



Online and Social Media Procedures

All members who create or interact on Girl Scout-related websites and social media platforms are required to follow the procedures below. Procedures are applicable for Girl Scout-related Web and social media activities (e.g. planning a Girl Scout event/outing; communicating to service unit/troop members and families) and do not apply to personal use. Social media includes, but is not limited to: social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter, Yahoo! groups and other forums, message boards, blogs, micro blogging, wikis, etc.

- Any information that could jeopardize the safety and security of girls and adults should not be disclosed on a website or social media platform. Exceptions are made only if websites or platforms are closed to the public, membership is carefully screened AND the information can only be viewed by members.
 - Never post a girl's last name, email address, physical address, phone number or school.
 - Never post the date, time and location of troop/group meetings, events or trips. Use email to communicate this information.
- Use of photos or videos requires signed permission from parents/guardians and any adults pictured. This permission can be obtained on the *Membership Registration* form or the *Photo/Artwork Release* form #002. Permission granted on these forms only pertains to Girl Scout-related use and should never be used to promote a business or political campaign.
- Only events/opportunities that are directly related to Girl Scouts can be promoted. See the current version of *Council Volunteer Policies & Procedures* for additional details.
- Ensure that your conduct is consistent with all policies contained in the current version of *Council Volunteer Policies & Procedures*.
- Girl Scouts USA does not authorize volunteers to use the Girl Scout logo online.
- Under no circumstances should volunteers utilize information available on social media sites to make volunteer appointment decisions.
- Be mindful of others' privacy and your own personal boundaries when choosing to connect with a fellow Girl Scout member through a social media platform.
- Do not attempt to resolve conflict via social media.
- Do not feel that you need to respond to negative comments online. If necessary, contact a GSOSW staff member for assistance in addressing the situation.
- Comments will be deleted if they break any of the procedures listed above; contain profanity, obscenity, vulgarity or nudity in profile photos; are defamatory to a person, people or organization; contain name-calling, personal attacks and/or personal issues that are more appropriately addressed offline; or infringe on copyright laws.
- The posting of disparaging material, bullying, intimidation or other misuse will not be tolerated. Members responsible for such material are subject to disciplinary action.
- Girl Scouts of the USA requirements are listed in *Safety Activity Checkpoints* ("Girl Scout Cookie/Council Sponsored Product Sales" and "Computer/Online Use") and we encourage all girls to sign the Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge.