





# Service Unit Cookie Training

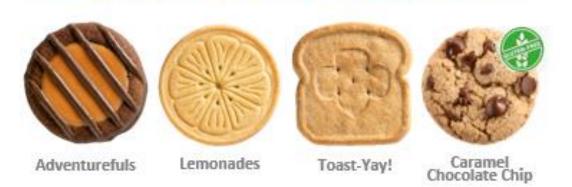
2025 Cookie Program

### Your 2025 ABC cookie lineup

#### **5 Core Classics**



#### **+4 More Crowd Pleasers**



#### ABC offers healthful features for consumers

Thin Mints



**Peanut Butter Patties** 











Lemonades

Toast-Yay!





- Kosher
- Halal
- No preservatives
- Zero grams trans fat per serving
- No partially hydrogenated oils
- No high fructose corn syrup
- Mass balance palm oil



#### **GSCM 2025 Cookie Program Basics**



- Cookie program dates <u>January 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025</u>
  - Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> Cookie Sale Opens: paper order sales begin, Troops plan initial order in Smart Cookies.
- All girls must be registered for 2025 season
- TCM's must be registered and background checked for the season
- Complete Forms in VTK or on Council website under the Cookies tab at www.gscm.org
- Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> Digital Cookie Volunteer access opens



#### GSCM's 2025 program pricing



PRICE CHANGE:

\$6 per package

\$7 per package Gluten Free



Cookie Box Selling Price - All regular 8 varieties of cookies sell for \$6.00 per box. Gluten Free Caramel Chocolate Chip sells for \$7.00. Troops are not permitted to set prices higher or lower for any reason.

The Council will distribute cookies to troops in full cases ONLY. There are 12 boxes to a case. Girl Scout Cookies are *not returnable*. Troops can transfer cookies by the box to other troops to help provide variety and reduce over stock.

**Financial Responsibility -** The Troop Cookie Manager (TCM) is responsible for all cookies received by the Troop. All delinquent parent accounts must be reported to GSCM; the appropriate paperwork (T-6) must be signed and submitted. Interest and fees apply to all accounts turned over to collections. No Troop or individual may pursue legal matters on behalf of GSCM.



#### **2025 Cookie Program**





#### IMPORTANT COOKIE DATES

2024

Friday, November 1 T-1 & T-3 Forms: Available on website and in VTK

Thursday, December 5 SU Cookie Manager & Booth Coordinator Training: In-Person, 7-8:30pm Saturday, December 7 SU Cookie Manager & Booth Coordinator Training: In-Person, 11:30am-1pm

Monday, December 9 Troop Cookie Manager Training: Zoom, 6:30-8pm Wednesday, December 11 Troop Cookie Manager Training: Zoom, 6:30-8pm



Wednesday, January 1 Cookie Sale Opens: Paper order sales begin, troops plan initial order

Tuesday, January 7 Digital Cookie Volunteer Access Opens
Tuesday, January 14 Digital Cookie Parent Access Opens

Wednesday, January 15 Troop Initial Order Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm

Thursday, January 16 SU & Cupboard Initial Orders Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm

Tuesday, January 21 Digital Cookie Sales Begin for Girls

Tuesday, February 4 Depot Deliveries Start
Friday, February 7 Booth Sales Start
Sunday, February 9 Depot Deliveries End

Sunday, February 9 Planned Orders Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm (weekly)
Sunday, February 16 Planned Orders Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm (weekly)

Monday, February 17 ACH #1: 50% of Troop Initial Order

Sunday, February 23 Planned Orders Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm (weekly)
Sunday, March 2 Planned Orders Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm (weekly)
Sunday, March 9 Planned Orders Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm (weekly)

Monday, March 10 ACH #2: 50% of Troop Balance Due as of 3/7/2025

Sunday, March 16 Planned Orders Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm (weekly)
Sunday, March 23 FINAL Planned Orders Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm

Monday, March 31 Cookie Sale Ends: Rewards Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm; forfeits if late

Monday, April 7 ACH: All remaining Troop Balance Due







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# Rewards and Proceeds



#### 2025 Rewards: Initial Reward Plans

#### **Troop Initial Order Reward Plan**

Order due in Smart Cookies by January 15, 2025. NOT cumulative.

