

## PolyParadise & Covid-19 & HOLY SHIAT Monkey Pox...

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Posted August 14, 2022....

I have been procrastinating writing this post and have been struggling between what are suggested behavior standards what are mandates to behavior. In some form or another we all have been affected and have dealt with the ever-changing nature of the Covid pandemic over the past 936 Days or 2 years, 6 months, 27 days. This Black-Swan event has shown us all that even though we may be separated by large bodies of water and or miles between friends and acquaintances we all live in the same planetary apartment building.

The pandemic has brought us together as well as separated us into differing mindsets about what is real – what is fake news – vaccine / boosters / politics and everything in between.

As a camp leader I had hoped that BMORG would have had a requirement be it Vax confirmation or Negative Test or something to funnel BRC revelers into so that as said camp leader I did not need to be the gatekeeper / enforcer. Managing this type of funnel @ a sports stadium in-town near logistics and resources is very different then conducting a 60,000-person event in the Black Rock Desert one of the remotest locations in North America.

We are a GLOBAL GROUP of Burners and PolyCampers traveling from several continents interacting with thousands of people along the way and then all descending in BRC.

The ever-changing nature of the pandemic has BMORG putting some protocols in place for those building BRC that include Mask Mandates inside the Commissary – available testing options – Isolation standards – the ability to get food delivered / picked up for those in isolation.

Global Regional events have been happening again this year. From the reports posted about post-event stats there has been an avg of ~10% positivity rates no matter what the entrance funnel protocols that were in place. We are living in a Covid world and in some sense, we have all submitted to the fact we are attending Burning Man 2022 and infection no matter your Vax status/belief – had Covid previously is a possibility no matter what camp suggested behavior standards and or mandates to behavior are set in place.

So, what does this all mean for PolyParadise and the events we host; specifically the Human Carcass Wash which draws large numbers of participants every day. I have had a conversation with Touch about the HCW; he has some great ideas of making smaller pods of participants during the wash to minimize close contact with lots of people over longer periods of time. I leave the logistics of all that to him and his team of assistants each day to make the event as safe and responsible as possible given the conditions of the Black Rock Desert and all that is Burning Man. What does this all mean for camp – being in camp and interacting together, who the FUCK KNOWS. One of our Principles is Radical Self-Reliance, but we are a Community and not just individuals in a Community.

The person that knows the most about your own comfortability in all things IS YOU! If your comfortability is that you want to wear a mask ALL THE TIME you are welcome to do so; if your comfortability is to just wear a mask because of Playa Dust that is OK too. Speaking of masks – I

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am sure that we all have masks we are bringing; we will have Thousands of masks available if you need some as well as for participants in our events.

I have been in contact with some our neighbor camps provided to use via Placement; some of the smaller camps require confirmed Vax status to camp with them as well as Pre-Travel to BRC and On-Site BRC testing and if testing + they will not be able to camp within their borders and if they test + during the event they will be asked to leave their camp. As you can tell there are a WIDE VARIETY of mitigation and compliance standards.

The Village of PolyParadise does not have a Vax or Testing requirement; IT IS UP TO EACH CAMPER WITHIN OUR BORDERS to do what they have been doing for the past 2 years, 6 months, 27 days during the pandemic. Meaning if you are ILL or test + for Covid in the few days prior to Burning Man STAY HOME! If during the week of Burning Man you feel ILL it is UP TO YOU to ISOLATE in YOUR OWN SPACE and take the necessary steps to keep our Community Safe FROM YOU! We will have @ Home Covid Tests available for use and I am sure that Burning Man Medical will be setup to deal with any outbreaks or have isolation areas.

Then of course there is Monkey Pox; I admit I do not know much about this virulent Virus and HOLY SHIAT this causes SKIN BOILS and has an ISOLATION of two to four WEEKS! What the FUCK?

Again each of us has already made some concessions that we are leaving our home bubble and venturing to BRC from all points across the globe all descending to Northern Nevada. We ALL UNDERSTAND that Covid and or Monkey Pox infection is a possibility and neither Burning Man and or PolyParadise and OR specifically ME your Benevolent Dictator can and or will be held responsible for an infection and or anything that comes from a + test for either virus.

WE ARE A COMMUNITY we should ACT LIKE WE ARE A COMMUNITY! Be smart in the next few weeks and while @ Burning Man make good decisions about your own SAFETY which is SAFE FOR EVERYONE!

Scotto

- Benevolent Dictator Village of PolyParadise