

Volunteer Resources for Virtual Meetings

Vol. 1 October 2020

Dear Girl Scout Volunteer,

Virtual Meetings are the new frontier to encourage, support and engage girls in being leaders in their own lives. Although troop meetings are traditionally in-person format, we are quickly learning the power of having virtual learning and engagement opportunities at our fingertips. Imagine having your Girl Scout troop do a Zoom chat with a Zoo Keeper in Australia or a Girl Guiding Troop in the UK...Even if we don't travel, we can still meet new people and learn new things!



Why is it important to keep girls engaged with Girl Scouts, even when we can't be together? When in-person meetings are not possible, virtual meetings facilitate a sense of belonging, which is foundational to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Girls are asking for virtual meetings to maintain social connections, complete badge activities, and plan other Girl Scout activities like service projects. Girls who don't have access to troop or group meetings, either virtually or in-person, generally don't remain engaged with Girl Scouts. That means they miss out on the leadership opportunities every girl deserves. Creating an all-girl, safe environment with supportive adult mentors sets the stage for mutual encouragement, sisterhood, and continued girl leadership during a time when girls need support, belonging, and a way to make their world a better place. This matters regardless of societal circumstances.

Use this guide to help you plan your virtual meetings with confidence.

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Facing Our Fears

Girl Scout Volunteers are adaptable, creative and resourceful. That's why we know YOU CAN DO THIS! Virtual meetings may seem daunting, but start with what you know: Opening with the Girl Scout Promise and Law can be done *in person* and *online*. Other things appear not to translate to the online environment, but don't count them out! With creativity and some modification, you can virtualize more than you expect.

In-Person Meeting Activity	Virtualized
Snack	Girls bring their favorite healthy snack and share why they like it best. Everyone enjoys snack time together.
Play games & move around	Use movement to direct girls whenever you can. For example, "If you like pizza with pineapple on it, wave your hands in the air like you just don't care!"
Have Small Group Conversations	If your web meeting platform has breakout room capability, like Zoom, you can push girls into small breakout rooms in groups of 3 or 4 to discuss a topic. You can set a timer on the session and they will automatically be brought back to the main session when time is up.
Friendship Circle/Squeeze	Instead of holding hands to pass the squeeze, girls hold up their hand and make a squeezing gesture, or wink, and call out another girls name to pass the friendship energy forward.

Adapting Badge Requirements

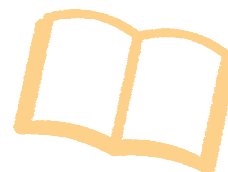
Simple substitutions to activities and the meeting format will allow you to achieve the goal of the badge or journey in a virtual space. You can adapt or substitute any activity to fit within your desired level of technology. Check out the example below for the **Brownie Painting Badge**:

	In-Person	Hybrid	Virtual
Step 1: Get Inspired	Go to an art museum as a troop.	Have the girls find a piece of art they like and then start your meeting by having the girls share what they like about it.	Take the girls on a virtual tour of an art museum.
Step 2: Paint the Real World	Girls paint landscapes during an in-person meeting.	Girls paint landscapes before the meeting then share their work in a virtual art show.	Leader describes a picture of a landscape and the girls try to reproduce it at home just following directions.
Step 3: Paint a Mood	Girls paint a picture representing a mood during an in-person meeting.	Girls paint a picture representing a mood before the meeting and share their work in a virtual art show.	Leader shows pictures of different artwork and the girls try to guess the mood.
Step 4: Paint Without Brushes	Leader provides girls with various items to use instead of paintbrushes during an in-person meeting.	Girls are assigned to paint something using an item found indoors before the meeting. They share during a virtual meeting and troop tries to guess what object they used.	Girls share the object they chose with the troop during a virtual meeting. The troop will watch as the girl paints with the object to see how it works as an art tool.
Step 5: Paint a Mural	Girls paint a mural together during an in-person troop meeting.	Girls are tasked with coming up with an idea for a mural before the meeting. They will share their design and the troop will decide on an element from each to make into a group mural that the leader, another volunteer, or a guest artist will draw.	Girls are tasked with coming up with an idea for a mural before the meeting. Each shares their design and the troop decides on an element from each to make into a group mural that the leader, another volunteer, or a guest artist will draw.

Avoiding Screen Fatigue

Now more than ever, people are experiencing “screen fatigue”. We want to make sure Girl Scouts is a place for our members to have fun, safe and healthy interactions. Keeping that in mind, it’s important to note that meeting virtually does not always have to mean sitting in front of your screen for long chunks of time.

- Movement Helps Keep Girls Engaged
 - ▶ Getting girls out of their chairs and moving around, doing something other than sitting, gives their ears and eyes a break, plus gives hands something to do.
- Mix up your meeting with opportunities to “unplug”
 - ▶ Prompt girls to go outside for a short period for inspiration, to find an object, etc.
 - ▶ Instruct girls to complete an activity elsewhere (at the kitchen table, outdoors, etc.)



