

What's New: Council Resource Guide 2011-2012

Phone Extensions listed throughout will go into effect on
October 1

Changes from GSUSA:

1. New training plan for new volunteers. Girl Scouting 101 has been released from GSUSA, replacing the online Orientation and Leadership Essentials courses. New volunteers (in troop pathway) take these Core Leadership Courses:
 - Girl Scouting 101
 - Getting Started
 - Staying Safe
 - Highly recommended courses include “Three Processes, One Powerful Program” and the appropriate grade level course

Also introduced this year will be Girl Scouting 101 for Events volunteers. Check our council website for guidance on which volunteers need which courses.
2. The Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting has been released, and there’s a section beginning on page 34, including new awards and Insignia on page 36
3. A few activities have been added to the list of activities that are never allowed:
 - Trampolines, (trampolines have always been on the list, but we may no longer make exceptions for trampoline facilities)
 - Simulated skydiving and zero-gravity rooms
 - Go-carts (except very slow “kiddie” go carts)

Changes from GSNorCal:

1. Steps to Form a Troop/Group (page 6)
 - Replaced GSUSA Orientation with Girl Scouting 101
 - May no longer fax information when opening a bank account (following guidelines for protecting personal information), so first six steps are re-ordered. (Instructions for opening a bank account are also updated):

2011-2012 Steps:	2010-2011 Steps
Step 1: Complete Girl Scouting 101 and start screening process	Step 1: Complete GSUSA Orientation
Step 2: Welcome Session	Step 2: Welcome Session
Step 3: Contact your service unit	Step 3: Register and start screening process
Step 4: Open your bank account	Step 4 Complete Core Leadership Courses
Step 5: Register	Step 5: Contact your service unit
Step 6: Complete Core Leadership Courses	Step 6: Open your bank account
Steps 7-10 remain unchanged	

2. Property Reservations process and timeline updated (page 20-21)
3. Online Registration for SU Events/Community Camps is now allowed. However, there are many legal requirements involved which must be followed, which are summarized on page 96.

Updated/Clarified Features

Contacting Staff (page 9): Because our council has grown so much, volunteers often may not know who to call with various questions. We’ve established a “one stop shop” for calls and e-mails. These calls or e-mails are logged and response times tracked to ensure that you’ll get answers, help, or other support in a timely manner. Before Oct 1: (408) 287-4170 ext. 235 After Oct 1: (800) 447-4475 ext. 0

Here are a few other items:

1. Safety Guidelines from GSUSA on page 12 and 62. (Twelve basic guidelines to always follow for any meeting or activity.) Note that it is still important to check the Safety Activity Checkpoint for each activity found here www.GirlScoutsNorCal.org/safety
2. Checklist for Volunteer Team registration and screening requirements on page 22
3. The “Engaging Girls at All Grade Levels” chapter includes all-new girl-development charts for each grade level (pages 49-51)
4. Expanded information about journeys throughout, including:
 - Meeting with girls for the first time—page 20
 - Why Journeys? (benefits) - page 29
 - How to use journeys—page 30
 - Synopsis of each journey—pages 31-33
5. “It’s Not a Girl Scout Event” - Sometimes leaders are tempted to disregard certain guidelines or to use a vendor who is not approved due to inadequate insurance coverage. Think twice before doing this—you are taking a legal risk. Page 13
6. Bill Pay Services not allowed for troops—Page 79
7. Clarification about projects benefitting another organization—page 89
8. Clarification on cause-related marketing examples—page 91
9. Sales tax is required when purchasing items for your troop/group—page 92