



December 14, 2020

COVID Safety Protocols

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As always, our shuls and communities should follow, at a minimum, the guidelines provided by local and national authorities, including the CDC and local health departments. By-and-large, our shul has been a model of compliance with public health recommendations during this crisis. This is profoundly inspiring and represents a true kiddush Hashem and affirmation of our choosing life. By working together and adhering to the following guidelines, we hope to ensure that our shul remains safe.

1. Health: No one with a fever or symptoms of COVID-19 may attend any event at CBY. COVID-19 symptoms are:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- New headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

2. Masking: Masking is required at all indoor and outdoor minyanim. Masks should cover both nose and mouth. There are no exceptions.

3. Seating Plans: In addition to masking, we continue to urge social distancing, leaving six feet between seats occupied by non-family members. There are blue stickers in the New Main sanctuary which indicate where people should sit to ensure a safe environment. In other locations throughout the shul and outside chairs are spaced appropriately; please do not move or add seats in these locations. In the tents we have put out chairs in groups of two to allow one chair for sitting and one for tallis/tefillin/chumash etc.

4. Adding Minyanim: Our shul administration, Rabbis and gabbaim are doing our best to provide additional minyanim based on the increased need as the weather necessitate. Each minyan should have a captain who will determine if there is a need to add a simultaneous minyan elsewhere to avoid crowding.

5. Ventilation & Duration: Efforts, including consultation with HVAC experts, have been made to ensure proper ventilation of the space. Masking, distancing, and ventilation reduce risk but do not eliminate it. Every individual who chooses to daven inside must be aware of this risk and signs are posted to this effect. We do suggest N95 masks for those individuals at increased risk as they are proven to be safer in most studies.

6. Avoiding Crowding: While in shul, as well as while entering and exiting, congregants should maintain social distance.

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7. Quarantine guidelines: Anyone who had significant exposure (within 6 feet of a positive COVID individual for cumulative 15 minutes or more) will be required to quarantine and will be restricted from shul for 14 days from the time of last contact. In special circumstances we will allow returning after 10 days with a negative COVID test. For any questions or to discuss an individual case please contact Elysia Stein at

office@bnaiyeshurun.org.

Additionally, we remind all that anyone who has a pending COVID test (unless it was done for screening purposes) or anyone with a symptomatic household member pending COVID test, should not attend shul until receiving a negative diagnosis.

8. Travel: Any individual returning from travel from a state defined as "impacted states" by the State of NJ (access up to date list [HERE](#)) may not attend any minyanim or events (whether indoors or outdoors) at Bnai Yeshurun for 2 weeks upon return.

Additionally, any individual returning from international travel from a country listed as Level 2 (moderate) or Level 3 (high) risk, as defined by the CDC Travel Recommendation list (accessible [HERE](#)), may not attend any minyanim or events (whether indoors or outdoors) at Bnai Yeshurun for 2 weeks upon return. As of the writing of this email Israel is defined as Level 3 on the CDC listing. Please note that these lists may change daily and therefore must be checked upon return from travel for confirmation.

9. COVID at CBY: In the event that a member or non-member tests positive, we will send out a communication to the entire shul with that information. We will not identify the member or non-member by name but will attempt to report where (at which minyan) and when that person davened at CBY. Each individual in that minyan should then reach out to their doctor to discuss their individual need for quarantine. We request that any person who davens at a CBY minyan (either indoor or outdoor) communicate with the office (office@bnaiyeshurun.org or 201-836-8916 ext.5) in a timely manner in the event that they test positive for COVID.

We are trusting our members and other attendees to follow this practice. If you have any concerns related to a violation of this policy, please speak with the Gabbai of that minyan or please inform the shul office.

Sincerely,

Ari Zahtz, Rabbi

Dr. Steven Becker, President and Co-Chair CBY Medical Committee

Dr. Doron Katz, Vice President and Co-Chair CBY Medical Committee

Chaim Kiss, Gabbai Rishon