

Frequently Ask Questions

Delegate Process

General Information

What is a Girl Scout Delegate?

A Delegate is a Girl Scout member who is selected to act for or represent others in her/his geographic area as a Council or National Delegate. The delegate system somewhat mirrors our elected legislators who represent constituents. You are nominated by your peers and elected by those who are members of your service units and associations.

What kinds of Delegates are present in Girl Scouting?

There are two types of Girl Scout Delegates: Council Delegates and National Delegates.

What is an Alternate?

An Alternate is selected to fulfill the duties of a Delegate if the selected Delegate is unable to perform her/his duties.

What is a Quorum?

The number of delegates of a group or organization required to be present to transact business legally. This number is based on a percentage of the total number of delegates elected.

Council Delegates

Who can be a Girl Scout Council Delegate?

Any registered Girl Scout 14 years of age or over, elected as a voting member of a local Girl Scout council.

Why are Council Delegates important?

Representing Girl Scouts Dakota Horizons (GSDH) is an honor and a privilege. When you accept the nomination, you are proudly stating your commitment to place the needs and desires of the council, association, and service unit members above your own personal interests. We encourage you to become a delegate to represent your association and service unit. Being a delegate is a wonderful way to build your resume' for college applications and for your career.

What are the responsibilities of a Council Delegate?

Council Delegates are responsible for attending the and voting at the Council's Annual Meeting and attending any applicable trainings leading up to the annual meeting.

How long is the term of a GSDH Council Delegate?

One year. Delegates may serve consecutive terms.

How many delegates is my geographic area eligible to designate?

Each geographic area is entitled to designate one (1) Council Delegate and one (1) Alternate for every fifty (50) girl members, whose population is determined as of September 30 of the preceding year. In any geographic area, any remaining portion of girl members numbering 26 and greater shall elect an additional Council Delegate and Alternate. Every geographic area shall be entitled to elect at least one (1) Council Delegate and one (1) Alternate.

What is the GSDH Annual Meeting and why is it important?

The GSDH Annual Meeting is the Council's yearly business meeting. The time, date, and place, are determined by the Board of Directors.

National Delegates

Who can be a Girl Scout National Delegate?

A person 14 years of age or over, selected by a local Girl Scout council as a voting member of the National Council (Girl Scouts of the USA corporation).

How long is the term of a National Delegate?

National Council delegates serve a three-year term.

How many National Delegates is GSDH eligible to elect?

Each local council and USA Girl Scouts Overseas can elect two delegates, as well as another one for every 3,500 girls under its jurisdiction. To count toward the 3,500, a girl must have been a member registered with Girl Scouts of the USA as of September 30 of the year proceeding the National Council's regular session. The prescribed number of girls is adjusted up or down as necessary to keep the local council and overseas delegate total as close as possible to 1,500.

What are the responsibilities of a National Delegate?

National Delegates are required to attend the National Council Session and any applicable training or meetings leading up to the session. Participate in teleconference/webinars, hosted by GSUSA, related to the National Council Session & National Council Delegates for the duration of their 3-year elected term. Elected National Council Delegates shall be ex officio members of the Council and also serve as voting members at the Council annual meeting for their elected term as long as they meet the eligibility requirements as voting members.

What is the National Council Session?

The National Council Session is a tri-annual meeting of the National Council Delegates generally held in person.

What do National Delegates do?

The National Council at its sessions shall hold elections, amend the Constitution, establish requirements for credentials, and shall determine the general lines of policy of the Girl Scout Movement and program by considering and acting upon proposals directed toward the fostering and improvement of Girl Scouting, by receiving and acting upon reports of its National Board of Directors, and by giving guidance to the National Board upon general lines of direction of the Movement and program.