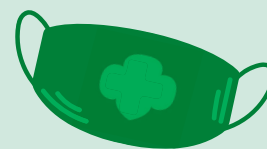


# Troop Meeting Guidance



## In-Person Troop Meetings

When deciding whether to host an in-person gathering, please consider the makeup and size of your troop or group, including possible attendees, their families, and their current comfort level with in-person activities. All volunteers and/or parent of girl members associated with the troop, group or community must be in agreement to meet in person and willing to adhere to the rules above and the GSSJC's COVID-19 Safety Precautions for Girl Scout Gatherings.

We want to do our best to make sure all Girl Scouts, volunteers and families feel included and safe throughout their Girl Scout experience. Troops or groups should make every effort to be inclusive of every member of the group. If a member is unable or uncomfortable attending in-person gatherings, please [see tips and tricks](#) for ideas on offering a virtual or alternative participation method.

- Members of the troop and/or Community must agree and adhere to [GSSJC's COVID-19 Safety Precautions for In-Person Gatherings](#).
- A maximum of 30 people may attend an indoor gathering.
- All participants must be separated into activity groups of no more than 15 total people (including at least two adults or required adult ratio).
- Activity groups may not be in the same room unless they are able to be separated by at least 50 feet.
- Indoor space must be large enough to accommodate a minimum of three feet between girls, six feet between adults, and six feet between adults and girls.
- It is recommended to maintain six feet of distance between participants; however, if space does not permit this, it is recommended you [follow CDC guidance for schools](#).
- Girls and adults must remain in the same activity group for the duration of the event. Participants from different activity groups may not interact.
- Food and drinks are not allowed at indoor troop gatherings.

## Troop Meetings in the Home

Meetings should ideally be held outdoors, perhaps in the back or front yard of the home. GSSJC does not recommend meeting in the home out of concern that there would be great risk of exposure to other family members. We ask that you follow these safety checkpoint considerations:

- All troop leadership must agree with meeting in the home.
- Troop does not have access to a public meeting option due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Consider all family members who live in the home. Avoid homes where elderly or immune-compromised family members live.
- The home must be the home of a registered, background checked, GSSJC approved volunteer.
- Girls may not meet in a home where a registered sex offender lives.
- The troop needs to be able to focus without disruptions from other household members.
- Animals should be kept in a place that is separate from the meeting space.
- Homeowners should consider any personal homeowner insurance implications. The homeowner should ask the homeowner's insurance carrier if there are any insurance exclusions regarding holding troop meetings at the home in the event an accident or injury occurs.
- Weapons must be completely out of view and stored in a locked location.
- Medication, dangerous cleaning products, alcohol or any poisonous substance must be stored in a secure space out of sight, preferably locked.
- All valuable items should be out of sight and stored in a secure space, preferably locked.
- Ensure that accessibility of all troop members to the meeting location is available.
- Ensure that the hygiene and risk mitigation and all other guidance for COVID-19 are followed.

## Backyard Meetings

For back and front yard meetings, make sure that the grounds are completely safe for children. For example, be careful that pools are fenced or otherwise safely sectioned off. The same goes for any equipment or tools or recreational apparatus that is deemed unsafe for girls such as outdoor trampolines. Make sure that pets are kept separate from the girls meeting space. Ensure that all troop leaders can see girls and monitor their whereabouts at all times. Maintain the use of the buddy system for errands or bathroom breaks. If the property is large, ensure that the meeting space is kept distinctly separate from non-members.