

# Best Troop Year Ever Incentive 2020 – 2021



We all know that Girl Scouts is going to look and feel different this year. AND THAT IS OK. Girls and volunteers alike might need a little more fun 🎉, a little less structure 📅, and to make up their own new Girl Scout normal. ❤️

One of the most important parts of Girl Scouts is the opportunity for girls to connect with other girls in a fun, safe environment with the support of an adult mentor. No matter what Girl Scouts looks like this year, if you cover THOSE things – you’re doing it right! We want EVERY troop in Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas to have the Best Troop Year Ever and for your troop to earn a free patch along the way.

**Here’s how it works:** This patch opportunity runs August 1, 2020 – July 31, 2021. We have this info page and Troop Tracking Worksheet for you to keep track of your points and share your troop’s successes with GSNETX. Yes – activities can count for more than one thing! Once you reach **80 points**, email your us your tracking sheet and we’ll drop FREE patches in the mail for the girls and volunteers in your troop beginning late fall.

**Bonus:** In August 2021, any troops\* who have earned **100 points** will be entered into a drawing to receive \$100 for your troop – just in time for Back to Girl Scouts 2021. \*Your troop bank account must be registered and verified with GSNETX to be eligible for this drawing.

1. **Stay safe and have fun! (10 points)** Big or small, your troop does not have to miss a moment of Girl Scout fun this year. As you plan, check out latest [Troop & SU Guidance](#) and [Tips for In-Person Activities](#). We have also updated [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#) and a simple new [Activity Approval process](#) to get your troop going on their next great adventure. Whether your girls decide to hang out and go star gazing, give back through a service project, or simply spend time together with no real agenda– be sure to bring the fun!
2. **Do something healthy as a troop. (10 points)** Go on hike, take a yoga class, or do one of our GSNETX patches like the [OK to Say patch](#) or [Celebrate Diversity patch](#).
3. **Go virtual. (10 points)** Take part in a virtual program as a troop like a [GSNETX signature event or weekend badge workshop](#), GSUSA activity, or a virtual troop meeting. Our [Virtual Meeting Playbook](#) is exactly what you need to figure out how to make the shift and still have fun, engaging meetings- without the virtual fatigue.
4. **Keep it simple. (10 points)** Make meeting planning easy by using the national [Volunteer Toolkit \(VTK\)](#), [Jumpstart](#) - GSNETX’s very own digital STEM badge workshop assistant, or [patch programs](#) for troops meetings.
5. **Fund your fun. (up to 10 points/ 5 points each)** [Fall product sales](#) and the [Girl Scout Cookie Program](#) not only help your girls learn business skills, but also help cover troop costs through the Girl Scout year.
6. **Engage in Our 4 Program Pillars: (up to 20 points/ 5 points per pillar)** Keep your troop well-rounded by trying something from each pillar – [STEM](#), [Entrepreneurship](#), [Outdoor Leadership](#), and [Life Skills](#).
7. **Help Girl Scouts grow. (10 points)** – Girls need Girl Scouts now more than ever. Help us spread the word and engage girls and volunteers. Participate in [GSNETX Spirit Week or Back to Girl Scouts](#) in the fall, host a recruitment event, or open your troop to more girls in the catalog by submitting a [Troop Information Update form](#).
8. **Learn and lead. (10 points)** Take some time for you- on your own schedule- to continue to build your volunteer skills through learning opportunities. Check out gsLearn- our brand new learning platform for volunteers- in MyGS. The GSNETX Learning Channel on Facebook has simple, bite-sized bits of information to keep you up to speed and learning events to give more details.
9. **Use the Girl Scout secret sauce. (up to 15 points/ 5 points per process)** By incorporating Girl-Led, Learning By Doing, and Cooperative Learning into your troop’s activities, you will be tapping into the magic that makes Girl Scouts different from any other opportunity.
10. **Include your Girl Scout fam. (10 points)** Don’t forget to include your girls’ support networks in your troop activities- their parents! Host an annual parent meeting, set up regular means of communication (via Facebook group, group text, etc.), and ask them to do specific volunteer activities for the troop. Check out our [Engaging Friends & Family resources](#) for more.