



GIRL SCOUTS OF THE PHILIPPINES

Visayas Region
Bohol Girl Scout Council

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TO : PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT SUPERVISORS
CENTRAL/SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, SCHOOL HEADS
DISTRICT FIELD ADVISERS, TROOP LEADERS
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS
ALL MUNICIPALITIES AND TAGBILARAN CITY

SUBJECT : STATEMENT WHY GIRLS SHOULD REGISTER WITH THE GIRL SCOUTS
OF THE PHILIPPINES (GSP)

DATE : JUNE 24, 2025

As an organization dedicated to the holistic development and empowerment of Filipino girls and young women, the Girl Scouts of the Philippines (GSP) reaffirm its mission to provide programs and opportunities that cater to the distinct needs, identities, and aspirations of girls across the nation.

In line with this commitment, and pursuant to Executive Committee Decision No. 2025-140, the **GSP stands firm on the registration of girls with the Girl Scouts of the Philippines - not with the Boy Scouts of the Philippines.** This decision underscores our belief that girls deserve a movement that is specifically designed to nurture their leadership, character, and citizenship.

Attached is the official **Statement Why Girls Should Register With the Girl Scouts of the Philippines**, which outlines compelling, research-based and historical grounded reasons supporting this position.

We call on schools, communities, and all stakeholders/parents to continue their unwavering support for the meaningful participation of girls in the Girl Scouting Movement. Your commitment plays a crucial role in shaping the lives and future of every Filipina youth.

Let us remain united in our mission to empower every Filipina to lead, serve, and thrive through the Girl Scouting Movement.

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National Headquarters

Manila

STATEMENT WHY GIRLS SHOULD REGISTER WITH THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE PHILIPPINES

The significant reasons, supported by research and historical context, as to why **girls should register with the Girl Scouts of the Philippines (GSP)** instead of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines (BSP) per EC Decision No. 2025-140.

1. Tailored Programs for Girls' Developmental Stages

Catapang (2022) emphasizes the importance of fostering holistic personality development among Filipino girls. GSP's programs uphold these developmental achievements through excellent decision-making, problem-solving, and teamwork.

2. Distinct Programs and Activities

GSP provides specific programs that differ significantly from those offered by BSP. For example, the Chief Girl Scout Medal Scheme emphasizes leadership, perseverance, and community service through projects in areas like health, livelihood, ecology, and cultural heritage. Integrating these programs into BSP would require major adjustments that could compromise their effectiveness.

3. Addressing Girls' Unique Needs

Research indicates that girls have distinct physical, emotional, and psychosocial needs compared to boys. The GSP is better equipped to address these differences because of its girl-centered approach. GSP's programs are designed to provide such environments, focusing on building confidence and self-expression among girls (Girl Scout Research Institute, 2017).

4. Learning Style Differences

Studies reveal that boys and girls learn differently. Girls tend to excel in collaborative settings and focus longer on tasks compared to boys, who may require more movement and stimulation. GSP provides females the organized environments they need for collaborative learning opportunities (Keri, 2002).



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5. Female Role Models

Girls benefit significantly from having female mentors who can inspire them and address their specific challenges. In GSP, girls interact with strong female role models, leaders who foster self-expression and self-confidence - qualities essential for future success. Girl Scout leaders offer mentorship initiatives through which girls develop appropriate skills and achieve their personal goals (Obando-Derstine, 2023). 80% of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts worldwide say being part of the Movement has given them the aspiration to make a difference in society (WAGGGS, 2024).

6. Safety and Logistics Concerns

Parents of Girl Scouts prefer single-gender environments where their daughters can focus on personal development without distractions or pressures related to romantic interests, or possible inappropriate behaviors. In scouting contexts, maintaining separate groups will ensure that activities are tailored to the specific needs and maturity levels of each gender, enhancing safety and reducing logistical challenges (Girl Scout Research Institute, 2017).

7. Preserving Single-Sex Spaces

Single-sex organizations like the GSP provide a unique space where girls can develop confidence without societal pressures or competition with boys. Research has shown that single-sex environments allow girls to explore leadership roles, promoting a sense of empowerment and self-worth, without feeling overshadowed by boys. (Falcons School Putney, n.d.).

8. Comfort and Confidence

Many girls feel more comfortable and confident when they are not competing with boys or conforming to traditional masculine norms. GSP's inclusive environment encourages girls to express themselves freely without fear of judgment, allowing them to build confidence and self-esteem in a supportive setting (Girl Scout Research Institute, 2017).

9. Historical Precedent

Lord Baden-Powell recognized the need for separate organizations for boys and girls when he encouraged his sister Agnes Baden-Powell to establish the British Girl Guides in 1910 due to the growing interest among girls in Scouting activities initially designed for boys (Encyclopedia.com, 2024).



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The Girl Scouts of the Philippines offers a unique platform tailored to the developmental needs of girls and young women through specialized programs, female mentorship, and a supportive environment free from gender-based pressures. Its mission fosters leadership, character development, and community service among young girls-values that are essential for nation-building. By joining the GSP, girls can benefit from a proven track record of positive life outcomes, including enhanced sense of self, civic engagement, and leadership skills, as demonstrated by Girl Scout alumnae worldwide (Diaz, Girl Scout Research Institute, 2017). Ultimately, the GSP provides a transformative experience that empowers girls to become confident, capable, and compassionate leaders, equipped to make a lasting impact in their communities and beyond.

"Comparisons are often made between the two organizations - and they are valid, considering we share common roots and a commitment to youth development. However, our mission and focus are distinct. WAGGGS exists to serve girls and young women specifically. We work to create girl-only, girl-led spaces where they can grow, feel safe, and lead with confidence, especially in a world that is not designed with girls in mind. These spaces are essential for enabling girls to overcome barriers, challenge inequality, and thrive. That's why our work remains centered on ensuring every girl and young woman can discover her potential and make her voice heard." - Candela Gonzalez, WAGGGS World Board Chair, WAGGGS Global Update 2025

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