



Go-Karting

Activity Permitted for: J C S A

Note: Go-karts that are privately owned or used for racing are **NOT** permitted. Go-karting allowable at amusement parks and go-kart parks only.

Council Approval: Required as per Council Policy P1; [Activity/Trip Permission \(2129\)](#)

Vendor Approval: Not Required

Required Training: 281 GS 201 Trips & Overnights (gsLearn)

About Go-Karting

This checkpoint applies to “concession” go-karts, which are those found at amusement parks or other public facilities with one driver and no more than one passenger. Girl Scouts may participate in go-kart activities that are on a rail system (such as those that are an amusement park ride). They must follow the weight and height restrictions set by the facility. Go-karts that are privately owned or used for racing are not permitted.

Currently 44 out of 50 states regulate amusement parks. The six without state oversight are Alabama, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, Wyoming, and Utah. These states contain few, if any, amusement parks. (Wyoming, for example, has no parks.)

Include Girl Scout Members with Disabilities

Talk to Girl Scout members with disabilities and their caregivers. Ask about needs and accommodations. Always be sure to contact the location and/or the instructor in advance to ensure they are able to accommodate those with disabilities.

Equity. In addition to physical and social-emotional disabilities, consider the history, culture, and past experiences of the Girl Scout members in your troop that could affect their ability to equally participate in an activity. Work with members and families to understand how an activity is perceived. Ensure that all Girl Scout members and their families feel comfortable and have access to whatever is needed to fully participate, such as proper equipment, prior experiences, and the skills needed to enjoy the activity.

Infectious Disease Guidelines. Girl Scouts use a commonsense approach to health and safety. Before participating in Girl Scouting activities, members are to undergo health checks at home for any symptoms such as fever of 100.4 (or need for fever-reducing medications) chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore

throat, congestion or runny nose, stomach aches, nausea, or vomiting. Members with any of these symptoms or in need of fever-reducing medication **MUST** stay home until fully recovered.

Emergency Action Plan (EAP). Review and document your Emergency Action Plan (EAP) before taking girls out for any activity and review it with the girls so they too are prepared. Think through scenarios of what can go wrong such as an accident, physical injury to a girl, missing girl, sudden illness, or sudden weather or water emergencies.

Go-Karting Checkpoints

Required Training: Troop/Group Program leaders must complete GSUSA's online leadership courses and GSVSC's 281 GS 201 Trips & Overnights course in gsLearn. Adult volunteer chaperones must complete GSVSC's 281 GS 104 Orientation for Support Volunteers online course in gsLearn.

Select a safe site. Choose locations deemed legal and safe by state and local authorities and that meet council approval.

Verify that all of the facility's karts with two seats have them arranged side-by-side with separate safety belts for each seat and that all karts are built and maintained to manufacturer's specifications. All karts must be governed to a predetermined speed (not to exceed 25 miles per hour) per ASTM standards. **All karts must have:**

- Passenger padding in place, with everything in good condition (seat bottom, seatback, steering wheel, headrest, steering column).
- Rollover protection.
- Chain and/or belt guards.
- Properly guarded/shielded hot and or moving parts.
- Gas caps and all components in place and in proper working condition.
- Fuel tanks properly secured with no leaks.
- No fiberglass laceration hazards.

Safety, warning, and instructional signage must be highly visible, in good repair, and appropriately placed, and must note exposure risk. In addition, a maintenance program should be in effect for the go-karts, a minimum of two attendants should be on the track during operations, and no bumping or reckless driving shall be permitted.

Tracks must have:

- A continuous containment system around the entire track except for the pit entrance, and exit.
- Minimum of a 10-pound BC-rated fire extinguisher, properly mounted, marked, charged, and easily accessible to the pit attendants.
- Within 70 feet of any point on the track, a minimum of a 10-pound BC-rated fire extinguisher must be properly mounted, marked, charged, and accessible.
- Entire perimeter restricts unauthorized access to track area.
- Brake and gas controls return automatically and are properly labeled or color coded.

Safety Gear

- Protective helmet with properly fitting safety harness that meets the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) F2416 or F1492 requirements, displaying the Safety Equipment Institute (SEI) seal.
- Sneakers or sturdy shoes.
- Any loose articles of clothing secured.
- Long hair tied back or secured.

On the Day of Go-Karting

- **Dress appropriately.** Make sure girls and adults avoid wearing dangling earrings, bracelets, and necklaces that may become entangled in equipment.
- **Practice safe go-kart procedures.** Girls should not ram or bump into other go-karts.