**T-Shirt** Girl's intial order is 200+ pkgs







## Troop Initial Order Reward Plan (non-cumulative)

Girl Initial Order: Girls who sell 200+ packages on their initial order will earn the panda t-shirt

Troop Initial Order PGA of 210+: Troops will receive \$50 off GSCM Campsite rental



#### **Cumulative Main Rewards**

#### Girl Main Recognition Plan (Cumulative)

Troop initial orders are NOT cumulative. Girl recognition items ARE cumulative.



- All Troops must create their Main reward order
- Opt Out Troops must SUBMIT a main reward order by Wednesday, January 15th to receive patches only
- s 500+ and 1,000+ club are based on individual girl sale totals, not troop proceeds. Girls in Opt out troops are eligible for these two club celebrations
- Rewards are shipped in May 2025



### Patches, Certificates and Trophies



**Booth Sale** — Participation in 2 booth sales through the Smart Booth Divider in Smart Cookies **Cookie Share** — Collect 36+ Pkgs in virtual cookie share **Achievement Bars** — Earned at highest level sold. Increments of 100



#### **2025 Proceeds Structure**

- Troop proceeds \$0.82 for all varieties
- +\$0.05 Troop having done at least \$1,000 in total sales for Fall
   Product Program
- +\$0.05 Opt Out of Rewards
- +\$0.08 Completing MY25 Spring Renewal Requirements
- TCMs must regularly transfer packages to Girls in Smart Cookies for Girls to earn rewards
- Parents will be able to track sales and money owed through Digital Cookie

## **2025 Theme and Mascot**





### **2025 Online Resources**

Resource	Location
Cookie theme information	https://www.flickr.com/photos/abcbakersvolunteergallery/albums
Selling safely video and tips and volunteer training tutorials	https://www.youtube.com/user/ABCCouncils
Cookie variety details	www.abcSmart Cookies.com
Social media tips & tricks to boost engagement	www.abcSmart Cookies.com
Rally Guide	www.abcSmart Cookies.com
Cookie Calculator	www.abcSmart Cookies.com
ABC Bakers Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/abcbakers/
Lemonades Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/LemonadesCookie/

## We provide Service Unit cookie volunteers a gift



This year's gift is a handy Panda Cookie Tote!