Working with Girls at Their Level

Program Level	Recommended Meeting Length	Parent/ Caregiver Involvement	Tips for Engagement
Daisy (K-1)	30 minutes	Caregiver involvement in offline activities & attendance during the meetings is required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Let the girls talk about themselves & relate topics to their lives ● Play games as much as possible & use reflection questions ● Explain everything clearly. Read instructions aloud. Use drawings and do not expect girls to utilize chat function. ● Whenever possible allow girls to choose activities, songs, colors, etc.
Brownie (2-3)	45 minutes	Caregiver involvement in offline activities and attendance during the meeting is strongly recommended or required, as needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ask girls to share their feelings ● Have open conversations about decisions and conclusions that have been made ● Attempt more complex crafts or engineering activities where assembly is required ● Read instructions aloud to the group but feel free to leave text on screen for girls to refer back to
Junior (4-5)	45 - 60 minutes	Caregiver involvement in offline activities recommended, with assistance to get set up and started during meetings if needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Let girls make choices about what they want to do (games, songs, colors, badges, etc.) ● When decisions need to be made, have open conversations about conclusions, explore other alternatives, or revisit previous decisions. ● Summarize instructions verbally and put complete text on screen for girls to refer to. Girls may use chat function for communication. ● Delegate portions of the meeting for girls to lead.

Program Level	Recommended Meeting Length	Parent/ Caregiver Involvement	Tips for Engagement
Cadette (6-8)	60 minutes	Caregiver involvement in offline activities and assistance logging into meetings is optional.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Allow space for girls to share their interests ● Provide a channel for girls to reach out directly and ask for support or clarification ● Summarize instructions verbally and put complete text on screen for girls to refer to. Consider giving girls short passages to read on their own time. ● Delegate portions of meeting for girls to lead.
Senior (9-10)	60-90 minutes	Girls can manage their online troop experiences, asking for assistance when needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Give girls more responsibility for their role in meetings ● Design “what if” scenarios and give girls space to imagine, hypothesize and share their perspectives ● Delegate meetings for girls to lead.
Ambassadors (11-12)	60-90 minutes	Girls can manage their online troop experiences, asking for assistance when needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If necessary to accommodate busy schedules, consider changing to a quarterly meeting to socialize and share experiences ● Design “what if” scenarios and give girls space to imagine, hypothesize and share their perspectives ● Delegate meetings for girls to lead

Troop Finances

Online meeting platforms are sometimes free, but often not. You may feel you want to upgrade to a paid platform to better serve your meeting activities.

- It is entirely appropriate to utilize troop funds or dues to pay for the online platform that makes troop meetings possible.
- Consider partnering with a sister troop to split the cost and setting up a meeting schedule so you do not overlap.
- If a family in the troop is willing to allow the troop to use their paid platform, that is also an option.



Online Safety

With girls online more than ever, it's important that volunteers do what they can to make sure the virtual meeting space is secure and safe for everyone.

Communicate Expectations

- Set expectations up front with girls and caregivers about appropriate behavior during virtual meetings which can include but not be limited to: language, appropriate dress, using first names only, complying with the [Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge](#), etc.
- Ensure girls complete the [Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge](#) before their first virtual meeting.
- Review the [Virtual Meeting Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) with girls.
- Notify caregivers when you will need their support and how. While adult participation is not required, let them know it is appreciated, especially as you navigate these new circumstances together.
- Make sure everyone in the troop, and their supporting adults, knows how you will be communicating with them. Without in-person meetings, it can be easy for people to get left in the dark.
 - ▶ Use a private community/social/group space to communicate information, share photographs (if permissions allow), have conversations, share files, etc.
 - ▶ Use a group text app to send out quick changes or reminders.
 - ▶ Use email for private communication or longer, in-depth information that comes with multiple attachments.
- Ask the families in your troop NOT to share your virtual meeting invitation with anyone outside the troop, especially not in a public forum on social media.



or

In-Meeting Safety

- If you are using Zoom, or another platform with the “lock” functionality, consider “locking” your meeting once all expected attendees have arrived. This will prevent anyone else from joining your meeting until you “unlock” it.
- Utilize the waiting room, so you can let in only the names you recognize.
- If there is an unexpected attendee, promptly remove them by (as the host) opening the participants tab, finding their name, and selecting “Remove”.
- If you are utilizing breakout rooms, we encourage you to have at least two Girl Scout volunteers in each room with the girls.
- Make sure all virtual or physical backgrounds are appropriate (no offensive language, images, nudity, etc.)

Zoom

As the Troop Leader, it is ultimately your decision which video platform you choose to use for your meetings. We have outlined here the functionality of Zoom, which is what we use for council-sponsored events.

