



Safety Checkpoints for Hosting In-Person Meetings and Activities for Girls and Adults

Effective August 10, 2021

Girl Scouts of San Gorgonio COVID-19 Guidelines

Use these guidelines to help decide if and how you can host in-person troop or service unit meetings or activities during the pandemic. Girl Scouts of San Gorgonio (GSSGC) guidelines are subject to change without notice. Keep up to date at [GSSGC COVID-19 Updates and Precautions](#).

Updated: August 10, 2021

As of June 15, 2021, the State of California retired the Blueprint for a Safer Economy and moved to safely reopen California. The information below is based on the guidance published for [Safely Reopening California](#).

The following changes for all in-person Girl Scout troop meetings, activities and events are now in effect:

Guidance for Meetings in Indoor & Outdoor Settings	
In-Person Meetings	Troops, girls, and events may now meet indoors.
Physical Distancing	Social distancing is encouraged to minimize the possibility of spread of the virus.
Gathering Restrictions	Cohort requirements have been suspended.
Capacity Limitations	Group size restrictions have been suspended, for both indoor and outdoor activities.
Masking Guidelines <i>Subject to change</i>	Indoors: All individuals must wear masks indoors, unless exempt by health or religious reasons. Outdoors: It is recommended that all individuals wear a mask outdoors if not more than 6' from the next closest person, unless exempt by health or religious reasons.
Vaccine Verification	GSSGC will not be asking individuals if they are vaccinated or not vaccinated and will rely on participants to participate responsibly.

Our goal as Girl Scouts is to model leadership by reducing community transmission of COVID-19. In making your decisions to hold in-person activities, keep in mind the following key priorities:

- Protect personal health of all girl and adult members and staff
- Reduce community spread of COVID-19

- Help keep schools and other entities open and recovering

Step 1. Deciding to host an in-person activity

- Gauge interest in hosting an in-person meeting and find out what precautions would help everyone feel comfortable attending. Can you accommodate those needs? Could the activity be done virtually or by individual families on their own? Consider meeting virtually and in-person or finding other ways to provide Girl Scout experiences that enable all girl and adult members to participate.
- If meeting in-person, all individuals must wear masks indoors, unless exempt by health or religious reasons.
- Although indoor activities are permitted at this time, plan for outdoor meetings, if possible. Have a plan for poor weather that does not rely on going indoors.
- Find an appropriate meeting place. Girl Scouts of the USA recommends against meeting at private homes in order to limit exposure to other family members.

Step 2. Check and follow GSSGC instructions

- Follow all safety guidelines
- Follow [safety activity checkpoints](#) if they are written for your specific activity.
- Make sure all girls, parents or guardians have given permission to participate with a Trip or Event Permission form or Annual Permission, using the Girl Health History and Annual Permission form. Make sure the form is current (dated after Sept. 30, 2020), and refers to COVID-19.
- Send meeting details to all participants. Include the following:
 - All attendees must bring and wear their own face coverings and follow the updated masking guidelines
 - All attendees should bring their own food and drink, unless the host will provide single-serving, packaged food and drink. Remove face coverings as briefly as possible.
 - Information on contingency plans. Consider poor weather, changing pandemic conditions, or a local outbreak. Any of these may require cancellation.

Step 3. The day before the activity

- Send a meeting reminder. Remind attendees that they should not attend if:
 - They are or have been exhibiting signs of illness such as fever, coughing, sneezing.
 - They or someone in their household has been recently exposed or notified that they may have been exposed, within the previous two weeks.
 - They or someone in their household has been diagnosed with COVID and they are not yet cleared as non-contagious.

Step 4. On the day of the activity

- Bring a COVID health and safety kit with the following supplies:
 - Extra disposable face masks in case a mask is forgotten or damaged.
 - Handwashing and sanitizing supplies-extra soap and paper towels for handwashing and hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol as a backup.
 - Disinfecting supplies such as gloves, sanitizing wipes or sanitizing solution, and paper towels. For information on best sanitation practices and products, review [CDC's re-opening guidance](#).
 - Trash bags.
- Before and after use, disinfect all high-touch surfaces, including meeting tables, door handles, restroom facilities, and any shared equipment.
- Ensure that a person trained in first aid and CPR is on hand. Bring a first aid kit with adequate protective equipment. First aid practices are designed to protect victims and first aiders from blood borne pathogens, such as viruses. A first aider's duty to care for our girls in an emergency and the steps to perform first aid remain constant. Since COVID is prevalent, however, plan for additional layers of protection between the victim and first aider. Ensure all first aid kits include face shields and HEPA CPR masks.
- At the start of the meeting, review COVID health and safety expectations with the group:
 - Wear masks according to revised masking guidelines.
 - Do not share food or drink.
 - Follow sanitation/hand-washing requirements. Help girls understand how to properly wash

- their hands and use shared facilities like restrooms.
- Be sure that all adults are monitoring COVID precautions during the meeting. Ask them to intervene and re-direct participants as needed.

Step 5. After the activity

- **Evaluate the success of the day.** Did safety plans work well? Did girls have enough discipline to follow important directions? Did they have fun? Did adults work well together? Use your reflections to inform future decisions.
- If you or your girl has tested positive for COVID-19 after attending a Girl Scout meeting or event and has potentially exposed other attendees, contact GSSGC staff immediately. In order to protect health, safety, and privacy, our staff will communicate with the parents or other troop members. Please notify accidentreporting@gssgc.org or call 909-307-6555.
- If on a weekend or after business hours, please call our emergency line: 909-685-5484.
- GSSGC staff will be responsible for next steps, including contacting the health department and ensuring other participants are notified of exposure, as required. Please do not share personal health information with others.

For more information on COVID-19 safety and Girl Scouts, please visit our [COVID-19 Updates and Precautions](#) page. If you have questions as you consider your options and plans, please contact GSSGC at customercare@gssgc.org or 909-307-6555.

Girl Scouts San Gorgonio (GSSGC) reserves the right to cancel any or all meetings/events previously approved based on guidance and/or changes from the California Department of Public Health, Riverside County and/or San Bernardino Counties Departments of Health.