



Grand Canyon Council BSA

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## Geronimo Pre-Camp Webinar—May 20, 2020

Due to technical issues, Zoom did not record sound of the webinar accurately, but resources shared and questions/concerns addressed are included in this document to aid unit leadership in referencing policies and other camp documents.

The webinar's first half was a review of the documents listed below and discussions on the measures being taken to ensure the safety of Camp Geronimo Participants this summer. Please review the documents listed below. The second half of the webinar addressed questions and clarifications from the attendees. Summaries of the topics discussed along with questions and answers from our open forum are listed below.

The PowerPoint Agenda use throughout the webinar may be accessed [here](#).

All files referenced throughout the webinar may be downloaded at [www.campgeronimo.org](http://www.campgeronimo.org) or via the direct links to file downloads below:

- [2020 Leaders Guide – Updated May 20,2020](#)
- [A Healthy Camp Begins and Ends at Home](#)
- [Covid-19 Pre-Screening Checklist](#)
- [Covid-19 Camp Participant At Risk Statement](#)
- [Equipment List](#)
- [Annual Health and Medical Record exception for 2020](#)
- [RX Medical Form](#)
- [Troop Health Officer Duties](#)
- [Troop Health Officer Medication Waiver Form](#)

### Camp Geronimo 2020 Operational Modes

**Plan A** - This summer our plan is to operate sessions 5-8 of Camp Geronimo as we traditionally do, with added social distancing measures including: capping sessions at 300 participants, additional cleaning and sanitation measures, daily temperature checks, pre-screening requirements before arriving to camp. Scouts will be able to attend their merit badge courses as usual.

**Plan B** – Pending guidance from the CDC and state regulations, we may need to switch to “cohort camping.” In this model, participants will be grouped into smaller autonomous groups that will utilize the dining hall and program areas together. The idea in this model is to prevent any contact between groups limiting exposure and aiding in contact tracing if needed.



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### Questions about Cohort Camping

1. How likely is it that we will have to switch from Plan A to Plan B.
  - a. We do not know at this time but plan to have an answer by the next webinar on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.
2. If we end up Plan B Cohort Camping, will troops be given the opportunity to cancel?
  - a. Troops and individuals may cancel at any time until May 29, 2020. After this date, our normal refund policy takes effect because we have to commit to our vendors and hire staff. "In case of the death of an immediate family member, sickness or injury prior to attending camp, or military transfer we will refund all but \$125 of fees paid when verified by a physician, military commander, or such official."
3. If we move to cohort camping, will there be notice before we get assigned new badges?
  - a. Our Program Directors will work to organize cohorts based on Brownsea Island and then common merit badge choices. Once the groups are assigned, we will work with troop leadership to help plan your unit's ideal week. We believe that our staff can accommodate most merit badge requests but ask for your patience and understanding. This summer will look different. For example, the addition of flexible scheduling will allow units to schedule badges at any time of day. At the same time, some program areas such as shooting sports, may have to prioritize open programming over merit badges to give all groups program time.
4. Will there still be an Aquatics program under plan A? Are there aquatics programs in Cohort Camping? Will there be Lifesaving MB?
  - a. Yes, aquatics will continue as normal throughout "Plan A", with the exception that there will be fewer youth in each rotation at any given time.
  - b. There will be Aquatics in cohort camping, although units will attend the program area as a group, rather than mixing in with other units each rotation. We plan to offer lifesaving.
5. If we move to cohort camping, will our assigned counselor still be able to do merit badge workbook checks and sign offs during afternoon free time?
  - a. Yes, one of the beauties of Cohort Camping is flexibility.
6. If you shift to Plan B, will you be asking adult leaders to assist or act as MB counselors? If so, can you release a list in advance and pre-approve folks?
  - a. Leaders with special interests or skills are always welcome to offer merit badges at summer camp. If you would like to do so please contact Donna so she can share details with our program team.
7. How will dining work in Cohort Camping?
  - a. Cohorts will be assigned a time and they will need to arrive 10 minutes early to wash hands, go through a medical check (morning only), and be ready to enter the dining hall at their scheduled time. This plan will minimize occupancy in the dining