The Basics

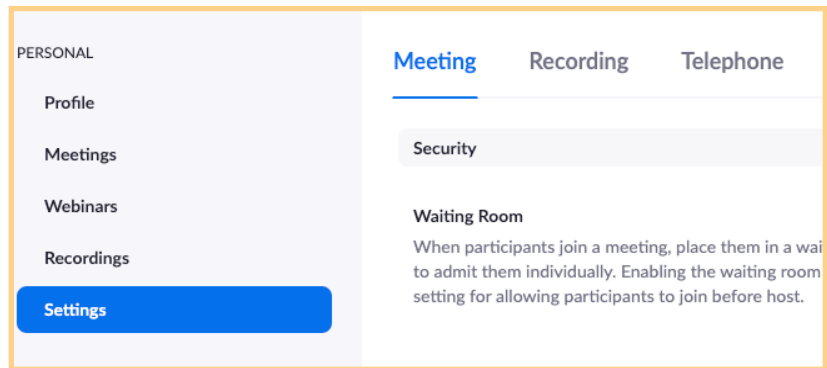
Access Zoom

- Go to www.zoom.us
- Choose the plan you want to download. The free version allows up to 100 people in your meeting with a maximum duration of 40 minutes.
- You have the option to download the application to your computer, or access it from your browser.
- Create your account.



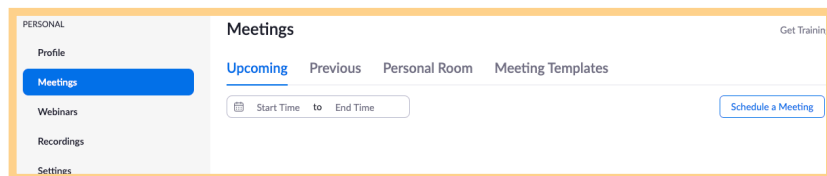
Personalize Your Settings

- From www.zoom.us go to **“My Account”**
- Under **“Profile”**, you can change how you would like your name to appear (i.e. “Troop Leader Sally”, or “Troop Volunteer Mary”), your photo (this will appear on screen when your camera is turned OFF), your time zone, etc.
- Under **“Settings”**, you can make adjustments to your meeting default settings. For example, you can require a password to enter your meetings (recommended), enable a waiting room (so you can let people into the meeting when you’re ready), enable or disable private and public chat during your meeting, give permission for others to share their screen, and more.



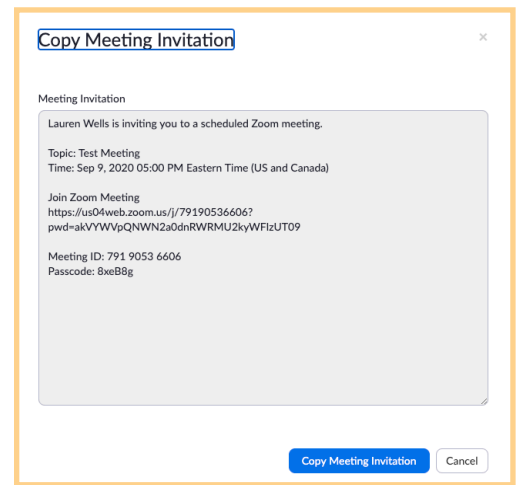
Schedule A Meeting

- Under **“Meetings”**, you will see your schedule of meetings. If this is a brand new account, you won’t see any meetings until you select **“Schedule a New Meeting”**.
 - ▶ The dialogue box that appears will allow you to enter your meeting name (i.e. Girl Scout Troop 1234 Meeting), date, and time. If you want your meeting to occur regularly, you can select the checkbox that says **“Recurring Meeting”**. From there, you’ll be able to set up future meetings with the same title and time on a weekly, monthly, or custom basis.
 - ▶ The meeting settings you indicated on the **“Settings”** tab should appear automatically under Meeting Options. You can change them for this meeting, if you need to.
 - ▶ Save your meeting.
 - ▶ If you need to change the details of the meeting at any point, you can do so by going under **“Meetings”** > Select the meeting you want to edit > **“Edit This Meeting”**.



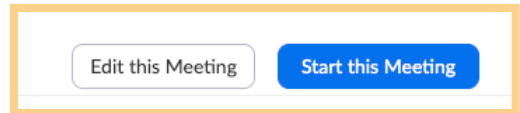
Invite People to your Meeting

- Under “**Meetings**”, select the meeting you want to invite others to.
- There should be a section called Invite Link. Select “**Copy Invitation**”.
- Highlight and copy the invitation text.
- Paste into a new email and send to your Troop contacts.



Starting your Meeting

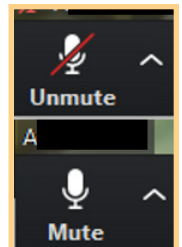
- Under “**Meetings**”, select the meeting you want to start.
- Click on “**Start This Meeting**”.



In-Meeting Functions

Mute

- In the bottom left hand corner of your screen, you should see a microphone icon. Click on this to mute yourself, or unmute. When you are muted, no one in the meeting can hear you.
- Best practice is to encourage girls to mute themselves when someone else is speaking to eliminate background noise or feedback.



