



2020 Camp Update – June 2

The leadership of the Mid-America Council has the health and safety of all Scouts, their families, staff, and general public as our highest priority and concern. We appreciate your patience as we navigate this situation as best we can. At this time, we do plan to move forward with the delayed opening of camp as previously communicated. We of course will be monitoring circumstances and adhering to guidance from the CDC, our departments of health, and other health experts to determine whether programs need to be further postponed, cancelled, or adjusted.

As we continue to make plans to operate summer camps please note that like everything in life right now, the plans are subject to change. We can commit that as soon as any changes do occur, we will notify you right away.

Over the last two months, staff and volunteers have been working hard to determine all of the adjustments needed to make camp feasible this summer. Every aspect of camp is impacted from health forms, pre-camp screening, arrival at camp, check-in, campsite space/tenting, shower house use, program schedule, dining hall operations, arrival/departure times, campfires, open programming, and everything in between. All of that to say, while we will offer camp this summer, we are asking for your patience and flexibility as we seek to make camp work within the parameters we are being provided.

The plans as outlined below have been developed using recommendations from the CDC, conversations with local health officials and medical professionals, reviewing by our risk management committee, and input from Scoutmasters. All plans are tentative and the changes outlined below are being made to lower the risk of impact that COVID-19 will have at camp. Each individual and family must make the choice if the changes we are making make it suitable for them and/or their Scout to attend camp. There is a special COVID-19 release form that we are asking all participants to complete to ensure that each family has considered the risks associated with camp this year. [This form](#) will need to be uploaded to your summer camp registration.

If you will no longer be attending camp, please fill out the refund [form here](#) (also found on the camp registration pages) for a 100% refund. So that we can plan, please complete as soon as possible but no later than June 15th.

Please read through the attached information carefully to fully understand what camp will look like this summer. We thank you for your continued involvement in the Scouting program and look forward to serving you this summer or in summers to come. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us at mac@scouting.org or 402-431-9272.

Please continue reading the additional pages for Camp Amikaro details.

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Camp Amikaro
Mid-America Council
June 2020 Update



Good afternoon. Summer Camp leadership hopes that you and your family are doing well in this unique time. COVID-19 has brought unprecedented uncertainty, financial challenges, and impact to our daily lives. The health and safety of our participants and staff is our utmost concern.

Location Change

Please note that all of these changes and updates have been designed by the Camp Amikaro leadership team utilizing resources and recommendations from the CDC and our National office, as well as local health recommendations. Of the biggest changes right now is that **Cub resident camp will not be occurring at Little Sioux Scout Ranch this summer. We will instead be moving operations to Camp Cedars for just the 2020 season**. For those not familiar with Camp Cedars, it is located just south of Fremont, Nebraska in Cedar Bluffs. This is about a 40-minute drive from the Omaha area. Next summer we plan to return operations to Little Sioux.

Why this change? In an effort to utilize all of our resources this summer, Camp Cedars will allow us to have extra help from staff if needed, it will also allow us to share cleaning supplies, and with the hotter weather in July, will provide an air-conditioned dining hall, as well as more storm shelters to allow for social distancing if needed. We will still be joined our ranger, Robert and will have his assistance during the weekends!

Check-In/Check-Out Procedures

Check-In Procedures and Check-Out Procedures will be different. Since Cedars will be taking place during the week still, both camps have modified their schedules to allow for extra clean time between sessions. These time changes also help us cut back on the amount of time larger groups are around each other.

- Check-in for Cub Resident camp will take place at Camp Cedars starting at **4PM on the Friday of your weekend session**. We will have staggered check-in times, so we don't have everyone showing up all at once and to eliminate large groups of individuals from gathering in the same space. You will be made aware of your check-in time prior to your weekend session. Check-out will occur slightly earlier than normal as well.
- Check-out will be on **Sunday following the conclusion of Period 1 classes** to allow deep clean time between Camp Amikaro and Camp Cedars participants coming in for the week.

