

GIRL SCOUTS WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

GOVERNANCE PROCEDURE

Procedure Title:	DELEGATE ELECTION	PM 010
Date Effective:	November 12, 2008	Revised:
Department:	Membership	
Approval:	_____	

THE FOLLOWING IS EXCERPTED FROM THE BYLAWS OF THE GIRL SCOUTS WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF GIRL SCOUTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

ARTICLE III – MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION

Section 3.1. Eligibility. Individuals, age 14 years of age and over, who are members of the Girl Scout Movement (hereafter referred to as “Movement”) and are currently registered through the local jurisdiction chartered by GSUSA (the “Council”) are eligible to be Members of the Corporation. Employed staff, however, are not eligible to be elected as delegates.

Section 3.2. Composition

- A. Members of the Corporation shall consist of:
- (i) elected members of the Board of Directors, if not otherwise Members of the Corporation;
 - (ii) members of the Board Development Committee, if otherwise not Members of the Corporation; and
 - (iii) delegates elected by each geographic service delivery subdivision within the Council (“Service Area”).
- B. The number of Members of the Corporation shall be no less than 200 (total number of Service Areas, plus board and board development).
- C. At least two-thirds of the Members of the Corporation shall be those elected by Service Area.

Section 3.3. Election

- A. Procedures. Each Service Area shall elect delegates and alternates in accordance with the policies and procedures established by the Board of Directors.
- B. Number.
- (i) The number of delegates and alternates to which each Service Area is entitled shall be based on the number of girls in the Service Area as of September 30 of each calendar year, according to a formula established by the Board of Directors.
 - (ii) Each Service Area shall be entitled to at least one (1) delegate.

- (iii) Term and Vacancies.
 - (a) Delegates shall serve a term of one (1) year or until their successors are elected. Delegates may serve no more than three consecutive terms.
 - (b) Terms of office shall begin at the time delegates are elected.

Delegates will be elected according to the following procedure:

- The Board of Directors has determined that the ratio of delegates to girl membership is 1 delegate per 100 girls.
- The number of delegates and alternates to which each Service Area is entitled shall be based on the number of girls in the Service area as of September 30 of each calendar year and each Service Area shall be entitled to at least one (1) delegate. Example:
 - A Service Area with a girl membership of 1 to 199 will elect 1 delegate.
 - A Service Area with a girl membership of 200 to 299 will elect 2 delegates.
 - A Service Area with a girl membership of 300 to 399 will elect 3 delegates, etc.
- Each Service Area will:
 - Elect delegates, according to the ratio listed above, by October 10th of each membership year. Note: for the 2008-2009 membership year only, delegates will be elected by January 31, 2008.
 - Elect alternate delegates to equal not more than ½ (one half) of the number of elected delegates as per the ratio listed above. Note: Exception: Service Areas with one delegate will elect one alternate delegate.
- Each Service Area Team, or in the absence of a Service Area Team, the membership manager, will establish a Nominating Committee who will seek candidates for nomination and election.
- All members ages 14 and up are eligible for nomination and election. Girl members should be represented on the single slate of nominees.
- The Service Area Nominating Committee will present a single slate of delegate and alternate delegate nominees to the membership manager.
- The membership manager will forward the single slate of nominees to the regional volunteer development manager to determine that the nominees are in good standing with Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania.
 - That is, the nominees
 - Meet membership requirements of Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.
 - are currently registered members of GSWPA
 - do not have an outstanding debt with GSWPA
 - do not have any unresolved conflicts with GSWPA
- The approved single slate of delegate and alternate delegate nominees will be returned to the Service Area Nominating Committee by the membership manager no later than five (5) days after the single slate has been submitted to the membership manager.