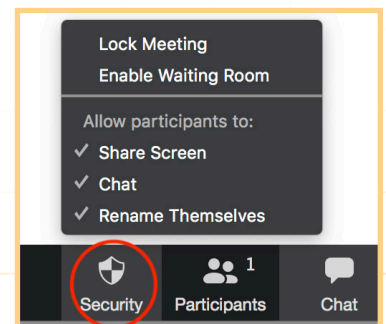
Start Video

- Also in the bottom left hand corner is a video camera icon. Click on this to turn ON or OFF your video. When your video is on, people in the meeting can see you. When it is off, they cannot see you but may still be able to hear you if you are unmuted.



Security

- The first icon in the bottom-center of your screen will be a shield.
 - ▶ **Lock** – Once everyone invited to the meeting has arrived, you can select this to “Lock” your meeting, which prevents anyone else from joining, giving you an extra level of security.
 - ▶ **Enable waiting room** – From the live meeting, you can toggle the waiting room on/off. This is helpful if you don’t want to be interrupted by late-comers, you can enable the waiting room and then let them in when you’re ready.
 - ▶ From the Security icon, you can also adjust your participants abilities to share their screen, use the chat function, rename themselves, or unmute themselves. You might need to use these if you have issues keeping your girls on task.

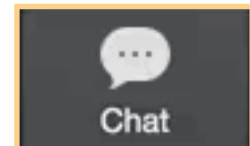
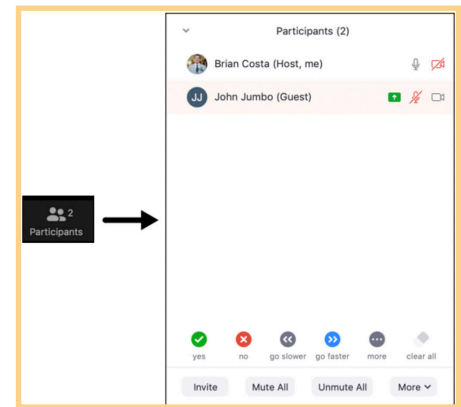


Participants

- Clicking on the “Participants” icon, which looks like two people, will bring up a list of the people in your meeting. From here, you can mute participants & invite new participants while the meeting is in session.

Chat

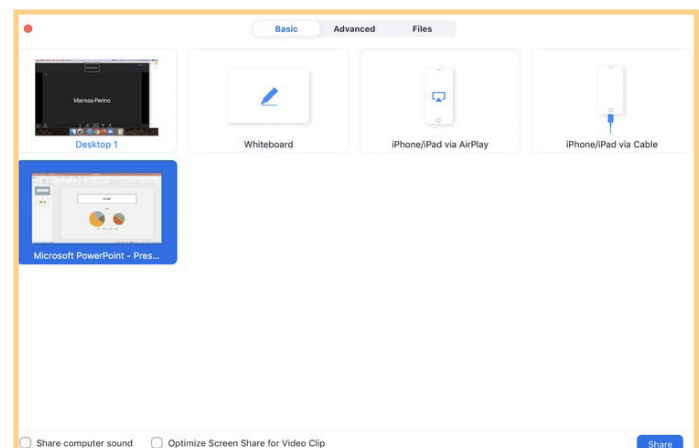
- In the chat log, participants can post questions, comments, etc. To the entire group, to one individual person on the meeting, or to the host only. If you don't want to allow girls to message each other privately, you can disable that feature in Settings prior to the meeting.
- You can also upload files to the chat for everyone to open/access. This is helpful if you want to post an agenda, meeting resources, handouts, etc.



***Leader Tip:** Have one co-leader to talk and present, while the other co-leader keeps an eye on the waiting room and the chat. It can be difficult to talk and manage all the other details at the same time. With older girls, you can ask one of the girls to be in charge of this at the meeting.

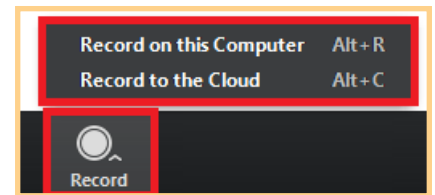
Screen Sharing

- When you click on the “**Share Screen**” Icon in the bottom center of your screen, a dialogue box will appear with all of the available tabs or applications you have open. From there, you can select which one you want to share with the group.
 - ▶ Note that if you share your entire screen (and not just your browser or application), girls will be able to see everything on that screen. It's recommended that you close anything that you may not want them to see (email notifications, text notifications, etc.).
 - ▶ In the bottom of the dialogue box, you also have the option to share your computer's sound or optimize your screen share for a video clip. Both of these options are useful when sharing videos with the group. Sharing your sound is useful for dance parties or listening to music together.
 - ▶ **Whiteboard** – Whiteboard is a great tool for interacting with your girls during the meeting. [Skip to Whiteboard section.](#)
- At the top of the dialogue box, there are three tabs. Your screen share options appear on the “**Basic**” tab.
 - ▶ On the “**Advanced**” tab, you can narrow your screen share options to only a portion of your screen, view from a second camera, or only computer sound.
 - ▶ On the “**Files**” tab, you can open a file from one of the following applications: Dropbox, Microsoft OneDrive, Google Drive, or Box.
- When you've selected the screensharing options you want, click “**Share**”. Now, participants are able to see your screen. For you, the screen they are seeing is highlighted with a green border. You will also see a green bar at the top of your screen that says “You are Screen Sharing”. From there, you have the option to “**Stop Share**”.



