

We are excited you are jumping into running a virtual troop and are here to support each other!

First Time Getting Connected—

Reach out ahead of time to see what the comfort level of the girls and families are and what technological capabilities they have. Does your normal troop meeting time work? Consider polling your Girl Scout families to see when they would like to meet. Are there any considerations? This is a great time to find out what badges/topics they want to work on!

Planning & Facilitating virtually—

- Consider what materials are required for your badge work. Would most families have them? Could the troop provide packets for the girls?
- Consider activities that could be completed over live feed and not just powerpoint or videos.
- Keep your traditions and activities moving forward! There are lots of adaptations that can be made!
- Give time to catch up and talk—we all miss each other!
- Consider setting up the meeting reoccurring style—and then everyone can login with the same URL each time!
- Have one Coleader maintain the chat box. They can answer questions as you go, and type in a lot of the key information to save later.
- Feel free to hold a meeting with just you and your coleaders to practice using the system, screen sharing and how all the features work.

Safety is always our number one priority. With virtual troop meetings this is in the form of cyber security. Here are a few simple tips to keep your Girl Scout families safe;

- Use passcodes to enter all meetings.
- Use a waiting room if possible, allowing you to confirm the names of each attendee before allowing them to join.
- Do not allow private chats or recording.
- Make the host in control of the screen sharing and annotation.
- Use first names, first names & last Initial or camp names as usernames for the meetings.
- Lock the meeting once everyone present.
- Do not share any recordings on social media.

Online tools and Resources

[GSCB Leaders Lounge](#) on Facebook

[GSCBatHome](#) with at home activities

[VTK](#) with badge and journey meeting plans

[GSUSA Virtual Events](#) calendar

[Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) for virtual activities

[Virtual Girl Scout Activities](#) on Facebook

[GSUSA Girl Scouts at home](#) with home activities

Video and Audio-Conferencing

[Zoom](#)

[Skype](#)

[Webex](#)

Chat and Collaboration

[Microsoft Teams](#)

[Facebook Groups](#)