



## SMC's 2022 COVID-19 protocol

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### **Dear Guests, Guides, Students and Supporters:**

As professional mountain guides, climbing instructors and hiking guides, we continually address everyday risks present in backcountry environments. And so have we addressed Covid-19 risks. It is unrealistic to expect we remove 100% of risk. However, with your cooperation, we are able to dramatically reduce risk and possible transmission of Covid-19.

### **How does 2022 guiding look like at Sierra Mountain Center?**

SMC continues to operate according to County, State, Federal guidelines and advice from our medical advisor. Our goal is to be diligent about communicating conditions in Mono and Inyo counties which affect your trip. Keep in mind there may be changes to packing lists and guidelines not reflected on our website.

### **Operational Changes:**

- Physical distancing from strangers when possible
- Use of masks when distancing is not possible or requested, such as in shuttles
- No shared tents, unless household members or similar
- Frequent hand sanitization and hand washing stations in camp.
- Revised waivers including Covid-19 language

### **What we ask of you as guests on SMC trips:**

- Please do not arrive to a trip if you are sick with COVID-like symptoms
- If you arrive with symptoms that may indicate COVID-19, guides will not proceed with the trip.
- Full commitment to hygiene, distancing and mask usage while on your trip. Failure to comply when asked, or actions which could jeopardize the health of other participants or guides may result in early termination of the trip.
- As always, we strongly suggest "cancel for any reason" trip insurance that will cover you in the event of your having to cancel due to illness. Covid is not a reason for cancellation or refund.

As we always say when confronted by bad weather or poor conditions, "The mountains will always be there; we have to make sure that we are".

Thank you for your continued support and patronage. From the guides and the office staff, we look forward to getting out into the mountains with you.