



**Updated: January 25, 2021**

Dear Marin Council Scouting Volunteers and Families,

As a result of improved projections regarding the spread of the coronavirus, California Department of Public Health is rescinding the Stay-at-Home order which had been in effect since December of 2020. This change allows our council to return to a number of in-person activities. We would ask all our Marin Council families to continue to be mindful of all governmental advisories and to please follow them. Council leadership is following the guidance of our local and state health departments.

Details of health department orders can be found on Marin County Health and Human Services website: <https://www.marinhhs.org/>. Details regarding reopening of businesses and activities in Marin County can be found at: <https://marinrecovers.com/>

**The following update covers current guidelines as it pertains to Scouting and the Marin Council in the areas of:**

- **In Person Scout Meetings and Activities**
- **Use of Camp Tamarancho & Camp Marin Sierra**
- **Upcoming Council Activities**
- **Council Office and Trading Post Operations**

**Every member, volunteer and family must evaluate their unique circumstances and make an informed decision before attending in-person activities. We hope this information will be helpful as you make that choice.**

### **Scouting Meetings and Activities:**

Thanks to the diligence of our community in adhering to recent guidelines, we are now able to return to in-person Scouting activities. The current guidelines are those that were in place from approximately August through early December of 2020.

#### What is currently allowed?

- Youth Programs such as Scouting are allowed to function as a stable, consistent group of 14 youth or less. This might be a den or a patrol structure; it is possible that an entire crew, troop, or pack might fall within the 14-youth limitation.
- Total cohort size is limited to 16 persons – up to 14 youth and two adults. Groups can consist of fewer youth with additional adults (example: 10 youth & 6 adults) but cannot exceed the total of 16 persons.
- In addition to Scouting activities, youth are entitled to participate in an additional Youth Program or other Childcare Programs.
- Those stable groups (den, patrol, etc.) are to be siloed and should not closely interact with other cohorts from their unit.

- It is permitted to reorganize the members in cohorts after a period of time; generally, groups should remain stable with no changes for two to three weeks.
- Adult Volunteers should work exclusively to the greatest extent possible with just a single cohort. For Scout Patrols that might equate to an Assistant Scoutmaster working only with one patrol from the troop and not meeting with any youth from any other patrols. For Dens, Den Leaders would work exclusively with their respective Dens.
- These guidelines allow Scout meetings and activities to resume on the den or patrol level. This would include meetings, hikes, service projects, etc. Pack and Troop meetings that would involve more than 14 youth or youth from different cohorts should continue to be conducted virtually or spread over greater distance with staggered timing.
- Overnight camping is allowed within these stable groups. The Marin Council is able to work with units to support cohort camping at Tamarancho including cohorts from the same unit in nearby campsites.
- Ideally all activities, meetings, and programs will be conducted outdoors. Indoor meetings are allowed, however strict guidelines related to hygiene and mitigation need to be followed.
- Facemasks, distancing, health screenings, and proper hygiene are to be adhered to for all participants and leaders.
- BSA Youth Protection policies must be followed.
- Participants in Scouting Activities must be in good health.
- Attendance rosters are to be kept for all activities for a period of thirty days to aid in contact tracing as a precaution.

#### What is still limited or not allowed at this time?

- Large group activities (those for more than 14 youth) are to be conducted virtually or split into smaller components that can be conducted over different times.
- Adult meetings such as committee meetings should still be conducted virtually.

#### **Marin Council Offices and Trading Post:**

- The Marin Council administrative office is currently closed to the public for drop-in service. Council support is available via phone, email, virtual meetings, or prescheduled appointments.
- During this time, we will be staggering staff working in the office vs. working remotely; if you need to contact a specific staff member it is suggested you schedule a phone appointment.
- The Trading Post is open for “inside retail sales” Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 3:30 PM. Prepaid orders may be picked up after hours curbside.
- Customers who would prefer curbside retail will be accommodated.
- It is recommended large orders be placed in advance by calling 415-454-1081 or emailing **both** [mvasser@boyscouts-marin.org](mailto:mvasser@boyscouts-marin.org) and [cmueller@boyscouts-marin.org](mailto:cmueller@boyscouts-marin.org).

#### **Use of Camp Tamarancho:**

- Camp Tamarancho campgrounds are still available for Marin Council Scouting families for household camping. This is an exclusive benefit for Marin Council families and will continue as we phase in smaller unit camping experiences. Youth cohorts have first priority for campsites.
- Camp Tamarancho is again available for unit camping following the Youth Program Guidelines detailed above and further detailed in other council publications.

- Camp Tamarancho is also available for limited day use for all Marin Scouting units following the Marin County Youth Program Guidelines.
- While our families and Scouts are able to enjoy Tamarancho for hiking and nature-based program, facilities such as shooting sports ranges and aquatics will not be available for use at this time.
- Camping is based on a stay of 3 days / 2 nights. Single night camping is permitted but fees will be based on a two-night rate.
- Reservations must be made in advance for camping as well as day use. Space is limited.
- Currently reservation are not allowed online.

**Use of Camp Marin Sierra:**

- Due to restrictions on indoor gatherings for large groups as well as the inherent risk of virus transmission of extending carpooling outside of household units, Camp Marin Sierra is currently not available for use. This situation will be reviewed by Council Risk Management Committee in early February of 2021.

**Future 2021 Council Activities:**

- We continue to monitor state and local health department guidelines related to upcoming activities however we project that the majority of council level events will be conducted virtually during the coming months.
- Your District Executive is the best source to advise your unit on the status of upcoming council events.

For more information:

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California Department of Public Health: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/>

Marin County Health and Human Services: <https://www.marinhhs.org/>