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<https://www.girlscouts.org/en/about-girl-scouts/GIRL-2020.html>

First



Timer's Guide

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MOVEMENT AND THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

The ultimate responsibility for the Girl Scout Movement rests with its members. We govern by an efficient and effective democratic process that demonstrates our leadership in a fast-changing world.

~Preamble to the Constitution,
Blue Book of Basic Documents p 7

ARTICLE IV THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

1. The membership of this corporation shall consist of the members of the National Council of Girl Scouts of the United States of America, and the corporation in meeting assembled shall be known as the National Council.

2. The National Council shall have all the powers conferred by the Congressional Charter and by other applicable laws, and shall exercise these powers with due regard for its position as the coordinating head of the Girl Scout Movement in the United States.

3. Only citizens of the United States who are members of the Girl Scout Movement in the United States and who are 14 years of age or over may be members of the National Council.

4. The membership of the National Council shall consist of:

- delegates elected by Girl Scout councils who are registered through such local councils;
- delegates from USA Girl Scouts Overseas;
- members of the National Board of Directors;
- members of the National Board Development Committee;
- Past Presidents of Girl Scouts of the United States of America; and
- such other persons as may be elected by the National Council.

The total membership of the National Council shall not exceed 1,500, and at least four-fifths of the entire membership shall consist of delegates from local councils and from USA Girl Scouts Overseas.

~Constitution Girl Scout of the USA
Blue Book of Basic Documents p 7,8

Here's How:

where to find resources:

<https://www.girlscouts.org/en/about-girl-scouts/traditions.html>

1. Ensure that the Girl Scout Promise and Law can be heard through respectful language. Delegates can disagree without being disagreeable.
2. Allow staff to share their skills with the Movement by applying for an appropriate Convention Action Team jobs.
3. Create a council "identifier" so you can both find one another and be found by others.
4. To SWAP or not to SWAP. Showcasing a council signature strength may work.

How do we play our part?

Build Your Brand

NOTES

things you need to know:

- Your delegate's participation can enhance or detract from your council's reputation among its peers.
- Convention Action Team opportunities are great for staff development and for showcasing your council's talent.
- A cohesive council group makes the experience more enjoyable for all, however not connecting with counterparts from other councils lessens your council's brand impact.

Overview

The National Council is the legal corporation of Girl Scouts of the United States of America. It is required to hold a regular session triennially.

Who goes?

What do they do?

When does the action start?

Where I fit in?

Why do we go ?

How do we play our part?

Who Goes?

Delegates & Visitors

NOTES

things you need to know:

- Council delegates allocated based on September 30 girl membership of the prior year
 - Alternates should be elected
 - A few alternates should attend as visitors
- Delegate who are girl members are permitted but not required
 - Most councils include girl members as delegates
- Most councils subsidize all or partial cost for delegate to participate.
- Most Councils **do not** subsidize visitor participation

Here's How:

where to find resources:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPgeREU9I7c>

1. Make someone other than you the “delegation” leader so you can more fully participate.
2. Go to sessions that will give you a chance to be inspired rather than those that are more task related.
3. Spend enough time in the Expo Hall to see it all and catch the girls’ excitement.
4. Without neglecting your delegation, find a way to make some time for personal peer to peer interaction.
5. Always wear comfortable shoes.

Why do we go?

Business &
Pleasure

NOTES

things you need to know:

- Build Movement alignment through business meeting
- Build personal connections across the movement
- Strengthen relationships among the council delegates and visitors
- Be inspired by the size and scope of Girl Scouting
- Be inspired by G.I.R.L 2020 planning team members
- Be inspired by speakers and learning sessions

Here's How:

where to find resources:

<http://delegates.girlscouts.org/>

1. Check your council bylaws for selection/ election procedure in your council.
2. Review the Delegate Selection Process information found on our website
 - <https://www.girlscouts.org/en/about-girl-scouts/GIRL-2020/ncs-resource-center/delegate-selection-process.html>
3. Encourage delegates and alternates to use the Official Delegate Website to learn and share information.
4. Use constituent meetings prior to the NCS to share issues and seek input.
5. Treat alternates the same way as you treat delegates since they could become a delegate at any time.

What do they do?

Discuss, Debate,
Vote & Learn

NOTES

things you need to know:

- Delegates:
 - Debate proposal
 - Vote on proposal
 - Elect National Board
 - Give input via discussion
 - Participate in G.I.R.L. 2020 plenary and learning sessions
 - Enjoy the EXPO hall
 - Local tourism
- Visitors
 - Observe the National Council Session
 - Participate in G.I.R.L. 2020 plenary and learning sessions
 - Enjoy the EXPO hall
 - Local tourism

Here's How:

where to find resources:

<https://girlscouts.sharepoint.com/sites/ceocommunications>

1. Review the Guidelines for Developing and Reviewing Proposals.
2. Have your selection group use the soon to be released National Council Delegate Selection Toolkit which will contain:
 - Application and nomination forms
 - Delegate job descriptions
 - Forms to assist in evaluating and ranking candidates
3. Review the 2017 budget for convention related expense and income.
4. Develop a strategy for engaging with these key council constituents to turn them into ambassadors for your vision and leadership.

Where do I fit in?

Go-Getter, Risk-Taker,
Innovator, Leader

NOTES

things you need to know:

- Guide your board through the proposal development and review process
 - Change management may be required
- Guide the BDC in delegate selection
 - Change management may be required
- Budget appropriately
 - Change management may be required
 - Find sponsors for girls
- Demonstrate leadership in preparing delegates
 - At least 3 meetings
 - Be with the delegates on site in Orlando

Here's How:

where to find resources:

<https://www.girlscouts.org/en/about-girl-scouts/GIRL-2020.html>

1. Help participants realize the convention is really a series of three meetings, the National Council Session, G.I.R.L. 2020 & the Global RoundTable wrapped into one gigantic event.
2. Involve your delegation in seeking input from all members of your council so they are well informed about all aspects of the issues to be discussed and debated.
3. Encourage visitors to observe the NCS in action to see our democratic principles and parliamentary procedure at work to govern our Movement.

When does the action start?

It never stops

NOTES

things you need to know:

- Three-year cycle
 - Year before NCS = plan
 - NCS year = decide
 - Year after NCS = do
- National Board Initiative to engage delegate
- Leverage local opportunities to engage National Council delegate in local governance and decision influencing

Here's How:

where to find resources:

<http://delegates.girlscouts.org/>

1. Appoint a delegate liaison
 - Interface for delegate engagement throughout the triennium
 - Logistics around convention years
2. Engage current delegates in thinking about proposals and how your council would be affected by potential changes.
3. Use the soon to be released National Council Delegate Training Resources to prepare your team.
4. Practice using parliamentary procedures so your team can follow the action and debate during the NCS.
5. Plan how your team will share information on their return.

