

Leaders should schedule a parent meeting to explain the following information so everyone knows what to expect during the Scouting year. The Program Consultant should assist the Leader with any information he/she does not know. Each Troop will have different needs and the budget should be kept within the Troop's ability to raise those funds through approved activities.

**Explain basics such as:**

1. Registration, Troop dues, parent consent forms.
2. Time and location of meetings.
3. When and where to pick girls up.
4. Uniform - Options available, appropriate use, placement of insignia and where it can be purchased.
5. Girls Guide to Girl Scouting and Journeys - what they are, why each girl needs them and where they can be purchased?
6. Girl Scout Activity Accident Insurance Coverage.
7. Financial Assistance available where participation would otherwise not be possible.

**Troop Program:**

1. In Girl Scouting - Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors.
2. Explanation of specific grade level and recognitions.
3. Explanation of program emphases.
4. Explanation of what you are trying to accomplish and what the Outcomes are that the girls will get out of Girl Scouting.
5. Importance of girl planning and flexibility of program.
6. Religious awards program available.

**Troop Budgeting:**

1. Explanation of who pays for what.
2. Relationship between girl planning and budget (take direction from each other).
3. Product Sales Programs - Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay, provide two Sales Programs (Fall Product Sales and Cookie Programs) as a safe, effective and well-managed method of earning money to support Girl Scout Troop program activities. This alleviates Troops having to spend time planning and implementing numerous Troop-sponsored, money earning projects.
4. Participation by eligible Troops is a pre-requisite for additional Troop money-earning activities.

**Troop Committee:**

1. It is the responsibility of all parents/guardians to help their child's Troop in some way. The Troop Committee saves the Leader from time consuming details so more time can be spent directly with the girls. If everyone does something for the Troop, no one will be overworked, the Troop will be more active, and all the girls will benefit.
2. Suggested Troop Committee jobs - telephone calls, transportation, refreshments, program resources, special events, Product Sales Program support, financial support, registration, camping, religious awards and identification of future leadership.