

GSCWM Girl Scout Silver Award Appeal Process

In the event that a Girl Scout Silver Award project has been denied, the following appeal process is in place directly with the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts (GSCWM) and must be initiated by the Silver Award candidate(s) after all attempts at a resolution have been made.

1: The Silver Award candidate(s) has 30 days from the notice of denial to request an appeal from GSCWM. The candidate must email SilverAward@gscwm.org to request an appeal meeting. The council will add the email to the candidate's personal file of record and to the candidate(s)'s Silver Award file.

2: The GSCWM council staff representative will arrange a meeting date with the candidate(s) within 30 days of the appeal request and notify the candidate(s) with the date, time, and all other information regarding the meeting. The council will provide the current national *Cadette Workbook for Earning Your Silver Award* and *The Silver Award Checklist* to the candidate(s). The candidate(s) will also be encouraged to bring a letter explaining the appeal to the meeting. The candidate(s) must confirm via email attendance at the scheduled meeting.

3: The candidate(s) will be permitted to bring their Girl Scout Leader and/or caregiver to the meeting. This must be the leader that is listed on the denied Final Report. No other documents other than those that have been previously submitted with the Final Report will be accepted.

4: The appeal meeting group will include a member of the volunteer Gold Award Committee not from the same region as the candidate(s), a GSCWM council Program staff representative, and a GSCWM council Membership staff representative.

5: The candidate(s) will have the opportunity to appeal and state their case to the appeal group. The candidate(s) can use this opportunity to elaborate on anything that is written in the final report. The appeal group will have the opportunity to ask questions of the candidate(s) and review the denied Final Report.

6: Once the candidate(s) has made the verbal appeal, the candidate(s) will leave the meeting. A copy of the candidate(s)'s appeal letter will be added to the candidate(s)'s files. The candidate(s) will be notified of the decision of the appeal group within two weeks of the meeting. A copy of the final decision will be added to the candidate(s)'s file.

7: The decision of the appeal group will be considered the final decision on the candidate(s)'s project.