2022 Forums

February 2022
Forum Agenda

• **Prepare for Annual Meeting**
  • Delegate Role in Governance Process
  • Day-of Logistics

• **Collect Delegate Feedback**
What is Governance?

Governance refers to **structures** and **processes** that are designed to ensure accountability, transparency, equity and inclusiveness, empowerment, and broad-based participation in an organization or community.
Our Council defines Structures and Processes in the Council By-laws

• Adopted on February 23, 1974
• Amended 18 times
• Last updated at 2021 Annual Meeting

Copy located at www.gscnc.org Our Council, Governance
Who is considered an eligible Member in our governance process?

Individuals 14 years and older who are members of the Girl Scout movement and are currently registered or lifetime members affiliated with Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital.
Council Voting Members

Service Unit Delegates: selected by service unit; process defined by service unit

Board of Directors: elected by service unit delegates at Annual Meeting

Nominating Committee: elected by service unit delegates at Annual Meeting
Voting Member Responsibilities

- **Elect:**
  - Board of Directors – officers and members-at-large
  - Nominating Committee
- Determine **“lines of direction”** for Girl Scouting locally
- **Vote on proposed amendments** to Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws (following study by Board ad hoc committee)
- **Take action** when membership vote is required
- **Conduct business** that comes before them
Delegates required to attend Annual Meeting on:
Saturday, April 30, 2022
8:00 am – 11:30 am
Prince George’s Stadium in Bowie, Maryland
How to get to the Delegate Packet

Click COUNCIL or this web banner
How to get to the Delegate Packet

Click Annual Meeting

About Us

Girl Scouts Nation's Capital believes in the power of every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)™ to change the world. We offer every girl the opportunity to discover who she is, what she can do, and
Delegate Packet: Available by April 5th

• Call to Meeting
• Agenda with Enclosures As Follows:
  • Proposed Rules of Order
  • Council Annual Meeting, Minutes, April 17, 2021
  • Audit Report FY’21 as prepared by Aronson LLC
  • Report of the Nominating Committee

For hard copy of delegate packet, contact Customer Care at customercare@gscnc.org, 202-237-1670
You Will Vote

• Approve Agenda, Rules of Order and Minutes of 2021 Annual Meeting
• Election of Board Members-at-Large
• Election of Nominating Committee members
• Elections of National Delegates and Alternates
Treasurer’s Report

Indicators of Financial Health

**Assets:** Are the Council’s assets increasing/decreasing in value compared to previous year?

**Revenue:** Are sources of revenue diverse? Are they increasing/decreasing compared to the previous year?

**Expenses:** Are expenses less/more than revenue? Are there specific categories that have changed significantly?

**Reserves:** Does the Council have money saved for an unexpected financial challenge?
This year voting members will be electing:

**Board of Directors**
- 9 Members-at-Large
- 2 Teen Girls

3 Members of the Nominating Committee

26 Delegates to the 2023 National Council Session

Up to 17 Alternate National Delegates
56th Girl Scout National Council Session

**ORLANDO HERE WE COME!**
GSUSA National Council Session
to be held
**July 16 - 23, 2023**

We hope that you will be inspired to join us as part of the largest delegation in the country!
Questions?

If you have questions after Forum, contact
Katie Steele ksteele@gscnc.org
Annual Meeting

Date:
Saturday, April 30, 2022
sign in between 8:15 – 8:45 am

Location:
Prince George’s Stadium in
Bowie, Maryland

Dress code is Girl Scout spirit-
wear and comfortable shoes,
but Girl Scout uniform is always welcome!
Attendance at Annual Meeting RSVP

- All Delegates, Alternate Delegates, Board Members, Nominees and Honorees will be Pre-Registered.
- An RSVP Email will be sent to each individual to your email of record in Volunteer Systems on April 18th.
  - Kindly respond with a yes or no on attendance no later than April 21st.
  - SU Managers will receive an email notifying your RSVP attendance status to assist with replacement.

If you know you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting PRIOR to April 10th, delegates and alternate delegates are asked to connect with their SU Manager so promotion occurs and new alternates are located.
The annual meeting is open to all to attend and there will be a “general seating area” for non-voting members.

- All Visitors will register by 1:00 pm on April 26th using the following link: [https://form.jotform.com/GSCNCMembership/2022-Annual-Meeting](https://form.jotform.com/GSCNCMembership/2022-Annual-Meeting).
- The link will officially open on April 1st and will also be available on our Events Calendar.
- Visitor registration is required to receive an Annual Meeting patch
- Visitors include family of honorees.
Delegates and Alternates will be directed to Delegate Check-In on the left side concourse.

- At Delegate Check In, Delegates and Alternates will be asked to sign their names by service unit.
- Delegates will receive their SEAT ASSIGNMENT (new), voting credentials, nametags, and patch.
- Alternates should check back at 8:45 am for promotion to receive seat Assignment and credentialling.

All Visitors will report to the General Check-In area to receive their patch and any other materials for the day.
Delegates and Alternate Delegates must sign in between 8:00am and 8:40am.

Delegates will receive Voting Credentials and an assigned seating placement. Alternates will sign in only.

