



Girl Scouts - Diamonds | News

Dear Summer 2020 Campers and Families:

The safety of our campers and staff is our highest priority, and we have been closely monitoring the effect that COVID-19 could have on our council-led resident, troop, family, and day camps. We remain keenly aware of the concerns related to health and safety and the potential risks associated with these gatherings. As we previously announced, all Girl Scout – Diamonds properties remain closed to the public at this time.

In this time of uncertainty and constantly changing timelines, we are placed in a most difficult position, but the highest regard for health and safety must prevail. Therefore, with heavy hearts we have decided to cancel all summer 2020 council-led resident camp sessions at both Camp Cahinnio and Camp NOARK. Please see the video message below from our camp director to campers, and share it with your girl if you feel it is appropriate.

Our chief concern centers around our ability to house campers in such close proximity while maintaining best practices as currently mandated by the CDC and the ADH. Currently, gatherings are limited to no more than 10 persons, and we have no assurance that this mandate will be lifted by camp season.

We must make decisions that not only keep our campers and staff safe, but also those that preserve our limited resources. In order to host a successful camp season, preparations must be made now, and with the current climate of uncertainty, we cannot expend resources in preparation while there is no assurance that current safety protocols will be lifted or modified to allow us to host residential camp. It is also not fair to ask our summer camp staff, who are

normally recruited at this time of year, to maintain their availability to work for us when we know there is a great possibility we will not be able to keep them employed.

Refunds

For those who are currently registered for a residential camp session at Camp Cahinnio or Camp NOARK, we will offer full refunds of fees paid. Please consider our heightened volume of refund activity, and exercise patience with our staff members as they work to provide this service to our parents.

Diamonds Dollars and Vouchers for Camp

We recognize that many girls have earned their way to camp this summer with Diamonds Dollars and through meeting box sales goals. We regret any inconvenience or hardship this presents to any girl or family. Therefore, for those who earned the camp voucher for fall product or cookies, our product program staff will reach out regarding alternative options. For those who planned to use their 2020 Diamonds Dollars for camp, we will honor them for the 2021 summer camp session. All Diamonds Dollars set to expire May 2020 have been extended to expire May 2021.

Alternative Camp Programming

We are currently working to provide alternative camp program outings to fulfill our promise to offer high-quality outdoor experiences to our girls and volunteers. We will share more about those outings as plans become finalized.

We regret this interruption to a core tradition of Girl Scouting and pledge to do all we can to ensure that our outdoor program offerings remain available to girls and their families. We trust that all those impacted by this news will receive it with the courage, confidence and character that only a Girl Scout possesses. Thank you for bearing with us during this unique time in Girl Scouting.

Yours in Girl Scouting, Dawn Prasifka President and CEO

Betony "Freedom" Maringer Camp Director, Camp Cahinnio and Camp NOARK

Questions? Please review our <u>Frequently Asked Questions</u> document for additional details. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact us at <u>info@girlscoutsdiamonds</u> or 800-632-6894.

A VIDEO MESSAGE TO CAMPERS FROM "FREEDOM"











Have a question? Don't be shy! **Contact us for more information.**