



INDIAN NATIONS COUNCIL, BSA COVID-19 RESPONSE AND PROTOCOLS Revised: 5/15/2020

The health and safety of all participants and staff at Hale Scout Reservation (HSR), Zink High Adventure Base (ZBASE), and all other Indian Nations Council (INC) facilities, events and activities has always been the top priority. COVID-19 has impacted our lives in an unprecedented manner and intensified our review and efforts to maintain a healthy and safe environment at the Indian Nations Council, BSA. We are taking additional precautions at all of our facilities, activities and events, in addition to our long-established health and safety measures, based upon guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the State of Oklahoma, and local authorities. As we monitor and evaluate this very fluid situation, we will adjust our efforts and these protocols based upon the guidance of these authorities.

INDIAN NATIONS COUNCIL PROTOCOLS:

1. **Cooperative Team Effort.** Reducing the risk of COVID-19 exposure is a cooperative, team effort of participants, staff and parents. This effort starts at your home, pre-arrival, and continues upon arrival and stay at our camps, activities and events, and your return home. Working together, we can minimize the risk of exposure while at camp, an activity and an event, and equally important, minimize the risk of bringing COVID-19 home to the families of participants and staff.

2. **Pre-Arrival.** Please take the time to prepare yourself and your unit before departing to any INC facility, activity or event.
 - Each unit must conduct a health screening no more than 48 hours before camp, this includes a temperature check. Anyone with a temperature in excess of 100.4 degrees cannot attend any INC facility, activity or event.
 - Participate in pre-attendance education about COVID-19 and these protocols. [CDC Resource: 6 Ways to Prevent Corona Virus](#)
 - Do not travel, attend or come to any INC facility, activity or event if you meet one of the following:
 - You are sick, have been sick or have possibly been exposed to COVID-19 within 14 days of your planned arrival.
 - You have travelled out of the U.S. in the past 14 days.
 - You are 65 years of age or older. This is subject to potential change pursuant to the State of Oklahoma's "*Open Up and Recover Safely Plan.*"
 - You have a serious underlying health condition including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, morbid obesity, asthma and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy cannot attend or visit any INC facility, activity or event. This is subject to potential change pursuant to the State of Oklahoma's "*Open Up and Recover Safely Plan.*"



- We are asking that every unit checks their first aid kits to ensure that they do have a working thermometer in their first aid at camp.
- If you have seasonal allergies, please do not forget to list them on your health form. You may ask why? Some symptoms of seasonal allergies are the same as for COVID-19. Our health officer needs to be aware in evaluating the condition of a participant.
- Every participant (this includes adult leaders) must have a mask (refer to #4) and 2-ounce pocket hand sanitizer.
- All units need to travel to camp as a group and arrive at the same time.
- Arrival times will be assigned ahead of time to prevent congestion.
- Please monitor the HSR, ZBASE and INC websites for the most current information as these protocols may change.

3. Arrival. Arrival times for units is staggered to avoid overcrowding at check-in. Please comply with your scheduled time. Health screening upon your arrival at camp will be conducted by our camp health officers, which will also include a temperature check before your unit gets to the general parking lot. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or above will not be allowed in any INC facility, activity or event.

- Note: Should anyone in the unit not pass the arrival screening, the entire unit will not be allowed to enter any INC facility, activity or event. This includes ALL vehicles with the unit.
- All staff and campers will be strongly discouraged from leaving INC facility, activity or event once camp begins. Upon leaving, all staff and campers will be subject to these arrival protocols.
- All staff will be provided appropriate PPE (eye protection, gloves, mask and gown) to conduct screenings.
- We will have mid-week temperature checks and we will be asking leaders to assist in this process.

4. Masks. Everyone will be asked to bring their own mask to wear in all groups larger than 10, at merit badge sessions, the trading post, the health lodge, the office or any building or place which INC, in its sole discretion, may determine. Each building will be posted to advise participants of requirement to wear a mask.

- Options include a traditional cloth face mask, buff, neckerchief, neck gaiter, etc. . Your Scout neckerchief is the easiest and most cost-effective face covering. It can be easily washed in the shower also.
- Must cover the nose and mouth.
- Cloth face coverings fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used. [CDC Resource: DIY Cloth Face Covering](#)
- Units should bring additional masks for back-up and/or emergency use.



5. **Social Distancing.** Maintain social distancing of 6-feet at all times. We recognize that at some INC facilities, activities or events this can be a challenge in certain areas and at times even impossible. Minimize times when social distancing cannot be achieved. In certain buildings, we will have a 10-person (or less) limit. The Trading Post will have a 10-customer limit. In tents and sleeping quarters, participants should sleep head-to-foot, not head-to-head. One participant should have his head at the tent's door while the second should have his head at the rear of the tent and/or sleeping quarters, as an example.