Medical Screening Process

Prior to departing for camp:

- All participants must review the Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist
- **All participants must check their temperature before departure and communicate that temperature to your unit and/or driver**

Upon arrival to camp:

- Drivers in each vehicle will communicate everyone's temperature from earlier in that day
- Temperatures will be checked for all members in the vehicle at the camp gates
 - **If anyone's temperature is 100.4 degrees or above, the entire vehicle will be sent home**
 - Temperature will be taken prior to anyone getting out of the vehicle
- All participants will then be asked medical screening questions.

Medications:

- One leader from each unit will turn in refrigerated and/or medications requested to be stored with the medic. Cub Scouts may accompany their leader/parent if need to have questions answered
- All other medications and emergency medications can be kept in the campsite in a locked container under adult supervision, or with the parent

Health Forms

BSA Annual Health and Medical Records (Parts A & B) are still required for all participants attending summer camp. All participants must have Parts A and B completed, signed and dated within two weeks of their camping session. This can be completed by a parent/guardian for youth.

Medical forms can be submitted prior to your arrival to camp to speed up your unit's check-in process. All forms will be securely locked and reviewed by the medical team. If there are incomplete forms, the medical team will communicate that to the unit's registration contact after review.

At Risk Participants

Participants who fall in the [*high-risk category*](#) (as defined by the CDC) should have approval from your health care provider. All participants must review the Pre-Event Medical Screening Checklist prior to departing for camp: [PRE-EVENT MEDICAL SCREENING CHECKLIST 2020](#)

Camp Fee and Refund Policy

\$105 is the camp rate for all Cub Scouts. There will not be a late fee this summer.

- Free t-shirt for youth who are paid in full by June 15th

- If you will not be attending camp, please utilize the refund request form so we can have an accurate count of who to expect at camp. The refund request form can be found here: [REFUND REQUEST FORM 2020](#)
- Additionally, if anyone in a vehicle arriving at camp does not pass the health screening a full refund will be issued.

Refund Policy:

100% refund up until 2 weeks prior to start of session. Within 2 weeks of session: \$20 per Amikaro youth cancellation fee.

Please request a refund through completing an online form available here: [REFUND REQUEST FORM 2020](#).

If camp can't be offered for any reason, there will be 100% refund provided.

Camp Cards:

Cub Scouts selling Camp Cards to earn free camp must submit the [Scout Report](#) form to mac@scouting.org. **The temporary camp card credit in the online registration has been removed from Scouts.** Scouts will remain in their selected programs. After the camp cards and funds owed are submitted the camp credit will be applied to the Scout. This can be done upon arrival at camp, but we encourage this to be done in advance through the Durham Scout Center or Sioux City Scout Center to speed check-in. Please note that if the turn-in has not happened prior to camp, the camp fee will need to be paid for upon arrival. The free camp incentive can then be applied when the camp card turn-in does happen. If you need the camp card program removed so you can pay for camp, please send a note to mac@scouting.org. For more details about camp cards, please go online to <https://mac-bsa.org/scouting-tools/campcards/>

Action Items for Units

- Ensure everyone in the Pack or all Cub Scouts attending camp have selected their classes. To get back into your registration go here: [2020 REGISTRATION](#)
- To cancel your registration, please fill out the refund request form
- Make sure that everyone has filled out Parts A & B of the BSA health form

Program Adjustments

- In an effort to help protect our campers and families, **we will be moving individuals into specific assigned groups.** This group will be your primary group for the weekend that you will attend classes with. These groups will be approximately 10 Cub Scouts each. Groups will maintain social distancing guidelines in each class. However, there may be some instances where social distancing is not possible, and we will ask that everyone present wear a mask. We realize July is hot, so we hope to keep this at a minimum, but we do ask that campers and parents are prepared for this.
- Groups will then rotate through classes all day on Saturday and for the 1 class period on Sunday. Class periods will also be slightly shorter at 1 hour each, with 15 minutes in

between classes to rotate to your next. This will allow us to add in an extra class period on Saturday, still allowing everyone to participate in a total of 6 classes. If you have entered in your class preferences already, you do not need to go back in and make any changes. **If you have not picked classes yet, please go into your registration and select classes so we can get an accurate count.**

- Right now, we are examining the interest in each of our classes offered and are hoping to only make slight changes so that everyone can still take the classes that they originally intended. However, please note that some changes are likely to occur, and you will be made aware of those changes prior to your session.