#### **GSCM Council Goals**





Council Package Goal: 850,000 packages

Council PGA Goal: 200 packages

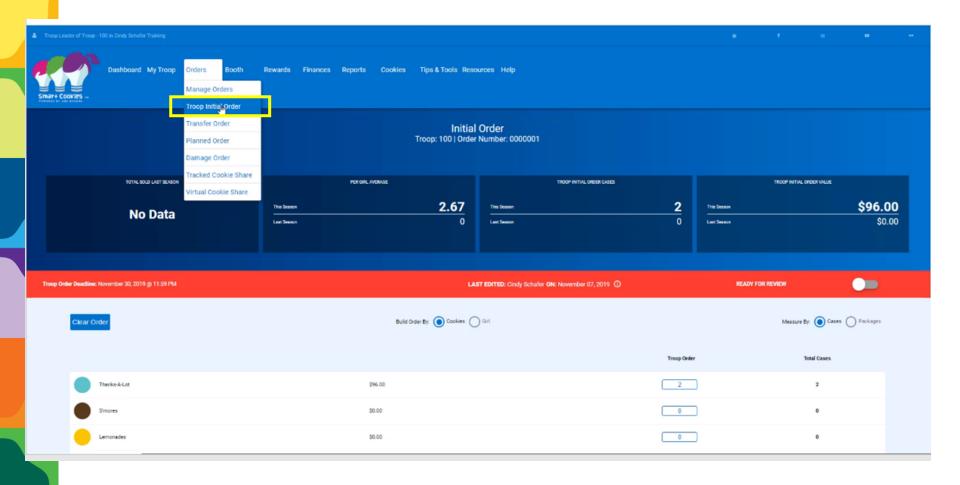




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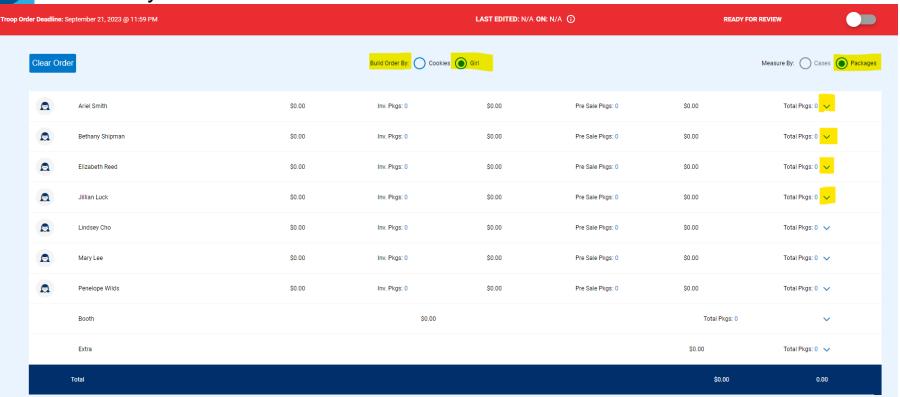
## **Initial Orders**

### **Initial Order Entry: by Girl, by Variety**



#### **Initial Order guidelines**

- Service Units have until January 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm to review and submit the Troop initial order
- Troop initial orders are due in Smart Cookies Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> by 11:59pm
- Troops create Initial Orders by GIRL, by variety and in packages. Select the downward arrow to the far right of each girl name to enter packages by variety



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# **Depot Days**

#### **Depot Day Reminders**

- Each TCM will sign up for the time they will pick up their troop's initial order when they submit the initial order in Smart Cookies.
- Safety First No tagalongs! Please be patient and flexible.
- Sort and count your cookies before loading car or signing documents.
- Your SUCM will have each TCM sign dot sheets or M-9 form.



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# Cookie Cupboards

#### **Cookie Cupboards**

**Cookie Cupboards**: A storage location, managed by volunteers, where Troops pickup weekly Planned Orders after the Initial Order period

- New Troops who miss Initial Order deadline will pickup their first order as a Planned Order from a Cupboard
- Planned order entry in Smart Cookies is 11:30pm Sundays for following week pickup
- Cupboard locations and availability are available in smart cookies
- Cupboards will open the week of February 9<sup>th</sup> (subject to change).
   Multiple locations are available throughout GSCM
- Verify your cupboard location and arrive on time. No Walk ins!
- No returns! Damages can be EXCHANGED at cupboards, package for package and variety for variety
- Cupboard managers will approve Troop Planned Orders in Smart Cookies. A reminder that once your planned order is approved, it becomes a transfer in the system



#### **Transfers in Smart Cookies**

ALL cookie transfers should be complete in Smart Cookies Troop is financially responsible until entered into Smart Cookies Single package transfers are allowed Troop to Troop Transfers:

- Troops can transfer packages or cases of cookies out of inventory to another troop.
   (Check Smart Cookies before giving any cookies to another troop.)
- \*T4 form is filled out
- \* Entered into Smart Cookies in a timely manner by the giving troop

#### Troop to Girl Transfers:

- Cookies sold by Girls should be transferred frequently throughout the sale. Girls do not earn incentives until packages are transferred in Smart Cookies
- Troops create Troop to Girl transfer
- Cookie booth sales should be transferred to girls via Smart Cookies <u>Booth Divider</u>



