

Responsible Together: Backcountry Babes In COVID 19 – Our Disclosure and Participant & Parent Commitment

In choosing to attend, or send your minor child (those under 18 yrs. of age; hereafter sometimes “minor” or “child”) to a Backcountry Babes program, **participant and parent or legal guardian** (hereafter collectively “parent”) **of a minor participant** (participant and parent of a minor hereafter sometimes “you” “your” or “I”) **must acknowledge and agree to do so under the following conditions:**

Because of the unforeseen and unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 Pandemic, resulting medical, legal and economic conditions and associated federal, state and county restrictions, Backcountry Babes (hereafter “BB”) was forced to create new and altered programming and alter its registration, risk management and emergency response policies.

Before attending yourself, or, sending your child to a Backcountry Babes program during the COVID-19 Pandemic, we want participant and parent to clearly understand the changes in our policies and programming, and importantly, participant’s/parent’s responsibilities.

BB Program Reality

1. BB cannot guarantee safety or a COVID-19 free environment. The risk of a participant (or anyone else) contracting COVID-19 or any other communicable or contagious disease is an inherent risk of the BB program environment. Our effort is to manage the risks associated with BB programs, including the risks of COVID-19, and the participant (and parent of a minor) are critical partners in this effort. Ultimately, we cannot promise or guarantee that the virus that causes COVID-19 or any other pathogen will not enter BB programs. By the very nature of the personal interaction that takes place in the BB program environment, there is always a risk of participant (or others) becoming ill with this or any other disease. We want you to be fully aware of this and related risks in making the decision to attend (or allow your child to attend) BB program/s. Participant (and parent) must be willing to accept and assume these and other risks as outlined in the Backcountry Babes: Acknowledgment and Assumption of Risks & Release and Indemnity Agreement.

2. In light of the uncertain nature of COVID-19, the start date and continuation of BB programs are subject to abrupt change at any time (e.g. cancellation, altered conditions of participation, participant separation for sickness or otherwise, or program termination). This is always a possibility, but this reality is specific to the unique nature of COVID-19.

Programming Changes

Our programs will be different than in past years! We are limited in the locations where we can conduct programs. Importantly, COVID-19 related challenges prevent us from crafting program itineraries and activities as we have done in the past – which limits the types of programs we can offer. We will operate in smaller groups, and with more distance between participants and, likely, with fewer activities. *

Risk Management Protocols and Policies - Changes & Consent

Our risk management and emergency response protocols include heightened policies in various facets of our programs. Some of these policies we will plan and prepare for. In other cases, we will remain vigilant about the information we receive and may amend our protocols and policies, as appropriate, or as required by authorities. We believe in our ability to operate BB programs in a manner that aligns with relevant US (federal, state or county) or international guidelines, CDC recommendations and our own policies, as we engage in our endeavor to identify and manage COVID-19, and hopefully prevent its presence in our BB programs environment.

1. You agree to abide by (and, parent, to reinforce with your minor) all BB rules and policies, including those developed in response to COVID-19.

2. **Consent:** You, for yourself if you are an adult participant, or, parent, for your minor participant, consent to all BB screening, monitoring/testing and contact tracing procedures, including those requested or required before, during and after your BB program, either by BB or by its suppliers, vendors, or other businesses participant comes in contact with during the program.

3. Higher Risk participants: If participant presents as higher risk for complications related to COVID-19, you should consult your/your child's medical provider to assess the participant's risk and determine whether BB programs are appropriate.

4. Examples of changes to our policies:

- **Pre-Program Information:** As always, we will communicate pre-program information to allow you to prepare. Please read this information carefully, for any advance direction on COVID related or other preparation.
- **Screening and monitoring:** Upon arrival, participants will have a temperature check and will be asked a series of questions, including whether or not they have experienced any COVID related symptoms, or been in contact with someone with COVID-19, and to confirm they have followed BB requests for pre-trip health precautions, before the program. BB reserves the right to refuse participation by any participant, based upon this screening, or any sign of COVID symptoms or any other illness or medical condition upon arrival or during the program.
- **Sanitization/Hygiene:** Participants must wash hands and practice excellent hygiene during the program.
- **Monitoring:** Depending upon the length of the program, BB will be checking in with participants, from time to time, during the program. If COVID-19 is suspected, the participant will be isolated, and asked to leave the program, with appropriate travel arrangements for departure.
- **Masks and Social Distancing:** Participants will abide by appropriate social distancing, wearing of masks and other precautions during the program. Among other things, participants are responsible for bringing their own masks hand sanitizer and sunscreen to the program (see your full pre-program packing list).
- **BB Suppliers and Vendors:** BB suppliers and vendors (including restaurants, hotels, activity providers and air, ground or other transport operators) will have their own policies and protocols, that may differ based upon program location or for other reasons. You must honor and commit to follow these policies during the program.

Participant and Parent – COVID Commitment

As identified in the examples above, our programming has changed to address COVID-19 challenges, but we are determined to provide a fulfilling experience for participants, with your cooperation. Before and after participants arrive on a BB program, we will orient them around COVID-19 precautions and policies, so participants are clear on their role in the risk management equation regarding COVID-19 and other aspects of BB programs, and reinforce the COVID Commitment.

Key to our success will be our partnership with our participants (and parents of minors). You must understand that the risks of COVID-19 transmission to anyone, including you/your child, can occur both in the BB program community and in the participant's home community as participant moves into, and then out of BB programs – with participant's (and parent's) actions potentially impacting BOTH communities. As a result, participant and parent share in the responsibility for their own and others' well-being – including those in the BB program community and your home community. In that regard, we ask that participant (and parent) **make the COVID Commitment** to commit to and honor the COVID-19 precautions not only when participant is on a BB program, but, appropriately, before participant arrives and after participant departs. Participant and parent are then partnering as active risk managers in an effort to assist both communities!

We will work to maintain open lines of communication with you, and will be updating you on BB COVID program policies before your arrival, and upon arrival. Please contact us if you have questions.

Participant and parent of a minor participant: I acknowledge and agree to the above (and parent of a minor agrees to discuss this information, appropriately, with their child).

				Participant
_____ Signature	_____ Date	_____ Print name here	_____ Participant birthdate	
_____ Parent or Guardian Signature (required if participant is a minor)				
	_____ Date	_____ Print name here		

