



2017 Fall Product Program in a Nutshell

A quick guide to the Fall Product Program—see full program details in the Troop Fall Product Program Guide at www.girlscoutsla.org

Dates

Early September	Plan a troop meeting to set goals with girls, train parents on dates and their responsibilities.
September 22	Last day to submit ACH Debit Authorization form, voided troop check and Troop Fall Product Chair Position Description & Agreement.
	Enter bank account information in M2OS.
September 27	Troops receive access to M2OS. Troops should verify access immediately. Visit www.girlscoutsla.org to view/print the M2OS manual.
September 29	Order taking begins for nuts and magazines. Send parents email to remind them to go to www.gsnutsandmags.com/gsgla to start their online sales campaign.
October 13	Last day for girls to send emails to qualify for online rewards.
October 22	Online sales end at 9 PM.
	Nut orders due to troop. Parents enter paper orders in M2OS by 9pm and turn in a copy of the order card to the TFPC.
October 24	TFPC to enter/review Nut Orders in M2OS by 9 PM and notify SUFPC when complete.
November 10-13	Trophy Nut order delivery to Service Units and distribution to troops (dates/locations vary).
November 10-19	Sales via Residential Walk-about & Lemonade Stands. No selling in commercial areas!
November 19	Fall Product Program ends.
November 27	All GOC, allocations, and troop-to-troop transfers must be completed in M2OS no later than 9 PM. (Note: Troop-to-troop transfers are completed by your SUFPC. Plan accordingly!)
Late November	Ensure troop funds are deposited to troop account in time for all funds to be available (no holds) by December 5
December 1	Last day to notify your PSM if you need to adjust your ACH debit.
December 5	ACH Debit on troop bank accounts.
	Due date for troops to turn in Discrepancy Reports.

What every troop needs to do to place an order:

- Take training from your Service Unit Fall Product Chair.
- Submit your TFPC Position Description & Agreement, ACH Debit Authorization Form and voided troop check (online at www.girlscoutsla.org).
- M2OS is where you manage your troop's sale. M2OS will send you an access email. Click the link to set up your password. View/print the M2OS manual from www.girlscoutsla.org. To enter your troop bank account information, click on the banking link found on your dashboard under Nut Sale Admin.
- Hold a girl and family training to teach your troop about the Fall Product Program.
- Collect signed Parent/Guardian Permission and Responsibility Agreement, distribute Girl Order Cards, money envelopes, M2 online flier and the Family Letter to each girl/family.
- Parents will enter orders into M2OS by Oct. 22 at 9 PM.
- If the parents miss the due date, TFPCs must enter nut orders in M2OS by 9 PM on October 24 (do not enter orders taken online; they will be automatically entered by the customer).

Troop M2OS Set-up

- The system automatically sends the TFPC an email that provides a link to get the troop started and enables password set up.
- Once logged in, you can manage your troop's sales through the dashboard. This dashboard provides a snapshot of the participation and sales for the entire troop. If you manage more than one troop, you will be able to select the troop you want to view.
- Girls registered by September 19 will be automatically uploaded. If a girl is not in the system, her parent can add her. Make sure parents know the troop number!

Parents Enter Girl Orders

Parents should enter their girl nut order card orders by clicking on the "Paper Order Entry" link. You also have the option of asking parents not to enter the orders, and doing the data entry yourself as TFPC. If parents enter the orders, you still collect copies of the order cards and review/reconcile the orders in M2OS, just make sure not to double-enter the orders. Choose what works for you and your troop!

Inviting Girls to Participate

Copy the message below and email it to all of the parents/guardians of the girls in your troop:

"It's time to kick off our troop's Fall Product Sale. It's easier than ever to participate online. To get started, go to www.gsnutsandmags.com/gsgla and follow the simple instructions. Save the link to your Favorites.

- Girls create their very own Me2 avatar and can earn a personalized patch with their Me2 and their name (or their camp name).
- Send emails to friends and family and share on social media to ask for support.
- Supporters can pay with a credit card (magazines and shipped nut products) and the troop earns money for activities.
- Participating takes as little as 10 minutes and the girls will have so much fun. Thanks in advance for helping our troop!"

