
From: Camp Shalom <info@campshalom.ca>
Sent: June 2, 2022 5:04 PM
To: Camp Shalom Families of 2022
Subject: COVID Protocols for Summer 2022



Dear Camp Shalom Families,

We are pleased to share with you our COVID protocols for Summer 2022. Please read this detailed e-mail as it contains a lot of important information.

Camp Shalom's goal is to keep campers and staff safe while facilitating a fun-filled and "normal" summer. Our camp policies for the upcoming summer are guided by the following principles:

- Community transmission of COVID-19 has declined significantly and case numbers are expected to continue to decrease as we approach the summer.
- Camp Shalom has a vaccine policy requiring all camp staff and campers to be vaccinated against COVID-19.
- The risk of severe illness from the Omicron variant in young, otherwise healthy people is extremely low, especially in a cohort that is fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- A large proportion of our staff and campers have recovered from a COVID-19 infection in the previous 4-6 months.
- Overnight camp is considered a congregate living setting and is guided by the applicable public health principles.

With these principles in mind, we have developed the following protocols: **Pre-**

camp Screening Measures:

10 days before arrival (June 23 or July 21 - depending on session start date):

- Any camper or staff who tests positive for COVID-19 within 10 days of arrival must inform the Camp Director and will only be permitted to arrive at camp after 10 days has passed (as per

current public health guidelines for congregate living settings). Should this apply to your camper, please contact the camp office for further instructions.

7 days before arrival (June 27 or July 25 - depending on session start date):

- All campers and staff are asked to **limit their contacts** in the week prior to camp and wear a well-fitting medical mask if they must be in any indoor setting with people outside of their household (i.e. school, extra curricular activities, work).
- All campers and staff are asked to **avoid indoor settings** where masking and/or distancing is not possible (ie indoor dining, indoor sports, etc).
- All campers and staff who have a **household member who tests positive for COVID-19** within this time period (through a rapid or PCR test) must inform the camp and will receive further guidance from the medical team.
- Any campers and staff are asked to self monitor for **viral symptoms** that include fever/chills, sore throat, nasal congestion, cough, difficulty breathing, headache, loss of appetite, body aches, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea or extreme fatigue, and must inform the camp office of these symptoms (**even if they have tested negative on a rapid antigen test**) to await further guidance from the camp leadership and/or medical team.
- Anyone **traveling outside of Ontario** within 7 days of the start of camp must disclose that information to the Camp Director and must follow all federal and provincial guidelines.

3 days before camp (July 1 or July 29 - depending on session start date):

- All staff and campers must do an **at-home Rapid Antigen test** and provide the results to camp via an online form (link will be sent in late-June).
- Participants who test positive are required to inform the camp of their positive test result. Further information on their timing and ability to come up to camp will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the Camp Director and/or medical staff.

Testing Procedure:

In keeping with the current Ontario Public Health recommendations, parents are asked to test their children with a Rapid Antigen test using **combined Oral and Nasal swabbing**. This can be done in one of two ways:

1. Twisting the swab on the inner part of each cheek for 5 seconds, followed by the mid or back part of the tongue for 5 seconds, followed by 5 turns in each nostril.
2. Swabbing the back of the throat for 5 seconds, followed by 5 turns in each nostril. This process may induce a gag reflex which is a normal (and expected) response.

A video illustrating proper swabbing process can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJhdIWWdXT4>

This adjusted swabbing process has been shown to significantly improve the accuracy of rapid antigen tests to detect an Omicron infection.

1 day before camp (July 3 or July 31 - depending on session start date):

- **Campers must be present at the baggage drop and undergo a pharmacy-administered Rapid Antigen Test on-site** (cost will be covered by Camp Shalom).
 - Participants who test positive are prohibited from going up to camp the following day and will only be permitted to arrive at camp after 10 days (as per current public health guidelines) and when cleared by camp medical staff.

Cohorts:

Cohorting will not be used at Camp Shalom this summer unless deemed necessary by the camp leadership team and/or medical committee.

Masking:

Masks will not be required with the exception of on the buses and in a situation where a camper or staff presents with viral symptoms at the Health Centre. Other exceptions may be added at the discretion of the camp leadership and medical team, and/or as per public health guidelines.

