



FAQ – District Delegates

Each Service Unit is entitled to select from among its members two Delegates, including one Adult Member and Girl Scout (14 years of age or older), whenever possible.

District Delegates serve as voting members of GSGCNWI and participate locally in our council's Democratic Process. District Delegates serve as a link between District Members (including their SU) and the Board of Directors. They gather opinions on governance matters, elect our Board of Directors and National Delegates, and approve changes to our council Bylaws.

Who can be a District Delegate?

Any registered Adult Member or Girl Scout (14 years of age or older). They can hold other volunteer positions or not, be associated with a troop or not, be a Juliette, etc...

Do they need to have experience?

No experience is necessary. We just ask that District Delegates have an interest in the role and be willing to participate.

What is the time commitment in a year?

District Delegates ideally serve a 2 year term or until a successor is selected. The commitment of a Delegate changes year to year depending on the business at that time. Typically, a Delegate can plan for the following engagement

- Attend Delegate Quarterly Meetings which are held virtually several times a year (often around September, December, February). At these meetings Delegates typically hear from our CEO about the state of the council, may be asked to share information or ask questions

- Attend the Annual Meeting which happens in April in-person. Delegates typically cast a vote at this meeting to elect board members and in certain years may vote on electing national delegates or bylaw changes.

- From February-March, Delegates may be invited to an additional meeting or two regarding the Annual Meeting depending on the number of items that will be voted on. The goal of these meetings, should they happen, is to help delegates be prepared for voting.

How does a Service Unit select our District Delegates? Or how does a member become a delegate?

Typically, Service Units will ask members if anyone is interested in serving in the role. Members may also approach their Service Unit to see if the role(s) are open.

Once a Service Unit has identified a Delegate or Alternates, the Service Unit Manager should email the District Chair directly or democraticprocess@girlscoutsgcnwi.org. Plan to supply them with the Delegates name and contact information.

Delegates can be brought on throughout the year but should be in place 1 month prior to the Annual meeting to be able to vote. The Annual Meeting is held in April so delegates should be in place by March. If they aren't in place in time, they can still be brought on but will not be able to vote at that meeting.

We got too much interest, now what?

Service Units may also select Alternates. Alternates are invited to attend Delegate meetings but do not get to vote. Should one of the Delegates not be able to serve any longer, the Alternate may step into the role while already being prepared.

We have Delegates, now what?

Service Units should plan to engage with their Delegates. You may wish to invite them to speak at a meeting and share what business happened at a recent Delegate Meeting. Have concerns in your Service Unit? Share them with your Delegate who may be able to share them at a future meeting.

What is a Delegate-at-large?

Delegates-at-large are also District Delegates but they are selected by the District Chair and not the Service Unit. Typically, these are members who are not associated with a Service Unit. Like other Delegates, they can be adults or a youth that is at least 14 years of age at the time of selection. Those who are interested in this avenue may contact the District Chair directly or email democraticprocess@girlscoutsgcnwi.org to be connected.

Questions?

Please contact democraticprocess@girlscoutsgcnwi.org
Learn more at <http://tinyurl.com/gsgcnwiDelegate>

What is a District Chair?

District Chairs are volunteers who are elected to oversee their District (our council is divided into 5 Districts). They are happy to answer questions and guide Delegates through the Democratic Process. District Chair will also be the main contact for Delegates.

GSGCNWI Districts

