

Dear Friends of Resica Falls,

We hope everyone is healthy and looking forward to another exciting summer camp experience at Resica Falls. As we experience this beautiful day across Eastern Pennsylvania today, we are reminded that summer is indeed on its way! As we continue to prepare for camp, we wanted to share an update so everyone is prepared with the latest information.

Although still more than two months away, the topic that we field the most questions about is the operation of summer camp and how we are handling the many facets and deadlines involved in a successful summer camp. **When answering this question, we find ourselves wanting to be both hopeful and realistic as we communicate the uncertainty around the situation.**

We know that our Scouts look forward to their summer adventures in the outdoors. We want to provide optimism for an exciting summer, while also being responsible and setting realistic expectations. As of today, April 6, 2020, we are planning for a normal summer operation! Here is how we continue to evaluate the situation to make the best decisions about our summer operations:

- 1. Safety is paramount** – We will not do anything to jeopardize the safety of our Scouts, families or the safety of our first responders and front-line medical personnel.
- 2. Sound Decision-making** - We have a great leadership core both in our council and the community in-general. Decisions are made with all stakeholders in-mind and using the latest information.
- 3. Delivering the Promise** - As of today, we are preparing and are hopeful that we will be able to safely operate our camps this summer. Prepare for an experience “Under the Big Top” and start planning your costumes and gateways! However, we recognize this could change based on information and directives from federal, state or local officials. If it does, we will communicate quickly and thoroughly. Should no further directives come over the course of the next two weeks, **you can expect our next formal update and communication on Monday, April 20, 2020.**

Even though we continue to prepare for camp, we realize that there is a chance that camp might not go on as planned. Even so, we are encouraging units and families to continue signing up and submitting payments. *As a reminder, final payments are due May 15th.*

Some of you might ask “*why should we continue to pay for camp*”. There are two important reasons to do so:

- 1. Planning** – Most importantly, we need this information for planning purposes such as budgeting, staffing, ordering (eventually), etc. This allows us to have an understanding for what to anticipate this summer.
- 2. Contingencies** – If we decided today to close camps and then learned that it is safe to operate camps this summer, it would be very difficult to do so at the last minute. Continuing to register and pay for camp lets us know that you are as excited as we are for a summer camp experience, even if that has to look different than normal.

With our units and families in mind, here are a few updates we wanted to share:

- **Campership Deadline** – Recognizing that families are under sudden financial hardship, we have extended the Campership Deadline from April 1 to April 15, 2020 for Cradle of Liberty Council families.
- **Refund Policy** – We have adopted a “full and hassle-free refund policy”. If camp should not be able to run as planned or if a unit or family decides to not participate by May 31st, all monies will be returned through the vehicle they came in (i.e. your unit, your family). Troops wishing to roll their unit deposit to 2021 can do so.
- **Medicals/Physicals** – We continue to monitor guidance from the National Council regarding the Annual Health and Medical Record and will take their direction if new standards are outlined due to the difficulty in scheduling an appointment for a physical. We are also working with our Health and Safety Committee to make physicals available to campers if needed.
- **Pre-Camp Leaders Meeting** – We will hold one virtual pre-camp leaders meeting this year on Monday, May 4th. Information regarding platform will be provided to leaders as the meeting approaches. The meeting will be recorded for future viewing if you aren’t able to attend.
- **Cleanliness & Safety** – We have always done our best to have a clean camp, and this year will be no different. In addition to our regular cleanings, we will have more hand washing stations throughout camp and encourage campers to wash their hands regularly. We are also looking at new best-practices to enhance our incoming medical re-checks to ensure all campers in camp are healthy upon arrival.

The Resica Falls Leadership Team is planning for and committed to providing exceptional experiences to our Scouts. If we are unable to provide those in the typical way this summer, we will quickly pivot and find new and innovative ways to offer the program.

Speaking of innovative efforts - if you and your Scouts have yet to take advantage of the virtual resources the Cradle of Liberty Council is currently offering, we encourage you to visit colbsa.org/homescouting for advancement, entertainment, and activities around the council. Follow [Resica Falls](#) and [Cradle of Liberty Council](#) on Facebook to receive the most recent communications on new programs as they are available.

We continue to pray for the health and safety of our Scouting families, as well as all those on the front-lines in harm’s way. We appreciate all that you have done and continue to do as a partner in delivering the promises of Scouting to your families. Continue to stay healthy, and we will continue to update you regularly as the situation progresses.

Yours in Scouting,

Chris, Steve, Bobby, Jerry, Andy, and Nick
2020 Resica Falls Leadership Team