

Dear B'nai Mitzvah Families,

Sharing honors with those who are close to you is a very special part of becoming B'nai Mitzvah. These are our current guidelines as to how these honors may take place. Our Medical Task Force continues to monitor the situation and may make changes as the situation progresses.

### **Masking**

The Bar/Bat Mitzvah is the only person who may unmask, while leading prayers, reading Torah, or delivering a D'var Torah. Please make sure all honorees know to keep themselves masked while they participate (and while in Adas).

### **Bima**

Members of the B'nai Mitzvah household, including the B'nai Mitzvah child, may be on the bima at the same time. A household is defined as those living in the same home for the 14 days prior.

### **Aliyot**

Because only one household may be on the bima at a time, family members with aliyot may or may not be able to come onto the bima.

- If an aliyah occurs when a member of your household is reading Torah, family members may recite the blessings from their seats or another camera/mic station if available.
- If an aliyah occurs when Torah is being read from the balcony station, another household may come to the bima at that time.
- Aliyot may occur via Zoom.

### **Torah Reading**

You may ask members of different households to read Torah. When that happens, your household will have to exit the bima. Torah reading must take place from an actual Torah scroll.

### **Hagbah/Gelilah - Lifting & Dressing the Torah**

The smoothest process is for B'nai Mitzvah parents to do this themselves.

If you wish to assign this honor to another household, you may. Your family will have to exit the bima. The Hagbah and Gelila honorees must be from the same household. Please only assign to those who feel at ease lifting and dressing the Torah, as no one is nearby to physically help.

### **Prayer for Country/Prayer for Israel**

These are excellent honors to assign via Zoom.

If assigned to someone in the room, they will be assigned a camera/mic station if available. If not available, they will rise and recite from their seats to lead for the room as a clergy joins them in a mic to lead for zoom.

## **Opening Ark & Carrying Torah**

Your household will take these honors. They may not be assigned out.

## **Submitting Honors via Mitzvah Tools**

Honors will be submitted virtually through Mitzvah Tools (this is the program your child uses for tutoring lessons). Below are instructions on how to complete this process -

- Login to your Mitzvah Tools parent account (as a reminder, your Mitzvah Tools login is your name in the format First Name-Last Name).
- When you login to Mitzvah Tools, scroll through the profile page and you will see an honors section located towards the bottom of the page that you will want to click on.
- When you get to the honors page, you will see a list of honors you may assign. Fill in the name of the individual you are assigning for each honor as well as Hebrew names for those having Aliyot.
- Please utilize the notes section included on the honors page to let us know if the honoree will be in person in the Smith Sanctuary, or will be attending over Zoom.
- Please provide an email address for anyone coming in over zoom. Zoom honorees will be sent step by step instructions about their honor over Zoom the week of the bar/bat mitzvah.
- Honors are due back as soon as possible. If you have questions or need any assistance with submitting honors through Mitzvah Tools, please contact Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith at [Hazzan.goldsmith@adasisrael.org](mailto:Hazzan.goldsmith@adasisrael.org).

For TEM services, you will submit honors directly to the TEM coordinators.

We recommend that any printed programs wait until after that rehearsal takes place, as details and placements are likely to be worked out at that time.

We can't wait to celebrate with you!

Warmly,

Team Adas