

# volunteer toolkit user guide: Caregiver

Updated: Winter 2021

The Volunteer Toolkit is your Troop Leader's official source for delivering easy, fun troop meetings year-round! With this step-by-step guide, you can start your troop year strong and stay up to date on all things Girl Scouts for your troop!



#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- ▶ Who Has Access | 2
- ▶ Where to Find the Volunteer Toolkit | 3
- ▶ Basic Navigation | 3
- My Troop | 4
- Year Plan | 5
- Meeting Plan | 6
- Resources | 7
- Finance | 8
- First-Year Troop Leader Experience | 9
- View Past Year Plans | 10
- Milestones | 10

© 2021 Girl Scouts of the USA.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical methods, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, now known or hereinafter invented, without the prior written permission of Girl Scouts of the United States of America, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law. For permissions requests, write to Girl Scouts of the United States of America at the address below or visit the www.girlscouts.org website to access permission request forms.

First published in 2019 by Girl Scouts of the United States of America 420 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10018-2798 www.girlscouts.org

#### **Who Has Access**

**NOTE:** *If you hold multiple roles*, you'll have a Volunteer Toolkit account for each—all under one login! Look for the gray drop-down box in the upper left corner of your screen to navigate between accounts.

PS	COOKIES	VOLUNTEER	DONATE	My GS	
			V TROOP	99991 : 2-BROWNIE	ł
			TROOP	99992 : 3-JUNIOR	
1	MEETING	5 PLAN RE	TROOP	99993 : 4-CADETTE	
	vetom Lind	ato	TROOP	99994 : 4-CADETTE	
begin system-wide updates that w					
, VTK and gsLearn for approximately 2-3 weeks.					

#### **TROOP LEADERS, PROGRAM GUIDES AND TROOP ADMINS**

Active volunteers registered for the current Girl Scout membership year in a troop leadership role. There should be at least two volunteers with access to the same troop account in the Volunteer Toolkit.

#### **TROOP TREASURERS**

Active volunteers registered for the current Girl Scout membership year in a troop finance/administration role. This role will only have the ability to edit and submit the finance report found on the Finance tab. All other tabs will be read-only.

#### **CAREGIVERS OF GIRL SCOUTS IN A TROOP**

Each primary caregiver has access to see their troop's Volunteer Toolkit account. They have read-only permission for the meeting schedule and agendas, plus additional resources. (Caregiver accounts can only be accessed if the troop leader has set up a year plan.)

#### CAREGIVERS OF INDIVIDUALLY REGISTERED GIRLS (JULIETTES)

Each primary caregiver of a currently registered Girl Scout who is not part of a troop will get troop leaderlike access with their girl(s). Access is granted through the council based on confirmation of individually registered status.

#### **DEMO ACCESS**

Available for supporting volunteer and staff roles that need access to the Volunteer Toolkit for training purposes. Demo access mirrors troop functionality but does not contain girl or troop information. These users will have two demo accounts under the gray drop-down ("Troop Demo – Troop Leader" and "Demo – Parent") and can see both sides of the troop experience. Access is granted through the council based on placement in designated support roles.



### Where To Find the Volunteer Toolkit

The Volunteer Toolkit can be used from any computer, tablet, or smartphone with internet access. For best results, use a Toolkitfriendly browser, such as Chrome or Firefox, with a cleared cache, and visit gsneo.org. Avoid using Internet Explorer.

In the upper right corner of your screen, click "MY GS." Select "Volunteer Toolkit" to log in using the credentials provided by your council.

#### **Basic Navigation**

The Volunteer Toolkit is divided into tabs that each have unique tools to help you plan your troop year and manage each meeting with ease. If you're on a computer, you'll see the green tabs across the top of your browser window. Mobile users will see a gray drop-down menu at the top, with tabs beneath.

H	ello Vanessa Nat. SIGN OUT	¢ ≣
	TROOP 999105 : 1-DAISY	-
	MENU	
	MYTROOP	
•	EXPLORE	
	YEAR PLAN	?
	MANAGE CALENDAR	<
	ADD BADGE / JOURNEY	로
	ADD ACTIVITY	는 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다 다
	• PAST YEARS	VTK Help Menu
	DOWNLOAD CALENDAR	enu
•	MEETING PLAN	
	RESOURCES	
•	FINANCES	



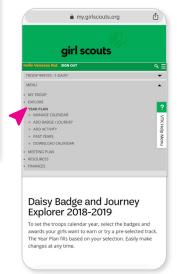
#### TIP: Print – Download – Help

You'll notice three icons on almost every page of the Volunteer Toolkit:

**Print** allows you to print a copy of your current screen.

**Download** allows you to download calendar appointments (from the Year Plan tab), pages, and resources.

Seek additional **help** by clicking the green question mark icon or by clicking "Take a Guided Tour."



