

Activities That Require Approval and COI

Safety Activity Checkpoint designates certain activities that require approval and other activities that are prohibited. See below for a detailed list of those activities and aligned requirements.

Certificate of Insurance and Required Contracts (COI)



- COIs are the proof that businesses have insurance to cover accidents. A COI is one indicator that an organization is an established entity with structures in place to support its activities.
- When a troop is participating in an activity that requires council approval, trip leaders are required to obtain and submit a COI from the facility/company. While overnight trips require council approval, overnight accommodations do not require a COI, but should be safe, legitimate locations for lodging.
- *Note: You are not required to obtain a COI if you are visiting a GSEP camp/property or government-owned and operated park/property, such as a state or national park.*
- GSEP maintains a list of approved COIs. This list also includes instructions to submit a COI for a vendor not already on the approved vendor list. Scan the QR code to see the list.
- Upon reviewing any troop trips for approval, council may request or require a COI or other documentation for activities not on the list below to ensure Girl Scout and volunteer safety.
- In addition to ensuring GSEP has a COI on file for an activity requiring approval, some businesses that offer listed activities require the group attending to sign a contract with “Hold Harmless” or “Indemnification” language. In those cases, fill in the information requested, but do not sign and date. Email the contract to memberservices@gsep.org for GSEP CEO approval and signature.

Activities Requiring Approval

The following activities must be approved by GSEP or their designee before a troop can participate. Additionally, all of the below, unless noted, require trip leaders to ensure that a Certificate of Insurance (COI) is on file for the organization/company providing the activity.

- Aquatic Activities (boating, canoeing, kayaking, packrafting, sailing, scuba diving, snorkeling, stand-up paddleboarding, surfing, swimming*, tubing, waterskiing and wakeboarding, whitewater rafting, windsurfing, etc.)
- Target Sports (air/BB guns, archery/3D archery, ax/hatchet throwing, knife throwing, muzzle loading, pistol/shotgun/rifle shooting)
- Horseback Riding
- Chartered aircraft tours/recreational flying
- Chartered busses/ground transportation
- Overnight trips**

*COI not required for swimming at public beaches, but lifeguard must be on duty

**COI is not required for overnight accommodations.

Prohibited Activities

The following activities are NEVER allowed for any girl:

- Bungee jumping
- Flying in privately owned planes, helicopters, or blimps
- Hang gliding
- Hunting
- Outdoor/home trampoline use
- Paintball tagging (shooting at other people)
- Parasailing
- Riding all-terrain vehicles (ATVs)
- Riding electric scooters
- Riding jet skis
- Riding motorbikes (gas or electric bikes)
- Skydiving or parachuting
- Snowmobiling
- Stunt skiing or snowboarding
- Untethered hot air ballooning
- Zorbing

Signing a Site or Event Agreement

If you're provided with a site or event agreement to sign, please don't sign anything with legal language such as “indemnification” or “hold harmless.” Only GSEP's CEO, Kim Fraites, can sign these types of forms. Instead, please complete as much of the form as possible, listing yourself as the onsite contact person, and leaving the signature and date fields blank. Scan the form in its entirety and email it to memberservices@gsep.org with the subject line “Site/Event Agreement Needs CEO's Signature.”