

Girl Scouts Volunteer Award Nomination Resource

~ Recognizing Volunteers Who Truly Go Above and Beyond ~

When it's time to recognize volunteers, we're looking for the ones who bring that extra sparkle—leaders who jump in, lift others up, and make Girl Scout magic happen. Great nominations help us understand exactly how they shine!

What makes a strong nomination?

Strong Nominations Highlight...

- ✓ Specific examples of exceptional effort and initiative
- ✓ Descriptions of leadership that created real, noticeable outcomes
- ✓ A clear alignment with Girl Scout values and mission in action
- ✓ Evidence that the volunteer's work made a meaningful difference
- ✓ Authenticity and sincerity that reflect the nominator's true experience

Insufficient Nominations Often...

- ✓ Offer vague praise with no examples ("She's great!")
 - ✓ Skip explaining how actions helped girls or the troop
 - ✓ Mention tasks but not how they reflect impact on outcomes
 - ✓ Focus on a single small event or one person's opinion
 - ✓ Feel rushed, incomplete, or appear generated by AI tools
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Example of a Strong Nomination *(Anonymized)*

This example shows what "above and beyond" looks like

This volunteer consistently goes above and beyond to provide meaningful, fun, and educational experiences for all girls in the troop. She organizes trips to local and state sites that expose girls to new learning opportunities, such as visiting the state capitol to meet community leaders. She ensures every event is thoroughly planned, sharing registration details, deadlines, costs, and instructions clearly and on time.

She has led multiple bridging and investiture ceremonies, making each event memorable and educational. For example, during a recent investiture, she guided the girls in creating a trail mix activity that emphasized the qualities of a good Girl Scout.

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She is exceptionally fair and inclusive. All girls, regardless of age or troop placement, are treated equally. She remembers each girl's name, encourages their participation, and ensures every voice is heard in choosing badges, patches, and activities.

She communicates consistently with parents, providing reminders and updates so families stay informed. Her diplomacy and professionalism set a strong example for both girls and adults. The troop thrives under her leadership because she models responsibility, respect, and a commitment to excellence, while allowing girls to have fun and take ownership of their activities.

Why This Example Shows an “Above and Beyond” Volunteer

- Clear, tangible contributions (major events, thoughtful planning)
 - Leadership that improves the experience for all girls
 - Strong demonstration of Girl Scout values in action
 - Visible, lasting impact on the troop and families
 - Professionalism paired with warmth and dedication
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Guidance for Your Nomination

(These points help ensure the nomination truly reflects the volunteer's exceptional contributions.)

1. Begin with the core reason this volunteer stands out from others.
2. Use real examples that show what they did, not just what you appreciate.
3. Keep your explanation focused and clear.
4. End with the impact: how girls, families, or the broader Girl Scout community are better because of this volunteer.

Thank you for taking the time to nominate a GSHPA volunteer!