

Safety-Wise Update

**The following updates are effective October 1, 2008,
and should be used with the existing *Safety-Wise*.**

Girl Scout Grade Levels

The New Girl Scout Leadership Experience provides direction for Girl Scout program adapted to meet the developmental, educational, emotional, and social needs and interests of girls at the six Girl Scout grade levels.

National Standard Adult-to-Girl Ratios						
Girl Scout grade level	Grade	Troop/group size: number of girls	General troop/group meetings: two nonrelated adults (at least one of whom is female) for each number of girls	Plus one adult for each additional number of girls	Events, trips, and group camping: two unrelated adults (at least one of whom is female) for each number of girls	Plus one adult for each additional number of girls
Girl Scout Daisy	K– grade 1	5–15	12	6	6	4
Girl Scout Brownie	Grades 2–3	5–25	20	8	12	6
Girl Scout Junior	Grades 4–5	5–30	25	10	16	8
Girl Scout Cadette	Grades 6–8	5–30	25	12	20	10
Girl Scout Senior	Grades 9–10	5–30	30	15	24	12
Girl Scout Ambassador	Grades 11–12	5–30	30	15	24	12

***Note:** There are separate ratios for events, trips, overnight camping, and certain activities. Please see the current *Safety-Wise* for special ratios (p. 69, pp. 71–72).

Girls with disabilities that receive special education services may be enrolled as a Girl Scout until the age of 21. Girls should be placed with peers of their same chronological age and wear the uniform of that grade level..

Girl Scout grade level is determined by the current membership year, beginning October 1st.

Camping (*Safety-Wise*, p. 84)

Under the leadership of an adult, and with parents, guardians, or other family members participating, a Girl Scout Daisy troop may participate in an occasional overnight camping experience.

Girl Scout Daisies who have completed kindergarten may participate in traditional day camp and resident camp experiences lasting up to three nights.

Girl Scout Daisies who have completed first grade may participate in resident camp experiences of four or more nights.

First-Aid Training

First-aid offerings listed in the chart on p. 37 of *Safety-Wise* are provided online by the sponsoring organization and include a face-to-face participant skills assessment. The course may be accepted as meeting the recommendation.

Courses for First-Aid Training

National first-aid programs may be submitted for review throughout the year. Girl Scouts of the USA routinely reviews such programs so as to expand the courses available to our membership. Councils may review local offerings, compare the content to the national recommendations, and make decisions concerning their area's resources.

For more information regarding what level of training is needed for different activities, and when it is needed, please consult *Safety-Wise* (pg 36).

National First-Aid Programs

Organization	Courses for First-Aider, Level 1	Courses for First-Aider, Level 2
American Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community First Aid and Safety including CPR or • Standard First Aid including CPR <p>Child Care (for Girl Scout Daisy leaders) including CPR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport Safety Training or • Standard First Aid including CPR, plus First Aid, When Help Is Delayed, or • First Aid Responding to Emergencies or • Emergency Response*
American Safety and Health Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic First Aid plus CPR for School and Community or the Workplace or • Basic Wilderness First Aid plus CPR for the School and Community or Workplace 	<p>CPR Training and one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilderness First Aid • Wilderness First Responder • Wilderness EMT Upgrade*
Emergency First Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Care (CPR) plus Secondary Care (First Aid) 	
Medic First Aid International, Inc. (Formally EMP America)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BasicPlus CPR, AED, and First Aid for Adults • Basic CPR and First Aid for Adults • PediatricPlus CPR, AED, and First Aid for Children, Infants, and Adults • Pediatric CPR and First Aid for Children • CarePlus CPR and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for Adults, Children, and Infants • Emergency Care First Aid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Life Support for Professionals (BLSPRO)
National Safety Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard First, CPR and AED or • Pediatric First Aid, CPR and AED 	
Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunity (SOLO)		<p>Any standard CPR with one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilderness First Aid (WFA) • Wilderness First Responder (WFR) • Wilderness Emergency Medical Technician (WEMT)
American Heart Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heartsaver First Aid and CPR 	For CPR Training
American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPR and First Aid Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilderness First Responder
EMS Safety Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPR and First Aid Training or • Pediatric First Aid and CPR 	

*These courses far exceed the requirements for Girl Scout first-aiders but may be used.

Swimming, p. 120

- **Swimming in Backyard, Hotel, and Cruise Ship Pools**

- There is one lifeguard for 1 to 10 swimmers. The lifeguard is at least 16 years old and has American Red Cross Lifeguard Training certification or the equivalent. An adult trained in water rescue skills is also present. American Red Cross Basic Water Rescue is recommended for this adult and for watchers.

Trips, Travel, and Transportation with Girl Scouts

Global Travel Toolkit

- Girl Scout troops/groups planning an international trip are strongly encouraged to use the Global Travel Toolkit. The toolkit is a nuts and bolts resource for international travel, including planning advice, procedures for international travel, budgeting suggestions, cultural recommendations, and resources on Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting around the world.

Download your Global Travel Toolkit at www.girlscouts.org

The Global Travel Toolkit will be available summer 2008

Letter of Introduction

The WAGGGS Card of Introduction (blue card) is no longer required for international travel. However, if your troop/group is interested in connecting with Girl Guides or Girl Scouts abroad, a letter of introduction can be sent on your behalf. Please submit an Intent to Travel form indicating that you would like a letter of introduction.

Visiting World Centers

Contact the world centers directly to make reservations:

Our Cabaña, México: www.ourcabana.org/

Pax Lodge, England: paxlodge.org/

Our Chalet, Switzerland: www.ourchalet.ch/en/home

Sangam, India: sangam.wagggsworld.org/

Intent to Travel

All troop/groups traveling internationally must notify their council and submit an Intent to Travel form to GSUSA three to six months before departure:

www.girlscouts.org/program/gc_central/forms/.

GSUSA, March 2008