



SCOUTS BSA

Frequently Asked Questions

Logistics for Troop Meetings and Outings

Q: If a chartered organization is not able to establish a new unit based on the required number of same-gender youth needed, can boy patrols and girl patrols be combined to form a troop?

No. A new unit must be started using the current youth and adult requirements; however, chartered organizations can consider the linked troop model so that the newly-established girl troop will have the same COR and can share the troop committee

Q: Can a boy troop and girl troop meet as one big troop?

Opening and closing of the meetings can be together or separate, depending on space and the desire of the chartered organization and unit leadership. The other components of the Scout meeting should be run separately.

Q: Can boy and girl patrols make up a troop?

No. Troops must be all male or all female youth members.

Q: Must the leaders of a boy troop be men and all the leaders of the girl troop be women?

No. Adult leadership may be men, women, or both men and women together. All youth protection guidelines are to be in use no matter the make-up of the adult leadership.

Q: Can a boy troop and girl troop plan events together?

Yes, they can plan events together, as troops currently do.

Q: Can a council and district run camporees for boy troops and girl troops?

Yes, a council and district can run council and district events for both boy troops and girl troops if they are following the Guide to Safe Scouting and all current youth protection guidelines.

Q: Can linked troops share troop numbers? If so, how do we tell them apart?

Yes, they can share troop numbers. You will be able to tell them apart in the system by the prefix in ScoutNet that IDs each troop.

Camping

Q: What is the policy for restroom and showering facilities?

Separate shower and latrine facilities should be provided for male and female adults as well as for male and female youth. If separate facilities are not available, separate times should be scheduled and posted. This is not a change.

Q: What are the policies for sleeping accommodations?

Girl and Boy Troops are able to camp at the same campsite. Separate accommodations for adult males and females and youth males and females are required.

*Separate tenting arrangements must be provided for male and female adults as well as for male and female youth.

Please refer the Guide for Safe Scouting for additional questions.



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Leadership

Q: Can an adult male lead an all-girl unit?

An adult male can lead an all-girl unit, just as we already have adult females leading all-boy programs. There must be a registered female adult leader over 21 in every unit serving females and present for any activity involving female youth. Youth protection requirements still apply to both male and female participants.

Q: Can a boy troop and a girl troop share the same Scoutmaster?

No. Chartered organizations should have separate Scoutmasters for their boy troop and girl troop.

Q: Can both male troops and girl troops share the same committee?

A chartered organization can decide if they want the same or separate committee.

Q: Can a boy troop and girl troop meet at the same time?

Yes. Based on the preferences of the chartered organization, the boy troop and girl troop could meet at the same time and place.

Eagle Scout Eligibility for older Scouts (16+)

- Youth 16 years of age or older, but not yet 18 on February 1, 2019 who register as members of Scouts BSA on or before December 3, 2019 may request extensions to complete the Eagle Scout Award requirement after they turn 18 years of age.
- Extensions may not be received after January 7th, 2020.
- These temporary transition rules apply to all youth joining Scouts BSA during 2019: both girls and first-time joining boys.