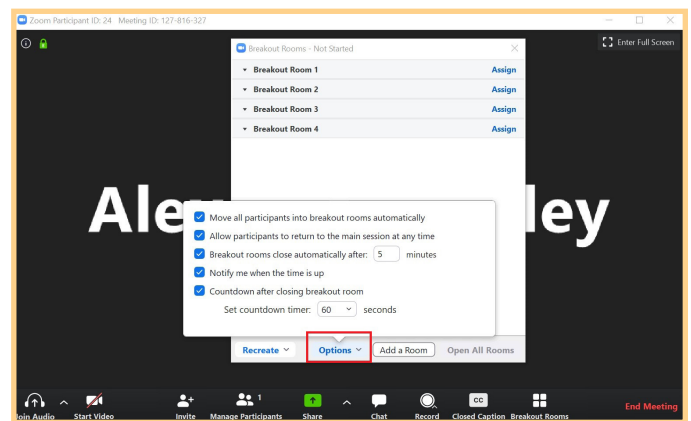
Record

- You can record your entire meeting, or a portion of your meeting, using the **“Record”** icon. When you’re ready to start recording, press the **“Record”** button.
 - ▶ When recording, the **“Record”** button will turn into a **“Stop/Pause Recording”** button. Use this as needed.
 - ▶ Recordings are available as video files in your zoom account after the session has ended.
 - ▶ It is important that you notify all meeting attendees if a meeting will be recorded. In addition, recording content like music, videos, films, etc. and distributing can be in violation of copyright laws.



Breakout Rooms

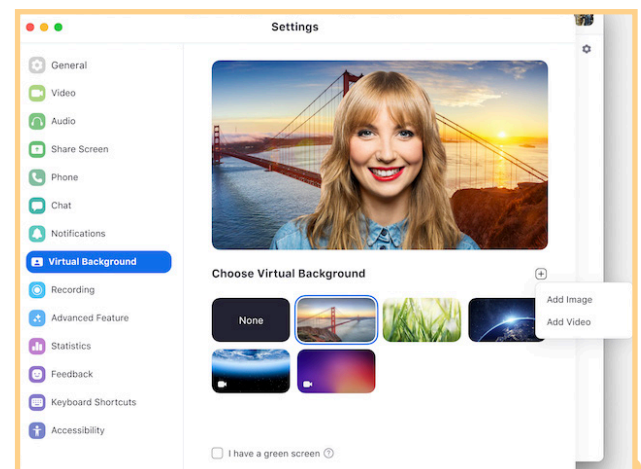
- If you have a large troop, or a multi-level troop, you may find yourself wanting to break into smaller groups for specific activities. The Breakout Rooms option allows you to do so.
 - ▶ Clicking on the **“Breakout Rooms”** icon (you will only see this icon if you have Breakout Rooms enabled in your Settings) will prompt a dialogue box. This dialogue box will ask how many breakout rooms you need. It will also give you the option to assign participants to breakout rooms automatically, or let you assign participants manually. Both are handy options!
 - ▶ Select **“Create Breakout Rooms”**. The next dialogue box will allow you to make changes to your rooms, name rooms, add more rooms, etc. You can also click on **“Options”** to set a timer for your breakout rooms (I.e. if you want to give girls 5 minutes in their breakout room to discuss their work), change the settings on when participants can return to the main room, etc.



- When you’re ready to breakout, click the **“Breakout Rooms”** icon.
- Just like an in-person Girl Scout meeting, Girl Scout should not be left unsupervised. If possible, we recommend assigning at least two Girl Scout volunteers per breakout room.

Virtual Backgrounds (Recommended for Juniors and Above only)

