



Inflatables

Activity Permitted for: *D *B J C S A

Includes:

- Aquatic inflatables
- Bounce houses and land inflatables
- Bubble soccer
- Log rolling (with synthetic logs)
- Amusement/theme parks with inflatables

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

Vendor Approval: Required for inflatable rentals

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

*Daisies cannot participate in aquatic bounce houses.

*Aquatic climbing walls are not permitted for Daisies and Brownies.

*Daisies may only participate in bounce houses that are specific for their age, height, and/or weight.

*Bubble soccer is not permitted for Daisies and Brownies.

About Inflatables

Most inflatables can be found at events and in public facilities and parks and some commercial ones may be available to rent. Verify with your council on specific information needed for renting commercial inflatables. Verify with your council if any additional approvals need to be made in addition to checking with local governing agencies to ensure all safety guidelines are being followed.

Aquatic Climbing Walls, slides, bounce platforms, obstacle courses are made from a variety of materials and placed in the deep end of a pool or lake.

Bounce Houses, closed inflatable trampolines, bouncy houses, bouncy castles, moon bounces, moonwalks, jumpers, and other land inflatables are temporary inflatable structures and buildings used for recreational purposes, particularly for children.

Bubble Soccer is an exciting twist on the traditional game of soccer. Girls are wrapped in a giant, soft inflatable bubble ball with shoulder harnesses and handles inside.

Log Rolling with synthetic logs can be done in a pool or lake and for girls of all ages.

Learn More

- [International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions](#)

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. Information on accommodations for inflatable parks are similar to amusement parks.

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.

Inflatables Checkpoints

Vendor Approval Required for Inflatables and inflatable rentals. Review Vendor Approval section under the *Standard Safety Guidelines for vendor approval timelines*. Connect with your Girl Scout council for approved vendor suggestions to ensure they are properly insured. If it is not, allow enough time to have the vendor approved. The owner operator should be able to confirm one million dollars General Liability insurance upon request. For privately/locally owned businesses, the council will request a certificate of insurance to document evidence of the insurance coverage and name the council as additional insured. Most facilities will accommodate this request if they are able to administratively. [See High Adventure Approved Vendors List \(#2127\)](#).

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.

Connect with your Girl Scout council for approved sites or site suggestions to confirm the location is vetted. Allow enough time to have the location approved.

Select a safe site. Ensure that sites or rented inflatables follow applicable safety precautions:

- **Aquatic climbing walls, slides, bounce platforms, obstacle courses** are placed in the deep end of the pool, or lake. Participants need to be strong swimmers who can swim in water deeper than 5 feet. Non-strong swimmers need to wear a life vest, properly fitted and appropriate to their weight.
- **Bounce houses and other land inflatables** are properly secured to the ground, especially in windy weather. Ensure the number of participants in a bounce house at a time does not exceed manufacturer recommendations for safety. On inflatable slides, obstacle courses, etc. girls take turns and wait for the person before them to exit before going in.

- **Bubble soccer** should be played on a flat area that is free of obstacles, pillars, trees, stumps, rocks, and roots. Only one person in a ball at a time. No rolling down hills while wearing a ball. Bubble should be fully covering at least 8 inches above the head, to allow for roll overs and head protection. Players should not run full speed and should only bump into players with light to moderate speed. Players should not bend down when bumping another player, instead using the sides of the bubble, not the top, for impact with other players. Players should not lift the bubbleball via the handles except to get up.
- **Log rolling with synthetic logs** needs to be done in water that is at least 2 feet deep. Log needs to be at least 10 feet from any obstructions, e.g., walls, rocks, trees, beach, etc. Log should be aligned perpendicular (as a T) to dock, pool edge, hard objects, etc. Beginners should have someone holding log as they get on. Non-strong swimmers should wear a life vest, properly fitted and appropriate to their weight if the water is above their knees. Beginners should use “trainers” to slow the log down.

Inquire about adequate insurance. The park you attend may or may not be able or willing to provide a certificate of insurance as evidence of one million dollars general liability insurance and instructor certifications upon request, depending on the size of the group. It’s best to inquire and have the conversation in order to verify credibility of the park’s management.

Ensure safety of theme park rides. Obtain full information about the rides and other activities and evaluate them for safety, especially concerning the age, height, and weight of girls.

For water parks, follow [Swimming Safety Activity Checkpoints](#). Pay particular attention to water park safety rules. Ensure there are certified lifeguards at each activity. Girls will need to take a [swim test](#) prior to the trip to ensure they can swim. It is recommended that swimmers that are not proficient wear a life vest.

Know where girls are at all times. Keep track of girls’ whereabouts. Conduct a head count before and after activities. Ensure girls know where to go and how to act when confronted by strangers or intruders.

Review plans upon arrival. Adults should obtain a copy of the park guide to facilitate the visit and gain important information on park policies and the location of restrooms and the first aid station.

Have a predetermined meeting spot. Adults should discuss plans for the visit with girls and set a place to meet in case the group gets separated.

Know where the first aid station is located. Ensure the presence of a first aid kit and a first aider with a current certificate in first aid, including adult and child CPR or CPR/AED, who is prepared to handle cases of abrasions, sprains, and fractures.