



# Troop Activity Approval Guidelines, Approval Process and Application (Formerly High Adventure)

In Girl Scouting, giving girls opportunities to express leadership through a variety of activities and experiences is an integral part of the girl Scout Leadership Experience. Girl Scouts of Orange County wants to ensure that all activities, with an emphasis on those that are viewed as higher risk activities, are properly reviewed for best safety practices. This includes instructor knowledge, training, and certifications: company/vendor/location/ safety and certifications; and safety awareness among girls and volunteers.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

GSOC provides program and ensures the safety of girls and volunteers by following [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#), educating our volunteers, and ensuring companies that provide program to our troops are licensed, reputable, responsible vendors. Every vendor is required to submit a current Certificate of Insurance (COI). If the vendor is unable or unwilling to provide a current COI, the vendor cannot be approved. GSOC does not recommend that troops go ahead with a vendor/ activity if it is not approved by GSOC. There are many reasons for this, the primary reason is the safety of the girls. GSOC needs to ensure that we are working with a reputable company and a COI helps to ensure the vendor has financial backing in the unlikely event of injury to a girl or adult through negligence or misconduct of the company or its employees. If a troop participates in the non-approved activity or uses a non-approved vendor and an accident occurs, the troop leader and GSOC could be held financially responsible for a claim and their own defense.

As the definition above states, Girl Scout activities which require special training and/or safety equipment, for girls and adults, must be approved by GSOC staff. In order for the girls to have a positive experience, this process must be followed.

**Activities not allowed per GSUSA/GSOC:**

- Uncontrolled free-falling activities
  - Bungee jumping, parachuting, and bounce houses (GSUSA policy)
- Extreme variations of approved activities
  - High altitude climbing, aerial tricks on bicycles or skis
- Hunting or shooting a projectile at another person
- Riding all-terrain vehicles
- Outdoor skydiving
- Privately owned airplanes
- Untethered hot air balloons
- Zorbing

**The following activities no longer require council approval\*:**

- Bicycling
- Fencing
- Ice/roller skating
- Indoor trampoline
- Sledding, tobogganing, snow tubing

\*Please see [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) for additional information.

**Examples of Troop Activities requiring council approval\*:**

Archery	Fishing with	Knife Throwing,	Skiing
Backpacking	vendor	Tomahawk	Snowboarding
Bicycling with	Go Carts	Throwing	Surfing
rentals	Horseback	Rappelling	Water Skiing
Boating	Riding	Rock Climbing	White Water
Canoeing	Indoor Skydiving	Sailing	Rafting
Caving	Kayaking	Scuba Diving	Windsurfing
Challenge		Segway	
Courses			

\*Other activities apply, check [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#)

## Activity Approval Process

The Troop Activity Approval Application must be completed and submitted to GSOC at least **4 weeks prior** to event date for a company currently on [Approved Vendor List](#). All [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) must be strictly followed. The registered volunteer signing the Troop Activity Application agrees to and is responsible for complying with all Girl Scout safety regulations and requirements as well as all safety regulations or requirements of the vendor.

If the company/vendor/location is not on the current GSOC Approved List, please turn in application no less than **8 weeks prior** to activity to allow sufficient time for GSOC to work with the new facility and collect necessary documents.

### [GSOC Troop Activity Approved Company List](#)

**Troop Activity Application must still be completed if the company is on GSOC's approved list.**

Please submit a [Troop Activity Application](#) with any supporting documents, if necessary.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Troop Activity Approval process, please email Customer Care at [customercare@girlscoutsoc.org](mailto:customercare@girlscoutsoc.org).