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## **Booth Sales**

# Service Unit Booth Coordinator (Booth Sale Coordinator) Job Description

- Establish booth locations for use during the cookie program within SU boundaries
- Booths outside of SU must be negotiated with the other SU before securing the site
- GS of Central Maryland regions: Baltimore City and 5 surrounding counties: Carroll, Anne Arundel,
   Baltimore, Harford and Howard
- Facilitate a TCM Lottery in your Service Unit prior to Initial Order due date (January 15<sup>th</sup> for Troops; January 16<sup>th</sup> for SU's)
- Distribute booth sale slots equitably to each Troop within your Service Unit
- If slots remain, upload to Smart Cookies for Troops to select during FCFS
- Approve ALL Troop Secured booth requests. REMEMBER: out of SU physical booths must be approved by the SU in which the booth location resides before a Troop can secure
- Maintain good working relationships with your booth businesses by enforcing Girl etiquette and removing Troops and Girls who exhibit inappropriate behavior at booth sale locations



#### **How to Secure Booth Sale Locations**

- Consider Troop and Girl availability on weekdays, weekends and evenings. Minimum
   2 hour time slot; typical maximum is 4 to 5 hours
- Contact the merchant in person or by phone. Speak with manager or person with authority to make booth sale decisions. Introduce yourself as representing the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland in your local area and would like to discuss table setup to sell cookies. Then:
  - Put together a **request letter** for site including dates and times. (See samples on the <u>www.gscm.org</u>)
  - Visit locations/send email with letter for manager/contact signature. Retain one for your records, leave copy with contact/manager.
- Be sure to request blocks of time for the ENTIRE cookie season!
- If requested, a **Certificate of Insurance** requires two weeks notice. <u>DO NOT WAIT.</u> Download the request form from GSCM and submit through GSCM member care

HEARTHSIDE FROM SOLUTIONS

#### **How to Add Booth Locations in Smart Cookies**

Booth locations and timeslots can be entered manually or via file upload

Securing a First Come First Serve Booth: YouTube Video

Using the Smart Booth Divider: YouTube Video

Troop Secured Booth Entry: <u>Troop Secured Booths</u>



## **Managing Booth Locations in Smart Cookies**

Once all locations and timeslots and Troop assignments are loaded, the Booth Sale Coordinator must review and verify all assignments before the locations open to all Troops

- If there is a location that is selected or shared by two Service Units, only 1 SU should own the location but share available timeslots with the other Service Units
- Include detailed information in the booth location note section;
   remind Troops to follow all special instructions
- When naming booth locations, use name of business and street address only. Example: "Giant-1234 Baltimore Avenue"
- Booth Sale Coordinator's role includes loading Troop booth locations.
   If a TCM has a booth location suggestion, please help them load it into Smart Cookies



#### **Reminders for Booths**

- Businesses can refuse booth sales. If a Troop is scheduled at a business and the manager says no, the Troop should be polite, leave the site, and contact their Booth Sale Coordinator
- No Booths on military bases, Ft. Meade & Aberdeen. These bases are located within a SU and they have very specific contracts and rules to follow.
- Marc Train stations are contracted, and specific regulations apply. Sign up through Smart Cookies for any available slots at Marc and follow all guidelines.
- All booths should be listed and approved in Smart Cookies so they appear in the GSUSA National Cookie Finder





# Digital Cookie Platform

## Digital Cookie: Point of Sale for Troops and Girls

#### Online Sales access:

- Tuesday January 7<sup>th</sup>: Volunteer access
- Tuesday January 14<sup>th</sup>: Caregiver access
- Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>: Open for Girl sales
- Girl online sales features, plus all credit card payments
- Girl online sales reporting features, by sales channel
- Virtual booth process
- Girl/Troop credit card transactions, sales and refund ability
- Girl delivery credit card financial settlement
- Girl, Troop and Shipped Only Order support





## **Digital Cookie Key Dates**

- Parent/caregivers will receive registration emails from Digital Cookie when they are given access on Tuesday, January 14th, 2025
- Sales open for girls on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025
- There will be a mobile app for sales, compatible with both Android and Apple devices
- Please refer to <u>www.gscm.org</u>, under the Cookies section, for a full listing of Digital Cookie training tools.







## Thank you!