6. **Sanitizing and Hygiene.** Handwashing, sanitizing and personal hygiene are critical to helping prevent COVID-19 (and other illnesses). Hygiene reminders will be posted around INC facilities, activities or events. All participants (Scouts and adult leaders) and staff are reminded to follow these protocols. Additional steps we are taking:

- Extra sanitizing stations will be set up throughout INC facilities, activities or events. [CDC Resource: Effective Handwashing](#)
- All merit badge classes and adventure areas will have hand sanitizer and all Scouts, leaders and staff will sanitize their hand before merit badge classes and when their merit class ends.
- Equipment in the program areas will be sanitized after each merit badge session.
- We will have hand sanitizer in all common areas.
- Participants will be encouraged to use their personal, pocket hand sanitizer.
- As always, units will be responsible for cleaning the bathrooms in their campsites. This year leaders will be more involved in their process.
- The Trading Post and Office will be disinfected at the end of every day.
- Every Scout, leader and staff member is being asked to shower everyday with soap to help with camp hygiene.
- We are researching additional measures.

7. **Dining Hall.** We continue to evaluate Dining Hall procedures, including additional meal shifts. Currently, the following will apply:

- Upon entry, everyone must sanitize their hands at a sanitizing station. [CDC Resource: Effective Handwashing](#)
- Clam shell, closeable food containers will be used to serve meals, making it easier for people to take their food out of the dining hall to eat.
- No food sharing is allowed.
- The Dining Hall will be disinfected after every meal.
- There will be no Dining Hall climbing contests at meals this year.

8. **Program and Activity Changes For 2020 Only.**

- The gaga pit is closed for the summer.
- No opening or closing campfire. Campsite campfires are being encouraged this year. Visitors from other campsites should not attend your campfire.



- We will have flag raising and lower ceremonies every day, but we will only have 2 or 3 representatives from each unit (SPL, PL, a leader or other designee) come to participate and get announcements.
- In areas with high touch surfaces (ZBASE Ninja Course) participants will be asked to sanitize their hands after every individual use and the high touch surfaces will be sanitized at the conclusion of that activity.
- We are still looking at guidelines for swimming pool capacity.

9. Visitors, Leader Swaps and Vendors.

- We are unable to accommodate visitors this year at INC facilities, activities or events. Any leader swap arrivals and vendors will be screened upon arrival following these protocols.
 - Arrival screening times will be scheduled by the camp and all camp entry screenings will only be done at designated screening times. Do not get out of your vehicle prior to screening as we will come to your vehicle to screen you. Entry screening times will be announced closer to camp opening.
 - All arrival screenings will be done in designated areas. Do not get out of your vehicle prior to screening as we will come to your vehicle to screen you. Entry screening locations will be announced closer to camp opening.
- Anyone needing to leave camp and return, for any reason, will need to respect our camp entry screening times; as upon reentry to camp you will need to be screened.

10. Emergency Response.

- An emergency response plan that includes isolation and quarantine protocol, should a person at camp develop symptoms of COVID-19 or other communicable disease, is listed below.
 - When a person presents to the health officer and the health officer believes that the symptoms require a review by a physician, the camp health officer will call the council physician for a consultation.
 - The consultation will be video call and include a parent, if the person is youth.
 - Through the video consultation the physician will determine if the person needs to go to the local Health Department to be tested for COVID-19. If necessary, the physician will write a doctor's order/prescription for the test.
 - If the person cannot leave camp immediately upon the physician's review, they will go to the quarantine facility in camp until they can leave camp.
- The quarantine facility is in the leader's training center and it will be set-up, in case we need to quarantine once camp is in session at HSR.
 - One room will be for persons suspected of a communicable disease and the other for supervisors/two deep leadership.
- Our expectation is that if anyone in your unit is asked to get tested that they comply. If they do not get tested, then we will have to assume a positive test result and that INC facility, activity or event will be closed for the rest of the summer/season.



11. Post-Camp.

- Each unit will be contacted one week and then two weeks after the unit leaves HSR and ZBASE to determine if any participants or family members have developed symptoms of COVID-19.
- If an HSR or ZBASE participant or family member of HSR or ZBASE participant is diagnosed with COVID-19, please contact Paige Draffin at the Indian Nations Council at 918-392-1231 to report the illness.

These precautions are important, but they do not remove the potential for exposure to COVID-19 or any other illness while at INC facilities, activities or events. Some people with COVID-19 show no signs or symptoms of illness but can still spread the virus, and people may be contagious before their symptoms occur. These factors mean that an infected person may pass the required health screenings and be allowed into camp.

We know that each participant and staff member may have a unique set of circumstances to consider when deciding whether to attend camp. We hope this information will be helpful as you make those choices.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about these protocols at:

*Hale Scout Reservation please direct questions to:
Roger Findahl, HSR Camp Director at (918) 637-2003*

*ZBASE please direct questions to:
Scott Thiessen, ZBASE Director at (918) 892-9132*

*Any other facilities, activities or events direct questions to:
Maryann Edgington, Director of Support Services
at (918) 392-1225.*
