



Go-Karting

Council Approval: Required. This is a vendor provided activity.

Certificate of Insurance (COI): Required from vendor providing this activity for Council Approval. Visit [GSNI's webpage](#) for information on requesting a COI from the venue.

Activity Permitted for: J C S A

Note: *Go-karts that are privately owned or used for racing are not permitted.*

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 or curb system that helps keep the kart on the track (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.

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. Find out height and weight restrictions and communicate the information with troop families. If someone will not be able to participate, find another vendor that provides access to all. 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. See the Equity section of the [Introduction to Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) for general advice about expense,

Emergency Action Plan (EAP). Review and document your Emergency Action Plan (EAP) before starting any activity and review it so all are prepared. Think through scenarios of what can go wrong such as an accident, physical injury, missing person, sudden illness, or sudden weather or water emergencies. All Troops must provide one adult certified in Adult and Pediatric CPR/First Aid/AED.

Go-Karting Checkpoints

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 go-karts with two seats have them arranged side-by-side with separate safety belts for each seat and that all go-karts are built and maintained to manufacturer's specifications.

All karts must have:

- Passenger padding in place, with everything in good condition (seat bottom, seat back, steering wheel, headrest, steering column)
- A speed governor to limit speed to no more than 25 miles per hour
- 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.** Avoid wearing dangling earrings, bracelets, and necklaces that may become entangled in equipment.
- **Practice safe go-kart procedures.** Do not ram or bump into other go-karts.