



56th National Council Session

Summary of Actions Taken

July 2023



56th National
Council Session

At the 56th National Council Session, July 18–20, 2023, the body of delegates debated and voted on seven proposals and took the actions that are outlined in the following slides

PROPOSAL 7—APPROVED AS PRESENTED

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD SCHOLARSHIP

ORIGINATED BY

Girl Scouts of the USA National Board on the Recommendation of the Movement Gold Award Scholarship Foundation Task Force

APPROVED PROPOSAL

THAT the National Council hereby affirms the recommendation of the Movement Gold Award Scholarship Foundation Task Force to create a donor-restricted fund in support of Gold Award scholarships; and

THAT that in recognition of its importance, the existence of such fund shall be reflected in the *Blue Book of Basic Documents* in the Fundraising Policies section of the *Blue Book* (or any successor section of the *Blue Book* as may be appropriate from time to time).

PROPOSAL 6—APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: TIMING OF DELEGATE ALLOCATION

ORIGINATED BY

Girl Scouts of the USA National Board of Directors on Recommendation of the National Council Session Advisory Team

PROPOSAL

THAT Article IV (The National Council), Section 5 (Formula for Delegates) of the Constitution of Girl Scouts of the USA be amended by striking “of the year,” and inserting the words, “two years” before the word “preceding.”

PROPOSAL 6—APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: TIMING OF DELEGATE ALLOCATION

ADOPTED WORDING

Each local council to which a charter has been issued and remains in force shall be entitled to the following delegates based on the number of girls under its jurisdiction who are members of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America as of September 30, **two years** preceding the regular session of the National Council:

- a. two (2) delegates;
- b. one (1) additional delegate for up to 3,500 girls;
- c. one (1) additional delegate for every 3,500 girls thereafter.

PROPOSAL 3 – DEFEATED

Constitutional Amendment: Council Representation on the National Board

ORIGINATED BY

Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta

PROPOSAL

To amend Article X, Section 2 of the Constitution of Girl Scouts of the USA to insert “at least three (3) of whom shall be Council Executives.” After the words “members-at-large,” and to insert the definition of “Council Executive” after the word “country.”

BLUE BOOK REMAINS UNCHANGED – Article X, National Board of Directors, page 10



56th National
Council Session

PROPOSAL 5 – DEFEATED

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: FORMULA FOR DELEGATES

ORIGINATED BY

Farthest North Girl Scout Council

PROPOSAL

To amend Article IV, National Council, Section 5, by striking the number 3,500 in every place where it occurs and replacing it with the number 1,000 and by striking the word “no” and replacing it with the words “as close to but not” in the last sentence.

BLUE BOOK REMAINS UNCHANGED – Article IV, National Council, Section 5, page 8





56th National
Council Session

PROPOSAL 1—APPROVED AS AMENDED

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: ALLOWING THE POSSIBILITY OF VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE FOR NATIONAL COUNCIL SESSIONS AND SPECIAL SESSIONS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

ORIGINATED BY

Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania

PROPOSAL

To amend the Constitution and Bylaws of GSUSA as follows: Update Article V Sections 1, 3, and 4 of the Blue Book of Basic Documents, page 9, by inserting the bolded, green wording, as follows: [ADOPTED LANGUAGE ON FOLLOWING PAGE]





56th National
Council Session

PROPOSAL 1—APPROVED AS AMENDED

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: ALLOWING THE POSSIBILITY OF VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE FOR NATIONAL COUNCIL SESSIONS AND SPECIAL SESSIONS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

ADOPTED LANGUAGE

Section 1

There shall be a regular session of the National Council held triennially at such time and place as determined by the National Board of Directors. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of such session shall be mailed **or delivered electronically** not less than 60 days before the session to each local council, to each USA Girl Scouts Overseas committee, and to each member of the National Board of Directors and National Board Development Committee.

Section 3

Notice of the special session, stating the time, place, and specific purpose, shall be mailed **or delivered electronically** not less than 30 days before the session to each local council, each delegate from USA Girl Scouts Overseas, each member of the National Board of Directors and the National Board Development Committee, each Past President, and each member elected by the National Council who is entitled to vote at such session.

Section 4

Two hundred members of the National Council present in person shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at sessions of the National Council, provided, however, that delegates are present from one or more local councils in a majority of the geographical areas of the country as defined in the Bylaws. **At the sole discretion of the National Board, any special National Council session and in the event of an emergency any regular National Council Session may be held in whole or in part by means of the internet or other electronic communications technology pursuant to which the members of the National Council have the opportunity to read or hear the proceedings substantially concurrently with their occurrence, vote on matters submitted to the members, pose questions, and make comments. Attendance through such means shall constitute presence in person at such meeting for quorum and voting purposes.** In the absence of a quorum, a majority of those present at the time and place set for a session may take an adjournment from time to time until a quorum shall be present.



PROPOSAL 4—APPROVED AS AMENDED

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: DEIRJ LANGUAGE PROPOSAL

ORIGINATED BY

Girl Scouts of the USA National Board on Recommendation of the DEIRJ Board Advisory Committee

PROPOSAL

To amend the Preamble of the Constitution by inserting the words “and anti-racism” after the word “pluralism” in both places where that word occurs.

PROPOSAL 4—APPROVED AS AMENDED

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: DEIRJ LANGUAGE PROPOSAL

ADOPTED LANGUAGE

DIVERSITY, PLURALISM AND ANTI-RACISM

Girl Scouts advance diversity, pluralism, and anti-racism and actively identify and oppose racism by removing systemic barriers to participation in our Movement and in the communities in which we live.

PROPOSAL 2—PROPOSAL WAS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS; BOTH SECTIONS DEFEATED

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT: AMEND THE GIRL SCOUT PROMISE AND LAW TO USE MORE POTENT, ACTIONABLE LANGUAGE

ORIGINATED BY

Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey

PROPOSAL

THAT the Preamble of the Constitution of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America be amended to delete the words “try,” “to,” and “do my best” and to insert the word “will.”

BLUE BOOK REMAINS UNCHANGED – Constitution of the GSUSA Preamble, page 6



56th National Council Session

Thank You