

# Girl Scout Jargon

## LOCATIONS

**1. GSUSA**

Acronym for Girl Scouts of the USA, our National Organization, headquartered in New York

**2. Headquarters**

Our main office of GSKSMO (the local council) located at 10561 Barkley St, Overland Park, KS 66212

**3. The 'shop'**

Our on-line shop, where you can purchase uniforms, badges, fun patches and more

**4. Camp Prairie Schooner (CPS)**

One of our council-owned camp properties located in Kansas City, MO right next to Lee's Summit, MO. The address is 15300 Ess Road, KC, MO 64136

**5. Camp Tongawood**

One of our council-owned camp properties located in Tonganoxie, KS. The address is 18634 Evans Road, Tonganoxie, KS 66086

## SUPPORT RESOURCES

**6. Service Unit**

A community of volunteers/troops in a geographical area defined by a cluster of schools. Service Units offer events, networking, and other activities to support local troops

**7. SUM**

Abbreviation for Service Unit Manager. This is a volunteer position that leads the Service Unit meetings and supports the entire Service Unit Team. They report to the Service Unit Support Manager at council

**8. PPM**

Abbreviation of Product Program Manager. This is a volunteer position who provides product program support on the Service Unit level. They are in charge of coordinating Cookies for the SU. This person sometimes also handles the Fall Product Program

**9. TCM**

Abbreviation for Troop Cookie Manager. The TCM is a troop-level volunteer role that facilitates the Girl Scout Cookie program for the troop. This includes submitting cookie orders, collecting and depositing cookie money into the troop bank account, etc

**10. SUSM**

Abbreviation for Service Unit Support Manager. This is a council staff position that provides direct support to the SUM and the rest of the SU Team

**11. TEM**

Abbreviation for Troop Experience Manager. This is a council staff position that provides direct support to leaders who have questions regarding Girl Scout programming

**12. Recruitment Manager**

A staff position at council responsible for starting new troops and placing new girls into existing troops

**13. Customer Care**

A council department that answers all general questions from parents and leaders. Topics they assist with include: troop roster questions, help navigating the website, registering for events, etc. Reach by phone at 800-728-8750 or 816-759-3025 or email, [customer care@gksmo.org](mailto:customer care@gksmo.org)

**14. VTK**

Acronym for Volunteer Toolkit, a troop leader planning resource. Leaders can set meeting dates and locations, view their troop roster, and have access to meeting agendas and plans for Journeys and Badges by grade level

### **15. Volunteer Essentials**

The guide book to our Girl Scout council. It provides information ranging from how to engage girls of all ages and abilities, to managing troop finances, to general volunteer policies. Volunteer Essentials is one of the best go-to resources for any adult volunteer

### **16. Safety Activity Checkpoints (SAC)**

SACs are steps to be followed when planning particular troop activities to ensure that the girls and other attendees are safe. SACs are written specifically for each activity, ranging from fishing to visiting a theme park. SACs cover how to select the location for an activity, safety guidelines when doing the activity, how to prepare for the activity, etc. SACs can be found under the Forms & Resources tab on the GSKSMO website.

### **17. BOA**

Acronym for Bank of America, the bank institution that majority of troops use to manage their finances

### **18. BOA Transfer**

When you transfer money from your troop account to another Girl Scout account. Frequently used when paying for events planned by Service Units. Instructions on completing a BOA transfer can be found under the Banking & Finance section of the Forms and Resources tab of the GSKSMO website

### **19. Opportunity Fund**

Provides financial assistance for membership dues, uniforms, program materials, and camp. Families can apply for the Opportunity Fund when they register or after (membership dues will not be refunded if they apply after they complete registration)

### **20. Opportunity Catalog**

A listing of all the available troops within a certain zip code. Interested new girls will only be able to view and register into the troop if the troop is listed in the catalog

### **21. Daisy's Circle**

A monthly giving club that directly benefits girls in our council

### **22. Cookie Cupboard**

Cookie Cupboards are where volunteers pick up extra cases of cookie orders to be distributed to girls in the troop

### **23. Cookie Dough**

A credit that can be earned through cookie sales. Cookie Dough can be chosen instead of other recognition items. Cookie Dough can be used at the Girl Scout Shop, to help pay for Camp, Adventure Activities, Girl Scout sponsored travel, and to pay for Girl Scout membership

## **OUTDOORS/CAMPING**

### **24. Day Camp**

Typically 3-5 days long, Day Camps are hosted by individual Service Units with activities planned and led by teens and other volunteers

### **25. Unit Leader**

A volunteer at Day Camp in charge of overseeing a group of girls and their teen leaders. They do not 'run' the unit, but are there to ensure the safety of the girls

### **26. SWAPS**

A longtime GS tradition, SWAPS stands for "Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere." SWAPS are typically made of small craft supplies (beads, safety pins, etc) and are exchanged at camp

### **27. Sit Upens**

Something to sit on at camp to protect girls from sitting on wet ground. They can be made with a variety of materials, from a five gallon bucket with waterproof seats to plastic table cloths and duct tape

### **28. Mess Kit**

A set of unbreakable dishes and utensils kept in a mesh bag

### **29. Permatent**

A one wall, three canvas tent with a roof, floor and cots for girls to sleep on

### **30. Primitive Camping**

Defined as being without electricity, running water or bathroom facilities. Primitive camping requires more planning and strategic packing

