



Troop Cookie Newsletter

January 5, 2026

What's Baking?

Welcome Troop Cookie Volunteers!

We're thrilled to kick off the 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Program with you! A HUGE thank you for your hard work and dedication. This program simply couldn't happen without your support, and we're so grateful for all that you do!

This newsletter is your go-to resource for the most up-to-date cookie information. Expect reminders about key dates, training, and important announcements. Occasionally, you may also receive Smart Cookies blasts for last-minute updates or critical information.

When to Expect Newsletters

You'll receive this newsletter every Monday at 4 PM, through March 23, 2026.

Digital Cookie

Today's the day! Digital Cookie welcome emails are being sent to registered Girl Scout caregivers to help them set up their Girl Scouts' Digital Cookie storefronts. This prepares everyone for Digital Cookie Launch Day!

💡 **Pro Tip:** Remind your troop families to ensure their email addresses are up to date in MyGS so they don't miss out!

Check out this [Digital Cookie Troop Flyer](#) to set up your Troop Site and share this [Digital Cookie Family Flyer](#) to support them with getting Digital Cookie all set up before January 12!

Please note:

Digital Cookie does not support multiple email addresses for a single Girl Scout.

Only one login email can be used to manage their account. If a Girl Scout travels between two homes and both caregivers are supporting the program and need access to Digital Cookie, we suggest using **a shared email address** that both parties can access.

- This will allow each caregiver to log in and support their Girl Scout from different locations.
- This email address will **need to be updated within one caregiver's profile within MYGS**

Smart Cookies

Troop Cookie Chairs (TCC) who complete either New or Experienced TCC training track in gsLearn will be uploaded into Smart Cookies starting today! Uploads will continue every Tuesday and Thursday, thereafter.

💡 **Pro Tip:** Complete training by 12 PM the day prior to Tuesday or Thursday to make the next-days upload. For Example: Finish training by Monday before noon to be uploaded by Tuesday EOD.

Initial Order Deadline

Initial orders are due in just 11 days! Submit yours in Smart Cookies by January 16 at 11:59 PM to stay on track. Need help? [Join our live webinar on Jan. 14 for guidance on placing your order!](#)

Cookie Hotline

Our Cookie Hotline will be open:

January 5 – 27

Monday – Friday | 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM PT

January 28 – March 15

Monday – Thursday | 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM PT

Friday – Sunday | 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM PT

ilovecookies.org

Your Cookie Connection! Through ilovecookies.org, customers can:

- Find cookie booths
- Access troop Digital Cookie storefronts
- Support individual Girl Scouts through their Digital Cookie sites

Opt-Out Option: If you or a caregiver prefers not to have their Girl Scout's Digital Cookie site listed on the platform, complete the [opt-out form here](#).

Camp Opportunities – Plan ahead for discounts!

Girl Scouts interested in taking advantage of reward camp discounts should register and pay their deposit in advance. Registration is ongoing through the spring, though we recommend registering early to save your preferred spot.

- January 21: Camp registration opens for returning campers at 12pm PT
- January 28: Camp registration opens for new campers at 12pm PT

Reward Details: Camp discounts will be applied at the end of the cookie program. These discounts are only good for 2026 camp programs. If the deposit is a barrier, families can select "apply for Financial Aid" for an adjusted fee.

Booth Sign-Ups

Mark your calendar! Booth sign-ups open, next week, January 12! The first two rounds of sign-ups will be local-only, meaning troops can reserve booths within their own Service Unit only. This includes anything secured by council. Make sure to check out the weekly Wednesday night webinar on [January 8 about Booths Sign-Ups & Booth Essentials](#).

Key Points to Remember:

✘ Missed Rounds: If you skip a round, any missed slots cannot be carried over into future rounds. Be sure to sign up during each round to maximize your booth slot potential!

⚠ Dropping Booths: If you drop a booth, it can only be replaced within the same round.

- Example: If you secure 3 booths in Round 1, then drop them in Round 2, you still only have 6 total booth signups in Round 2, not 9.

Thank you for being an essential part of the 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Program! Your hard work and enthusiasm make all the difference for our Girl Scouts. Here's to an amazing season ahead!

Upcoming Dates

January 5 | Digital Cookie Welcome e-mail is sent to registered Girl Scouts' caregivers' email addresses.

January 7 | Deadline to submit Opt-Out Form for ilovecookies.org.

January 12 | Girl Scout Cookie Program begins, and Digital Cookie launches – Entrepreneurs can start selling cookies online and by order card. | Round 1 booth selection (max 3 booths per troop).

