



Camp Parent Update, May 28 2020

Dear Camp Parent,

These past three months have been challenging for all of us. Our DSC team of four has been working towards two goals, and two goals only: providing safe sailing opportunities for members; and providing for a safe, enjoyable summer camp. As of yesterday, [day camps are allowed to operate](#). While we remain on technical standby under Baltimore City's "Stay at Home" order, we anticipate camp will start on time, beginning June 15.

We have already been successful in our gradual reopening of The DSC for members, with new infrastructure to enable frequent hand washing and the cleaning and disinfecting of our boats. Our two new staff persons, Graham Humphrey (Office and Administrative Manager) and Rena Kazmierski (Sailing Education Manager), have been AWESOME and are ready to provide our junior sailors with an excellent, safe, camp experience. I know how important summer camp is for our childrens' growth and development.

Further details will be forthcoming as we approach camp opening, but below is a sampling of our newly updated camp procedures and some aspects that remain pertinent to camp parents. We recognize parents have options for camp and we also recognize the safety and health of your children are of the utmost importance. It is important to us as well. Thank you for choosing The DSC for your sons and daughters.

Stuart T. Proctor
Executive Director
May 28, 2020

Camp Fees

- Through Friday, June 5, parents may sign their campers up without up-front payment. Simply register and proceed to the payment portal... then close the payment portal before paying.
 - We will begin contacting those who have not paid on Monday, June 8.
- Camp rates will remain at the \$350 rate through Sunday, June 14th. Multi-child discounts remain in effect for siblings.
- Camp rates will increase to the standard \$400 beginning Monday, June 15.
- We are not offering any additional financial incentives for parents, as our camp is already very competitively priced and our margins are very small.



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- If your family cannot afford camp due to financial hardships, scholarships are available on a limited basis. Please feel free to [download the scholarship form](#) and return it via email to info@downtownsailing.org or mail it in.
- Information about Refunds and Camp Closures is posted in the last section of this document.

“Pods” and “Teams”

- For 2020 Juniors Camp, youth will be placed into “pods” of 4 youth with 1 instructor.
 - The pods will function as a semi-autonomous unit for the week, maintaining the same group, including the instructor, for the full week.
 - Instructors and Youth will remain with their “pod” under all normal circumstances for the week.
 - Each pod will utilize the same boat for the week. Camp parents will be contacted to help us determine the best pod makeup for each week.
- Two “pods” will make up a “team” of up-to 8 youth and 2 instructors. Typically, the “teams” will consist of one male and one female instructor.
- Each “team” will function as an accountability partnership and utilize team resources. Team resources will not be shared with other teams.
- Each “team” will also sail in the general vicinity of each other, with the two “pods” operating at a distance that is within hail. VHF radio use and emergency mobile phone use continues to remain in practice, as well.
- “Teams” will not interact with other teams even during fun camp activities.

Pick-up and Drop-off

As of today, May 28th, the BMI pavilion is being used as a MedStart COVID-19 testing site for pre-surgery screenings. I want to assure all parents that DSC campers will not be using the Pavilion under *any* circumstances while the site is in place. The DSC recognizes that the BMI is using its facilities as a positive community resource. The DSC team is working with the BMI to procure pavilion space for all weeks of camp. An update on the status of the Pavilion and camp use will be forthcoming by Wednesday, June 3. We will quarantine the pavilion for 7 days after the closure; in the meantime, we are looking into alternative outdoor spaces to use during inclement weather for the first two weeks of camp.

More Information about Drop-off and Pick-up



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- Our Drop-off and Pick-up procedure will maximize physical distancing and limit communal surface contact.
- At Drop-off and Pick-up, parents dropping their kids off via car will be asked to remain in the car when possible.
 - The DSC recognizes that parent-child physical touch is an important part of healthy emotional health and wellbeing; however, The DSC also wants to reduce the potential for COVID-19 transmission between persons and close physical contact at camp is strongly discouraged.

Additional Safety and Prevention Measures

- Parents are strongly encouraged to educate their children on appropriate camp etiquette (forthcoming).
- Each camper needs to have completed a simple precamp health screening.
- Each camper and all staff will complete a daily temperature screening using a no-touch infrared thermometer, which will be logged by the staff.
- Each camper is required to wear a face covering *while on land*.
 - Staff will wear face coverings on land and on the water.
- Frequent hand washing will be instituted as part of the daily routine.
- If youth or staff travel by public transit, they will be required to change clothes before entering the camp premises.

Refunds and Camp Closures

We appreciate camp parents believing in us and keeping their early-bird camp reservations with us over these past five months. Because of your early and continued support, we are able to move forward with camp in 2020.

- Full camp refunds are available with two weeks or more of notice that you would like to cancel or move camp weeks. There is no fee for canceling at this time.
- A partial camp refund is available if a parent must cancel camp within two weeks, up to the Friday before the week of camp.
- Camp refunds are not necessarily available for cancellations occurring within two days of the camp start date.
- If camp closes due to illness, parents will be refunded for the percentage of camp missed *if parents so choose*.

We encourage parents to think critically about what at-home precautions to take to ensure the safest camp experience for all. Again, The DSC is thankful for your trust and support.