

gs Virtual Meeting Tips for Troops

- Check out our virtual meeting training on gsLearn called Virtual Troop Meetings.
- Keep your meeting Girl-Led and ask the girls which virtual format they prefer to use and what they want to learn and do during their meeting time.
- Google Hangouts, Zoom, Facebook, and Skype are some of the popular formats. Girls and parents may have a lot of experience from e-learning on a particular format.
- The leader should practice accessing the format beforehand with a friend or co leader so that you can provide exactly what to click on 😊
- Although it may be tempting to hold a day time meeting, most parents work, so best to stick to usual meeting time for consistency.
- Communicate with your parents and educate them on how to use the format that your girls selected and supplies that may be needed ahead of time, start time and an estimate of how long your meeting will last.
- Ask parents to stay in the room with D/B to help mute and unmute during the meeting.
- Try running the meeting in the same or similar order as you would in person, such as:
 - **Opening** with Girl Scout Promise or Law, chat time to discuss a topic or question, What have they been up to so they can engage with each other(5-10 min)
 - **Troop business** such as attendance, dues, announcements of upcoming activities or planning ideas, what badge do we want to work on next (10-15 min)
 - **Activities** such as Girl Scout curriculum, songs, games or team building activities (20- 25 min)
 - **Closing** with what is on the agenda for next meeting or friendship circle (2-5 min)
- Plan your agenda ahead of time by utilizing the volunteer toolkit meetings.
- Have your troop review online safety guidelines and meeting etiquette such as:
 - Be respectful of others, no yelling, and no talking when someone else is talking, mute yourself if you don't need to talk, remind girls/families to be mindful of her meeting time, if possible be in a room where you can close the door and not have a sibling running around in the background.
- This is a great time to reach out for guest speakers. Ask parents what they do and if they know anyone that has a career that relates to a badge.
- Consider a virtual tour of museum/art gallery or somewhere your troop would like to explore and take a virtual field trip.
- Make it fun and try playing a simple game such as draw something, charades, trivia or hangman.
- Consider allowing older girls to run the meeting for the troop to keep it Girl-Led.
- This is a big change, give yourself room to make mistakes and learn from them.
- Have fun! Try to go with the flow and realize it doesn't have to be perfect and it probably won't!
- We would love to hear about your virtual meeting and how it went! Give your troop support contact the scoop!