

BASIC TROOP INFORMATION

Troop Number_____

Leader Contact Information

Name_____

Home_____

Cell_____

Email_____

Meeting Information

Day_____

Time_____

Location_____

Co/Assistant Leader Information

Name_____

Home_____

Cell_____

Email_____

Troop Dues

The troop dues are \$_____per
_____and should be received by
the troop leader by_____of
every month.

Troop Dues: Dues help subsidize troop costs, such as craft projects, badge activities and Girl Scout pins. Troop dues should not be more than \$5.00 per month per girl. Some troop leaders may ask for a block in the fall when the troop treasury is low. If you cannot afford to pay troop dues in a block, please speak with the leader. **At no time are troop funds divided** based on the contributions of individual girls through dues or money-earning efforts; all girls work as a team to reach troop goals.

Girl/Adult Ratio: Troops are required to meet a specified girl to adult ratio during meetings and trips. However **parent volunteers** should not expect to go to every meeting or on every trip. We highly encourage troops to maintain a minimum number of meeting helpers and chaperones so that the girls are empowered to try new things and become more confident in their own abilities.

Council Shop: Girl Scouts of Greater Mississippi operates council shops as a service to our volunteers, parents and girls. Shops are located at the Jackson, Hattiesburg, and Gulf Coast Service Center. The shops carry girl and adult uniform pieces as well as insignia, badges, patches, pins, emblems and handbooks. VISA, and MasterCard are accepted along with cash or check.

Service Centers: For your convenience, Girl Scout Service Centers are located throughout the council jurisdiction. Typical office hours are 8:30am-5:00pm but contact your local center to confirm.

Metro Jackson Service Center
1471 West County Line Road
Jackson, MS 39213 (SHOP)
601-366-0607 or 800-898-4475

Hattiesburg Service Center
500 North Hutchinson Avenue
Hattiesburg, MS 39401 (SHOP)
601-582-1455 or 888-524-9613

Gulf Coast Service Center
1610 25th Avenue
Gulfport, MS 39501 (SHOP)
228-864-7215 or 866-764-7215

Meridian Service Center
307 24th Avenue South
Meridian, MS 39301
601-693-2903 or 866-693-2904

PARENT /GUARDIAN TIPS

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

As the parent of a Girl Scout, we need you to work with leaders to ensure your daughter's safety, well-being, and enjoyment of the program.

- Be prompt when dropping off or picking up your daughter from meetings or trips.
- Walk your daughter to and from the meeting room- don't just drop-off.
- Return completed forms and permission slips on time.
- Read materials sent home and respond promptly.
- As helpers and chaperones, adults must follow Safety-Wise standards.
- Be a role model for the girls.
- Obey the speed limit.
- Refrain from smoking.
- Be aware that siblings, whether registered Girl Scouts or not, cannot attend troop meetings or events unless otherwise stated.
- If you or your daughter has a problem with a leader, parent or another girl in the troop, please be respectful and set up a time to talk with your leader privately. Everyone wants the chance to handle a problem directly with tact and dignity for all.

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO MAKE YOUR DAUGHTER'S TROOP A SUCCESS!

Active parents lead to happy leaders, which result in successful troops! Just a little bit of your time and talent can make a world of difference to a busy leader, a circle of Girl Scouts or even just one little girl.

- Be a driver for field trips
- Take CPR and 1st Aid Training
- Bring troop snacks
- Provide sibling childcare
- Share a talent or hobby with the troop. Plan a craft or badge project for the troop meeting
- Create and distribute troop newsletters
- Serve as the troop cookie sale manager
- Ask the leaders what you can do to help them
- Celebrate Girl Scout Leader's Day, April 22nd
- Smile
- Help make phone calls or send emails
- Take troop camp training and go camping with the girls.

WHAT TO DO IF THERE IS A PROBLEM

Most of the time, Girl Scout troops run smoothly and without many problems. On occasion, questions and conflicts may arise and you may need assistance to handle the problem or situation.

- Our best advice is to talk directly and respectfully to the person you are having a conflict with, whether it is your daughter's leader or another parent that helps with the troop.
- Never discuss problems in the presence of **ANY** girl. Have the discussion outside of the troop meeting.
- Do not discuss problems with anyone other than the person(s) directly involved. Never gossip.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions of the leader or co-leader regarding your daughter's Girl Scout troop, as this will often prevent misunderstandings and conflict.
- If the issue cannot be resolved, you can contact the Girl Scout of Greater Mississippi for advice. You will need to have the troop leader's name and troop number handy so you can be referred to the proper membership manager.

SAYING THANK YOU

Did you know that many of our adult volunteers are students, work a full time job, may have more than one child, family/personal responsibilities and are involved in more than one organization? Without a doubt, our Girl Scout leaders are very busy but are definitely driven individuals with a passion for helping girls in their communities! So remember that this is their passion, not their career. Always remember to say THANKS!