

Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council
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2019 SAMPLE SCRIPT FOR OPERATIONAL UNIT DELEGATE ELECTIONS

To the person conducting the Operational Unit delegate elections: (A current or former delegate could conduct this election. They could still be nominated and serve as a delegate if elected.)

“According to the formula established by the GSVSC board of directors, each operational unit is entitled to elect two (2) council delegates for the first 200 or less girls registered with their unit as of March 1, 2019 and one (1) additional delegate for each 100 girls over the initial 200, and any number of alternate delegates to represent their operational unit at Open Council Dialogue meetings and the Annual Meeting. Delegates, along with members of the council’s board of directors, board development committee, and national council delegates, make up the voting membership of the corporation. Operational unit delegates shall become informed of the matters to be discussed at council meetings and of the viewpoint of the operational unit membership. They shall prepare for, attend, and participate in an Open Council Dialogue meeting and report to the operational unit on actions taken.”

“The job of delegate is very important in influencing the decisions in our council.”

“The responsibilities and duties include...” (read or go over the position description for the council delegate and alternate delegate - Form #1608).

“Does everyone understand the responsibility if elected as a delegate or alternate delegate?” (If there are questions that can’t be answered, refer them to the Membership Voice Committee).

“We will now elect our delegates.”

NOMINATIONS: "Our operational unit is entitled to elect _____ (see attached list) delegates and unlimited alternates based on our girl membership as of March 1, 2019. If you are member of an At-Large Council Group – Adventurers, Camp Administrators, Council Trainers, or, Alumnae - you will need to choose which group to vote in. **DO NOT** participate in this election if you vote with an At-Large Group."

“I will now accept nominations for operational unit delegates. These persons must be 14 years of age or older by October 1, 2019, be a member of our operational unit, and be a registered Girl Scout.”

“You may nominate yourself or someone else as long as they give consent.”
(Write down names as nominated)

“Are there any further nominations for delegates?”

“There being none, the nominations are closed.”

ELECTIONS: (Special Note: If your unit is entitled to elect more than two (2) delegates, each person can cast the number of votes equal to the number of delegates you are entitled to, e.g., three (3) delegates – each person gets three (3) votes; five (5) delegates – each person gets five (5) votes, etc. Be sure to make the adjustment in the script below for number of delegates and votes a person may cast.)

“These are the nominees for delegates. Please stand or raise your hand to be recognized as I read your name.”
(Read name and acknowledge each nominee.)

“Everyone will now vote for two (2) nominees. The two (2) nominees with the most votes will become the delegates and the others will be alternate delegates. Alternate delegates will be ranked by the number of votes received and moved into the delegate position on the morning of the Annual Meeting if one of the operational unit delegates is not in attendance.”

Suggestions for voting: “Please raise your hand to vote as I read the names. You will vote for two (2).”

OR

“Please write down two (2) names and I will collect them to tally.” (Tally votes and announce results.)

- a) “____ (operational unit name) delegates are _____.”
- b) “____ (operational unit name) alternate delegates are (#1) ____, (#2) ____, (#3) _____,” etc. (*Unlimited number*—be sure to list the operational unit alternate delegates according to their rank on the roster.)

Congratulations to all!

INSTALLATION:

DELEGATES and ALTERNATE DELEGATES: A council delegate is elected by their operational unit for a term of one year. Delegates make up the voting membership of the corporation. This is in keeping with the constitution of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, which states in its Preamble:

- We maintain that the strength of the Girl Scout Movement rests in the voluntary leadership of its adult members,
- We declare that the democratic way of life and democratic process shall guide all our activities.

Delegates are accountable to all registered members of Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council. Alternate delegates are elected to “be prepared” to assume the duties and responsibilities of a delegate should they be asked to do so.

Do you promise to carry out these responsibilities to the best of your ability? If so, say ‘I do so promise.’ (Pause for response.)

I declare you duly elected and installed delegates and alternate delegates of Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. Congratulations.

All delegates and alternate delegates must fill out the delegate roster and sign their position agreement before you leave.

Delegate training: New delegates or alternates without prior qualified delegate training must complete and submit Form #1358, Delegate Self-Study, to council prior to the annual meeting. The form is found on the council website at <http://www.gsvsc.org/en/for-volunteers/forms---documents.html?q=governance>. Follow the directions to send it to the council office prior to the annual meeting. If a delegate or alternate has completed GSVSC Delegate Training since 2006, no additional training is required.

One Open Council Dialogue Meeting must be attended in the fall of every registration year. You may attend this meeting before or after you are elected.

Mark your calendar for the 2020 Annual Meeting in Lynchburg, VA on Saturday, January 25 (weather date is February 1).

Thank you!”

If you have questions or would like guidelines for elections, contact the Membership Voice Committee at mvc@gsvsc.org.