

Service Unit Delegate/Alternate

Summary: Volunteer Council Delegates/Alternates are variously referred to as “members of the corporation” and/or “voting members of the council.” According to our present bylaws, the membership of the council shall be active members of the Girl Scout movement and 16 years of age or over. The membership shall be represented at council meetings by elected delegate/alternates referred to as voting members. Voting members of the council shall consist of:

- Delegate/Alternates elected by their Service Unit.
- Members of the board of directors.
- Members of the board development committee.

Term of appointment: Elected from the active, local membership of Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc. (GSHH) – registered members of the Girl Scout movement for a three-year term. Term for newly appointed Delegates/Alternates begins on the day of the Annual Meeting.

Supervision: Reports to the Service Unit Manager (SUM) and Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson (GSHH) Community Engagement (CE) team.

Support: The Volunteer Council Delegate/Alternate receives support, guidance, and encouragement from the Membership team of Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson. They have access to relevant learning opportunities and materials that prepare for and support this role.

Responsibilities:

- Elect the officers of the council, the members-at-large of the board of directors, the members of the council board development committee, the five (5) delegates-at-large, the delegates to the National Council of Girl Scouts of the United States of America and, if vacancies occur, persons to fill vacancies among those delegates.
- Determine general lines of direction for Girl Scouting within the jurisdiction of the council by receiving and responding to reports and information from the board of directors.
- Amend the articles of incorporation and bylaws.
- Take all other action requiring a membership vote.
- Report on delegate discussion to the service units.
- Conduct such other business as may, from time to time, come before the members.
- Be guided in all actions by the Girl Scout Mission, Promise, and Law.
- Remain informed about and comply with the most current policies, procedures, and guidelines of Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson and Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA).
- In the absence of the Volunteer Council Delegate, the Volunteer Council Alternate will fulfill the responsibilities. All Volunteer Council Delegates duties apply.
- Identify, develop, and onboard a new adult volunteer for this role in the third year of the term.

Qualifications and core competencies:

- Registered and active member of Girl Scouts 16 years of age and older; willing to subscribe to and exemplify the principles expressed in the Girl Scout Promise and Law.
- Understands the council structure; willing to take training.
- Able to consider council action for the well-being of the organization to include the seven-county council jurisdiction.
- Time to attend and participate in council meetings as necessary.
- Knowledge or willingness to understand GSHH council bylaws.
- Complete required Service Unit Delegate/Alternate training provided by GSHH.

Annual meeting:

The annual meeting of the council shall be held between February 1st and March 31st at such time and place as may be determined by the board of directors. The written notice of the time, place and purpose of the annual meeting, together with the slate of nominees for all offices or positions to be filled pursuant to these bylaws, must be given not less than ten (10) days and no more than fifty (50) days before the meeting. Written notice can be given via 1st Class US Postal Service or via email or fax provided that the member has given email or fax contact information to the secretary of the board.

Prior to the annual council meeting delegate/alternates should:

- Study the pre-meeting mailing
- Plan to attend the meeting
- RSVP to invitation

Additional Requirements:

- Be a currently registered Girl Scout with a GSHH active membership.
- Behave in a manner consistent with the Girl Scout Mission, Promise, and Law.
- Express ideas and facts clearly and accurately.
- Have a council-approved volunteer application (may include application, background check, non-disclosure agreement and references) on file.
- Maintain required screenings/training.
- Experience as a Girl Scout adult volunteer is a plus.