

Troop 50 & Pack 50 COVID-19 Guidelines & Waiver

Troop and Pack 50 (the Units), chartered by Christ United Methodist Church are committed to following and implementing the most recent recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Ohio Department of Health, Alliance City Health Department and the BSA national organization to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The Units will also be following guidance provided by the Buckeye Council based in Canton, Ohio and Christ United Methodist Church of Alliance.

The following information is designed to inform you and to guide you in our plan and expectations in order to be able to hold meetings/events for our scout units. Please keep in mind that we find ourselves in an ever-evolving state of readiness to respond to the needs of our youth members and their families, our volunteer leaders, and our hosts.

Restricted Attendance Policy:

ANYONE WHO MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ATTEND IN PERSON ACTIVITIES:

1. Anyone with signs or symptoms of illness such as fever with cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, fatigue, changes in smell or taste, etc.
 - a. The units recommend that all youth and adults assess their individual health, including taking a temperature, prior to arriving for a scheduled activity. The units reserve the right to take temperature as we deem necessary. **PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND ANY IN-PERSON ACTIVITY WHILE EXHIBITING A FEVER.**
2. Anyone who has had contact with someone, within the past 14 days, with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 or is under investigation for COVID-19, or is ill with a respiratory illness.
3. Any person who meets the above criteria is not permitted to attend in-person activities until they no longer meet the above criteria (i.e., fever free for OVER 24 hours, 14 day time lapse has occurred, etc.)

The Units reserve the right to limit participation to any person that is believed to meet the above criteria. Leaders have been educated to be monitoring attendees for signs of illness and will be asking anyone with signs and symptoms of illness to return home.

How Parents/Guardians can help:

The units ask all parents/guardians to educate your Scouts on proper infection control which includes:

1. Proper hand washing technique:
 - a. Wet hands with running water
 - b. Lather with soap between finger, on backs of hands and under fingernails
 - c. Continue to scrub hands for at least 20 seconds
 - d. Rinse hands under clean running water
 - e. Dry hands using clean, dry towel or air dry
 - f. Discard paper waste into proper waste receptacle.
2. When to wash hands
 - a. Before and after attending any in-person Unit activities
 - b. Before and after eating food or drinking a beverage
 - c. After using the restroom
 - d. After blowing your nose, coughing, sneezing or touching your face
 - e. After touching garbage
3. Avoid close contact with others (outside of the immediate family unit)

- a. Remind your Scout to respect social distancing which includes remaining 6 feet away from others
4. Covering you cough/sneeze
 - a. Cough or sneeze directly into a tissue. If no tissue is available, cough or sneeze directly into the inside of elbow, making contact and not coughing/sneezing into the air
 - b. Properly discard tissue
5. Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth. (Face)
6. Limit touching frequently touched surfaces

How to conduct meetings/events:

Troops 50 B&G –

1. All meetings and events will be designed to adhere to safe practices and guidelines as prescribed by responsible agencies. If these expectations/guidelines cannot be met, meetings/events will either be canceled or altered to the best ability of those overseeing the meeting/event.
2. All meeting/event participation is voluntary. Recognizing that each scout, leader, family member, etc., has their own set of circumstances, all consideration will be given and every attempt will be made to make meetings/events accessible to everyone. Physical participation is not required to maintain membership or to continue advancement. Each scout is encouraged to find ways to stay active in the scouting program and the Units will provide alternatives – when possible – to in person meetings/events.
3. Units will meet in groups of ten persons or less, including a consideration for two trained/registered adult leaders. In order to accomplish this goal, we plan to hold separate patrol meetings in the following manner:
 - a. Option 1 - Outdoor or indoor meeting/event to be held as a troop, but with each individual patrol occupying a separate space. Examples would include:
 - i. use of a park or public space that has areas spread apart for activities or meetings
 - ii. holding meetings in the church building utilizing separate rooms or on separate floors, requiring cleaning of spaces between uses.
 - b. Option 2 - Outdoor or indoor meeting/event to be held as individual patrols – patrols could choose to meet at the same location at different, staggered times, allotting time for cleaning of spaces/materials between groups, if necessary, or could meet on separate days at the same locations. These determinations will be made by the PLC with approval of the Scoutmaster and Troop Committee.
4. All participants will maintain social distancing and wear face coverings. If there is a medical reason preventing anyone from wearing a face covering, please contact your Scoutmaster or Committee Chair to discuss alternatives.
5. No carpooling. Transportation of scouts to and from meetings/events is to be provided by each individual family. Family units with multiple participants are excluded from an individual restriction, but cannot transport scouts outside of their family to/from meetings/events.
6. Ensure proper cleaning of meeting spaces, including equipment and gear.
7. No sharing of food and no communal food preparation. Participants should bring their own food/meals to activities.
8. Ensure that youth and adult participants perform self-screening (at a minimum) before attending functions.
9. Maintain detailed attendance records for all participants in the event that contact tracing is required.
10. Take precautions for elderly Scouters and those most vulnerable. This could include having those persons not physically participate.