Alternate Delegates should report back to the sign-in area at 8:45am. All delegates who have not signed in will be replaced by alternate delegates from the same service unit.

At 9:00am all credentialing stops and the Teller gathers all documents. No one can be added as a voting member. All nametags are relocated to “General Check In”.

If you have questions about delegate logistics, contact kbeernink@gscnc.org
Girl Scouts Nation's Capital

FY’22 - 25 Strategic Goals
October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2025

Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital commits to deliver a high-quality leadership development program for all girls through our dedicated volunteers to build a more just community.

- Growing Membership
- Supporting Volunteers
- Delivering High Quality Program
- Increasing Investment for Girls
RESPONSIBILITIES:
5. Support staff level efforts to expand and amplify operational work on DEI.
6. Identify topics and create opportunities for board members to listen to girls’ voices on advocacy and develop a baseline understanding on issues important and relevant to Girl Scouts.
Nation’s Capital Girl 2015-2021 Membership: Race

Source: GSUSA Looker
Nation’s Capital 2015-2021 Girl Membership: Ethnicity

Source: GSUSA Looker
In 2013, Girl Scout Research Institute began surveying Girl Scout members.

The Girl Scout Voices Count survey is distributed annually in May/June. A survey link is provided via email.

Four survey options are available to complete:
- Girl Survey
- Parent Survey
- Troop Leader Survey
- Service Unit Volunteer Survey

For 2021, DEI and Racial Justice questions were added to assess our Movement.
Percentage of leaders who say their troop includes Girl Scouts who:

- Are from a variety of racial and/or ethnic backgrounds: 75%
- Have learning or cognitive challenges: 47%
- Have emotional or behavioral challenges: 43%
- Are from economically challenged households: 29%
- Identify as LGBQ+: 11%
- Are physically disabled: 9%
- Identify as non-binary, genderqueer, or...: 5%

958 leaders responded

Girl Scout Voices Count 2021
Percentage of girls who think Girl Scout should focus on the following topics:

- Protecting the environment: 94%
- Girls and women's equality: 91%
- Positive mental health and well-being: 91%
- Social inequality, like poverty or hunger: 86%
- Climate change: 83%
- Social justice and equality: 80%
- Racism and cultural biases: 79%
- Being a global citizen: 77%
- Equality for the LGBTQ+ community: 74%

Survey of teen girls from Girl Survey; 381 respondents. Girls were given answer options of “yes”, “no”, and “I don’t know”.

Girl Scout Voices Count 2021
This program theme captures the commitment of our Girl Scouts to change the world and the Council’s commitment to girl-led diversity, equity and inclusion program initiatives. The Council will host events, convene conversations and elevate the interests and voices of girls as they work to create a more just community.
Diversity, equality, and inclusion are integrated into all aspects of the operating objectives for this year. For example:

- Implementation of recruitment initiatives to gain interest and commitment in our diverse communities.
- Increase racial and ethnic diversity in our service unit teams.
- Develop mental health resources for troop leaders.
- Launch initiative to recruit and amplify program partners that reflect the diversity of our girls.
- Distribute at least $500,000 in financial assistance.
Q1: What steps can Girl Scouts take to create an organization of belonging?
Q2: What policies need to be altered to make other families feel welcome and empowered?
Our members gathered and discussed many ways to create an organization of belonging. The frequently identified ideas were:

• Offer materials in **multiple languages**:
  • Website, forms, trainings, recruitment material
  • Provide budget for the translation of materials at the SU level; ability to have a translator who can help SU communications

• **Better accommodate parents** to allow for more parent involvement:
  • Include families more especially for fun patches/badges
  • Family/siblings should be welcome at meetings
  • Lessen leader responsibilities to allow for more involvement from working parents

• **Inclusion and Diversity Training**:
  • How to be inclusive
  • How to work effectively with our girls who are neuro-diverse or have physical disabilities
• **Resources** for troop conversations around race, LGBTQ+, ability/disability:
  - Training that is girl appropriate
  - Tips on how to approach such discussions
  - Resources around correct language so there is no offending others

• Decrease the **financial burden** of the organization
  - Financial aid should be discreet and easy to access
  - Decrease pricing for badges and uniforms
  - More free events or decrease event fees

• Shift away from STEM badges and increase **focus on cultural or social justice badges**
  - Include cultural badges; spotlight both diverse individuals and cultural activities
Our delegates were just as passionate when it came to GSCNC policy. Almost all our discussion groups identified the need to:

- Create a formal Council position on gender:
  - Terminology and definitions
  - Welcoming individuals as their gender identify evolves; non-binary and those transitioning

To a lesser extent, many volunteers also advocated for:

- Simplify the volunteer registration process

The most common comment under this section is that many leaders and girls are unaware of current Council policy and that there should be one location where policy can be found.
The feedback identified on the previous slides is a small sample of what was discussed and submitted by delegates.

The remaining submissions and SU input will be processed and converted into a report.

We will report back our final findings at the Annual Meeting to all delegates and visitors in attendance.

This feedback will guide our council’s work as we aim to improve our organization!
See you Saturday, April 30\textsuperscript{th} at 8:00 AM!