



The Safety Chain

June 2020

Kentucky Wing CAP
Lt Col Keith W. Noe, CAP

Commanders and Safety Officers, please share this with all of your members.

Kentucky's "Healthy at Home" began on March 26, 2020 requesting all Kentuckians to remain at home to stay healthy. By the time this issue of The Safety Chain is distributed Kentuckians have been living under this request for more than two months. Many are looking forward to getting outside more, looking to dining out, seeing a movie, getting back to Civil Air Patrol unit meetings. I know I am. As a member of the team working to make this happen for Kentucky wing members, a reopening plan has to be developed and approved by National Headquarters. We are working on that at this very moment. But, this is not just a team of a few individuals on wing staff. All 800+ members in the Kentucky wing are active participants in this endeavor.

We want all members and participants to consider C.A.P. values and safety practices when planning or attending C.A.P. activities. Our Core Values are Integrity, Respect, Service and Volunteerism. In short, integrity can be summed up as doing the *right thing* when no one is looking. The Kentucky wing will be publishing guidelines to help you make the right decisions. Respect comes in when those decisions are implemented by each and every member.

To do this C.A.P. membership needs to be informed so that your unit commander, safety officer and you can make the best decisions when it comes to attending C.A.P. functions. Sometimes the decision to delay an activity beyond guidelines from the state or higher authorities may be necessary. There are many additional factors that we must take into account. To help guide everyone in this process the Remobilization Committee is here to assist your unit.

No two states have the same criteria when it comes to reopening. For example, Kentucky may only allow for 10 people to group while Indiana may allow 100. We simply cannot use what another state or wing is doing as our guidelines. Each state and wing is unique.

In summary:

1. Available guidelines are the minimum. We each need to be following current state and national guidance. This varies from state to state, but we should have a common guiding principle of making our own risk assessment and mitigation strategies that may be more cautious than state or national guidelines.

2. Higher risk activities are those that place larger numbers of people in closer proximity. One risk mitigation strategy is to limit the numbers of people in close proximity.
 - a) Increase the distance between individuals
 - b) Postpone gatherings if they are high risk
 - c) Conduct gatherings via teleconferencing
 - d) As activities resume, consider not just numbers of people in each gathering, but all of the other risks and risk mitigation as a whole in ORM fashion.

3. Transmission is person to person, and on surfaces. Use barriers to transmission.
 - a) Masks at all times in gatherings
 - b) Use gloves when possible
 - c) Wipe down and disinfect surfaces or objects

4. Higher risk individuals are those over 65, but also those 65 and under with certain medical problems.
 - a) Ensure higher risk individuals know who they are
 - b) Some activities require senior members who are high risk. Such activities may need to be cancelled or postponed.
 - c) Higher risk individuals may still consider participating in lower risk activities, e.g. only two members (Form 5, ELT mission, etc), but may want to refrain from the initial "re-opening" of larger gatherings.

5. Stay home if sick.
 - a) Use a symptom checklist to check that you are well. Subtle symptoms may indicate an infection.
 - b) Please consider informing C.A.P. leadership (Wing Medical Officer) if you have symptoms, or if you are confirmed to be sick. This is confidential, but will allow us to alert membership and public health services about any need to increase our efforts to reduce risk in certain areas.
 - c) This is not specific personal medical advice. As always, if you feel you may be sick, please do also consult with your own doctor.

Should you need assistance I can be reached by telephone at 812.207-5350 and through eMail at knoe@kywg.cap.gov

Semper Vigilans

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