

Guidelines to Safely Resume In-Person Scout Meetings & Activities

As of May 29, 2020

Three Harbors Council's COVID-19 Scouting Task Force has developed guidelines for resuming in-person unit meetings and activities effective **June 12, 2020**. The final decision on resuming gatherings should be made by unit leaders and approved by the unit's charter organization. All in-person meetings and activities must be conducted within the guidelines outlined by local health departments and municipalities. The guidelines below have been developed based on the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

In-Person Meetings & Activities

- All Scout activities should be conducted following public gathering size limitations, if any, imposed by your local health department or municipality. Some areas of our council territory currently have restrictions in place limiting public gatherings to groups no larger than 10 people.
 - o In those areas, we recommend that Scouts BSA troops consider in-person patrol gatherings and Cub Scout packs consider in-person den meetings.
 - o Crews, Ships and Posts can also divide into smaller groups or continue to meet virtually.
- Scout gatherings of more than 50 people are not allowed until further notice. Units with more than 50 members should consider dividing into smaller groups for in-person meetings or continue to meet virtually at this time.
- Follow the guidelines for gatherings established by your unit's charter organization as well as the location of your unit meeting or activity.
- During the summer months, outdoor meetings and activities are recommended rather than indoor meetings.
- Social distancing of at least six feet is required for all participants, and face coverings are highly encouraged.
- Scout leaders should be vigilant in ensuring everyone washes their hands thoroughly, and hand sanitizer should be made available to all participants.
- Anyone who is sick or exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms or been exposed to someone with COVID-19 should stay home.
- Scouts and families who choose not to join in-person gatherings at this time should not be penalized in any way. Alternative arrangements including options to attend meetings virtually should be made to allow these Scouts to continue their Scouting experience.
- Travel to Scout activities or outings should follow the guidance of the [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#) and any applicable guidance from the county, city or other jurisdiction in which the activity will occur. Travel should be done within family units and not by carpooling.
- Adhere to all Scouting safety guidelines including Youth Protection policies.

Unit Committee Guidance

Three Harbors Council recommends that Unit Committees meet to determine how best to proceed regarding in-person meetings based on the current COVID-19 response guidance in your community. The following considerations should be reviewed by the Unit Committee:

- Determine how your unit can follow the guidelines for planned activities including:
 - o Any restrictions on the number of Scouts, leaders and other participants
 - o Social distancing requirements and the recommended use of face coverings
 - o Proper disinfecting and handwashing for all activities
- Discuss with your unit's Scout families how they feel about the activity.
 - o All participants need to be aware that even with safety measures in place, any group activity puts them at some risk of exposure to COVID-19.
 - o Scouts and families who choose not to join in-person meetings at this time should not be penalized in any way. Alternative arrangements including options to attend meetings virtually should be made to allow these Scouts to continue their Scouting experience.
- Scouts, leaders and parents who attend gatherings must meet these requirements:
 - o Currently have no temperature or fever or any other [symptoms of COVID-19](#)
 - o Have not had a temperature or fever or been sick in the past two weeks
 - o Have not been exposed to anyone exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms in the last two weeks
- Unit leaders should keep a detailed roster of participants for all Scout meetings and activities in the event that contact tracing is required.

These guidelines are here to help you make a safe and healthy decisions for your Scouts and their families. Please note that any new state or local health restrictions will supersede the above unit guidance.

Thank you for your efforts to continue delivering Scouting during these challenging times.

Council Staff

Our council staff is available to answer any questions you may have. [Click here](#) to contact our staff team or call 414-774-1776.

Additional Resources

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)
- [Boy Scouts of America COVID-19 FAQ](#)