

## COVID Policy Update (June 2023)

We very strongly recommend campers be up to date on Covid vaccines at the start of camp. However, Covid vaccination are not required for campers in 2023.

All staff and volunteers must have a negative PCR or antigen COVID test within a week of their camp starting.

For 2023, **please help us keep COVID out of camp!**

**Here's the Context:** In 2021, we had no COVID at camp.

In 2022, we had 3-4 cases among campers. It was a humbling experience.

Even though we required staff, volunteers, and campers to be vaccinated, recommended pre-camp precautions and frequent testing, COVID came to camp.

**Once COVID is in camp, it's really hard to stomp out.** And, while cases are thankfully much less severe thanks to vaccines and natural immunity, being sick at camp, or missing camp due to illness, **really stinks!**

*Once kids are at camp, sharing sleeping quarters, brushing teeth together, eating meals in the dining room... **a single case of COVID spreads easily.*** To make camp safer for everyone in 2023 we HIGHLY RECOMMEND the following.

## **Regardless of your vaccination status or recent illness:**

### **1. Pre-Camp Precautions:**

In the 3- to 5-days leading up to camp, your camper and anyone in the household should do things more safely:

- **Safer:** Stay outdoors for dining and events
- **Please refrain from:** Indoor dining, indoor concerts, and indoor sporting events

If your camper is traveling from a distance, using public transportation, or in a place – particularly indoors – where it's hard to stay away from people:

- Diligently wear that high-quality K95/K94 mask like it's 2020 all over again. It'll be worth it.

**2. Pre-Camp Testing:** Like 2022, we will ask that you test your camper with an at-home rapid test in the week leading up to camp.

- If the camper tests negative and has been actively taking Pre-Camp Precautions: Come to camp!
- If the camper has participated in a risky behavior (see above) in the week leading up to camp, please wait 3 days and test again. If the camper, then tests negative: Come to camp!
- Bring time stamped photo of negative results to camp.
- Test positive: Wait at least five days, then test again. If your test is negative, you may come to camp.

**3. Arrival Day:** Let's review. You've (1) done a great job with Pre-Camp Precautions, and (2) your camper has tested negative at home... it's Sunday, and it's time to come to camp! Be sure to have your photo

time stamped showing negative results with you. **We will need to see those results as the 1<sup>st</sup> part of registration.**

**4. In Camp Testing:** We still reserve the right to test campers at camp if the need arises, such as:

- Another camper or leader in the same cabin tests positive.
- Another camper or leader in the same activity tests positive.
- Any testing will be done in consultation with the parents of the campers.

#### **In-camp management of illness:**

As with any infectious disease, if a camper tests positive while on site, they will be required to return home. It will be the parent's responsibility to provide transportation in this case.

If the camper tests positive in the 1<sup>st</sup> 2 days of camp, they will be quarantined, and testing is required. They will be returned to all camp activities if the test result is negative. They will be required to leave camp if the result is positive. Again, it will be the parent's responsibility to provide transportation in this case.

If the camper tests positive in the 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> days of camp, the whole cabin will be quarantined, and testing is required. They will be returned to all camp activities if the test result is negative. They will be required to leave camp if the result is positive. Again, it will be the parent's responsibility to provide transportation in this case.

We are excited about our camps and the programs & facilities they offer. We hope that you will avail yourself of these treasures at Camp N-SID-SEN, and not let the vaccination policy deter you from enjoying the camps.

If you have clarifying questions, and need more explanation, feel free to contact the Managing Director,

Pam Peterson at [director@n-sid-sen.org](mailto:director@n-sid-sen.org) or 1-208-689-3489