High Adventure Base Update Regarding Summer of 2020

04-01-2020 – Update #2

As you are aware, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a significant health concern, one that the BSA takes very seriously. The Boy Scouts of America’s High Adventure Bases (The Summit Bechtel Reserve, Northern Tier, Philmont Scout Ranch and Sea Base) are committed to providing a safe and high-quality program for the tens of thousands of young people who are planning to attend this summer.

The Coronavirus situation continues to change frequently. These updates are intended to inform your Crew regarding its summer 2020 High Adventure program.

Future updates are scheduled for April 15th and April 30th. These will be posted on the website of each High Adventure Base (HAB).

Q: Are you planning to operate for the summer of 2020?
Yes, all the HAB’s are planning to operate in the summer of 2020.

Q: What happens if we can’t attend our scheduled adventure due to issues with the Coronavirus, such as schools running later in the summer or other factors?
We will reschedule you to a program later in 2020 or in 2021; we know that you and your Crew have planned for and are expecting an incredible High Adventure experience.

Q: What if I cannot get a new Part C, pre-placement exam because my healthcare provider is not taking well care exams now?
We are evaluating all options while being mindful of those who have valid exams as well as those new members and adults who may have never completed a Part C exam, state and local authority requirements, and the special review required by high adventure programs. In the interim, we recommend that council health supervisors, camp staff, and volunteers begin a conversation on local availability of well exams and alternatives that could be put in place.

Q. My Wilderness First Aid Course has been cancelled; can I still go on my trek?
Current WFA certification will continue to be required for all backcountry and remote adventures. As a reminder, a current CPR/AED certification is a pre-requisite for a WFA course. In addition, we are closely monitoring the status of instructor-led courses and working with our partners at the American Red Cross and Emergency Care and Safety Institute for acceptable alternatives in the event courses are not available in your community. We will post further information in the next update.

Note: Online only WFA courses do not meet the WFA requirement. As we review the issue, we suggest that you begin working with your council WFA trainers to develop a plan for classes during the month of May or early June.
Q: Where do I get updates regarding status of 2020?
Please refer to each HAB’s websites, listed below for updates on a bi-monthly basis
The Summit Bechtel Reserve
https://www.summitbsa.org/
Northern Tier
https://www.ntier.org/
Philmont Scout Ranch
https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/
Florida Sea Base
https://www.bsaseabase.org/

Q: What if our crew hasn’t been able to meet and we haven’t collected fees for the final payment?
The HAB’s understand this challenge. Payment schedules are under review.

Q: Will this impact summer staff?
If you have applied for, been hired for or are interested in summer staff please visit the appropriate HAB website on April 15th and 30th.