

Trip & Travel Guidelines

GSWCF troop/travel and COVID-19

Encourage the troop/group to hold a virtual meeting or conference call and come to a group consensus. If girls have planned the trip together and money-earned together, making a decision as a group will be challenging, but it can strengthen their bond. For extended trips that include majority/all graduating high school seniors, it may be most prudent to reschedule the trip for summer 2021.

Encourage troop leaders to involve girls in the decision-making process, particularly older girls. Ask the troop to review any troop agreement established when planning the trip. If there was not a prior agreement related to management of troop funds for travel, please follow the regular money management tip that all funds raised by the troop are considered troop funds and do not belong to any individual girl.

Our council will allow troops to roll-over their cookie proceeds or other group money earned funds into the next membership year ending on September 30, 2021, even if the members of the troop have bridged to adult. Members of the troop must have an up to date Girl Scout membership to utilize any carry over funds.

If one of the members of the troop decides not to go on the trip, the troop will request a refund for the airline portion and the funds will return to the troop account. The girl will forfeit the trip and any funds associated with the airline ticket.

The troop may decide to give the girl(s) not attending the trip the option of a lifetime membership.

All funds deposited in the troop account by the individual parents or girls, to pay for the trip, will be handled as per the troop's agreement at the moment of the trip planning. If there was no stipulation or troop agreement prior to the trip planning, these funds are considered troop funds.

If a traditional troop, with all graduating high school seniors, decides to go on the trip at a later date the bank account should be under close supervision by the Service Unit Accounting Coordinator or Service Unit Manager, until the trip has taken place and the troop account has been closed following the regular troop disbanding process.

A traditional troop, all graduating high school seniors may decide not to go on a rescheduled trip before September 30, 2021. The girls have the option to:

- Donate the funds to a cause they care about
- Purchase a Girl Scout lifetime membership
- Plan a series of trips/activities throughout the year like a traditional troop until all funds are exhausted or by September 30, 2021. For this last option, they must have an up to date Girl Scout membership at the time of the trip(s) to be covered by Basic Plan insurance for an overnight/weekend trip, or to have the ability to purchase additional Mutual of Omaha plan for an extended trip.

The funds in the troop account must be used by September 30, 2021, the end of 2021 Girl Scout membership year. At the end of this period, the bank account will be subject to the regular troop disbanding process as per GSWCF guidelines. Any remainder funds will go to the Service Unit account.