



Hello Girl Scouts,

We hope that you've had a happy and healthy start to the new year and are looking forward to many great Girl Scout experiences in 2022. With the rise of COVID-19 cases in our communities and recent changes in guidance from the CDC, we wanted to provide a reminder of Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland policy and precautions. Our current guidance has been reviewed and continues to exceed CDC recommendations.

While our guidance document **Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland COVID-19 Guidance** is long and detailed, it can be summarized in two main points:

1. Masks are required indoors when youth are present, unless eating or sleeping, regardless of vaccination status.
2. Social distancing, frequent hand washing, and increased cleaning of surfaces will reduce the spread of germs.

Please read and take advantage of the many resources listed in the guidance document to ensure you continue to have a safe and fun Girl Scout year. Please have parents and volunteers fill out the **COVID-19 Release and Waiver** and keep on file for the 2022 Girl Scout year. Both of these resources are available on **kansasgirlscouts.org** in both the Volunteer Resources and COVID -19 Update sections of the website.

We recognize that the majority of troops resumed in-person meetings this fall.

In-person meetings are not being restricted at this time, but we encourage all troops to be flexible with their meeting options and work with families who may not be comfortable meeting in-person right now. The Wichita office is equipped with an enhanced air filtration system shown to reduce the spread of airborne germs. Leaders should be aware of COVID-19 protocols at their meeting place and follow local guidelines if they are more restrictive.

GSKH staff are working diligently toward providing you with the support needed so you and your girls can look back on this experience and know that Girl Scouts was one of the elements during the pandemic that helped them feel a sense of normalcy and positivity. Feel free to contact us if you have questions or need further assistance. We are here to help you and your girls come out of this stronger and prepared to lead during a crisis.

For the girls,
Girl Scouts of Kansas Heartland