

## Scouts BSA at Camp'[ cy i qqi FAQ

**Question: Can Scouts BSA girl troops be combined with Scouts BSA boy troops into a “camp unit”?** A “camp unit” is the combination of multiple separate chartered troops into one “unit” who comes to camp, combining Scouts and leadership into one unit.

Answer: No. Program integrity requires single gender units. For details on unit leadership requirements, review the [Barriers to Abuse](#).

**Question: Does Eco r '[ cy i qqi need to supply two deep leadership (21+ and female leaders) at every camp program area?**

**Answer:** Summer camp is the event / program and is an extension of the unit’s program. As such, each unit must come to camp with adequate and appropriate leadership as outlined in the [Barriers to Abuse](#). While the age and composition or two-deep leadership was updated, this is not a change; you will continue to follow all NCAP standards, including either providing or requiring units to provide appropriate leadership for activities such as outposts, excursions, treks, or hikes that might take place during programing, including remote program areas.

**Question: Are there guidelines for swimwear'v'Eco r '[ cy i qqi ? "**

Answer: [Appropriate attire is required for all activities](#).

BSA’s National Aquatics Subcommittee recommends:

Swimsuits should be comfortable, functional and modest. For males, swim trunks or board shorts are appropriate. Modest tankinis or one-piece swimsuits for females. Inappropriate swimwear includes swim briefs or swim bottoms short enough to allow exposure and bikinis.

**Question: Y kñ'Eco r '[ cy i qqi 'j cxg a provisional troop for Scouts BSA girl and boy campers?**

Answer: [ gu.'Eco r ukg'Dcf gp'Rqy gñlp'Eco r 'o gf lekpg'Dqy 'y kñj cxg'r tqxkukqpcñ'ukgu'hqt'dqj 'dq{u'cpf 'i kñ0

**Question: Can linked Scouts BSA girl and boy troops share a campsite?**

Answer: Yes, if your camp layout and amenities meet all the requirements of the [Barriers to Abuse](#), including privacy and separate accommodations. 'Cv'Eco r '[ cy i qqi 'y g'tgs vkt'g'v'j cv'j g'r ctgpw'qh'cm'lueqwu'cvgpf kpi 'ctg'qñf 'j cv'j g'o cng'cpf hgo cng'wpu'y kñ'dg'uj ctkpi 'j g'ukg0Y tkvgp'r gto kukp'o wu'dg'uw r ñgf 'v'Eco r '[ cy i qqi 'd{ 'j g'Ej ctvgtgf 'Qti cpk cvkq" cpf 'dqj 'wku'eqo o kvgg'ej ckt o cp0

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**Question: Can a parent bring their daughter to camp with their son’s troop?**

Answer: No. Program integrity requires single gender units. If the daughter is a member of a Scouts BSA girl troop, she may attend as a provisional camper and take part in a provisional Scouts BSA girl troop, if available.

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**Question: Can any Scouts BSA member attend camp on their own?**

Answer: Yes, as part of a provisional unit at camp.

**Question: Can councils hold separate weeks for female Scouts BSA troops and male Scouts BSA troops, or must they incorporate them into each week?**

Answer: This is a local council operational decision; however, one of the goals of family Scouting is to ease the burden of parents with multiple children in the program. It is recommended that camps offer all weeks of camps to all troops wherever possible to ensure we meet the needs of our Scouting families and offer an equitable program.

**Question: Can councils designate separate camping sites, or must all sites be available?**

Answer: This is a local council operational decision. Our shared continuous goal has always been to ensure a successful and equitable camp experience for each camper. As you make campsites assignments, you consider:

- Does this site accommodate linked troops who want to camp together?
- Are new troops at campsites far away from the rest of the camp, which can be challenging for new campers?
- Does this campsite meet the Barriers to Abuse?

**Question: How do we allow new Scouts BSA troops access to camp sites and weeks when a lot of councils give the troops the ability to sign up for next year's camp while at this year's camp?**

Answer: We ensure that all new Scouts BSA troops and Scouts BSA troops that are forming are informed of the process and timeline for camp registration. This is the same practice we've had for new troops for decades. A camp's registration process, programs and facilities should be equitable for all units. We encourage you to attend the session at the 2019 National Annual Meeting and/or the Outdoor Conference in September, where some best practices will be shared.

**Additional General Recommendations:**

- Invite camping committees, council camping professionals, and camp directors to review the Scouts BSA Camping Livestream which is available [online here](#).
- Assign staff to instruct the "Welcoming New Scouts to Camp" camp staff training module during staff training week. This will be available *after* May 15, 2019 [here](#).
- It is recommended that all leaders and camping review the online version of the [Guide to Safe Scouting](#) for current policies and information. This is typically reviewed during a pre-camp meeting for leaders/parents as required by NCAP standard PD-108.
- It is recommended that camps offer the ["Understanding and Preventing Youth on Youth Incidents for Unit Leaders and Staff"](#) during the camp week as part of the adult trainings they instruct at camp. As a reminder, this training is required for all camp staff per [NCAP](#) standard SQ-402.

**Additional Resources:**

- [YPT Bullying Materials](#) (including posters)
- [Incident Reporting](#)
- [Scouts First Helpline #](#) 844-SCOUTS1 (844-726-8871)

**Questions? Contact:**

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