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- hall while keeping all cohorts separate. More details will be shared in the operations plan.
8. Are high adventure and Brownsea programs still planned to continue under Plan B?
    - a. Yes! Troops will be divided into cohorts based first on Brownsea Island signups. These patrols will function like normal; however, troop competitions may have to be varied to ensure social distancing between the patrols.
    - b. The Spade Ranch High Adventure Program is running this summer. If we are unable to accommodate all participants in one cohort, then these youth will need to camp together as an independent cohort from their units. In this scenario, the camp will provide all leadership required for the week.
  9. What if we only have 6 Scouts in our campsite? Will we get moved to be with another troop, or still be our own Cohort?
    - a. You will be merged in with another small unit with similar interests and needs so that both groups may act as one cohort in program areas and in rotations. The campsites are rather large, so units should still be able to social distance if they would like.
  10. Would troops be allowed to hike outside camp under cohort plan?
    - a. Yes, units/cohorts will be welcome to hike outside of camp throughout the week. In fact, the flexible scheduling will make troop activities easier than ever.

### General Questions

1. Can plan B troops remain plan B troops?
  - a. Yes, units who have opted to cook food in their sites will be able to continue as planned. Plan B Troops typically eat one meal in the dining hall. This year, that food will be transported to the unit's campsite. Please let us know in advance which meal you would like from the dining hall.
2. What if you have more than 50 people in the group?
  - a. This depends on guidance from the state and group size restrictions. We may have to divide large units. We hope to know more by June 9<sup>th</sup>.
3. Any special conditions for horsemanship? Any chance it may be canceled?
  - a. The Equestrian program is an important part of the Geronimo program and we have no plans to cancel. We will continue with both the Horsemanship Merit Badge and unit rides.
4. How will Big G Gold be affected by cohort camping?
  - a. Big G should not be affected. Commissioners will work to schedule service projects for groups while in camp.
5. How does COVID-19 affect shooting sports?
  - a. All shooting ranges will be in operation; however, merit badge classes may be limited.
6. What data is there as far as aquatics and chlorine in the pool? If it dies in minutes above 85, what about 85 degrees and a pool deck with chlorine?



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- a. Our aquatics committee is determining the necessary chlorination levels of the pool, and our pool will meet all state and health guidelines and standards throughout camp.
7. With strict health screening that possibly bans an entire troop once they arrive at camp, will there be refunds available for those troop members who arrived healthy and were not allowed in camp because someone else had a temperature?
  - a. Refunds in this situation will be handled on an individual basis. Bringing a person to camp with a fever indicates that your group did not perform the Pre-event Screening Checklist. As long as units are following directions by using the pre-event screening checklist, there should be no concern of this situation arising.
8. How will they sanitize, clean, social distance with Canoe, Rowing, Kayaking? Cleaning of horseback riding equipment or shooting range gear?
  - a. Thoroughly and regularly. All program areas will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized daily, with additional cleanings of tools and equipment after each use. We do encourage Scouts who own personal floatation devices/lifejackets to bring them if they feel safer using their own.
9. What if a leader gets sick during camp... Does the entire Troop need to leave?
  - a. As there are many variables at plan and this is very situational, this will be a decision for our medical director as well as the parents and unit.
10. Daily temp checks - how will that work; will it be up to the troops to take those?
  - a. Units will be required to take daily temperature checks each morning at the dining hall. Health officers will have laser thermometers that can be to determine participant temperatures.
11. Can a leader leave camp to go to town and come back during camp?
  - a. We highly discourage leaders leaving camp. If a leader has to leave, they must pre-schedule with staff to be re-screened before entering camp.
12. Can I have someone meet me at the gate with provisions/medications??
  - a. Yes, but please ask that person to limit interactions and potential vectors of spreading sickness.
13. Will there be t-shirts and mugs? You know, the important stuff.
  - a. We are currently working on t-shirts and mugs, although many suppliers are limited due to Covid-19. We are also seeking a Trading Post Manager for the July sessions to assist with handling these orders. Our aim is to have these items available for camp participants, although we recognize that they may be harder to source now and are currently a lesser priority in terms of other aspects of arranging Camp Geronimo for this summer.
14. Will the trading post and snack shop open?
  - a. Yes, although there may be limitations on the number of individuals allowed in the trading post or snack shop at a time.