2

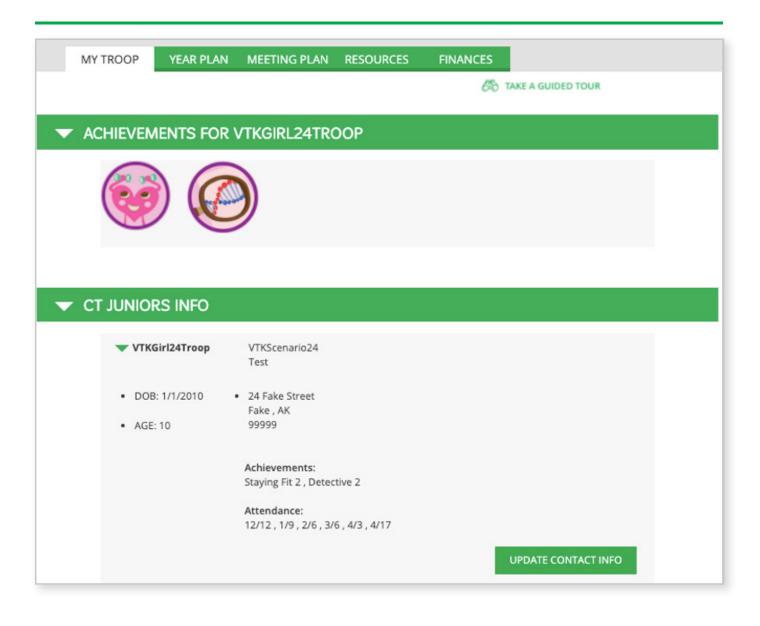


### My Troop

Here you will find information for your Girl Scout(s) and their achievements. Click the green arrow next to each name to expand and see each girl's personal information, plus a snapshot of achievements and attendance.

From this tab, you can also see the images of any achievements she's earned, download and print a report with her achievement and attendance information, and renew membership.

Troop Leaders will see all of this information for all girls in the troop.



#### **Year Plan**

From this tab, you can see the schedule of meetings your Troop Leader has set up along with the badges, Journeys and awards your girl(s) will work on during their troop year. You'll be able to click on each meeting to see more information in the Meeting Plan tab. Meetings and badges are only one part of a go-getting Girl Scout's troop year! You'll also see things like field trips, service projects, events, or cookie booth sales on your year plan as well, based on what your Troop Leader adds. Any activity that isn't a regular meeting will appear in blue and show up chronologically.

From this tab, you can also **preview requirements** of a badge, Journey, or award by clicking on its image and **view previous year plans** and important milestones from your local area.

MY TROOP	YEAR PLAN MEETING PLAN RESOURCES FINANCES	
		<b>5 2</b> (?)
JUNIOR	BADGES OPTION 1	
	EN SHOP HOURS!	
	IETTE GORDON LOW'S BIRTHDAY	
о DEC 12 04:00 РМ	JUNIOR INTRO MEETING Getting Started Welcome Parents, Caregivers and Girls.	0
12/31/20 TES		
01/04/21 TES	T- COOKIES START!	
2 JAN 09 04:00 PM	JUMP INTO JOURNEYS/BADGES Getting Started Juniors decide what they want to do during their Junior year.	
3 FEB 06 04:00 PM	STAYING FIT 1 Healthy Living & Get Girls Outside! Girls begin Staying Fit badge.	60

### **Meeting Plan**

Here you'll find the tools to make each badge, award, meeting, and activity a success. We've provided meeting prep information, materials lists, and even suggested scripts for many activities. From this tab, you can also find the location for a specific meeting (whether it be virtual or in person).

MEETING : STA FEBRUARY 06	VING FIT 1 04:00 PM		
Girls begin Staying Fit badge by exploring everyday activities to a CATEGORY: Healthy Living & Get Girls Outside! REQUIREMENTS: Girls will figure out what fitness, food, and fun see more			
PLANNING MATERIALS Meeting Overview Materials List			
Girl Scout Promise and Law promise and law	Benefits of a Multi-Level Troop volunteer resource		
Tips for Working with Girls at Different Levels volunteer resource	Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge volunteer resource		
4:00 As Girls Arrive	0:10		
4:10 Opening Ceremony	0:15		
4:25 Select an activity	0:20		
4:45 Select an activity	0.20		
5:05 Take Action Pause	0:10		
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES			
The Dos and Don'ts of Backpacking	Step by Step- Developing Outdoor Skills in G		
How to Leave No Trace Outdoors	Taking the Journeys outside		

- PLANNING MATERIALS: High-level resources show you from start to finish what your girls will achieve during the meeting, what you'll do and say (Activity Plan), and the meeting aids plus the materials you'll need (Material List).

• **MEETING AIDS:** These documents, videos, and links are the leg up you need to complete the activities in each meeting! Some are geared toward the adult supporting the meeting, and some are for girls completing the activities. You can find more information on how to use these resources in the Activity Plan.

AGENDA: Here you'll find instructions and details for each activity, needed materials, time it takes to complete, and recommended sequencing. You will see activity choices as well but won't be able to make choices. Only the Troop Leader has those permissions.

