

Residential Troop Meeting Policy

We value our volunteers and appreciate the involvement and support that they provide to the girls in their troops. As one can appreciate, the safety of girls is important to Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland (GSOH). In our efforts to protect girls and volunteers, it will be required that all troops receive prior approval from the Risk Management Team at GSOH to meet in a private residence. A Residential Troop Meeting Request form, Homeowner's Agreement, and parent waivers must be submitted annually based on the Girl Scout membership year in order to continue meeting in a residential location. This policy is subject to change.

Residential Troop Meeting Requirements

All Troop Leaders requesting to meet in a private residence are required to provide the following documentation, submitted to volunteer@gsoh.org:

1. Residential Troop Meeting Request Form and supporting documentation that will include the following:

- Certificate of Insurance for the residence
- Liability coverage of at least \$300,000
- Coverage with Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland listed as an "interested party" on his/her Homeowner's Liability Insurance Policy
- Copies of Background Checks for individuals 18 years and older listed that live in the household or have access to the residence. Background Checks will be at the expense of the individual for non-Girl Scout Volunteers. A background check can be obtained through the following options:
 - Local Police Station
 - Fast Fingerprints locations

Website: <https://www.fastfingerprints.com/locations/>

(Special note: If the person has lived in Ohio for 5 years, they can do Ohio BCI. If they have lived somewhere else in the last 5 years, they will need to do the Ohio BCI and FBI background check.)

2. Homeowner Agreement for Sanctioned Girl Scout Meetings

Residential Troop Meeting Review Process

Applications will be reviewed in a timely manner by the Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Risk Management Team. A decision on the application will be communicated directly to the applicant via email.

Once an **approval** has been communicated to the Residential Homeowner, it is required that all Girl Scout Members meeting at the private residence complete the following:

- Release and Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnity Agreement.
 - Waivers should be submitted via this link: <https://bit.ly/ResidentialTroopMtgWaiver>