

Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho Board Engagement

Girl Scouts Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho (GSEWNI) consistently seeks to identify qualified men and women to join the Board of Directors who have achieved and continuously demonstrate strong leadership skills. Our goal is a Board with diverse backgrounds, ages, experiences, and talents to bring a wide range of expertise to our geographically vast council. Joining the Board of Directors and your committed interest in Girl Scouts will allow you to:

- Develop strategic plans and direction that impacts more than 4,000 girls
- Participate in a leadership support network of 2,000 adult volunteers
- Ensure stewardship of resources by approving budgets and providing financial oversight
- Gain firsthand knowledge of the corporate governance process
- Experience the unique communities and cultures of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho through meetings and events
- Achieve personal and professional growth while using your skills for the development of others

Board members Roles:

- Advance the causes of Girl Scouts through networking and advocacy
- Oversee and evaluate compliance with federal, state, and local requirements
- Implement policies that build donor confidence and support
- Commit to getting to know other Board Members

Board member Requirements:

Participation:

- Consistent attendance at regular board meetings, 4 total;
- Attend the Annual Meeting (spring) and delegate meetings (fall);
- Be an active member of at least one committee (most committees meet monthly);
- Participate in Girl Scout functions and events in a manner appropriate for a board member;
- Adhere to the GSEWNI Bylaws and Policies;
- Review and come prepared for discussion and actions proposed for each meeting;
- Maintain Girl Scouts membership.

Financial Contribution:

- Pledge a “personally significant gift” to Annual Operations (donors and grantees ask or require GSEWNI to show 100% board giving to be eligible for funding). A suggested amount is 2% of your annual salary.
- Contribute to campaigns and other fund raising events;

- Annual Girl Scouts Membership Fee of \$15 or a lifetime membership fee of \$375;
- Participate in Philanthropic networking;
- Travel/lodging/food costs for Board meetings.

**Board meeting attendance in person is most beneficial; however, teleconference facilities are also provided.*

Roles and Responsibilities of Girl Board Participants:

“The Board of Directors is accountable for governing the affairs of the Council; for compliance with the charter requirements of GSUSA, for adhering to state corporate law; and for matters relating to federal government legislation affecting non-profit and non-stock organizations.”

- Girl board participants (Girl Board Members) are non-voting members of the Board of Directors, are at least 15 years of age and serve one-year terms. They are eligible to be reappointed.
- Approximately 5 meetings are held each year. Participation in person is encouraged, although participation via teleconferencing is an option.
- Materials for Board meetings will be made available a week prior to each meeting. It is expected that Girl Board Members will review the material in advance of each meeting.
- Girl members are encouraged to actively participate in the Board meeting discussions.
- Girl Board Members will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement-as the Board of Directors may be privy to information that is a work in progress or is of a confidential nature. Upon application, other policies and forms may be required, such as a Conflict of Interest Statement and a Background Check.
- Upon appointment to the Board of Directors, Girl Board Members will attend a brief orientation session to review key documents and reports.
- As a Girl Scout you have ideas that are important to share. The Board is interested in your views.

GSEWNI Bylaw

Amended April 27, 2013

3.2.5 Two (2) girl member 15 years or older, shall be appointed by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the Board Development Committee to the Board of Directors (“Girl Board Participants”). One girl shall be from Idaho and one girl from Washington, unless there are not any qualified candidates, then both girls could be from either Washington or Idaho. Girl Board Participants shall be non- voting members of the Board of Directors. Girl Board Participants shall be registered Girl Scouts at least fifteen (15) years of age. Girl Board Participants shall serve one-year (1) terms and may be reappointed.

Board of Directors FAQ

How do I become a Board Member?

Complete the Board Member Nomination or Girl Board Member Nomination form located on the website. If you are selected as a candidate you will be directed to complete the Board Member Application (also found on the website). The Board Development Committee will review your application and contact you for an interview. The next step is a candidate interview. For out of cycle nominations, candidates will be submitted to the Board Chair for consideration for appointment to the board. Otherwise, candidates are submitted to the general membership at the Annual Meeting.

How do I nominate someone?

Complete the Board Member Nomination form located on the website. Complete the Girl Board Member Nomination form located on the website.

Can I nominate myself?

Yes. As noted above, complete and submit the Board Member Nomination form.

Can I be an operational volunteer and a Board Member at the same time?

No, as indicated in the GSEWNI Policies - Section XI, Policy 15.

What areas of expertise is the Board looking to represent the council?

GSEWNI would benefit from those with senior leadership experience in areas such as:

- Professional Services;
- Property and Casualty Insurance;
- Emergency Planning/Health/Safety/Risk Management;
- Higher Education
- Residential or commercial building;
- Estate Planning, Investments, or Banking;
- Property Management;
- Human Resources;
- Public Relations;
- Fundraising;
- Finance & Accounting;
- Marketing and Sales;
- Non-profit and Private Sector Governance;
- Corporate Leadership (CEO/CFO/CIO, etc.)

How often are the Board meetings scheduled?

GSEWNI's fiscal year begins October 1 and ends September 30. Board meetings usually take place during the months of September, November, April (Annual Meeting), February, and June. We also ask that our Board Members attend our delegate meetings, which usually take place in October and November.

Where are the Board meetings held?

Board meetings are held at the corporate headquarters located in Spokane. There are teleconference options available as well.

What is the time commitment?

Attend regularly scheduled Board Meetings, Board committee meetings, delegate meetings, and other task force meetings. Time must be allocated for travel to the meetings.

For more information about our Board of Directors and our council please contact:

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