11. Until we are given permission by Buckeye Council to do so, there will be no overnight camping as units. There is provision for family camping, but this will be handled on a case by case scenario and all restrictions/guidelines must be followed.

Cub Scout Pack 50 –

1. Den meetings will consist of four or less scouts with one parent/guardian per scout in attendance (if they wish to attend). This will assure that no more than ten people will be in attendance at each den meeting, having accounted for two adult leaders. The number of members of the den in attendance could be adjusted when considering that many of our adult leaders are also parents of youth in the den, but at no time should the total number of participants exceed the number ten. We must also account for two deep leadership at all meetings/events.
2. As much as is practical, Den meetings will be held outdoors with social distancing guidelines being followed, most likely at a park or similar venue, with each person bringing camp chairs upon which to sit.
3. Masks will be required to be worn at all times during meetings/events. Hand sanitizer will be provided.
4. Self-check for symptoms will be required for all participants before the meetings. Anyone with symptoms or having been around anyone with symptoms will not be allowed to attend.
5. We will keep track of everyone that attends each meeting to allow tracking of possible exposure to keep families informed of exposure.
6. Any families that do not want to attend or are high risk will not have to attend. We want to assure families that we have their safety first and foremost in our thoughts.

Recognizing the potential for changes:

As the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to change, we ask that you – parents/guardians, leaders, scouts, organizational representatives – maintain a high level of responsiveness and awareness to the fluid nature of the restrictions and guidelines being implemented by local, state, and federal agencies as well as by our unit, district, council, and organizational leadership. As updates to these guidelines can be made or are required, we will endeavor to keep all interested parties informed in a timely manner and reflect those changes in our approach to safely providing the scouting program to our members and their families.

Always striving to live by the Scout Oath and Law, please apply their principles to your daily lives and remain steadfast in your resolve to keep everyone safe and healthy, while showing respect and empathy to others at all times. This has been and continues to be a difficult situation for all of us, but some have been effected more than others. If we, the volunteers of your scouting units, can do anything to assist you or your family or if you feel that you have suggestions or ideas about how we can be more successful, please be willing to share – ever mindful that many hands make light work.

Thank you for choosing to continue your involvement in the scouting program. We are all looking forward to the wonderful adventures to come!

Waiver of Liability:

Prior to participation in unit meetings/events/activities, a parent or guardian will be required to submit the following Liability Release Waiver to a unit leader. The waiver will be kept on file and will be held effective until further notice.

Liability Release Waiver

With full knowledge of the risks involved in participation, I hereby release, waive, discharge the organization and units – Scouts BSA Troop 2050B, 2050G, Pack 2050, Sandy Beaver District, Buckeye Council BSA, and Christ United Methodist Church, Alliance Ohio - its board, officers, independent contractors, affiliates, employees, representatives, successors, and volunteer leadership from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, actions, and causes of action whatsoever, directly or indirectly arising out of or related to any loss, damage, injury, or death, that may be sustained by me or my family members/charge related to COVID-19 while participating in any activity that may lead to unintentional exposure or harm due to COVID-19.

Furthermore, I agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the organization and units from and against any and all costs, expenses, damages, lawsuits, and/or liabilities or claims arising whether directly or indirectly from or related to any and all claims made by or against any of the released party due to injury, loss, or death from or related to COVID-19.

By signing below I acknowledge that I have read the foregoing Liability Release Waiver and understand its contents; that I am at least eighteen (18) years old and fully competent to give my consent; That I have been sufficiently informed of the risks involved and give my voluntary consent in signing it as my own free act and deed; that I give my voluntary consent in signing this Liability Release Waiver as my own free act and deed with full intention to be bound by the same, and free from any inducement or representation.

Name of Scout (printed)

Name of Parent or Guardian (printed)

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Named of Authorized Recipient (printed)

Authorized Recipient Signature

Date of Receipt