

Invite a Friend Meeting Guide

As girls are headed back to school and back to troop, Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska encourages girls to invite friends to join the fun and register for Girl Scouts. Girl Scouts is the preeminent organization just for girls that offers a variety of ways to participate. Regardless of a girl's interests, Girl Scouts provides opportunities for her to make new friends, try new things, and grow her confidence using the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Girls choose what they want to learn and do, all while developing leadership skills that last a lifetime.

Girl Scouting works. Research shows that Girl Scouts are more likely than their non-Girl Scout peers to: become leaders in their community and among their peers; try something new or something outdoors; have a higher level of financial literacy; achieve academic success; participate in STEM activities; and advocate against bullying.

Girl Scouts is led by girls who learn by doing. Girls who are part of a girl-led environment are better at conflict resolution, problem solving, team building and cooperation, and developing self-confidence.



WHY

Girl Scouts offers the best leadership development experience for girls. The inclusive, all-female environment creates a safe space where girls can try new things and be themselves. How many girls do you or your Girl Scouts know who would flourish in Girl Scouts?



WHEN

Invite a Friend meetings and events can happen during [Girl Scout Spirit Week](#), the week including October 31st, or anytime throughout the year! They can be a regular troop meeting, a troop meeting just for new Girl Scout friends, or even a special event or theme party!



BE PREPARED

In partnership with a co-leader, plan what you will do at the meeting or event. See the back for an example of a meeting agenda. At least seven days prior to the event, reach out to your Troop Support Specialist to secure insurance for non-members.



COMMUNICATION

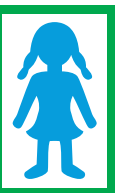
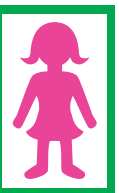
Reach out to your classmates, friends, family, and neighbors by mail (using our [postcard template](#)) or email and invite them to a troop meeting or event. Get them excited to join by sharing information about a recent program or campout you attended!



OUTCOMES

More girls join our powerful Movement! Be sure to collect Add-a-Girl patches for those who participate

ADD A GIRL



Invite a Friend Meeting Checklist

Use this checklist as an agenda and meeting plan for preparing and hosting an Invite a Friend meeting or event.

BEFORE THE MEETING OR EVENT

- ☐ Ensure there are enough volunteers to welcome more girls.
- ☐ Determine how many girls the troop can welcome. Set a goal.
- ☐ Make sure your troop is troop open in the opportunity catalog. [Member Support](#) can confirm this for you.

PLAN

- ☐ Will you invite new friends to a meeting or an activity such as a troop picnic?
- ☐ Set the date, time, and location of the meeting or event.
- ☐ Set the meeting or event agenda or activities.

HOW

- ☐ Make a list of non-Girl Scout friends who may want to join, and create an invite list. Think about girls in your neighborhood, on your sports teams, at your church, or in other youth groups. Be sure to give them 2-3 weeks' notice.
- ☐ Create an invite letter, [postcard](#)* or email.
- ☐ Give a reminder a few days before the meeting.

*Template located on our website.

THE MEETING PLAN*

- ☐ Welcome your friends.
- ☐ During introductions, ask Girl Scouts to share what they like most about being a Girl Scout.
- ☐ Hold an Opening Ceremony. Gather in a circle and say the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law. Sing the Brownie Smile Song.
- ☐ Share the Girl Scout sign, handshake, and motto.
- ☐ Make a trefoil badge and talk about the Girl Scout sisterhood.
- ☐ Talk about the history of Juliette Gordon Low and how she founded Girl Scouts. Play a Juliette Gordon Low memory game.
- ☐ Celebrate Juliette Gordon Low's birthday with cupcakes. Be considerate of food allergies.
- ☐ Leave a place better than you found it by cleaning up meeting space or a nearby outdoor space, such as a park or roadside.
- ☐ Share what you have done in Girl Scouts and how the cookie program has helped you accomplish your goals.
- ☐ Make a sit-upon.
- ☐ During the closing ceremony, sing Make New Friends, and invite girls to return.
- ☐ Provide membership registration information.

*For a more detailed meeting plan, go to the Volunteer Toolkit and search for the Girl Scout Way Badge in the Brownie level (but can be used for any level).

AFTER THE MEETING OR EVENT

- ☐ Send a thank you note or email letting your friend know you are glad they attended.
- ☐ Reach out to your friend and see if her or her family have any questions.

For help and questions, contact Member Support or your Troop Support Specialist.

Phone: 800.695.6690; Email: MemberSupport@girlscoutsnebraska.org; Website: GirlScoutsNebraska.org.

NEW FRIENDS TODAY. CHANGEMAKERS TOMORROW.



You're Invited!

Join us at a meeting and see what it's all about.

Troop Number:

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Meeting Location:

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Meeting Day and Time:

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Activities We'll Do During the Meeting:

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Troop Co-Leader Name:

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Contact Information:

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If you can't make it,

visit GirlScoutsNebraska.org/join or call 800.695.6690.



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