

FAQ's for the S'more Sisterhood Challenge

1. Why is the council providing this incentive?

The GSCP2P vision is "Every girl a Girl Scout; every community a better place." We know the Girl Scout Leadership Experience is a powerful program that significantly impacts girls, families and the community. By working in partnership with our volunteers and families, we can grow our strong membership while building the resources of the council and allowing us to continually make improvements to services provided, programs and properties.

2. Will the council really pay for the 2016-2017 girl memberships?

Yes. For troops meeting the S'more Sisterhood Challenge (growing their troop by 20% "active members"* by December 1, 2015), GSCP2P will pay for all 2016-2017 girl memberships submitted by September 30, 2016. (*See definition of "active member" in FAQ #3 below.)

3. New girls in the troop have to be active in the troop in order to qualify. What does "active" mean?

An active Girl Scout is defined by any (or all) of the following activities – sells 12 items from the Fall Product Program OR sells 4 cases of cookies through the Girl Scout Cookie Program OR attends a session at any GSCP2P summer camp program (day or resident camp).

4. How do I know how many girls were on my troop roster as of September 30, 2015?

The week of October 10, an email will be sent to all leaders (01's) announcing the S'more Sisterhood Challenge. In that email, we will list the **2014-2015 girls** registered in your troop as of September 30, 2015 **AND** we will list the **girls currently registered for the 2015-2016 troop year**. If you do not receive this email, please email info@girlscoutsp2p.org with your name and troop number and we will resend your information.

5. What if there are girls on my roster who were not active in my troop?

If they are on your troop roster on September 30, 2015, they count as a member of your troop.

6. Does troop camping count in the definition of "active Girl Scout?"

No, only a summer resident or day camp program meets the definition.

7. What if the new girls in the troop do not participate in the product programs or summer camp?

For purposes of THIS challenge, they would not be counted in the 20% growth definition. However, that doesn't mean they are not Girl Scouts.

8. Is the 20% increase only girl members or do adults count?

The 20% increase is based solely on girl membership.

9. How do I calculate the 20%?

Use this chart to define the number of NEW girls needed to meet the challenge. NEW girls mean new to Girl Scouting. Girls transferring or bridging into your troop do not count for the S'more Sisterhood Challenge.

| Number of girls on Sept. 30, 2015 is between | | NEW Girls Needed |
|--|----|------------------|
| 1 | 5 | 1 |
| 6 | 10 | 2 |
| 11 | 15 | 3 |
| 16 | 20 | 4 |
| 21 | 25 | 5 |
| 26 | 30 | 6 |
| 31 | 35 | 7 |
| 36 | 40 | 8 |
| 41 | 45 | 9 |
| 46 | 50 | 10 |

10. What if girls move away or have dropped out of Girl Scouting?

We hope they had a great experience in your troop for the year and that they will join Girl Scouting again. The S'more Sisterhood Challenge is to grow troops by 20%. If you had 11 girls on September 30, 2015 and 1 moved and 1 dropped out, you would still use the number 11 (from September 30) and your challenge for the incentive is a total of 14 girls registered in your troop by December 1, 2015. Remember, this is a troop growth challenge so we need to base the growth on original troop size in order to increase the total number of girls participating in this great Girl Scout program.

11. What if girls transferred into my troop from another troop?

If they transferred on or before September 30, 2015 and were registered in your troop for the 2014-2015 troop year, they count in your troop's total number as you calculate the number needed in the chart above. If they transfer after September 30, 2015, welcome them with open arms, but they still do not count as NEW girls in your troop because they were already registered Girl Scouts.

12. If a council staff person places a girl new to Girl Scouting in my troop, does she count towards the 20% increase?

Absolutely! Make sure the membership staff know how many new girls you need.

13. Do girls who bring friends into the troop qualify for the Add-a-Friend patch and charms?

Absolutely. These are adorable charms that can be purchased in any of our Girl Scout Shops. Here is the link to more information - http://www.girlscoutsp2p.org/img/2015_Add-A-Friend-Letter.pdf

14. Will we be considered an Early Bird troop in 2016-2017?

Yes, your troop will be considered an Early Bird troop for 2016-2017 as long as your troop qualifies for Early Bird status. The Early Bird program is independent of the S'more Sisterhood challenge. You can qualify for both as long as you meet the separate requirements for each.

15. How will you inform us when we reach our 20% growth?

Troops that qualify by girls participating in either the Fall Product or Cookie Program will be contacted in the spring. Because of the "active girl" definition, we will not be able to inform all troops of the final S'more Sisterhood Challenge results until early August 2016 when summer camps are complete.

16. How will the council pay for the registrations?

The membership payment by the council will be done with a rebate. We are using a rebate for several reasons.

- 1) Troops can qualify for Early Bird registration incentives (which may happen before a troop qualifies for the S'more Sisterhood Challenge).
- 2) The S'more Sisterhood Challenge criteria can take until August to be completed.
- 3) Our online registration system (eBiz) does not allow for specific coupons.

A simple form requesting payment will be available to apply for the rebate. All qualifying registrations for the 2016-2017 membership year will need to be paid by the troop by September 30, 2016. The council will then rebate the qualifying girl registration fees to each troop. All rebates will be processed by October 31, 2016.

17. How can the Service Unit use the GSCP2P program vouchers?

The program vouchers can be used for a girl and adult program fees for events that are offered by the council as well as camporee reservations fees for the service unit. The actual process for cashing in program vouchers will be shared when a SU receives the voucher.

What if's...

a. What if I am a new troop?

Welcome to GSCP2P! You are starting a grand adventure and we are here to support you. Your goal for the S'more Sisterhood Challenge is to have at least 10 NEW girls registered in your troop by December 1, 2015. These girls will need to be "active" based on the definition above. By having at least 10 active girls in your troop as of December 1, 2015, you will also help the Service Unit by adding an additional \$50 program voucher to the SU incentive.

b. What if I already have a large troop and don't think I can accept any new girls?

It is possible that this challenge is not appropriate for everyone. One thing to remember is that with new girls come new adults and additional support. Set the precedent that all parents play an active role in supporting the troop.

c. What if some of the new girls do not want to participate in the Cookie Program?

The Cookie Program is a key part of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and teaches critical financial literacy and leadership skills. If girls do not participate in the Cookie Program, the Fall Product Program and choose not to go to camp this summer, they are not considered "active" and therefore do not qualify in the calculation of new active girls for the S'more Sisterhood Challenge.

d. What if we accepted 10 Girl Scouts into our troop in May when they bridged bringing our total to 32 girls? We can't possible handle 7 more NEW girls.

WOW! Thank you so much for accepting the bridging girls into your troop. You have a great troop size and should have plenty of parent support (remember to ask all parents to help). Maybe this year isn't the year to try the S'more Sisterhood Challenge.

e. What if we have additional questions about the S'more Sisterhood Challenge?

Please email your questions to info@girlscoutsp2p.org