



Broadway Family Karate

Personal Development Through the Martial Arts

Issued July 3, 2021

Covid-19 Safety Advisory **For Students & Family Members**

Conducting On-Site, In-Person Lessons **Under Centers for Disease Control Operating** **Guidelines**

We've had some questions about the current Covid-19 safety guidelines in effect. This advisory covers the situation as it exists at present.

As directed by Governor Lee under Executive Order 81, the State of Tennessee is currently at a Level 3 State of Emergency continuing through July 30, 2021. This is one level down from "Major Disaster" (Level 4), and two levels above "Normal Operations" (Level 1). As part of this, both our State and our County authorities have directed us to use the safety guidelines published by the Centers for Disease Control for conducting lessons at our school.

Children ages 12 and older are now eligible for vaccination. Clinical trials on vaccine safety and effectiveness are ongoing for children under this age, with results expected sometime later this year. The research teams involved are reported to be cautiously optimistic about their progress. However, there is no definite information available at present on when these trials will conclude, nor as to if or when vaccination for children under 12 will begin.

In accordance with the current CDC safety guidelines, we're conducting on-site, in-person lessons as follows:

- 1) *Checking temperatures.* Before allowing anyone to join a lesson we'll be checking temperatures using a non-contact thermometer. We'll be screening family members as well as students. Especially with the warm summer weather, we'll check your temperature again after a few minutes indoors if you seem unusually warm. The cut-off temperature is 100.4°.
- 2) *Screening questions.* We will suspend asking the screening questions for the present. The CDC guidelines no longer lay stress on doing this as a protective measure. I have also consulted with several trusted colleagues who are also working indoors with children 12 & younger, who have also suspended screening questions. They agree that the current decline in Covid-19 infection rates in Knox County makes the screening questions unnecessary at present.
- 3) *Students, family members and instructors will wear masks or other appropriate face coverings.* Students and family members under age 12 are not yet eligible for vaccination. The CDC safety guidelines are most specific on the need to continue masking indoors for these students. These guidelines also stress masking for adults who are in the school with these groups, even if you have been vaccinated. This applies to our Karate Tigers (ages 4 & 5), Juniors (ages 6-8), and Pre-Teen (ages 9-12) lessons.
- 4) *Teen & Adult (ages 13 & older) lessons.* We will continue masking in both Fundamentals and Honors lessons until students & family members participating in these report that they are fully vaccinated. Once this has happened, we will be able to conduct these lessons without masks.
- 5) *"No Contact".* In line with personal distancing requirements, students will not be holding targets, shields or other training tools for each other. Our students will need an adult member of their immediate family to attend lessons with them as their training partner, so that we are limiting contact

appropriately. The adult training partner will be holding training tools and providing other simple assistance with the guidance of the lead instructor.

6) *We'll continue to limit sharing training equipment, such as targets and shields.* Students should bring their own individual, dedicated equipment to lessons with them, and take this home again afterwards. Having this available will also allow you to practice your karate skills together at home. We'll use the following training tools:

- *Karate Tigers & Fundamentals Students:* please bring a Blocker ("Caveman Club") to your lessons. The supply of these continues to be limited. Please let us know as soon as possible if you need us to order one for you.
- *Honors & Black Belts Students:* please bring your Arm Shield and your Padded Long Sword to your lessons. For your "B" lessons on Wednesdays and Thursdays, please bring your Bo (long staff) as well.

7) *We will maintain appropriate physical distancing.* We have appropriately distanced training spaces marked out on the floor for our students, and we have dispersed seating available for family members. We also have seating available outdoors in the courtyard.

A couple of other general points that several members of our school community have asked about:

- *Video Tutorials:* We will continue to make online video tutorials available on your karate skills to help you practice at home. These reference videos will take you through all your skills for your 1st & 2nd Achievement Stripes. These are also the skills you will need to know and demonstrate for your Promotion Exam.
- *Student Quarantine or Isolation:* In the event that you're temporarily unable to attend lessons because you're either in quarantine or isolation, you can continue your lessons

through distance learning. Please contact the senior instructor, Mr. Booker, to make the necessary arrangements. We'll use the online video tutorials to help structure your distance learning. You can submit your work from home by video for class credit. We will also have special "Catch-Up" weeks scheduled at regular intervals during this Term to help you get back up to speed with your lessons if you have had to be home. *Quarantine* is used for someone who may have been exposed to COVID-19, as a precaution until their test results are known. *Isolation* is used for someone who has tested positive for infection with the virus. Should you need to stay home in either situation, we'll get you the instructional support you need.

Finally, we will continue to watch for changes and updates to the current CDC guidelines. We'll also carefully monitor the State of Tennessee, Knox County, and the City of Knoxville governments as they announce policies and procedures for the new school year beginning in August.