Visitors:

Visitors to camp (approved in advance by the Camp Director) will be permitted in a limited fashion and must abide by the following requirements:

- Undergo screening for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Present to the Health Centre for a Rapid Antigen Test upon arrival on camp grounds.
- Wear a mask if indoors and/or ensure distancing from others if indoors and unable to mask (i.e. eating, drinking).
- In-person Visitors Day (for Full Session campers) has been canceled for Summer 2022.

Transportation to/from Camp:

- All campers will travel to camp on coach buses (details to follow), with the exception of those who have viral symptoms or are completing a required isolation period.
- Campers must wear masks while on the bus (as per bus company policy).
- If you have indicated on your camper's transportation form that you will be dropping off or picking your children by car, this will be done "kiss and ride" style and parents must remain in the vehicle. Baggage will be removed from the car by our camp staff.

Isolation & Investigation Protocols

We will have the following separate medical facilities at Camp Shalom:

- Club Med (as we refer to our Health Centre) will address all non-COVID-19 / non-infectious matters including daily and as-needed medication distribution.
- The Health Centre will address all potentially infectious symptoms.
- In the event of isolation, separate isolation rooms will be made available in the Health Centre. Campers from the same cabin may be asked to share a room if they have similar symptoms and are deemed safe by the medical staff.

Medical Team:

The medical team will consist of (at least) one RN who will have the support of a practicing Physician on-site.

Protocols For Suspected Illness:

If a camper or staff exhibits symptoms which include 2 or more symptoms of fever, cough, sore throat, headache, nasal congestion or extreme fatigue, the following protocols will be followed:

- The person will wear a mask when presenting to the Health Centre.
- The person will be isolated in the designated space and assessed by a member of the medical team.
- The person will remain in isolation until deemed safe to return to their cabin group or other living setting by the medical team.
 - Isolation will be minimized when possible and safe to do so.
 - Medical staff will check on the camper regularly.
 - If any campers spend an overnight in the Health Centre, parents will be contacted.
- Rapid testing to be done as determined by our medical team in conjunction with public health guidelines.

- If the test returns **negative** and **symptoms are improving**, the person will be permitted to return to their group if/when deemed safe by the medical staff.
- If results are **positive**, parents will be contacted and the person will be sent home to complete their isolation period (10 days) at home.
 - If a child needs to go home, the cabin staff or Unit Head will pack the child's belongings up for said child.
 - All families need to ensure that they have a plan to pick up their child within 6 hours of being contacted by the camp medical staff, in the event that home isolation must occur. If the parent/guardian is unable to pick up their child, please ensure that the camp office has the contact information of another person who will be able to retrieve your child.
 - Campers who are **sent home** from camp due to COVID-19 will be **reimbursed** a portion of their camp fees in the amount of \$52.75/day missed.

Protocols To Control Potential Transmission:

- If a person in a cabin group is in isolation, their group will be asked to self-monitor for symptoms and present to the Health Centre as per the guidelines above.

Food Service Protocols

The following are our protocols for food service:

- Meals will be eaten primarily indoors.
- Tables will be cleaned & disinfected after each meal.
- All persons will disinfect their hands prior to eating. Counselors will be responsible for overseeing compliance with this.
- Kitchen staff will wear masks when serving food to campers and staff.
- We will emphasize that food and beverages should not be shared.
- Windows and doors will be left open in the dining hall to improve ventilation.

Staff Responsibilities

- Staff will be trained in best practices to follow to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
- Staff will be permitted to leave camp for days off.
- During off-site staff days off, staff will be required to wear a high-quality well fitting medical-grade mask when indoors.
- Staff will also be required to avoid crowds and large gatherings where social distancing is not possible, including the avoidance of indoor dining.
- Staff will be required to self monitor for symptoms and inform the Camp Director of any symptoms prior to their return to camp.

Cleaning Protocols

Regular cleaning and sanitization of all common areas is an essential part of our plan to protect the health and safety of our campers, counselors and staff from COVID-19.

- Our staff will be trained on routine cleaning and sanitizing procedures for high touch surfaces, as well as appropriate laundry and linen handling procedures.
- All common areas and surfaces will be cleaned regularly. Special attention will be paid to frequently touched areas such as doorknobs, water fountains, light switches, toilet/faucet handles and tabletops.

Our Camp Leadership and/or Medical staff reserve the right to change or adapt the above policies as deemed necessary, guided by public health guidelines.

We are looking forward to a safe, healthy and wonderful summer ahead!!

Warmest Regards,

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