place:

- Participants shall be required to wear face coverings when they will be within 6 feet of someone else and as much as participate during meetings
- Face masks, bandanas or other common face covering designs are acceptable

As SARS-Cov2 is thought to be spread by respiratory particles containing virus in the air and possibly on surfaces, all participants will be instructed to cover coughs and sneezes. Used tissues will be thrown away immediately and participants will be instructed to wash hands after using a tissue. All participants will be encouraged to sneeze into their elbows even when wearing a face covering.

Maintaining Healthy Environments

Outdoor Meeting Space:

For the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, all pack and den meetings will occur in an outdoor space. It is acceptable to meet under a tent, dining fly or an overhanging roof such as the covered area at Beresford Park provided that there is at least one fully open side to permit adequate air flow.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Frequently touched surfaces or shared objects will be cleaned and disinfected regularly using

products meeting the EPA disinfection criteria by pack leadership or parent volunteers. As we meet outdoors, there are relatively few if any of these surfaces.

- Gloves shall be worn when collecting/replacing trash bags by pack leadership or parent volunteers.

Shared Objects

In general, sharing objects between participants is discouraged and will be limited. The pack will make every effort to provide individual objects per scout. Where practical, shared objects, whether used with work gloves or not, will be disinfected between use. The sharing of rope will be minimized because it is impractical to disinfect natural fiber rope. If a pack activity requires any high touch objects they will be assigned individually to each participant and marked accordingly for easy identification as to who belongs to the object.

Each participant's personal belongings shall be segregated and not intermixed. All personal belongings (clothing, water bottles, etc.) will be clearly marked with the owner's name. Participants will be forbidden from touching other participants' gear.

Food Service and Dining

The pack does not intend to eat together. However, our leadership wants to be prepared and present scenarios that may arise.

PPE consisting of face coverings and gloves shall be worn during food prep and service at any meeting. Social distancing will be enforced in the food line. Masks will be required by all in line for food.

Areas will be indicated for each den to dine while maintaining a minimum of 6 ft of social distancing as they must remove masks to eat.

Where possible, disposable food service items will be used (trays, utensils) and individual boxes/bags of food distributed (e.g., bag of chips vs. bowl of chips). Plates, cups, utensils, napkins, etc. will not be shared between participants.

Maintaining Healthy Operations

Den Method

Participants are in dens of not more than a total of 16 people (any combination of youth and adults) each and will at all times stay in consistent den groups for the duration of the meeting.

Supporting coping and resilience

- We will encourage participants to take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories about COVID-19, including social media if they are feeling overwhelmed or distressed
- We will promote participants eating healthy, exercising, getting sleep, and finding time to

unwind

- We will encourage participants to talk with a trusted adult about their concerns and how they are feeling

Additional measures to ensure healthy operations

- We will not require participation by anyone in an activity that they do not feel comfortable participating in, especially if they believe that doing so would put them at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 or if they believe they are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19
- Adult volunteers and youth will be limited to those living in San Mateo County
- Consistent with BSA policies, confidentiality will be maintained for those disclosing any health condition
- As government regulations are changing rapidly in response to the ongoing pandemic, the pack leadership will regularly review governmental regulations and respond accordingly

Preparing for when someone gets sick

In the event that anyone at a meeting displays symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, cough, and/or shortness of breath, the following actions will be taken:

1. The individual will be segregated from the meeting.
2. The individual will, if able, be asked to make arrangements to go home. If the participant is not able to make arrangements to go home due to illness, emergency services will be notified by calling 911.
3. The meeting will be canceled and participants dismissed.
4. Upon request of appropriate medical authorities, such as the County Health Officer, the pack leadership shall furnish a list of participants and follow guidance provided.

Regardless of whether anyone at a meeting displays symptoms of COVID-19 at a meeting or outing, the pack leadership shall furnish a list of participants upon request by any appropriate health authority such as the County Health Officer. Confidentiality of our scouting families will be maintained even when informing families of a possible close contact event.