COVID-19 Guidelines for Participating in Girl Scout In-Person Meetings or Activities

Dear Girl Scout Families and Volunteers,

**Welcome to the New Year of Girl Scouting in eastern Missouri!** We are here for you and committed to providing opportunities for **girls to skill-build, grow bold, be creative, make friends, have fun and create a difference in our community**! It’s the Girl Scout way and it’s in our DNA!

In the spirit of adapting Girl Scouts to our next normal, we are excited to roll out **new resources** for families and volunteers that will help ensure girls continue to have a safe, fun, one-of-a-kind experience at Girl Scouts.

**Key take-away:** **We will gift one Zoom license per troop for the Girl Scout year!!!** Virtual meetings offer greater flexibility and the opportunity to conduct meetings from a preferred location as well as keeping tech skills and virtual meeting habits fresh. Licenses will be available late-August 2020 and full training will be provided.

**Key take-away: Girl Scouts Reimagined —** Check out hands-on and self-guided activities through **GSEMTogether** and **GSUSA**—fresh content (almost) daily! Sheltering in place and social distancing have created some new
challenges, so we’re redefining what our traditional troop meetings and activities look like to support Girl Scouting when we can’t meet in person!

Additionally, we have created specific guidance (Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri COVID-19 Protocol) for activities and programs that take place at the individual girl, troop, neighborhood, district and Council levels. This guidance is being provided as of July 31. Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri may modify this guidance, from time to time as circumstances change.

Key take-away: All in-person interaction is limited to groups no larger than 10 individuals.

Key take-away: Face coverings are required for all indoor activities, and outdoors when social distancing cannot be maintained, for any participant age 2 and older.

Key take-away: Guidelines are reviewed on a weekly basis. Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri may modify this guidance, from time to time as circumstances change and will post updates on its website.

While these are unprecedented times, the indomitable spirit of Girl Scouting continues to guide our every effort. We encourage our Girl Scout families and volunteers to take the time to familiarize themselves with these new in-person meeting and activity guidelines. As we collectively embrace our new reality, it will be important to consider the personal situation of girls in your troop, discuss plans with families and fellow volunteers, and work to create a collaborative and inclusive environment.

Key take-away: We are here to support you! If you have questions as you consider your options and plans, please contact the Answer Center at 314.400.4600 or at answercenter@girlscoutsem.org.

As always, we are grateful for your support and look forward to seeing all our girls accomplish. Now more than ever, the world needs Girl Scouts!
Sincerely,

Bonnie Barczykowski
CEO