

GIRL SCOUTS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY COUNCIL, INC.
Getting started with Girl Scouts – ages 11 - 17
Meeting Guidelines (Form 212-PM)

Please keep the following points in mind as you make plans to begin meeting with your new Girl Scouts, ages 11 - 17:

- The goals of the first four to six meetings are to allow everyone to become acquainted and begin to consider themselves a group; to understand that they are part of a larger group of Girl Scouts (council and national organization); and to begin to understand the foundation of Girl Scouting, the Girl Scout Promise and Law.
- The suggested meeting outlines are provided to assist you in getting started. You may change the activities to suit your needs. Leadership growth is integral at this age. Girls should be making decisions. Leaders act as an advisor.
- Some groups meet each week while others meet every other week. Length of the meetings will vary by groups but average between one hour and one and one-half hours. Older girls often meet monthly/weekends for a longer time.
- Have a parent meeting to register the girls and share your plans for the group. Invite the parents to assist you.
- Every geographic area has a volunteer support team for leaders called a Service Team. Most meet monthly with the leaders. Your contact person with Girl Scouts can give you the information. The meetings are a great benefit to you.
- “The Guide for Girl Scouts, ages 11 - 17” has support information for working with this age group.

Cadette/Senior Girl Scout meetings are more informal

Pre-meeting/ gathering	Opening	Troop Government (Business)	Activities (The major part of the meeting)	Snack Time (optional)	Clean-up	Closing

THE FIRST MEETING

Objective

Pre-meeting/ gathering	Opening	Troop Government (business)	Activities (The major part of the meeting)	Snack Time (optional)	Clean-up	Closing

THE SECOND MEETING

Objective:

Pre-meeting/ gathering	Opening	Troop Government	Activities (The major part of the meeting)	Snack Time (op- tional)	Clean- up	Closing

THE THIRD MEETING

Objective

Pre-meeting/ gathering	Opening	Troop Government	Activities (The major part of the meeting)	Snack Time (optional)	Clean-up	Closing

THE FOURTH MEETING

Objective:

Pre-meeting/ gathering	Opening	Troop Government	Activities (The major part of the meeting)	Snack Time optional	Clean-up	Closing

THE FIFTH MEETING

Objective:

Pre-meeting/ gathering	Opening	Troop Government	Activities (The major part of the meeting)	Snack Time (optional)	Clean-up	Closing

SIXTH MEETING FORWARD

Objective: Begin/continue working on Interest Patches. Structure each meeting around a Patch or event using the Leader’s Guide and the Addendum to help incorporate other celebrations into their world. Remember to celebrate their learning and present Badges whenever you have occasion to celebrate (holidays, Thinking Day, Girl Scout Birthday, etc.) Don’t forget to build in some community service. Attend Leader Meetings for support and networking. Use this chart to plan future meetings with your girls. Ask for assistance from your Older Girl Consultant if needed.

Pre-meeting/ gathering	Opening	Troop Government	Activities (The major part of the meeting)	Snack Time (optional)	Clean-up	Closing