

Key Terms

Participants are Girl Scouts including girl members, council staff, and volunteers.

Patrols are Girl Scouts Dakota Horizon's term for small groups or cohorts. Patrols will be groups of no more than 12 participants. Patrols will stay together for all camp activities to maintain social distance from other participants.

General

How will you keep participants safe from COVID-19 at camp?

The health and safety of all Girl Scout participants remain our highest priority. GSDH does not guarantee that virus transmission will not occur through participation. We are taking the following actions to help ensure we are lowering COVID-19 risk as much as possible:

- Intensifying cleaning and disinfection practices within our facilities and premises by cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces such as tables, drinking fountains, door handles, hand railings, light switches, counter tops, cabinet handles, benches, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, garbage can lids, and sinks
- Cleaning and disinfecting shared objects such as art supplies, sports equipment, and games.
- Cleaning and disinfecting transport vehicles (e.g., buses or vans), and ensuring safe and correct use and storage of disinfectants
- Keeping participants in small groups (known as Patrols) of 6-10 girls and 2 adults and creating social distance, by prioritizing outdoor activities, by skipping rows, and by staggering communal times such as dining
- Limiting the number of items that are shared or touched between participants and staff and will keep a participant's belongings separated from others and in individually labeled containers, cubbies, or areas
- Using disposable utensils and dishes and pre-packaged condiments, beverages and boxes or bags when food is provided
- Promoting healthy hygiene practices by teaching participants the importance of washing their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, monitoring hand washing, providing participants with hand sanitizer when they don't have easy access to soap and water, encouraging girls to cover their coughs and sneezes with a tissue or to use the inside of their elbow, and posting signs about healthy habits around the camp
- Recommending that all participants wear a face covering when indoors/not able to distance. Face coverings are optional, but we suggest you send one with your camper in the unlikely event of a COVID-19 exposure
- Creating a dedicated first aid station with trained and certified staff at camp
- If a girl or staff member does get sick at camp, we have identified an area for rest, monitoring of COVID-19 symptoms, and safely isolating from others. We will communicate with parents or caretakers directly and, if necessary, arrange for pickup

Is there an accommodation for someone that is considered high risk?

Those with pre-existing conditions and/or weakened immune systems should follow the guidance of their physicians. Every family should decide about attending in-person camps and events this summer based on their own situation.

Can volunteers hold in-person events and camps this summer?

Volunteers should be aware of and follow all CDC, state, local, and GSDH guidelines regarding COVID-19 and make decisions based on your area's conditions. Based on the GSDH Return to In-Person Decision Guide for Volunteers, in-person events may resume when the council is in the Yellow Moderate Risk Phase 2 and Green Low Risk Phase. To reduce the spread of COVID-19, face coverings, social distancing and other COVID-19 precautions are recommended.

Before Camp

Are volunteers and staff required to be vaccinated to attend camp/events?

Dakota Horizons encourages volunteers and staff be vaccinated against COVID-19, however does not require vaccinations.

Do participants have to be tested for COVID-19 before coming to camp?

All participants – girls, staff and volunteers - will be required to complete a pre-camp health check-in. If your camper has been exposed to, or experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, she will not be admitted to camp until a negative COVID-19 test result is received and verified.

What if someone in my family tests positive for COVID-19 but the camp participant does not have symptoms?

We ask that you help us protect the health of all participants this summer. Anyone who is sick or was sick with COVID-19 or recently in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days— including staff, girls, and families— should not come to camp. Please contact Member Services ASAP to let us know your girl will not be at camp and to discuss options for another camp or a refund.

What do I do if I registered and paid but the participant starts showing symptoms of illness right before camp?

We ask that you help us protect the health of all participants this summer. Anyone who is sick or was sick with COVID-19 or recently in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days— including staff, girls, volunteers and families— should not come to camp. Please contact Member Services ASAP to let us know the participant will not be at camp and to discuss options for another camp or a refund.

During Camp

How will I check my Girl Scout in upon arrival at camp?

Each camp will have a check in process that will limit exposures of participants and families. Pre-camp information will be communicated to families in advance. Only girls, staff, and registered camp volunteers will be allowed inside camp facilities. As an example, a drive-thru check-in may be implemented so that only the participant leaves the vehicle.

Will participants be sharing a room with others (girls/staff/volunteers)?

Yes, we have reduced maximum capacity at camps and will ensure safe spaces between participants according to CDC and other official guidance. Whenever possible, windows will remain open for enhanced ventilation. Sleeping arrangements will follow GSDH Safety Activity Checkpoints.

Will participants have to wear a face covering the entire time at camp?

- All participants – girls, volunteers, and staff – are encouraged to have and to wear a face covering when indoors/not able to distance. Face coverings are optional. When handling or preparing food, and when administering first aid, staff will be required to wear a face covering.

How will the camp area be cleaned during camp?

To help ensure we are lowering COVID-19 risk as much as possible, we are intensifying cleaning and disinfection practices within our facilities and premises by cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces 3 times per day and increasing restroom cleanings. We'll also be cleaning and disinfecting shared objects such as art supplies, sports equipment, and games. When possible, participants will not share supplies or will share supplies only within their patrol.

If Injury or Illness Occurs

During camp, who will tend to participants with illnesses or injuries?

Overnight camps will have a dedicated first aid station onsite as well as a dedicated and trained staff member that will be available to care for illnesses and injuries. As the situation requires, caregivers will be contacted to determine if medical care is needed for their child. In emergency situations, the staff will seek emergency medical services. Further information regarding this First Aid requirements may be found in Safety Activity Checkpoints.

What happens if a participant shows COVID-19 symptoms while at camp?

If a participant – girl, volunteer or staff - shows any sign of illness during camp that are consistent with COVID-19 or other infection:

- She/he is isolated to a designated area and evaluated immediately
- Participant's family will be notified immediately and asked to arrange for participant pickup as soon as possible

How will I know if I/participant was exposed to COVID-19 at camp?

Participants/families will be contacted in the following circumstances:

- If a participant is showing symptoms of COVID-19 or other infections
- If a participant from their patrol is suspected of having a case of COVID-19
- If a participant from their patrol has a confirmed case of COVID-19 and the patrol needs to go home

What if someone in my family tests positive for COVID-19 during camp?

We ask that you help us protect the health of participants this summer. If someone you/participant has been in close contact with in the last 7 days has tested positive for COVID-19, please inform the Camp Manager immediately. The Camp Manager will contact the council's Chief Human Resources & Risk Officer for guidance.