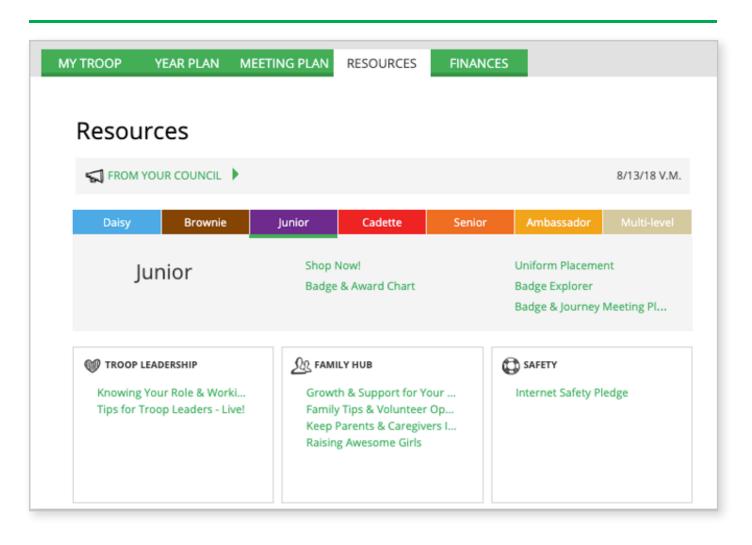
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: Take your meeting topic to the next level with these additional resources! These include videos, documents, or suggested events that go beyond the required steps for a badge or award, and they can help your girls do a deeper dive into the content they're most excited about. Here you'll also find links to the Girl Scout Shop to purchase printed award booklets or the awards themselves.



#### Resources

Under this tab, you'll find answers to your pressing Girl Scout questions—like where to put pins or badges on a uniform, which special awards girls can earn, or how to lead favorite Girl Scout traditions—along with national and local resources by topic.

From this tab you can also gain access to the Girl Scout Shop from each program level, download reference documents for all the awards a Girl Scout can earn, and explore tips for troop leaders and other roles. All user types can see this tab and interact with it in the same way.





#### **Finances**

From this tab, once your Troop Leader has submitted their end-of-year finance report, you can easily see your troop's financial summary and other necessary information to wrap up the troop year.

	'EAR PLAN	MEETING PLAN	RESOURCES	FINANCES		
MEMBERSHIP YEAR: 20	20 -2021 Fin	ance form	<b>.</b>			
Thank you						
Thank you for submitti 11/30/2020, 11:02 PM b				ument(s) that we	re attached. It wa	is sent on
Annual Troo	op Fina	nce Report	2020 - 20	21		
	op Fina	nce Report	2020 - 20	21		
	op Fina	nce Report	2020 - 20	21		
Troop ct juniors	op Fina s	nce Report	2020 - 20	21		
Troop ct juniors INCOME Cookie Sales			2020 - 20	21		
Annual Troo Troop ct juniors INCOME Cookie Sales Fall Product Program Other Income	\$	10.00	2020 - 20	21		

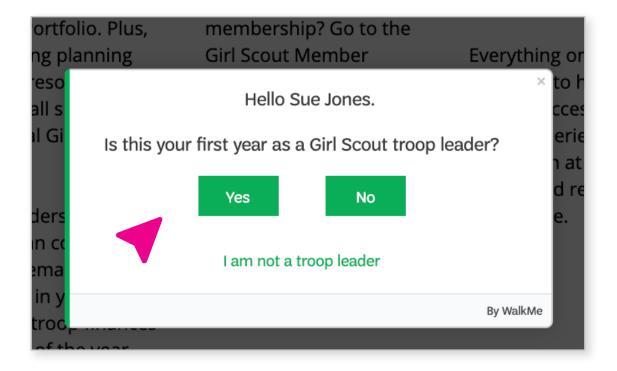




### **First-Year Troop Leader Experience**

The First-Year Troop Experience supports new leaders with additional guidance to get them acquainted with the Volunteer Toolkit. After logging in, you'll be prompted to follow a guided path with recommended steps to simplify your onboarding process.

For Caregivers: simply click "I am not a troop leader" to bypass this process.



If you'd like to see what this experience looks like, click "Take a Guided Tour" on any of the Volunteer Toolkit tabs to see the same guidance that a new leader would.



### **View Past Year Plans**

Each July, the Volunteer Toolkit resets and archives your year plan. However, you'll still be able to view the plan through the green Past Years link at the top of your Year Plan tab. Note that achievement and attendance records do not archive; please download a copy of this information for your records.



### Milestones

You might see orange bars across your Year Plan tab in chronological order with your other meetings and activities. These are important dates, events, or updates your local Girl Scout staff want you to know about. These may also include links to additional information that relates to the date and title of the milestone.

10/10/20 OPEN SHOP HOURS!						
1 ост 28 04:00 РМ	STEM CAREER EXPLORATION 1 STEM,Badges for 2020-2021 Brownies make a personal collage and play a game to explore STEM careers.					
DEC 02 04:00 PM	AUTOMOTIVE DESIGN 2 STEM,Badges for 2020-2021 Brownies sketch and sculpt a vehicle and earn the Automotive Design badge.					
01/04/21 TEST	- COOKIES START!					

