Starting Early: Getting Girl Input

Why do we have District Events and Community Events? To enhance the leadership experience for the GIRLS! So naturally a very important part of planning an event is getting girls’ ideas on what they want the event to look like. How do you do this? Form a Girl Planning Committee. Not only will girls get the opportunity to plan, they will also be getting a jump start on interacting with girls from different areas. They may make connections that they can bring back to girls they already know to help them get excited about meeting new friends at the event.

Girl involvement in planning events is not only possible; it is an essential component of a successful Girl Scout event. The key to successful girl planning is being aware of girls’ current abilities and providing constructive mentoring throughout the process.

Start a Girl Planning Committee by encouraging girl members in the local area to join you or suggest that existing troops or groups choose at least one representative to be a part of the committee and recruit an adult to be the advisor. Having girls plan your event may seem daunting right now, but don’t worry. You are not turning over the coordination of the entire event to the girls, but are engaging them in the process of planning and executing the event based upon their grade level and ability. The following chart provides suggestions on how girls can be engaged in the planning process based upon their grade level.

<table>
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<th>Girl Scout Grade Level</th>
<th>Involvement Examples</th>
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| Girl Scout Daisy (Kindergarten-Grade 1) | • Develop rules of conduct for the event  
• Choose between two or three items, such as food options and/or activity options |
| Girl Scout Brownie (Grades 2-3) | • All of the above  
• Choosing the event’s theme from three or four options  
• Making name tags and invitations  
• Leading a flag ceremony at the event |
| Girl Scout Junior (Grades 4-5) | • All of the above  
• Developing the theme of an event  
• Leading activities for Girl Scout Daisies and Brownies  
• Leading opening and closing ceremonies |
| Girl Scout Cadette (Grades 6-8) | • All of the above  
• Email, telephone, or personal contact with potential sites, vendors, and/or volunteers  
• Planning songs, activities, skits, and ceremonies  
• Sharing their skills and experiences in Girl Scouts  
• Those with Program Aide training can be given even more responsibilities |
| Girl Scout Senior (Grades 9-10) & Girl Scout Ambassadors (Grades 11-12) | • All of the above  
• Total planning of events with adult support and advice |