



May I have your attention please?

As the summer winds down and we start looking ahead to 2020 and beyond, we have been hearing from many of you about the 2020 Lair Calendar. It is very clear that families are concerned that they will not be able to attend during 9th and 10th Weeks of our “traditional” Lair calendar.

For over 30 years, we have been setting our schedule based on Labor Day. This was the practice because years ago, schools typically started on the Tuesday after Labor Day. We set our 12th Week to end on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. Consequently, we worked backward from there to set our calendar.

However, most schools now start during the second or third week of August. As such, we no longer offer 11th or 12th Weeks, and we are down to two camps during 10th Week. In 2020, Labor Day falls on September 7, which would result in our traditional calendar starting 5 days later than it did in 2019. Yet many schools in the Bay Area and Southern California now start school before August 24, which would be the Monday after 10th Week next year if we stay with this traditional calendar. The adjustment of school starting dates has made it clear that we need to change how we make our calendar.

Therefore, in 2020, we will be starting 2nd Week, our first full week of campers, on June 13 (just two days earlier than in 2019, and still after most schools let out for summer). This will allow 10th Week to begin on August 8 and conclude our week-long family camp sessions on Saturday, August 15.

Moving forward, we will publish a two-year calendar so you will always know when your week will fall for the next two years. For 2021, 2nd Week will start on June 12, and 10th Week will begin on August 7.

We don't take lightly that this is a huge change in our tradition of 4th Week, which has always included the 4th of July. But our new reality means that some things will inevitably change. Please know that we have discussed this at length and will make it a priority to work with anyone who wishes to move weeks.

We are also very aware that this will directly impact 5th Week. In 2020, 5th Week's arrival day falls on Saturday, July 4. In 2021, 5th Week's arrival day falls on Saturday, July 3. Again, we will make it a priority to work with anyone who wishes to move weeks based on these changes.

Thank you for joining us in 2019. We hope you and your family will continue to return to Pinecrest each summer. We believe this schedule change will allow more families to come up and enjoy the Lair for years to come.

Michael Yaley
General Manager, Pinecrest Operations
Lair of the Golden Bear