### **31. Camping 101 & 102**

Training that is required to complete before you take your troop on a camping trip. Camping 101 must be completed before taking a troop camping in a building, while 102 must be completed before taking a troop camping in a camp unit (permatent or A-frame) or primitive camping

### **32. Resident Camp**

An overnight camping experience ranging from a few days to a few weeks. GSKSMO has partnerships with 'sister councils' resident camps for girls to attend if interested. Girls register to attend resident camp individually, rather than as a troop

## **EVENTS/ACTIVITIES**

### **33. Community Partners**

Specific partners of GSKSMO that offer unique opportunities for girls to complete Girl Scout programming and engage in community activities

### **34. WAGGGS**

Acronym for The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. The association supports female-oriented and female-only Guiding and Scouting organizations in 150 countries

### **35. World Thinking Day**

Annually celebrated on February 22, World Thinking Day celebrates girls all over the world by doing activities that help them learn what it means to make an impact on the world and how they are part of a global sisterhood that is Girl Scouts and Girl Guides

### **36. Girl Scout Week**

Celebrated each March, Girl Scout week starts with Girl Scout Sunday and ends with Girl Scout Sabbath the following Saturday. The week always includes Girl Scouts' birthday on March 12<sup>th</sup>

### **37. Investiture**

A Girl Scout ceremony that welcomes new members (girls and adults) into the Girl Scout family for the first time. At this ceremony, participants receive their Girl Scout/Girl Scout Daisy/Girl Scout Brownie pin

### **38. Bridging**

A ceremony that marks a girl's move from one level of Girl Scouting to another

### **39. "Flying Up"**

A special bridging ceremony for Girl Scout Brownies that are bridging to Girl Scout Juniors. Girls receive their Girl Scout pin as well as their Brownie wings

### **40. Troop Money Earning**

Activities organized and carried out by girls (with adult supervision) that earns money for troop activities

### **41. Court of Awards**

A ceremony where girls are celebrated and recognized for an accomplishment or award earned

### **42. Highest Awards**

Bronze (Junior level) Silver (Cadette level) and Gold Awards (Senior/Ambassador level) are the "Highest Awards" a Girl Scout at a particular level can earn

### **43. NLE (Northland Encampment)**

A weekend long camping extravaganza that occurs every other year for all Girl Scouts in the council to attend. This event is historically held in the in the Northland of KC, MO

### **44. Day at the K**

An annual Council-wide event at a Royals baseball game for Girl Scouts and their families to enjoy. Tickets are available for purchase or can be earned through cookie sales

## **GIRL SCOUT BASICS**

**45. GSLE**

Acronym for Girl Scout Leadership Experience. All official Girl Scout programming and activities encourage girls to discover, connect and take action while engaging them in the 3 Girl Scout Processes

**46. 3 GS Processes**

The “how to” philosophy behind Girl Scouts: Girl-led, Learning by Doing, Cooperative Learning

**47. 4 Pillars**

The four key areas that form the foundation of Girl Scout programming and the organization itself. The four pillars are: STEAM, Outdoors, Civic Engagement, and Entrepreneurship

**48. Journeys**

Journeys are based on particular themes and spread throughout a series of sessions with 3 awards built in to help girls implement the GSLE

**49. Badges**

Badges help girls learn and practice new skills and explore their many interests

**50. Patches**

While badges are ‘earned’, patches are ‘given’ after participating in events, activities or programs

**51. Girl Scout Sign**

When girls raise three fingers of the right hand and hold their pinky down with their thumb, they are making the Girl Scout sign. Each raised finger represents a piece of the Promise. Girls hold the sign when they recite the Promise, or do the Girl Scout handshake.

**52. Girl Scout Law**

The Girl Scout law represents the values and foundation of what it means to be a Girl Scout

**53. Girl Scout Promise**

The promise represents an agreement the girls share on how they will act toward one another and other people

**54. Girl Scout Motto**

“Be Prepared.” The Girl Scout motto is meant to reflect that a Girl Scout is always ready to help out wherever she is needed. Willingness to serve is not enough; you need to know how to do the job well, even in an emergency

**55. Girl Scout Slogan**

“Do a good turn daily.” It is a reminder to of the many ways girls can contribute positively to the lives of others

**56. Friendship Circle**

Often done at the end of meetings, the circle represents an unbroken chain of friendship. Girls stand in a circle with arms crossed right over left, clasping the hands of the girl next to her, taking turns to give their neighbor a silent hand squeeze

**57. Quiet Sign**

Done when you need to silence a crowd without yelling – hold up the right hand with all 5 fingers extended

**58. Take Action Project**

A measurable and sustainable project that identifies and helps address the root cause of a problem

**59. Kaper Chart**

A way to divide up troop responsibilities between girls. These can be jobs or chores that must be done at each meeting. The chart indicates all jobs available and who is responsible for each one

**60. Troop Government**

Daisy Girl Scout Circle, Brownie Ring or Junior Patrol System. These are forms of troop government that encourages girls to share ideas, plan activities and listen to one another and make decisions

**61. Juliette Gordon Low**

The name of the founder of Girl Scouts! Her nickname was Daisy

**62. Insignia**

A badge(s), pin, or other emblem or award that goes on the Girl Scout uniform

**63. LIA Award**

“Leader in Action” award that Cadettes can earn by assisting a Brownie troop with a Journey

**64. Program Aide Award**

Earned by Cadettes after they complete one LiA award and Program Aide Training

**COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

**65. S'More Newsletter**

A Newsletter that goes out to Troop Leaders that includes information about upcoming trainings, events, new program news, etc.