

Governance FAQ's

1. Are the Board members and Board Representative Committee members paid or volunteers? If they are paid how much do they make?

Board members and members of the Board Representative Committee are volunteers and receive no compensation.

2. Do Adult Service Unit representatives have different responsibilities than Girl Service Unit representatives or the Girl Representatives at-large?

No, representatives whether adult or girl, service unit or at-large representatives all have the same responsibilities. Representatives for a Service Unit should be selected based on whether they are at least 14 years of age and how well they will represent their service unit; their responsibilities are the same (see the position description in the Representative Manual).

3. Who are the “voting members” of the Council?

The voting members of our council are the "Representative Assembly". The members of the Representative Assembly are: Service Unit Representatives, 10 girls-at-large from throughout the Council (chosen by application), the current National Council Delegates, and the Board of Directors.

4. Why are there 10 girls-at-large representatives?

Having 10 girls-at-large representatives as part of the Representative Assembly ensures we have girl influence/input in the actions of the Representative Assembly.

5. How many meetings will I be expected to attend as a representative?

Two to three. All representatives are expected to attend a training class at least once. Training is available on line through gsLearn. You also are expected to attend the Fall Forum, where you will participate in discussions of pertinent topics. The Forum is usually in either October or November. In addition, your presence at the council's Annual Meeting of the Representative Assembly is crucial. The Annual Meeting is usually held in February of each year. PLEASE, check the Governance page on the website to find the dates and further information for these events.

6. Why isn't there a separate training for girl representatives?

The position of representative, in our council, gives the girls selected an opportunity to take on a more mature role, working along-side adults, with adult responsibilities. Having the girls and adults train together gives them their first exposure at working side by side at that more mature level.

7. Why is a lot of the vocabulary used in the training class so formal?

Some of the vocabulary in training may seem very formal, but is necessary for the representative to know as they may encounter this vocabulary in the Fall Forums, Annual Meetings, etc. Our Council is a non-profit corporation and must follow certain state laws which require a governance structure, such as our "Representative Assembly," to conduct business. As a result of complying with the laws, our structure is a formal process, using much the same vocabulary as can be found in the governing laws. We use the same language and process in our training so that representatives will have a chance to become familiar with it. The glossary in the Representative Manual includes many of the more formal words used. Anytime you do not understand something please be sure to ask. We are here to help you.

If you want to know more about the process used by many organizations and corporations, the California Corporation Code (available in most libraries or online) and *Roberts Rules of Order* (also available in libraries or for purchase in book stores or online) are very good reference documents.