What to do next...

- Pick up your troop's nut order and distribute the products to the girls/parents. Have the parents sign receipts for all products received.
- Plan your Walkabouts and Lemonade stands for Nov. 10-19
- Collect money from girls, provide a receipt, and deposit the funds into the troop bank account promptly and frequently, well before the due date.

Residential Walk-Abouts and Lemonade Stands

Residential walk-about and lemonade stands are the allowed and most popular ways to sell product on hand. Girls may sell from the date they receive their product through November 29, 2017. Girls must be accompanied by parents/guardians at all times. Girls/adults are not allowed to sell on sidewalks/street corners or in commercial areas. Girls found selling in a commercial area (i.e. in front of a store or other non-residential area) will risk losing proceeds and rewards.

Residential Walk-About: A door-to-door (wagon) sale in a residential area.

Lemonade Stand: Set up a simple "lemonade" type stand to sell only on the property where the girl currently resides, as their city and/or home owners' associations permit.

Returns/Exchanges/Troop-to-Troop Transfers

- Troops may exchange damaged product, but only for the same variety. Contact your SUFPC if you encounter damaged items. Know the definition of a damaged product.
- There are NO returns. Troops are financially responsible for all products ordered.
- There are NO exchanges with council. Work with your SUFPC to facilitate troop-to-troop transfers. Troops must notify their SUFPC of the transfer in order for it to be logged properly.
- M2OS does not permit exchanges or transfers of girl orders. Product allocated to a girl in M2OS cannot be transferred to another troop or reallocated to another girl. Only product ordered via "Initial Booth Order" may be transferred to another troop.

Cash Handling Procedures

1. Troops must enter banking information into M2OS by using the Banking Info link on your dashboard.
2. Troops will deposit all Fall Product Program funds for nuts into their troop bank accounts promptly and frequently, and in time for funds to be available on the debit date.
3. All council proceeds will be collected from troops via ACH Debit.
4. Troops with payments due to GSGLA that are still unresolved by the time the Cookie Starting Inventory Order is due will forfeit all girl and troop rewards, and Cookies 2018 will be impacted.

Wrap-up Checklist

- Online sales data will automatically populate M2OS. Girls need to deliver the Girl Delivered Promise Orders and collect payment. For magazine and nut orders that were shipped to the customer, there is nothing to do except watch the sales and troop proceeds roll in.
- Verify that any troop-to-troop transfer has been properly accounted for. This will ensure your final balance due to Council is correct.
- Make sure all Gift of Caring donations have been recorded and allocated to girls so they will receive credit.
- Verify that all nut products ordered and delivered to the troop have been completely allocated to a girl. You cannot opt out of Fall rewards so every item needs to be allocated to a girl.
- All money should be deposited into the troop bank account promptly and frequently, in time for the funds to become available for the ACH debit.
- In the event of an NSF check, make every attempt to contact the issuer and collect payment. If you are unsuccessful, forward the original or bank copy of any NSF (non-sufficient funds) to your PSM within three days of the return date for collection attempt.
- Notify your PSM if the ACH Debit cannot be processed for any reason on the due date. Bank fees are charged back to the troop. Don't spend your nut proceeds on a bank fee!
- If you have a parent with money outstanding to the troop, DO NOT WAIT! Make sure you turn in a Discrepancy Report to your PSM. This notifies council that you have outstanding funds and allows us to work directly with the parent to assist in collecting the funds. This increases your chances of the family providing the funds they have received from the girls' customers. The troop leader should be able to focus on the "Girl" experience and being a great leader, not on debt collection. The Fall Product Program is meant to enhance the troop with funds for the GIRLS to experience Girl Scouts in a positive environment. Let us help you.
- Girl rewards for your troop will be distributed by your service unit in January. Please pick up and distribute promptly. Rewards not picked up by March 1 will be forfeited.
- Celebrate your girls' successes. Learn from your planning, and start the conversation about setting girl and troop goals for the 2018 Cookie Program.