

GUIDELINES FOR NON-GIRL SCOUT/FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IN ACTIVITIES, TRIPS, AND EVENTS

Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Inc. realizes that it is difficult to have a great Girl Scout experience without involving the families of girls. Troop committees and helping parents provide needed input and program resources to make sure that girls are getting the full benefit of the Girl Scout program. However, there are several guidelines that leaders must take into consideration when program activities involve non-Girl Scouts.

- ◆ Any and all activity and/or trip information that is distributed to girls by the troop leadership at a troop meeting or through the troop roster is a Girl Scout activity. All required paperwork must be turned in and approved by the appropriate persons before the activity can take place. (Service Unit Travel Log, Travel Request, and all attachments.) This is in accordance with the council's risk management system.
- ◆ Even if the troop chooses not to use Girl Scout troop funds, any and all information distributed by the troop leadership at a troop meeting or through the troop roster constitutes a Girl Scout activity.
- ◆ All activities, trips, and events that include non-Girl Scouts must include the purchase of accident insurance for non-registered participants. Non-Girl Scout family members participating in a trip must be listed on the roster.
- ◆ Family members who are too young to actually participate in the given activity can not be covered by the supplemental insurance, and may not participate in the event. For example, if the troop or service unit is planning a landscaping activity at the park, a ten month old sibling is not old enough to participate in the activity. Therefore, that child is not eligible to be covered. Age eligibility will be determined by the council on a case-by-case basis.
- ◆ Troop funds need to cover the costs of registered Girl Scouts and only the required number of adults per *Safety-Wise*. Additional family members are required to pay their own costs to participate.
- ◆ These guidelines refer to troop and service unit program only. Council program and council sites do not allow non-Girl Scout participation or adult participation beyond coverage required by *Safety-Wise*, unless otherwise stated by the council.



Each troop in the council does unique program. Some troops do a number of activities involving non-Girl Scout family members, other troops do few. In your planning, remember to keep the girl first in Girl Scouting. Developing a sense of independence is an important part of building leadership. Troop program should allow girls the opportunity to become comfortable making new friends, reaching goals, and making decisions in an independent atmosphere.

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(continued)**

Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Inc. is continually concerned about the safety of non-registered participants in troop or service unit events and trips. As a member's only organization, we encourage troops to examine whether non-member participation provides the best atmosphere for girls to receive Girl Scout programs. In an effort to make this as clear as possible, the following guidelines have been adopted.

Plan 1 - This accident insurance covers every registered Girl Scout member for any approved, supervised activity of the Girl Scouts. This coverage is included in the \$12 membership registration. This coverage includes Girl Scout meetings, trips, and activities lasting no more than two consecutive nights.

Plan 2 - This accident insurance covers members and non-members for accidents only. (This insurance must be purchased for non-members to cover events that are not covered under Plan 1, such as events lasting longer than two consecutive nights.) The cost for this coverage is currently **\$.11 per participant per day**. Participants who are covered by the insurance include adults and minors.

Plans 3E and 3P - Plan 3E provides secondary **accident** and **sickness** insurance coverage. Plan 3P provides primary **accident** and **sickness** insurance. Troops are required to purchase these plans for travel and events lasting three nights or longer. Contact the council headquarters for the current cost of these plans. Prices may vary.

Out-of-country travel requires international travel insurance. Call the council headquarters for costs and further information about the international travel insurance.

It is expected that non-member parents and others will be involved from time to time in Girl Scout activities just as they do in PTA's, community services or school events, in providing transportation, chaperoning, decorating, visiting, or just lending a hand. These activities are done without expectation of reimbursement for medical expenses in case of accidental injury. **Non-members who get more than sporadically involved should become members.**

TAGALONG

Please also note that girls must be participants with their grade level program for Plan 1 coverage to apply. For example: A Girl Scout Daisy that accompanies her mother, the Girl Scout Brownie leader, to the Girl Scout Brownie meeting is a tagalong, unless she is in a supplemental supervised unit with constant adult supervision away from the Girl Scout program. The supplemental supervised unit would be eligible for Plan 2 coverage. A trained Girl Scout who is assisting with the troop meeting is not a tagalong. A Girl Scout who does her homework at the Girl Scout Daisy meeting is a tagalong. Family members who are too young to actually participate in the planned activities are not eligible for the supplemental insurance and may not participate in the event.