

Girls in TAC Packs and Troops, Fall 2023 A guide for families

Transatlantic Council (TAC) has five Aims in its Game Plan. One is *“Inclusivity: We will welcome and inspire an ever-growing number of girls, and serve the most diverse council in the BSA.”*

We bring Unparalleled Scouting to as many youth as possible. We open the outdoors, teach skills, encourage service, develop leaders, and instill values to both girls and boys, all the way through the school years. Girls are fully integrated into all BSA programs. Our program for girls and boys aged 5 – 10 ½ is called Cub Scouts. Our program for girls and boys aged 10 ½ - 18 is called Scouts BSA. We also have programs for young women and young men, aged 14-21, called Sea Scouts and Venturing.

Girls are a core part of TAC. TAC has already celebrated more than 20 female Eagle Scouts! We have welcomed girls into Cub Scouts since 2018, and into Scouts BSA since 2019. Already, over 18% of TAC youth are girls (ranking TAC in the top 25% of BSA councils). The BSA’s monthly magazine for youth is now called *Scout Life*. There’s even a *Scouts BSA Handbook for Girls*.



All TAC Cub Scout packs welcome both girls and boys, usually in the same dens (grade levels).

A third of our Scouts BSA troops are all-girl troops, most (not all) at the same or a nearby chartered organization as one of our Scouts BSA all-boy troops. Our girl troops often share a troop committee, chartered organization, and logistics with a boy troop, with separate Scoutmasters.



What about Scouting programs in other countries? TAC has *always* coexisted in harmony with Scouts from other countries. Almost every country in TAC’s service area has its own National Scout Organization (NSO). We believe the BSA offers a unique youth program, and we encourage youth to join any program that they feel drawn to. We welcome families who feel that BSA is the best fit for them, and also the many who choose to participate in multiple Scouting programs.

How to talk about girls in the BSA. We have “girl troops”, “girls in Scouts BSA”, and “female Scouts”. *Never put the word “Girl” immediately before the word “Scout” when referring to the BSA program.* More details here: <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Scouts-BSA-Branding-Dos-and-Donts-2018-11-29.pdf>

For help with joining TAC Scouting, please contact TAC Assistant Scout Executive John Erskine (john.erskine@scouting.org), or go to <https://tac-bsa.org/join/>.