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15. Will a new leader guide be prepared with the changes so we can write our troop's schedule in advance of coming to Geronimo. (Be Prepared)
  - a. A new leaders guide was released May 20, 2020 and is linked to in the resources listing above.
16. Will the scoutmasters Only area be available? and is the WiFi any better?
  - a. Yes, the Scoutmasters only area will be available. WiFi should be improved with fewer people using it and with our new WiFi system at camp!
17. Is internet on a pay only basis?
  - a. Yes. As providing internet resources at Geronimo is quite expensive, we expect that it will be on a pay basis for a minimal fee.
18. Will session 5 still be able to start June 27<sup>th</sup> even though council programs are not happening until July.
  - a. Yes, session 5 will still begin on June 27<sup>th</sup>.
19. I have 2 scouts who turn 18 where they would have originally been 17 during session 1. One of these scouts is signed up for high adventure but one of them was signed up for merit badges. How will this affect the scout who was 17 but now 18? will he still be able to do the merit badges? Or does he have to move over to high adventure?
  - a. If your Scout is turning 18, we encourage he or she to participate in the high adventure program. No advancement can be earned after the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday without an extension approved by council advancement chair, Bill Nelson [gccadvancement1@gmail.com](mailto:gccadvancement1@gmail.com).

### **Tents/Campsite Questions**

1. If we've traditionally had a certain campsite, but now have less people coming... will we be putting multiple Troops at a campsite?
  - a. We will do our best to honor campsite requests. Due to space limitations groups are sometimes asked to share sites.
2. Will each Scout need a tent, no sharing?
  - a. To mitigate potential spread of sickness, we advise that each Scout have their own tent or share a tent as a family unit. However, we currently will leave the tent sharing decision up to troop leadership and parents.
3. Will Scouts be allowed to sleep in hammocks?
  - a. You may sleep in a hammock if it utilizes save a tree straps; we advise that everyone follows traditional hammock safety. Be warned that monsoon season brings heavy rains in July and not all campsites have suitable trees for hammocks.
4. We will have about 35 Scouts. Individual tents will likely not be practical for us. Will we be able to double up in the canvas tents?
  - a. Canvas tents will not be set up this summer, we advise that Scouts bring individual tents. Doubling up will be a decision made by the unit leadership and parents.



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5. Will the boards be put down on the tent skids so those can be used for personal tents? Our site is too steep.
  - a. Yes, boards will be put down. With reduced numbers we will have more sites available and we are avoiding using the less than favorable sites this year.
6. Do adults need to bring their own tents?
  - a. Yes, although Adirondacks are available in campsites for adult leaders.

### **Boys Troops and Girls Troops**

1. Can we combine (different gendered) Troops to reach leader requirements?
  - a. Boys and Girls troops are separate units in the BSA and each require their own minimum leadership. One leader cannot fulfill two adult leader requirements in separate units. If you are having trouble meeting the minimum required number of adult leaders, please notify our registrar Donna Kutarnia and she will work to pair your unit with another like unit.
2. Are there going to be designated times for boys and girls in showers?
  - a. Our Commissioners plan to schedule the showers based off boy and girl in Plan A or by Cohort in Plan B.
3. Since girl cohorts will be smaller, will they have less opportunity to choose badges?
  - a. All Scouts will have the same options available to them regardless of gender. If we have units organized in cohorts, we will work to place the girls together and afford them the same options as the boys.
4. If we are signed up as provisional scouts and leaders, when will we get more info on how changes impact us?
  - a. The highest number of youth signed up for Fast Track in any one week is 3 (as of 5/26). This is too small of a number to operate independently so these Scouts will be grouped with other units by our registrar.

