

Inland Empire Gymnastics Academy

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Hello IEGA Families -

As the world begins to open up again, and some families are beginning to take mini-vacations or family get-aways in anticipation of school resuming in just a few weeks, I think it is important to address the issue of "return to class/camp" after traveling, whether it's in California, out of state, or perhaps even out of the country.

Please understand that I fully understand the need "get away" or go on vacation. But I also understand the inherent risks that are present when we do, and therefore the potential risk of bringing back COVID-19 into IEGA when your student returns. What I've told the IEGA staff is that while I can't keep them from being "out in the world", it is critical that they remember that not only is their health at risk when they don't practice stringent health and safety procedures, but also that of their students, their student's families, their colleagues and their colleagues families. And in the same vein, the livelihood of IEGA.

As a children's activity center, where, at times, our students are NOT wearing masks while they are here, I must trust that you, our customers, and my staff, are faithfully taking the necessary safety precautions; wearing masks, social distancing, doing frequent hand washing, and not purposefully putting themselves in places where the risks are high. Therefore, if you are traveling, or vacationing, whether it's in California, out of state or out of the country, I would ask you to ask yourselves the following questions to determine whether it is appropriate for your student to return to classes/camps immediately after you return:

1. Did you drive or fly on your vacation? If you flew, did you wear a mask the entire time and wash hands frequently in the airport and while on the plane? If you drove, however often did you stop and stay in hotels? At stops, were you in crowds of people, or did you practice social distancing and wear your masks?
2. Where did you go, and what are the health protocols of the state/country you visited? Did you practice their guidelines or did you continue to practice the more stringent California protocols and those adhered to at IEGA?
3. Who did you vacation with? If you vacationed with others, do you feel confident that you know they are practicing strict health and safety protocols as well and that their circle of contacts has not included anyone with COVID-19?
4. Did you all wear masks at all times in group settings, particularly when you were with others who you did NOT know their circle of contacts?
5. When you were out in public settings, regardless of how you got there, did you practice social distancing and wear masks when necessary because of crowds?

If you feel like you abided by these types of practices while you were on vacation, then I would say bring your student back upon return. However, if you didn't practice these types of protocols because you were in a state or country with looser protocols or guidelines, or you just chose not to, then perhaps it's best to wait a week or two and be sure that everyone in your home remains healthy. **14 days of self-quarantine and self-monitoring is what is recommended by the CDC, particularly if you are traveling out of the country, whether it's by plane across the world or just south of us to Mexico.**

And please remember, if you do travel out of the country, we need you to report that to our staff at the Wellness Tent. We are responsible for making the best decisions for all our students and staff and can only do that when we have honest answers from our customers. When we know that you have travel and where you have gone, we are then able to determine the best course of action; which might be as simple as having your child wear his or her mask during class/camp at all times, or, depending on the circumstances and location of your travel, having your student stay home for two weeks to ensure that we aren't inadvertently, or unknowingly, spreading COVID-19 here at IEGA. Please be assured that make-ups will be provided if you need to self-quarantine.

We want to keep teaching your children and we want to remain open, but we can only do so if we can keep COVID-19 out of our facilities. Thank you for helping us to do this.

Gymnastically Yours,

Katie Willis

Katie Willis, Owner
Inland Empire Gymnastics Academy