

SHARED LEADERSHIP

Definition

A shared leadership troop is one in which responsibilities for troop meetings, implementation of the girls' plans, and the business aspects of a troop are divided and rotated among co-leaders. This structure can be used when adults are interested in troop leadership, but lack the time and the ability to lead a troop on their own. Girl Scouts Heart of Central California requires that all adults in leadership positions within a troop, specifically leader (01) and co-leader (02), have attend New Leader Basics/Age Level training within the first six (6) months after their appointment.

Shared Leadership Positions

Key positions within a shared leadership troop should include, and are not limited to:

- Facilitator – Coordinates the work of the troop for a program year, convenes and chairs all scheduled adult meetings, secures commitment for support functions of troop, sets ground rules for team to work together effectively.
- Communication coordinator – responsible for consistent contact with other leadership members, communication with parents about troop and council activities. Could include appointing support adults to chair telephone trees, transportation and other troop support activities.
- Troop meeting coordinator – responsible for implementation of the girl plan for troop activities, keeps records of troop activities, possesses council and service unit event calendar to share with girls when planning troop activities.
- Service Unit leader meeting liaison – consistently attends monthly service unit leader meetings to insure the troop remains informed and is an active participant in all council and service team activities and policies.
- Troop Financial coordinator - works with girls to assure that all troop financial paperwork is consistently and accurately maintained, includes trips to bank, reporting financial matters to the troop monthly and recapping all money earning activities.
- Product Program representative (s) – coordinates all Fall and Cookie Product Program for the troop, responsible for turning in accurate sales recaps and distributing girl program incentives.
- First Aider (s) - is currently certified in either Level I or Level II first aid and CPR to adhere to Safety-Wise requirements.
- Troop Camp Certified adult – successfully completed the council troop camp certification course and works with the girls on a consistent basis as they prepare for outdoor activities.

Goals

Each member of the shared leadership team helps:

- Maintain a balanced set of program activities, keeping the Girl Scout program emphases in focus.
- Help girls develop as leaders within the troop and their community.
- Help to implement and maintain effective girl/adult partnerships.
- Help girls assume the responsibility for maintaining troop financial goals and records.