### **Pre-Camp Communication Documents/Health Screening Questions:**

#### [A Healthy Camp Begins and Ends at Home](#)

Actions you should take with each Scout to ensure that they can arrive to camp safely, have a great week while avoiding sickness, and mitigate risk to other campers.

#### [Covid-19 Pre-Screening Checklist](#)

Each participant must complete this checklist with their family before departing home. Unit leaders must review, verify, and sign the checklist. If a participant shows signs of sickness, they should not be taken to camp. If a participant arrives at camp with viral symptoms, that person's entire vehicle and possibly entire unit will be sent home. **We cannot stress this enough: If you bring someone sick to camp, you will not be allowed to enter.**

#### [Covid-19 Camp Participant At Risk Statement](#)

Each participant (and their adult guardian when applicable) needs to review and sign the at-risk statement which summarizes the precautions we are taking to mitigate covid-19, as well as the



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precautions we are asking participants to adhere to. Precautions include: limited visitation, daily health checks, a required unit health officer, daily health screenings, a voluntary 14-day isolation prior to camp, and more.

### Equipment List

An updated equipment/packing list, including items to help reduce potential spread of Covid-19.

### Annual Health and Medical Record exception for 2020

All participants must have medical forms A&B completed within 1 week of camp arrival. Part C requires a physical completed after Feb. 2019. This year only, we will accept sports physicals or other physicals in lieu of Part C.

### Troop Health Officer Duties

All troops shall elect one youth and one adult to fill this role. Scouts may rotate through two-day shifts, but the adult needs to commit for the entire week. This is meant to ensure the Health and Safety of all Troop Members by overseeing the daily hygiene and actions of your Troop in camp.

### Troop Health Officer Medication Waiver Form

An acknowledgement required for each units' adult health officer who is tasked with maintaining medications.

### RX Medical Form

A medication recording form so that the unit health officer can ensure that each Scout takes their medications as necessary.

1. Do any of the prescreening documents create HIPAA issues for the unit leaders?
  - a. No. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) was enacted to regulate how personal health information is shared with health care and health care insurance entities. Neither the Boy Scouts of America nor the AHMR are subject to HIPAA. A Scout is trustworthy: Records and sensitive information should be maintained in a private manner.
2. What if the scout or leader doesn't have a current medical form?
  - a. Leaders or Scouts should still be able to obtain physicals as they remain open in Arizona. You may use form Cs dated as far back as Feb. 1, 2019.
3. Can new scouts use Part C from their final year as WEBELOS?
  - a. Yes, as long as it was completed after Feb. 1, 2019
4. What about troops coming from other states and isolation requirements?
  - a. We have reached out to leadership in New Mexico and California and understand that general practices and urgent care centers are open. The medical form is an important part of the pre-screening process and must be signed and current.
  - b. Units from states other than Arizona should closely monitor their states guidelines for travel. If the state of Arizona changes its travel restrictions, we will reach out to any affected units.



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5. Where can Scouts from California and New Mexico get physicals for Part C?
  - a. You should be able to arrange for physicals at Minute Clinics or outpatient urgent care centers in Arizona. Payson, AZ has a Banner Urgent Care which does physicals. You may call them at (928) 596-4570 to determine if they will fit your needs.
6. How do we get you the medical forms a week before camp?
  - a. Medical forms should never be digitized. Please bring your medical forms to camp.

If you have any additional questions, please contact:

**Donna Kutarnia** – Camp Registrar – [Donna.Kutarnia@scouting.org](mailto:Donna.Kutarnia@scouting.org), 602-955-7747,239