



Emailed to the Community on June 21, 2021

As New Yorkers celebrate that 70% of adults are fully vaccinated against Covid-19, the Shames JCC is moving toward the final stages of its phased reopening plan. At this time, we are thrilled to announce additional changes that will improve your experience at the Shames JCC this summer.

As per NY State Department of Health and CDC guidelines, **mask requirements for all patrons in the Main Building only\* will be eliminated, effective immediately, though we strongly encourage unvaccinated people to wear masks for their own safety.** The NY State Department of Health announced earlier this week that New Yorkers, vaccinated and unvaccinated, are no longer required to wear masks. Throughout the Shames JCC's phased reopening, which began last summer, we have developed policies in accordance with DOH and CDC guidelines. At this time, we are continuing to rely on these public health agencies to inform our path forward.

### Beginning on Wednesday, June 23rd:

**Members will be granted full access to the Aquatics Center— no reservations, no delayed opening, no time limits, no locked doors to the deck, no hassles.** Simply suit up, shower off on the deck, and enjoy your swim! We ask lap swimmers to use all available lanes and circle swim. Aquatics equipment including kickboards and pull buoys will be available for use. Locker rooms will be outfitted with hair dryers and saunas will be available in the next week or two as well. Please continue bringing your own towels.

**Reservations will no longer be required for GroupEx classes with the exception of Indoor Cycling.** Indoor bikes will be reserved for registrants only; please continue to use our registration system for cycling found at shamesjcc.org. For all other classes, space will be available on a first come, first serve basis. (Please note that members may not join GroupEx classes after the warm up, or after maximum capacity is reached-- whichever comes first.)

**Most GroupEx classes will return to the studios, though active older adult classes will remain in the gymnasium.** Please check our GroupEx schedule at shamesjcc.org for class locations.

**We will expand hours beginning on July 11th,** when the facility will remain open on Sunday evenings until 6:00 PM. The Fitness Center, Aquatics Center, Sunday Family Basketball, as well as Personal Training sessions will all be available for members to enjoy. We will continue to expand hours over the summer and into the fall including early morning hours. Members will be able to plan for the school year knowing they can get in a workout before their work days begin.

We are thrilled to be meeting you at the J where we aim to elevate your life and strengthen our community. There are so many opportunities for connection here. Whether you join one of our incredible GroupEx classes, bring your children to our Aquatics Center to learn to swim, wave goodbye as your kids run off to counselors in our summer camps, walk through our community created labyrinth in the back end of our field, sit at a picnic table with friends, or participate in any of the dozens of programs we offer, we are grateful to once again be able to gather in laughter, in joy, and in community.

*\*Please note that we are adopting new policies in the Main Building Only. Programs that take place in the Legacy Building such as our Early Childhood Center and River Friends Day Camp are subject to specific and distinct requirements; existing protocols in those programs are unchanged and participants will be notified separately of any policy changes as they evolve.*