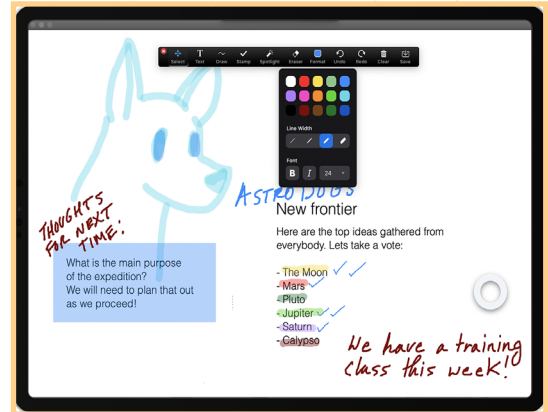
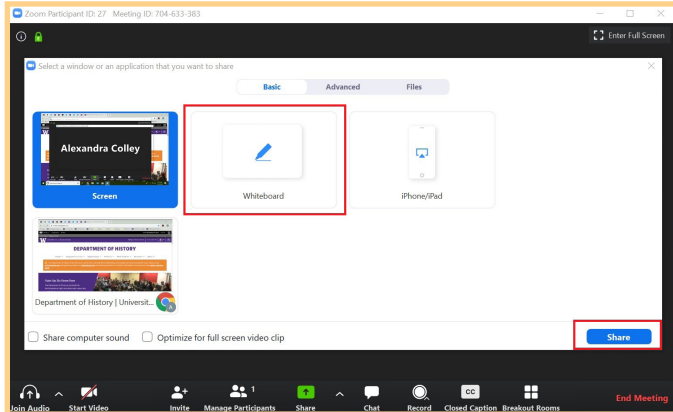
- To enable a virtual background, you must open Zoom from the desktop app and go to **“Settings”** > **“Virtual Background”**. From there, you can choose one of the default backgrounds, or upload your own.
 - ▶ You may be notified that you need specific hardware (like a green screen), but try it anyway. It works best if your physical backdrop is a solid colored wall. Some backgrounds work better than others.
 - ▶ In a meeting you can switch your virtual background ON and OFF using the small upward arrow on the **“Stop Video”** icon.



Interactive Functions

Whiteboard

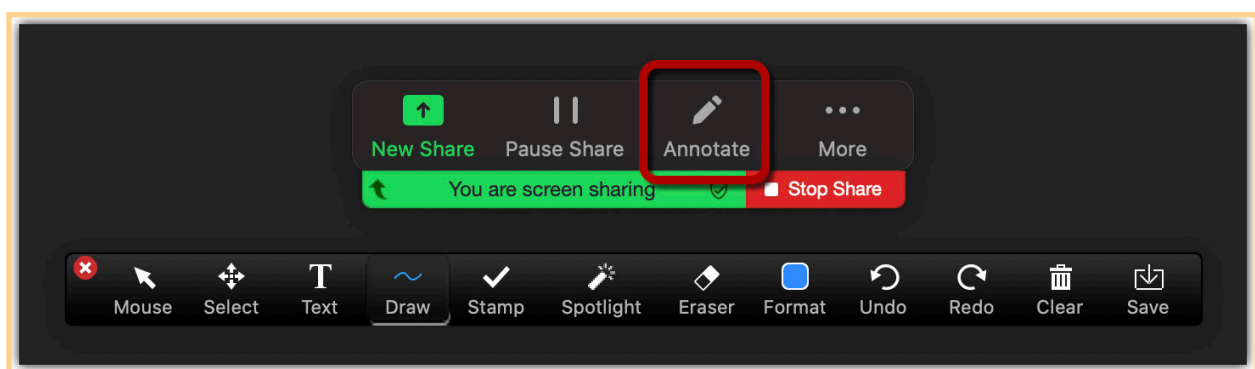
- The whiteboard options gives you the opportunity to work as a group and collect answers/feedback from girls during a meeting. Open the whiteboard by selecting **“Share Screen”** > **“Whiteboard”**. Once the whiteboard is open, you and your participants will have a toolbar at the top of your screen that allows you to add text, draw, stamp, erase, etc.
 - ▶ Be aware that everyone can see what is on the whiteboard.
- When you’re finished using the whiteboard, you can stop sharing your screen. If you want to save the whiteboard, click **“Save”** on the toolbar before exiting the whiteboard.



Annotate

- Similar to the whiteboard function, Annotate allows participants to add text, draw, stamp, etc. on your shared screen. This can be useful when you are doing activities like playing a game or voting on a set of images.
- While your screen is shared, you will see a new icon appear in your toolbar called **“Annotate”**. When you select it, another toolbar will appear with the same functions as the Whiteboard (I.e. text, draw, stamp, erase, etc.)
 - ▶ Again, be aware everyone can see what’s is annotated.
- If you want to save the image of your annotated screen, hit **“Save”**.
- When you’re ready to remove the annotation, clear and click the **“Annotate”** button again to remove the toolbar. Or, if you’re done sharing your screen, you can just **“Stop Share”**.

***Leader Tip:** Once younger girls find the drawing tool, they often want to start drawing on everything you present. Consider disabling the annotate tool until you’re actually ready for them to draw.



Stay in the Loop

In addition to this guide, Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay is committed to continuing to communicate with our volunteers frequently and on a variety of mediums, in order to keep you “in the loop” on our virtual and in-person offerings.



Email

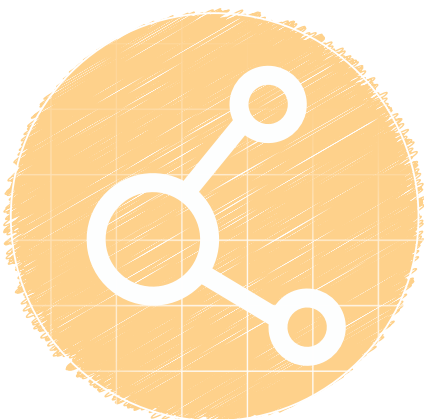
If you do not receive the monthly Troop Leader Essentials emails from Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay or from your Volunteer Support Specialist, you may have opted out of emails in the past. If you would like to opt back in, please contact our Member Care team at 800-341-4007 or MemberCare@cbgsc.org for assistance.



