



Camping with Mixed-Gender Units

March 6, 2024

Susquehanna District Roundtable

Scouts BSA Breakout





Potential for Mixed-Gender Camping

- Linked Troops
- Combined Troop Pilot
- District / Council Events
- Summer Camp
- High Adventure Activities





Guiding Principles

- [Guide to Safe Scouting](#)
- [Scouting's Barriers to Abuse](#)
- [SAFE Checklist](#)





Multiple Unit Events

- Combined pilot troops may always camp mixed
- Linked Troops (from same charter org) may always camp together with charter org approval
- Units from different charter orgs must have charter org AND council permission to camp together
- Special permission not needed for district/council events
- Each unit must provide adequate adult leadership





Tenting Considerations

- Mixed gender may share same campsite, but only with appropriate gender/age separation to ensure privacy
- Gender separation within tents or lodging
 - Same gender pairs in tents
 - Tenting alone is permitted
- Regular +/- 2-year age limit for tent buddy





Restroom Accommodations

- Regular separation by gender
- Regular separation of youth / adult
- If separate facilities not available, defined times must be posted for separate gender use





Buddy System

- 2-Buddy group must be same gender
- 3-Buddy group may be mixed gender (except for tenting)





Other considerations

- Participants ages 18-21 must adhere to all adult rules
- Spouses may tent together





Consideration for Special Needs Scouts

- Special needs youth that require their parent or guardian in their tent must develop a plan with the Scout Executive





Anecdotal Experience





Discussion

- What strategies have you implemented to ensure compliance with BSA's co-ed camping policies?
- Can you share experiences where challenges arose during co-ed camping trips and how they were addressed?





Questions? Ideas?





References

- [Guide to Safe Scouting](#)
- [Scouting's Barriers to Abuse](#)
- [SAFE Checklist](#)
- [Barriers to Abuse FAQ](#)
- [GSS – Youth Protection and Adult Leadership - Accommodations](#)

