

## **2024 Fall Town Hall Q&A**

Oct. 9, 2024

### **Where can we find the membership numbers in writing?**

They're listed in the report you received.

### **Is GSUSA offering a discounted cost for sibling membership fees?**

We haven't heard of anything.

### **With getting some money back for financial assistance from GSUSA with this membership cost increase, will what we get back offset our council's financial assistance expenses? There is a large financial impact on troops with this large of an increase.**

It depends on the final cost of the membership increase. Remember to complete the survey.

### **How many girls do we currently provide financial assistance to, and will we be able to cover that cost with this increase in membership fees?**

It depends on the amount of the increase.

### **What can GSUSA really provide and will they follow through with their promises?**

GSUSA has no answer to this question at this time. Some of the Mackenzie Scott grant was used by GSUSA to provide the Daisy Experience Boxes. We're not sure what else it was used for.

### **The membership increase will be a hardship for many families and troops. Can council cover the \$45 cost of adult financial assistance membership if raised? What do troops get back directly if the fee is increased?**

The average increase according to the councils polled is about \$36.11. They are recommending a unified position going into the special council session on Oct. 19 and wondering if GSUSA is throwing out a higher number hoping to get a lower number.

### **Can the current restrictions for our council money-earning be reviewed? With the dues increase, additional fundraising will be helpful to families struggling to pay the fee. Can we look into which months you can sell and have additional items at cookie booths?**

We're willing to look into that. We do have flexibility in fundraising. We will work with volunteers and girls to support your needs.

### **Was a proposal amendment submitted?**

Not at this time.

### **What is the tech support part of this proposal? What do troops get?**

The proposal states expanding and improving technology and marketing to older girl

programming. There is a need to keep current technology up to date along with the need to improve and expand technology. Currently, GSUSA covers the cost of technology expenses through the membership fees collected and does not pass those costs onto the councils.

**How do the tech costs help the girls and support the troop leaders?**

Through developing platforms for communication with the VTK, Salesforce, Digital Cookie, M2, and customer service inquiries and responses through case management.

**Our service unit feels the increase in membership is too high. If there is no increase up to a certain suggested amount, then what happens?**

The CEO council group asked GSUSA the same question and to provide details.

**Can you let us know what the council's unified decision will be?**

No. This is a fast-changing and moving meeting and we cannot go into it with an exact decision. As the meeting progresses, there may be a need to adjust the plan based on the conversation happening. Please fill out the survey so that we can represent what you want and we will speak what you want.

**Can you send the survey to all active members?**

The survey was provided in our Monthly Council Updates and volunteer communications and is also posted on our website. The survey closes at 10 a.m. Thursday morning.

**What is GSUSA's plan to manage its finances and budget?**

This has been asked of GSUSA and they will not discuss it.

**What does GSUSA consider older girls?**

We don't have details on what they're doing.

**When can the membership fee be raised again?**

According to the bylaws, it can be raised a maximum of 25% yearly without member approval. A special council session is required and being called because according to bylaws, if the amount is above 25%, then a meeting for discussion must be held.

**Can you explain the camp reservation timeline for service units, troops, and outside groups?**

Service units can make reservations 12 months in advance, troops can make reservations 11 months in advance, and outside groups can make reservations 9 months in advance.

**Will lifetime membership be increased?**

There are no plans to do so at this time, as far as they know.

**Can GSUSA increase dues yearly?**

Yes, by 25% each year based on the current year's fee.

**Are uniform pieces included in the financial assistance plan with GSUSA?**

No.