January 13 | Round 2 booth selection (6 additional booths per troop, max 9) | Returning troop deadline to verify bank account information in Smart Cookies under the My Troop > Troop Information Tab.

January 15 | Round 3 booth selection (18 additional booths per troop, max 27).

January 16 | Initial order due by 11:59PM PT | Delivery slot sign-up due by 11:59PM PT (Cookie Hotline open for help)

January 21 | Camp registration begins for returning campers.

January 28 | Cookie Delivery Begins

February 2 | 4th round of booth selections, no limit on area/location (unlimited booths)

February 3 | Cookie Delivery ends

February 4 | Cupboards open and first day of booth sales. Deadline to opt-out for an additional 15 cents per package (see Troop Proceeds module for details)

February 18 | Deadline for new troops to submit their banking info, via ACH Debit Form.

Training Highlights

In this section, we will showcase the next two weeks' worth of LIVE training and point you back to gsLearn training that will help with upcoming cookie tasks.

Our Wednesday night LIVE training is geared toward new Troop Cookie Chairs and will dive deeper into the topic of the week as well as offer a tech platform walkthrough of Smart Cookies and Digital Cookie. While these are designed for new troop cookie chairs, all cookie volunteers are welcome!

Join us LIVE:

[Jan 5 | Juliette Caregiver Troop Training](#)

[Jan 8 | Booths Sign-Ups & Booth Essentials](#)

[Jan 14 | Placing Your Initial Order](#)

Want a refresher on upcoming cookie tasks? Here are some gsLearn trainings we suggest you review:

Troop Cookie Chair (TCC) Training to review:

- What's New in 2026 Module
- Theme and Key Dates Module
- Ways to Sell
- Initial Order
- Hosting Troop and Family Meetings
- ilovecookies.org

To support Girl Scouts in developing and Entrepreneurial Mindset, check out the optional course "Empowering Entrepreneurs 2026" which is part of both TCC training tracks.

Digital Cookie Volunteer Training Resources:

- Troop Site Setup
- Troop Dashboard
- Troop Booth Pickup Order

Smart Cookies Volunteer Training:

- Initial Order
- Managing Orders
- Scheduling First Come First Serve Booths
- Booth Divider

Next Steps

In this section, we will provide you with your upcoming next steps and helpful resources to help ensure your troops have a successful Girl Scout Cookie Program.

Next Steps:

- Digital Cookie Access – Remind caregivers to check their inbox for their Digital Cookie Welcome Email!
- Hold a troop cookie planning meeting to set goals and decide how the troop will participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program.
- Set a date and time for when troops should turn in their first order (Girl Scouts can start selling online or to friends and family using their order card starting January 12!).
- Start planning to schedule a pickup date and time for parents & caregivers to collect their first orders. (This should be after your initial order pickup, and you may want to wait until cupboards open, depending on your booth signups!)
- Check out this Digital Cookie [Troop Flyer to set up your Troop Site](#), and share this [Digital Cookie Family Flyer](#) to support them with getting Digital Cookie all set up!
- Check out the Initial Order Calculator to help estimate your troop's initial order! It can be found in the [Inventory Management Toolkit in Google Drive](#).

Resource Alert!

- [gsHelpCenter | 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Program Resources](#)
- [gsHelpCenter | Entrepreneurship Articles](#)
- [Troop Cookie Chair Guide](#)
- [Google Drive | Troop Cookie Chairs](#)

Cookie Sales Tracker

The Cookie Program fuels both your troop and our council! Cookie proceeds help fund troop activities and support our council by maintaining camps, providing council programming, and caring for council properties — plus so much more!

Check out the [Empowering Girl Scouts flyer](#) or [How the Cookie Crumbles flyer](#) for more details!

2026 Council Goal: 3,150,000 packages

Total sold to date: 0

Baking Up Goodness

Let's spread kindness and spotlight those going above and beyond this cookie season! Did you notice a fellow Service Unit, troop, or Girl Scout lending a helping hand, showing teamwork, promoting or developing an entrepreneurial mindset, or embodying our One Council, One Mission spirit?

We'd love to hear about it! **Share your feel good stories with us through our [Share Your Story form](#)** and help us spread the good word — because together, we make Girl Scouts shine! (📷 Photos encouraged!)

Juliette News

Tonight at 7PM PST the Juliette Caregiver Troop training live webinar will be taking place, so don't miss out. You can also find training and information on supporting your Girl Scout Juliete on the [Juliette Participation in Product Programs gsHelpCenter article](#).

Need assistance? Contact us at info@gsnorcal.org or 510-995-2900.