

Camp Menominee

January 13, 2021

Hi Everybody,

Today I want to spend a few minutes talking about the basic principles we will be following at camp this summer to account for the risk of COVID-19. We are going to keep it broad today and get into the details in the weeks to come.

First, I want to be clear on one thing: we will be having camp this summer. Period. We are running and we are planning on running two sessions like we have every summer. Some of our best friends in camping have proven the concept and shown this can work in a fun and safe environment.

So how do we do it? We implement as many preventative measures as we can that, separately, are not a singular solution, but together can dramatically mitigate the risk of COVID-19 at camp. We'll call each one a roadblock for COVID-19. So, what are the basic roadblocks we will be installing?

We start by **quarantining** prior to coming to camp as best as we can. We will follow CDC guidelines and ask that all of our campers and staff self-quarantine to the best of their ability at home prior to the start of their camp session.

We will then incorporate an appropriate **testing** before camp, on the first day of camp and during camp. This will include PCR COVID-19 tests and rapid antigen testing at the recommendation of our Medical Advisory Team and camp medical staff.

Last summer we implemented **cleaning and sanitizing** protocols recommended to us by the CDC and ACA. This includes cleaning and disinfecting of high touch areas, use of aerosols and sprays proven to kill COVID-19, and most importantly more hand washing and sanitizing stations around camp. We will continue to do that this summer.

In case COVID does come into camp, it is important that we limit the boys in close contact with each other at the beginning of the summer. So, we will have smaller groups or "**cohorts**" and slowly expand these groups as we test and monitor symptoms. Our groups will be big enough to run our sports and other programs, but small enough to help us appropriately contact trace and manage any symptoms.

We know that there are 3 things that are a huge help in limiting the spread of the virus: **wearing masks, being outside and distancing!** We will be doing all of these things on a daily basis which will include eating outside and nighttime outdoor activities. Craig and Joe are already

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working on some temporary open-air shelters for us to allow us to be outside even when it's raining.

In addition to all of this, we will of course be **monitoring symptoms** and respond appropriately as they come up during the summer. We will have quarantine areas, isolation rooms and anything else our medical team and experts advise. We will also be adding a telemedicine feature to our health center, so your campers always have access to a doctor without having to visit an urgent care facility.

Ok. It's January 13th. So much can change between now and camp. We will of course keep an eye on the progress of vaccinations, and we will be getting into the nitty gritty details of all of our protocols for you. We promise to OVER communicate. Starting today we now have a COVID Headquarters on our website. This is where we will post important articles, protocols and everything else you'll need to know for camp related to COVID-19. We will update it weekly from now until the first day of camp.

Finally, know that this is not our singular focus. The health and safety of our campers is our number 1 priority, but we will always continue to concentrate on the growth and development of our boys, and all of the things that make Menominee so special. We have over 35 returning former campers on staff that are already working on our summer program, color wars, instruction, goal setting, leagues and campfires.

So, stay connected and stay positive. We are going to have an amazing summer.

For the Love of Camp – Jason and the CM Office