

Troop Family Meeting One – Kick Off the Year

Start your Girl Scout year by holding a family meeting to meet families, set expectations, build support, and recruit troop volunteers.

Purpose	<p>This is your chance to...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☼ Get to know your Girl Scouts and their families ☼ Ask for support and help at troop meetings and outings ☼ Set clear expectations for the troop including troop dues, meeting/activity schedule, financial obligations, uniforms, etc. ☼ Brainstorm all of the exciting things your troop wants to do this year
Meeting Agenda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome & Introductions 2. Girl Scouts Overview 3. All About Our Troop 4. Troop Finances 5. Wrap Up
Materials Needed	<p>For parents/caregivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Print troop roster from MyGS, or use a sign-in sheet <input type="checkbox"/> 4Her flyers & sign-up sheet <input type="checkbox"/> Health History Form- best practices, GIRL health history form, ADULT health history form <input type="checkbox"/> Pens or pencils <input type="checkbox"/> Agenda for attendees <p>For girl activity (optional):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> All About Me – Girl, All About Me - Leader, crayons/markers <input type="checkbox"/> Start with Kindness activity
Room Set-Up	<p>Welcome Table</p> <p>Warmly introduce yourself and greet families as they arrive. Place a sign-in sheet on the table, or print your troop roster from MyGS to take attendance. Be sure to follow up with families who weren't able to attend. Have parents/caregivers sign Health History form.</p> <p>Girl Activity Area</p> <p>It's often easier for families to meet if they can bring their girl along. Plan on having an easy activity to occupy girls (supervised by your co-leader or troop volunteer) while you talk to parents/guardians. Plan to keep girls in the same room as parents/caregivers so all families are comfortable.</p>

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Facilitator Agenda	
(Time periods may vary based on attendance/troop size)	
Welcome & Introductions (10 minutes)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thank everyone for coming. Introduce yourself. Ask your co-leader, volunteers, and parent-caregivers to introduce themselves to the group as well. 2. Recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law. This is a great time to reference the values Girl Scouts cultivates in girls.
Girl Scouts Overview (5 minutes)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share the mission of Girl Scouts – to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. We do this through three key ways: girl-led, learning by doing, and cooperative learning. That means girls have a big say in what they do, participate in hands-on activities, and work together as a team. 2. Explain your role as a volunteer troop leader. What are you most excited about?
All About Our Troop (20 minutes)	<p>Troop Details:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your troop’s program grade level and troop number 2. Your troop meeting dates, times, and location 3. How will girls be dropped off/picked up? <p>Troop Communication:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How you will keep in touch with families to relay information about upcoming meetings, activities and troop business 2. Emergency communication – (late pick-up, cancellations, etc.) 3. If necessary, confirm contact info for each parent/guardian or family <p>Parent & Family Engagement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain the many ways families can be involved. Let parents and guardians know that you expect them to play an active role in supporting the troop. When troops have family support, girls have a better overall experience. (Optional – review pages 7, 10 & 11 in the Family Connection) 2. Review 4Her flyers & sign-up sheet. Ask parents to sign up to help with the troop’s specific volunteer needs. Remind parents/guardians that any adult who has regular contact with girls, handles money, or drives girls must be a registered member and complete a background check
Wrap Up (5 minutes)	Thank families for attending and ask if they have any questions.