Additional Items: The following provides guidance and procedures to reduce COVID-19 exposure risk to campers and staff while participating in typical camp activities. The activities covered here are not an exhaustive list. Camp activities, whether indoor or outdoor, should be limited to small groups, practice physical distancing, and proper hygiene can be practiced.

General Guidance:

- Campers and staff should wear cloth face coverings during indoor activities when maintaining physical distancing is not maintained due to area limitations.
- All activities that can be moved outdoors will be.
- Ensure enough space to accommodate staff and campers while practicing safe physical distancing.
- Ensure that there is proper ventilation for indoor spaces by maximizing fresh air intake or natural ventilation via screened windows and doors.
- Ensure campers and staff practice proper hand hygiene before and after programs:
- Instruct campers to wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, or
- Provide alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol.
- All shared items and equipment should be properly cleaned and disinfected between use.
- If feasible, shared equipment should be limited to items that can be effectively cleaned
- Limit the amount of shared supplies and equipment for activity by providing each participant their own (e.g., life jackets, art supplies) for the duration of camp, if feasible.
- Campers should use an individual refillable water bottle.

Campsites

- In terms of camping arrangements, units will still be camping together. We will be spread out in designated camping areas at Cedars and all families will need to bring their own tents. For those that are familiar with Cedars, we will not have canvas tents set up for usage. If you are in need of a tent, please send an email to mac@scouting.org. Same household participants may share a tent, otherwise we ask that everyone have their own.
- RV Pad Usage: Since we are moving operations to Camp Cedars, we do not have specific RV pads, however if you would like to bring your RV there will be limited locations

available to park. We will still be limited to only 10 RVS allowed and there will unfortunately not be power or water hook-ups. If you reserved a spot at Little Sioux and paid for a spot that had power, we will refund your fee, but your spot will still be reserved. If you would like to cancel your RV reservation, please contact Scouter Services. There will be no charge to bring an RV to Cedars, however you will still have to reserve a spot and some weekends may be full already. This can be done by going back into your reservation to make the update or by contacting Scouter Services at 402-431-9272.

Dining Hall/Meals

The dining hall will be set up for 25% of capacity. The camp tables will be spread out resulting in 50% less tables. Further, the tables will only have 4 people per table with 1 person per side/bench. Normally 8 people sit at these tables.

As needed, camp will be split into shifts to eat in the dining hall. Also, groups will be given a 10-minute window to arrive so that the arrival for meals is spread out. Units will be assigned the number of needed tables based on attendance. The unit will then assign 4 people to sit together for meals. These 4 people will sit at the same table with the same group each meal.

Individual plates of food will be brought to the table by one person based on a preference sheet that the individuals filled out prior to the meal. The tables will be served as they arrive; not everyone at once. There will be socially distanced specialty bars (salad, special sides, PBJ sandwiches, etc.) that individuals can go up to and request items from. These areas will be manned by staff that the camper can request items from.

Campers will remove all items from the table and clean. A staff member will then sanitize the table and benches.

All staff members involved with dining hall operations will wear a mask during meals.

If an individual would prefer to not eat in the dining hall, please ensure your camp leader knows so they can communicate that to staff upon arrival at camp. A to-go container will be provided so those individuals can take the food elsewhere to eat. Unit leadership will need to maintain supervision for this option.

Indication of dietary needs should be communicated through online registration at least two weeks before your arrival at camp. This includes food allergies or an individual who requires a special diet.

Peanut Allergy: We recognize that Scouts or Scouters may have a peanut allergy. We are not able to create a peanut-free environment at camp. However, peanut-free tables can be identified in the dining hall or you may choose to eat outside in the Rotary Pavilion.

Other General Notes

- Depending on session group size, we are planning to have campfire on both Friday and Saturday nights with social distancing enforced.
- Units will be provided firewood to have a campfire in their campsite.
- Units will conduct morning and evening flags in their campsite. Flagpoles and flags are provided.

Thank you for understanding these adjustments are for the health and safety of our Cub Scouts, adults, and camp staff. Please pass along any questions to mac@scouting.org or sarah.wisecup@scouting.org.