Social Media

We encourage you to follow Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay on our social media accounts (**Facebook**, **Instagram**, **Twitter**, and **LinkedIn**), as we often post updates about upcoming events and programs you may be interested in sharing with your troop.

Additionally, we have launched our **GSCB Leader’s Lounge** Facebook group, where you can go to get leader-specific updates and information. This group is limited to leaders and co-leaders only.



GSCB.org

We encourage our volunteers to visit our website often. There, you can browse **Volunteer Essentials** or **Troop Leader Central** for support leading your troop. We also post COVID-19 specific resources there.

For ideas and inspiration of activities you can share with your girls, or incorporate into a virtual meeting, visit our **GSCB at Home** page.

Lastly, invite your girls to participate in council-wide virtual events in addition to your meetings. You can find virtual event offerings on our **Events List**.



Including Fall Product

From October 1st to November 3rd, engage your girls virtually with the Fall Product Program! We encourage you to not only discuss the program with your girls, but to also schedule a Fall Product Program Parent meeting to share how girls can participate in the program safely with parent/caregiver support. To prepare, review your Fall Product Program Troop Manual and visit the [Fall Product page](#) on [www.gscb.org](#) to review the **Trainings and Helpful Tools for Families** section.

We've compiled some ideas for virtual troop meeting activities you can use to help get your girls excited about Fall Product Program:

All About Sloths!

This year's Fall Product Program Mascot is the pygmy three-toed sloth! Get to know this fuzzy animal at your virtual troop meeting. Here's some ideas:

- Have each girl bring a pygmy three-toed sloth fact to the meeting to share with the group.
- Complete the ["Build Your Own" Sloth activity](#)
- Watch these videos to learn more about sloths:
 - ▶ For younger girls: [Why Are Sloths So Slow?](#)
 - ▶ For older girls: [The Strange Life of the World's Slowest Mammal](#)
- The pygmy three-toed sloth is an endangered species ! Discuss what events or circumstances may have led to the decline in pygmy three-toed sloth population and the importance of conservation.



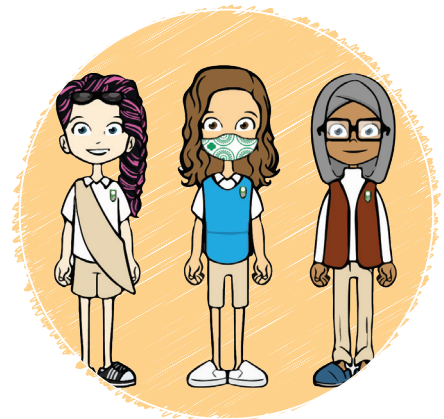
Become Marketing Execs!

This year, GSCB is giving girls the chance to be featured on our social media channels by submitting their very own Fall Product Commercial! Submitting a commercial also gets girls an entry into the [Super Sloth Challenge](#). Consider working as a group to create a commercial at your meeting - write a script, do a story board, etc. Then, work on filming via video conference or individually. One person, girl or adult, will edit the clips together to create the final product!

Commercial submissions can be entered [here](#).

Other Fun Ideas

- Create your Fall Product Avatars together online! When you're done, each girl can show off her avatar. You can even vote at the end on whose avatar looks the most like them!
- Work on the requirements for Financial Literacy leaves or Entrepreneurship badges
- Discuss the 5 Skills Girls Learn from the Fall Product Program (*Goal Setting, Decision Making, Money Management, People Skills, & Business Ethics*) or play a game that has to do with them!



October Activities

Running low in inspiration for FUN virtual activities? Check out some ideas for October:

Celebrate Founder's Day

Juliette Gordon Low was born on October 31st, 1860, which we call Girl Scout Founder's Day. Throw JGL a virtual birthday party with your troop during the month of October!

- Think you know everything there is to know about Girl Scouts? Test your knowledge with some Girl Scout Trivia that would stump Juliette Gordon Low herself!
- Throw a dance party - Get girls out of their chairs and moving their feet by playing some music you can all groove to. You can even add in games like "freeze dance" or Musical Chairs (last person back to their chair is out!)
- Make S.W.A.P. S. - If you can, deliver S.W.A.P. S. supplies to each girl in your troop. Then, spend some time working on them and chatting about your favorite Girl Scout memories. If you won't be seeing any other Girl Scouts in person soon, consider mailing them to another troop!

