



# GREATER BURLINGTON YMCA CAMP ABNAKI

**April 17 COVID-19 Q & A**

## **Is camp running? Will it be a full summer? If partial, what will it look like?**

We are currently planning for a full summer. However, considering the fluid nature of the efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, we are not able to set our summer schedule with certainty now. We will take guidance from the CDC and state health officials as we plan for camp. At this point, if there is a partial summer, we plan on following our same schedule of 1 and 2-week sessions for overnight camp, and weekly sessions for day camp.

## **When will I know if my son's session is running?**

It is our plan to decide about the first session by June 1. For each of the following sessions, every effort will be made to decide 3 weeks prior to the session start date. Currently, we're planning for our current schedule of sessions, but are preparing for other options.

## **When is the final payment due? What are options for refunds, including the deposit? Is there a difference if I cancel or Abnaki/federal/state officials cancel camp?**

First and foremost, it is our goal to be as supportive as possible to our families. Therefore, we have modified our financial policies to provide more flexibility for payments, cancellations, and refunds.

- Final payments are now due just 2 weeks prior to every session.
- Should you decide to cancel a registration more than 2 weeks prior to camp, you can choose from the following options:
  - ♦ Your payments can be converted to a donation to camp. All tax-deductible donations help us remain sustainable and support campers attending camp.
  - ♦ You can transfer any payments to summer 2021. We will hold a space for you at camp and any money you did not use this summer can be applied to next summer's balance.
  - ♦ We will offer you a complete refund of your camp fees, including the deposit.
  - ♦ You can choose any combination of the above options.
- Should you decide to cancel a registration within 2 weeks of camp, our current policies on cancellations will apply. Refunds for registrations cancelled within 2 weeks of camp are done on a case-by-case basis and are at the discretion of the Camp Director.
- If it is a decision made by Camp or state/federal officials that causes the cancellation of a camp session, the same options outlined above will apply, including the option for a complete refund of all funds paid.

## **How will camp programs be adapted to meet capacity and sanitization requirements to combat the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses?**

Any changes to the camp program will be put in place for the well-being of campers and staff and to comply with any applicable mandates regarding social distancing. Camp will always use best practices for cleaning as dictated by health professionals. As always, personal hygiene, hand washing, and cleaning of camp common areas are a priority to prevent any communicable disease from spreading. We'll continue our thorough health screening upon check in and will utilize our health care professional on camp to support campers or staff in putting into practice preventative health habits.

## **Is your food service changing?**

We're taking this time to explore the safest way to provide food service for the summer. We're looking into the option of buffet style vs. family style. It's our goal to continue to provide a great-tasting, nutritious meal in the safest, most efficient way possible.

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### **How will you be monitoring camper health before arrival and during the stay?**

All campers will still be required to complete our two health forms prior to camp. These forms will be reviewed by our health care staff. If campers are showing signs and symptoms of COVID-19, these campers will be asked to stay home. If a camper is asked to stay home, we will offer the opportunity for a complete refund. We're currently updating our cleaning and health screening policies with advice from the CDC and state health department. Recommendations from health care professionals are changing on a regular basis. As we determine which sessions will run and in what capacity, we'll know better the new cleaning and monitoring procedures.

### **Are you restricting which states and countries campers and staff may come from?**

At this point, we are not limiting where campers are coming from. As summer approaches, we will follow all travel guidelines set by the CDC and state health officials. The diversity of campers and staff help make camp great. It is our hope that we will continue to see campers and staff from different states and countries.

### **If I choose to cancel, how do I go about doing that?**

Should you decide to cancel, please send Jon Kuypers, Camp Director, an e-mail at [jkuypers@gbymca.org](mailto:jkuypers@gbymca.org) with a written request to cancel.

### **Can I switch my registration to later in the summer? How do I do that?**

Yes, you can switch your session to any open session later in the summer. Please e-mail Associate Director Adam Van Vught at [avanvught@gbymca.org](mailto:avanvught@gbymca.org) with a request in writing to change sessions.

### **How can I help?**

Our number one concern is the safety and well-being of our campers and families. Parents can help by staying positive, following current social distancing policies, and supporting your children during this challenging time. Spread the news that now more than ever kids will need camp. The chance to get outside, away from screens, to socialize with friends, to feel a sense of normalcy is more important than ever. Encourage your friends to send their kids to camp, Abnaki or another camp, giving kids a chance to be at camp will go a long way to helping heal the wounds of our current state.

### **What steps can I take to help my son be safe and well at camp this summer?**

Please encourage your son to practice safe cleaning and hand washing practices. As with all communicable diseases, hand washing is the best way to avoid spreading.

### **Should I continue to fill out my camp forms if we don't know if camp will happen?**

Yes, please continue to fill out all the camp forms. Spending time thinking of camp will signal to your camper that we will move past these difficult times. We encourage you to make your doctor's appointments soon as schedules for doctors' visits will be more of a challenge this spring than in the past.

### **Do you have any information or resources about traveling to camp and general COVID-19 information for international campers/staff or others from around the U.S.?**

The CDC has great information for travelers during this pandemic. The following links should be useful for you and your family:

- Domestic Travel (within US): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html>
- International Travel to US: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/faqs.html>
- General Information for everyone: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>