Sing the Juliette Gordon Low Song

(tune of Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star)

Chorus:

Juliette, Juliette Gordon Low
Founded the Girl Scouts long ago
From Savannah she did roam
But she always called it home

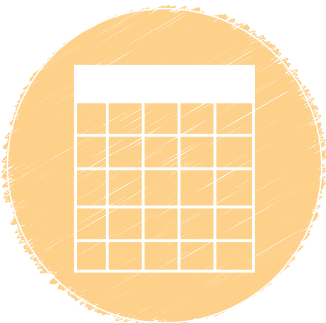
Married a man named Willy Low
And off to England they did go.
There she met Lord Baden-Powell
Starting the Boy Scouts was his goal
When she came back to the USA
She called her cousin right away
She Founded the Girl Scouts in 1912,
Served her country, served it well

(Chorus)

Girl Scouts she came here to start
And I thank her from my heart.
Thank you, thank you,

Daisy Low For starting the Girl Scouts long ago!

Think Virtual



Play Fall Bingo

Before the meeting, send each girl a different [Fall Bingo Sheet](#). As you call each item on the [Fall Bingo Cards](#), start a conversation. For example, if you call the red leaf, you may ask "Does anyone know why leaves change colors in the fall?"



Do a One-Sentence Story

Give the girls a sentence that starts off their story. Then, each girl will add a sentence, until you feel like the story is complete! Your story can be Fall or even Halloween-themed. It can be silly or serious. Either way, you'll get their creativity going and you'll have a story at the end you can keep as a keepsake for another time - an upcoming bridging ceremony, perhaps?

*Want to work towards a badge? Tie this in to **Junior Scribe, Cadette Screenwriter, or Senior Novelist**.



Flashlight Morse Code

Learn about Morse Code! Have each girl bring a flashlight to the meeting, and get setup in a room where she can turn off the lights. After you have talked about morse code and practiced writing dots and dashes on a piece of paper, have each girl signal a word using her flashlight for the rest of the group to guess.

*Make this activity part of the **Junior Detective Badge!**



Get Cooking

Make a “fall” food like soup or chili together! Send your girls the recipe in advance of your meeting (best to give at least a week, in case a parent/caregiver needs to go to the store) and then host your own cooking show while you teach girls how to cook. Parent/caregiver support is strongly suggested for Cadettes and under.

*Looking to meet badge requirements? Try **Brownie Snacks, Junior Simple Meals, Cadette New Cuisines, Senior Locavore, or Ambassador Dinner Party.**



Escape

Can't visit a haunted house? Try a digital escape room you can work on together! Check out this [list of kid-friendly digital escape rooms](#).

*This activity could be used towards the **Junior Detective Badge** or **Cadette Special Agent**.



Do a Fall Photo Scavenger Hunt

Create a scavenger hunt of photos girls can take around their house or neighborhood that have to do with fall. Examples include: changing leaves, halloween or fall decorations, a pumpkin, etc. Ask them to be ready to share their photos at your meeting. Talk about the differences and similarities - did everyone's picture of a pumpkin look the same? If not, why?

*Looking to meet badge requirements? Tie this activity in to **Daisy Outdoor Art Maker, Brownie Outdoor Art Creator, Junior Digital Photographer or Outdoor Art Explorer, Cadette Outdoor Art Apprentice, Senior Outdoor Art Expert, or Ambassador Outdoor Art Maker.**



Explore the National Parks

Thanks to Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend, GSUSA has put together virtual experiences from state parks in all 50 states! You can pick a few to explore together, or assign girls a state to explore and report back to the group on in your meeting. View the [GSUSA Girl Scouts Love State Parks](#) page for details.

Service Projects

The world needs good right now, and your troop can do good, even if you can't be together. Try one of these service projects at your next virtual meeting:

- Create and send “Thinking of You” cards to local nursing, assisted living, or group homes. Many people who live in these facilities haven't been able to see friends or family in months. Your girls can brighten their day with a note to say they are thinking of them.
- Make fleece or no-sew blankets for the homeless or pet beds. There are plenty of tutorials online for creating no-sew blankets/pet beds. If you can get the materials delivered to your girls, work on this project together over a virtual meeting.
- Virtual “read-with-a-senior”. Your girls can get connected to a senior citizen and read to them, or have the senior read to the girl. You may not be able to do this at your meeting, but you can chat about the experience together afterwards. Find out how girls can get connected at [Storiitime](#).

Let's Work Together!

We're figuring out this new landscape right along side of you and working to create resources that make transitioning to virtual Girl Scouting easier. As volunteers who are actually facilitating this programming, your feedback and ideas are incredibly valuable in that process.

Did you find this guide helpful? Is there anything you would change, or advise, based on your experience leading virtual troop meetings? Are there additional frustrations, confusions, or points of clarification around meeting virtually that we missed? Share your feedback to MARCOMM@cbgsc.org.

Have you done a virtual activity with your troop you want to share with other GSCB volunteers?

Please send it, or any additional resources you think would be helpful to your fellow volunteers, to MARCOMM@cbgsc.org so we can add it to next month's issue.

Thank you for your resilience, adaptability and dedication to helping Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay deliver the Girl Scout mission to girls across the Delmarva Peninsula!

